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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Londonderry Introduces New Middle School Principal

At their meeting on Tuesday evening, the Londonderry School Board approved the candidacy of Mr. William Van Bennekum as the next principal at Londonderry Middle School. He will replace longtime Londonderry principal Rich Zacchilli, who will retire from that post on June 30.

Mr. Van Bennekum currently serves as principal of the Holderness Central School, where he has spent the past 12 years. Known as an energetic and student-centered principal, he became interested in joining the Londonderry Middle School team as a new challenge in his career. "I can't wait to get started," he indicated. "Londonderry Middle School has done some great work in combining the opportunities of a larger school with the personal interactions of a smaller one. I'm excited to join the team."

Distinguishing himself amongst a highly competitive field of 27 applicants, Mr. Van Bennekum brought to the process a wealth of experience in the principalship and a broad knowledge of school leadership. The search committee of 17 faculty, staff, administrators and parents found him to be a strong fit for the position.

"We were looking for an experienced building principal with the energy to challenge and support our staff. Mr. Van Bennekum emerged as just that sort of leader," offered Londonderry Superintendent Scott Laliberte. "We believe he will bring a balance to the position that builds upon the legacy that Mr. Zacchilli has created there, while challenging us to build upon those accomplishments."

While Mr. Van Bennekum assumes his duties officially on July 1, he will be attending events and transition meetings at Londonderry Middle School well before then.

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