Superintendent Jonathan Ponds Receives Extended Contract
Consistency at Montclair Public Schools

(Montclair, N.J., May 21, 2024) — Dr. Jonathan Ponds was approved for another five-year term as Superintendent of Schools for the Montclair Public School District at a Public Hearing/Special Board of Education meeting May 20, 2024.

“We are encouraged that Dr. Ponds will continue to lead our District as Superintendent. His focus on student achievement and success in all areas is evident in his decision making. I am pleased we are on a consistent and stable path forward, said Board President Melanie Deysher. Giving back to the community in tangible ways has also been an integral part of Ponds’ tenure. Residents realized a zero debt service tax levy from the bond referendum, he introduced a Project Labor Agreement which provides for unionized reliable, skilled and experienced labor to work on our school projects, and most recently announced a partnership with New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program for free classes for adults in the community in the manufacturing industries.

The District has been through many changes in leadership. Ponds has been instrumental in establishing a consistency in administration during his term driving significant improvements across the District such as a strengthened focus on student well-being and increased opportunities for success after high school with dual enrollment and certification programming, technology upgrades which include the one-to-one initiative where every student has a device, implementation of a curriculum-based assessment with a comprehensive multi-tiered system of supports for interventions, and a focus on equity and inclusion through professional development and culturally responsive training. Additionally, his appointments of key personnel throughout Central Office are geared toward more support for the schools. Directors in the Equity, Curriculum and Instruction Department have dual offices at schools and Central Office.

Ponds’ contract term takes effect July 1, 2024, and runs through June 30, 2029. "I am honored to continue serving the Montclair community," Ponds said. "Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones, and we are poised to reach even greater heights. Our collective efforts will ensure that every student has the resources and support they need to thrive."

The Montclair Board of Education invites the community to join in celebrating the continued growth in Montclair Public Schools as the District works to provide an exemplary educational experience for all students.

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