

March 31, 2011

Osceola County Search Team,

I am writing to express interest in the position of Superintendent of Schools for the School District of Osceola County. I hold a Superintendent Letter of Eligibility in the State of Pennsylvania and I am currently pursuing an Ed.D in Administrative Leadership for Teaching and Learning. My knowledge of educational leadership theory and current trends in education, combined with my practical experience, has been instrumental in my leadership work in both urban and suburban settings.

Leading requires openness to various viewpoints, and the willingness to value each stakeholder's perspective. In my work with teachers, administrators, board members, parents, and students, I place student achievement and success first, and then work with parties to design programs and structures that facilitate these outcomes. The ability to listen and effectively communicate a vision is paramount in leadership; a quality that has benefitted me in countless situations.

As the Mathematics Supervisor for the Pittsburgh Public Schools, I led the design and implementation of a curriculum and assessment structure that has resulted in drastic increase in student achievement, both in State assessment results and in classroom performance. Working with my colleagues in the curriculum, instruction, and professional development department, I was responsible for designing and presenting professional development opportunities to teachers and principals in over forty schools, communicating the vision to all stakeholders, budgeting for the mathematics program in all schools, and participating in district-level decision making processes.

Perhaps my greatest strength is the ability to stand behind my commitment to excellence for all, students, teachers, administrators, and the larger community. Since excellence for all requires commitment by all stakeholders, I actively pursue opportunities to build relationships that mutually benefit and support district initiatives and also provide a service to our community.

My knowledge and experience make me an excellent candidate for the position of Superintendent of Schools for the School District of Osceola County; you can learn more about me by visiting my website at <http://home.dejazzd.com/rslonake>. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how my commitment to excellence and professional background can provide leadership for your district.

In education,

Richard Slonaker

RICHARD V. SLONAKER

25 West Main Street Elverson, PA 19520 (484) 390-0630
Email: rslonake@dejazzd.com
Website: <http://home.dejazzd.com/rslonake/>

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

School administrator in urban and suburban settings with over twelve years of classroom experience. Proven track record working with students, teachers, and community. Experience with all aspects of budget preparation and management.

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Math Assessment Data Warehouse used to identify needs at the program and student levels. Database included current and historical assessment data and is used by teachers and administrators to identify student, school, and district level trends.
- Development and introduced various policy related to district mathematics program, including graduation requirements and credits for high school math courses completed in middle school. Policy increased credits required for graduation purposes while opening opportunities for students to receive high school credits for high school courses completed at the middle school level.
- Researched and implemented intervention strategies for students at all grade levels. Interventions included support classes for secondary students and pull out support for elementary students.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Walden University, Ed.D., Administrative Leadership	Expected 2012
California University of Pennsylvania, Endorsement, School Superintendent	2009
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Endorsement, Principal, K-12	2005
Walden University, M.S., Education	2002
Pennsylvania State University, B.S., Mathematics	1992

CERTIFICATION

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Certifications

- Letter of Eligibility- Superintendent of Schools
- Letter of Eligibility- Assistant Superintendent of Schools
- Principal Certification- K-12
- Mathematics 7-12

RICHARD V. SLONAKER

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Marple Newtown School District, Newtown Square, PA - Supervisor of Mathematics, Business Educations, Technology Education, K-12	2009 – Present
Cumberland Valley School District, Mechanicsburg, PA - Curriculum Supervisor, Mathematics, K-12	2008-2009
Pittsburgh Public Schools, Pittsburgh, PA - Curriculum Supervisor, Mathematics	2007-2008
Pottsgrove High School, Pottstown, PA - High School Math Teacher	2002-2006
Reading School District, Reading, PA - Middle School Math Teacher	1999-2002
Living Word Academy, Lancaster, PA - Technology Coordinator	1996-1999
Philadelphia School System, Philadelphia, PA - Middle School and High School Math Teacher	1994-1996

AREAS OF EFFECTIVENESS

CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- **Developed and implemented an assessment program for math content standards**
- **Developed and implemented a standards based curriculum with Pennsylvania and National Standards**
- **Implemented a coaching cohort model creating teams of math coaches from over forty schools**
- **Developed curriculum guides for use in Pittsburgh Public Schools, Cumberland Valley School District, and Marple Newtown School District**
- **Provided and managed the staff development related to mathematics for teachers and administrators**

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS

- **Established various technology-based communication and information sharing forums, including a K-12 Math wikispace for district staff and a Math Resource Edline page for parents and students**
- **Organized a public polling component in the text adoption process for the Pittsburgh Public Schools and the Cumberland Valley School District**

- **Published monthly Math Professional Development flyers for the Pittsburgh Public Schools**
- **Led or participated in parent meetings in the Pittsburgh Public Schools, Cumberland Valley School District, and Marple Newtown School District**
- **Participated in a radio interview for "Focus Education", a production of the Pittsburgh Public Schools**

RICHARD V. SLONAKER

PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION

- **Implemented a coaching cohort model creating teams of math coaches from over forty schools**
- **Designed interview questionnaires for use in interviewing math teachers, specialists, and Title 1 assistants**
- **Worked with Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent to research various administrative evaluation models for selection/modification and implementation in the Marple Newtown School District**
- **Served on committee to modify teacher evaluation process and forms**

SCHOOL PLANT

- **Managed the migration of technology infrastructure during an addition project at Living Word Academy. This included relocating all hardware, redesigning network infrastructure, and all software set up.**
- **Participated in a PlanCon study in the Marple Newtown School District**
- **During a building renovation at Marple Newtown High School, participated in committee to relocate classrooms, and investigated possible daily bell schedule options**

FINANCE/BUDGET

- **Developed , monitored and administered annual budgets for the mathematics program in the Cumberland Valley and Marple Newtown School Districts**
- **Developed , monitored and administered annual budgets for the technology program at Living Word Academy**

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION LEADERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Participated in the creation of the PAESSP position paper on NCLB**
- **Participated in the Keystone Exam review process led by DRC and PDE**

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, American Association of School Administrators

Member, National Staff Development Council

Member, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

Member, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics