



FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

**Mr. Michael Cummings**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

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August 12, 2019

Good Morning,

I would like to introduce myself as the new Superintendent of Schools for Fairfield Public Schools starting today, August 12, 2019. My name is Mike Cummings and the Board of Education appointed me as Superintendent at the Board's special meeting held on July 31, 2019. At the time of my appointment, I had been working as Fairfield's Chief Academic Officer for over two years, and had initially joined Fairfield four years ago as the Director of Elementary Education. Previously, I served in a number of different roles with Milford Public Schools.

As your Superintendent, I am very eager to get going and will continue to work with staff, parents, and the community to build upon the existing and valuable work of the Fairfield Public Schools. We as a district respect and admire the extraordinary level of community support provided to students and schools. We will continue earning your trust while maintaining the current level of excellence and moving forward with challenges.

The best work of any organization is accomplished collaboratively by those who are directly impacted and who will inform and strengthen outcomes. I believe in a systems approach to school growth that above all else, puts the needs of children first. Children must feel safe and welcome before they can learn. In learning, they need to be challenged at appropriate levels and interests.

Please plan to attend an evening of Community Conversation on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the Central Office Board Room. This will help me learn more about your thoughts on the strengths and needs of schools and the district as a whole. The basis of discussion will be the survey that was conducted by the Superintendent search firm, which is summarized [here](#). Additionally, my entry plan is also available on the district website under the Hot Downloads and Links section.

As a final note, Ms. Arlene Gottesman will be serving as the Interim Deputy Superintendent while we conduct a search for someone to fill my former role. Ms. Gottesman has been a high school principal and was Assistant Superintendent in Wilton prior to her retirement. In her retirement, she has continued her involvement in education, most recently coaching school administrators and serving as Interim Principal at Norwalk High School this past year.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the schools and out in the community.

Take care,

*Mike*