

For Immediate Release

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Murray Park Elementary School and Quest Charter School Principal Finalists Announced

Ripon, WI – Two finalists for the Murray Park Elementary School and Quest Charter School principal position have been announced today by Dr. Mary Whitrock, Ripon Area School District Superintendent. Community members are invited to a Meet-and-Greet reception for each candidate on Monday, August 24, 2015. These public receptions are scheduled back-to-back at 4:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the media center at Murray Park Elementary School.

The finalists are Renee Bunge and John Graf. An eighteen member selection committee conducted preliminary interviews earlier this week with both candidates. The committee consisted of Board members, Governance Council members, administrators, and Murray Park and Quest parents, faculty and staff.

Renee Bunge, a resident of Ripon has been an educator for 23 years. She is an assistant principal at Oshkosh West High School, a position she recently assumed after being a literacy teacher for grades 6-7 in the Oshkosh Public Schools since 2002. Prior experience includes being a gifted & talented teacher and a 5th grade teacher in the Oshkosh Public School as well as a 5th grade teacher at Murray Park Elementary in Ripon. Ms. Bunge received her bachelor's degree in elementary and middle child-early adolescent learning with a minor in English at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Subsequently, she received her first master's degree from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in reading. She holds a license as a reading specialist K-12. Ms. Bunge recently completed a second master's degree in educational leadership from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. She has experience leading professional development on literacy practices, writing curriculum and mentoring teachers.

John Graf is currently the elementary principal (PK – 6) at Forest Lane Community Charter School in the Montello School District. Prior experience includes teaching 5th grade in both the Wisconsin Heights School District and at Grand Marsh Elementary in Adams-Friendship. He received his bachelor's degree in elementary education (1-8) and geography at the University of Wisconsin-

Oshkosh. His master's degree in educational administration was also obtained from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Mr. Graf has served as a coach for varsity football and track as well as middle school wrestling and football. He was a teacher leader for the Adams-Friendship Area School District and a member of the District Leadership Team, Technology Committee, and Culture/Climate Committee for the Wisconsin Heights School District.

"The Ripon Area School District continues to attract high quality candidates through our recruiting process. The selection committee was impressed with both of the candidates interviewed," stated Superintendent Whitrock. "The finalists have reputations as outstanding educators and are prepared to lead Murray Park Elementary School and Quest Charter School to even greater success into the future."

Any comments or suggestions, please contact Mary Whitrock at (920) 748-4600.

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