

Proviso Township High School District 209

For Immediate Release

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District 209 welcomes new acting superintendent with anticipation of a smooth transition



FOREST PARK, IL - With the recent resignation of Dr. James Henderson as superintendent of Proviso Township High Schools District 209 (PTHS), the district and surrounding community welcomes a familiar face as the new acting superintendent. Dr. Bessie Karvelas has been appointed to the position by the Board of Education effective as of Monday, August 14. Dr. Karvelas previously served as the Executive Director of Student Services for the district. She has been with the district for over a decade and was instrumental in helping the Proviso Mathematics and Science Academy (PMSA) achieve Blue Ribbon recognition. She also introduced the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme originally to PMSA in 2014 and then was also approved by the BOE

to be offered at Proviso East and West High Schools in 2019.

“Dr. Karvelas has the talent and experience needed to lead the staff and run the day-to-day operations of the district,” said PTHS Board President, Amanda Grant. “We are grateful to Dr. Karvelas for stepping up during this challenging time, and we appreciate everyone's help moving our district forward.”

“I am humbled and honored that the Board of Education has entrusted me with leading the district into the new school year.” said Dr. Karvelas. “My focus will be uniting faculty, staff and families, for the greater good of our community, especially our Proviso students. We nurture leaders. Let’s all move forward together in pursuit of academic excellence.”

The district’s first day of student attendance is set for September 5.