



# Somerville Public Schools

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29, 2019

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## Chad Mazza Joins District Team as Interim Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment *Long-time Winter Hill Principal takes on new district leadership role*

Somerville, MA – With the start of the 2019-2020 school year, Chad Mazza, a familiar face in the Somerville Public Schools, will be in a new role as the district’s Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. Mr. Mazza was the Principal at the Winter Hill Community Innovation School for the last seven years and stepped into his new position in the district this summer. He takes over the Assistant Superintendent position vacated by Dr. Almi Abeyta, who last spring accepted the Superintendent position in the Chelsea Public Schools.

Mr. Mazza has been a school principal for 14 years, including the last seven at the Winter Hill Community Innovation School. Under his leadership, WHCIS earned a reputation for its innovative student- and educator-driven approach to teaching and learning and to creating an inclusive and supportive school climate and culture. In 2017, the Winter Hill Community Innovation School became the first public school to earn the Pozen Prize for Innovative Schools, which recognizes educational excellence and innovation. Mr. Mazza has been and continues to be a champion of inclusive educational and student-centered learning practices that ensure we are meeting the needs of every student and engaging students in mapping their own journeys to success.

“I am extremely excited to have Chad join our district leadership team in a new capacity,” commented Superintendent of Schools, Mary Skipper. “His passion for this work and his commitment to every student we serve are evident in the way he leads and in the way he interacts with students, staff, and families. We are very fortunate to have Chad on our team. He has hit the ground running in his new role, and brings such a positive energy to this important and inspiring work of supporting students.”

Prior to joining the Somerville Public Schools in 2012, Mr. Mazza was a school Principal in Holyoke from 2006 to 2012, including one year at the Lt. Elmer J. McMahon School and five years at the Dr. Marcella R. Kelly School. He began his career in education at the Morningside Community School in Pittsfield as a School/Community Coordinator from 1995 to 2005 where he also served as Acting Principal for a short time in 2002. In 2005 he began his 14-year career as a public school leader, taking on the Principal position at Brayton Elementary School in North Adams before moving to Holyoke in 2006.

“It has been a privilege to serve the Somerville Public Schools over the last seven years as Principal of the Winter Hill Community Innovation School,” stated Mr. Mazza. “I am incredibly excited to have the opportunity to serve the larger school community in my new capacity as Interim Assistant Superintendent. I look forward to engaging with a broader spectrum of stakeholders to achieve positive outcomes for all members of our dynamic school district.”

Mr. Mazza holds a Master of Education in Administration from American International College in Springfield. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from North Adams State College.

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