



## Clintondale Community Schools

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August 25, 2020

Dear Clintondale Community Schools Families and Staff,

Barbara Van Sweden has been named interim superintendent for Clintondale Community Schools after our Board of Education voted unanimously to approve her at the August 10 meeting. Her first day on the job will be August 25.

Van Sweden takes over for Greg Green, who retired after 25 years with Clintondale Community Schools.

“While we received interest from several impressive candidates, Barbara Van Sweden was selected for the interim superintendent because of the depth of her experience,” Board President Beverly Lewis-Moss said. “Her background includes over 10 years of experience as a teacher, almost 10 years of experience as a principal, and almost 16 years of combined experience in an assistant superintendent or superintendent capacity.

“Further, given her most recent experience where she led the New Haven Community Schools District as it implemented its remote learning curriculum, the board believes that she is well-positioned to move the district forward during these unprecedented times, and looks forward to partnering with her to create a learning environment where our students, parents, teachers/staff, and community at large can be proud to be a part of,” Lewis-Moss continued. “The board wishes Mrs. Van Sweden much success in her new role.”

Van Sweden brings with her 45 years of experience as a school administrator, most recently serving as the Superintendent at New Haven Community Schools where she spent two years. Prior to that she was the Superintendent at Fitzgerald Public Schools for nine years after serving as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction since 2004.

While at New Haven, Van Sweden played an integral role in getting a bond proposal passed in her first year and helped strengthen the collaboration between central office and building level leadership.

Amongst her many accomplishments as Superintendent at Fitzgerald, Van Sweden strengthened the support system provided by district leaders for helping principals improve teaching and learning as well as transforming the climate of the district to a shared system of respect, understanding and inclusion of all students and families within a cultural, racial and economically diverse organization.

Van Sweden earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from the University of Michigan and an Educational Specialist in Leadership from Oakland University. She also served as a teacher and coordinator of early childhood programs in the Detroit Public Schools and was an elementary principal in L’Anse Creuse Public Schools.

“On behalf of the Clintondale Community Schools District Board, I would like to thank each candidate who participated in our interview process,” Lewis-Moss said. “Each candidate had unique experiences and qualities to bring to the table. However, Mrs. Barbara Van Sweden’s overall experience as a superintendent and assistant superintendent in addition to her work during COVID-19 as an interim superintendent in a district similar to Clintondale stood out.

“The board would like to welcome Mrs. Van Sweden to the Clintondale Dragon family,” Lewis-Moss added. “We also wish the other candidates well in their future endeavors.”

Clintondale Administration  
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