



# Wilkinsburg School District

718 WALLACE AVENUE  
WILKINSBURG, PA 15221-2299  
412-871-2104 FAX: 412-371-4058

**Every Child, Every Day, Matters!**

**Office of the Superintendent**

Dear Wilkinsburg Community, Families and Students:

I am writing to officially inform you that on Friday, April 23, 2021, I sent Ed Donovan President, Board of Directors, my official letter of resignation as the Superintendent of Wilkinsburg School District.

Ending this chapter in Wilkinsburg was not an easy decision. I have poured my heart into serving this community and the students of Wilkinsburg for the past five years and am extremely proud of what we have achieved together including just a few of the following milestones:

- Prior to COVID, we were improving student achievement. During the last PSSA tested year, 2018-2019, the percentage of students proficient/advanced in math and science increased by 5% and the percentage of students who moved from below basic to basic increased by more than 5% in ELA and science.
- We improved the quality, consistency and model of professional development provided to all district faculty and staff significantly.
- Across both schools, we have focused on creating systems, structures and processes that ensure consistency in adult practice and cultivate a culture of shared responsibility and collaboration through the formation of Instructional Leadership Team Distributive Leadership Team Model.
- We increased the number of teacher professional development days and introduced an embedded comprehensive professional development model called Cycle of Professional Learning to build our capacity as administrators, teachers and staff.
- We implemented a new balanced approach to literacy and math delivery instructional models in the classrooms.
- We introduced a new district-wide Data Driven Decision Making (DDDM) Protocol process to analyze data at the building and teacher grade levels.
- We implemented new diagnostic assessments for reading and math.
- We established a scope and sequence including quarter assessments in ELA and Math.
- We implemented a Standards Based Report Card to report student progress to parents aligned with PA standards; changed the lesson plan format and created multiple assessments for each grade level standard.
- We implemented STEAM Programs, Instrumental Music and now-Spanish will be at both Kelly and Turner Elementary Schools in the fall.
- We have After School Programs in both schools.
- We implemented the Second Step Behavioral Curriculum designed to strengthen students in their ability to listen, stay calm, maintain control, have empathy, manage emotions and solve problems.
- We added two PBIS student support classrooms for students who need behavioral support.
- We added emotional and autistic support classrooms to our Special Education Department to support students district-wide with social and emotional challenges.
- We reconfigured the school district renaming and creating Kelly Primary School for grades Pre K-1 and Turner Intermediate School for grades 2-6.



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- We introduced and implemented a new research base model of student furniture focused on Flexible Instructional Seating at the newly renovated Turner Intermediate at Turner.
- We increased our district partnerships and grants awarded to the district.
- And most importantly, we created better environments academically, socially, and emotionally for students to learn and grow.

I start each of these sentences with “**we**” because it encapsulates what the past five years have been for me. I have had the opportunity to engage all of you to improve the outcomes for children and I know that you will continue under new leadership. The Wilkinsburg community and children are special and I have been blessed to be a small part of their experience.

I want to thank all of you and the Wilkinsburg Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity to work with you and to serve this district as Superintendent.

I wish you all well.....

*Linda J. Iverson, Ph.D.*

Superintendent of Schools