

D211 POST: NEW HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211 SUPERINTENDENT NAMED



At a special board meeting on October 24, 2019, the Township High School District 211 Board of Education confirmed Lisa A. Small as its next superintendent of schools, effective July 1, 2020. Dr. Small, currently District 211 associate superintendent

for instruction, will replace retiring District 211 Superintendent Daniel E. Cates, after 27 years in the District, the past six as superintendent. With her appointment, Dr. Small becomes the eighth District 211 superintendent.

“One of our most important responsibilities as a Board of Education is to hire a superintendent of schools, and we are very excited about our choice of Dr. Small to fill this position,” commented Board President Robert LeFevre. *“Dr. Small has been well-respected as a leader in District 211, and her experience in the District will make for a smooth transition into her new role. We are extremely pleased with the positive feedback the Board received about Dr. Small and her leadership during our search, and we know that staff, students, parents, and the community will find her an outstanding person to lead our District.”*

Dr. Small has held her current position as the associate superintendent for instruction since 2014. In this role, she has led the District’s Instructional Team, and has been instrumental in increasing advanced placement, dual credit, and career pathways course offerings, as well as implementing the District’s new wellness program. Prior to her position as associate superintendent, she served as principal at William Fremd High School for six years, from 2008-2014. She began her teaching career at Adlai E. Stevenson High School in January 1992, before coming to Hoffman Estates High School as a science and mathematics teacher in August 1992. Dr. Small moved into administration in 2000 when she was named a 10-month assistant principal at Hoffman Estates High School, serving in that role for two years. She also coached volleyball while at Hoffman Estates High School for 10 seasons. In 2002, she was promoted to 12-month assistant principal at Fremd High School, and then was appointed as the District’s director of instructional improvement in 2004 before being named principal in 2008.

Dr. Small received her bachelor’s degree in biology education from Ohio State University and her master’s degree in curriculum and instruction from Northern Illinois University. Dr. Small earned a certificate of advanced studies from National Louis in educational leadership, administration and supervision; and her doctorate of education in curriculum and instruction from Loyola University Chicago.

The appointment of Dr. Small as District 211 superintendent culminates an internal and external search process by the Board of Education, conducted by School Exec Connect. The process included use of feedback from stakeholder surveys, as well as focus groups comprised of a cross-section of District constituents, including community members, parents, teachers, support staff, and administrators. Following interview sessions, feedback was gathered by the Board before making its final decision.