



Sept. 24, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Riverview Gardens to Host Focus Groups for Superintendent Search

Parents and community members of the Riverview Gardens School District are invited to participate in a focus group as part of a superintendent search at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 30 at Westview Middle School, 1950 Nemnich Dr.

The Riverview Gardens School Board hired the Missouri School Boards' Association to conduct the in-state search. Dr. Lynn Beckwith Jr., a consultant with MSBA Superintendent Search Services, is overseeing the search process and is seeking input from three focus groups: teachers and non-certified staff, administrators, and parents and community members.

RGSD staff will meet in focus groups immediately prior to the parent and community member meeting. The focus groups will offer patrons the opportunity to provide valuable input on the qualities they feel are important for potential candidates to possess.

Co-Superintendents Rhonda Key and Natalie Thomas were hired in March 2007 to begin leading the district toward regaining its state accreditation with the understanding that co-superintendency would only be in place until the district stabilized. School Board President Rev. Tommie Pierson said the co-superintendents have strengthened the district to a level where one person can lead the district as it continues to focus on meeting the state's expectations of improving student achievement.

Key and Thomas will remain in the district as key administrators. They both say they are committed to continuing to help the district regain accreditation and help a new superintendent transition into the district.

MSBA plans to complete the superintendent search process in December.

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Editor's Note: To reach Board President Tommie Pierson, you may call Sha Fields, Coordinator of School Governance, at 314-757-5338.