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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



### Mr. Todd Rhodes Chosen as Next GPS Superintendent

GOTHENBURG, NEB. – The Gothenburg Board of Education (BOE) has chosen Mr. Todd Rhodes as the next superintendent of Gothenburg Public Schools (GPS), according to board president Nate Wyatt. Rhodes, who replaces Supt. Dr. Michael Teahon, will assume his leadership duties beginning July 1, 2019.

The Gothenburg School Board was committed to a rigorous superintendent search process and with providing the community clear and comprehensive information that began last April. Focus groups and community meetings provided extensive input on the desired qualities of the next superintendent. GPS received over twenty applications for the position. “The desire for so many prospective candidates to work at GPS is evidence of Dr. Teahon’s legacy and the current administrative team’s expectation for excellence within the district.” said Wyatt.

In reference to the four finalists, Wyatt commented that the candidates presented many strengths to further the mission of GPS, creating a challenging decision. Interviews were conducted over two days to allow for proper assessment of all four candidates. Candidates interviewed with breakout groups composed of certificated staff, classified staff, administration, and community leaders before meeting with the board. Following the second day of interviews on Wednesday, January 16, a unanimous motion passed to extend the offer to Mr. Rhodes, which he accepted.

Mr. Rhodes, grew up around and graduated from Stromsburg NE, comes from Maxwell Public Schools where he is currently serving his sixth year as superintendent for the district. He resides in North Platte his wife Darlene. They have 4 children; the youngest will transition with them to Gothenburg. Before Maxwell, Rhodes had the following administrative experiences:

- High School Principal—North Platte Public Schools from 2010-2013,
- Middle School Principal—Adams Middle School, North Platte, NE from 2006-2010
- High School Principal—Sidney Public Schools, Sidney, NE 2004-2006
- High School Principal—Shelton Public Schools, Shelton, NE 2001-2004
- Building Principal—Bruning-Davenport Unified Schools, Davenport, NE 1999-2001



Many significant characteristics guided the Board in selecting Mr. Rhodes. “Mr. Rhodes clearly demonstrated an innate knowledge of school funding and budgeting,” said Wyatt. “While not a sole requirement of our new superintendent, it is highly important that we have a superintendent in place to carry us forward through the unpredictable landscape of school funding in the years to come.” According to Wyatt, Mr. Rhodes was also clearly identified as a transformational leader, bringing a combination of visionary and collaborative qualities that will positively advance existing teams and processes at GPS. In addition, Mr. Rhode’s experience with the Professional Learning Community (PLC) process is a significant strength. The BOE view the PLC process as a district priority and has invested significant time and resources into this essential endeavor.

Speaking for the BOE, Wyatt commented, “The superintendent search process was interesting and exciting. We’re incredibly grateful for all the applicants who invested time in the process as well as all the folks within GPS and the community who provided essential feedback to help guide our decision. We’re excited to start the onboarding process with Mr. Rhodes and continue that tradition of expecting excellence at Gothenburg Public Schools!”