



New Chief Academic Officer & Senior Leadership Team Announced

MIDDLETOWN----Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Conner announced his complete senior leadership team and organization today, ahead of the Tuesday, February 11, 2020, Regular Middletown Board of Education meeting. Dr. Conner said, “this will be the first meeting, since August 2019, that we have our complete team in place. Each person brings something unique and special. These are some of the best educational, operational and fiscal leaders we could have. I’m proud to be serving with them to keep pushing our district to new heights and growing our kids, not just academically, but to be great people and contributors to our community.”

- **Dr. Magda Parvey** joined the district in December 2019, as the **Chief Academic Officer** from New Rochelle, New York, where she served in a variety of leadership capacities including Interim Superintendent, Chief Academic Officer, and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Parvey, has over two decades of educational experience in economically, racially and culturally diverse settings. “We are so lucky to have Dr. Parvey. In just two months, she is seeing our academic picture with eyes keenly focused on student learning that is second to none. I love the way, she is quickly assessing, our academic strengths and our growth areas, pushing our instructional leaders and faculty to be the best they can be, for our kids,” said Conner.
- **Christine Bourne** assumed the position of the **Chief of Administration** in early 2019 after over two decades of service with the City of Middletown and Board of Education in a variety of roles with increased fiscal responsibility. Conner noted, “No one knows, the budget process, the actual fiscal system and the interconnection of our budget with the City’s budget, better than Chris Bourne.” Functions such as Payroll, Finance Administration and BOE Purchasing report directly to Bourne.
- **Marco Gaylord**, a forty-year fixture within the Middletown Public Schools, continues to serve as the **Chief of Operations** with functions such as school security, facilities, transportation and other internal units reporting to him. Of Gaylord, Dr. Conner noted, “he lives and breathes the Middletown Public Schools. I appreciate every ounce of energy and effort he puts in. People don’t see, the extremely early mornings and very late nights, but I do, and I appreciate him as one of our greatest assets, and even more so, as a great human being.”
- **Geen Thazhampallath**, joined the district’s Senior Team as its **Chief of Talent and Benefits**, in mid-January 2020. “This will be Geen’s first official BOE

meeting on Tuesday, but he has been so involved in the fabric of Middletown, and comes so highly regarded, for his communication and his relational skills, as both a person and as a professional, that I think he will hit a home run. He's the perfect final piece to our team."

"These folks above, plus others, like **Amy Clarke**, who is our long-time district **Director of Pupil Services and Special Education** and, **Natalie Forbes** who is the **Director of Grants and Innovation**, all of us, and I mean all of us---instructional leaders, our clinical staff, administrators, our paraprofessionals, teachers, our City support staff, everyone, are focused on one thing---serving all our kids."