

East Irondequoit district superintendent Allen to retire at end of 2018

Ambitious digital project completed under leader

Justin Murphy

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Susan Allen, superintendent of the East Irondequoit Central School District, will retire at the end of 2018, the district announced Wednesday. Allen has been superintendent since 2005. In her tenure the district completed an ambitious digital education initiative, giving tablet or laptop computers to all students, and completed several capital improvement projects.

Allen, 64, was named the state Superintendent of the Year in 2015. She told the school board of her decision Tuesday night.

“When I came to East Irondequoit, I could never have imagined the transformation this district would undergo,” she said in a statement. “Even with all the changes, one thing has remained the same, the incredible dedication and commitment shown by everyone here to make sure each and every student is provided with the best opportunity to succeed. ... There is so much that I will miss being a part of, but am confident that the future holds great things for our schools and our students.”

School leaders most often time their retirement for the end of the school year rather than the calendar year; district spokesman Dave Yates said he does not believe Allen has any other work lined up or any health issues motivating her exit, but rather is simply ready to step down.

“It’s just been something she’s been mulling over for a while,” he said. “I’m pretty sure just the timing is right and she wanted to spend more time with her family. She’s looking forward to the next chapter of her life.”

Allen’s departure leaves both Irondequoit school districts looking for new leaders. Jeffrey Crane, the longtime West Irondequoit superintendent, will retire at the end of December.

The district will have an interim superintendent beginning in January while it searches for a permanent replacement, Yates said, but that person has not yet been identified.

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Allen

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Retiring East Irondequoit Central School District superintendent Susan Allen