

Edison Tech principal takes University Prep job

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Two Rochester City School District high school principals are leaving the district to take roles at University Prep for Young Men Charter School, including Edison Tech principal Walter Larkin Jr. succeeding charter school founder Joe Munno as CEO.

Larkin graduated from Edison Tech in 1993 and has been an administrator in the Rochester City School District for 15 years, including the last three at Edison. His resignation takes effect April 23, according to a school board resolution passed last week, and he will begin at UPrep the following Monday. Larkin said that while leaving his alma mater was bittersweet, he was attracted by the greater autonomy available to him as “mini-superintendent” of a charter school.

“What I told the young men I mentor is that I wouldn’t be setting a good example for them if I didn’t follow my own opportunities,” he said.

At the same time, Integrated Arts and Technology High School Principal Kevin Klein is leaving to become chief academic officer and executive principal, serving under Larkin.

Assistant Principal Jacob Scott will take over as Edison’s interim principal for the rest of the school year. He is also an Edison Tech alumnus as well as the head coach of the basketball team. The district has not yet decided who will replace Klein. UPrep also announced that Suki Cintron, a former leader at Green Tech High Charter School in Albany,

will become chief operations officer.

UPrep board Chairman Edward Yansen said in a statement: “The board of trustees is confident that these new leaders will build upon the strengths of our school and provide ample opportunity to develop parent, family and school partnerships that will support and ensure the successful academic and personal development of our young men.”

Munno was forced out after the 2018 valedictorian, Jaisann Lovett, said he was barred from giving a speech at the graduation ceremony. Mayor Lovely Warren let Lovett speak at City Hall instead. Munno has filed a notice of claim to sue the school and city for his ouster.



Larkin



Edison Tech principal Walter Larkin Jr., far left, will take a role at University Prep for Young Men Charter School. TINA MACINTYRE-YEE/ ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE FILE