

RCSD names four finalists for superintendent

All candidates from outside NY

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The Rochester City School District on Wednesday announced four candidates, none local, for the permanent superintendent's job, with opportunities for public input to come the first weekend of May.

The four are males, all African Americans, from outside New York state. None has ever led a school district, according to information disseminated by RCSD; three come from much larger school districts and a fourth is a state education official.

■ Terry Dade, assistant superintendent at Fairfax County Public Schools in Virginia.

■ Devon Horton, chief of schools at Jefferson County Public Schools in the Louisville, Kentucky area.

■ Sito Narcisse, chief of schools for Metro Nashville Public Schools in Tennessee.

■ Eric Thomas, chief turnaround officer for the Georgia State Board of Education.

One of them will replace Dan Lowengard, who has been serving as interim leader since February, when Superintendent Barbara Deane-Williams stepped down.

There will be two public forums, each with two candidates: Narcisse and Thomas starting at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 4, and Dade and Horton starting at 12:30 p.m. May 5. Both will be at the Freddie Thomas Learning Center, 625 Scio St.

This search is being conducted in a more transparent fashion than the last one. There, the public had no opportunities to meet different candidates before the board chose Deane-Williams.

The new superintendent, once chosen by the school board and signed to a contract, will immediately face a series of challenges, including following through on a special education consent decree and deciding whether to recommend extending the East High School agreement with the University of Rochester.

The 2019-20 budget proposal includes a salary of \$238,703 for the superintendent.

More information is available at rcsdk12.org/suptsearch.

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Dade

Narcisse

Horton

Thomas

