

## Press Release:

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The Riverview School District Board of Directors, Administration, and Teachers are pleased to announce that they have agreed to a new 5 year teacher contract which runs through June 30, 2023. All parties agreed that the comprehensive time spent in updating contract language resulted in an agreement that supports and benefits students, acknowledges the important role that teachers play in educating students, and is cognizant of taxpayer concerns and needs. Riverview Education Association (REA) President, Mark Capsambelis, stated, “The negotiation was a long and difficult process, but the teachers are satisfied with the results and we are happy we can now focus on the work ahead of us.”

The new contract includes additional time for teachers to collaborate after the school day where they will engage in Professional Learning Community (PLC) time. Riverview Superintendent, Dr. Margaret DiNinno, indicated that this particular aspect of the contract provides an important learning bonus to students and aligns with the District’s Strategic Planning goals. “When teachers have time to collaborate and assess student needs, they are better able to genuinely customize support for our students,” said DiNinno. The Administration indicated that this aspect of the teacher contract will reap huge benefits for students. DiNinno stated, “Teachers are the most valuable resource we can provide to our students and their leadership is an important part of student learning. The use of PLCs will help us to empower our teachers and support their ability to grow students.”

The contract also includes a new section that provides for technology and cyber programming. The negotiation teams agreed that there is a necessity for change and the need for innovation to maintain educational standards. Stipulations include, but are not limited to, the use of distance learning courses and on-line courses and/or hybrid courses to assist with meeting student needs. These online learning opportunities are designed to support the District’s ability to customize learning and provide expanded opportunities for students.

The Board of School Directors and REA signed the official contract during the Board’s Regular Voting Meeting on February 11, 2019. Riverview School Board President, Dr. Maureen McClure, stated, “Riverview is a district whose parents want to raise well-rounded children. We look forward to working together with both our teachers and our Riverview community, so we can continue to attract families to this unique, small and high quality district with heart”.