



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. York officially named Goose Creek CISD superintendent

The Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees, at its meeting on May 28, 2009, officially named Dr. Toby York GCCISD Superintendent of Schools. Dr. York replaces Dr. Barbara Suttis who retired in January.

Dr. York is the 12th superintendent in school district history and will oversee a budget of \$165 million and more than 3,000 employees.

"As the district's educational leader, it is my goal to provide the environment where our students and teachers can excel," said Dr. York. "I am encouraged by the dedication of the board, principals, teachers, and staff as well as the community, as we work together to strengthen the school system to provide the best education possible for our students."

"While Goose Creek excels on many fronts, we certainly have areas we need to work on, and I will ensure that students are provided with a rigorous education."

Among Dr. York's immediate goals for the district are to increase the opportunities in advanced placement/dual enrollment and in career and technical education, and to improve the high school graduation rate. He also aims to close the achievement gap between special education, economically disadvantaged, limited English proficiency, and at-risk and other students.

Additionally, Dr. York has already initiated a plan to enhance the district's physical appearance.

"To have a vision is to look into the future and see what you want students to know and to be able to do," Dr. York said. "I want our students to graduate with the skill-set needed to be productive and engaged in society, to be able to problem solve, to make good decisions based on data and research and to be able to think critically and thoughtfully as they fulfill their future dreams."

"All parents want what is best for their children; that's true no matter where you go," he said. "It's our job, as public educators, to provide what's best for all students, and I take that job very seriously."

"We can be as fine a district as any in the state," he said.

The Board followed a lengthy process in hiring Dr. York. In March, the Board hired the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) to direct the search. TASB consultants met with staff, students, and community groups to discuss desired characteristics of the new superintendent/chief executive officer.

A profile was developed from the input collected at these meetings. This profile was the yardstick used by the Board and consultants in evaluating the 21 applicants for the position. The Board of Trustees narrowed the applicant pool to six and interviewed these candidates during the week of April 20. Following the first round of interviews, the Board invited two of the candidates for second interviews.

Dr. York was named the lone finalist on May 4. By law, the Board had to wait 21 days before voting to officially hire Dr. York.

Dr. York had served as Interim Superintendent for Goose Creek CISD since January 6. He has been with Goose Creek CISD since 2001 when he was hired as the district's Executive Director of School Administration. Dr. York served as GCCISD Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Student Services from 2002 to 2005. He served as Deputy Superintendent for Personnel and Student Services from 2005 to 2009. Prior to coming to Goose Creek, Dr. York served from 1998 to 2001 as Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for the 8,000-student New Caney ISD. There, he helped guide the academically acceptable school district to Recognized status for three consecutive years.

Dr. York also served as principal of New Caney High School from 1996 to 1998. Before that, he was an assistant principal at Oak Ridge High School in Conroe. Dr. York has also served as Athletic Director and football coach in Conroe and Cameron school districts. As a football coach, Dr. York was a member of the 1975 Texas A&M Southwest Conference championship team. He also coached two high school squads to state football titles.

Dr. York earned his bachelor's degree in education from Abilene Christian University in 1971, and his master's degree in educational administration from Texas A&M in 1976. He earned his doctorate degree in administration and supervision from the University of Houston in 1997.

Dr. York's wife, Denise, is an elementary school teacher in Conroe ISD and will retire at the end of this semester. Dr. York and his wife will relocate to the Baytown area this summer.

Goose Creek CISD serves more than 20,000 students in the communities of Baytown and Highlands. Encompassing a 128-square-mile area, GCCISD has one primary school, 14 elementary schools, five junior schools, and three high schools, as well as a wide range of special programs and services, including Stuart Career Center, the School Community Guidance Center, and the Alternative Learning Program.

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