

## **Board appoints Pattonville's new superintendent**



Dr. Mike Fulton will begin working as superintendent of the Pattonville School District beginning July 1, 2007. The Pattonville Board of Education unanimously selected Fulton for this leadership position on March 17 after an extensive selection process that began with 29 candidates. Fulton will replace Dr. Hugh Kinney, who will retire June 30 after serving Pattonville students, families, staff and community members for 10 years.

"The entire Board of Education is excited to have Dr. Fulton move into this position," said Board President Ron Kuschel. "He is a true advocate for our children and will continue Pattonville's tradition of staying focused on doing what's best for our students. He brings with him years of leadership experience, solid results in improving student achievement and a passion for helping our children and community."

Fulton currently serves as Pattonville's assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction and has worked for Pattonville for 12 years (10 of which were as assistant superintendent). In his current position, he supervises the instructional program for prekindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

Fulton said he's both humbled and honored to be selected as Pattonville's next superintendent. "Pattonville has great students, an outstanding staff, supportive and involved parents and a Board of Education that deeply cares about children. Working from that foundation, we'll continue our focus on doing what's right for all children."

Prior to working in Pattonville, Fulton worked as a teacher at Wydown Middle School and as assessment coordinator for the School District of Clayton. While at Clayton, he taught sixth-grade math and science, served as an elementary technology teacher and as a seventh-grade gifted teacher. Fulton began his career as an elementary physical education teacher in the Bloomington (IL) School District, where he also taught fifth and sixth grades and served as the district's liaison to Illinois State University. He also coached wrestling at Bloomington High School.

Fulton earned his doctorate in education from Saint Louis University in 2002. He also holds a master's degree in school administration from Illinois State University and a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Missouri State University. He was honored for excellence in teaching in 1990 when he was awarded honorable mention in Teacher's Magazine's Professional Best Awards program. In 2005, he was also honored with a Pride of Pattonville Award, which honors Pattonville volunteers and staff for service above and beyond expectations. Fulton, who is 46, and his wife, Katy, live in Bridgeton and have four children, one a 2006 Pattonville graduate and three who attend Pattonville schools.