



**BART**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BART Announces Principal Klompus Will Step Down to Attend Harvard Graduate School of Education's Doctorate of Education Leadership Program**

This fall, BART Principal Ben Klompus will be going back to school – the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Doctorate of Education Leadership (Ed.L.D.) Program. He will step down from his position at BART at the end of August.

Klompus joined the BART team in 2006 as the Dean of Students and assumed the Principal position in 2008. During his tenure at BART, the school has been recognized statewide and nationally for its academic success by Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, New Leaders for New Schools, and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Klompus has played a critical part in shaping the school's rigorous academic program, building a team of inspired educators and educator-leaders and developing systems within the school to support each student at his or her own academic level. The school was recently identified as a Level 1 school by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and its charter was renewed in January for a third charter term.

"Principal Klompus will be sorely missed, but we are thrilled that he is going on to continue his education. He is a tremendous leader already, and I look forward to seeing him have an even greater impact on our country's education system as a result of Harvard's doctoral program," said Executive Director Julia Bowen.

The school has launched a search for a new principal, with the expectation that Klompus will transition responsibilities to the new principal through the summer.

The next principal will have the opportunity to build upon BART's successful current program and the expansion of the school from 300 to 363 students. Among the exciting initiatives the next principal will lead are the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center program, the addition of science labs, and the programmatic aspects related to a facility expansion.

Bowen went on to say, "I have no doubt that we will find another great leader to keep our program moving forward. We have an experienced, collaborative instructional team with a strong track record of success. And the Berkshires are a wonderful place to live!"

Additional information about BART's students' achievements and the Principal search can be found at [www.bartcharter.org](http://www.bartcharter.org).

### *About BART*

BART is a nationally recognized, award-winning, tuition-free public middle and high school focused on preparing students for college. One hundred percent of BART's graduates have passed a college course and have been accepted into college prior to graduation. BART's MCAS results demonstrate the typical BART student grows more than the typical student at any other middle or high school in Berkshire County; the school's MCAS results are also among the highest in the state. BART does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, homelessness or age.

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