



June 27, 2019

For Immediate Release:

Mr. Billy Harlan Named Lone Finalist for Academy ISD Superintendent

After completing an extensive search under the guidance of Executive Search Services, a division of the Texas Association of School Boards, the Academy ISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved Mr. Billy Harlan as the lone finalist for the district's superintendent position in a meeting on June 27, 2019.



Mr. Harlan comes to Academy from Corsicana ISD where he has most recently served as the district's Chief Administrative Officer. He has spent his 23 years in education in various roles such as Assistant Superintendent, Executive Director of Human Resources, Executive Director of Extracurricular Programs, campus principal, assistant principal, head baseball coach, special education department chair, and teacher. He holds a bachelor's degree in Kinesiology from Texas A&M University and a Master of Education from UT Tyler.

Board President, Dr. Calvin Eshbaugh, stated that the board narrowed the field of candidates to seven potential superintendents from a pool of 60 applicants. After a first round of interviews, three candidates were invited to return for a second interview. Dr. Eshbaugh said, "It became very clear that Mr. Harlan embodied the traits and characteristics of the profile that was developed in collaboration with the district staff and the community. We believe that his enthusiasm, energy, and vision for our district are a perfect fit for Academy ISD."

Upon being named lone finalist, Mr. Harlan said, "I am humbled and honored to be chosen to lead Academy ISD. I want to thank Dr. Eshbaugh and the AISD Board for this opportunity. We will continue to improve upon the successes of the past and seek new opportunities for all students. Lori and I look forward to being a part of the Little River-Academy community!"

Mr. Harlan and his wife, Lori, have two adult children. Their son, Brady, graduated from the University of Texas in 2018 and is currently continuing his studies at the University of Oklahoma. Their daughter, Abby, will be starting her freshman year at Texas Tech University in the Fall.

By law, the board must wait 21 days before voting to hire Mr. Harlan. The school board is scheduled to vote to offer a contract at a noon meeting on Friday, July 19.