




TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Betty A. Rosa, Commissioner

SUBJECT: Appointment of Superintendent at the New York State School for the Deaf

DATE: November 15, 2022

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

Issue for Decision

Should the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Kara Shore as Superintendent at the New York State School for the Deaf in Rome, New York?

Reason(s) for Consideration

The Superintendent position was vacated by Joyce Long on February 16, 2022. A search for a new Superintendent has been conducted, resulting in a recommendation to appoint Kara Shore.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Full Board at its Executive Session for discussion during the November 2022 Regents meeting. If approved in Executive Session, it will then come before the Full Board for final action at the Board's Public Session on November 15, 2022.

Procedural History

Education Law requires that the Board of Regents appoint the Superintendent of the New York State School for the Deaf. The recommendation before you for consideration was made by the Commissioner of Education consistent with Section 4354 of Education Law.

Background Information

The Superintendent of the New York State School for the Deaf, Ms. Long, submitted her resignation to the Department with an effective date of February 16, 2022. Ms. Shore, the Assistant Superintendent, served as the Acting Superintendent from August 2021 to February 2022 and has been serving as the Interim Superintendent since her appointment by the Board of Regents at the February 2022 meeting.

The Superintendent of the New York State School for the Deaf provides on-site management for the five-day residential program, school program, and campus operations and must lead the communication, facilitation, and implementation of P-12 priorities. The Superintendent is also responsible for achieving and maintaining compliance with federal and State regulations; State Education Department policies, both fiscal and programmatic; assuming a leadership role in developing and implementing curriculum and assessment based on learning standards established for all students, and promoting positive program changes to improve student outcomes and foster attainment of postsecondary goals. Ms. Shore has been fulfilling the above-referenced duties in her current Interim Superintendent position.

Following a lengthy search period, the search committee identified nine candidates to interview for the Superintendent position. Following outreach to these nine candidates, three confirmed an interest in interviewing for this position. Interviews were conducted on August 29, 2022, and two candidates were selected to meet with the New York State School for the Deaf Advisory Board of Visitors and with the school's Leadership Team on October 24, 2022. The purpose of the candidates meeting with these two stakeholder groups was for each candidate to share their vision for the New York State School for the Deaf if they were to be appointed to the Superintendent position. Based on a review of the information from this process, the Department recommends Ms. Shore be appointed to the position of Superintendent.

Ms. Shore's background as a special education teacher, educational administrative experience, and years of service at NYSSD as the Assistant Superintendent, Acting Superintendent, and Interim Superintendent makes her a highly qualified and experienced candidate to assume the roles and responsibilities of this Superintendent position. Her full exposure to and management of the overall operations of the New York State School for the Deaf, ongoing collaboration with the Department to ensure the needs of the school are met, and progress to date in addressing systemic improvements at this school are the reasons for recommending her to this position. Her words and actions demonstrate her devotion to supporting the entire New York State School for the Deaf school community.

Related Regents Items

February 2022: [Appointment of Interim Superintendent at the New York State School for the Deaf](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/222bra5.pdf) (https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/222bra5.pdf)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Kara Shore as Superintendent of the New York State School for the Deaf, effective November 17, 2022.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the recommendation, the appointment will be effective November 17, 2022.