

Lake Wales Charter School District
Lake Wales, FL

October 26, 2021

Dear Board of Trustees,

Please accept this packet as a formal application for the position of Superintendent of the Lake Wales Charter School District. I have seventeen years of successful experience as a superintendent. Nine of those seventeen years were spent as the County Superintendent in Mahoning County, Ohio. During that time, the district was able to grow from serving 14 member districts to 20 member districts and servicing over 40 districts. We serviced rural, suburban and urban districts during my tenure. I currently serve as Superintendent of the Marion City School District where we have successfully increased opportunities for our students to be equipped with essential tools upon graduation and we have made the schools the focal point in the community.

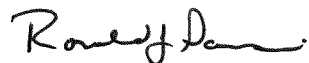
I am very interested in leading the Lake Wales Schools and continuing academic success and social emotional support for the students. I am very impressed with what VLake Wales offers for students and I am confident I can bring new ideas and build relationships to successfully increase those opportunities for students.

School leadership is important and I have gained great experience providing that leadership. I have been successful because I believe in fundamentals of leadership that includes building trust with stakeholders in order to lead the effort to achieve higher results. I hope I get the opportunity to discuss with the search committee how I can successfully lead Lake Wales in the years to come.

Thank you for all you do as a board of trustees in these uncharted times.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald J. Iarussi".

Ronald J. Iarussi EdD

Ronald J. Iarussi, Ed.D.

201 Misty Woods Court
Struthers OH 44471
330-503-3611

riarussi@mcspresidents.org / roniarussi@yahoo.com / twitter @Ron_IarussiEdD

EXPERIENCE

Marion City Schools, Marion OH — Superintendent

August 2018 - Present

Mahoning County Educational Service Center/Mahoning County Career & Technical Center, Canfield OH — Superintendent

August 2009 - July 2018

Columbiana Exempted Village Schools, Columbiana OH — Superintendent

August 2004 - July 2009

Columbiana Exempted Village Schools, Columbiana OH — Principal

August 2003 - July 2004

Struthers City Schools, Struthers OH — Principal/Curriculum Director

August 1999 - July 2003

EDUCATION

Youngstown State University, Youngstown OH — Doctor of Education, Ed. Leadership

2008 - 2014

Ashland University, Ashland OH — Master of Education, Principal and Superintendent Licensure

1990 - 1994

Hiram College, Hiram OH — Teacher Licensure

1988 - 1990

Youngstown State University, Youngstown OH — Bachelor of Science Degree, Sociology and Anthropology

1983 - 1986

Struthers High School, Struthers OH — Diploma

1980 - 1983

PRESENT / PAST WORK RELATED ACTIVITIES

*Advisor to the Governing Boards of: Valley STEM Academy, Mahoning County High School, Mahoning Unlimited Classroom, Youngstown Community School, Mahoning Valley Regional Council of Governments, BIOMED STEM Academy, Marion Area Workforce Acceleration Collaborative, Marion CanDo (Economic Development) Board, Marion Family and Children First Council

*Executive Board Member of: Mahoning County School Employees Insurance Consortium, ACCESS Cooperative, Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition, Manufacturing Innovation and Commercialization Center, Youngstown State University Professional Educators Council, United Way of Marion, Crawford and Wyandot Counties

*Adjunct Professor, Ashland University

AWARDS

Youngstown State University Beehly College of Education Dean's Appreciation Award, Buckeye Association of School Administrators Leadership Award, Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools Legislative Leadership Award, Struthers School Foundation for Educational Excellence Honoree

GRANTS

Ohio Reads Literacy Grant, Mahoning Valley Prepared for Success Straight A Grant, Simulated Workplace Straight A Grant, RAMTEC Straight A Grant, Expanding Opportunities for Every Child, 21st Century Federal Grants, Comprehensive Literacy Grant through ODE.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

United Way Board (Mahoning & Marion County), Valley Care Hospital Board, Ohio Health Marion General Hospital Board, Family and Children First Council Board, Struthers Gridiron Club member, Curbstone Coaches member, Leadership Mahoning Valley, Columbiana Rotary member and past president, Marion Rotary Member, volunteer broadcaster for WYTV Football Game of the Week and WKBN radio, high school football and YMCA flag football volunteer coach, Little League volunteer baseball coach, United Way Fundraiser Volunteer, Marion Womens' Home Fundraiser Volunteer,

KATHI MCNABB WELSH
ATTORNEY AT LAW
522 Deer Run Drive
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330 727-2827
kwelsh@zoominternet.net

October 12, 2021

In re: Dr. Ronald Iarussi

Dear Sir or Madam:


I am writing regarding Dr. Ronald Iarussi, Superintendent of the Marion City School District. Prior to his employment with Marion City Schools, Dr. Iarussi was the Superintendent of the Mahoning County Educational Service Center (now known as the Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio). I was a member of the Governing Board during Dr. Iarussi's tenure. I remain on the Board, serving since my election in 2003. I am writing this letter of recommendation in my individual capacity.

Dr. Iarussi was hired as our Assistant Superintendent in 2009 and became the Superintendent in 2010. He is intelligent, hard-working and innovative; a "change agent" with a keen vision for the direction of public education in the 21st century. During his tenure, our local school districts were surveyed as to the quality of our services. The results reflected the overwhelming confidence our districts had in Dr. Iarussi's leadership.

For example, Dr. Iarussi was heavily involved in the creation of the Mahoning Valley Regional Council of Governments, an entity that provides pre-employment services to our district members at a great cost savings. He was also instrumental in helping Mahoning County garner a state grant for regional shared services through the use of technology. He initiated strategic planning to help the ESC develop its vision for the future.

In closing, I have the utmost respect for Ron and write this letter of recommendation with enthusiasm. It was a pleasure to work with him and I am sure he will benefit any organization that employs him. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Very truly yours,


KATHI MCNABB WELSH

It is my great pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Dr Ron Iarussi. I have had the privilege of working with Dr Iarussi and learning from him in a variety of professional settings over the past 15 years. I can state with confidence that he is a motivated and innovative professional with a high degree of integrity. As such, I expect that he will be a very positive addition to any organization's educational leadership team.

My path initially crossed with Dr Iarussi when he was the Superintendent in Columbiana schools and I was an instructional consultant. I observed very quickly that Ron was a leader who believed in his teachers and supported them in their professional growth and expected them to always do what was best for their students. He led the administrative team well and communicated effectively with his community.

Several years later he became the Superintendent of the Mahoning County Educational Service Center (MCESC) It was during his tenure there that he offered me the job as the Director of Teaching and Learning at the ESC. I gladly accepted and it was during my 5 years there that I saw first hand what an innovative and perceptive leader Ron truly is. He has always understood the importance of strong curriculum and instruction. He worked tirelessly to ensure we always had the best and brightest instructional supervisors and continually offered me guidance and support as we grew the teaching and learning department and solidified its impact and reputation throughout northeast Ohio. He communicated regularly with our district leaders and provided many avenues of support for them and their districts. He started a Council of Government (COG) which provided a very beneficial hiring avenue for our districts. He always looked to do what was best for children and started a STEM school that served many of our area students by providing opportunities that their home districts were not able to offer. Early on he connected us with a very effective grant writing team that assisted us with crafting several grants on behalf of our districts. Through these grants we were able to provide many resources and professional learning opportunities for our teachers and district leaders that they could not fund on their own. Ron was always very involved with the business leaders throughout the area. Because of this the ESC had a very effective Business Advisory Council that connected our district leaders with the area business leaders. In a very practical manner.

Ron strengthened our leadership team at the ESC by providing opportunities for us to meet regularly and communicate across departments. He brought in a company that helped us create a strategic plan for the ESC. This plan helped us better understand the needs of our districts and to serve them more effectively. Ron always made it a priority for our leadership team to have opportunities for professional learning and growth.

Overall, Ron has numerous strengths and experiences. He is well connected with various educational leaders throughout the state. He is very intelligent and has a clear view and vision of the big picture and how all the component parts interact to make educational environments safe, positive, and productive, for each and every stakeholder. He consistently goes above and beyond what is required. He is thoughtful in his approach and always works to find a solution that is original and creative. His interest is in a quality outcome and he is always willing to put in whatever time it takes to make sure that happens. He is a self-starter and consistently seeks opportunities to expand his knowledge and experience base. He is exceptionally well organized and able to do task analysis so that goals and the steps to meet them are clearly communicated. He relates well to all educational stakeholders. He is articulate and well spoken. He is able to think on his feet and respond appropriately under pressure.

This true dedication to the world of education, coupled with extensive leadership qualities makes him an asset to any team he may work with. His self-confidence, enthusiasm, and humility wonderfully blended with sociability will be a great source of motivation for any educational entity he may lead.

I am confident that he, as an educator with great passion for high academic expectations, will do well. I strongly recommend you to consider him to lead your educational team.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to talk with me if I can provide further information.

Sincerely,

Kim Davis

Director of Teaching and Learning

Southeast Local School District

Founding Partner, Carefree Education Service Group

Contact: 330-507-3866

Dr. Sandra J. DiBacco
7629 North Lima Road
Poland, Ohio 44514
Home: (330) 757-9843
Mobile: (330) 502-3731

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Dr. Ronald Iarussi who has applied for a position with your organization. I have known Ron for over twenty (20) years on both a professional and personal level.

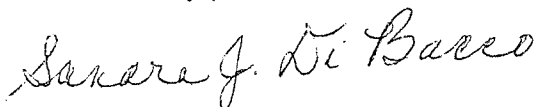
Originally, I met Ron while I was Superintendent of Struthers City Schools. I hired him to be the assistant principal. It was not long after he started work in the district that I recognized the potential he had, especially in regards to curriculum. The district did not have a Director of Curriculum but desperately needed one. After less than a year, I placed Ron as an administrator on special assignment to work on the district curriculum, K-12. It was not long before Ron proved his worth and I created a Director of Curriculum position which he held until he moved on to another district where there was an opportunity for him to become a superintendent, which he did in a short time. He later went on to become the Superintendent of the Mahoning County Educational Service Center. While he was there, he created many partnerships with districts and businesses that resulted in tremendous growth for the ESC.

Ron not only possesses the skills of an outstanding educator and leader from curriculum to innovation but has strong interpersonal skills. His interpersonal skills afford him opportunities by connecting with people and opening dialogue that leads to partnerships.

As I said, I know Ron on a personal level as well. He is a dedicated husband and father. He has raised two sons who have gone on to create their own success stories. These personal accomplishments speak to his character.

Without hesitation, I strongly recommend Dr. Iarussi for a position in your organization. If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Professionally yours,



Dr. Sandra J. DiBacco
Retired Superintendent of Schools
Independent Educational Consultant

STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
5 Year Professional Superintendent License

RONALD J IARUSSI

THIS LICENSE AWARDED TO

YU1012598	04/14/2021	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2026
EDUCATOR STATE ID	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATES

The holder of this credential, having satisfactorily completed the requirements prescribed by The State Board of Education and the laws of Ohio, is authorized to teach the subject(s) or serve in the area(s) listed on this document for the period specified. The holder of this credential is responsible for being knowledgeable about current requirements for maintaining the credential.

This official document was created by the Ohio Department of Education and represents a true copy of a legal educator license as referenced in Ohio Revised Code Section 3319.36.

0700 - 04/14/2021 1401

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Employers may verify this credential by going to Educator Profile on education.ohio.gov and ensuring that the unique credential number appearing on this credential matches the person's records in Educator Profile, which is the official record of educator credential history.



STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
5 Year Professional High School (7-12) License

RONALD J IARUSSI

THIS LICENSE AWARDED TO

YU1012598	04/14/2021	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2026
EDUCATOR STATE ID	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATES

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Teaching Fields: Comprehensive Social Studies (150002)

Superintendent of Public Instruction



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Credentialed by Ohio Department of Education

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STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
5 Year Professional High School Principal (7-12) License

RONALD J IARUSSI

THIS LICENSE AWARDED TO

YU1012598	04/14/2021	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2026
EDUCATOR STATE ID	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATES

The holder of this credential, having satisfactorily completed the requirements prescribed by The State Board of Education and the laws of Ohio, is authorized to teach the subject(s) or serve in the area(s) listed on this document for the period specified. The holder of this credential is responsible for being knowledgeable about current requirements for maintaining the credential.

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Document ID: 21070160

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Paula DeMura
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR TRANSCRIPT OF ACADEMIC RECORD

Page: 1

Date Issued: 18-OCT-2021

Student ID: Y00431625

Day and Month of Birth: 14-AUG

Official

Record of: Ronald John Iarussi

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER OF CENTRAL OHIO

Level: Doctorate Semester

Degree Awarded: Doctor of Education 17-MAY-2014
Major : Educational Leadership

SUBJ NO.	COURSE TITLE	CRED GRD	PTS R
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TRANSFER CREDIT ACCEPTED BY THE INSTITUTION:

2000S-2002X Ashland University
Ehrs: 18.00 GPA-Hrs: 0.00 QPts: 0.00 GPA: 0.00

1999X Ashland University
Ehrs: 3.00 GPA-Hrs: 0.00 QPts: 0.00 GPA: 0.00

INSTITUTION CREDIT:

Fall 2005
FOUN 8110 THEORIES OF INQUIRY 3.00 A 12.00
Ehrs: 3.00 GPA-Hrs: 3.00 QPts: 12.00 GPA: 4.00

Spring 2006
EDAD 8155 SEMINAR CURR ED ISS 3.00 A 12.00
Ehrs: 3.00 GPA-Hrs: 3.00 QPts: 12.00 GPA: 4.00

Fall 2006
EDAD 8140 SEMINAR ADMIN THEORY 3.00 A 12.00
Ehrs: 3.00 GPA-Hrs: 3.00 QPts: 12.00 GPA: 4.00

Spring 2007
COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL DURING FIRST TWO WEEKS OF TERM

Spring 2011
FOUN 8102 Perspect Leader Diverse Popul 3.00 A 12.00
FOUN 8104 Research Strategies Educ Admin 3.00 A 12.00
Ehrs: 6.00 GPA-Hrs: 6.00 QPts: 24.00 GPA: 4.00

Summer 2011
EDAD 8125 Educ Politics Policy Making US 3.00 B 9.00
FOUN 8114 Adv Research Design and Stats 3.00 A 12.00
Ehrs: 6.00 GPA-Hrs: 6.00 QPts: 21.00 GPA: 3.50
***** CONTINUED ON NEXT COLUMN *****

SUBJ NO.	COURSE TITLE	CRED GRD	PTS R
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Institution Information continued:

Fall 2011
FOUN 8112 Qualitative Research for Educ 3.00 A 12.00
Ehrs: 3.00 GPA-Hrs: 3.00 QPts: 12.00 GPA: 4.00

Spring 2012
EDAD 8122 Leadership in Education 3.00 A 12.00
Ehrs: 3.00 GPA-Hrs: 3.00 QPts: 12.00 GPA: 4.00

Summer 2012
EDAD 8185 Sem Ed Rsrch Dissert Proposal 3.00 A 12.00
Ehrs: 3.00 GPA-Hrs: 3.00 QPts: 12.00 GPA: 4.00

Spring 2013
EDAD 8190 Dissertation Study 9.00 A 36.00
Ehrs: 9.00 GPA-Hrs: 9.00 QPts: 36.00 GPA: 4.00

Summer 2013
EDAD 8190 Dissertation Study 6.00 A 24.00
Ehrs: 6.00 GPA-Hrs: 6.00 QPts: 24.00 GPA: 4.00

***** TRANSCRIPT TOTALS *****
Earned Hrs GPA Hrs Points GPA
TOTAL INSTITUTION 45.00 45.00 177.00 3.93

TOTAL TRANSFER 21.00 0.00 0.00 0.00

OVERALL 66.00 45.00 177.00 3.93

***** END OF TRANSCRIPT *****



Jeanne M. Herman
Jeanne M. Herman
University Registrar
YSU School Code: 003145

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