

June 18, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

The Rensselaerville Institute (TRI) is pleased to have entered into a robust partnership with Escambia County School District to raise achievement at ten of their most challenged schools – including as the External Operator at Warrington Middle School. As part of the initial establishment of the partnership we conducted an intensive due diligence of all ten schools to assure that the structures and personnel were capable of undertaking the urgent change needed to assure future student success.

One of the schools with whom we currently partner in our core program, Holm Elementary School, is undergoing a leadership change. This change will impact the current partnership for the core program as well as the potential External Operator contract that the district and our organization have agreed to should that come to pass (pending final school grades for 2019).

The district reviewed options for experienced leaders to take the helm at Holm and after much consideration asked that we speak with their top choice, Terri Fina. I personally conducted a lengthy interview with Ms. Fina and assessed her data and experience through other documentation. She is a competent and thoughtful leader with deep ESE experience, the skills needed to grow teachers, and a clear ability to connect and engage beyond the walls of the school. In conversations with Superintendent Thomas and senior district staff, we strongly agreed with the district recommendation for her as the new principal.

We are committed to our partnership with Holm Elementary with Terri Fina as the new principal. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Gillian Williams
President