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Bucks County Intermediate Unit
For Immediate Release:

Bristol Borough School District to Appoint Hope Grant as District Superintendent

DOYLESTOWN, PA – The Bristol Borough School District Board of School Directors will vote on the appointment of Hope Grant as the district's next District Superintendent at their regularly scheduled meeting on November 19, 2026.

Grant brings more than 26 years of experience as a public educator and educational leader, including six years as Assistant Superintendent of the Trenton Public School District and nearly 15 years as a high school principal. Throughout her career, she has focused on student achievement and support, community partnerships, college and career readiness, and creating collaborative school cultures in which students, educators, and families have a voice.

Her nomination follows a comprehensive superintendent search facilitated by the Bucks County Intermediate Unit (Bucks IU) that attracted 23 applicants from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Connecticut, and Massachusetts.

About Hope Grant

Grant has spent more than 26 years serving students, staff, and families, including more than two decades in Trenton Public School District. She has served as the Assistant Superintendent since 2020, following nearly 15 years as a high school principal and earlier

roles as vice principal, health and social service coordinator, and education development specialist with the New Jersey Department of Education.


Hope Grant

As Assistant Superintendent, Grant has worked closely with school leaders to review student performance, strengthen instructional programs, and provide support to schools. She pioneered the districtwide Chronically Absent Response and Engagement (C.A.R.E.) process, led implementation and training in Restorative Practices, expanded higher education partnerships and dual enrollment opportunities, and supported career readiness programming and district strategic planning.

Grant previously served as Principal of Trenton Central High School, where she led a 1,600-student comprehensive high school. During her tenure, she implemented a student progress plan associated with a 33 percent increase in the four-year graduation rate from 2013 to 2018. She also expanded college partnerships, resulting in more than a 100 percent increase in students taking college credit while still in high school.

According to Grant, one of the defining leadership experiences of her career was guiding Trenton Central High School through the closure of its 82-year-old building and a five-year transition to multiple campuses while a new high school was planned and constructed. Grant coordinated with parents, students, staff, and community members to ensure their perspectives helped inform the new school and worked with district leadership and the New Jersey Schools Development Authority throughout the project. She also established leadership teams to oversee instruction and daily operations across four campuses during the transition.

Grant holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Hampton University, a Master of Education in Urban Education from Norfolk State University, and a Master of Education in Educational Administration from The College of New Jersey. Her credentials include Pennsylvania Superintendent PreK-12 Commission Qualification and New Jersey School Administrator and Principal/Supervisor standard certificates.

Statement from Anthony Smith, Bristol Borough School District Board President

“From the beginning of this search, the Board was looking for a hands-on, visible leader who understands that strong schools are built through relationships with students, staff, families, and the broader community. Hope brings that approach, along with extensive experience supporting student achievement, leading through significant change, and building partnerships that create opportunities for students. We believe she has the experience, perspective, and commitment to help move Bristol Borough School District forward, while valuing the close-knit community that makes our district special.”

Statement from Hope Grant

“I am honored to have been selected as the next Superintendent of the Bristol Borough School District. I want to thank the Bristol Borough Board of School Directors for their support and for the opportunity to lead this district. I am excited to begin this work and look forward to building meaningful relationships with students, staff, families, and community members. I am committed to collaborating to ensure every student has the support, encouragement, and opportunities they need to discover their strengths, optimize their capabilities, and achieve their goals.”

Community Forum

The Board looks forward to welcoming community members to a forum introducing Hope Grant as the district’s incoming Superintendent. The event will provide an opportunity for attendees to hear directly from Grant.

The forum will include a question-and-answer session facilitated by Dr. Mark Hoffman, Executive Director of the Bucks IU. Community members will also have an opportunity to submit questions in advance to help guide the discussion.

Additional details, including the forum’s date, time, location, and instructions for submitting questions, will be shared with the community.

Background on the Superintendent Search Process

At its June 10, 2026 meeting, the Bristol Borough School District Board of School Directors voted to appoint the Bucks County Intermediate Unit (Bucks IU) to facilitate the search for the district’s next superintendent. Bucks IU helped develop interview protocols, coordinate logistics, and facilitate interviews. Every decision on interviews and candidate selection rested solely with the Bristol Borough Board of School Directors.

To gather community input early in the process, the district surveyed students, staff, and community members from June 23 to June 30, 2026, asking which qualities and priorities they considered most important in the next superintendent. The survey received 114 responses, and the results were made publicly available.

Bucks IU ran a national search, advertising in local, regional, state, and national publications. That search attracted a field of 23 applicants from 5 states.

The Board conducted a comprehensive, multi-stage process designed to identify the candidate best suited to lead the district. The Board advanced candidates through two rounds of interviews. Following an initial round, two finalists were selected to participate in a second round interview that also included a written leadership exercise and a 10-minute presentation to the Board.

After carefully evaluating the finalists and considering feedback gathered throughout the search process, the Board chose to put forward Hope Grant for appointment as the district's next superintendent.

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ABOUT THE BUCKS COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT (Bucks IU):

For more than 55 years, the Bucks County Intermediate Unit has partnered with schools, families, educators, and community organizations to expand opportunities for learners throughout Bucks County. Through exceptional educational programs, innovative professional development, and advanced business and technology services, the Bucks IU helps schools and communities meet the evolving needs of those they serve. Learn more at www.BucksIU.org.