



# ANTHONY WAYNE SCHOOLS

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The Anthony Wayne Local Schools would like to welcome Dr. Jim Fritz as the new Superintendent. Dr. Fritz succeeds Dr. John Granger who resigned effective June 30, 2010 for retirement purposes. Dr. Fritz has worked closely with the administrative team over the last three years as assistant superintendent, director of curriculum and instruction, and Lucas County Educational Service Center school improvement consultant for Anthony Wayne Local Schools. Prior to that, he served as Anthony Wayne High School assistant principal, and Fallen Timbers Middle School assistant principal. Before coming to Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Dr. Fritz worked as a Science teacher at Springfield High School and an academic advisor at the University of Toledo. He earned his B.S. in Exercise Science, his M.Ed. in Secondary Education, and his Ed.D. in Educational Administration all from the University of Toledo. Dr. Fritz is married and has two children attending Anthony Wayne Schools. His wife Robin teaches fourth grade at Monclova Primary School.

Dr. Fritz has been an integral part of the central office administration over the last three years. He worked with the district administrative team to develop a three-year certified professional development plan focusing on curriculum alignment, instruction, and assessment, and he has assisted district treasurer, Mrs. Kerri Johnson, and former superintendent Dr. Granger, in guiding the district out of fiscal caution. He has a solid vision for the future both academically and financially. Dr. Fritz has experience in labor negotiations working with both the certified and non-certified labor associations, helping to maintain positive working relationships with both of those important groups.

"The board is pleased to have the opportunity to work with Dr. Fritz," said Anthony Wayne Board President Doug Zimmerman. He has more than proved his worth with the district. The Board of Education looks forward to working with Dr. Fritz and the new and fresh ideas he will bring to the district."

When asked about the future challenges facing Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Dr. Fritz said, "my main challenge is to continue the tradition of academic excellence at Anthony Wayne Local Schools, while being fiscally responsible with district resources." Although the district will have a positive carryover balance on June 30, 2010, significant cuts to public education are looming in the July 2011 State Biennial budget. "We cannot forget how we got to this point with our finances," stated Dr. Fritz. "We have to watch every dollar very closely to make sure that we can maintain our current staffing and programming with the revenue we have available. It is extremely important to have a carryover balance to help offset the State budget cuts we are expecting as well as possible unfunded mandates associated with H.B. 1 such as all day, every day kindergarten." All day, every day kindergarten would cost the district approximately \$700,000 per year in staffing alone with the district receiving no additional State funding. From 2006 to 2009, Anthony Wayne Local Schools lost approximately 50 staff members, (33 of those being teaching positions) through employee attrition. Three years of employee attrition, along with Federal Stimulus and State Fiscal Stabilization Funds has helped the district put itself on solid financial ground for the time being. However, the 2011 State Biennial budget could include up to a 30 percent cut to public education. In addition to that possible loss of revenue, Federal Stimulus and State Fiscal Stabilization funds are scheduled to expire on July 1, 2011 as well.

Dr. Fritz also noted the need to continue to focus on facilities, most importantly classroom space. "The district will need to continue to gather community input on facilities, because we know that we are going to have to address our need for additional space in the near future," said Dr. Fritz. "At some point, we will have to add additional classrooms to accommodate our student enrollment. We know that the community senses the need for additional space through the input we gained from the February 2010 community focus group. However, we also learned that the economy has not recovered to the point where a bond issue is likely to be successful." The district continues to monitor enrollment as well as the local housing market very closely.

"We are currently at capacity in our buildings," stated Dr. Fritz. "I want to make sure that we have a plan in place to accommodate future needs."

Academically, the district has been working on a three-year strategic plan that addresses several areas such as improving test scores, implementing research based instructional strategies, and developing a community advisory committee. "Our district leadership team, comprised of teachers and administrators, has been looking at district data to formulate goals for the strategic plan," said Dr. Fritz. "We will be gathering community input on these goals through the community advisory committee that we will be putting in place as part of our strategic plan." Despite all of the district's past success, there is plenty of work to be done. "We have an excellent school district with wonderful students, parents, teachers, and staff members as well as a very supportive community," stated Dr. Fritz, "but there is always room for improvement and a need to work hard to maintain our tradition of excellence."



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