

May 16, 2025

Dear Members of the Brookline Interim Superintendent Selection Committee,

I have served 29 years as a public school educator in the state of Massachusetts. 22 have been as a school administrator, 16 of which have been as a Superintendent. It has been my privilege to work for the school districts of Lincoln-Sudbury, Wellesley, and Natick and with the supporting communities of those school districts. Not only am I deeply experienced in the role of Superintendent across different types of school districts I have served previously as an Interim Superintendent which provides its own nuance to the responsibilities of the Superintendent. In that case one must ensure a district is doing its best to meet the needs of all of its students while making progress on the long range goals of improvement it has set for itself and lay the appropriate groundwork for a smooth transition to permanent leadership.

I have spent some time reviewing recent media reports about the school district and watching School Committee meetings recorded since November of the current academic year. Starting July 1, the district will be undergoing a significant transition in leadership in the central office and schools across several roles and will welcome new members to the School Committee while it must address challenges to assure effective long range planning and programming for the benefit of its students with all due speed. What happens in a School Committee meeting is removed from the heart of learning that takes place in classrooms across the district. However, I am impressed by the passion of the many speakers that made the time to attend the meetings and the deliberate patience of the members to listen and consider every statement that was made about the schools.

Assuming the responsibility of being the Interim Superintendent for the Brookline Public Schools at this time will be a daunting task for anyone to try. To succeed will demand that all community members across the district and town will need to cooperate and collaborate. To problem solve effectively will require honest self reflection in order to move forward with greater understanding and clarity.

I am interested in the challenge the role presents. I am also personally interested as a proud alumnus of the school system. The schools made such a positive impact on my life and it is why I became a public school educator myself. Until the passing of my father last July my family has lived in Brookline since 1967.

It is my sincere pleasure to submit this application for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Bella Wong

Runkle '74  
BHS '78

## BELLA T. WONG

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### EDUCATOR SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

#### **Natick Public Schools, Natick, MA**

**2023-24**

##### Interim Superintendent

- 10 schools: 1 High, 2 Middle, 5 Elementary and Preschool (10 classrooms)
- 5300 students (FY25)
- \$89 million budget (FY25)

Highlights: Progressed district's strategic plan, closed an elementary school, navigated district's adjustment to loss of COVID grant funds with a reduction of 10 positions in FY25, developed rationale for an override for FY26 which succeeded April 2025, amended SOI MSBA application for renovation of an elementary school that received approval September 2024 after two previous failures, mentored leadership including a new finance director.

#### **Lincoln Sudbury Regional School District, Sudbury, MA**

**2013-2023**

##### Superintendent/Principal

- 1600 students (FY24)
- \$40 million budget (FY24)

Educational Initiatives: Created a 5-year strategic plan and portrait of a graduate, Implemented new teacher evaluation system and established ongoing staff-admin evaluation working group, Launched Global Scholars Program featuring language study, travel and capstone project, Reorganized special education to include programs for intensive social emotional disabilities and Autism, Enhanced generalized academic support center with addition of intervention specialists, Expanded language study to include Mandarin, Improved class size, Expanded electives for performing arts, Expanded and improved oversight for the student travel program.

Capital Improvements: addition of solar array canopy, upgraded network infrastructure to support wireless technology, established annual instructional capital funding line, upgrade of security cameras, replacement of two synthetic turf fields, supported energy use improvements.

#### **Wellesley Public Schools, Wellesley, MA**

##### Superintendent of Schools

**2007 - 2012**

- 10 schools: High School, Middle School, 7 Elementary, and Preschool
- 4866 students (FY12)
- \$60 million budget (FY12)

##### Assistant Superintendent of Schools

**1998 - 2002**

**2005 - 2007**

- Human resources and collective bargaining
- Supervised K-12 directors of library and technology
- Supervised district business administrator
- Co-supervised consolidated town-wide facilities manager
- Long range planning (finance, facilities, redistricting, technology, libraries)
- Co-developed redistricting plan to move from six to seven elementary schools

- Administrative Partner to Permanent Building Committee for school building projects: Modular Construction Pre-School, Upgrade of HVAC systems for three Elementary Schools, Roof replacements for five elementary schools, Renovation of Bates, Fiske, Schofield, and Sprague Elementary Schools, Occupied Renovation Middle School and New High School Construction

**Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, Sudbury, MA** **1991-1998**

Science Department Coordinator (1996 – 1998)

Manage curriculum development and implementation, student placement, departmental budget, expenditures and resources, hiring and recruiting, and faculty concerns.

Science Instructor (1991 – 1998)

Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, and Anatomy and Physiology grades 9 through 12.

**Upward Bound Math and Science Program, Dedham, MA** **1991, 1992, and 1993**  
**Noble and Greenough School/UMASS Boston**

Science Instructor

Biology and Chemistry to students selected to participate in summer program for urban high school students.

**RELATED LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

**New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP)** **2023 - current**

Coach. One of 12 statewide coaches working with new superintendents, years one through three, funded by participating districts, MASS, DESE, and the Barr Foundation to facilitate intentional progress for student equity statewide. NSIP is currently in its 15th year of operation.

**Racial Equity Diversity Inclusion (REDI)** **2018 - current**

Member. Purpose of this MASS leadership committee is to create resources and opportunities for MASS members to train and practice leadership moves to attain REDI principles across all school districts.

**MASS Global Studies, Leader** **2022 - current**

Support the study and implementation of global education practices for MASS leadership. This includes training sessions and an international travel program for school leaders.

**Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School Committee, Lexington, MA** **2012 - 2013**

Representing the Town of Weston. Participated in school policy, budget, superintendent evaluation, and collective bargaining decisions. Policy Sub-Committee.

**Weston School Committee, Weston, MA** **2003 - 2006**

Member. Participated in school policy, budget, superintendent evaluation, and collective bargaining decisions. Chair, Elementary Class Size Committee. Chair, Transportation Committee. School Committee-Negotiator for teacher and bus driver contracts.

**Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School Teachers Association, Sudbury, MA** **1995 - 1997**  
President.

## **BOARD MEMBERSHIPS**

President's Council, New England Center for Children, 2018 - present  
Harvard Alumni Association, Elected Director, 2018 - 2021

## **LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

**Leboeuf, Lamb, Leiby, and MacRae, San Francisco, CA** 1987 - 1989  
Attorney. Corporate regulatory practice. Clients: State Street Bank, Lloyds of London, and Batus Corp.

## **EDUCATION**

**EdM**, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA, 1991  
**JD**, University of California at Davis King Hall School of Law, Davis, CA, 1987  
**Graduate Studies in Molecular Biology**, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, 1982-4  
**BA**, Biology, Harvard College, Cambridge, MA, 1982

## **STATE BAR ADMISSIONS**

State of California, 1987  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1991

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

California Bar Association  
Massachusetts Bar Association  
New England Association of Chemistry Teachers  
Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development  
Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents  
MASS Global Studies  
Phi Delta Kappa International

## **INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP TRAVEL**

Helsinki and Stockholm GS21 Professional Learning Tour, October 2012  
Helsinki and Berlin GS21 Professional Learning Tour, October 2013  
Helsinki, Rovaniemi and London GS21 Professional Learning Tour, October 2014  
Madrid Group Leader Training, October 2015  
Global Student Summit: Education as a Right, Davos, Switzerland, June 2015  
WW2/Cold War European Student Study Tour Group Leader, November 2015  
Havana, Cuba GS21 Professional Learning Tour, February 2016  
Helsinki Professional Learning Tour Facilitator and Panelist, June 2016  
Global Student Summit: Exploring Human Rights, The Hague, Netherlands, June 2016  
Warsaw and Krakow Professional Learning Tour, October 2017  
WW2/Cold War European Student Study Tour Group Leader, November 2017  
Iceland, GS21 Professional Learning Tour, October 2018  
Helsinki and Tallinn, MA Educators Delegation, Global Studies Tour, October 2023  
Ireland/N.Ireland, MA Educators Delegation, Global Studies Tour, October, 2024  
Andalusia, MA Educators Delegation, Global Studies Tour, October, 2025