



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **NACS board president names his top choice for next superintendent**

**Fort Wayne, Ind. (May 17, 2022)** – Ron Felger, president of the Board of School Trustees of Northwest Allen County Schools, today identified Wayne Barker as his top candidate for superintendent. Last week Barker was named Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents’ District II Superintendent of the Year for 2023.

“Mr. Barker’s experience and history of successful leadership at the building and district level give me confidence in his ability to guide us forward,” said Felger. “His name will be familiar to our community because he began his distinguished career at Carroll.”

“Mr. Barker is a perfect fit for NACS,” said Dr. Steve Yager, temporary superintendent, NACS. “He started in Northwest and we’re hopeful he’ll finish his professional career with Northwest.”

Felger said that he plans to introduce a motion seeking to offer Barker a superintendent contract as soon as possible. “We are in the process of publishing a draft contract as required by Indiana law. Once that process is complete, I anticipate introducing a resolution to ask Barker to be our new superintendent. I’m confident that this resolution will receive overwhelming support from our board,” said Felger.

If named superintendent, this would be Barker’s second tenure with NACS. He was hired in 1989 as a business teacher at Carroll High School where he taught and coached for five years.

Barker obtained his bachelor’s degree in business education from Ball State University in 1989 and his master’s degree in educational administration in 1998. He completed his specialist in education degree in educational leadership in 2006, thus, acquiring his superintendent’s license.

In compliance with Indiana Code § 20-26-5-4.3, the timeline will proceed as follows:

- May 18 – publication of the details of the proposed contract;
- May 31 at 6 p.m. – public meeting for NACS Board to receive public input on the proposed contract;
- June 7 at 6 p.m. – special public meeting to conduct board vote on the contract;
- July 1 – if approved, Barker would begin as next NACS superintendent.

If approved, Barker will replace Dr. Chris Himself who has served NACS as superintendent since 2010.

Northwest Allen County Schools believes in providing a healthy and safe learning environment that engages, supports and challenges each learner in a culture of achievement and excellence. More information about NACS may be found at [nacs.k12.in.us](http://nacs.k12.in.us). NACS serves an estimated 7,922 students in 11 schools spanning three townships in Allen County, Ind.

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