

Please see a message below from Mr. Jorge Ramos, the Garfield Board of Education President, regarding the appointment of a new Superintendent of Schools.

Dear Garfield School Community,

On behalf of the Garfield Board of Education, I am proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Richard D. Tomko as the next Garfield Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2024. Dr. Tomko was unanimously approved at last night's Board of Education meeting.

Dr. Tomko has over 25 years of experience in education, having served as a teacher, Athletic Director, Middle School Principal, High School Principal, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, and Superintendent of Schools over the course of his career. He has 15 total years of experience in the position of Superintendent and is currently in his 10th year as Superintendent of Belleville. Dr. Tomko holds 3 Master's degrees and a Doctor of Philosophy with a concentration in Educational Leadership, Policy, and Management.

Additionally, Dr. Tomko has been a professor at several universities, serves on the New Jersey School Ethics Commission, and was recently appointed to the Governor's Statewide Taskforce on Addressing Teacher Shortages. In 2023, he was named one of 37 nationwide "Leaders to Learn From" by Education Week magazine.

The Garfield Board of Education takes its mission of thoroughly and efficiently educating the children of Garfield very seriously. We are very excited to begin our partnership with Dr. Tomko. Over the coming weeks and months, students, faculty, and community members will have many opportunities to meet Dr. Tomko and discuss with him their ideas and strategies for improving our school district and community. For those interested in learning more about Dr. Tomko right away, the below article speaks to the kind of leader and educator we are entrusting to lead this district forward:

[Transforming a School District, One Relationship at a Time \(edweek.org\)](https://www.edweek.org/leadership/transforming-a-school-district-one-relationship-at-a-time/2024/06/20)

Making our school district the best it can be is a community effort. We look forward to the months and years ahead as we enter this new chapter.

Jorge Ramos

President, Garfield Board of Education