



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906

Telephone: (781) 338-3000
TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370

Jeffrey C. Riley
Commissioner

January 3, 2020

Dear Members of the Holyoke Public Schools Community,

Superintendent/Receiver Stephen Zrike announced last month that he will step down at the end of June. I am grateful to him for the five years he has spent in Holyoke and for the improvements his team has led with the help of educators, families and community members. Students in Holyoke have greater opportunities now than they did when he arrived, and we will continue to build on the foundation that he helped create.

Dr. Zrike's departure does not change the timeline for receivership. We will soon begin the search for a new receiver who will lead the district starting this summer. That receiver will be an individual, and we hope you will contribute to the process of selecting a receiver by telling us the characteristics you would like to see in that individual. We will be in touch with details about how the community input process will work.

In the short term, I would again like to thank Dr. Zrike for the countless hours he has spent in service of Holyoke's students, and I look forward to continuing that work with the schools and the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeffrey C. Riley".

Jeffrey C. Riley
Commissioner