

INSIDER NEWS *Racine*

15th of Every Month

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NEW LEADERSHIP AT THE HELM DR. ERIC GALLIEN RACINE UNIFIED SUPERINTENDENT

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COVER STORY:

New Leadership at the Helm: Dr. Gallien is ready to take RUSD to the next level

While new Racine Unified Superintendent Dr. Eric Gallien officially took the helm this summer, he's not really new. Dr. Gallien joined the RUSD leadership team in 2013, one of Dr. Lolli Haws' first hires. Over the next five years, Haws and Gallien worked tirelessly together to lead large-scale transformational efforts across the District.

During this time, Gallien moved to Racine, got to know the community, RUSD employees, students and families. As he begins his sixth school year, Gallien is poised to take the reins and continue the District's momentum toward continuous improvement.

A legacy of growth and success

Dr. Gallien is committed to continuous improvement and lifelong learning. He credits passionate and caring teachers with guiding him toward success. Upon graduating from high school, he entered the service – serving as a U.S. Marine....

Gallien then spent several years as a successful entrepreneur with several of his own and family operated businesses. During this time, he began to volunteer at a local school. Here he found his calling. He recognized that he could make a difference in the lives of young people just as his teachers had done for him. So, he embarked upon a journey of learning and growth, first earning a teaching degree, then a mas-

ter's degree and final a Ph.D. and superintendent's license. During this time, he taught in several Milwaukee Public Schools. Then became a sought-after principal who successfully led reform efforts at some of the most challenging schools in MPS. Eventually Gallien became a District-level administrator and was recruited by Racine Unified to serve as Deputy Superintendent. Since his arrival in RUSD, Gallien has led the transformation of RUSD high schools to become the Academies of Racine, he has collaborated with local law enforcement to implement the Community Policing Model to ensure safe and positive learning environments in all RUSD schools and he has helped to lead the transformation of RUSD middle schools this fall.

Relationships key to moving District forward

"I'm honored to have the opportunity to serve as RUSD's superintendent," said Dr. Gallien. "I'm proud of all we've accomplished under Dr. Haws' leadership these past four years and I'm eager to keep our momentum moving forward."

"We have already made so much progress and we're poised to continue improving."

Key to taking RUSD to the next level are strong relationships. Gallien is committed to building collaborative partnerships within the District – among all staff – as well as in the community.

"Essential to our ability to keep RUSD moving forward are strong relationships with our employees, our families and our community partners," says Gallien.

"The Academies of Racine are thriving thanks to the more than 100 partner organizations who have stepped up to help us re-think how we educate and

prepare our high school students for the future. We could not have done it alone."

"With all of the change coming to Racine, we have exciting opportunities to work together collectively to ensure our students graduate ready for college and the jobs available right here in our community."

What's next for RUSD?

This fall, RUSD has officially launched its middle school transformation effort focused on providing families more choices for their children in grades 6-8. The changes include a new Gilmore Fine Arts school serving students in kindergarten through eighth grade, an expanded Walden III at the former McKinley School building, a new Starbuck Middle International Baccalaureate School.

"We are focused on ensuring our middle school changes are implemented effectively," explains Gallien. "The next step will be for us to review our elementary schools and consider what needs we have for the long term."

With Foxconn coming to Racine, RUSD is reviewing data, studying potential impacts and developing a long-range plan for providing excellent public education opportunities into the future.

Change is on the horizon and never before has the success of our public schools been as important as it is now in Racine County.

"I'm ready for the challenge," says Gallien. "We are already moving forward, we are working together, and I know that collectively we are going to Raise Racine."