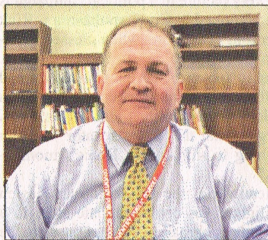


Super Hired in Coventry

Levis tabbed to lead Coventry school dept.

Assistant super approved to succeed Convery after latter's July retirement



Daily Times file photo

Hired in December, Craig Levis will be Coventry's next superintendent as of July 1.

KENDRA LEIGH MILLER
kmiller@ricentral.com

COVENTRY — Through a recent school committee vote, current Coventry Assistant School Superintendent Craig Levis was hired to replace Superintendent Mike Convery, who will be retiring, effective July 1.

Levis was hired as Assistant Superintendent last December and has been working hard building relationships within the school department and throughout town.

He came into the department with the goal of working toward better communication among all departments in an attempt to make a joint effort to be successful and give students the best education possible.

Prior to coming to work in Coventry, Levis was a special education director in the Smithfield School Department for 13 years with the goal over the past few years of being a Superintendent somewhere.

He believes as an administrator, a person can have a great impact, but as a superintendent, a person can have a great impact with administration and working with families.

“What makes Coventry very enticing, is the people in the community along with the members of the town council, school committee, working with Coventry police chief, the director of public works and the director of parks and recreation,” he said.

Through his communications with the teachers and administration, Levis has had the opportunity to assess the district's current effectiveness through the others' eyes.

“This way, we can learn the best way to accomplish what is needed,” he said. “Everything we do is about the kids and how we can improve education and be out front and get all the information out to our stakeholders as possible.”

Levis is also looking forward to meeting with the new Coventry Town Manager Graham Waters.

“We're both new to the town and can look at both short-term and long-term goals for the town,” he said. In the short time he has been with the school district, he said he can see that Coventry has a lot to be proud of within its schools and said being positive can be contagious just as negativity can be.

See LEVIS, Page A-3

Levis will succeed Convery as Coventry Super on July 1

Continued from Page A-1

.....
“We have teachers and families that care about our kids and we should be top performers in the state and what can our target goals should be to get us there,” he added.

He also called trust a plat-

form for building all partner relationships.

“We can work with each other and provide that support that people need,” he said.

As a former special education director, that’s one of the most important things he learned.

Moving forward, he and Convery will be meeting to work on a transition plan, which will be presented to the school committee and this will also give the members of the school committee an opportunity to present Levis with some of their expectations.