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For Immediate Release

***FARMINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION HIRES GREENWICH
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS KATHLEEN GREIDER
AS FARMINGTON'S NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS***

FARMINGTON, CONN. – December 14, 2008 -

Farmington Board of Education Chair Mary Grace Reed announced today that the Board has unanimously elected Kathleen C. Greider to be Farmington's next Superintendent of Schools. Ms. Greider is currently Deputy Superintendent of the Greenwich Public Schools—a district serving more than 9,000 students in 15 schools—and has recently served as Greenwich's Acting Superintendent. She will succeed Dr. Robert Villanova who retires in January 2009.

The Farmington Board, with the assistance of an executive search firm, selected Ms. Greider after a national search that yielded a pool of forty-four applicants. Chair Reed said, "Farmington is fortunate to have found Ms. Greider. She will be a superintendent dedicated to professional development and empowerment, and she possesses a deep knowledge of curriculum and instruction. She has demonstrated the skills to forge the partnerships with residents, parents, students and business leaders so necessary for our children as we prepare them for 21st Century careers."

After a stellar performance as a Hartford Public Schools elementary school teacher, literacy facilitator and district-wide Pre-K through 6th grade literacy coach, Ms. Greider accepted the principalship of Hartford's Dwight Elementary School, transforming it from Hartford's lowest performing school to a National Blue Ribbon School in less than five years. For this work, the school was awarded the prestigious Vanguard School Award in 2004—a public/private partnership between state education agencies and the Connecticut Business and Industry Association. While at Dwight, she attracted corporate sponsorships in excess of \$500,000 for after school programming, classroom libraries, and in-class technology and was featured in the Hartford Courant as a school leader who "makes a difference." The Connecticut Association for Curriculum and Development named her Educational Leader of the Year in 2007.

Ms. Greider was recruited to Greenwich—a high performing district in the same educational comparison group as Farmington— by former CT Commissioner of Education and current Greenwich Superintendent Dr. Betty Sternberg. In her role as Greenwich's Deputy Superintendent, she supervises fifteen principals (Pre-K through 12), the Director of Curriculum, the Director of Pupil Personnel Services, and the Director of Continuing Education. She has provided important leadership development and training to senior school based administrators which resulted in innovative, data-driven and strategic school improvement. This work was anchored in collaboration and communication with school leaders and the community at large. Her contributions have helped shape the district's strategic directions for the next three to five years.

On accepting the position Superintendent Greider said, "I am honored to have been selected as the Superintendent of the Farmington Public Schools. The Farmington Public Schools, under the leadership of Dr. Villanova, has established a state and national reputation of educational excellence. I look forward to joining an already high performing learning community that values continuous improvement and fosters a committed to success of all children. In partnership with the Board of Education, staff, faculty, student body and community, I am anxious to start the important work that will define the district's next chapter of improvement and academic excellence."

Ms. Greider holds a Master's Degree in Reading and Language Arts from Central Connecticut State University and a Sixth Year Certificate in Supervision and Leadership from Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut. She will be assuming the Farmington Superintendent position in May, 2009 Ms. Greider resides in Berlin with her husband and 3 sons.