

Dr. Justin Blasko

Personal Statement Regarding the Seabold Group Investigation

May 26, 2022

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Throughout my career as a teacher, principal and administrator, I have been motivated by a deep passion to serve students and educators, and to empower them to reach their full potential. In my twelve-year tenure with the Monroe School District, I have been proud to be a part of – and to lead – a mission driven team that believes in the power of partnership between communities and schools.

When I was approached to serve as superintendent in the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic, I knew the role would be a challenge. Teachers, students and parents all struggled with the complex emotions that drove our daily lives – the delicate question of balancing safety with the educational experiences of our young people. The team in our district office, including myself, was not immune from the anxiety that our teachers and families shouldered.

As I dealt with the stress brought on by the pandemic, I acknowledge that I did not always keep my emotions in check. At times my professionalism lapsed, and I vented my frustration in private meetings with colleagues. I should have exercised more discretion.

The allegations that have been made about my conduct are deeply troubling. Though in many cases I do not recall making the statements that have been alleged or have a recollection that varies significantly from what is recounted in the investigative report, I do not question the integrity of the people who have contributed to the report, nor do I question the validity of their personal experiences or perceptions.

I extend my sincere apologies to those who were hurt by my actions. As a professional and a person, I commit to continued growth and learning so I can be a stronger educator, husband, father and community member.

I will continue to advocate for Monroe schools and for the students, teachers and families in the district, as I have throughout my tenure. I have been proud to serve this community, especially during such a difficult time. I am grateful for the opportunity to lead the district and for the support of so many colleagues, partners, and friends.

Sincerely,

Justin Blasko, EdD