



## Fort Atkinson School District

### Second Interview Schedule

Wednesday, March 6, 2013 – Dr. Jeff Zaspel

	7:00 – 7:30	Meet with Superintendent – Jim Fitzpatrick
	7:30 – 8:15	Luther Elementary School Visit – Dave Geiger
John Peterson	8:25 – 9:10	Purdy Elementary/EC Visit – Rick Brietzke
	9:20 – 10:05	4K Tour – Brent Torrenga
	10:15 – 11:00	Barrie Elementary School Visit – Brent Torrenga
Jason Demerath	11:10 – 11:55	Rockwell Elementary School Visit – Vicki Wright
	12:00 – 1:00	Lunch with Jason Demerath, Amy Oakley and John Peterson
	1:10 – 1:55	Middle School Visit – Rob Abbott
Amy Oakley	2:05 – 2:50	High School Visit – Jeff Zaspel / Associate
	3:00 – 3:30	Meet with Dennis Kuchenmeister, John Ottow, Barb Waara (High School Conference Room)
Amy, Jason & John	4:00 – 5:00	Casual “Meet and Greet” at Fort Atkinson High School IMC for staff and community (4:50 – Comments by candidate)
	6:00 – 7:30	Casual Dinner with Board of Education (Salamone’s)
	7:40	Interview with Board of Education (Fort Atkinson High School Conference Room)

# JTZ

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Dedicated educational leader committed to providing high quality learning opportunities for all students in a respectful learning community by honoring strong traditions while pursuing new and innovative means to best serve students, their families, and the community.

## PROFESSIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Education is the means to shape the lives of children, adults, communities, and our world. As an educational leader, I hold immense responsibility to enhance my learning and hone my leadership skills as tools of stewardship for the children in our schools and the members of the community.

## CERTIFICATIONS

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Superintendent

Director of Instruction

Principal, gr. PK-12

Elementary Teacher, gr. 1-6

Cognitive Disabilities, gr. PK-12

Emotional Behavioral Disabilities, gr. 7-12

## EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

School District of Fort Atkinson, Fort Atkinson, WI

Principal, Fort Atkinson High School

July 2000 - Present

*Instructional leader of a comprehensive high school of approximately 1,000 students, grades 9-12, and 81 certified and non-certified staff members.*

Highlights:

- Developed and maintained a positive high school culture based on the school motto "Respect 24/7 - Live It!" and a "student is our first customer" attitude.
- Established and maintained a diverse, contemporary, and comprehensive course offering.
- Implemented the Professional Learning Communities philosophy addressing the "three and ½ questions" which serve as a foundational guide to all district work:
  1. *What is it we want students to know?* Directed curriculum mapping to establish vertical/horizontal alignment in adherence to state and local standards. Analyzed departmental programming to restructure offerings in Mathematics, Business Education, Art, and Technology Education. Led teams to define course standards by quarter; co-facilitated curriculum work for Common Core English/Language Arts.
  - 1.5. *How should I teach/present the material?* Directed staff development/book study: Classroom Instruction That Works: Researched-Based Instructional Strategies for Increasing Student Achievement; directed staff development in differentiation of instruction; provided instructional coaching and developed a walkthrough observation tool.
  2. *How will we know if students have learned it?* Initiated studies on assessment, class rank, grading practices, and standards-based assessment and grading reporting; led implementation of standards-based assessment; provided staff development on Balanced Assessment/Creating Valid Assessments (Assessment Training Institute) and led teams to create common and district assessments.
  3. *What will we do if students did not learn or need additional challenge?* Facilitated staff development on differentiation, modified instruction, including implementation of Section 504 modification plans; established a secondary Read 180 intervention program and secured a secondary Reading Specialist; facilitated and scheduled team teaching and obtained assistive technologies to support learner needs.

### Highlights continued:

- Increased Alternative Education Programming options for at-risk students including Freshmen Academy, General Education Program Option 2, oversight of Crossroads Alternative School and provided various virtual options.
- Increased Business/School-Community Partnerships; planned first Community Career Fair; member of the Chamber of Commerce Education Committee.
- Increased the availability of instructional technology and helped facilitate Wi-Fi access.
- Initiated partnership with UW-Whitewater to employ "Technology Interns" to better support teacher/student use of technology.
- Maintain a student-centered focus: serve as Senior Class Advisor (oversight coordination of Homecoming, senior trip, and graduation); conduct student focus groups; foster positive student relations; participate in student activities such as the talent show and musical (Dream Angel - Grease); developed, trained, and advised Student GATOR Program to promote positive school spirit; seek out student feedback via various focus groups: Student Advisory to the Board of Education, Student Representatives to Parent Advisory, and various student surveys; increased number of student clubs and organizations.
- Studied freshmen transition programs and received national training for implementation of Link Crew (advisor, student trainer, and assembly leader).
- Implemented and revised Senior Portfolio process (graduation requirement).
- Significantly increased the number of Advanced Placement offerings.
- Significantly increased the number of Articulated/Dual Credit courses with post-secondary institutions.
- Significantly increased the number of Youth Apprenticeships and certified work experiences.
- Coordinated the implementation of new school information software: PowerSchool.
- Proficient with master schedule development.
- Experienced budget development/implementation at elementary, middle, and high school levels.
- Experienced with decreasing budgets and staffing reductions.
- Mentor/Practicum Supervisor for aspiring administrators (various colleges).
- Doctoral Student Mentor, Edgewood College (2011-present).
- Hired and trained Associate Principals who are now in District leadership roles.
- Presenter:

#### School District of Fort Atkinson:

Professional Learning Communities: Administrative Team & Board of Education	2005
New Teacher Inservice: Professional Growth	2006-08
New Teacher Inservice: Effective Lesson Design	2009-10
Referendum Task Force Presenter	
Regular Reports to Board of Education, Superintendent Parent Advisory	
Regular Reports to Fort Atkinson High School Parent Advisory	
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction	
Principals' Leadership Retreat: Three Questions Essential to Lead	2009
Wisconsin's Promise Conference: Three Essential Questions to Lead	2010
Wisconsin Association of School Boards - Conference Presentations:	
Data Points for Boards to Measure Success	2009
Senior Portfolio & Exit Interview Program	2011
University of Wisconsin - Whitewater	
Employment Interview and Techniques/Mock Interviewer	2005-2012
Relay for Life Presenter: Team Recruitment	1998-1999

### Principal, Fort Atkinson Middle School

**July 1997 - June 2000**

*Instructional leader of a progressive middle school of approximately 600 students and 60 certified and non-certified staff members. Oversight responsibilities included the remodeling of the former high school and move to the new middle school and development of a middle school concept.*

## EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued)

School District of Fort Atkinson, Fort Atkinson, WI

**Principal, Rockwell Elementary School**

**July 1993 - June 1997**

*Instructional leader of a well-established, neighborhood school serving children in grades K-5 with 25 certified and non-certified staff members. Position included administrative oversight of the district's Gifted and Talented program and Extended Kindergarten program.*

**Associate Principal, Fort Atkinson High School**

**July 1990 - June 1993**

*Served approximately 1,000 students, grades 9-12, monitoring academic, behavior and attendance. Responsible for computerized attendance, grading, and scheduling and coordination of an advisory/homeroom program.*

**Special Education Teacher, J. F. Luther Middle School**

**August 1986 - June 1990**

*Teacher of students, grades 6-9, in a cross-categorical self-contained/resource setting serving students with emotional, behavioral, learning, and cognitive disabilities; co-coordinator Advisory Homeroom Program.*

School District of Abbotsford, Abbotsford, WI

**Special Education Teacher, Abbotsford Jr./Sr. High School**

**August 1984 - June 1986**

*Teacher of students, grades 6-12, in a cross-categorical self-contained/ resource setting serving students with emotional, behavioral, learning, and cognitive disabilities.*

## PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Edgewood College

**Doctorate, Educational Leadership, May 2007**

University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Administrative Certificate, Principal, Summer 1991**

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

**Master's Degree, Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities 1989**

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

**Bachelor's Degree, Elem. Ed./Special Ed., Spring 1984**

## HONORS, AWARDS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**A Heart for Art Award Recipient**

December, 2012

*Presented by the Fort Atkinson Community Arts Council for supporting the Arts.*

**Best of the Area "Best Principal" Award Recipient**

2007, 2008, 2009

*Presented by the Jefferson County Daily Union based upon results of reader polls.*

**Doctoral Dissertation Case Study Published, Edgewood College**

2007

*"A Case Study of the Crossroads Alternative School: Identifying Graduates' Perspectives. Of Their High School Experience"*

**Education Partner/Friend of the Chamber Award**

2001

*Presented by the Fort Atkinson Area Chamber of Commerce for community/chamber service*

**Holtshople Scholarship Recipient**

2000

*Presented by the Wisconsin School Public Relations Association to recognize strong community involvement.*

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

**Rotary Club of Fort Atkinson**

2000 - Present

*Current Member, Past President/Board of Directors, Education Committee & past Publicity Chair.*

**Wisconsin National Guard Challenge Academy Mentor**

2012 - Present

*Served as a mentor to an at-risk youth as he completed a residential/boot-camp experience and GED preparation and now support him in the post residential phase.*

- Project Lead "Education" Session Coordinator** 1998 - Present  
*Coordinate the annual Education & the Community" Session for business leaders who participate in Project Lead.*
- Chamber Chat, Facilitator** 2001  
*Designed and facilitated an engagement process to allow community business owners to identify and prioritize needs of small business.*
- Public Engagement Facilitator** 2000  
*Facilitated open forums for the School District of Fort Atkinson at three separate schools to gather feedback regarding possible realignment of schools and services.*
- Strategic Planning Facilitator** 1999  
*Facilitated a strategic planning process over a four-month period for the Fort Atkinson Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors.*
- Relay for Life, American Cancer Society** 1997-1999 Team  
*Recruitment Coordinator, Team Captain/Participant, Event Committee, and Presenter at State-level Relay for Life Conferences.*
- Project LEAD Leadership Skills Facilitator** 1995 -1998  
*Designed and facilitated leadership development activities/experiences for community business leaders/emerging leaders in this community based leadership development program offered through the Fort Atkinson Area Chamber of Commerce.*

## **REFERENCES**

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