

Urbandale Community School District Welcomes Superintendent Steve Bass
Urbandale Community School District enthusiastically welcomes Mr. Steve Bass as the new superintendent of schools

URBANDALE, Iowa – July 20, 2015 – Following 11 years as an elementary principal at Southeast Polk Community School District, six years as superintendent of the Osage Community School District and a total of 29 years in education, the [Urbandale Community School District \(UCSD\)](#) enthusiastically welcomes Mr. Steve Bass as superintendent of schools. Although his official first day was July 1, 2015, Bass has demonstrated a passion for becoming highly involved by attending a four-day professional seminar with Urbandale colleagues in Minnesota this past June, supporting the Urbandale Education Foundation by participating in the 2nd Annual Brad Peyton Memorial Golf Tournament on June 29 and connecting with various groups and organizations throughout the Urbandale community.

Since 2010, the UCSD has been embedding [Quality and Continual Improvement \(Q/CI\)](#) theories and practices throughout the district in order to increase engagement, improve achievement, encourage collaboration and ignite a renewed passion for learning. This paradigm shift in education—giving students greater ownership and voice in their learning—is one that Bass knows is not only necessary, but fundamental for preparing students to be successful in an increasingly competitive, global workforce. Bass believes the UCSD is leading the way in transforming education and is both humbled and proud to become a part of such a highly-respected and innovative district.

“The solid foundation the district has made to ensure our students are prepared for the future has clearly been established,” said Bass. “Whether we look at creativity, engagement, problem-solving, decision-making, collaboration or communication, our students will have the skill sets which set them up for success.”



Urbandale Community School District Superintendent of Schools Steve Bass

Superintendent Bass and wife, Karla, recently moved to Urbandale and will enjoy having the opportunity to see their son, Seth, a bit more as he works at Nationwide in downtown Des Moines. Their other son, Ethan, will begin his teaching career in the Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Community Schools this fall. In addition to his previous roles as a teacher, administrator and school improvement consultant, Bass was also a coach for 23 years so expect to see him supporting students both inside and outside the classroom as he plans on attending district activities and events as much as possible.

“One of my passions is to see students excel inside and outside the classroom,” said Bass. “The more we can engage and involve our students, the more likely they are to be active participants in the learning process.”

Superintendent Bass believes educators have the greatest job on earth and it’s not only an extraordinary responsibility but an exceptional privilege to have the opportunity to help students learn and achieve success. Educators never have to look far or lose sight of their purpose, because every morning they see their purpose in the inquisitive eyes of their students. According to Bass, “attitude is everything,” which is why you’ll notice Bass’ uncanny ability to view life through the lens of opportunity—where many may see a problem with no evident solution—he sees an opportunity for continual improvement.

Perhaps nothing reflects Bass’ dedication to his profession more than a small notecard containing two questions on his desk. Every morning he reads one side of the notecard that asks, “What are you going to do today to impact students’ lives?” and every evening he reads the flip side with the question, “What have you done today to impact students’ lives?” With attitude being everything, a view of the world through a lens of opportunity and such important questions at the forefront of Superintendent Bass’ mind every day, students, teachers, families and community members can be assured that the UCSD will continue embracing its vision of bringing learning to life for everyone.

About Urbandale Community School District

The Urbandale Community School District includes portions of Des Moines and Urbandale, Iowa. The district serves over 3,900 students in six elementary schools, one middle school and one comprehensive high school. The Urbandale district supports an increasingly diverse student population where over 50 languages are spoken. Building on the existing foundation of excellence in education, Urbandale is transforming education throughout the district. By implementing innovative [Quality/Continual Improvement](#) strategies that create learning environments that more fully engage, challenge and motivate students, Urbandale is taking transformation from theory into practice. Urbandale prepares students for becoming lifelong learners and is a school district that brings learning to life for everyone. To learn more, visit: www.UrbandaleSchools.com

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