

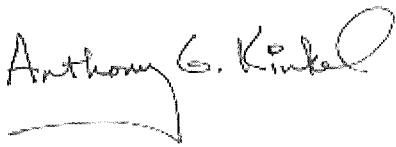
Kinkel, Anthony (MDE)

From: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE)
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 1:06 PM
To: Schaller, Melissa; Jill Lofald (jill.lofald@isd709.org); Scott Wallner; Christine Tucci Osorio (ctucciosorio@isd622.org)
Subject: Provisional License Concern

Jill/Melissa/Scott/Christina

The issue referenced below will be on the agenda for the Licensing Committee on September 27. We have been interacting with the Minneapolis School District and the individuals involved in this case for the past month. It started with a citizen complaint about the principal at Minneapolis South High School not earning his initial license before his provisional license lapsed. After checking, this turned out to be true. We will share all those details on the 27th.

The complainant below is not quite accurate in her reading of Minnesota Rule 3512. The board is allowed to waive any rule as long as it is not mandated by statute or by court order. The ability for the Board of School Administrators issue to extend provisional licenses is completely legal and has been done, sparingly, on a case-by-case basis for years. Since I've been executive director, I believe the board has extended a provisional license on three occasions. To my knowledge, the board is never extended a provisional license more than and an additional year.



Dr. Anthony G. (Tony) Kinkel
Executive Director



1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

651-582-8236 | Anthony.Kinkel@state.mn.us

Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 8:07 AM
To: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>
Subject: Fwd: Provisional License Concern

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sincere South** <sincerelysouth@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Sep 8, 2021 at 11:52 AM

Subject: Provisional License Concern

To: <lofald.jill@gmail.com>, <wallners@willmar.k12.mn.us>, <cosorio@isd622.org>, <Melissa.schaller@isd917.org>

To the BOSA licensing committee,

I am writing to you with concerns about the upcoming review of Brett Stringer's appeal for a provisional administrative license on September 27th. The concerns I bring forth involve his professional conduct as well as his eligibility to apply for a new provisional license. I am fully aware that you have a system for complaints but am choosing to share this information with you anonymously given concerning communication from our Associate Superintendent.

First, in relation to the communication of the Associate Superintendent Shawn Harris-Berry. She has been assigned by MPS as the acting Principal of South High during this interim period. In the meeting where Brett shared his lack of license, Harris-Berry announced that she would be in charge. She also stated to staff that further information was on a "need to know" basis, that we should not direct questions to our assistant principals and ignored a staff question about how we should discuss this situation with students when he asked if we were able to "tell the truth". During this exchange she noted her assigned duties in which she included the "dismissal of staff and transfers." She asked if we were getting the point.

So, I submit this complaint anonymously given the climate of the school and our current leadership. Families are concerned. Staff are concerned.

I would further submit that Brett's conduct since this announcement has come to light has been unprofessional and bucking the rules set forth by the BOSA board. He said in his initial announcement that he was still "essentially the principal of the school". He is still sending out staff directives and directing staff in the building. This seems to be by design as the "acting principal Harris-Berry" said she would only be in the building 2-3 times a week and that she would make all decisions in conjunction with Brett, an unlicensed principal barred by your own rules to make such decisions. The associate superintendent continues to address him and label him as the principal in staff communications and describes his license issue as a "Technicality" in the official district letter to families. Further Brett's official title has not been changed in the district and he continues to refer to himself as Principal on his social media Twitter under a picture of our school.

Staff and families are aware that Brett's failure to apply or even take the initial steps toward licensure are far from a technicality. He acknowledged that he didn't start or apply for the program within the 2 year requirement and that his license lapsed in June of 2021. Beyond that, there are issues with his Colorado admin license... it expired in February of 2020.

I've read about the requirements of a provisional license on your website. He cannot renew his previous provisional. He can't apply for a new one if he doesn't have a current license in good standing. And yet he is still being allowed to conduct himself as the principal of the school despite your communication that he cannot. Sharing this information to help you make an informed decision about his license appeal.

-Concerned

m MINNESOTA
BOARD OF SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATORS

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

651-582-8236 | Anthony.Kinkel@state.mn.us

From: Cheryl Persigehl <CHERYLPERSIGEHL@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 1:32 PM
To: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>
Cc: Amy.Moore@mpls.k12.mn.us
Subject: Brett Stringer's expired provisional license

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Dear Dr. Kinkel,

I'm writing as a parent and community member to ask about the status of Brett Stringer's professional license.

I'm concerned that with very limited experience as a high school principal, he was hired at South High School in 2019 and was granted a provisional license. That provisional license expired almost 45 days ago, and yet he remains in this very important role in a large, complex urban school.

I'm interested to know the steps BOSA is taking to not only ensure he is in compliance with professional licensing standards, but to ensure he is equipped to lead effectively.

Thank you in advance for your response.

Kind Regards,
Cheryl
she/her/hers

Cheryl Persigehl, MBA
Organizational Effectiveness
Executive Coach | Consultant | Facilitator
(c) 612.272.2680 | www.cherylpersigehl.com

m MINNESOTA
BOARD OF SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATORS

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

651-582-8236 | Anthony.Kinkel@state.mn.us

From: Cheryl Persigehl <cherylpersigehl@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 4:47 PM
To: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>
Cc: amy.moore@mpls.k12.mn.us
Subject: Re: Brett Stringer's expired provisional license

Dear Dr. Kinkel,

Yes, Brett Stringer is at South High School.

Thank you for your follow-up!

Kind Regards,
Cheryl
she/her/hers

Cheryl Persigehl, MBA
Organizational Effectiveness
Executive Coach | Consultant | Facilitator
(c) 612.272.2680 | www.cherylpersigehl.com

From: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 3:59 PM
To: Cheryl Persigehl <CHERYLPERSIGEHL@msn.com>
Subject: RE: Brett Stringer's expired provisional license

Cheryl

I will look into this right away. Thank you for bringing this to our attention. I am assuming this is South High School in the Minneapolis District, correct?



Dr. Anthony G. (Tony) Kinkel
Executive Director

Kind regards,
Cheryl
she/her/hers
(South High Parent '19, '21)

Cheryl Persigehl, MBA
Organizational Effectiveness
Executive Coach | Consultant | Facilitator
(c) 612.272.2680 | www.cherylpersigehl.com

From: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 11:00 AM
To: Cheryl Persigehl <cherylpersigehl@msn.com>
Subject: RE: Brett Stringer's expired provisional license

Cheryl:

I wanted to give you a brief update on Mr. Stringer. Mr. Stringer completed his administrative preparation program at the University of Colorado and was a licensed principal in the state of Colorado prior to coming to Minnesota.

You are correct, unfortunately, Mr. Stringer let his Minnesota two-year provisional license lapse on June 30. During the two years, provisional license holders are to be enrolled in an approved Minnesota program to take the coursework required for meeting the Minnesota competencies. He failed to do this. To his credit, he did contact me and is working through the process to get his provisional license extended. The state board will take up his case on September 27. Until such time, he is able to continue working in the office by providing background and research on issues at the school, routine clerical duties, interactions with students, staff and parents but cannot make any official decisions as a principal. My understanding is that the district is having another licensed administrator make official decisions until the state board can take up his case.

I should note that this problem will not happen in the future as the board changed the rules. Starting June 30, any new individuals seeking a provisional license must already be enrolled in a Minnesota approved program working on the competencies they are lacking prior to being issued a provisional license. This is one of the last cases of someone under the old system.



Dr. Anthony G. (Tony) Kinkel
Executive Director

Kinkel, Anthony (MDE)

From: Cheryl Persigehl <cherylpersigehl@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 1:11 PM
To: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE)
Cc: amy.moore@mpls.k12.mn.us; Lisa Ramirez
Subject: Re: Additional Background on Stringer

Dear Dr. Kinkel,

Thank you for your thorough response. I look forward to hearing how the district proceeds, and will follow-up directly with them regarding additional questions.

One note of apology and clarification. When I wrote that Mr. Stringer was "granted an extremely generous extension of 2 years", my intent was not to insinuate that this was an exception, but to underscore that this is a very generous amount of time to meet the requirements of full licensure. I apologize if my words sounded accusatory.

Again, thank you for your responsiveness.

Kind Regards,
Cheryl
she/her/hers
(South High Parent '19, '21)

Cheryl Persigehl, MBA
Organizational Effectiveness
Executive Coach | Consultant | Facilitator
(c) 612.272.2680 | www.cherylpersigehl.com

From: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 12:43 PM
To: Cheryl Persigehl <cherylpersigehl@msn.com>
Subject: Additional Background on Stringer

Cheryl

To provide you with some additional background information, please note that the Board of School Administrators has been issuing provisional licenses since 2001. Provisional licenses may only go to candidates who have an administrative license in another state and have taught at least three years or served at least three years as an administrator in another state. As I mentioned in my original email to you, Mr. Stringer met this standard.

In addition, as I mentioned to you in the earlier email, a *new* requirement for candidates seeking a provisional license is that they must show proof of being accepted at a Minnesota-approved preparation program to complete the competencies that are unique to Minnesota. Mr. Stringer

received his provisional license before this requirement took effect, however, the provisional license form did clearly advise Mr. Stringer that he was to complete the competencies within two years of receiving the provisional license.

Mr. Stringer was not given as you say an "extremely generous extension of 2 years." *All provisional licenses are two-year licenses.* Furthermore, the board has not made a decision yet on his request to extend the provisional license. That decision will be made by the Licensing Committee of the board on September 27. The board is granted authority to extend provisional licenses on a case-by-case basis.

I am extremely disappointed that Mr. Stringer did not enroll in a Minnesota-approved University and complete the competencies as required for provisional license. I've expressed this to him directly and to the Minneapolis School District.

I have attempted answer your more specific questions below in red.



Dr. Anthony G. (Tony) Kinkel
Executive Director



1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

651-582-8236 | Anthony.Kinkel@state.mn.us

From: Cheryl Persigehl <cherylpersigehl@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 11:32 AM
To: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>
Cc: amy.moore@mpls.k12.mn.us; Lisa Ramirez <Lisa.Ramirez@mpls.k12.mn.us>
Subject: Re: Brett Stringer's expired provisional license

Dear Dr. Kinkel,

Thank you very much for getting back to me and providing information about Brett Stringer's current professional status. I appreciate your transparency and I'm writing to provide my response.

In your email, you gave Mr. Stringer credit for contacting you and "working through the process". I would argue that he deserves no credit on this issue, since you clearly were not aware of his breach of contract when I emailed you on Aug.17 (over 45 days after his provisional license expired) which means he had not taken any action to address this before that date. I think it's more than plausible that what prompted action on Brett's part was not his professional integrity, but a call from someone in administration. For me, his inaction and

irresponsibility is another example of the hubris and disingenuousness that has alienated many students and parents for the past 2 years.

And, I remain very concerned that Mr. Stringer 1) was hired as a principal without MN licensure and was granted an extremely generous extension of 2 years without any expectation that he begin the accreditation process immediately upon accepting the position, 2) failed to even enroll in, let alone complete, the necessary licensure courses in the past 2 1/4 years, 3) has now been granted *another* generous extension with few consequences, and 4) will continue to occupy the office of Principal sans certain decision-making rights.

These are the questions that remain for me:

1. Why is Mr. Stringer allowed to continue, "working in the office by providing background and research on issues at the school, routine clerical duties, interactions with students, staff and parents"? He is clearly in breach of contract and is not licensed to serve as Principal in the state of Minnesota. At the very least, he should not be addressed as Principal or compensated as Principal from July 1, 2021 until he is fully licensed. The school district may only employ licensed principals in the role of a principal. Minnesota Statute 179A.03, subdivision 17 requires that an individual doing the following work must have an administrative license: "hiring, transfer, suspension, promotion, discharge, assignment, reward, or discipline of other employees, direction of the work of other employees, or adjustment of other employees' grievances on behalf of the employer."
2. Work other than this does not require an administrative license including such things as research on issues, coordinating activities, hall monitoring, clerical issues, and student-parent interaction. Indeed, at least 40 school districts employ a "Deans of Students" who is responsible for many of the duties listed above including contact with parents and students regarding discipline. These individuals do not have to be licensed. You are correct, the Minneapolis School District must not refer to Mr. Stringer as a "Principal" nor can any official communication contain the title "Principal." Any references to Mr. Stringer as "Principal" must be stricken until the board takes up the extension request on September 27th.
2. If Mr. Stringer is allowed to continue interacting with students, staff and parents, when and how will his professional status be communicated to students, staff and parents? That is a question you need to ask the Minneapolis School District. I have advised them to do it as soon as possible particularly in a communication to faculty. Given that we hold our students and staff to high standards of rule-following and accountability, full disclosure to all stakeholders regarding his current status seems to be the only ethical choice. (I am ccing Lisa Ramirez, Communications Lead at South High, and Amy Moore, General Counsel at MPS, because I think it's very important they have access to this information.)
3. What are the "official decisions" Mr. Stringer will not be allowed to make and what are the unofficial decisions he will be allowed to make? See answer above. How will you communicate this distinction with more specificity to students, staff and parents? That is a school district question. Who will be making the official decisions at South during this interim period? As I understand it, the Minneapolis School district has shifted all Minneapolis South High principal decisions to another individual. You will need to contact the district directly to find out who this individual is. How will students, staff and parents contact the district administrator in charge? That is a school district question.
1. What kind of licensure program will Brett be undertaking and completing within a month's time? As I've said numerous times in my communications to you, Mr. Stringer has already completed an administrative preparation program at the University of Colorado and was fully licensed before he came to Minnesota. As I understand it, he has been accepted into the Minnesota State University-Mankato program to complete his competencies. Generally, licensed principals from other states can complete the competencies within 2-4 classes, however, that is determined by the university. Is it even

possible for him to fulfill the requirements by Sep. 27 without special accommodations or without another extension? In my judgment, it will be impossible for him to complete the requirements before September 27 which is why he is asking for the extension. However, again, the review of his transcripts and syllabi are done by Minnesota State University -Mankato. What is the final deadline for him to complete his licensure? If the board grants an extension, all extensions are for one year. He will need to complete the competencies within that year. Should the board approve his extension, and that has not been determined yet, THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONAL EXTENSIONS.

Again, I'm *very grateful* for your responsiveness and transparency, Dr. Kinkel. The fact remains that after 2 1/4 years, South High does not have a fully licensed Principal, and the grace and air cover extended to Mr. Stringer from the day of his hiring to the present seems well outside the boundaries of professional standards.

South High students, staff, and parents deserve information, answers, and exemplary leadership.

Kind regards,
Cheryl
she/her/hers
(South High Parent '19, '21)

Cheryl Persigehl, MBA
Organizational Effectiveness
Executive Coach | Consultant | Facilitator
(c) 612.272.2680 | www.cherylpersigehl.com

From: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 11:00 AM
To: Cheryl Persigehl <cherylpersigehl@msn.com>
Subject: RE: Brett Stringer's expired provisional license

Cheryl:

I wanted to give you a brief update on Mr. Stringer. Mr. Stringer completed his administrative preparation program at the University of Colorado and was a licensed principal in the state of Colorado prior to coming to Minnesota.

You are correct, unfortunately, Mr. Stringer let his Minnesota two-year provisional license lapse on June 30. During the two years, provisional license holders are to be enrolled in an approved Minnesota program to take the coursework required for meeting the Minnesota competencies. He failed to do this. To his credit, he did contact me and is working through the process to get his provisional license extended. The state board will take up his case on September 27. Until such time, he is able to continue working in the office by providing background and research on issues at the school, routine clerical duties, interactions with students, staff and parents but cannot make any official decisions as a principal. My understanding is that the district is having another licensed administrator make official decisions until the state board can take up his case.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Elizabeth Marran and I am a Licensed School Counselor at South High School. I am writing this letter in steadfast support of Principal Brett Stringer and his position here at South. I am in my first year as a Licensed School Counselor and my sixth as a MPS employee. Prior to this position I worked for three years as a Site Coordinator for the GEAR UP Grant here at South and two years prior to that as an Associate Educator (Behavior Resource) at Southwest High School.

In my time working with and for Brett, I have witnessed his incredible communication skills, school/staff-wide organization, and, above all, his evident passion and dedication to the South High community. He sends weekly, consistent emails both encouraging us and informing us of the happenings in our building and community, he unwaveringly centers anti-racist and equity curriculum for both staff and students, and has made multiple improvements to the physical spaces in the building that make students, families, and staff feel more pride in their school.

It is no secret that our communities in MPS have experienced collective and unprecedented trauma since Principal Stringer assumed his position at South; to experience a global pandemic/distance learning, a community uprising following the murder of George Floyd blocks from our school while the entire world watched, and a political transition which was arguably the most definitive of our students' and families' lives all within the first years as a school's principal is nothing short of tumultuous. During this time Principal Stringer made conscious, student-focused decisions and lead our team with grace and transparency. Our community needs and deserves to continue to have him as a member and leader despite a mistake in his licensure renewal process. This year, we have made it our foremost goal to approach and treat our students/families with grace and prioritize their mental health, sometimes it's fair that we ask that same grace for each other.

Principal Stringer is dependent, he is loyal, and he cares deeply about this school and community. I say this confidently as I have watched him walk with our students and families in the halls and the streets (literally), I have been welcomed by him as a new counselor into this building with multiple resources and support, and have had the pleasure of getting to know him as an educator and a person since the day he started he at South. In my two prior aforementioned positions in MPS, I underwent administrative transitions in both. I witnessed the affect that it had on the students. Young people thrive with consistency, especially the consistency of someone who cares about them, hears them, and makes decisions in their best interest the way that Principal Stringer does. Our students deserve consistency, especially following the last 18 months of collective and constant inconsistency.

Thank you for your time and for continuing to consider extending Brett Stringer's licensure window. I believe that our school and community have become a better place under his leadership and it would be beneficial to our students and families to continue as so.

Respectfully and in solidarity,

Elizabeth Marran

Licensed School Counselor
South High School

September 13, 2021

Dear Superintendent Graff, Associate Superintendent Dr. Harris-Berry, Maggie Sullivan, and Dr. Kinkel:

I am writing this letter in support of Principal Brett Stringer. I have worked with Principal Stringer since he started in the 2019-2020 school year. I was a part of the large interview team when he was hired and was excited about what he would bring to South High School as a school leader. I was happy to see that he was taking the time to learn the historical background before starting to slowly implement changes to help improve our school for all stakeholders, students first and foremost. These changes were greatly needed in our building and I appreciated always feeling like I had a voice to share my thoughts and ideas. He listened to others when creating changes to the systems that helped serve our students and communities, while also supporting our staff in the process.

I have been in the Minneapolis Public School District for the past 13 years of my career and experienced a variety of supervisors at various school sites and the district office. Principal Stringer is by far the best school leader I have ever worked with. He attends our School Counseling team meetings regularly, participates in our conversations and provides feedback and guidance. He has also been very supportive of our team, going out of his way to show how much he appreciates us, which has had a positive impact on our team.

Individually, I always feel heard, seen and supported by Principal Stringer. I trust that I can go to him with anything I may need and know there will be some type of follow-up. I have never trusted a school leader as much as I trust Principal Stringer and that makes a world of difference in the day to day and long-term work in a building.

He is both extremely intelligent and caring, focusing on the racial equity work that is needed at South High School and in MPS. He focuses the work based on research and best practices in a collaborative manner as he puts systems in place. He cares deeply about the people he works with, building relationships and valuing the voices of others. I believe in the work he wants to do at South High School and support the way he is working to put his words into actions.

South High School has shown immense growth as a school since Principal Stringer began. I cannot imagine what changing Principals after everything we have been through the past two years would do to the school. We need stability, especially after all the inconsistencies, with someone we know cares about us and that we can trust. I am so grateful he is our Principal at South High School and cannot imagine a leader more fit to the specific needs of our school.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Clark
Licensed School Counselor

SOUTH



HIGH SCHOOL

South High School

3131 19th Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55407

Phone: 612-668-4300 Fax: 612-668-4310

<http://south.mpls.k12.mn.us>

Counseling Department Fax: 612.668.4359

September 13, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter to show my support of Brett Stringer, Principal of South High School. In my time at South, one thing has been tremendously clear – our students are top priority. Brett has been intentional in his efforts to hear student voice, celebrate student accomplishments, and foster an environment that serves the students first. By implementing a Principal Advisory, he made it very evident that hearing from students was vital to his practice. From red carpet entrances, to grade level honor assemblies, to hand-signed certificates for each student, Mr. Stringer has continuously shown his dedication to celebrating and affirming our students for exactly who they are. He is constantly striving to ensure that South is a school that students *want* to be in. He is vocal about his desire for students to feel safe, seen, and loved within our building.

Brett has also been open about his goals in creating community and building relationships amongst South staff. He consistently provides opportunities for staff to share thoughts, feelings, questions, and ideas. Hosting optional morning coffee meets, holding 1-on-1 meeting slots, and impromptu Q & A sessions are just a few of the ways that Brett has explicitly set time aside to hear from his staff members. Not only does he value employee voice, but he also prioritizes sharing the amazing work individual staff members are doing. Within the weekly staff newsletter (Tiger Beat), there is *always* a section of shout-outs. He thanks and praises specific staff for the time, effort, and expertise they bring to the South family. He is eager to help plan community building events in and outside of school to encourage department intermingling and meaningful conversations between staff. It has always been apparent that we as staff are respected and appreciated.

Overall, Brett Stringer has shown that he sincerely cares about the students and staff of South High School. He is committed to serving our students, families, and staff. He is striving to create a school climate that I would be proud to be a part of. I am hopeful that he has the opportunity to continue his work as the Principal of the South family.

Sincerely,

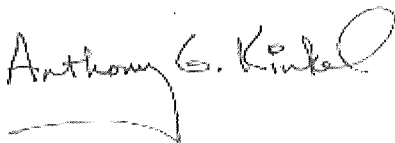
Lauren Young
Licensed School Counselor
South High School
lauren.young@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-668-4482

Minneapolis Public Schools Special School District Number 1 *An Equal Opportunity Employer*

Kinkel, Anthony (MDE)

From: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE)
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 3:21 PM
To: Christopher Yohe
Subject: RE: Brett Stringer

Thank you. I will present to the Licensing Committee.



Dr. Anthony G. (Tony) Kinkel
Executive Director



1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

651-582-8236 | Anthony.Kinkel@state.mn.us

From: Christopher Yohe <Christopher.Yohe@mpls.k12.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 2:49 PM
To: MPS Superintendent <mpssup@mpls.k12.mn.us>; Kinkel, Anthony (MDE) <anthony.kinkel@state.mn.us>; Shawn Harris-Berry <Shawn.Harris-Berry@mpls.k12.mn.us>; Maggie Sullivan <Maggie.Sullivan@mpls.k12.mn.us>
Subject: Brett Stringer

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Hello,

My name is Chris Yohe and I am a counselor South High School. I am writing in support of Brett Stringer, our principal. I have been at South for the last three years. This is my 7th year working in MPS and my 18th as a school counselor. I have worked at a wide variety of schools and worked with many principals throughout my career. Mr. Stringer is undoubtedly one of the best principals I have ever worked with. He has done a tremendous job leading South through an extremely tumultuous and difficult three years. He possesses two key qualities that make him a great principal. First, he cares deeply about the students, families, and staff of South High School. And second, he is willing to do what is right for our students and families, even when that requires making difficult decisions. I know he has made decisions that have upset some teachers. I believe Mr. Stringer made these decisions to benefit our students and families, even though they made some teachers upset. This is the responsibility of a principal, to do what is right for our students and families even when it is difficult.

I believe the district should do everything it can to keep Mr. Stringer at South. Mr. Stringer is an outstanding principal and South would benefit greatly from his continued leadership.

Sincerely,

Christopher Yohe
School Counselor
South High School
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Kinkel, Anthony (MDE)

From: Mike Berseth <Mike.Berseth@mpls.k12.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 1:14 PM
To: Kinkel, Anthony (MDE)
Subject: In Support of Brett Stringer

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Good Afternoon,

I am a veteran teacher from Minneapolis South High School. In my 15+ years of teaching I have had four different principals and Brett Stringer is the best one that I have worked for. He is the type of person you want leading a school. He takes pride in our students. He works hard to make sure all voices are heard, and people feel appreciated, from the lunch staff to the students, from the engineers to the teachers.

Brett has worked tirelessly to transform South into a school for all students. He has created systems to streamline work for school leadership and teachers. These systems are designed to directly impact student learning instead of just having meetings to jump through hoops. The school is moving in the right direction. Teachers are getting better. Students are winning through his work.

I urge you to support him fully in the time while he is working toward his principal's license. Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Berseth