

Friday, June 12, 2015

**Needham Public Schools
Office of the Superintendent
Needham, Massachusetts**

The Needham Public Schools has completed its investigation of a complaint regarding the workplace conduct of Dr. Jonathan Pizzi, the former principal of Needham High School.

We want to emphasize that the complaint and allegations did not involve students.

Dr. Pizzi was placed on administrative leave April 29, 2015 after being informed of allegations of unwanted sexual contact made by an adult employee in the district. Dr. Pizzi declined opportunities to be interviewed as part of the district's formal investigation into the alleged behavior. The school district worked closely with legal counsel and appropriate town officials and authorities during the investigation.

Dr. Pizzi resigned as principal on May 2, 2015.

The Superintendent's office concluded its investigation on May 22, 2015 and has determined, given the information available to us, sufficient evidence exists to support the actions the District has taken in regards to Dr. Pizzi.

The school district's investigation is closed, and we will have no further comment on the matter.

It's important at this time to reiterate that our focus is on our students' needs, and we are moving forward as a community to concentrate on a successful conclusion to the school year. Dr. Joseph P. Barnes has been named the interim principal at Needham High School effective July 1st, and he will work closely with students, staff, and families over the summer months and into the fall to ensure a smooth and productive opening of the new academic school year.

Daniel E. Gutekanst
Superintendent of Schools
Needham Public Schools