



City of Orange Township

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News Release

For Release: Immediate

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Mayor Eldridge Hawkins appoints Arthur J. Griffa, Former Board of Education President, to Board of Education

Mayor Eldridge Hawkins today selected a seasoned Orange school leader, Arthur Griffa, to the Board of Education. Mr. Griffa previously served on the Board of Education for nine years from 1998 to 2007, holding the positions of President for four years, Vice President for four years, Chair of the Facilities Committee and Member of the Human Resources and Budget Committees.

An Orange resident, Arthur Griffa is a retired YMCA executive, having served as President and CEO of the YMCA of Jersey City, Associate General Executive of the YMCA of Buffalo, NY and numerous other YMCA leadership positions. Mr. Griffa is a community activist in Orange, having served on the Master Plan Committee and as President of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Council.

Statement by Mayor Eldridge Hawkins

“Arthur Griffa has the maturity and experience we need to begin transforming our schools. As a former President and Board of Education member, parent and West Ward resident, he will bring his extensive knowledge of the Orange system to the urgent task of improving our schools.

“Although as mayor, I do not have direct control of our schools, I intend to work with and to shape the school administration to strengthen our school system. Arthur Griffa and I share an agenda for our schools which includes, among other things, introducing proven innovations in education, bringing the expertise of businesses into our schools to teach our children about real jobs in the real world, developing after school and summer internships, emphasizing math and the sciences, and partnering with regional colleges and universities to offer lifetime learning for adults.”

Statement by Arthur J. Griffa

I have been fortunate enough to work with a dedicated staff and Board members in the past. There was positive change. I believe that, with the active involvement of parents and educators, every child born into this world has the potential to achieve to the

maximum of his/her ability. We must have competent administrators and teachers of the highest quality who are dedicated to involving parents in the education of their children. Finally, it is essential that the Board of Education and the Superintendent work together as partners to ensure quality education in Orange.”

(Resume attached)

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