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## **BERWYN C.A.R.E.S. COMMENTS ON SELECTION OF NEW SUPERINTENDENT FOR DISTRICT 201**

**April 15, 2010 (Berwyn, IL)** – At their April 14th meeting, the J. Sterling Morton High School District 201 Board of Education announced the selection of Dr. Michael Kuzniewski as the new superintendent. This decision marks the end of a two year vacancy in the district, which faces tremendous financial and academic challenges as well as an increasingly strained relationship within the local community.

“In light of recent budget cuts which threaten to significantly dilute the curriculum and the reality that only 32% of Morton West students currently meet state standards. Dr. Kuzniewski will have his work cut out for him to increase academic achievement and to balance a budget that operated at a \$2 million deficit last year,” said Shelley Titzer, President of BerwynCARES.

According to BerwynCARES many of the issues at Morton are representative of what is happening in low income districts throughout the State, and the situation is likely to get worse. Governor Quinn’s budget for 2010-2011 recommends a 17% reduction to education funding which will translate into millions of dollars lost to Berwyn schools.

“More than ever, District 201 needs to acknowledge that now is the time for new ideas and input from residents and parents who want to help. BerwynCARES encourages Dr. Kuzniewski to follow the example set by D100’s Board of Education and their Superintendent Stan Fields who have worked collaboratively to establish a community-based advisory committee to improve elementary education,” said Mrs. Titzer.

*Berwyn C.A.R.E.S. (Citizens Aligned to Renew Education for Students) is a community-based organization created to improve the local education system by encouraging more family and community involvement. Since 2006, C.A.R.E.S. has established itself as the leading resource for up-to-date, reputable information on Berwyn's District 98, 100, & 201 schools. More information is available online at [www.berwyncares.org](http://www.berwyncares.org).*