



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BART

BART Announces New Chair of Board of Trustees

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ADAMS, Massachusetts (June 26, 2017) – Trustees of the BART Charter Public School elected a new Board Chair and Treasurer, Dianne M. Cutillo and Jennifer Kerwood, and a new trustee, Maura Delaney, at the Board's June meeting.

Officers re-elected were Christopher Perkins, Vice Chair, and Geraldine Shen, Secretary. In addition to electing Delaney to a first term of two years, the Board approved a third three-year term for Perkins and a second three-year term for Cindy Brown, Cutillo, and Kerwood.

"It is a privilege to serve BART as a Trustee," commented Cutillo. "The School's work makes such a difference for area students by helping them achieve academic success and prepare for college through a rigorous program that supports students in graduation requirements that include earning a passing grade in a college course on a college campus and being accepted to college."

Cutillo, proprietor of Cutillo Communications, LLC, previously served on the BART Board, from 2006 to 2014, including several years as Chair. Before establishing her consulting business in 2015, Cutillo served as a marketing and public affairs executive or manager at Cooley Dickinson and North Adams Regional hospitals and Southwestern Vermont Medical Center. Previously, she was a journalist at The Berkshire Eagle and editor and publicist for Storey Books. She is a resident of Adams and succeeds Charles Swabey as Chair; he remains a BART Trustee.

"The role of Trustee for BART is one fundamentally important to the School," stated Dr. Jay White, BART's Executive Director. "While having fiduciary and ultimate oversight of the School's operations, Trustees work closely with the Executive Director to ensure that the education and welfare of the students is paramount. Chair Cutillo, along with all other Trustees, has a deep abiding love for and dedication to BART and its students."

Jennifer Kerwood is Vice President for Development for the Berkshire United Way and previously served as Director of Development and Alumni Relations at Berkshire Community College. Kerwood, a parent of students at BART, serves on other boards and committees in the community and lives in Pittsfield. She succeeds Fred Puddester, who will continue to be a BART Trustee.

Perkins, who was re-elected Vice Chair and as a trustee, is retired from the position of Technical Systems Lead at General Dynamics Advanced Information System. He has more than 28 years of experience in the engineering field and is the parent of a BART alum and two current BART students. He resides in Pittsfield.

Shen is Executive Director for Sand Springs Recreational Center and was previously Senior Development Officer for Williams College and Director of Curriculum at Better Chinese in Palo Alto, California. She serves on the board of the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition and lives in Williamstown.

Newly elected trustee Maura Delaney previously served as a community volunteer on the BART Board of Trustees' Charter and Accountability Committee, which oversees the school's faithfulness to its charter and compliance with the accountability plan the school has with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Delaney is Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs at Berkshire Community College and previously served as Associate Professor of English, English Department Chair, and Liberal Arts Program Advisor at BCC. She is a resident of Pittsfield.

Reappointed Trustee Cindy Brown, who lives in Pittsfield, is Vice President of Academic Affairs at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and has more than 20 years of experience in educational leadership at MCLA, Lesley University, and Tacoma Community College.

Berkshire Arts & Technology Charter Public School is a nationally recognized, award-winning, tuition-free public middle and high school focused on preparing students for college. In 2015, US News & World Report ranked BART the 7th best high school in Massachusetts. To date, 100 percent of BART's graduates have passed a college course and have been accepted into college prior to graduation. BART, which is located in Adams Massachusetts and includes students from across Berkshire County, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. For more information, visit www.bartcharter.org/v2/.

Note: Print-quality photograph available upon request.

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