

**Mary A. Ronan**  
Superintendent  
Cincinnati Public Schools

Mary A. Ronan began her 32-year career with Cincinnati Public Schools as a math and science teacher at the former Merry Middle School – a building that now houses Ronan's office as Superintendent in the district's Education Center.

A native Cincinnati, Ronan's service to CPS' schoolchildren features a diverse background in teaching and administration in neighborhood and magnet school settings at both elementary and high schools. As principal of Kilgour Elementary School, she was honored by the U.S. Department of Education with the designation of Kilgour in 2001 as a National Blue Ribbon School.

Ronan's experiences in district administration include appointments as assistant superintendent and director of schools, roles in which she worked with principals to enhance leadership skills. At both the school and central administration levels, she has earned a reputation for building strong, supportive and open relationships with her staff as well as parent and community stakeholders. In 2005, she received the Excellence in Educational Leadership Award from The University Council for Educational Administration.

The Cincinnati Board of Education named Ronan Interim Superintendent effective August 1, 2008. In that position, Ronan has been widely credited for leading a seamless transition from the administration of Rosa Blackwell, who retired in July.

Ronan's priorities for the 2008-09 school year include enhancing collaboration and transparency while accelerating academic achievement. She has introduced new strategies designed to increase student performance, including the *Elementary Initiative: Ready for High School*, which provides intensive support for the district's 15 lowest performing elementary schools. At the high school level, Ronan has focused on increasing academic rigor of course offerings and expanding college access.

She holds bachelor's degrees in biology, education and philosophy; and a master's degree in business administration. In addition, she serves on numerous boards of civic, cultural, educational and social service organizations.

Ronan considers as a great privilege the opportunity to lead the district in preparing the next generation of Cincinnati's young people with the skills required by a fast-paced, technologically demanding global economy. With her current leadership in developing new Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) elementary and high schools and partnering in a record \$20 million grant from the GE Foundation to improve math and science education in the district, her career has come full circle from her initial days as a math and science junior high school teacher.

Ronan is married and the parent of an 11-year-old daughter who attends school in the district.