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AUBURN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION HIRES FIRST FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AUBURN, WA – September 23, 2016 – The Auburn Public Schools Foundation is proud to announce the appointment of Matthew Longhurst as its first full-time executive director. This marks the first time since the foundation was created in 2011 that it will be led by a full-time employee in addition to its all-volunteer board of trustees.

Longhurst has served as a leader in local and national non-profit organizations for the last 13 years. As a founding team member at Pacific Ballroom Dance, he took a leading role in establishing, growing, and anchoring the youth-focused arts program in Auburn. More recently, he was responsible for managing a global network of in-school dance residency providers as Dancing Classrooms' Director of Global Operations. In addition, Longhurst is both an attorney and a licensed CPA.

As an eight-year resident of Auburn, Longhurst has three daughters attending public schools in the district.

"We are thrilled to find a local leader with Matthew's experience, dedication, and expertise," said Lisa Connors, president and founding trustee. "After reviewing many outstanding candidates, we came away confident that Matthew's leadership will grow the organization to provide substantial benefits to the children we serve."

The creation of this full-time position comes with the support of the Auburn School District. "With five years of steady but limited progress, we wanted to jump start the growth of the Foundation," said Alan Spicciati, district superintendent. "With the support of the school board, the district is investing in this position in order to further support academic opportunities and basic needs for the students of our district."

Longhurst is excited to begin the work of building community support for the foundation's mission. "I feel tremendously lucky to live and work in a city with such a strong sense of community," he said. "I look forward to building partnerships to ensure that our students receive the resources they need to achieve success."

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