Associate C.R. superintendent takes job in Illinois

By Kristina Andino
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CEDAR RAPIDS — Jay Marino, associate superintendent in the Cedar Rapids school district, will be a superintendent in Dunlap, Ill., next school year.

Marino — now associate superintendent for organizational effectiveness and accountability — will start in Dunlap schools July 1. He is in his eighth year as an associate superintendent, and finished his doctoral program this summer. A national superintendent search firm contacted and pursued Marino.

He had applied to become Cedar Rapids Superintendent Dave Markward’s successor, but accepted the Dunlap superintendent position instead of waiting through the Cedar Rapids search.

“This has been a wonderful experience for me,” said Marino of the Cedar Rapids position.

He added the new position was an opportunity to take “the next step” for his career and his family — his wife, Laura, and their children, Jessica, Joey, Matthew and Grace.

Marino will replace a retiring superintendent in the nearly 3,200-student, preschool-through-high-school district. The high-performing district is interested in his work with continuous improvement methods.

Dunlap, a growing district, attracts students from neighboring Peoria.

“Our kids, teachers, parents, community and staff are going to be impressed with Dr. Marino,” said Dunlap school board President Bruce Hay. “He is a servant leader with proven results in doing what’s best for kids.”

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