



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Newton Public Schools Appoints Jesse Krotick as First Director of Mental Health and Well-Being**

**NEWTON, MA** — Newton Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Anna Nolin announced the appointment of Jesse Krotick, M.Ed., LICSW, MSW, as the district's inaugural **Director of Mental Health and Well-Being**, an expanded leadership position designed to strengthen and align mental health supports for students across the district from preschool through age 22.

The position reflects Newton Public Schools' continued commitment to ensuring that every student has access to high-quality mental health supports, clinical services, and social-emotional resources that enable them to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.



"Student well-being is foundational to learning, and is a key pillar of our THRIVE 2030 strategic plan" said Superintendent Dr. Anna Nolin. "As the needs of our students continue to evolve, we are committed to building a comprehensive system of care that supports the whole child, just as we are building that reliable and coordinated system of support in academics. Jesse has been instrumental in developing many of the systems and practices that currently serve our students, and he is uniquely qualified to lead this next chapter of mental health and wellness work in Newton."

Krotick currently serves as Newton Public Schools' Coordinator of Social Work and Social Emotional Learning for elementary schools, a role he has held since 2018. During his tenure at the elementary level, he has led the development of social-emotional learning and mental health intervention frameworks, overseen the implementation of universal screening systems, supervised social work and intervention staff, and provided consultation and support to school leaders across the district.

"Jesse has built strong relationships across our district through his collaborative work with school leaders, clinicians, educators, and families. His background as a clinical social worker, combined with years of leadership overseeing our Elementary Stabilization Program and districtwide social-emotional systems, gives him both a deep understanding of individual student and family needs and a broad view of the trends and challenges schools are navigating over time," shared Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Casey Ngo-Miller.

Krotick has consistently helped bridge school-based supports with outside agencies and community partners in ways that directly benefit students. I am excited for Jesse to extend the



thoughtful systems and practices he has helped build at the elementary level into a more cohesive preK–22 approach to mental health and well-being across the district.”

"Newton has long been recognized for its commitment to supporting students beyond academics," said Krotick. "I am honored to take on this role and grateful for the opportunity to continue working alongside our dedicated educators, clinicians, families, and community partners. Together, we will continue building systems that ensure every student feels connected, supported, and ready to thrive."

Prior to his current leadership role, Krotick spent eight years as a social worker in Newton's Elementary Stabilization Program, where he designed and managed specialized programming for students with complex social, emotional, and behavioral needs. His career also includes clinical and leadership experience with Boston Public Schools, Wediko Children's Services, The Home for Little Wanderers, Jewish Family and Children's Services, and other organizations serving children, youth, and families.

As Director of Mental Health and Well-Being, Krotick will provide strategic leadership for the district's preK–22 mental health system, including oversight of specialized programs such as Elementary Stabilization, Harbor, and BRYT. He will lead efforts to strengthen clinical interventions within the district's Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), oversee mental health screening and data systems, support professional learning for clinical staff, and help build a sustainable pipeline of future mental health professionals.

The recently created director position expands upon previous district mental health leadership structures by bringing together elementary and secondary mental health programming under a unified vision which creates a more cohesive preK to 22 experience and system of support. The role elevates districtwide coordination, clinical supervision, program evaluation, and strategic planning to ensure consistency and continuity of care for students and families.

Krotick holds a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Endicott College and a Master of Social Work from Simmons University. He is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW), a licensed School Social Worker/Adjustment Counselor, and holds Massachusetts licensure as a Supervisor/Director.

The appointment takes effect July 1, 2026.

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**About Newton Public Schools:** *Newton Public Schools is dedicated to fostering academic excellence, social-emotional growth, and a strong sense of community. Serving more than 11,000 students across 22 schools, including 24 special education programs, a Career/Vocational Technical High School, and a vibrant range of student clubs, international exchanges, and athletic opportunities. NPS is a district of choice for families, recognized for its inclusive practices and innovative programs that prepare students to thrive in a diverse and dynamic world.*

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Dr. Anna Nolin

Superintendent of Schools



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