



TOWN OF STRATFORD
MAYOR LAURA HOYDICK

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**TOWN MOURNS THE PASSING OF IRENE CORNISH, FORMER STRATFORD
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

STRATFORD – The Town of Stratford is mourning the passing of Irene Lee Cornish, retired Superintendent of Stratford Public Schools. Cornish passed away on May 31st, 2020 following a long illness. Cornish also previously served a Superintendent of Schools in Chelsea, MA, and as a trial attorney in private practice.

During Cornish’s time of service as Superintendent in Stratford, a number of Board of Education Chairmen served alongside her. Among those that are currently serving in Town government are Mayor Laura R. Hoydick, Economic and Community Development Director Mary Dean and Assistant Human Resources Director Susan Barksdale.

“Irene was an extraordinary woman. We were so fortunate she chose to work and live in Stratford. Her investment in us paved the path for many of the programs we have today. She had a vision for the Stratford Public Schools, built consensus and always worked for the best interest of children and families” said **Hoydick**. “Our thoughts are with her family and loved ones at this time.”

“Irene Cornish made significant strides to improve the education of the Town of Stratford students during her tenure as Superintendent,” said **Dean**. “She was an intelligent and caring person who will be greatly missed.”

“I am so sad to hear of the passing of Irene Cornish,” said **Barksdale**. “Irene was an amazing woman of great character, intelligence, humor and poise. She had a personal, caring commitment to the education of Stratford’s children and her leadership in that endeavor was strong. Irene was an eloquent public speaker and her ability to command the respect of all who knew her was inspiring. I was so fortunate to have worked with her and was truly honored to call her my friend. May she rest in peace.”

Cornish was laid to rest in a private graveside ceremony in Ellington on June 4th.

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