

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73 (KAMLOOPS/THOMPSON)

PRESS RELEASE



June 30, 2017

SD 73 names new principals to lead several district schools

Several schools in School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) will see new leadership at the helm for the start of the next school year.

The Board of Education approved the principal appointments Wednesday, which is largely the result of retirements and ensuing transfers. The following appointments will take effect August 1st:

- Mike Bowden will take on the role of District Principal, Aboriginal Education. He replaces Cheryl Sebastian, who retires this year. Bowden is currently the principal at Juniper Ridge Elementary.
- Carol DeFehr will become principal at Juniper Ridge Elementary. She is currently principal at Westmount Elementary.
- Susie Mabee, who is now a vice-principal at AE Perry Elementary, will become principal at Westmount Elementary.
- Paul Hembling, now principal at the Bert Edwards Science and Technology School, will become principal at Barriere Secondary for a one-year placement.
- Frank Law will become principal at Bert Edwards. He is now principal at Savona Elementary.
- Krista Halland, a vice-principal at Parkcrest Elementary, will become the new principal at Savona Elementary.
- Berni Linfitt, the principal at Parkcrest Elementary will become principal at David Thompson Elementary to replace Sharon Cooley, who is retiring.

- Catherine Gorman will become principal at Parkcrest Elementary. She is currently the principal at Rayleigh Elementary.
- Shaun McKenna, who is the principal at Raft River Elementary, will move to the principal's office at Rayleigh Elementary.
- Lori Bradstock was named as the new principal for elementary schools in Raft River, Vavenby and Blue River.
- Michael Johnson was appointed the principal of Sun Peaks and Heffley Creek elementary schools.

As well, the Board approved several vice-principal appointments.

Rob Schoen, the district's Asst. Superintendent of Elementary Schools, said principals serve a vital role in the provision of education services. He added all the new appointments followed a rigorous interview process involving senior staff and trustees.

He acknowledged there was a lot of "moving parts" this year.

"It was a complex hiring process but one that was necessary for the circumstances. Every school is unique, and we want to ensure that each school has the leadership it needs to allow for student and staff success," he said.

For more information, contact:

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