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## Message From Superintendent Rundle on Resignation of MIHS Principal Walter Kelly

1 message

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**Fred Rundle** <communications@mercerislandschools.org>

Thu, Jan 19, 2023 at 4:01 PM

Reply-To: communications@mercerislandschools.org

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Fred Rundle, Ed.D, Superintendent

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January 19, 2023

Dear Mercer Island Community,

This week, Walter Kelly notified me that he has decided to step down as the principal of Mercer Island High School and not return from his current leave of absence. If you have not done so already, I invite you [to read Mr. Kelly's](#) letter to the community.

I want to extend my appreciation to Principal Kelly for his leadership and time during his tenure as the Mercer Island High School Principal. Mr. Kelly stepped into the position in the early phases of the COVID-19 pandemic, new to Washington himself, but ready to lead the school through the challenges of a global pandemic. Under Mr. Kelly's leadership, Mercer Island High School maintained its status as a top performing school, navigated online, hybrid, and return to in-person learning, and came out poised to continue setting the bar for high schools across the region.

Having worked with Mr. Kelly for the past several years, I know his talents, creativity, and passion for education, leadership, and instruction will continue contributing to the profession. His impact will be elevated and reach even larger systems than a single high school. I wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

We will now turn our attention to the future for Mercer Island High School. For the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, Nick Wold will serve as the interim principal. He stepped up this past fall when Mr. Kelly first stepped away and has done a terrific job moving the school forward. Mr. Wold certainly embraced the role as acting principal and will undoubtedly continue right through the end of this school year as the interim principal.

Next week, we will begin the search for the next principal of Mercer Island High School. The person selected will begin on July 1, 2023. Our recruiting efforts will seek candidates from both inside and outside of the region and state. The District will gather input from students, staff, and community and involve contributions from people representing interests from across Mercer Island. Please be on the lookout for future communication on ways you can share your perspectives through either direct or indirect participation in the hiring process.

I want to again thank Mr. Kelly for his service to Mercer Island High School and wish him well. Bright days are ahead for him just like for Mercer Island High School.

Sincerely,

Fred Rundle  
Superintendent

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