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## MEDIA RELEASE

February 13, 2024

Raytown School District announces the hiring of three leadership positions for the 2024-25 School Year

(RAYTOWN, Mo.) At the Monday, February 12 Board of Education meeting, the Raytown Quality Schools Board of Education approved the hiring for three district leadership positions.



Jennifer Northcutt, Ed.D., is taking on a new role in the district as the assistant director of student support services. She has been a counselor at Raytown High School since 2020 and currently serves as lead. Northcutt started her career as a special education teacher at Smithville High School in 2006. She's also served as an English language arts teacher and counselor in area school districts. She has a Bachelor of Science in Education and an Educational Specialist in Educational Leadership from Northwest Missouri State University, a Master of Arts in Counseling and Guidance and a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Missouri Kansas City.



Melanie Olson-Cox joins RQS as the assistant director of communications and community relations. She comes to RQS from ReDiscover where she served as community and events coordinator. Her other previous positions include communications specialist for Johnson County Developmental Supports, account supervisor for InQuest Marketing and social media strategist & community manager for MOC Consulting. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from the University of Missouri Kansas City.



Mary Beth Sprecher currently serves as the principal of Northwood School. For the 2024-25 school year, she will move to a new position in the district as director of special services. She came to RQS from the Independence School District where she was principal of Andrew Drumm High School. Her previous experience includes being a special education teacher and transition coordinator in ISD. She has a Bachelor of Science in Special Education from Missouri State University, a Master of Education in Special Education from the University of Kansas and a Specialist Degree in Urban Educational Leadership from the University of Missouri Kansas City.

Olson-Cox starts her role on February 28. Northcutt and Sprecher begin in their new roles in the district on July 1, 2024.

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