



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ALERT – Tuesday, August 1, 2023
Fargo Public School District #1

FARGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES ADMINISTRATION ASSIGNMENTS

Fargo Public Schools announces five administrative assignments within the District.



Mariah McKenney has been named assistant principal for Carl Ben Eielson Middle School. McKenney has worked at Carl Ben Eielson since 2019 as a math teacher and as a math instructional coach. She began her career as a grades 3-4 teacher at David Louis Memorial School in Grayling, Alaska from 2001-02. She taught sixth grade at Wahpeton Middle School from 2002-06, and was a sixth grade teacher at Jamestown Middle School from 2007-19. She also coached basketball and track at Jamestown. McKenney was an adjunct professor at University of Jamestown from 2017-19, teaching an undergraduate mathematics for elementary teachers class.

McKenney has a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a minor in Athletic Coaching from Valley City State University. She has a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of St. Thomas and a Master Credential in Educational Leadership from Minnesota State University Moorhead.



Jarrod Finseth has been named the information technology and cybersecurity director for Fargo Public Schools. He assumes the role from Bill Westrick who has been named the FPS Strategy and Innovation Officer.

Finseth has worked at Fargo Public Schools since 2000. He began with FPS as a technology intern before starting full time on the Help Desk from 2000-03. He was the Lead Help Desk from 2003-08, and has been the Systems Administrator since 2008.

He holds an Associate of Technology in Computer Support and Network Administration from M-State Moorhead.



Dr. Jennifer Sahr has been named the assistant director of educational justice. She has worked in Fargo Public Schools since 1998. She began with FPS as a first grade teacher from 1998-2010. She was a student performance strategist from 2010-15 and a RtI/MTSS and data analysis district facilitator from 2011-17. Dr. Sahr has been the multi-tiered system of supports coordinator since 2017.

She has served as a North Dakota Trauma-Sensitive Schools Trainer, an Ukeru Certified Trainer, a United Way Emerging Leader, and was on the Southeast Human Services Advisory Board.

Dr. Sahr holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education from University of Jamestown, a Master of Science in Special Education from Minnesota State University Moorhead, and a doctorate in educational leadership from Minnesota State University Moorhead. She is licensed in Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students, English Speakers of Other Languages, and Specific Learning Disabilities.



Dr. Patricia Cummings has been named the Fargo Public Schools compliance director. This is a new position created to conduct monitoring activities to ensure compliance with state and federal laws, including the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act, Section 504, and Title IX.

Cummings has served as the Director of Special Education and Student Support Services at FPS since 2014. She was been the assistant principal at Carl Ben Eielson Middle School from 2012-14. She was a speech language pathologist at CBE from 2006-12 and the Asperger's coach for the District. Cummings began her education career with Fargo Public Schools as a speech language pathologist at

Agassiz Middle School in 1996.

Cummings holds a master's degree and a Bachelor of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology as well as a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Minnesota State University-Moorhead. She earned her administrative credentials through Tri-College University.



Lori Nappe has been named the District elementary assistant principal, summer school.

She began her education career as a fifth grade teacher at David Crockett Elementary School in McAllen, Texas in 1992. She was a sixth grade teacher at Cheyenne Eagle Butte Schools in Eagle Butte, S.D. from 1992-93 and an English Learner Paraprofessional at Thomas Edison Elementary School in Moorhead from 1994-97. Nappe began with Fargo Public Schools as an English Learner teacher at Discovery Middle School from 1997-2008. She was an EL teacher at Lewis & Clark Elementary School from 2008-20. She was the Dean of Students for English

Language Development Summer School from 2018-22 and Co-Principal of Elementary Virtual Academy from 2020-23.

Nappe holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Minnesota State University Moorhead and a Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction from MSUM, and a master's degree in administration from MSUM. She holds a license in K-12 administration in N.D. and Minn.

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