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**CHENEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SARA MCKENNON SELECTED AS SUNSET PRINCIPAL**

Pending Board Approval

April 23, 2024

After an extensive interview process, Cheney Public Schools is pleased to announce that Sara McKennon has been selected as the next principal of Sunset Elementary School, pending Board approval. The interview process included representatives from several stakeholder groups—district administration, staff, and students—who interacted and engaged with each candidate throughout the process.

Sunset Elementary School staff and district leadership collaborated to lead each candidate through the comprehensive interview process, and Sunset students were included as they engaged with each candidate on a tour of campus. A community forum was then held to allow for essential feedback from community members, parents, and families, which assisted district leadership in the final selection. Following this process, McKennon was selected as the best fit to lead Sunset Elementary School.

“The pool of candidates for the Sunset principal position was strong, and Sara rose to the top throughout the interview process,” said Superintendent Ben Ferney. “I am excited for Sara and the future of Sunset!”

McKennon, who previously worked at Sunset as a fourth and fifth grade teacher from 2008-15, is returning after having spent the last eight years as an assistant principal at Salnave Elementary. During her time at Salnave, McKennon was instrumental in implementing the PLC process in addition to working alongside longtime principal Celina Brennan to spearhead the School Improvement Plan. McKennon has gained administrative experience in each of her previous positions as well. At Sunset Elementary from 2008-15, in addition to her duties as a teacher, McKennon was also the administrative designee in charge of the building when administrators were absent. Prior to her time at Sunset, McKennon was a teacher and acting administrator at Dr. Howard D. Elementary School in San Bernardino, Calif. from 2001-08. She holds a bachelor’s degree in education from Washington State University and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Azusa Pacific University with multiple state and national certifications.

“I am beyond honored and excited to accept the position as principal at Sunset Elementary and return to a community that I hold so dear,” McKennon said. “I look forward to working collaboratively with staff, students, families, and the community to foster a positive, inclusive, and supportive learning environment for all.”