

April 10, 2025

Dear Cheltenham Community-

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Benjamin Hammond as principal of Cheltenham High School, effective Wednesday, April 9. The Cheltenham School District Board of School Directors approved his appointment during the April 8 legislative board meeting. Dr. Hammond had served in the role on an interim basis since July 1, 2024.

Dr. Hammond is a familiar and trusted face in our school community. After years of dedicated service in multiple roles, including eight years as vice principal, Dr. Hammond has demonstrated a deep commitment to students, staff, families and the community.

The decision to hire Dr. Hammond was rooted in more than just his experience—it was about selecting a leader who understands the heart and soul that define our high school. A strong school leader must not only be effective in management, but must also understand the culture, values, and lived experiences of the school community. Dr. Hammond brings exactly that. His deep knowledge of our school's traditions, relationships, and goals allows him to lead with authenticity, empathy, and purpose.

Equally important are the stability and long-term leadership Dr. Hammond brings to the table. Consistent leadership ensures we can build on our successes, maintain momentum with important initiatives, and continue creating a positive, inclusive school climate where every student thrives. When leadership turns over too frequently, it can disrupt that progress. By selecting someone who is already part of our school family and committed to our long-term vision, we are investing in a future marked by stability, trust, and growth.

We're excited for the journey ahead and confident that under Dr. Hammond's leadership, our high school will continue to be a place where students feel they belong, are empowered to become their best selves, and are supported to excel—now and for years to come.

Sincerely

Dr. Brian W. Scriven
Superintendent of Schools