The Somerset Hills School District

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Dear Bedwell Parents and Guardians,

While Bedwell is losing Assistant Principal Jasmine Akauola, who will be assuming a school Principal position in Caldwell-West Caldwell, her impact will undoubtedly be felt far and wide for the foreseeable future.

When I hired Jasmine, I made it clear to her that I sought to appoint an Assistant Principal who would represent "value added" and provide more to Bedwell than simply serving in an entry-level administrative role. Jasmine has far exceeded my expectations, and I am happy that she has earned the position of Principal, but I am sad to see her go.

In the interim, we have a plan to ensure continuity of support for Bedwell. Last evening, the Somerset Hills Board of Education extended Marcos Vargas' contract as an Interim Administrator. Marcos will be assigned to Bedwell in Jasmine's role from January 2, 2026, through the end of the school year. You have likely seen Marcos around Bedwell in the past few weeks; please welcome him when you see him.

On or around February 1, 2026, we will advertise internally and externally for an Assistant Principal to serve in a tenure-track role beginning on July 1, 2026. I expect to appoint a world-class candidate in April, after conducting interviews in March.

Thank you in advance for warmly welcoming Mr. Vargas (mvargas@shsd.org)! If you have any questions, please let me know at your convenience. I look forward to seeing you around the District and wish you a Happy Holiday season.

Sincerely,

Brian Brotschul, Ed. D.

Superintendent of Schools

Somerset Hills School District

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