

**June 22, 2026**

**Superintendent Statement  
Jeanice Kerr Swift**

**Leadership Appointment for 2026-27 School Year**

**Interim Principal, New York Montessori**



**Virginia Gwyn** has been named to serve as Interim Principal of New York Montessori. Ms. Gwyn previously served as principal of Lillie J. Jackson Early Childhood Center in Lewisville ISD (Tex.) for six years through 2025. During a cross country family move, she has served this last school year as Lead PreK Teacher at the Mizzou Child Development Lab in Columbia, Missouri. Gwyn also brings an additional four years of building leadership from Brent Elementary in Little Elm ISD (Tex.), after various instructional and teaching positions held in Texas schools.

Swift shares, “We are excited to add an experienced, student-centered school leader to our Lawrence Public Schools team in the selection of Ms. Virginia Gwyn as Interim Principal, New York Montessori. Principal Gwyn brings a proven record of excellence in work with elementary students; a supportive, collaborative approach with staff; and is a school leader who engages closely with families and the school community. Her energy and enthusiasm for the work are already apparent, and we look forward to her having her leadership at New York elementary this fall.”

“It is a true honor to be named interim principal of New York Montessori. Through intentional relationships and thoughtful collaboration, I strive to support the campus as they continue to create a learning environment that embraces all students using the Montessori approach. Creating a school family where all members of the learning community feel valued and supported is essential to ensure our scholars are set up for success,” said Ms. Gwyn.

Gwyn earned her Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education from Ohio University; and a Masters of Arts in Educational Administration from Concordia University in Austin, Texas.

*Note: a full selection process will begin late fall, featuring the engagement of New York Montessori staff, families and community in the multi-step process for selecting the permanent principal of the school.*