

[admin_super] Administrator staffing news April 2021

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Dear colleagues,

Spring is a time of change, including the first changes in our administrator team for next school year. It is my pleasure to introduce a new administrator to our 4J team and welcome others to new roles for 2021–22.

Jennifer Hebard will move to Kennedy Middle School along with the Chinese Immersion program next fall. Jen will serve as the middle school's assistant principal and oversee the language immersion program as it relocates and grows to a K–8 program at the Kennedy site. Jen has been principal of Family School at the Crest Drive site since 2016 and the co-located Chinese Immersion Elementary School since it opened in 2017. Jen is a collaborative leader who values the importance of building relationships with students, families and staff, and supporting the academic success of students with diverse backgrounds and a wide range of academic and social needs.

Teresa Martindale will be principal of Family School and support other district programs in addition to the small alternative elementary school. Teresa has been principal of Adams Elementary School since 2019. She joined 4J in 2014 as assistant principal at Madison Middle School and previously was a K–8 principal and middle and high school assistant principal in South Lane. As the first in a large family to attend college (her mother, born on a reservation, dropped out in eighth grade, and her father joined the military out of high school), Teresa has a unique lens on the power of education, and on the value of holding high expectations and providing the supports necessary for all students to succeed.

Chris Benz will be principal of Adams Elementary School, completing this three-way rotation. Chris has been assistant principal at Kennedy Middle School for the past two years and previously completed his administrative practicum at Camas Ridge Elementary School and ECCO. He believes in promoting a welcoming community culture of support and acceptance that encourages students to develop personal, academic, and social and emotional skills needed to navigate life. He is committed to improving systems to yield equitable outcomes and meet students' varying needs.

J. Jesus Sandoval will be assistant principal at North Eugene, replacing Scott Mayers. Jesus comes to 4J from Willamette Education Service District, where he has served for the past seven years as an education specialist, concentrating on student graduation, college and career readiness, and reducing the equity gaps that exist in education, with a focus on those affecting the migrant community. Previously, he taught in English and Spanish in the migrant education program in the Woodburn School District, including. Jesus has extensive experience working with traditionally underserved populations, was raised in a dual language and multi-cultural community, and is fluent in Spanish. Jesus believes that every student has the ability to learn and that learning differences, such as language, culture and ethnicity, are an asset. He is committed to developing and growing equitable access to education and culturally competent practices that reflect a deep understanding of historically marginalized students and their families.

Scott Mayers will be assistant principal at Eugene Online Academy. Scott has been assistant principal at North Eugene High School since 2014 and served as the interim assistant principal at ECCO for a portion of the 2015–16 school year. Prior to joining 4J, Scott was dean of students in the Springfield

School District for nine years. He has instructional background in multiple subject areas and working with a population of students who have typically struggled in school.

I also want to share that four members of our school administrator team who were appointed to new positions on an interim basis last spring will continue in the permanent role next year:

Trinity Welch-Radabaugh will continue as principal of North Eugene High School. Previously Trinity was assistant principal at North Eugene for three years and before that an assistant principal in Corvallis. As principal, Trinity will continue to carry forward the outstanding work being accomplished at North Eugene.

John Wayland will continue as principal of Kelly Middle School. He was assistant principal at Kelly for the previous four years and assistant principal at South Eugene High School for seven years. John also taught language arts and social studies at Kelly for nearly a decade. With his veteran experience and established relationships with the Kelly community, John is a great fit to continue leading the school.

Travis Sheaffer will continue as North Eugene assistant principal. For the previous four years, Travis was director of both North Eugene and Kelly Middle School band programs. He also served as department chair and administrative intern. Travis's strong communication skills and passion for instructional improvement will continue to benefit the North Eugene community.

Sarah Prater will continue as assistant principal at Kelly Middle School. Previously, she taught language arts at South Eugene High School for ten years, served as the district's K–12 Literacy, TAG and ELA TOSA, and coached other districts through multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) implementation. Her commitment to equity and building layers of culturally responsive practice into schoolwide systems will continue to benefit the Kelly community.

Please join me in congratulating Chris, Teresa, Jen and Scott on their new positions; applauding Trinity, John, Travis and Sarah on their permanent appointments; and welcoming Jesus Sandoval to our administrator team.

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Cydney Vandercar
Interim Superintendent
Eugene School District 4J

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