April 22, 2019

Administrative Announcement

Lawrence Public Schools Superintendent Anthony Lewis announces the selection of Shannon Harrelson as principal of Prairie Park Elementary School, effective July 1, 2019, and pending Lawrence Board of Education approval. Harrelson succeeds David Williams, who will resign at the end of the school year after leading Prairie Park since 2001.

“Shannon has the knowledge and skill set to work collaboratively with teachers and support staff to create a supportive climate for student learning. I know that she will set high expectations for every student and build strong relationships within the Prairie Park school community,” said Dr. Lewis.

Harrelson will cap her second year as principal of a learning center for students in grades 1-4 in Oelwein, Iowa, this spring. She previously served as an assistant principal and athletic director of a middle school academy (2015-2017), a district mentor coach (2014-2015), and third-grade teacher (2010-2014) in Waterloo, IA. In addition, she served as a middle school language arts and reading teacher (2008-2010) in Gilbertville, IA. Harrelson earned bachelor’s degrees from Clarke University in Dubuque, IA., and bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

“I am thrilled to be joining the Lawrence Public Schools team! I am originally from Kansas City, Kansas, and have been living in Iowa for quite a few years now. My family and I have been wanting to relocate for a while. I have wanted to be part of Lawrence's dedicated educational team and its wonderful community for years. I am excited to finally have this opportunity!” said Harrelson.

Built in 1994, Prairie Park Elementary currently serves 379 students in grades K-5.

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