

Zimbra

piowaty_t@4j.lane.edu

[admin_super] Administrator staffing news updates May 2021

From : Cydney Vandercar <vandercar_c@4j.lane.edu>

Fri, May 28, 2021 10:04 PM

Sender : admin_super <admin_super-bounces@4j.lane.edu>**Subject :** [admin_super] Administrator staffing news updates
May 2021**To :** admin super <admin_super@4j.lane.edu>**Administrator staffing news updates May 2021**

Team,

We're continuing to spring forward with plans for the coming school year. I'd like to share some more changes in our administrator team for 2021–22.

Elementary Education Director & Language Immersion: Melissa Ibarra

Melissa Ibarra is moving to the Ed Center to be a director of elementary education and oversee language immersion and early childhood education programs. Melissa has been with 4J for five years, as the principal of Buena Vista Spanish Immersion Elementary School. Previously she served as the dual language coordinator for Springfield Public Schools, where she led the development of the district's first dual language immersion program, at Guy Lee Elementary, and then served as the dual immersion lead teacher. Melissa's bilingual background and cultural competency will be an asset in her new role. Melissa is committed to collaboration, community involvement, promoting success for all students and preparing them for college readiness and success in a global society.

Elementary Education Director & Federal Programs: Jeff Johnson

With a bit of reorganization in the instruction department, Jeff Johnson will also serve as a director of elementary education, and oversee federal programs including Title I. Jeff has been a director of pre-K–8 education for the past two years, alongside Brooke Wagner, who will serve as Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services next year. Jeff has been an educator in 4J for more than 20 years, including serving as principal of Coburg Elementary School and then launching Arts & Technology Academy as a K–8 school and serving as its principal for 10 years. In recent years he also worked with many schools as the district's federal programs administrator. In all of these roles, Jeff has been committed to changing beliefs about students in historically underserved groups, increasing expectations about what students can achieve, developing systems with a focus on rigorous instruction, and increasing the instructional and leadership capacity of staff.

Buena Vista Principal: Stephanie Randall

Stephanie Randall will be the new principal of Buena Vista Spanish Immersion Elementary School when Melissa Ibarra moves downtown. Stephanie is currently serving as assistant principal at Gilham and Willagillespie. She is a fluent Spanish speaker and experienced elementary-level teacher. Stephanie came to 4J from Bohemia Elementary School, a Title I school in Cottage Grove, where she taught and served as a specialist team leader and grade-level team leader. She strives to create a school environment that is safe, equitable and welcoming, and promotes learning and growth for all students. Stephanie embraces her role as a leader of learning, is skilled at using data to improve classroom instruction, understands schools in the context of their communities, and is both reflective and intentional with her practice. Stephanie has both the skills and the heart to lead the next chapter at Buena Vista.

Arts & Technology Academy Assistant Principal: Garrett Bridgens

Garrett Bridgens is moving to ATA as assistant principal, as AJ Hruby steps into the principal role. Garrett has served as principal at Charlemagne French Immersion Elementary School for the past year, and previously he was an assistant principal at South Eugene High School. Garrett started his educational career in South Lane School District where he coached athletics for 17 years, taught for more than a decade, and also served for several years as the district's communications coordinator and as a substitute building administrator. Garrett's creativity and communication skills, passion for student achievement, and ability to connect with staff, students and parents will serve ATA well.

Cal Young Assistant Principal: Matt Myers

Cal Young Middle School's new assistant principal will be Matt Myers, replacing Mark Watson who is retiring. Matt is coming back to 4J after heading south to serve as assistant principal and athletic director at Cottage Grove High School for the past two years. Previously, he taught math in 4J middle and high schools for 14 years, and served as a ninth grade advisor, staff development specialist and essential skills/testing coordinator. Matt is motivated to remove barriers for all students, especially our most vulnerable students. He is proficient at implementing assessment and interpreting data to improve student outcomes, and focused on caring leadership, collaborative problem solving and building capacity. His enthusiasm, work ethic, communication style and leadership will be a great asset to Cal Young.

We also have a couple of our team moving on to new adventures: **Chris Benz**, who had planned to move to the principal's office at Adams next year, will instead be relocating to the Portland area with his family. **Tracy Ross** has accepted a position in Oakridge, to serve as the interim principal of Oakridge Junior/Senior High School.

All of these shifts leave some positions open and mean more changes to come soon. In particular, if you or someone you know are interested in the Adams or Charlemagne

principal positions, applications are being accepted now.

Please join me in welcoming Matt back to 4J, wishing Melissa, Jeff, Stephanie and Garrett well in their new positions, and sending our best wishes to Chris and Tracy, for wherever their paths take them next.

Cydney

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Cydney Vandercar
Interim Superintendent
Eugene School District 4J

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