



Livingston

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Board To Vote on Appointment of Lorena Dolan As New Principal of Mt. Pleasant Elementary School



[LIVINGSTON, NJ] We are pleased to announce the anticipated hiring of Ms. Lorena Dolan as Principal of Mt. Pleasant Elementary School. The Board of Education will officially vote on her appointment at its meeting on Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 7 p.m. We cordially invite community members to attend a “Meet and Greet” with Ms. Dolan prior to the meeting. The event is open to the public and will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Administration Building, 11 Foxcroft Drive.

Ms. Dolan, who is currently the assistant principal at Summit High School, has dedicated her life to education. She spent many years as both a general education and special education teacher. The first part of her career was devoted to elementary level classrooms. She taught full-day kindergarten at two public elementary schools in Sayreville, and later joined the teaching staff in the Pre-K Inclusion Program at The Preschool Place and Kindergarten in Bridgewater, where she worked extensively with Teachers of the Deaf, Speech Language Specialists, as well as Occupational and Physical Therapists.

At Summit High School, she served students as a Special Education Teacher for six years before being appointed Assistant Principal in 2016.

Ms. Dolan has earned Master’s Degrees in Elementary Education and Educational Leadership, and is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Educational Leadership at The College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown. She anticipates receiving her degree in the fall of 2020.

Among her many professional achievements, Ms. Dolan said that serving as a certified Trainer for Restorative Practice and mentoring are career highlights. In addition, she created and implemented the Professional Learning Visits (PLV) program at Summit High School. This initiative aims to motivate staff to build relationships and celebrate successes of both educators and students.

Ms. Dolan will replace Dr. Emily Sortino, who will now serve as Director of Secondary Special Education for Livingston Public Schools. Ms. Dolan hopes to transition into her position some time in August.

"I am so excited and honored to join the MPE community; I look forward to partnering with our teachers, students, and families as we continue to ensure that every child is learning, growing and feeling safe and secure. My fundamental belief is that every child can learn and take that responsibility seriously," said Ms. Dolan.

Dr. Matthew J. Block, LPS' Superintendent of Schools, noted, "As a former Special Education Teacher, Ms. Dolan's entire career has been focused on meeting the diverse learning needs of all students, and she has done so both at the elementary and high school levels. It was apparent to me and the members of the search committee that Ms. Dolan is a dedicated, creative, and student-centered educational leader. Her caring and thoughtful approach and her history of working collaboratively with students and families makes her an excellent fit to be the next Principal of Mount Pleasant Elementary School."

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