



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 (OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN)

NEWS RELEASE

School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen) is pleased to announce the following appointments effective August 1, 2018:

Ms. Naryn Searcy as Principal at Similkameen Elementary-Secondary School

Ms. Searcy is currently the vice principal of SESS. Previously, Ms. Searcy came to us from School District No. 67 (Okanagan-Skaha) where she was lead teacher for the Indigenous education team focussing on Indigenous Perspectives in the K-12 Curriculum. Ms. Searcy previously held the position of district helping teacher for Aboriginal Education, English teacher and First Peoples English teacher at Princess Margaret Secondary School. She also taught English 9-12, English Literature 12 and was the teacher-librarian at Princess Margaret Secondary School in Penticton.

Mr. Tom Eccleston as Vice Principal at Similkameen Elementary-Secondary School

Mr. Eccleston comes to us from School District No. 62 (Sooke) which is a suburb of Victoria, BC. Mr. Eccleston holds a Master of Education degree in Leadership. He also holds a Special Education Specialist Diploma (with honours), and an Honours Music Specialist diploma and Bachelor of Education in Music. Mr. Eccleston is currently a Special Education/Inclusion and Behaviour Program teacher and a Computer Science Teacher in his current school. He has previously taught music, band, Learning Assistance, Math and Computers.

Ms. Patsy-Anne Takacs as Vice Principal at Osoyoos Elementary School

Ms. Takacs comes to us from School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) where she is currently the principal of Canyon-Lister Elementary School in Creston, BC. Ms. Takacs has more than twenty years experience teaching Kindergarten and primary grades. She is completing a Master of Education in Educational Leadership from Vancouver Island University, The Centre for Innovative Educational Leadership.

The Board of Education congratulates Ms. Searcy on her appointment to the principal position of Similkameen Elementary-Secondary School in Keremeos and wishes outgoing principal, Cate Turner the best in her retirement. The Board would also like to thank Ms. Turner for her years of service to the District. We welcome Mr. Eccleston and Ms. Takacs to our district and wishes them every success in their new roles.

Rob Zandee, Chairperson
School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)

May 29, 2018