



# Announcing the New Interim Senior Director of High School Core Academics, Dr. James Crawford

November 2022

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that Dr. James Crawford will serve as the new Interim Senior Director of High School Core Academics. Dr. Crawford is replacing Aurora Hymel, who is transitioning to the newly designed role, Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE), Advanced Placement (AP), and International Baccalaureate (IB).



Dr. Crawford comes to PPS from Federal Way Public Schools, where he served as the Chief Academic Officer and Assistant Superintendent. Under Dr. Crawford's leadership Federal Way Public Schools developed an extensive list of new innovative programming, including K-12 Math and English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum guides, Bright Futures Early Learning Program, and a Pre-Apprentice Program.

Dr. Crawford began his career in education 20 years ago. He brings with him a depth of experience as a High School English Teacher, Instructional Coach, Assistant Principal, Principal, and Central Office Leader at the elementary and secondary levels. Dr. Crawford also serves as a Teaching Associate/Field Supervisor at the University of Washington and taught Instructional Leadership at Washington State University.

Among various awards and honors, Dr. Crawford has also been named a national Emerging Leader from the Association of School Curriculum and Development. Dr. Crawford's passion toward greater equity is the cornerstone of his leadership: "Portland Public Schools' long term vision for students sets the district apart. I'm excited to be part of a team dedicated to racial equity and social justice – increasing access and opportunities that lead our students to achieving their dreams."

Please join me in welcoming our new Interim Senior Director of High School Core Academics, Dr. James Crawford to the PPS community.

Dr. Kimberlee Armstrong,  
Chief Academic Officer, Office of Teaching and Learning