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Introducing new principal at Abernethy, Christie Petersen

June 2019

Dear Abernethy Community,

I am pleased to announce that Christie Petersen will become the new principal at Abernethy Elementary School. Christie is a veteran educator who will bring what she calls her “servant’s heart” and instructional leadership to Abernethy.

Christie will succeed Heather Hull, who served as Abernethy principal for six years. We thank Heather for her hard work and dedication to our students.

For the last two years, Christie has served as principal at Sunset Elementary, a Spanish Immersion school in the Hermiston School District. From 2000 to 2012, Christie worked in the Hillsboro School District, starting as an elementary school Title I teacher, followed by Title I Coordinator, Title X Liaison and as principal at Groner Elementary School. Her work on behalf of homeless students and literacy instruction with high poverty schools earned her two commendations from the Oregon Department of Education, and she also earned an Excellence in Education Crystal Apple Award from the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce.

Christie also has served in roles with the Oregon Department of Education and Education Northwest Network. She worked 10 years as a teacher in Virginia, specializing in Special Education Inclusion and kindergarten, after starting her career as a third-grade teacher in a bilingual class in California, then becoming an English as a Second Language teacher.

Throughout her career, Christie has also taught college courses, holding positions at Corban University, University of Portland and George Fox University in Oregon, and Regent University in Virginia. Her vast education career even includes time as a school bus driver.

Christie holds a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies from Point Loma Nazarene College, a Master’s in Early and Middle School Regular and Special Education from Regent University, and a Doctor of Education from George Fox. She enjoys spending time with her husband and three young adult children, listening to Switchfoot (an alt-rock band), going to the beach and volunteering for her son’s theater arts group for children.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Petersen to Abernethy.

Keeley Simpson
Area Assistant Superintendent



Christie Petersen

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