



Español (503) 916-3582 | Tiếng Việt (503) 916-3584 | 中文 (503) 916-3585 | Русский (503) 916-3583 | Soomaaliga (503) 916-3586

Announcing James John's new principal, Dr. John Melvin Jr.

July 2018

Dear James John Community,

I am pleased to announce that Dr. John Melvin Jr. will be the new principal at James John Elementary School. John is a multi-lingual leader with an extensive background of leading elementary schools.

John comes to us from California's Bay Area, where he has served as an elementary school leader for the past 10 years. In this past year, John served as Youth Intervention Specialist at Cherryland Elementary School directing the school's assessment, intervention and community schools program. Before that, he served as Principal at two elementary schools in Hayward and Oakland, California. From 2008 to 2013, he led Oakland's Lincoln Elementary School, which served a disadvantaged and immigrant population. Under his guidance, Lincoln earned a National Blue Ribbon Award and four Title I Academic Achievement Awards.



Dr. John Melvin Jr.

From 2013 to 2017, John was the Principal of Fairview Elementary School in Hayward, serving a student body with a minority, low-economic status population. He guided staff to integrate culturally and linguistically responsive practices into classroom teaching, and co-created the school mission and vision with teachers to align the staff under one ideology.

Before moving into administration as an assistant principal in Oakland, John was an English and History teacher at Oakland's Bret Harte Middle School. Under his guidance, students raised their English Language Arts achievement 10 to 15 percent annually.

Before committing to a career in education, John spend five years in India, first as a consultant for CARE International, then as a program director for the University of Wisconsin. John speaks fluent Hindi as well as conversational French and Spanish.

John earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, and a Masters of Education from Mills College in Oakland. In 2017, he completed a Doctorate of Education from the University of California, Berkeley.

Please join me in welcoming John to James John Elementary School.

Guadalupe Guerrero
Superintendent

Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. It is the policy of the Portland Public Schools Board of Education that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups on the grounds of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation in any educational programs, activities or employment.