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## Announcing Sellwood Middle School's new principal Karl Newsome

June 2017

Dear Sellwood Middle School community,

It is my great pleasure to announce Karl Newsome as the new principal for Sellwood Middle School. Karl was most recently principal at Astor and served as assistant principal at Sellwood from 2006 to 2010.

Karl received his Master's of Science degree in educational policy, foundations and administrative studies from Portland State University in 2006. He has taken courses at a number of universities, including Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in history in 1982.

Karl began his teaching career in Jacksonville, Florida, specializing in social studies and biology. After moving to Portland, he taught at Harriet Tubman Middle School and Jackson Middle School before entering the administrative ranks as Sellwood assistant principal. He moved to Astor K-8 in 2010 as assistant principal, then was named principal of the school and served from 2011 to the current year.

Karl is excited about returning to Sellwood in a leadership role, and says he remains as passionate about teaching and learning as he did his first day in education 31 years ago. He hopes to resume connections he made as assistant principal and looks forward to making new ones in the community. "I still remember the New Seasons BBQs where we were able to showcase our jazz and marimba bands," he says.

His goal for Sellwood is to continue to support its strong academic achievement as well as the enrichment that electives offer – evidenced by the school's programs in Spanish, art, journalism, P.E. and more.

Both of Karl's sons were educated in PPS, and his wife is a product of PPS schools and currently is principal of Rosa Parks Elementary. He enjoys model railroading, music, reading, baking, sports, traveling and quiet reflection.

Please join me in congratulating Karl on his new assignment as principal of Sellwood Middle School.

Bob McKean  
Interim Superintendent



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