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Announcing new principal at Rosa Parks, Kevin Walker

June 2019

Dear Rosa Parks Community,

I am pleased to announce that Kevin Walker will return to Rosa Parks Elementary School, this time as Principal. Kevin, as I'm sure many of you know, was Assistant Principal at Rosa Parks from 2016 to 2018.

Kevin will succeed Tamala Newsome, who is retiring after serving as Rosa Parks Principal since the school opened in 2006. Tamala is an institution in the neighborhood and in PPS, and we wish her all the best in retirement.

We believe Kevin's familiarity with Rosa Parks, along with his leadership style, will help make for a smooth transition. Kevin has a track record of creating relationships with students, seeking out the perspectives of others and building bridges with community members. In his year away from Rosa Parks, he served as Principal at Capitol Hill Elementary School, where he shifted the school from a materials-based instructional approach to standards-based and led the adoption of new curriculum.

During his time at Rosa Parks, Kevin's focus on instruction, particularly around closing opportunity gaps through standards-based, data-driven instruction, helped accelerate student growth. He was site leader for Rosa Parks' AVID initiative and developed processes and handbooks for Multi-Tiered Systems of Support.

Kevin started his teaching career at elementary schools in Lakeland, Florida before moving to Oregon in 2012. After teaching in Woodburn for two years, Kevin began teaching in PPS at Faubion School in 2014, where he guided students to high levels of achievement in reading and math.

Kevin holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from the University of South Florida and a Master of Science in Education Leadership and Policy from Portland State University. He is currently completing a Doctorate of Education in Leadership and Policy at Portland State.

Please join me in welcoming Principal Walker back to Rosa Parks.

Scott Whitbeck
Area Assistant Superintendent



Kevin Walker

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