



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

## Announcing Interim Principal at Lent, Nichole Berg

**January 2021**

Dear Lent Community,

I am pleased to announce that Nichole Berg, an experienced bilingual educator and administrator, will serve as interim principal at Lent K-8 School for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year.

Nichole succeeds Richard Smith, who has been Lent principal since 2018. We thank Richard for his service to Lent and wish him the best in his new role of principal at Kellogg Middle School, which is set to re-open in the fall.

Nichole returns to a campus setting after serving in a groundbreaking role in PPS, as the Climate Change and Climate Justice Programs Manager. In this role, which is believed to be the first of its kind in the country, Nichole facilitated teams of educators, students, and community partners to support the creation of a K-12 climate literacy curriculum embedded into core Science and Social Sciences instructional units at each grade level. This work included the creation of a new transdisciplinary Climate Justice high school elective course. She also supported PPS high school students in developing and launching the district's first formal iteration of a PPS Youth Climate Justice Advisory, and served as a spokesperson for the district's commitment to climate justice.



*Nichole Berg*

Before joining PPS in 2019, Nichole served as an educator for 16 years in her hometown of Madison, Wisconsin, most recently as assistant principal at Velma Hamilton Middle School. A third-generation Mexican-American, Nichole is fluent in Spanish, which she applied to her previous roles as a district-wide bilingual mentor for beginning educators, middle school bilingual resource teacher and elementary school bilingual resource specialist/paraprofessional.

She also has served as an adjunct instructor at Edgewood College, where she taught bilingual educators-to-be, and as a family services worker who helped migrant farmworkers and their families connect with education services and community resources.

Nichole earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Literature and Culture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Master of Arts in Bilingual Education from Edgewood College, and she holds multiple professional licenses.

In the spring semester, we will engage in the process for hiring a principal for Lent for the 2021-2022 school year. This process will begin with staff and community engagement on the characteristics, skills and attributes that you desire in your next principal. I will send an update on the hiring process in the next few months.

Interim Principal Berg will begin at Lent on Tuesday, January 19 and will be reaching out to you soon. Please join me in welcoming Principal Berg to Lent.

Kristie Lindholm  
Area Senior Director

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.