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## Announcing Permanent Principal at Lent, Nichole Berg

**April 2021**

Dear Lent Community,

I am pleased to announce that Nichole Berg, who has been serving as your interim principal, has been named the permanent principal at Lent School.

As you know, Nichole took on the interim role in January after Richard Smith, who had been Lent principal since 2018, was named the principal at Kellogg Middle School, which will reopen in the fall. We conducted a formal process to hire a permanent principal and concluded that Nichole is the best candidate.

Nichole is a bilingual educator who is dedicated to connecting to students and the community, and her time as interim principal will be invaluable as Lent makes the transition from a K-8 school to a K-5 elementary school in the fall.



*Nichole Berg*

In 2019, Nichole came to PPS in a groundbreaking role as the Climate Change and Climate Justice Programs Manager. In this position, which was 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 and the launching of the PPS Youth Climate Justice Advisory.

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 districtwide 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.

Please join me in congratulating Principal Berg.

Shawn Bird, Ed.D.  
Chief of Schools

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