



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

Announcing Lent's new principal, Richard Smith

August 2018

Dear Lent Community,

I am pleased to announce that Richard L. Smith will serve as principal of Lent K-8 School. Richard is an experienced educational leader with an established track record of raising student achievement, improving discipline and increasing parent involvement.

Richard comes to Lent from Texas' Houston Independent School District, where he worked the last five years. In 2017-18, he was principal at Edison Middle School, a traditionally underserved school that was part of the district's award-winning Achieve 180 turnaround program. He led efforts that improved Edison's morale, attendance, discipline and district bench mark scores and received the Achieve 180 Secondary Principal of the Year Award.

At Houston's Deady Middle School, he served as assistant principal for 1½ years before moving up to principal. As principal, he raised reading scores by 8 percent and math scores by 15 percent in his first year, and lowered discipline incidents overall. During his first year as principal he took the school from a state designation of "improvement required" to "met standard," with multiple distinctions.

Richard started his career as a math and Spanish teacher at Alternative Learning Center West in the Cypress-Fairbanks ISD in Texas, then worked as a math teacher in that district's Cypress Ranch High School.

Richard earned a Bachelor of Science in Math Education, with a minor in Spanish Education, from Brigham Young University-Idaho, and got a Master of Education from the University of Houston.

You will have the opportunity to meet Richard starting at noon on Saturday, Aug. 18, during the Lent PTA BBQ at the end of Project Community Care Day.

Please join me in welcoming Principal Smith to Lent.

Dr. Kregg Cuellar, Chief of Schools



Richard Smith

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.