



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

Announcing Laurelhurst's New Principal Vanessa Martinez

June 2017

Dear Laurelhurst Community,

I am pleased to announce that Vanessa Martinez, currently the principal of Beach K-5, will be the new Principal of Laurelhurst K-8. She replaces Sabrina Flamoe, who is going to be the principal at Vestal next year.

Vanessa brings a wealth of experience to Laurelhurst. At Beach from 2015-17, she prioritized school climate to create an inclusive learning environment and applied an equity lens to every decision, program and practice to ensure equitable access and success for all students. She has been intentional about creating a culture for learning by implementing Restorative Justice, PBIS, and Mindfulness practices so students can develop the necessary pro-social skills to build positive, affirming, and connected communities in their classrooms. She also led the transition for students, staff, and families from a K-8 to K-5 school.

Prior to leading Beach, Vanessa was assistant principal at Hosford Middle School from 2013-2015, and previously at Lane Middle School from 2011-2013. At Hosford, Vanessa developed teacher leadership to prioritize culturally responsive teaching practices, engagement strategies and proficiency assessment. At Lane, she facilitated two-way communication with families by organizing family nights and leading on-site cultural outreach to empower families as decision-makers in the school.

Before joining PPS in 2011, Vanessa taught language arts at Century High School in Hillsboro, and at Eureka High School in Northern California. Vanessa is a native Spanish speaker, and also fluent in French. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Humboldt State University, a Masters in Educational Leadership and Policy, and an Initial Administrative License from Portland State University.

Vanessa says she intends to bring a leadership style to Laurelhurst that is both reflective and responsive to the needs of the community. She finds that building strong relationships that empower students, staff and families will help students achieve rigorous academic standards and result in improved achievement. She looks forward to spending time getting to know the Laurelhurst community and building on the strengths of the school.

Vanessa sees herself as a lifelong learner who enjoys nurturing curiosity and a sense of belonging. She enjoys traveling, trying new recipes and flavors, road biking, and spending time with family in the outdoors whenever possible.

Please join me in welcoming Vanessa Martinez to her to her new role as Principal of Laurelhurst.

Bob McKean
Interim Superintendent



Announcing Laurelhurst's New
Principal Vanessa Martinez

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.