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## **Announcing the new Director of Professional Learning and Leadership Programs, Dawn Gillis**

**October 2022**

Dear PPS Community,

I am delighted to announce Dawn Gillis as the new Director of Professional Learning and Leadership Programs in Portland Public Schools. Dawn relocated to Portland from Alabama where she served in various roles for 26 years. While in Alabama, Ms. Gillis promoted the critical role of data-driven instructional leadership in radically improving educational outcomes for all children. Ms. Gillis inspired educational leadership reform by partnering with the South Alabama Regional Inservice Center and the University of South Alabama College of Education and Professional Studies to offer an ongoing professional study to build the South Alabama Instructional Leadership System (SAILS). This collaborative effort was designed to cultivate instructional leadership capacity across South Alabama through leadership development opportunities for aspiring leaders, assistant principals, principals, directors, and superintendents.



*Dawn Gillis*

Ms. Gillis has served in various leadership roles on the state, district, and school levels in Alabama. She served in roles such as Academic Officer at the state level, Achievement Specialist in a large urban district, elementary, middle, and high school Principal, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, District Test Coordinator, and Principal Mentor..

Ms. Gillis holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Alabama State University, a Master of Education Degree from the University of Mobile, Instructional Leader certification from the University of South Alabama, and an Education Specialist Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of West Florida. Ms. Gillis is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Education in Administration and Leadership at the University of West Florida.

Please join me in welcoming the Director of Professional Learning and Leadership Programs, Dawn Gillis, to the PPS Community.

Dr. Jon Franco, Chief of Schools

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