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Announcing New Principal at West Sylvan, Dr. Jill Hunt

May 2021

Dear West Sylvan Community,

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Jill Hunt, an experienced and accomplished educational leader, will be the new principal at West Sylvan Middle School in the 2021-22 school year.

She will succeed Cherie Kinnersley, who has been West Sylvan's principal since 2016. We thank Cherie for her hard work and dedication and wish her the best in the next chapter of her career.

Dr. Hunt, a native Oregonian, comes to West Sylvan from her career in southern California, where she has been serving as an assistant principal at Beverly Hills High School since 2019. Before that, she spent 18 years in the nearby Centinela Valley Union High School District, starting as an English Language Arts teacher before moving into administration as dean of schools, assistant principal, principal and central office coordinator of special education.

Working in urban school systems with diverse student and community populations, Dr. Hunt managed campus needs for special education and the 504 Plan (which gives students with disabilities the support they need) and was a leader in attendance and discipline interventions, AVID, IB and PBIS (positive behavioral interventions and supports). She also has extensive training in Restorative Justice practices, the topic of her dissertation work at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

Dr. Hunt earned a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from the University of Redlands, while minoring in Spanish; a Master of Education in Leadership and Administration from California State University Northridge; and a Master of Education in Secondary Education and a Doctor of Education in the Educational Leadership Program from UCLA.

Please join me in welcoming Principal Hunt to West Sylvan.

Shawn Bird, Ed.D.
Chief of Schools



Dr. Jill Hunt

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