



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Announcing the New Senior Director of Middle Grades Core Academics, Joanna Tobin

September 2022

Dear PPS Community,

I am pleased to announce that Joanna Tobin will serve as the district's Senior Director of Middle Grades Core Academics. Working in the Office of Teaching and Learning, Joanna will lead our Middle Grades core academic programming, including implementation of our new curricular materials and professional learning for all Middle Grades. Joanna will also oversee our Middle School Redesign work and K-12 Library Services.

Joanna's career began as a high school German Teacher, Counselor, Track and Field Coach and then Administrator. She found her joy for the middle years as a comprehensive Middle School Principal in St. Helens, where she also served as an Acting English as a Second Language Director. Following her work in St. Helens, Joanna was the K-8th grade Principal, Director of Curriculum and Interim Superintendent in the Riverdale School District. She comes to PPS most recently from Canby School District where she was a K-8th grade Principal. Joanna brings with her thirteen years of service to the middle years as an administrator at K-8th and 6-8th grades.



Joanna Tobin

"I credit the outstanding teachers at Sauvie Island Elementary and Meridian Junior High, in Kent, Washington, for making the middle years so memorable and for teaching me to be a dedicated learner." She finds joy in supporting educators from her heart in doing great work for the students we serve. Throughout her career she has led many curriculum adoptions and their implementation, social emotional learning and restorative justice practices, all with equity and access to opportunities at the forefront of her work.

Joanna completed her undergraduate degree at Linfield College where she also competed in track and field and swimming. Her Master of Education in School Counseling was completed at Lewis and Clark College as well as her Initial and Continuing Administrative Licensure programs. She paused on her doctoral work at Concordia University Portland to welcome her second child five years ago.

Please join me in congratulating our new Senior Director of Middle Grades Core Academics, Joanna Tobin.

Dr. Kimberlee Armstrong
Chief Academic Officer, Office of Teaching & Learning

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