

MEDIA CONTACT: CCPS Communications and Community Engagement
239.377.0180 | communications@collierschools.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 16, 2017

When school begins August 16, 2017, there will be 13 schools that will have new principals for the 2017-2018 school year.

Eight of these principals will be new principals, all from within Collier County Public Schools. Five will be principals that were reassigned.

The changes are a result of a variety of reasons:

- Retirements
- Relocation
- Promotions
- Matching a set of particular principal skill set to a specific school's needs
- Broaden administrative experiences
 - An administrator seeking a different level (elementary to middle, middle to high school)
 - An administrator seeking a different type of school (Title I to non-Title I, high socio-economic to low socio-economic status or a higher or lower percent of English Language Learners (ELL) students)

We utilize a set of strategies to assist with principal changes. **For example:**

- We spent over a month analyzing school/community needs and data, holding meetings with potential candidates, and reviewing potential candidates experiences, with various cabinet members.
- The outgoing principal shares key information in regards to the school and then reviews the information with the new incoming principal. This assures a smooth transition. The actual transition meeting occurs with the Deputy Superintendent so that he can provide any other needed support for the new principal.
- The Superintendent met with each school's faculty to share the principal change and introduce the new principal.
- Once new principals or reassigned principals start in their new school, the Superintendent personally visits the school during the first few days of the new school year.
- Throughout the year, there will be new principal meetings to support our new principals in their new role.

School	Principal
Corkscrew Elementary	Rebecca Merhar
Golden Gate Elementary	Kelly Bergey
Village Oaks Elementary	Renee Hanson
Corkscrew Middle School	Ronna Smith
East Naples Middle	Kevin Huelsman
Gulfview Middle School	Kristina Lee
Immokalee Middle School	Ryan Nemeth
Immokalee High School	Clara Calderon
Lely High School	Ellen Keegan
Naples High School	Darren Burkett
Sabal Palm Elementary	Angie Torres
Naples Park Elementary	Meredith Kirby
Tommie Barfield Elementary	Kathryn Maya

2016-2017 Mid-Year Moves	
Shadowlawn Elementary School	Oliver Phipps
Manatee Elementary School	Laurie Mearsheimer
Vineyards Elementary School	Georgetta Elgin

Deputy Superintendent David Stump is retiring June 30, 2017. You cannot replace his 41 years of experience in the district. This provided a unique opportunity to restructure our district leadership team for added emphasis on new principal supports and ongoing professional development. Chuck Frontz and Kevin Saba have been promoted to Administrative Directors. Mr. Frontz will work directly with the elementary principals and Mr. Saba with the secondary principals. Chuck and Kevin have a combined 55 years of experience at their respective levels. These moves will help continue the success of Collier County Public Schools.

Kamela Patton, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Collier County Public Schools

###