

PRESS RELEASE



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FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. KATHERINE BLORE TO THE POSITION OF PRINCIPAL OF WEST WOODS UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EFFECTIVE AUGUST 19, 2019

Superintendent Kathleen C. Greider and the Farmington Board of Education are proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Katherine Blore to the position of Principal of West Woods Upper Elementary School (WWUES).

After a comprehensive search, Dr. Blore was selected from a strong pool of over 70 candidates. Dr. Blore's background as a former teacher of mathematics and a grade 5 through 12 Mathematics Department Coordinator will serve her well as the lead learner at WWUES. In her current role as Associate Principal of Lewis Mills High School in Region 10, she will also bring strong instructional leadership skills as well as a focus on building meaningful relationships with all members of the school community.

Dr. Blore's focus on empowering student voice was clear throughout the interview process. Farmington prioritizes student-centered learning through an active learning environment with student voice, choice, and leadership as key features of our instructional design. The alignment of our improvement design to Dr. Blore's beliefs and philosophy make her an ideal candidate to lead WWUES today and into the future.

Dr. Blore exhibits joy in all aspects of her work with students, teachers and families. We enthusiastically welcome Dr. Blore to the Farmington community and more specifically, the WWUES school community. She will embrace and advance the collaborative and positive school culture at WWUES with her commitment to relationship building through ongoing communication and visibility.

Superintendent Greider states, "We want to thank the search committee members including faculty, administration, the Board of Education and parents for their commitment to seeking out the very best candidate to collaborative lead WWUES. Throughout the interview process, Dr. Blore exhibited a high level of leadership expertise in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, and communication. Dr. Blore's relationship building skills most impressed the committee as someone who will prioritize building partnerships with all members of the school community in an inclusive environment of trust and collaboration. We are thrilled to have Dr. Blore join our school district community as a visionary leader, collaborator and contributor."

Board of Education Chair Christopher Fagan commented, “Dr. Blore’s enthusiasm and joy for leading and learning make her an outstanding candidate to lead the WWUES’ community. Her knowledge of teaching and learning, especially in the area of mathematics is a strength that she will bring to her role as Principal. Her strong work ethic and commitment to all students reaching high levels of achievement will build upon WWUES’ legacy of educating students at the 5-6 level with a focus on academic excellence, joy of learning and student belonging.”

Upon her appointment Dr. Blore commented, “It is an honor to join the Farmington Public Schools as the Principal of West Woods Upper Elementary School. I am eager to lead a collaborative community that instills high academic expectations and joy in learning. As the new Principal of West Woods, I am deeply committed to advancing the school's collaborative and innovative culture where students, faculty, staff and families work in partnership and are excited about all aspects of learning and growing together. I look forward to joining our new 5th and returning 6th grade students, along with the faculty, staff and families of West Woods to launch a new and exciting school year filled with joy, curiosity, friendship and endless possibilities for learning, innovation and growth.”

Finally, the Farmington Board of Education and Superintendent express deep appreciation to Interim Principal Mike Galluzzo and Assistant Principal Nicole Vibert for their collaborative work over the summer to fully prepare the school to welcome back our students, families, faculty and staff to the new school year.

We join together as a school district community to enthusiastically welcome Dr. Katie Blore to WWUES and to the Farmington school district.

Brief Bio:

Dr. Blore received her Bachelor of the Arts degree in History at the University of Connecticut and her Master of Science degree in Mathematics Education from the University of Bridgeport prior to beginning her teaching career at Har-Bur Middle School in Burlington. She was later chosen as the Grades 5-12 Mathematics Department Coordinator and as the Associate Principal at Lewis S. Mills High School. During this time, she completed her Doctorate in Educational Leadership (Ed.D) at Central Connecticut State University. Her dissertation focused primarily on school climate programs and policies in Connecticut.

Dr. Blore was nominated as Teacher of the Year twice in Region #10 and was the recipient of several grants during her time there. She has been honored to serve as the NEASC Accreditation Chair for both Lewis Mills High School and a visiting NEASC Chair for several school districts in Connecticut. Much of her work in Region #10 was focused on building student leadership capacity and creating a culture of inclusivity with a focus on high academic expectations. She recently facilitated the Spring Berkshire League School Climate Summit, an event for students with various workshops on relevant school climate topics.