



MEMO

To: Board of Education
From: Andrew S. Wise, Superintendent of Schools
Date: May 8, 2023
Re: Recommendation on Principal for Elizabeth Ide Elementary School

I am thrilled to recommend Kathryn "Katie" Johnson to be the Principal at Elizabeth Ide Elementary School beginning July 1, 2023.

Mrs. Johnson has successfully served as a Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade Teacher. She also served as an Assistant Principal before becoming a Building Principal. Mrs. Johnson spent her last 4 years in education as Principal of Cottonwood Elementary School, a K-5 school in the Cherry Creek School District outside of Denver, Colorado, before relocating to the Midwest with her family due to her husband's job.

With 20 years in Education, seven of which are in Administration, Mrs. Johnson brings a wealth of understanding about primary age students; working with families of young students; and outstanding references from the employees in which she has worked for and with.

Mrs. Johnson has several strengths, of which developing and maintaining relationships could be her strongest. She made instant connections with everyone she came into contact with at District 66 and I have no doubt she will do the same with students, parents, and our faculty and staff.

Mrs. Johnson believes in and has demonstrated visibility, approachability, and positivity in each Administrative position she has held. All evidence reflects demonstrated leadership, management, and organizational skills. She believes in educating the whole child and understands students' "human" needs have to be met in order for students to demonstrate their "academic" learning.

A huge thank you to Stephaine Sorn, Jamie Staiton, Mary Wisdom, Gina Hendron, Missy Holtrup, Megan DuPass, Jessie Gismondi, Sheri Sulima, Brittany Fletcher, Emily Crema, Sean Rhoads, Kim Liles, Tania Forsman and Sean Kennedy for participating in the first interview, and Ali Beseth, Mark Orszula, Jake Little, Tom Tiede, and Keith Roberts for participating in the second interview. With me included, we had close to 20 adults involved in the process.

Mrs. Johnson will be at the Board of Education meeting Wednesday night. Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Katie Johnson to the Center Cass family.