

**May 23, 2024**

For Immediate Release:

**SD27- Cariboo-Chilcotin announces the following administrative appointments effective August 1, 2024**

**Principal**, Chilcotin Road Elementary School: **Mr. Doug Brown** will be assuming the leadership of Chilcotin Road following his year as Vice-Principal at Nesika Elementary. Mr. Brown has also been a Vice-Principal of Lake City and PSO in SD27. During his time as a Vice-Principal, Mr. Brown has developed a keen interest in supporting inclusion, as well as working towards establishing better health and safety practices within his schools. Mr. Brown is thrilled to be following Mr. Gaylord, who we wish well in his coming retirement.

**Principal**, Likely Elementary and Big Lake Elementary: **Ms. Sari Small** will be assuming the leadership of Likely as well as her current role as Principal of Big Lake. Ms. Small has significant leadership experience across a variety of school settings in SD27. Most recently, during her role at Big Lake, Ms. Small has added district leadership roles through her facilitation of learning rounds, as well as her leadership and initiative with regards to the development of a district numeracy assessment. Ms. Small's familiarity with rural school's will be invaluable in her providing stability for Likely, following Ms. Kurki, who we wish well in her upcoming retirement.

**Vice-Principal**, Nesika: **Mrs. Heather McKinnon** will be joining Mrs. Zurak's team at Nesika Elementary. Mrs. McKinnon has been a teacher in SD27 at both Horse Lake and, most recently, Cataline Elementary. During her time as a teacher in SD27, Mrs. McKinnon has been a key participant in the learning series, leading and collaborating with colleagues in areas of instruction and assessment. Mrs. McKinnon has also been part of the SD27 Leadership Series, engaging with Dylan Wiliam and Jo Chrona, amongst others. Her varied career of 20 years also includes a strong commitment to the First People's Principles of Learning through her connections in First Nations communities.

**Vice-Principal**, Marie Sharpe: **Ms. Dancing Water Sandy** will be joining Ms. Kelly Glen and the team at Marie Sharpe. Dancing Water spent last year as Principal of Dog Creek Elementary and previously dedicated the last five years to the role of Language and Curriculum Development Teacher for SD27. Dancing Water has also been a participant in the SD27 Leadership Series and brings invaluable lived experience as a member of the T'exelmc community of the Secwepemc First Nations. Her strong stated commitment to teaching and leading through Indigenous ways of knowing and doing will be an incredible asset to Marie Sharpe.

**"Learning, Growing, and Belonging Together"**

**Vice-Principal, Columneetza: Ms. Alina Cameron** will be joining Ms. Hattie Darney and Mr. Matt Cullum at Columneetza Jr. Secondary. Ms. Cameron has been the inclusive education lead at Columneetza, where she has been on staff since 2019. During this time, she has played an integral role in the modernization and understanding of inclusion across the school. She has also been a part of the SD27 Leadership Series, engaging with district staff, colleagues, and other education experts as we work to move practice forward in SD27. Prior to being in SD27, Ms. Cameron was part of SD34 for 8 years, where she was also a part of their leadership academy.

**Vice-Principal, Lake City Secondary: Ms. Nara Riplinger** will be joining Mr. Levens and Ms. Davis at Lake City Secondary. Ms. Riplinger has been a lead teacher at Columneetza and brings over 24 years of experience to this role. During her time at Columneetza, she has led numerous collaborative efforts and has been a lead participant in the SD27 Leadership Series. Nara has also served as the CCTA Pro-D Chair, working closely with SD27 to bring in the best possible learning opportunities for educators. Ms. Riplinger is also an active member of the Williams Lake Community through various sports and connections with local First Nations.

**Vice-Principal, Peter Skene Ogden (PSO): SD 27** is pleased to welcome **Mr. Robert MacDonald** to the leadership team. Mr. Macdonald is a Red Seal Journeyman Electrician whose teaching experience includes ADST (robotics, electronics, discover trades) and math. He completed his Master of Education in Learning and Technology through Western University. Mr. MacDonald is coming to the Cariboo following 5 years of secondary teaching in Surrey School District. He is looking forward to opportunities to engage with the community and the environment.

Please join me in congratulating these members of the SD27 Team on their new roles!

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**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**