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Newport-Mesa Unified School District Announces Appointments of New Principals for California, Killybrooke, Newport Heights, and Pomona Elementary Schools; and, the Director of Elementary Education

In March/April, 2011, three N-MUSD principals and one director formally announced their plans to leave/retire from N-MUSD at the end of the current school year: Kelli Smith, California Elementary School, Kathy Sanchez, Killybrooke Elementary School, Stacy Holmes, Pomona Elementary School, and Bonnie Swann, Executive Director of Elementary Education.

In April 2011, the District began the process to recruit principal candidates. The process included community forums held at each school to gather input from parents and staff on the attributes they would like to see in their next principal. Following the forums, the District held interviews conducted by panels comprised of district, employee and parent representatives from each of the open schools. The District concluded the final interviews the week of June 1.

The District is pleased to announce the following appointments officially approved by the Board of Education on Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

Matthew Broesamle - Principal, California Elementary

Mr. Matthew Broesamle has been a teacher in N-MUSD for 8 years. He currently serves as a 6th grade lead teacher at Adams Elementary. Matt previously taught 5th grade at Adams and has taken on many leadership roles at Adams including upper grade lead teacher, grade level chair for 6th grade, site tech coordinator and staff development coordinator. One of his favorite jobs has been creator and advisor of the student club A.R.K. – Acts of Random Kindness. Matt is currently a member of the District's Leadership Institute. He received his teaching credential and Master in Education from Concordia University. Matt has been a resident of Costa Mesa for 27 years and is a graduate of Costa Mesa High School.

Megan Elsten Brown - Principal, Pomona Elementary

Ms. Megan Elsten Brown has been with N-MUSD since 2005, most recently as the Even Start TOSA/Coordinator. At N-MUSD, she has also served as an intervention teacher, adult education ESL teacher, and elementary Spanish teacher. Megan is a proud alum of N-MUSD, having attended Newport-Mesa schools from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Megan is a member of the N-MUSD Leadership Institute. She received her Bachelor of Arts from University of California, Los Angeles and both her Professional Clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential with CLAD and Master in Multicultural Education from National University. It is a great benefit that Megan already knows many Pomona parents and community members.

Lorie Hoggard, Ed.D. – Principal, Killybrooke Elementary

Dr. Lorie Hoggard began her career at N-MUSD in 1999 as Principal of Sonora Elementary. In 2002, she was named Director of Early Childhood Education. Dr. Hoggard received both her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts from California State University, Long Beach. She received her Doctor of Education from the University of Southern California. Lorie volunteered to get our preschool program started in 2002; Nine years later the program is now one of the best in the state. We owe many of our K-12 successes to the preparation our students have received through our preschool program. Unfortunately, our preschool program funding has been reduced by the state this coming year. Lorie's true love is being an elementary principal and we are thrilled for her to become the Principal of Killybrooke Elementary School. Lorie's knowledge of the District and her tremendous skills will be an asset to the school community.

Kurt Suhr, Ed.D. - Director, Elementary Education

Dr. Kurt Suhr has served in N-MUSD for the past 14 years. He has held the position of teacher, TOSA, assistant principal and principal. He is currently completing his 7th year as Principal of Newport Heights Elementary. Dr. Suhr has also been a trainer for the district-wide Assessment Program, a resource principal to new principals and a member of the N-MUSD Negotiations Team. Dr. Suhr received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Irvine. He received his teaching credential from California State University, Long Beach and his Administrative Credential from University of California, Irvine. He earned his Master of Arts from Pepperdine University and his Doctor of Education from University of California, Irvine. Amazingly, Kurt is another K-12 Newport-Mesa student success story. We will welcome Kurt's vast knowledge, experience and bilingual skills to the District office team.

Kathleen Jaquin - Principal, Newport Heights Elementary

Ms. Kathleen Jaquin has 15 years of experience as an educator and has served as an elementary principal for the past five years in the Ocean View School District. Prior to her role as elementary principal, Ms. Jaquin served as a middle school principal and assistant principal, resource teacher, and elementary teacher. Ms. Jaquin received her Bachelor of Science from Niagara University in New York and her Master of Science from State University of New York at Plattsburgh. She completed her Professional Administrative Services Credential at the University of La Verne. We welcome her wealth of experience to the District and to Newport Heights Elementary School.

The new administrators will assume their leadership roles effective July 1, 2011.

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