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Subject: HSD Board of Education approves hiring of three elementary principals for 2010-2011

Search 

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Students and Parents](#) [Schools and Programs](#) [Instruction](#) [Departments](#) [HSD E-mail / Phone List](#) [HSD Intranet](#) [HSD-TV](#) [Alumni](#)

HSD Portal > News > **HSD Board of Education approves hiring of three elementary principals for 2010-2011**

HSD Board of Education approves hiring of three elementary principals for 2010-2011

About Us

[About The District](#)
[Administration](#)
[Bids & Proposals](#)
[Board of Education](#)
[DESE School Data](#)
[District Calendar](#)
[District E-Mail / Phone List](#)
[Hazelwood NEA](#)
[HSD Accountability](#)
[HSD Map](#)
[Non-Discrimination](#)
[Statement](#)
[Research Procedures](#)
[Senior Citizens' Benefits](#)
[Transportation](#)

Students and Parents

[ACE](#)
[Community Response Teams](#)
[Community Service](#)
[Curriculum Resources](#)
[Discipline and Dress Code](#)
[Enrollment](#)
[Health Services](#)
[Kindergarten](#)
[Parent Portal](#)
[Program of Studies](#)
[PTA/PTSA](#)
[Safe Schools/Healthy](#)
[Students Initiative](#)
[School Nutrition/Lunch](#)
[Menus](#)
[School Safety](#)
[Special Education](#)
[Student Wellness](#)
[Summer School](#)
[Transcripts](#)
[Volunteers](#)

Schools and Programs

[Elementary Schools](#)
[Early Childhood Education](#)
[Special Programs](#)
[Middle Schools](#)
[GALACTIC](#)
[High Schools](#)
[HSD Learning Center](#)

Instruction

[Curriculum](#)
[High School Instructional](#)
[Crisis Plan](#)
[High Schools That Work](#)

Departments

[Human Resources](#)



Jen Vito



Rhonda Ely



Matthew Phillips

The Hazelwood School District Board of Education approved the hiring of three elementary school principals for 2010-2011.

Dr. Jen Vito is the new principal of McNair Elementary School. She is currently the sixth grade principal at Hazelwood Northwest Middle School. Vito joined HSD in 1999 and taught kindergarten at Lawson, McCurdy and Grannemann elementary schools. She was a summer school site supervisor, and served as the instructional specialist at Lawson. Vito earned her educational doctorate from Maryville University. She has a master's degree from Lindenwood University in educational administration and a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Brenda Rone, principal of McNair, is retiring.

Dr. Rhonda Ely is the new principal of Larimore Elementary School. She is currently the eighth grade principal at Hazelwood Central Middle School. Ely began teaching in the District in 1999 at Keeven Elementary School, teaching third, fourth and sixth grades before becoming the instructional specialist at Arrowpoint Elementary School. She has an educational doctorate from Maryville University, a master's degree in educational administration from Lindenwood University and a bachelor's degree in elementary education from University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Dr. Jean McClendon, principal of Larimore, is retiring.

Matthew Phillips is the new principal of Brown Elementary School. Phillips is an area coordinator for Special School District of St. Louis County. His classroom experience includes teaching first grade, gifted and talented students and special education. Phillips is pursuing a doctorate at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He has a master's degree in education administration and a bachelor's degree in special education, also from UMSL. William Heckel, principal of Brown, is retiring.

Vito, Ely and Phillips will begin their new positions on July 1, 2010.

District Communications

Finance and Facilities

Technology

HSD Intranet

Budget Factors

Bulletin Board

Documentation & Forms

Surveys

Library Resources

HSD-TV

Alumni

Hazelwood 1st

January 11, 2010 Meeting

February 1, 2010 Meeting

February 22, 2010 Meeting

March 8, 2010 Meeting