

For Immediate Release

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Ritenour Names New Principals at Elementary Schools

May 13, 2009 – The Ritenour School District is pleased to announce the appointment of three elementary school principals – **Sandy Wiley** at Iveland Elementary, **Mary Beth Fortney** at Marvin Elementary and **Kathy Pfeifer** at Wyland Elementary. All appointments are effective July 1, 2009.

“Our new elementary principals were chosen from a very large and deep pool of outstanding candidates,” said Ritenour Superintendent Dr. Cheryl Compton. “All are strong educational leaders who are committed to high quality instruction for all students. Each values the support of parents as important partners in student learning. Our entire district will continue to benefit from their outstanding leadership skills.”

Wiley joins Ritenour from the St. Louis Public School District, where she has served as principal at Pierre Laclède Elementary School since 2006. She began her career as a classroom teacher at Mallinckrodt ABI Elementary School (2000-2003 & 2004-2005). For one year (2003-2004) she taught fourth grade at Reed Elementary in the Ladue School District. From 2005-2006, Wiley served as assistant principal at Ames VPA Elementary School. Wiley earned her undergraduate degree in elementary education from Harris-Stowe State University and her master’s in educational leadership from Saint Louis University (SLU) in 2003. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree from SLU. Wiley replaces Charmaigne Scott, who is retiring after 25 years in the Ritenour School District. Her annual salary will be \$101,000.

For the past two years **Fortney** has been the assistant principal at Kratz Elementary School in the Ritenour School District. Fortney joined Ritenour having worked in the City of St. Charles School District as a teacher at Hardin Middle School from 1995-2007. Fortney was named the St. Charles School District Teacher of the Year in 2002-2003 and Outstanding Middle School Teacher in 2006-2007. Fortney received a master’s degree in education administration from Lindenwood University and a bachelor of science degree in special education from the University of Missouri - St. Louis. She is currently working towards her doctoral degree in Educational Leadership at Missouri Baptist University. Fortney is replacing Jackie Golby, who is retiring after more than 20 years in the Ritenour School District. Her annual salary will be \$101,000.

Pfeifer currently serves as assistant principal at Wyland Elementary. For more than a decade, Pfeifer has been an assistant principal in Ritenour schools, working at Buder Elementary and Wyland since 1998. She began her educational career as the director of early childhood education programs in the Maplewood-Richmond Heights School District from 1981-1988. She then moved to the Consolidated School District No. 4 in Grandview, Mo. as a first grade teacher from 1988-1994; served as an education specialist/mental health coordinator for the Independence (Mo.) School District from 1995-1997; and was a kindergarten teacher in the Ferguson-Florissant School District from 1997-1998. Pfeifer earned her bachelors degree in education from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, a master’s degree in educational administration from the University of Missouri – Kansas City and an educational specialists degree from Lindenwood University. She replaces Steve Vargo, who has taken a new position in the Pattonville School District after six years at Wyland. Her annual salary will be \$104,000.

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