

*St. Mary Parish School Board*

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For Immediate Release: Friday, June 14, 2019

St. Mary Superintendent Teresa Bagwell announced several administrative appointments today, in an effort to secure all leadership positions and required trainings in advance of the 2019-2020 school year. Annually anticipated retirements and resignations make it necessary to evaluate the assignment of administrators across the district and host interviews of qualified candidates. Changes to school leadership for the upcoming year include the appointment of Ms. Natasha Jackson to lead Franklin High School due to the retirement of longtime principal, Mr. Tybus Burdett. Ms. Jackson previously held the assistant principal role at Patterson High School that will be filled with the transfer of Mrs. Tara Fabre from Patterson Jr. High School. Additionally, the retirement of Alternative Program Supervisor, Mr. Harry Williams has led to the appointment of Mrs. Rachael Sanders, whose Science Program Manager position will be assumed by former Berwick Jr. High School teacher, Mrs. Rose Hale.

Following the appointment of Mr. Joseph Stadalís as Assistant Superintendent, the newly installed principal at Morgan City Jr. High School is Mrs. Carmen Lagarde. Prior to her appointment, Mrs. Lagarde served as principal of Bayou Vista Elementary. Mrs. Kiante Gunner will replace Mrs. Lagarde as principal at Bayou Vista Elementary. She previously served as a principal at Lagrange Elementary and as an Instructional Specialist in Title I. Also, a requested medical leave by Berwick Junior High School's principal, Mr. Tim Hymel led to the transfer of Berwick High School assistant principal Mrs. Kristen Percle to serve as acting principal of BJHS. The school will also have a change in the assistant principal role as former Patterson High School teacher and coach, Mr. Ryan Taylor will succeed Ms. Noelle Lowrimore in an acting status while Ms. Lowrimore will transfer to Berwick High School as acting assistant principal for 2019-2020.

Patterson Jr. High will add two new administrators as Ms. Lauren Rentrop will assume the duties of principal while former Morgan City Jr. High School teacher, Mr. Mike Giroir will serve as assistant principal. Formerly serving as an assistant principal at both Patterson Jr. High and Hattie Watts Elementary, Ms. Rentrop will return to the school in this leadership role. In her place, Mrs. Tonya Hills will transfer from assistant principal at Raintree Elementary to the same position at Hattie Watts Elementary.

Candidates receiving administrative appointments were informed of their promotions this week to facilitate a smooth transition and offer opportunities for attendance at state and district trainings according to their administrative assignment. The advanced notice will also provide time for administrators to participate in school-based collaborations and certify in the state's teacher evaluation system. Appointments will become official based on the district's administrative calendar for the position and may be adjusted due to unique circumstances of any given school.