

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

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New assistant principals, coordinators hired in Comal ISD

The Comal ISD Board of Trustees recently approved several new assistant principals and curriculum coordinators for the 2010-2011 school year.

Don Wild, who served as an assistant principal at Canyon Middle School from 2002-2008, was named as an assistant principal at Canyon High School.

Wild began his career in education in 1988 as a teacher, head baseball coach and defensive coordinator for Schulenburg High School in Schulenburg ISD. Wild continued to coach football and serve as an athletic director for schools in a few other districts before he took on his first principal position from 2000-2002 in Rice Consolidated ISD. Since 2008, Wild has served as the principal of Shiner High School in Shiner ISD.

Wild earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Houston in 1985 and his master's from Texas A&M University at Kingsville in 2002.

Fernando Palos, currently the district's bilingual and ESL coordinator, will take on the assistant principal position for both Garden Ridge and Oak Creek elementary schools at the start of the school year.

Palos has served in a variety of capacities for Comal ISD since 1987. He began his stint in the district as a reading and English teacher at Bulverde Middle School for a year before moving on to Smithson Valley Middle School to teach English for three years. He held his first administrative jobs in Comal ISD as an assistant principal of both Canyon and Smithson Valley high schools and principal at Smithson Valley Middle before taking the bilingual coordinator's position at Support Services.

Palos received his bachelor's degree from Pan American in Brownsville in 1984 and his master's from Trinity University in San Antonio in 1991.

As an assistant principal, Steve Foster, will help principal Betsy Nash take the helm of the district's newest elementary school, Clear Spring, which will open its doors at the start of 2010-2011. Foster has most recently served as the district's instructional specialist for social studies. He joined Comal ISD in 2002 as a social studies and history teacher at Smithson Valley Middle School. He began his career in education in 1996 in Huffman ISD.

Foster earned his bachelor's degree in 1987 from Texas Lutheran University in Seguin and his master's from Trinity University in 1989.

Nash opened Freiheit Elementary in the 2007-2008 school year and has served as the school's principal through the end of the 2009-2010 school year. Former assistant principal Marisa Wulfsberg was named as Freiheit's principal earlier this school year, and the board approved the hiring of James Huffty as the new assistant principal.

Huffty began his educational career in 2003 in Sanger ISD. He moved to Lewisville ISD in Carrollton in 2005 as an elementary teacher before taking a position in 2006 in Lockhart ISD as a secondary teacher. Huffty held his first assistant principal job in 2008 at an intermediate school in Gonzales ISD and was most recently serving as an assistant principal of an elementary school in Lockhart ISD.

Huffty received his bachelor's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University in 1999 before earning his master's degree from the University of North Texas in 2004.

Mt. Valley Middle assistant principal Todd Keele will start the 2010-2011 school year as the assistant principal at Church Hill Middle School.

Keele taught his first year in education from 1998-1999 as an eighth grade science and athletics teacher in Burnet CISD. In 1999, Keele left the education field to enter a family owned general contracting business, only to return in 2001 to Burnet as a high school special education and boys' athletic teacher. From 2004-2008, Keele served as the special education and athletic teacher for grades 6-8 in Burnet before taking the assistant principal position at Mt. Valley.

Keele earned his bachelor's degree from Tarleton State University in Stephenville in 1996 and his master's from Texas Tech University in Lubbock in 2005.

Lori Montelongo will take Keele's place as assistant principal at Mt. Valley.

Montelongo began her career in education in 2000 as a high school teacher in Fort Bend ISD in Sugarland. In 2004, she moved to a high school in Pasadena ISD until 2007 when she moved into the San Antonio area. Since 2007, Montelongo has served as a high school teacher in both San Antonio ISD and Northside ISD.

Montelongo received her bachelor's degree from the University of Houston in 2000 and her master's degree in 2008 from Concordia University in Austin.

Cecilia Davis was approved as the district's science coordinator. Davis is replacing Aryn Standeford who accepted an academic dean's position at Canyon High School.

Davis earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Texas in Brownsville in 1999 and received her master's degree from there as well in 2004. She began her stint in education in 1999 and has served as a science teacher, chemistry teacher, and a head of the science department at several different secondary schools. Davis has also served as an adjunct instructor at her alma mater.

Comal ISD's former coordinator of advanced academics and fine arts Dr. Dolly Adams took the principal position of the district's new Alamo Colleges-Memorial Early College High School. Current Comal ISD physical education coordinator Rene Schafer has taken on the fine arts coordination. Comal ISD hired on Terilyn Moore as the new coordinator of advanced academics.

Since 1990, Moore has served in a variety of capacities in education. Through 2004, Moore was the district liaison to the California Department of Education for the El Dorado Union High School District in El Dorado Hills, Calif. In 2004, Moore moved to Peoria, Ariz., to serve as an administrative intern for a high school in Peoria Unified School District. From 2007-2009, Moore was an education program specialist for the Arizona Department of Education in the school effectiveness division in Phoenix. She moved to Judson ISD in 2009 as the advanced academics coordinator.

Moore earned her bachelor's degree in 1984 and her master's degree in 1988, both from California State University in Sacramento.

"Comal ISD is led by such a great group of people," said Comal ISD Superintendent Dr. Marc Walker. "I know that we have just hired on some strong additions to our administrative team. Each of the assistant principals and curriculum coordinators will be an asset to the mission, goals, and overall student success here in Comal ISD. We welcome all of them."

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