

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

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Two principal appointments announced

Comal ISD is proud to announce the appointment of two veteran school administrators to two soon-to-be-vacant principal positions at Smithson Valley Middle and Specht Elementary schools.

Michael Keranen, the principal of Robert E. Lee High School in the North East ISD since 2004, will be Smithson Valley Middle's new principal in 2009-10. Link Fuller, SVMS' principal since 2005, is retiring at the end of the school year.

Keranen has 21 years in public education with the last 17 in middle and high school administration. After teaching and coaching in the Brownsville ISD, the Wisconsin native served as an assistant principal and principal at middle and high schools in the same district from 1992 until 2004.

In that year, he was hired as Robert E. Lee's principal where he has led two magnet programs, the North East School of the Arts program and the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program, along with a comprehensive high school of about 2,400 students. His family lives in the Comal ISD and his wife is a Comal ISD elementary school librarian.

Keranen's degrees are from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and the University of Texas at Brownsville. Parents will be able to meet him on March 10th during SVMS' annual chili cook-off fundraiser at the school beginning at 6:30 pm.

The second appointment is leading a former Comal ISD principal back to the district. Jackie Sundt will be Specht Elementary's new principal in 2009-10 when Linda Harlan, who has been there since 2006, opens the district's new Johnson Ranch Elementary.

Sundt was the assistant principal and then principal of Bill Brown Elementary from 1994 to 2001 before moving to Judson ISD where she has been an elementary principal at two different schools. She has been in public education for 20 years and started as a teacher in the East Central ISD.

Sundt's bachelor's and master's degrees are from Trinity University.

"We are excited that two top-notch seasoned school administrators will be joining our Comal ISD family," says Dr. Marc Walker, superintendent. "They bring a great deal of experience to us and I know we will all benefit from their leadership."

-CISD-



Michael Keranen
2009-10 SVMS Principal



Jackie Sundt
2009-10 Specht ES Principal