



RPS News

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New East Ridge Middle School Principal Is RPS Veteran



Ridgefield Public Schools announced today that Jennifer Phostole will be the next Principal of East Ridge Middle School. Ms. Phostole has worked at Ridgefield High School since 2006, where she has been the Assistant Principal since 2016. She also worked at RHS as Dean of Students, Chair of the Social Studies Department, and Social Studies classroom teacher.

Ms. Phostole commented, "I am honored to serve as the next East Ridge Middle School Principal. As a veteran educator in the district, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with many distinguished teachers, inspirational administrators, supportive staff, collaborative families, and, most of all, exceptional students. I look forward to bringing my enthusiasm, creativity, and desire to educate the whole child to the East Ridge Middle School community. Together, we will continue to cultivate an inclusive learning environment for all students that fosters independent lifelong learners who are able to think critically and positively contribute to their community."

RPS Superintendent of Schools, Susie Da Silva said that Ms. Phostole's knowledge of Ridgefield High School will be a great asset to the East Ridge community. "Her proven relationships with students, staff, and everyone she worked with stood out after an extensive search process," said Dr. Da Silva. "Her work on the Social Emotional Wellness committee was outstanding and important. Her references from supervisors as well as those she mentored were exceptional."

In a glowing reference, Ridgefield High School Principal Jacob Greenwood gives Ms. Phostole his highest recommendation, describing her as "intelligent," "honest," "highly-organized," and "hard-working." He writes, "In every instance, Mrs. Phostole leads by asking the question "What would benefit this student?" Dr. Greenwood cites her leadership in the *No Place for Hate* initiative as an example of her dedication to school climate. He concludes, "I suggest you will find no better candidate to add to your administrative team than Mrs. Phostole. Her intelligence, passion for education, thoughtful approach to problem-solving, determination, and honesty make her a candidate of exceptional stature."

Ms. Phostole will begin at East Ridge on Sunday, August 1, 2021.