



Dear Parents and Guardians of students receiving special education services;

I hope you are having an enjoyable summer and finding time to relax and play with family and friends. As you know, the District has tried for over a year and a half to fill the position of Executive Director of Special Education. This has included two national searches.

I am writing to let you know that Superintendent Maria L. Goodloe-Johnson, Ph.D., announced the appointment of Ms. Marni Campbell as the Executive Director of Special Education for Seattle Public Schools. This appointment is effective immediately. In this key leadership role, Ms. Campbell will oversee delivery of services to students with special needs, including implementation of a service delivery model that focuses on integrated comprehensive services (ICS). One of the major strategies of the district's strategic plan, *Excellence for All*, is to implement national best practices in serving students with special needs. In an integrated comprehensive services model, general education and special education teachers work together to support students with a range of differing needs.

Ms. Campbell has strong experience in this area and a passion for ensuring all students receive the services they need to be successful. She has extensive educational leadership experience, having worked with Seattle Public Schools for nine years. She served as principal of Nathan Hale High School for the past two years and Eckstein Middle School for four years. Ms. Campbell also taught at Lakeside School for two years and at Shoreline and Edmonds community colleges.

In addition to Ms. Campbell's appointment as Executive Director, Becky Clifford has been appointed to the position of Director of Special Education. Many of our parents have worked with Ms. Clifford, as she has served as an elementary special education supervisor for the past three years and prior to that worked as one of the Department's consulting teachers.

Ms. Campbell and Ms. Clifford possess strong administrative skills and leadership vision that is critical for managing the implementation of integrated services for special education students. They will work closely with principals, teachers, staff and families to ensure outstanding delivery of services to students with special needs.

Other administrative changes in the Department will include the addition of several new elementary supervisors who will join supervisor Julie Mack. Michael Sanford will move from supervising Middle School Services to High Schools programs; Joanie Bell and Martha Lawson will supervise related service areas and Stacey McCrath-Smith joins the Department as the new supervisor for Middle School and K-8 special education services.

Ms. Campbell, Ms. Clifford and the supervisors will provide the Department with an exceptionally strong administrative team that is committed to strengthening the District's ability to meet special education student needs and work collaboratively with parents as members of the educational team.

As I transition leadership to Ms. Campbell and Ms. Clifford, I want to take this opportunity to let all of you know how much I have enjoyed working with you and District staff as your Interim Executive Director. I will continue to be available as a resource to the District through this important transition to ensure its success. I am confident that educators and families working as an educational team will be able to implement integrated comprehensive services that will truly improve student achievement.

Fred

Frederic H. Row, Interim Executive Director
Special Education/Special Education Consultant