



NEWS RELEASE

5/03/21

Contact: Tim Robinson, Media Relations Specialist

206-465-5404 c

tirobinson@seattleschools.org

[SPS Newsroom](#)

Dr. Brent Jones Becomes SPS Superintendent

Swearing-in this morning begins interim position

SEATTLE – Brent Jones, Ph.D., today was sworn in as superintendent of Seattle Public Schools, marking the start of a 14-month term he will serve while leading the state of Washington’s largest school district.

Dr. Jones replaces Denise Juneau, who served as SPS superintendent from July 2018 to April 2021.

“It’s a privilege to return to Seattle Public Schools as the interim superintendent. As I came to work this morning, it felt like coming home,” said Dr. Jones, who attended SPS schools from elementary school through graduation from Franklin High. “Over these next few critical months, I am committed to moving swiftly to prepare for fall, communicating our progress, and providing a consistent and high-quality educational experience for all students as we close out this current school year. I am grateful to the school board for this opportunity to serve.”

Superintendent Jones was appointed to the position in February by the SPS Board of Directors. The board search for a permanent superintendent will begin this fall and board directors will make a final selection in spring 2022.

“Dr. Jones brings critical stability and clarity to Seattle Public Schools during this time of uncertainty and transition,” said SPS Board President Chandra Hampson. “He is an experienced district leader with a proven track record supporting student outcomes, community, and staff of color while remaining deeply committed to operational excellence and systems improvement. This is a new day for SPS and I couldn’t be more excited to begin working together toward bright futures for our students.”

Serving as superintendent is a return to SPS for Dr. Jones. Up until early 2019, he served as the district's chief of equity, partnerships and engagement and helped lead the creation and adoption of the SPS strategic plan, [Seattle Excellence](#). Prior to that role, Dr. Jones served as the district's chief of human resources.

He has also served in executive roles with King County Metro, Kent School District, Seattle Colleges, and Green River College.

“Our city’s public schools need to offer students and their families the very best – rigorous learning, a deep commitment to educational justice, innovation, and a clear path to life success,” said Superintendent Jones. “As the district plans for a full-time return to school this fall, we have an opportunity to come back stronger than before by centering the perspectives and needs of our students and families in our decision making.”

Dr. Jones is a University of Washington graduate. He earned his master's and Ph.D. degrees in education administration from the University of Texas at Austin.

###

For more information about **Seattle Public Schools**: [SPS webpage](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#)