



FAIR HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dear Knollwood and Sickles Parents:

After a thorough search for a new Principal for the Knollwood School, on Wednesday evening the Fair Haven Board of Education approved the appointment of Mr. Nelson Ribon, a Monmouth County resident and father of two young children, ages 4 and 6. Mr. Ribon is described by current and past colleagues and supervisors as an educator with high expectations who is approachable yet strong, decisive and confident, and respectful of students and staff. Time and again, people who have worked closely with Mr. Ribon remark about his consistently calm demeanor in all situations, which is obviously a wonderful trait to possess as a middle school Principal!

Since 2004, Mr. Ribon has served as the Principal of the Freehold Borough Intermediate School and therefore he comes to us with a wealth of practical experience. In his seven year tenure as Principal in Freehold, Mr. Ribon's responsibilities have included:

- Responding to all student issues
- Designing and managing the master schedule
- Assisting in the development, revision and implementation of curriculum
- Facilitating the professional development program
- Managing the school assessment program
- Facilitating parent/community forums and meetings
- Assisting in the design of the district's Safety and Crisis Management Plan
- Directing the school's public relations efforts

Mr. Ribon earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rutgers University and a Master of Arts degree from Jersey City University. He is currently working on a Doctoral degree in Educational Leadership and Policy from Pepperdine University, which he hopes to complete within the next year.

In addition to his work as a school Principal, Mr. Ribon is involved with the New Jersey Leaders to Leaders Program, where he serves as a mentor to new Principal candidates as they complete the mandatory 2-year residency requirement. In addition, he is a NJ Certified HS Basketball Official and the instructor for all referee candidates in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Mr. Ribon also currently serves as President of the Freehold Rotary Club.

We are working with Freehold Borough Board of Education to determine a transition plan whereby Mr. Ribon will be able to join us at Knollwood as soon as possible in September. I will provide more details about his start date as they become available. In addition, I will alert you to any opportunities where students and parents could meet Mr. Ribon before the school year begins.

I know you join me in welcoming Mr. Ribon to Fair Haven. He is extremely excited to begin working with our amazing staff and students!

Sincerely,

Kathi Cronin

Kathi Cronin

Superintendent