

From: [Superintendent](#)
To: [EPS.MailList](#)
Subject: Deputy Superintendent Joyce Stewart to Retire
Date: Monday, November 26, 2018 10:22:51 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good morning, colleagues. I hope your Thanksgiving was all you had hoped, and that your week has begun well. We don't typically make a practice of announcing district leadership changes by email to all staff, but there are exceptions to this tradition.

It is with a sense of considerable personal and professional loss, but with great joy for her and her future, that I announce to you Deputy Superintendent Joyce Stewart has chosen to retire from public education effective June 30, 2019.

After serving Everett Public Schools for the last 20 years, and as an educator for 39 years, Dr. Stewart asks that I express to you her deep gratitude to our students and their families, to each of you—classified, administrative, and certificated staff alike—for the beautiful memories she is taking with her from the many interactions she has enjoyed with you. She is as well grateful for all of the changes and challenges she experienced over the last 39 years in education (standards, assessments, practices, contracts) that have contributed to the well-being of students in their quests for fulfilling lives. Joyce especially wants to thank Madison and Evergreen staff members, schools in which she served as principal, for the privilege of working alongside them to create amazing learning experiences for students.

Dr. Stewart has a well-deserved reputation as an advocate for each and every student, for their families, and for employees. Over the last 20 years, Joyce has maintained a strong presence in our schools, at community events, and in neighborhood groups. She has modeled the highest standards in her work ethic, as an adult learner, as a master of removing barriers for students, and overall commitment to Everett Public Schools. In my experience, Joyce never asks any staff members to do anything she isn't willing to do herself. Many of us have observed her substituting in classrooms, cleaning restrooms, pulling weeds, spreading bark, and helping a family obtain food or find a safe and warm place to live.

While Dr. Stewart would like very much to be able to leave the district quietly, she understands this is not in the cards for any of us who lead schools. As deputy superintendent, she directly supervises 11 schools and leads district-wide work in technology, professional development, school safety, new staff hiring, summer school, OTG, TPEP, and PBIS. Since planning is already underway for the 2019-20 school year, her early announcement provides us the time needed to start very important succession planning process.

As we undertake preparations to honor Joyce's service to our schools and community in her final year with us, as you would expect if you know her at all, she promises to make each day count and finish strong. Please join me in thanking Joyce for her truly remarkable leadership and service to our Everett Public Schools, and in wishing her well in retirement.

Warmest regards,



Dr. Gary Cohn

Superintendent

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