



News release
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Deputy Superintendent to retire

Dr. Joyce Stewart announces June 30 retirement

Everett Public Schools Deputy Superintendent Joyce Stewart will retire at the end of the school year after 20 years serving the district. Her retirement will be effective June 30, 2019.

A life-long educator, Dr. Stewart is well-known throughout the school community for her “doing whatever it takes” approach to ensure each student experiences success. She has implemented school improvement systems that ensure each student reaches high standards and expectations regardless of barriers. Her emphasis on setting high expectations for rigorous learning in each classroom, creating environments where students feel physically and emotionally safe, and using assessments to inform instruction and provide interventions has helped transform Everett Public Schools into a district that prepares each student for the future.

Stewart sees community activism and advocacy as central to her role as deputy superintendent and has earned a reputation as an advocate for students, their families, and employees. In the past three years, she launched a partnership between community/neighborhood associations and school principals, brokered social, emotional, mental health services with several local providers, and connected nonprofits with underserved children for food, clothing, shelter, and enrichment activities like swim lessons and volleyball coaching. Under Stewart’s leadership, communities have forged stronger connections with their schools.

Last fall, Stewart was recognized by the Washington Association of School Administrators with a Robert J. Handy Most Effective Administrator Award. “Dr. Stewart is trustworthy, dedicated and a consummate professional,” stated Everett Public Schools Superintendent Gary Cohn. “It was clear to me from my first days in this district her focus was in the right place – with people – students, families, staff and community members. I am grateful and honored to have worked with someone of Joyce’s caliber.”

“Dr. Stewart relentlessly pursues student success. She is adamantly clear to parents, staff, students and community members that student success is our moral imperative,” shared Dr. Sally Lancaster, assistant superintendent of teaching and learning for Everett Public Schools. “She balances high expectations, structured support, positive feedback and professional development to guarantee the success of school leaders, teachers and students. She demands the best for each child in the district.”

Everett Public School Board President Caroline Mason said, “Dr. Stewart has made a lasting impact on our community. Her passion for providing equitable access to ensure student success

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for every child has been inspiring and will affect generations to come.” Mason added, “Her commitment and advocacy to ensure the well-being and success of every student, family and staff member is inspiring and will affect generations to come.”

Dr. Stewart taught 19 years in private and public schools in Montana, Minnesota, and Washington. In Everett Public Schools she served as Madison Elementary School principal for three years and Evergreen Middle School principal for nine years, assistant superintendent for five years, and deputy superintendent since 2016.

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For more information:

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