From: Superintendent
To: Communications

Subject: New Board Member Jen Hirman

Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 7:03:36 PM

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Hello Staff -

I am excited to let you know Jen Hirman has been selected by the board to be its newest member.

Today, the Everett Public Schools Board of Directors interviewed five candidates for appointment to board Position 2 which was vacated in June.

The interview process began at 1 p.m. and concluded at 4:55 p.m. when the board went into Executive Session to review the candidates' qualifications. Returning to open session at approximately 5:30 p.m., the board voted to appoint Dr. Jen Hirman to Position 2. Dr. Hirman will serve as a member of the Board of Directors until that term ends in 2023. At that time, they may choose whether to run for election to serve another term.

It was a difficult decision for the board as there were many qualified candidates. The applicants were screened through written applications and interviews for comparative qualifications, experience and potential fit. They had competing strengths and many qualifications which contributed to the difficulty of the board's decision.

Jen Hirman has been an active volunteer and support of Everett Public Schools for years, serving on math adoption teams, the elementary school boundary committee and the high school growth mitigation committee. She has been an integral part in local and state PTA since 2013, including presently serving as the Washington State PTA Region 7 Director. She has taught math along with holding many other positions in support of students and K-16 education. Dr. Hirman holds a bachelor's from USC, a master's in education from Stanford University, and a PhD in Education Leadership and Policy from Arizona State University.

When asked why she is interested in being on the board, as part of her response she stated, "My interest in serving on the Everett School Board is to utilize my experience in Everett schools and background in education to maintain high standards in our schools, while looking for new and innovative ways to improve student outcomes, especially for disadvantaged groups. Our American school system can be seen as the "Great Equalizer" in providing students the opportunity to achieve a higher standard of living and following a different career path than their parents. I am interested to look for additional ways that our school district can specifically support low-income students, English-language learners, and Native-American, Hispanic and Black students.

Additionally, as a School Board member I will engage at the school-level and focus my efforts on those schools for which I serve as a liaison. To do this, I will work with

the principals to provide opportunities to meet with students, families and staff, to hear about their concerns, as well as hear about the positive aspects of their school community that they would like to share. There are many wonderful programs, groups and clubs already at our schools that are making big impacts in students' lives, and many of these are done by staff and parent groups on a voluntary basis. By encouraging and supporting these existing organizations, and looking for new community partners, we strengthen the educational experience of all of our students."

Jen Hirman will be administered the oath of office at the next board meeting on June 28.

Have a great last day of school tomorrow!

Stay safe and be well,

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