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News Release

Everett Public Schools April 17, 2007

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Janet Gillingham named principal of Heatherwood Middle School

Janet Gillingham, currently the principal of Garfield Elementary School, has been named to replace Heatherwood Middle School principal Greg Gelderman beginning with the 2007-08 school year. In March, Gelderman announced his intention to retire at the end of this school year after 23 years as a school principal and previous years as a teacher. Both principals will remain at their current schools until the end of this school year.

Gillingham came to this district in 2006 from Vancouver School District where she had been a middle school principal for five years and a high school assistant principal for two years. In addition to these years in a leadership role, Gillingham taught at the high school level for eight years.

Everett Superintendent Whitehead credits Gillingham with "... bringing her history of building strong relationships with students, staff and the community to Everett. Janet builds teams focused on student learning wherever she works."

Gillingham speaks fondly of the Garfield school community. "I was welcomed with open arms into this school by parents and staff who are professional, warm, caring, and dedicated. It is hard to leave Garfield even though I am excited to once again work with middle school students, staff, and families. I admire the good work that is happening at Heatherwood and look forward to continuing their work to see that every student learns to high standards."