

August 2, 2022

Good Afternoon, Laidlaw Parents!

Last night the Board of Education formally named Ms. Renee Epstein as the Laidlaw Interim Principal for the 2022-23 school year. The Board's action followed an expedited, yet comprehensive, search process. Renee's appointment followed the Board's receipt of very positive feedback from four interview teams who each met a slate of three finalists - a Laidlaw staff team, the Laidlaw parent interview team, the Administrative team and a representative Board interview team.

This will be Ms. Epstein's first full-time administrative position, but Renee brings a wealth of experience in education to the Laidlaw school community, the past 17 years of which have been in River Forest District 90. In District 90, she held a number of roles, including ELA teacher, Technology Integration Specialist and Summer School Principal.

Feedback from our interview teams matched that received from D90 references, with all agreeing that Renee possesses a high degree of positivity and adds great energy to all situations. She also brings with her an outstanding work ethic, broad and diverse experiences, and natural leadership talent.

Renee and her husband live in Elmhurst with their two children. She is a passionate educator who values strong partnerships between school and home. We look forward to welcoming her to District 101 and the Laidlaw school community!

The District will be hosting two *Meet And Greets* for Laidlaw students, parents and families to meet their new principal in advance of the start of the new school year. These casual events that will be held in Laidlaw Park, weather permitting, and are scheduled for:

Tuesday, August 16 2:00-4:00 pm and **Thursday, August 18 5:00-7:00 pm**

Sincerely,



Brian Barnhart
Superintendent