



2410 North Ocean Avenue, Suite 400, Farmingville NY 11738
www.syntaxny.com

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Jessica Novins
Work: 631-589-4000 x124
jnovins@syntaxny.com

Sag Harbor UFSD to appoint new leadership at Pierson

At a meeting to be held on Thursday, September 10, 2020 the Sag Harbor Union Free School District Board of Education is scheduled to vote to appoint Brittany Carriero as the principal of Pierson High School. Ms. Carriero is currently the principal of Pierson Middle School. In her new role, she will serve as principal for both Pierson Middle School and Pierson High School. The board also intends to appoint Laura Westhoff as Dean of Pierson Middle School at the meeting. Ms. Westhoff will serve in that role until an assistant principal of Pierson Middle School is hired.

"Following decades of a single principal for Pierson Middle and High Schools, the Board of Education made the decision to create separate positions in 2018," Board of Education President Brian DeSesa said. "With the promotion of our current Pierson High School principal to superintendent of schools, Mr. Jeff Nichols, the Board felt it was in the best interest of our students, staff and community to return to a single principal for our secondary school with Ms. Carriero leading the helm. We are very excited to begin the new school year with our full leadership team in place and to also welcome Ms. Westhoff to that team."

Added Superintendent Nichols, "I have worked closely with Ms. Carriero during her entire tenure in Sag Harbor. There is no better candidate to lead our secondary school through the challenges we are facing under a global pandemic. Her leadership experience, knowledge of our students, and school community and her genuine passion for education make her an ideal fit for our district."

Ms. Carriero has served as principal of Pierson Middle School since 2018, and was previously assistant principal for Pierson Middle School beginning in 2013. Prior to joining Sag Harbor School District, Ms. Carriero was a special education, physical education and middle school teacher at the New York City Lab School for Collaborative Studies. She earned a bachelor's in physical education from Syracuse University, a master's in education from New York University and her Advanced Certificate in Educational Leadership and Supervision from Canisius College.

In her role as Dean of Pierson Middle School, Laura Westhoff will serve as a teacher on special assignment for the 2020-2021 school year. Since 2016, Ms. Westhoff has worked as a math teacher at Pierson Middle School, creating engaging lessons for students in Math 7, Math 8, Algebra 8, Algebra 9, ELA 7, PLANT I and Math AIS. Previous to her years in the Sag Harbor School District, Ms. Westhoff worked in various educational capacities in Westchester County, including as a leave replacement and building substitute for Valhalla Middle School. She holds a bachelor's degree in mathematical science and English literature and rhetoric and a master's degree in teaching, mathematics adolescence education from Binghamton University.

This fall, the Board will undergo a search for a Pierson Middle School assistant principal. The search will be conducted in line with the district goals, taking into consideration various factors, including experience and diversity, to ensure the ideal candidate is hired.



Brittany Carriero, currently the principal of Pierson Middle School, will be appointed principal of Pierson High School by the Sag Harbor Board of Education on September 10, 2020. Ms. Carriero will serve as principal for both Pierson Middle School and Pierson High School.

The Sag Harbor Board of Education intends to appoint Laura Westhoff as Dean of Pierson Middle School at its September 10, 2020 meeting. Ms. Westhoff will serve in that role until an assistant principal of Pierson Middle School is hired.

