

Public board announces changes among principals, vice-principals

COBOURG STAR JUNE 13/18
By Shelby Parker
sparker@northumberlandtoday.com

While the recent appointments of new principals and vice-principals within the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board won't affect the number of layoffs coming in the teaching ranks, retirements will.

The board sent layoff notices to 80 to 85 public school teachers and six high school teachers in April of this year.

Since then, teachers' retirement notices are "trickling in" to the board, communications officer Judy Malfara said, effectively halving the number of teachers to be cut.

A total of 46 administrative positions have been filled within the board for next fall's term, but "these were already figured in to the numbers," said Sherry Summersides, associate director of education with the KPR board.

As well, Ms. Summersides said, some of these appointees are already principals who are transferring to another school. However, most of the new positions for principals and vice-principals came from their predecessors retiring.

"We've had a lot of retirements this year," Ms. Malfara said.

Because of the qualifications needed for the administrative positions, many teachers aren't ready to move up. Another challenge in finding administrative positions is the age gap between teachers and principals.

Ms. Summersides said, right now, most administrators are in their late-40s or mid-50s, and the

New appointments

Local appointments of principals and vice-principals include:

Elementary Schools

John Goheen: elementary vice-principal, Terry Fox Public School, Cobourg

Valerie Ledrew-Williams: elementary vice-principal, George Hamilton Public School and North Hope Central Public School, Port Hope

Sandra MacDonald Wangen: elementary principal, Camborne Public School

Alison Osborne: elementary vice-principal Castleton/South Cramahe Public School

Deborah Oxland: elementary principal Central Public School and Howard Jordan Public School, Port Hope

Catherine Vanderburgh-Kerr: elementary vice-principal, Grant Sine Public School and Merwin Greer Public School, Cobourg

Pam Pryjma: secondary principal, Centre for Individual Studies

Secondary Schools

Laina Andrews: secondary principal, Cobourg District Collegiate Institute West

Jeff Kawzenuk: secondary principal, East Northumberland Secondary School, Brighton

Howard McCourt: secondary principal, Brookside Secondary School, Cobourg

Stephen Truelove: secondary principal, Port Hope High School

majority of teachers seem to just be starting out in their careers.

This adds to the difficulty of filling these positions, making principals and vice-principals hard to come by, Ms. Summersides said.

"It's a very lean market right now," she said.

To qualify for a principal's or vice-principal's position, a teacher in Ontario needs six years of teaching experience within the province, a specialist degree or a master's degree on top of their teacher's degree, and a recommendation from their superintendent.

The board also offers a mentoring program and a professional development program to aid the teachers in preparing for these positions.

Ms. Summersides said that once the teachers have all their qualifications, they still need a vacant post to fill, and the board prefers to place experienced principals at a "complex school," meaning these schools may have a large number of students, a diverse community, other resources located at the school, or a number of different programs such as French immersion.