

**May 10, 2023**

**PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**

School District 27 is pleased announce the following administrative appointment.

**Director of Instruction- Childcare, Early Learning and Inclusive Education**

**Mr. Wendell Hiltz** will be joining the Senior Team in SD27, taking on a new portfolio reflecting the expansion into Child Care, while also continuing to provide leadership in the areas that also includes portions of the previous director position. Mr. Hiltz is joining us from Burnaby School District where he served as an elementary school principal in various sites from 2009 to 2019. Superintendent, Gina Niccoli-Moen, added, *“We cannot thank Wendell enough for his many contributions to the Burnaby School District and wish him all the very best. He will certainly be missed.”*

Prior to his leadership in Burnaby, Mr. Hiltz was an administrator in SD82. He has also demonstrated significant leadership through his roles in the BCPVPA at Chapter Council where he worked extensively to help create the leadership standards.

Mr. Hiltz brings proven leadership, communication and collaboration skills that will be essential in continuing the work that had begun under Cathy van der Mark, who has announced her retirement.

Thank you, Cathy, for your commitment and passion in leading SD27 to becoming a more inclusive and informed school district. We wish you the best in your coming retirement. Mr. Hiltz will officially join SD27 on August 1, 2023.

Please join me in welcoming Wendell to the SD27 team and community!

**CONTACT: CHRIS VAN DER MARK  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

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**“Learning, Growing, and Belonging Together”**