

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## NEW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTED

March 15, 2021

KELOWNA, BC – The Board of Education and Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent/CEO for Central Okanagan Public Schools, announced the appointment of Raquel Steen to the position of Assistant Superintendent today. She will fill the vacancy created by the planned retirement of Dr. Rick Oliver, the current Assistant Superintendent. Steen is currently the District Principal for the District's International Education Program.

"We are pleased that Raquel Steen will be joining the senior team in the District", said Moyra Baxter, Chairperson for the Board of Education. "A former Principal and District Principal, Ms. Steen is a proven leader, whose work ethic and approachable way of interacting with families and staff is an excellent fit with our District's Mission."

Raquel Steen has worked in Central Okanagan Public Schools for the past 25 years, holding middle and secondary school administrative positions. Prior to her current position, Steen was also the Principal at Mount Boucherie Secondary School and École KLO Middle School. Steen's work at Mount Boucherie Secondary School with the Academy of Indigenous Studies has been nationally recognized and will support the District's work implementing the Equity in Action for Truth and Reconciliation Agreement.

"Raquel is a well-respected and important member of the leadership team in the District," said Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of School/CEO. "Her experience working with immigrant families and students, and leading the District's International Education Program, will help her be effective in working in our ever more diverse community."

Raquel Steen will officially start her new position on May 1, 2021.

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For comments, please contact:

Moyra Baxter, Board Chairperson, 250-767-6153

Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO, 250-470-3256