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Ravenna School District Names Assistant Superintendent

(July 1, 2024, Ravenna, Ohio) The Ravenna School District Board of Education has named Mr. Lee Smith as the Assistant Superintendent of the Ravenna School District, replacing Mr. Ben Riblein, who will serve as the Interim Superintendent, effective July 31, 2024. Mr. Smith was offered a three-year contract as the Assistant Superintendent. His current position as Director of Curriculum will be absorbed between the Interim Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent, providing savings as the district faces financial challenges.

Mr. Smith attended the University of Mt. Union, graduating in 1994 with a degree in Elementary Education. He began his teaching career in the Louisville City Schools District. After earning a Masters in Educational Administration from Youngstown State, he became the principal of North Nimishillen Elementary in Louisville, as well as Louisville Elementary School before making the move to Ravenna where he took the position of principal at West Main Elementary School in 2017. In 2022, Mr. Smith was named the Director Curriculum and Instruction for the Ravenna School District.

“During his tenure as Director Of Curriculum, Mr. Smith has demonstrated his ability to move the district academically, and we want to continue in that direction,” said Mr. Wisniewski. “We are confident that as the Assistant Superintendent he will also have an impact in other areas of leadership that will be beneficial for the district moving forward.”

“Continuing my educational journey in the Ravenna School District is a privilege,” said Mr. Smith. “I am excited to partner with Mr. Ribelin and work towards a district that consistently achieves at a high level.”

“Mr. Smith has been an integral part of the forward momentum the district has enjoyed during the past three years - first as principal, and then as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Now, as the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Smith will have the opportunity to further impact that district by moving the needle even more in the right direction,” said Dr. Laura Hebert, current Superintendent of the Ravenna School District.

About the Ravenna School District

The Ravenna School District services approximately 1,950 students and is one of the largest school districts in Portage County. Situated in the county seat, Ravenna is convenient to numerous government and community agencies that serve our families. The Ravenna School District has a district wide commitment to enhancing student learning within a positive environment, with a dual focus on academic achievement and behavioral growth for all students. For more information contact us at (330) 296-9679.

