

Kentfield School District names new superintendent

By KERI BRENNER | kbrenner@marinij.com | Marin Independent Journal
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Raquel Rose is set to be named new Kentfield School District superintendent on Tuesday, May 12, 2020. (Provided by Raquel Rose)

The Kentfield School District has named longtime Marin educator Raquel Rose as its next superintendent.

Rose, an assistant superintendent for the Marin County Office of Education, is slated to be approved at Tuesday's board of trustees meeting. The appointment will take effect on July 1.

Rose will succeed Liz Schott, who is retiring at the end of June. The starting base salary is \$231,000, according to a three-year contract attached to Tuesday's board agenda.

"I'm beyond thrilled," said Rose, 44, of San Anselmo. "It's just the chance to work in a local district, with a small community of highly engaged parents, local partners and high quality teachers and staff. I feel super lucky."

The Kentfield post "especially inspires me because of the chance to directly engage in the operations and activities, within the community, district and school sites," Rose added in a letter to the community Friday. "My professional and personal values and beliefs acutely align with the district, which will continue cultivating a promising partnership of trust, transparency, collaboration and equity."

Heather McPhail Sridharan, president of the Kentfield school board, said the trustees will introduce Rose to the community at the board meeting at 5 p.m. Tuesday. Information on accessing the online meeting is available at bit.ly/2yENL7D.

"We are confident that Raquel has the right combination of skills and experience to lead our district forward and fulfill the goals of our strategic plan, particularly during this uncertain time of a global pandemic," Sridharan said in a letter Friday to the school community. "We were impressed by Raquel's deep commitment to equity, transparency and collaboration."

Mary Jane Burke, Marin County superintendent of schools and Rose's boss at the Marin County Office of Education, said she is "excited for Raquel to take this next step in her career."

"While she'll be missed at MCOE, we're thrilled she'll be staying in Marin County," Burke said.

Rose is the second new Kentfield administrator to be hired in recent days. Last week, Sonoma County educator Mary Ann Spitzer was announced as the new principal of Bacich Elementary School, succeeding Sally Peck, who is retiring at the end of June.

Sridharan said Schott, Peck and other departing members of the school community will be honored for their service during the June 9 board meeting.

Rose, who grew up in Fresno, has lived and worked in Marin for the last 20 years, both at specific school and district sites and at the county office.

She started her Marin career as a teacher and instructional coach in the San Rafael City Schools district. In 2006, Rose moved to the Novato Unified School District, where she was a principal and a director of student services. In 2011, she was hired as assistant superintendent at the Marin County Office of Education, where she has served in various capacities for the last nine years.

During this tenure at MCOE, Rose has supported the 18 Marin County school districts in areas such as student programs, professional development, statewide compliance, equity initiatives and community education. She also served as interim superintendent of the Mill Valley School District in 2018-19.

Rose is a member of the Marin Promise Partnership executive council, Marin County School Administrators Association curriculum and instruction steering committee, Marin Golden Bell Committee and the Association of California School Administrators.

Rose and her husband Matt Rose have three young children.



Keri Brenner | Reporter

Keri Brenner is a reporter covering K-12 and higher education.
kbrenner@marinij.com Follow Keri Brenner on Twitter [@KeriWorks](#)