



Sandra L. Ripplinger
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Dear Members of the Columbine Community,

It is a pleasure to announce the appointment of Mr. Marc Rodriguez as the Principal of Columbine Elementary School, effective July 29, 2009. The Board of Education accepted the recommendation of the Superintendent naming Mr. Rodriguez as the new Columbine Elementary Principal at their regular meeting held on May 26, 2009.

Mr. Rodriguez comes to Columbine with five years of experience as a principal at Northridge Elementary School in St. Vrain School District and a year as an assistant principal at Heritage Middle School. Mr. Rodriguez returns to his roots as he accepts this position at Columbine Elementary School. He began his educational career as a classroom teacher at Escuela Bilingue Washington in Boulder Valley School District, having taught grades 1, 2/3 and 5/6 over a six year span. In the years between teaching in BVSD and St. Vrain, Mr. Rodriguez was an ESL teacher and classroom teacher for five years with the Hillsboro Public Schools and Beaverton Public Schools, both in Oregon.

Mr. Rodriguez is excited about this new opportunity to serve as Principal at Columbine Elementary School. He graduated with his BA in Spanish from the University of Colorado and completed his MA in Administration at the same university. He is licensed in Colorado as a teacher and as an administrator, and is endorsed in bilingual and ESL education. Mr. Rodriguez brings a rich background of skills, knowledge and experience in bilingual education, collaboration and school improvement to Columbine Elementary.

In the next few weeks, Mr. Rodriguez will be finishing up his work at Northridge Elementary and will begin his transition to Columbine. He is looking forward to spending some time at the school and to meeting Columbine students and families. We have arranged two "Meet and Greet" meetings next week and we hope you can join us for an informal introduction of your new principal. Mr. Rodriguez will be available at the school on Thursday, June 4th, from 10 – 11 am and from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Children are welcome! If you cannot attend either of these "Meet and Greet" opportunities, you are welcome to contact Mr. Rodriguez by email at marcos.rodriquez@bvsd.org anytime after June 1st.

Please join us in extending Mr. Marc Rodriguez a warm welcome as principal at Columbine Elementary School. With his strong leadership and your support, we are confident that Columbine will continue its proud traditions and its journey toward continuous school improvement.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to bid farewell to Lynn Widger, who is leaving the Columbine community after 10 years of dedicated service. We are grateful to Lynn for her leadership and her advocacy for the students, staff and families at Columbine. She will be greatly missed by all those she has touched in her years as Principal at Columbine Elementary School.

Sincerely,

Sandy Ripplinger