



January 8, 2024

Dear Ridgewood Community,

We are excited to announce that at tonight's Board of Education meeting, the Board approved Dr. Lauren Schoen as interim principal for George Washington Middle School for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year.

Dr. Schoen earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education from William Paterson University, master's in Educational Administration from Saint Peter's College, and doctoral degree in K-12 Educational Administration from Seton Hall University, all following her honorable discharge from the United States Military Academy at West Point.

As a results-oriented professional, she has successfully led five school districts as Superintendent of Schools for the Rochelle Park School District, the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District, the Mahwah Township School District, and most recently as Interim Superintendent for the Fort Lee and West Orange School Districts.

Dr. Schoen's career in education has spanned 33 years, during which she served as an elementary and middle school teacher, vice principal, principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent of schools. After receiving her Doctoral degree in Educational Administration, she also became an instructor at Seton Hall University, teaching for the same leadership program from which she graduated.

In 2015, Dr. Schoen was named the Northern Regional Superintendent of the Year - a recognition bestowed upon her by her peers. She has served as President of the Bergen County Association of School Administrators and has been an active member of the New Jersey Administrator and Supervisory Association. She also proudly co-chaired the NJASA Spring Leadership Conference Committee from 2011-2019.



RIDGEWOOD

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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As we prepare to begin our search for the next principal of GWMS, we are excited that Dr. Schoen will be joining the Ridgewood Public Schools team, bringing her expertise to our schools and being a positive influence in the academic and personal development of our students and staff. Details on the search for our new principal will be coming shortly. In the meantime, we know that you will join us in extending Dr. Schoen a warm Ridgewood welcome.

Sincerely,
Mark Schwarz
Superintendent