

Dear Butte Falls School District Patrons,

I am thrilled to join the Butte Falls School District as your new superintendent for the 2016-17 school year. I have spent the past three months working with your School Board to assess the strengths and needs of the District and am impressed by how hard the staff works to serve students and families. With our recent enrollment increase of over 30 students, I am sensing a renewed enthusiasm and commitment by staff to help every student be successful.



Here is a little information about me. I am a native-born Oregonian. I have been married for 33 years and have two adult children. I grew up in Portland and graduated from Portland State University (PSU - 1981) with a degree in German, an endorsement in teaching Reading, and a teaching license. I earned a Masters degree at Emmanuel School of Religion (1983) in Johnson City, Tennessee, and returned to Oregon to begin my teaching career. I taught six years in Medford, earned a Masters degree in Educational Leadership at PSU (1990), served as a high school assistant principal at South High for 8 years, earned a Doctorate degree from the University of Oregon (1998), became the curriculum and assessment administrator for Medford for six years, supervised Medford's fourteen elementary schools for one year, and completed my tenure in Medford in 2014 after serving as superintendent for nine years. For the past two years I enjoyed serving at principal at Cascade Christian High School during a time of growth and change in that private Christian school system.

In June I learned of the need for an interim superintendent in Butte Falls and, after meeting with Board Chair Steve Nelson, I agreed to serve. On Monday, October 3, the School Board expanded my hours for the remainder of the school year. At the request of the School Board I will be on-site two days each week working with the Board, the principal, teachers, and support staff. I look forward to getting to know your students and supporting the Board's efforts to enhance learning opportunities for the children of this community.

To parents of Butte Falls students, I say "thank you" for entrusting your children to our staff. To district patrons, I say "thank you" for your continuing support of our schools. To those of you who partner with the district to provide supplementary opportunities for our students, I say "thank you."

While I do not live in Butte Falls, you may see me out and about as I walk to and from the school's elementary and secondary campuses. Please don't hesitate to stop and introduce yourself.

Sincerely,

Dr. Phil Long, Superintendent



Butte Falls Charter School
Butte Falls School District #91
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