



## FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J Press Release/Announcement

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Contact: Andrea Larson, Vice Chair School Board  
Fern Ridge School District 28J  
541-954-9090  
[alarson@fernridge.k12.or.us](mailto:alarson@fernridge.k12.or.us)

### **Fern Ridge School Board selects Dr. Sally J. Storm as the next Superintendent**

Concluding its search for a superintendent to succeed Dennis Friedrich whose term ends June 30, 2014, the Fern Ridge School District Board of Directors is pleased to announce that **Dr. Sally J. Storm** has been selected to be the district's next Superintendent effective July 1, 2014. Storm and the Board are working on the terms of a tentative agreement that will be finalized at a public meeting. The Board anticipates making the official offer for the position at a special board meeting on March 31, 2014.

"We had a field of 23 excellent applicants for our superintendent position. However, Sally Storm emerged as the right choice to be our next Superintendent," Board Chair Twinkle Morton said. "She has the qualities, experience and leadership skills identified by our community, staff and students to lead Fern Ridge into the future." The Board reviewed the candidate applications with the assistance of a screening committee that included administrators, staff, and community selecting several candidates for initial interviews. The Board then conducted a round of interviews, followed by investigating the candidates' backgrounds and references. All those contacted as references had high praise for her knowledge about education and ability to build relationships. After the background checks, the Board invited Storm for a second interview which was more extensive and detailed than the first.

Storm distinguished herself in the field of applicants throughout the search process by demonstrating a record of proven success. She is currently the Superintendent of McKenzie School District in Finn Rock, OR, a district of 235 students where she has served since 2007. Before taking the position as Superintendent at McKenzie SD, she worked as Team Leader for School Improvement in the WA Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction in Olympia, WA for 4 years. Storm's previous experience also includes serving as Director of Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction at ESD 123 in Pasco, WA. She was the Superintendent/Principal at Dixie School District in WA for 2 years. She has teaching experience in a variety of subjects for the Kennewick School District and teaching graduate education courses in leadership at Washington State University and University of Oregon. Storm has a Ph.D. in Educational Administration from Washington State University and a Master of Arts degree in Educational Administration from Eastern Washington University.

"Developed while growing up on a ranch, I've held this core understanding throughout my career firmly believing that effective and successful school leadership does not occur without rolling up your sleeves and applying elbow grease." Storm said. "I am adamant that all our students be valued and challenged and that we all believe each child is capable of achieving success. I'm excited about the Board selecting me to be the next superintendent for Fern Ridge schools and look forward to beginning the journey to help all our students achieve."

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