

July 3, 2007

Jennifer Kunze named District 16 Coordinator of Teaching and Learning

Dr. Jennifer Kunze, previously a staff development coordinator and planner for the Bloomington Public Schools, has been named Coordinator of Teaching and Learning for School District 16.

Dr. Kunze will facilitate School District 16's preK-12 processes in teaching and learning: curriculum development, instructional alignment, and professional learning and development.

She will work with Dr. Jeff Ronneberg, assistant superintendent, and will be directly responsible for facilitating curriculum task forces and the planning and delivery of professional learning and co-leading the Teaching, Learning, and Accountability Advisory Council.

She will also co-lead the work of curriculum leaders, instructional coaches, and other teacher leaders; and will closely work with principals and other district personnel and departments in the areas of curriculum and professional learning.

Dr. Kunze will assume duties previously held by Judi Kahoun who is the new Woodcrest Elementary principal as well as the the half-time district-wide duties Jeanne Bennett held the past two years.



Dr. Jennifer Kunze

Jeanne Bennett will be continuing as a math instructor and will now also work with the principal and teacher leaders on continuous improvement, professional learning, and curriculum implementation at Westwood Middle School.

Dr. Kunze's background includes experience in teacher induction and mentoring, learning organizations, professional learning communities, job-embedded staff development, program evaluation, curriculum and instruction, teacher education, and educational policy and administration.

She has also been a district secondary mentor and high school teacher for the Bloomington Schools, a successful consultant, and a guest lecturer and research assistant at the University of

Minnesota in the area of Professional Learning Communities.

She received her doctorate in Educational Policy and Administration from the University of Minnesota. Her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction is also from the U of M, her B.A. is from St. Olaf College.

Dr. Jennifer York-Barr, a professor at the University of Minnesota and internationally recognized leader in the areas of curriculum and professional learning said Kunze is "an outstanding leader who has done outstanding work in Bloomington and in her other works."

"Spring Lake Park has now added two of the state's top curriculum and professional learning leaders in the last two years," she added, "when you think of Jennifer and Ellen Delaney, the high school's associate principal."

Dr. Lynn Searcy, Chief Academic Officer of School District 112, has also had the opportunity to work with Kunze. "Jennifer is the type of person," she said, "you are always looking for a way to bring onto your staff. She is student-focused, yet has an understanding and respect of the support teachers need and deserve to help all students be successful."

Dr. Kunze will begin her duties in July.