

New principals named for Goose Creek Memorial, Hopper

Two new principals have been selected to lead Goose Creek CISD schools next year.

The Goose Creek CISD Board of Trustees on May 14 named Michael Wahl as the new principal of Goose Creek Memorial High School and Kami Hale as principal of B.P. Hopper Primary School. "Our goal in making these assignments was to bring together the strongest teams possible, to enhance the instructional experience for our students and maximize support for our staffs," said Dr. Toby York, Goose Creek CISD superintendent. "We feel they are the best people for these positions and will be great assets to our schools and the community."



Mr. Wahl, 44, replaces Al Richard, who is retiring after 29 years of service in Goose Creek CISD.

Mr. Wahl has been with the district for 20 years, currently serving as the principal at Baytown Junior School where he has been since 2010.

Previously, Wahl had served as the principal at Harlem Elementary School for six years.

Before being named principal at Harlem, Wahl taught at Highlands Elementary for nine years while also serving as a coach at

Baytown Junior School. He also served as assistant principal at De Zavala Elementary for two years.

Mr. Wahl was named Goose Creek CISD elementary principal of the year in 2010.

Mr. Wahl holds a bachelor's degree in science and a master's degree in education, both earned at Stephen F. Austin State University.

"I am honored to have been chosen for this position. I look forward to getting to know the Patriot staff and working with them to get the new school year started," said Mr. Wahl. "Mr. Richard has Goose Creek Memorial High School on the path to excellence and I look forward to continuing that tradition as well as serving the Patriot community in this capacity."

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Mrs. Hale, who is currently the principal at Woods Elementary School in Tyler ISD, replaces Brenda Gongora-Hastings who is retiring after 26 years of service in Goose Creek CISD

Mrs. Hale, 41, has been an elementary school principal in Tyler ISD for three years.

Before that she served two years as an assistant principal in Marshall ISD and two years as a

curriculum coordinator, also in Marshall ISD.

She worked as a teacher for 10 years, six years in Longview ISD, and for four years in Desoto Parish, La.

Mrs. Hale holds a bachelor's degree in science from the University of Texas at Tyler and a master's degree in educational leadership from Stephen F. Austin State University.

"What an honor it is to be selected as the principal of B.P. Hopper Primary School. I am absolutely thrilled and eager to serve our children, parents and staff," said Mrs. Hale. "As educators, we have the most important charge in front of us as we help shape, guide and challenge our leaders and innovators of tomorrow. I can't wait to be a part of the great things happening at Goose Creek CISD."