

Monday, November 20, 2023

Dear Paper Mill Elementary Caregivers,

I am the new Interim Principal at Paper Mill! I am very glad to be here and am enjoying getting to know your children. I replaced Principal, Stacy Burgess, on November 13. She is now the Principal at Westfield's Virtual School. I will be here until the end of this school year. I am sure you might have concerns about all the changes, but I can assure you that I will do all I can to make sure that your children have smooth transitions. I have been very impressed with the staff and students here. Everyone has been welcoming and patient as I learn names and routines here.

I have worked in public schools for 35 years (21 as a teacher and 14 as a principal). I recently retired from Ryan Road School in Northampton. While I am here, it is my hope to bring experience, support, and positivity to our school community and to nurture and foster the many ideal educational experiences that are already happening at Paper Mill.

Assistant Principal, Tori Jennings, is a huge asset to the school and is helping me get acclimated to all things Paper Mill, including new software programs and the Positive Behavior Interventions and Support system (PBIS) being used here.

My overarching hope is that Paper Mill Elementary School is a place where children enjoy learning, where they want to come to school, where they continually gain skills, character, and confidence, and where they feel supported when they are struggling.

I hope families will always feel welcome, valued, and comfortable at school. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

There will only be two days of school this week on Monday and Tuesday. If you are celebrating Thanksgiving, I hope you enjoy the holiday, and I hope everyone has a good break. I'll look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, November 27.

Sincerely,

Sarah Madden
Interim Principal
Paper Mill Elementary School
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