



News Release

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For Immediate Release

NISD Names Principal of New Elementary School, Deborah McCune, Ed.D. to Lead the Opening of the District's 17th Elementary Campus

Deborah McCune, Ed.D., who is the current principal at Northwest ISD's Samuel Beck Elementary School, has been named principal of the district's newest campus, scheduled to open in August 2013. At the February 11 school board meeting, Northwest ISD Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D., recommended Deborah McCune, a hire that the school board supported with a unanimous vote.

McCune has served students in Northwest ISD since 2000 when she was hired as principal of Beck Elementary. Her new position will give her the opportunity to open a new campus while using her talents and experience to establish a culture of excellence.

"I am looking forward to working alongside parents, students and staff to create another great school community for NISD," McCune said. "It's exciting to build excellence from the ground up."

"Dr. McCune will make a smooth transition to this new campus and a growing community," said Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. "She has been a strong leader for us, and she brings nearly 15 years of school leadership experience to the position. She is an outstanding instructional leader and has a passion for building a strong community where parents, teachers and students work together to achieve success."

McCune has led Beck Elementary School to excellence over the past 13 years. Under her leadership, the school earned the state's prestigious "Exemplary" rating 10 years and was named a National Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

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In addition to serving as principal of Beck Elementary School, McCune worked as an assistant principal at Parkview Elementary School in Keller and as a teacher in Grapevine-Colleyville ISD as well as districts in other parts of the state. She earned her bachelor's degree in education from Texas A&M University, her master's degree from Texas Christian University and her doctorate of educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

Elementary School #17 is located in Roanoke on Litsey Road. The 109,926 square-foot campus will feature a large cafeteria and gymnasium, open space, enclosed courtyard, flexible spaces and energy efficient amenities. According to Dennis McCreary, assistant superintendent for facilities, planning and construction, Elementary School #17 is expected to open with approximately 350 students in August 2013. "We anticipate this to be the fastest growing school in our district over the next couple of years," he said. "Our projections show this school could have about 650 students by the 2017-2018 school year." Elementary School #17 is designed for the optimal capacity of 850 students.

A committee of parents and staff has met to discuss attendance boundary scenarios and a boundary recommendation was presented to the NISD Board of Trustees at the February 11 meeting. The proposed attendance boundary for Elementary School #17 includes the Chadwick Farms, Seventeen Lakes, Fairway Ranch and Bluffview neighborhoods. Based on this boundary proposal, the opening of this new school will relieve the student population at Roanoke and Hughes elementary schools. The board is expected to vote on the recommendation at the February 25 school board meeting.

The NISD school board is also expected to name the new school at its March 18 meeting.

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