



CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS

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Carmel Clay Schools Names Lila Jay as New Principal of Smoky Row Elementary

Carmel, IN – Carmel Clay Schools’ Board of Trustees voted to appoint Lila Jay to serve as the next principal of Smoky Row Elementary, effective July 1, at the board meeting held June 12. Jay will succeed outgoing Smoky Row Principal Kim Barrett, who will retire at the end of June.

Lila Jay has been in education for 15 years, most recently serving seven of those years as principal at Carmel Middle School. She began her career at Carmel Clay Schools teaching 6th grade English and Social Studies at Carmel Middle and transitioned into the role of Assistant Principal at Clay Middle School. Mrs. Jay graduated from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a minor in Reading and a Masters of Education in Educational Leadership. In addition, she currently serves on Carmel Clay Schools’ District Technology Integration Committee.



Dr. Nicholas D. Wahl, Superintendent of Schools, was pleased to recommend Mrs. Jay as the new Smoky Row Elementary principal. “In talking to Smoky Row parents and staff, it became clear they wanted a student-centered, enthusiastic and visible leader who was approachable, engaging and inspirational. Lila’s skill set, experience and personality make her a great fit to the Leadership Profile that was developed with input from Smoky Row parents and staff. We are fortunate to have someone within the district who already takes to heart the mission and vision of Carmel Clay Schools in that all students experience excellence, explore opportunities and realize potential.”

Mrs. Jay extended her appreciation to the Board and Superintendent Wahl in being selected for the new role. “I take it as the highest compliment that the Leadership Profile desired for Smoky Row matches my skill set. Having worked with Smoky Row families for the past seven years as they transition to middle school, I am aware of the standard of excellence students demonstrate as part of their education at Smoky Row. I am most excited to be a part of the Rocket community and come alongside students, their families, and the staff to provide a great experience for kids. I am looking forward to August, getting to greet our incoming Kindergarteners, and to meet our students with enthusiasm and lots of high fives when they start the new school year!”

Mrs. Jay and her husband reside in Carmel with their two children. Her hobbies include reading, traveling, taking spin classes and learning how to cook foods from cultures around the world.

The search for a new principal at Carmel Middle School will begin immediately. Superintendent Wahl will name a new principal before school resumes in August.

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