

Board names new principal for Briar Crest Elementary

The Pattonville Board of Education on March 11 unanimously selected Jerona Washington as principal of Briar Crest Elementary, effective July 1, 2008. Washington is currently assistant principal of Holman Middle School in Pattonville, a position she has held since 2005. She replaces Carrie Powell, who passed away Feb. 13, 2008, after a battle with malignant melanoma. Currently Laurie Wenzel is serving as acting principal and will return to her role as Pattonville's director of early childhood in July.

"We are pleased to have Mrs. Washington named as principal at Briar Crest," said Dr. Michael Fulton, superintendent. "In her current role, she is already familiar with many Briar Crest families whose children attend Holman. She will do a great job serving the Briar Crest school family and building bridges between the elementary and middle school. We are confident she will do an outstanding job for our families and staff."

Prior to coming to Pattonville, Washington was an administrative intern at Southwest Middle School in the Parkway School District and taught world literature, honors world literature and American literature at McCluer South-Berkeley High School. She also previously taught in the Hazelwood and Fort Zumwalt school districts. Washington holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education-English from the University of Missouri-Columbia, as well as a master's degree in educational administration from Lindenwood University. Washington is currently pursuing a doctorate degree through Lindenwood University.