

July 15, 2021

Dear Glen Haven Parents/Guardians, Students, and Staff Members:

As the director of learning, achievement and administration for the Albert Einstein High School Cluster, I am writing to inform you of an interim staffing change at Glen Haven Elementary School. At the July 15th, 2021 Board of Education Meeting, Mrs. Cassandra Heifetz, principal at Glen Haven was appointed as the Dean of the Elementary Virtual Academy. This change will go into effect on July 26, 2021. Mrs. Heifetz has been a strong leader for Glen Haven Elementary School community for the past three years. During this time, Mrs. Heifetz has worked with the staff and community to develop a vision that is defined by equity and excellence, collaborating with staff to prepare and implement high quality instruction that meets the needs of individual students, and a place where diversity is the school community's greatest strength and resource. As Glen Haven's principal, Mrs. Heifetz's leadership, collaboration with staff, engagement of student voices, and partnership with the community has resulted in building a school culture of high expectations where decisions are consistently grounded in what is best for children. We thank her for her leadership to the Glen Haven school community and congratulate her on her new position.

To support the continued success of Glen Haven, Mrs. Tara Strain, will serve as acting principal at Glen Haven Elementary School beginning on July 26, 2021. Mrs. Heifetz, Mrs. Strain, and I will work together to support a smooth and successful transition that results in continuity with excellent teaching and learning and open and effective communication. Mrs. Strain has a wealth of experience in elementary school teaching, leading and administration. Mrs. Strain has served as both an assistant principal and most recently, principal intern at Rosemary Hills Elementary School. During this time, she has demonstrated strong instructional leadership skills, a deep knowledge of how students learn and creating programs and structures to respond to their learning strengths and needs. She also demonstrates the ability to effectively communicate and collaborate to support a positive school culture. Mrs. Strain is passionate about her work as school leader and is well prepared to provide strong leadership to the Glen Haven community during the coming school year.

Mrs. Strain will work together with the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) to ensure a smooth transition at Glen Haven. A "Meet and Greet" will be scheduled soon to provide an opportunity for you to meet and welcome her in her new role to the Glen Haven community.

In the spring, we will start the principal selection process with MCPS which requires input from school staff and community members. As director of learning, achievement, and administration, my office will conduct meetings with stakeholders to collect leadership characteristics that are important for this principal vacancy.

Please join me to officially welcome Mrs. Strain as acting principal at Glen Haven Elementary School.

Respectfully,

Peter Moran, Ed.D.  
Director of Learning, Achievement and Administration