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RACHEL HIX MAKES A FULL CIRCLE NEW PRINCIPAL AT RIVERA ELEMENTARY RETURNS TO CAMPUS

MEET TONI GOODMANN NEW NAVO MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

MEET DR. BETH KELLEY NAMED NEW PRINCIPAL OF **CHEEK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

FIVE REASONS TO DISPLAY PHOTOS OF YOUR KIDS

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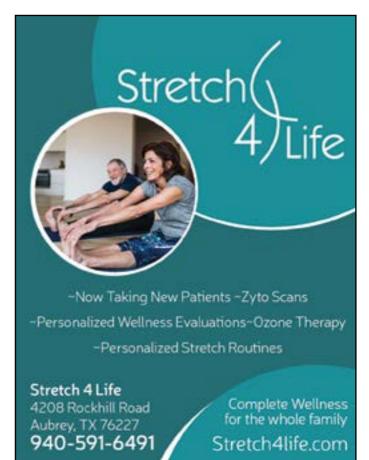


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MEET TONI GOODMAN

New Navo Middle School Principal

Article provided by Denton ISD

Toni Goodman, interim principal at Navo Middle School, has been named the school's newest principal. Last month, Dr. Beth Kelly was named principal at Cheek Middle School, the district's ninth middle school which will open next fall.

"I am humbled and honored by the opportunity to continue to serve in the Braswell Zone as the next principal of Navo Middle School. It is truly a privilege to build on the rich traditions established by the principals that have come before me. I look forward to continuing to work alongside

incredible staff, students, families and community as we forge a pathway to Braswell High School and beyond." said Mrs. Goodman.

Mrs. Goodman joined the district in 2006 serving as an eighth grade ELAR teacher at McMath Middle School. She spent six years on that campus before moving to Navo Middle School as a seventh grade ELAR teacher in 2013. She would have a brief stint as an administrator in another school district in 2014 before returning to Navo in 2015 to become the school's assistant principal, a role she has held until today.

Mrs. Goodman has been in education since 2003, starting her career in Austin ISD before joining Denton ISD. She also has eight years of administrative experience in the district.

"For many years, Mrs. Goodman has dedicated herself to the students of Navo Middle School. Her positive and established relationships, combined with her instructional background, will be a great asset to our community's students, staff, and

parents. This is especially true in a fast-growing community like Denton ISD," said Dr. Jeff Russell, Area Superintendent of Academic Programs.

Mrs. Goodman earned a bachelor's degree from Shaw University in North Carolina and a master's degree in teaching from Grand Canyon University. Mrs. Goodman and her husband reside in Denton and are a blended family with four adult children and their youngest attends Pecan Creek Elementary.





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MEET DR. BETH KELLY NAMED PRINCIPAL OF CHEEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Article provided by Denton ISD



Dr. Beth Kelly, principal at Navo Middle School, has been named the inaugural principal of Cheek Middle School. Cheek Middle School, located off FM 1385 near Noles and Fishtrap Roads in Prosper, is the district's ninth middle school and will open its doors to students for the first time in the fall of 2023.

The school is named in honor of retired Denton ISD educator and community advocate, Pat Hagan Cheek. Dr. Kelly will begin serving in her role as the new campus' leader on Jan. 3, as the second semester gets underway. Her replacement will be announced and in place prior to the end of the first semester.

"It has been both an honor and a privilege to serve as the principal of Navo Middle School for almost seven years. During that time I have worked with incredible staff, students and families," said Dr. Kelly. "The continued blessing for me is the opportunity to serve as the principal of Cheek Middle School where I can continue to serve families in the Braswell Zone. It is difficult to capture the excitement I have in opening the newest middle school as we build capacity for our students to become Braswell Bengals."

Dr. Kelly joined the district in 2005 serving as the English and Language Arts department chair at Guyer High School. She became the school's assistant principal a year later and would spend four years on campus before moving to a nearby district to become an associate principal in 2009. She returned to Denton ISD in 2012 to become the principal at Fred Moore High School. She spent four years in that role before moving to lead for Navo Middle School as the principal in 2016.

During her time as a principal in the district, Dr. Kelly has been a mentor to future district leaders through the LEAD Denton program. She has also implemented professional learning communities on her campuses that are focused on instructional assessment practices to increase the frequency of common assessments in each grade level and core content area resulting in increased student achievement on state assessment tests.

"The Braswell Zone is constantly growing and changing. Dr. Kelly possesses valuable experience at the middle school level and that allows for continuity and a seamless transition to our families on the eastern edge of the district," said Dr. Jeff Russell, Area Superintendent of Academic Programs. "Her established positive relationships and experiences will significantly benefit our community and Cheek Middle."

Dr. Kelly has a bachelor's degree in English from Northeast Louisiana University, a master's degree in administration from Texas Woman's University and a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of North Texas.

Dr. Kelly and her family reside in Flower Mound. Her two children, Greg and Natalie, are graduates of Guyer High School.

FIVE REASONS TO

Display Photos of Your Kids



As a professional photographer for over 15 years, I have had the privilege of capturing countless precious moments for families throughout the years. One thing I see time and time again as I visit people's homes are walls that lack memories for one reason or another; perhaps they lack time or just do not know where to start. I truly believe that hanging pictures of your children in your home can bring a wealth of benefits.

Here's five reasons why parents should consider displaying photographs of their kids and family in their home:

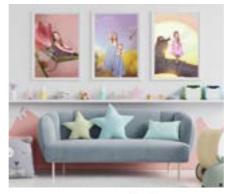
Personalizes your home - Your home is a reflection of your personality and style, and hanging pictures of your kids is a great way to personalize your space. Seeing the smiling faces of your children every day will bring warmth and joy to your home and will create a sense of belonging and comfort for everyone who lives there.

Preserves memories that may have been

forgotten - As your kids grow, their interests, personalities, and appearances will change. Photographs capture these moments in time and having them on display in your home will allow you to relive those memories every day. Whether it's a candid snapshot of your child laughing with their friends or a formal portrait of them at a milestone age, these images will be treasured for a lifetime.

Gives kids a self- esteem boost - As a parent, you are undoubtedly proud of your children and the unique individuals they are becoming. Hanging pictures of them in your home is a way to show off your pride to family, friends, and visitors. It's also a great way to remind your kids of how proud you are of them and their accomplishments.

Builds emotional connections - Displaying pictures of your kids in your home creates a sense of connection between family members. It allows for conversations about the memories and moments captured in the

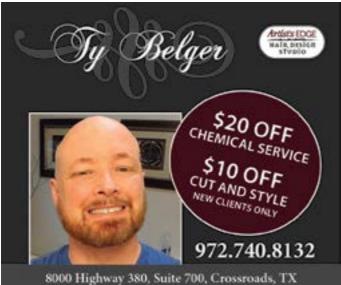




photographs and helps to build stronger bonds between family members.

Preserves your family's legacy - A photograph is a tangible reminder of a moment in time and will be cherished for generations to come. As a parent, you have the opportunity to create a legacy of family photographs that will be passed down through generations. These photographs will be a source of joy and comfort for your children and their children for years to come.

I strongly believe in the power of photographs to bring joy, warmth, and connection to our homes. Hanging pictures of your children in your home is a simple yet meaningful way to create a personalized, memorable, and proud space for your family. It also helps to create a legacy that will be passed down for generations to come. So, take the time to print and display those precious memories of your kids for everyone to see! If you need any help, let me know!







MELISSA BATES

NAMED PRINCIPAL OF PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Article provided by Denton ISD



Melissa Bates, assistant principal at Braswell High School, has been named the principal of Providence Elementary School and will begin in her new role after the Thanksgiving holiday on November 28. Mrs. Bates replaces Jairia Diggs, who was recently named the Director of Federal Programs and School Improvement for Denton ISD.

"As an assistant principal at Braswell High School, Mrs. Bates is already a fixture in the Braswell community," said Dr. Jeff Russell, area superintendent of academic programs. "Now

that she will serve as the principal of Providence Elementary School, we know she will continue to have an even more significant and favorable influence on our growing community."

A veteran educator with experience at both the elementary and secondary levels, Mrs. Bates possesses a strong background in the classroom and as a campus administrator. Her proven talent in cultivating positive campus culture and climate, coordinating interventions, building master schedules, and assessing campus needs, as well as her capacity to develop and sustain school-community partnerships throughout her time in Denton ISD is impressive.

Mrs. Bates began her career in public education in the state of Mississippi serving the students of the Canton Public Schools in 2003. She moved to the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex and joined Denton ISD in 2008, serving at Stephens Elementary.

In 2010, Mrs. Bates helped open Cross Oaks Elementary, serving in the classroom for four years before moving to Rivera Elementary as a math interventionist in 2014. In 2015, she became the curriculum and assessment coordinator at Rivera before being named assistant principal at the school in 2016. She would move to Ryan High School for one year as assistant principal in 2021 before being named assistant principal at Braswell High School for the current school year.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to continue to serve my community, the students, and the staff of our zone," said Mrs. Bates. "The Providence community is rich in traditions and values, and I look forward to carrying on with the amazing work that Mrs. Diggs and the staff of Providence Elementary have established."

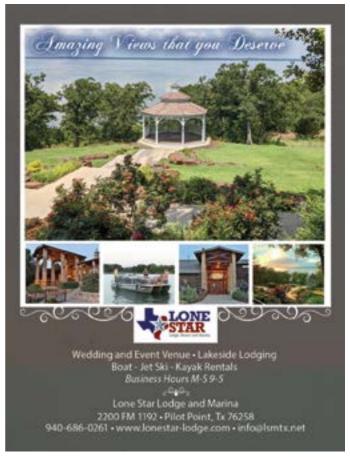
Mrs. Bates earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Alcorn State University and her master's degree in education from Mississippi College. She and her husband are raising three young kids, two of whom are students in Denton ISD and the youngest is not yet school-aged.



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RACHEL HIX MAKES A FULL CIRCLE

New Principal at Rivera Elementary Returns to Campus

Article provided by Denton ISD

For Rachel Hix, being named principal at Rivera Elementary by Denton ISD Trustees on Tuesday night was several years in the making. She was named the leader of the campus when Marvyn White left the district recently to assume a similar position with a neighboring district.

While in college studying to be a teacher at the University of North Texas (UNT), Mrs. Hix was a staff member in Denton ISD's extended care after-school program, which was then housed at Rivera Elementary. After Mrs. Hix joined Denton ISD later in her career. The veteran educator quickly became a member of the LEAD Denton leadership program

– where she was mentored by former Rivera Elementary principal Marvyn White.

So, for Mrs. Hix, she couldn't help but see her new leadership role as a full-circle moment.

"I am really excited and honored to have the opportunity to continue to serve students in the same feeder pattern that I have become so accustomed to since joining Denton ISD four years ago," Mrs. Hix said. "My familiarity with students and families in the Ryan zone will afford me a unique opportunity to hit the ground running and continue the spirit of excellence those in the Rivera Elementary family have come to expect."

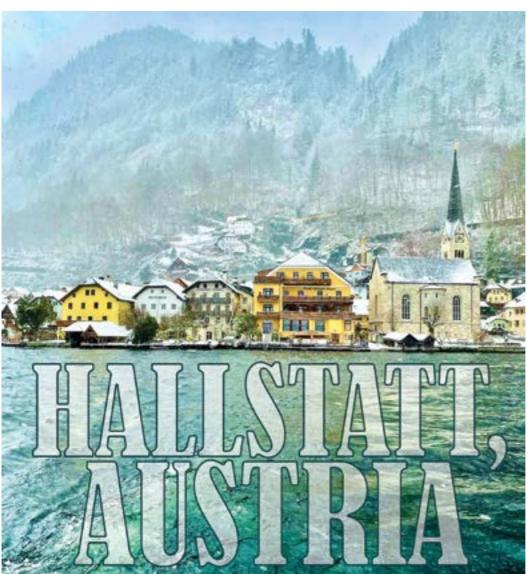
Mrs. Hix has served as the assistant principal at Hodge Elementary School since 2019. She will begin her new role as principal of Rivera Elementary School effective immediately.

Mrs. Hix has 16 years of experience in education and has been an elementary campus administrator at Title I schools in two different districts for a total of seven years. She enjoys working with students and families at diverse campuses and considers it one of her greatest strengths as a campus leader.

Mrs. Hix began her career in public education at Irving ISD as a fifth-grade English, Language Arts teacher in 2007. She remained in that district for six years before accepting a teaching position at Duncanville ISD in 2013. Mrs. Hix quickly became an assistant principal just two years later and remained in a leadership position until joining the district in 2019.

"We could not be more excited to have Rachel Hix taking over this campus leadership position," said Dr. Gwen Perkins, area superintendent of academic programs. "She is highly respected and has a proven track record of working with diverse campuses throughout her career. Mrs. Hix has been a vital member of the Ryan Zone campus leadership staff for four years, and we are very excited to have her now serving as the principal at Rivera Elementary."









Not a Fairytale, H's Real

By Jodie Linton-Prickett

Every bit of magic you dream up in your head when gazing at the photos of Hallstatt is categorically accurate. Actually, it's even better than the pristine images you see online or in travel books. How is that you ask? Because it is real. Very real. The photos leave out the clean smell of the crisp mountain air, the relaxing sounds of the water from the crystal-clear lake lapping at the shoreline, the smells whiffing through the air from the tiny bakeries, the swans trumpeting when they see you walking by, in hopes you will toss them a snack, none of these elements show up in the photos, but it is all there,

in real life. Too be quite honest, if shopkeepers came out and burst into song and dance, it wouldn't even surprise you.

The exquisiteness is enhanced by its mirrored reflection in Hallstatt Lake. Looking across the water you can see an almost perfect likeness of this tiny Alpine village clinging to the side of the mountain, dotted with church steeples, brilliantly colored red, ochre, pink and green buildings, winding cobblestoned streets and lumbering pine trees.

Often, we see a location in a photograph that is captivating, add it to our wish list, only to arrive to be cruelly disenchanted. There was a commercial from the early 2000's showing a sweet little

cottage in a cropped photo and as the camera zooms out, you realize it is located in front of a nuclear power plant. Hallstatt is not that! It is deeply nestled in perfection. We arrived at Hallstatt by train, from Linz, Austria. Not too far into the almost three-hour journey, you are chugging your way up through the mountains, greeted by one pictorial town or village after another. Miles and miles of absolute splendor.

While you can drive and park in one of the parking areas, take a bus, or arrive with a tour, you would miss out on all of the scenery and the dramatic arrival by ferry, which syncs up perfectly with the train. The ferry drifts across the lake bringing this postcard view into

clear focus as it docks at the foot of the village. Mind you, there is a fee for the ferry, and they only take euros, so have cash on hand.

I missed an opportunity to go to Hallstatt with my sister in the early 90's. Back before the tourism eruption occurred there. Someone told us it was charming, and we should go, but we spent our time in Salzburg, Austria instead. It was some year's later when I saw a picture of Hallstatt and realized what I had missed out on. It was so enchanting, I simply had to go there. Finally, over 30 years later, it was on my itinerary.

After learning about how popular of a destination Hallstatt had become, I decided two things, firstly go in off season, secondly stay a night or two. I learned long ago; small villages are often left for side trips. A quick day trip from larger cities, tours arranged by tour guides, overflows the smaller destinations during the day. If this is your absolute only way to see Hallstatt, take it. However, like with other places steeped with tourism, I suggest staying a few nights. It is after the tour buses load up and leave, the place becomes yours. The cobbled lanes imbued with tourists empties out, quietness settles in, at some point late in the evening you may have various places all to yourself. This is when you truly experience the magic these special destinations have to offer.

It is because this dreamlike village is no longer a secret you will find the population of just over 800 full time residents play host to more than a million visitors a year. During the busy season over 10,000 people can show up each day. Consider this while planning your visit. While the warmer months will be filled with color, it may also be filled with people shoulder to shoulder.

I personally prefer the off seasons. Less tourists, less expensive and shorter lines are a no brainer in my opinion. However, I don't think there is a bad time to visit Hallstatt. I'm sure it is just as beautiful cloaked in fresh fallen snow as it is when it is bursting with flowers.

While in Hallstatt you will be compelled to take photographs nonstop. With cameras everywhere the poor village must feel like the paparazzi never goes away. The area itself is small and can be walked in about an hour. Go out there take all the photos you want. Then stroll it again with your camera tucked away. Just walk around and soak in everything. Lean over the rails at the Parish of the Assumption and look out over the lake, walk through the churches, sit quietly at the distinctive

cemetery, visit the unusual Hallstatt Ossuary, take the funicular to the top of Hallstatt and leisurely walk through the forest, enjoy long breakfasts looking out over the water, eat the extra pastry and drink another coffee, embrace the moment.

Hallstatt was designated an UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997. Its salt mine is the oldest in the world and provided the region with prosperity. This is reflected in the affluent architecture throughout the entire Salzkammergut region. While visiting Hallstatt make sure you go to the salt mine, Salzwelten Hallstatt, with roots back to the second millennium B.C. It has the oldest ladder in history available to view at the end of the tour, which is extremely impressive. The tour has several stairs, inclines and a lot of walking, so wear good shoes. During the tour you will also slide down fabulous wood miners slides that take you deep underground. The excellently guided tour will give you historical and current information about the mine and how the area grew around it over the millennia. You will be moving through areas where miners have worked for over 7,000 years.

On the way back down from your tour of Salzwelten stop off at the Welterbeblick, the Hallstatt Skywalk, for an eagle's eye view of the village and lake below.

There are several places to eat in the Old Town and Central Square Marktplatz, but make sure to make a reservation. Even in the off season the restaurants fill up fast. May I suggest the fresh fish, caught locally at the lake. However, everything was scrumptious.

Everyplace we visited in Hallstatt was superb. The people are friendly, helpful and hospitable. It is a great place to visit for anyone looking for a bit of *märchenwald*, fairytale.

If Hallstatt, Austria is on your bucket list, move it up a notch or two. If it isn't, add it! It truly is a real-life fairytale.













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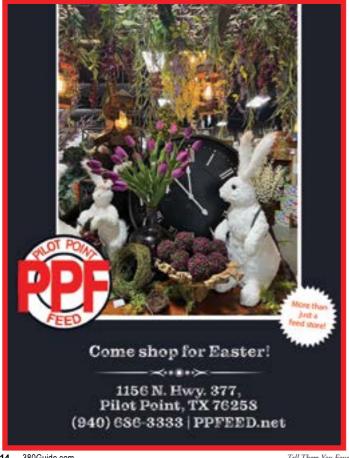
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Larry and Betty Linton took their 380Guide with them to Parisi Udvar in Budapest, Hungary and Hallstatt, Austria.



Jodie Prickett took her 380Guide with her to the historic Marmorosch in Bucharest, Romania.





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