

School board appoints seven to new positions



Submitted photos

The new board appointees. Pictured: (left to right) Stokes, Holland, Garcia, Johnson, Goodwin, Keen. Not pictured: Joe Trujillo.

By Hansen Hasenberg
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There was a significant shake-up in Santa Rosa District Schools in June.

At the June 13 school board meeting, the district appointed seven people to new positions at schools throughout the district, including four principals at Holley Navarre Primary School, Avalon Middle School, East Milton Elementary School and Gulf Breeze Elementary School.

One of the schools with a new principal is Holley Navarre Primary School. Outgoing principal Daniel Balsavich will be replaced by Audrey Goodwin.

Goodwin worked as an academic intervention specialist at Bennett Russell Elementary School and has recently served as assistant principal at S.S. Dixon Primary School.

"I am very honored," Goodwin said. "I am looking forward to still being at a primary school. There is

nothing like having six to seven hundred 5- to 7-year-olds in a building all at once. Getting to see that joy."

Avalon Middle School is also getting a new principal. Ryan Stokes will replace Joe Trujillo as the leader of the school. Stokes is returning to Avalon Middle after serving as Sims Middle School's assistant principal.

"(I am looking to) continue tradition of excellence like those that came before," Stokes said.

With Nadia Colin becoming the school public information officer, there was a vacancy in the principal's office at East Milton Elementary School. To fill Colin's shoes, the district tapped Trish Johnson, the assistant principal at East Bay K-8.

"We have found the right fit," said Superintendent Dr. Karen Barber.

Johnson started teaching in 2007 in Santa Rosa County. She thanked Beth Mosley, the principal at East Bay K-8, for helping teach her to be a better leader.

Gulf Breeze Elementary School is welcoming Monica Garcia as its new principal. She replaces outgoing principal Warren Stevens, who spent 15 years as the school's lead administrator. Garcia comes to Gulf Breeze Elementary from Oriole Beach Elementary, where she has served as assistant principal for a decade.

In response to the news of her departure, Oriole Beach Elementary put out the following statement on Facebook:

"As she transitions to GBE, we have no doubt that Mrs. Garcia will continue to shine brightly and make a positive difference in the lives of those she encounters. While she may be moving on to new horizons, she will always hold a special place in our hearts here at OBE. We love her dearly and will cherish the memories and impact she has made on our school."

Garcia thanked the board, her colleagues and her family for all the sup-

port. Garcia's husband, Rafael, is the Air Force JROTC at Gulf Breeze High School. Her children attend Gulf Breeze schools.

In addition to principals, the board also named a new assistant principal at Central School and at Gulf Breeze High School. They also named a district coordinator of threat management.

Melinda Holland will fill the role of assistant principal at Central School and Joe Trujillo will be the next assistant principal at Gulf Breeze High.

Holland has been a member of the leadership at Central School and taught there. She graduated from Central School in 2004.

"Our journey begins today, let's get to work," Holland said.

Trujillo previously served as principal at Avalon Middle for the past two and a half years and as assistant principal at Navarre High School for six and half years.

Patrick Keen will serve as the district's coordinator

of threat management, a position created to comply with state statute regarding school safety. The position is funded by the state.

Previously, Keen was assistant principal at Gulf Breeze High, where he worked in both student services and curriculum. According to the superintendent and members of the board, his experience should come in handy with the new role.

"(Its) a very complicated, tedious role he is stepping into, but he is ready and able," Superintendent Barber said.

Recognition for Mrs. Patrick

In addition to schools saying "hello" to new administrators, the school board also took time to honor a retiring teacher. Sharon Patrick has been with the school district for the past 33 years. In that time, she worked at a host of schools including Central School and Sims Middle. She also worked under four superintendents during that time.

At those schools, as well as at the district level, she served in roles such as classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, and district director of continuous improvement. From 2013 to 2015, she was principal at Sims Middle, one of only three people to hold the position.

In response to Patrick being honored before the board, Barber complimented Patrick, saying she is a "great friend and a great educator." District director of risk management Alexandra Timmons spoke about Patrick as well, saying she was a "dedicated and consummate professional" when it came to caring and educating Santa Rosa's children.

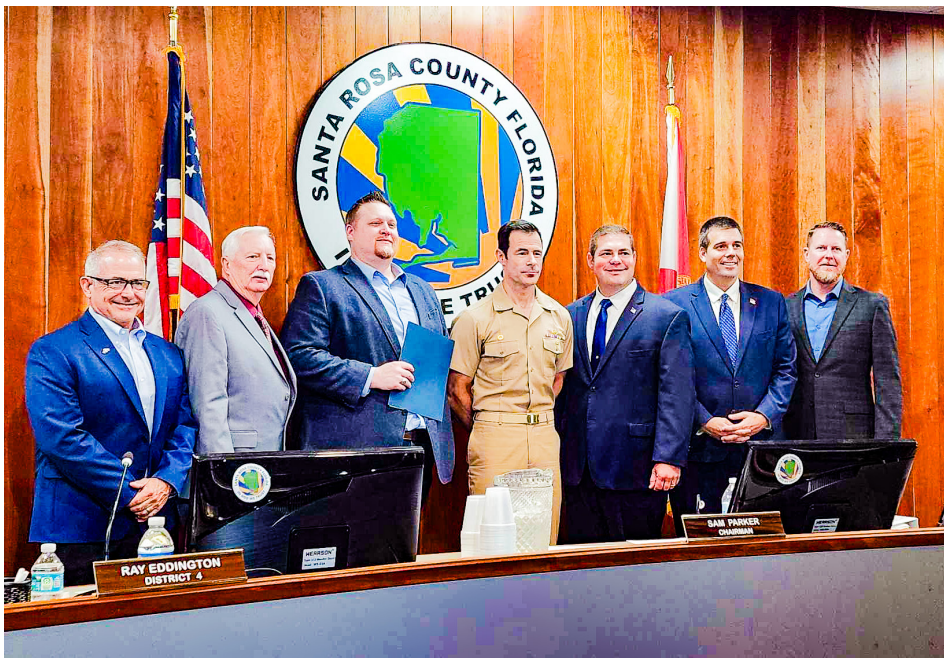
Patrick's retirement opened up the director of continuous improvement position, which was filled by former Gulf Breeze Elementary principal Warren Stevens. That appointment was announced at the school board's May meeting.

Intergovernmental agreement signed between NAS Whiting Field, City of Milton, Santa Rosa County

By Daniel Evans
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The Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners, the city of Milton and NAS Whiting Field signed an intergovernmental agreement on June 13 that will allow the two local governments to provide services to the military.

The city of Milton will provide water tank maintenance and repair, road maintenance and repair and sidewalk and curb services to NAS Whiting Field. The estimated cost to NAS Whiting Field for the services Milton will provide annually is estimated to be \$1,796,058, though that cost will vary depending on need.



Cutline....

Photo by

Santa Rosa County will be providing airfield marking and painting services to NAS Whiting Field, per the agreement. The estimated cost for the work for NAS Whiting field is \$39,719.33, although that cost could vary depending on the scope of the work needed.

The agreement would continue for up to 10 years, or June 13, 2034, when a new agreement would need to be signed.

"These agreements will help minimize costs through operational efficiencies and economies of scale, contribute to enabling the base mission and provide direct economic benefits to our communi-

ty partners," said Captain Paul Flores, NAS Whiting Field.

Flores said it's projected that the partnerships will save \$1.5 million to Whiting Field, a cost reduction of 55%.

"Taking care of the installation takes care of the mission," Flores said. "It enables the installation to remain effective and efficient, leading to cost savings. These potential savings will help generate avenues to support and improve operational readiness and mission capabilities."

Flores, County Commission Chairman Sam Parker and City of Milton Mayor Pro Tem Casey Powell signed the agreement.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT REVISIONS TO SANTA ROSA DISTRICT SCHOOLS CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Pursuant to Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, the Santa Rosa County School Board will hold a public hearing to consider the revisions, additions and deletions for the 2024-2025 Code of Student Conduct. The purpose of these changes is to update the existing Code of Student Conduct in accordance with legislative and State Board of Education Regulations. The public hearing is scheduled for July 30, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Woodlawn Beach Middle School, 1500 Woodlawn Way, Gulf Breeze, FL.

A copy of this policy will be available for study and examination at the Douglas A. Dillon Administrative Center, 6032 Highway 90, Milton, Florida from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday - Friday, from June 24, 2024 through July 30, 2024.

Dr. Karen R. Barber
Superintendent of Schools

Advertisement Dates:
Santa Rosa Press Gazette:
Thursday, June 20, 2024
Thursday, June 27, 2024
Thursday, July 4, 2024
Thursday, July 11, 2024
Thursday, July 18, 2024
Thursday, July 25, 2024

Public Hearing Date:
July 30, 2024

ML3086

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT REVISIONS TO SANTA ROSA DISTRICT SCHOOLS STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN

Pursuant to Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, the Santa Rosa County School Board will hold a public hearing to consider the revisions, additions and deletions for the 2024-2025 Student Progression Plan. The purpose of these changes is to update the existing Student Progression Plan in accordance with legislative and State Board of Education Regulations. The public hearing is scheduled for July 30, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Woodlawn Beach Middle School, 1500 Woodlawn Way, Gulf Breeze, FL.

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