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For Immediate Release
March 29, 2006

New middle school principal hired

Beginning July 1, 2006, a new leader will take the helm at Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School. Ann McCarty was officially hired, last night, with a vote by the Falls Church City School Board.



Ann McCarty thanks the school board for the opportunity to serve as the next principal of Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School.

While Ms. McCarty may be new to Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, she's no stranger to the Falls Church City Public Schools. She is currently serving as assistant principal at George Mason High School.

"Her leadership style, professional demeanor and demonstrated knowledge of educational best practices, particularly at the middle school level, are extremely impressive," Superintendent Lois Berlin said. "Those who have known Ms. McCarty throughout her career consistently describe her as a firm, but fair disciplinarian, a clear communicator and one who works daily to create a positive school climate for students, parents and colleagues."

Ms. McCarty joined the George Mason High School faculty in July 2005, when the school transitioned from a 9-12 grade structure to an 8-12 grade configuration.

There, she quickly proved to be an integral member of the staff helping oversee the instructional program, taking on key administrative tasks, collaborating with parents and colleagues, supervising high school athletic events and representing the school on a variety of committees including the division's Business in Education Partnership (BIE), the Career Technical Education Committee (CTE) and the Professional Growth Plan (PGP) Committee.

"I have had a variety of opportunities to observe her interacting with students and parents, and she has always maintained a positive, professional demeanor in these encounters," said high school counseling director Ken Siekman. "As the chair of an IEP, Child Study, or 504 Committee, Ms. McCarty demonstrates a strong sense of organization, familiarity with school policies and a genuine desire to make the best decisions possible for students."

Ms. McCarty's educational career began as a middle school classroom teacher nearly a decade ago in the Norfolk Public Schools in Norfolk, Virginia. She also served as a middle school teacher, a middle school assistant principal and a middle school principal in the Columbus

Public Schools in Columbus, Ohio. She began working in the Falls Church City Public Schools as a high school assistant principal in July 2005.

Ms. McCarty earned her bachelors degree in Music Education at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. She earned her masters degree in Educational Policy and Leadership at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

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