



News Release

Dr. Jeff Jennewein hired as superintendent for Cole R-I School District beginning July 1, 2022

RUSSELLVILLE, MO, Feb. 8, 2022 - The Cole R-I School District Board of Education announced today that Dr. Jeff Jennewein will serve the district as its new superintendent beginning July 1, 2022.

"Following a unanimous vote, the board is delighted to select Dr. Jeff Jennewein as the next leader of our school district," said Shawn Ehrhardt, President of the Cole R-I School District Board of Education. "Jeff is energetic and eager to join our team and proactively continue to move our district forward and encourage our students to be the best version of themselves."

Dr. Jennewein has served as the Assistant Principal at Capital City High School for the past three years and previously served as assistant principal at Simonsen Ninth Grade Center. Prior to his time in Jefferson City, Dr. Jennewein has worked at DeSoto, West Plains and Vienna high schools as a teacher and coach.

"I am excited to join the district and ready to serve as their superintendent," said Dr. Jennewein. "I am a tireless worker and an ultimate team player who believes that our job is to improve the lives of every child by inspiring them for a better tomorrow."

Dr. Jennewein has 19 years of experience in education and seven in administration. He received a Doctorate in Teaching and Learning from Missouri Baptist University, a Specialist Degree in Administration with an emphasis in Superintendency from Missouri State University, and a Masters Degree in Administration from Northern State University. Dr. Jennewein also teaches masters and specialist level college courses for William Woods and Lincoln universities.

The board of education hired Dr. Jennewein as the new superintendent for the school district following Perry Gorrell's announcement to retire at the end of this school year. Gorrell has dedicated 30 years of service to public education and has served the last six years as superintendent for Cole R-I School District.