

New Administrators Will Lead Council Rock into the Future

The 2006-2007 school year brings many new faces to Council Rock's administrative ranks.

Superintendent Mark Klein has completed his reorganization of the central office and now has in place a Director of Elementary Education, a Director of Secondary Education and a Supervisor of Operational Services. There are also two new elementary and middle school principals. Citizens for Education Executive Board members had the opportunity to meet with these individuals, who will lead Council Rock into the future. We thank them for their time and insights.

Wrightstown Elementary Welcomes New Principal Nicole Crawford

In July 2006, the Council Rock School District welcomed Nicole Crawford as the Principal of Wrightstown Elementary.

Ms. Crawford comes to Council Rock with a diverse background. In her teen years, Ms. Crawford spent several years abroad in Luxemburg, where she finished her last two years of high school at the American International School and her first year of college at an American college in the Netherlands. She returned to the states and earned a teaching degree from West Chester University and received her principal certification from Rowan University in 2005.

Ms. Crawford comes to Council Rock with 12 years of experience as an educator. She began her teaching career working in the Jersey City, Elizabeth and Hillside school districts in NJ. Most recently, she spent six years as a fourth grade teacher in the Cherry Hill School District. While in Cherry Hill, Ms. Crawford did staff development and developed workshops in Literacy, Reading, Lesson Study Design and Collaboration. She offered these workshops within the district and in the summers presented them to other school districts. With the help of her principal and mentor at Cherry Hill, she learned skills necessary to become an effective principal. She applied to Council Rock seeking the job as principal in part to be closer to the home she shares with her husband in Conshohocken PA.

There were 60 applicants and a long interview process. After four interviews and an onsite visit, Ms. Crawford was hired. She reports to Joy McClendon, Director of Elementary Education. She has found the new Administrator Induction Program in Council Rock a great asset. Her mentor, Dr. Pat Carney-Dalton, Principal at Hillcrest Elementary, and Kevin King, former principal of Wrightstown, have helped her settle in. She says this "support is just incredible."

In May, after accepting the position and in keeping with her philosophy of collaboration, Ms. Crawford met with administration, staff, parents, and students in Wrightstown. Her transition was made easier because of these meetings. Her short-term goals are to learn District and Pennsylvania State policies. She appreciates the learning culture, trust and the community environment at Wrightstown. Ms. Crawford's long-term goals will be to initiate workshops such as Balanced Math Assessments, Lesson Study Design and Problem Solving Techniques. She feels there is a great culture at Wrightstown, and she intends to continue and build on the successes there. She will "solve problems/challenges as a team" and with open communication.