

Hello Mr. Michael Johnson,

Welcome to South Ridge, as a new principal for Dist. 2142. I am sure you have much on your plate for the beginning of the school year, and I will try to be brief with my introduction.

I would like to introduce myself to you as an administrator from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC). My name is Sara Montgomery, the Dean of Education. I am new to this position this summer, but I have been involved with the FDLTCC Elementary Education program as it grew into fruition of a licensed four-year BS Education Program.

I would like to introduce to you a few collaborative efforts that South Ridge and FDLTCC Elementary Education Programs have been working on.

In the last few years, Dist. 2142 has been enrolling students in a special PSEO Elementary Education program. FDLTCC and Dist. 2142 began offering a couple of courses to allow students to work within the K-6 elementary classrooms and earn credit and “field experience hours,” while taking a college course in education. This is something we hope to continue to pursue and work with the counselors to make sure students are signed up for courses before the school year begins.

It has been the intention of the FDLTCC Elementary Education program to keep many schools involved with the new four-year Elementary Education program here at FDLTCC. To continue the growth of new educators for all schools, it is important to recruit students into education, but we would like to specifically be connected to the local school districts within the area.

Last year, May 2024, a team was organized from South Ridge to be the Designated School Partner with FDLTCC Elementary Education Program. It was the beginning process to allow host candidates clinical experiences as well as the school or district leaders to collaborate with the unit, evaluate data, assess progress toward mutually beneficial goals and provide input on the content and design of the teacher preparation program. The Team members included:

Kristi Berlin (Dist. 2142 Admin)

Andrew Bernard (South Ridge Principal)

Heidi Ojibway (South Ridge Elementary Teacher)

Kim Spoor (FDLTCC Dean of Education)

Sara Montgomery (FDLTCC Program Coordinator/faculty)

Tara Graves (FDLTCC Education Facilitator)

It is the hope this collaborative will continue, as the FDLTCC/South Ridge Education team agreed to meet two (2) times a year as a component of meeting licensure process for MN Professional Education License and Standards Board (PELSB). PELSB also recommends having a written partnership agreement, which is something for discussion at the next meeting. This will allow for discussions at meetings while sharing and collaborating data to be informed of best practices for the future of South Ridge and FDLTCC Elementary Education program.

I would like to have the opportunity to meet with you, to personally discuss the previous informational meeting and the possibility of the next step for this partnership to meet the future needs of the communities and the FDLTCC Education Programs.

If you could respond and let me know if you are available of a day and time that may work for you, (these next few days would work great for me). I can easily stop by South Ridge and discuss more with you. This will just be a discussion, and if we want to set up another meeting with the team members for fall we can plan that during the discussion, but I wanted to inform you of the process that began last spring about the connection with South Ridge and FDLTCC Elementary Education Program.

Thank you for the opportunity to allow me to introduce myself and the FDLTCC Elementary Education Program to you. You can reach me through email or my phone number listed below.

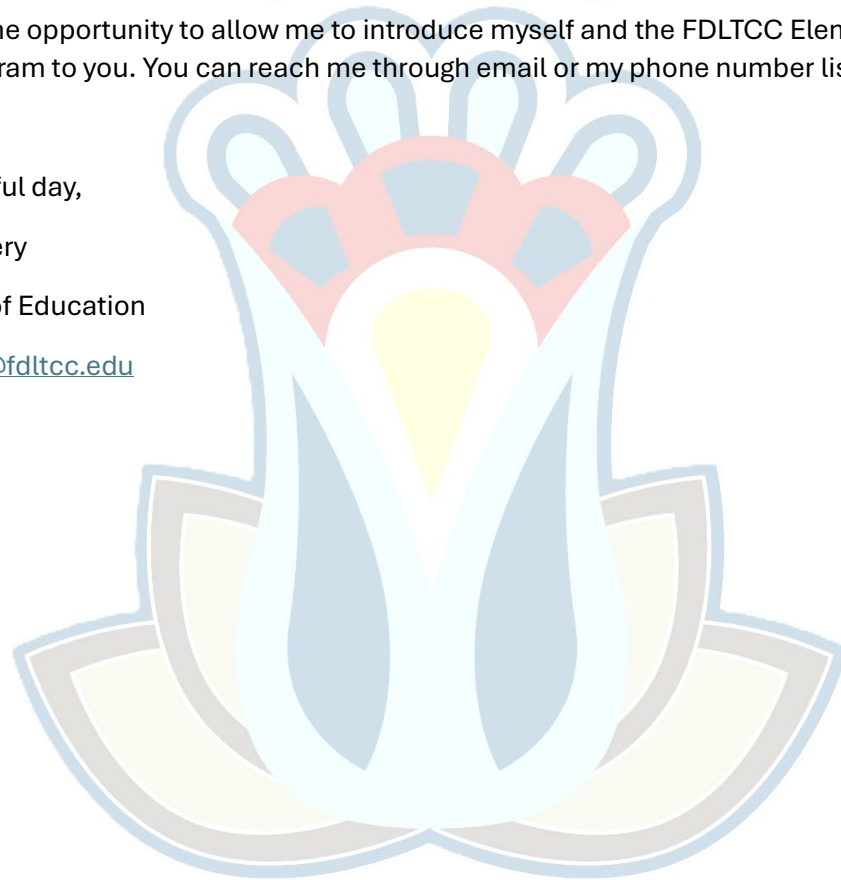
Have a wonderful day,

Sara Montgomery

FDLTCC Dean of Education

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ELEMENTARY  
EDUCATION