

## PRINCIPAL SEARCH

I am delighted to announce that the Board of Education has approved Dr. Susan Elias to be our next school Principal. As you know, Dr. Elias has served as our Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction since 2013, acted as our coordinator and literacy coach, and taught here at Blirstown Elementary School since 2010. Previous to her coming to Blirstown, Dr. Elias taught language arts in Montville.

Dr. Elias holds a BA degree in Elementary Education and Psychology, an MA in Reading with certification as a Reading Specialist, earned an Ed.S. in Educational Management, Leadership and Policy, and has earned her Doctorate from Seton Hall University in administration.

Dr. Elias will assume her Principal responsibilities officially on July 1<sup>st</sup>. She will continue to be responsible for the supervision of our curriculum and instruction since we will eliminate the Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction position, as we downsize our staff with declining enrollment and loss of state aide. Dr. Elias has worked closely with retiring Principal Mr. Bruce Leal during her time as part of our administrative team, and will continue to do so, thus ensuring a smooth transition as we move into the future.

I know that she always keeps our young learners first in her heart, and that she will work tirelessly to provide our teachers, staff and parents with direction, and support.

Please continue to monitor our website and Facebook page for a “meet and greet” session with Dr. Elias in the near future!

Mark Saalfield  
Superintendent