



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pacific Rim School District Announces Departure of Assistant Superintendent James Messenger

Port Alberni, B.C. August 25, 2026 – Pacific Rim School District is announcing the upcoming departure of Assistant Superintendent James Messenger, who has resigned from his position effective September 4, 2026, after many years of service with the District.

Mr. Messenger and his family will be relocating to Kamloops, where he has accepted a position as Assistant Superintendent with the Kamloops-Thompson School District. James has been part of Pacific Rim School District for over 30 years, building a career that has included a number of teaching, school-based and District leadership roles. Throughout his time with Pacific Rim School District, James has contributed to many areas of the District's work and has developed lasting relationships with colleagues, students, families, Indigenous partners, and communities throughout the region.

"Port Alberni has been my home for more than 30 years, and Pacific Rim School District has been where I began my teaching career and where I have been supported, challenged, and nurtured throughout my professional journey," said Mr. Messenger. "Over the years, I have had the privilege of serving students and families in many roles, as a teacher, Vice-Principal, Principal, Director of Instruction, and Assistant Superintendent. The opportunities I have been given, the relationships I have built, and the learning I have experienced have shaped both who I am and the leader I have become. It has been a true privilege to serve this community, and I will always be grateful for that. I am excited for the opportunity to bring my experience to the Kamloops-Thompson School District and community, while also embracing the learning, growth, and new perspectives that come with a transition like this."

Superintendent Peter Klaver said James' years of experience within the District and his commitment to its students and communities have made him a valued member of the senior leadership team. "It has been a pleasure working with James as he has moved from teacher to school administrator and finally as my partner in the Assistant Superintendent role. I know he will bring the same dedication, focus on students and involvement with the community as he has demonstrated in the Pacific Rim School District to the Kamloops School District. This is an exciting move for James and his family as they move on to new adventures."

Board Chair Orr expressed the Board of Education's gratitude for James' many years of service. "James is an exceptional educator, and it shows in the genuine care he has brought to every student, family, and colleague he has worked with. Beyond the classroom and the office, James has been a dedicated community member, someone who shows up, builds relationships, and makes people feel valued wherever he goes. On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to thank James from the bottom of our hearts for the difference he has made in this District. He will be deeply missed, and we wish James and his family every happiness as they begin this new chapter in Kamloops."

The Board of Education, senior leadership team, and staff of Pacific Rim School District congratulate James on his new appointment and thank him for the dedication, leadership, and care he has brought to his work over the years. While James will be missed by colleagues and communities across the District, Pacific Rim School District wishes him and his family every success and happiness as they begin their next chapter in Kamloops.

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About Pacific Rim School District

The Pacific Rim School District is situated on the ḥaḥuuti of the c̓šaaʔaḥ (Tseshahṭ) and Hupačasath First Nations. With schools also located on the ḥaḥaḥuuti of the Huu-ay-aht (Huu-ay-aht), and ʔaʔuukʷiʔaḥ (Tla-o-qui-aht), First Nations and the Yuuṭuʔiḥaḥ (Yuu-cluth-aht) Government, the district serves a regional population of approximately 31,000 people, including 4,000 students from across Port Alberni, Tofino, Ucluelet, Bamfield and other remote communities. www.sd70.bc.ca