



CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS

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For Immediate Release – June 12, 2017

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New Carmel High School Principal Announced

Carmel Clay Schools' Board of Trustees Approves Dr. Thomas Harmas for Job

Carmel, IN – Creekside Middle School Principal Dr. Thomas Harmas will take over the helm of Carmel High School this fall. He will replace John Williams who retired at the end of the school year. The Board of Trustees approved Superintendent Dr. Nicholas D. Wahl's recommendation at its meeting tonight.

"We were so fortunate to already have someone of Tom's caliber working for the school district," Dr. Wahl says. "Tom is exactly what we were looking for in the leadership profile created for this position. Students, staff and parents said they were looking for a visionary, student-centered, visible leader who was approachable, inclusive and inspirational. Tom checks all those boxes."

An Indianapolis native, Dr. Harmas opened Creekside Middle School in 2004. Prior to that, he taught social studies and history and worked as a principal at Mt. Vernon Middle School and an assistant principal at Tipton High School. He also helped open the new Avon High School before joining Carmel Clay Schools. The 56-year old has been at Creekside for 14 years and says he will bookend his career at the high school.

"I look forward to spending the rest of my career at Carmel High School," Harmas beams. "This is a destination job for me."

During his time at Creekside, Dr. Harmas helped the school earn a National Blue Ribbon School Award and become a state training site for Best Practices for Students with Autism. While he says he'll miss the students and staff at Creekside, he's looking forward to becoming a Greyhound.

"My biggest challenge will be learning the culture of Carmel High School," Dr. Harmas says. "I'm going to need to slow down, listen and engage. That's the only way I'm going to learn and better understand the greatness of Carmel High School and the groundwork that has been laid before me."

Dr. Harmas will join the Carmel High School staff immediately. Dr. Wahl's search for a new principal at Creekside Middle School starts immediately. He will develop a leadership profile for the next middle school principal with the help of staff and parents. He intends to name Dr. Harmas' replacement before school starts.