

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## BOARD BIDS FAREWELL TO DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

April 14, 2022

Kelowna, BC – The Board of Education for Central Okanagan Public Schools congratulates Mitch Van Aller on his retirement from the position of Director of Operations. Mr. Van Aller has served the District for eight years, guiding the building, renovation, and maintenance of schools and District sites.

"Mr. Van Aller has been an incredible asset to the Senior Management team in the school district," says Moyra Baxter, Chairperson for the Board of Education. "We are going to miss him and wish him all the best in the future."

"I thank Mitch for his exceptional leadership and service to the staff and students of our district," says Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO. "Mitch and his team maintained safe, inspirational places to learn and work, delivering time and again with prudence and excellence. He has also responded to unforeseen emergencies caused by fire and floods, and in all cases managed them expertly so there was minimal disruption to learning and school operations."

"It's been a privilege to work with the Board, the staff, and the community to support safe and functional learning environments for students," says Van Aller.

During his time with the District, Van Aller worked proactively with government to procure funding for two middle schools and one secondary school, as well as the addition to a secondary school to accommodate the rapid growth in the Central Okanagan. Mitch also oversaw the relocation and construction of the District Board Office. He has also been a leader in collaborating with students and the community, reflecting their voices in the design of new schools that demonstrate best practices in creating 21st century learning environments.

Van Aller began his career in Central Okanagan Public Schools in August 2014. He will officially retire in August 2022.

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For comments, please contact:

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