

For Immediate Release

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Ripon Area School District Announces New Business Manager

Ripon, WI - Ripon Area School District (RASD) is pleased to announce that Mr. Jonah Adams will assume the role of Business Manager on July 1, 2018. Mr. Adams comes to RASD from the Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools District where he has served as a secondary teacher, athletic director, and coach for the past 11 years.

Mr. Adams received his Bachelor of Science degree in English Education from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and is currently working towards a Master of Science in Education at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater in the School Business Management program. He will complete his masters program in December 2018. Mr. Adams has been a middle and high school English teacher for the Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools District since 2008. Prior to taking courses for his business manager license, he contributed to the district by serving as junior high football coach, assistant track coach, and Junior High Athletic Director at various times during his tenure at East Junior High School.

The business manager position was posted from January 23, 2018 to March 2, 2018. Fourteen people applied for the position through WECAN, none were internal. Through a screening process three candidates were invited to interview with a team consisting of six administrators and two board members. Reference checks were completed on all three candidates. Of the three candidates, Mr. Adams was recommended to move forward in the

process to an interview with six members of the district office staff and then a confirming interview with the Superintendent.

East Junior High School Principal Kevin Yeske noted Mr. Adams “is visible at many extra-curricular and co-curricular events. In every act and word, he is an advocate for students and education. Our District, student body and staff would hate to see Mr. Adams leave, but support his desire to pursue goals beyond the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District.”

In addition to his teaching position, Mr. Adams has served as a school business manager intern for the Nekoosa School District since June of 2017 under Lynn Knight. In this position he has worked on administrative tasks for financial administration and auxiliary services; prepared DPI reports for transportation, food service, and summer membership; assisted in monthly cash reconciliation, weekly bank deposits, and internal reporting; and researched best practices for unpaid meal policies, sick leave incentive pay, and reducing employee turnover.

Ms. Knight shared she found Mr. Adams to be “consistent, reliable, punctual, hardworking, and loyal. She added “one of his many strengths is that he goes above and beyond on any task assigned. Mr. Adams thinks outside the box with an open mind, has excellent rapport with most everyone he meets, and has the ability to keep a calm demeanor in stressful situations.”

“I am honored to join the Ripon Area School District and work in the business services office. The staff and community members that my family and I have met are kind, talented, and energized; and we are excited to move to the city,” stated Mr. Adams. “We are very impressed by the kid-friendly parks, beautiful community, and the values of the school district”.

Debbie Pelegrin, the retired business manager from Little Chute, will work in the district part-time until Mr. Adams begin in July.” Ripon Superintendent Mary Whitrock shared, “Mr. Adams comes highly recommended from his current district and the professors through the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Business Administration Masters Program. We are excited to have him join our team to help us on our continuous improvement journey: maintaining the district’s strong financial health while improving student achievement.”

Any comments or suggestions, please contact Dr. Mary Whitrock at (920) 748-4600.

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