

Tresvant reassigned

Jack Thompson fills superintendent position

By Jana Alexander

Snohomish School District has a new superintendent.

Superintendent Ginny Tresvant requested reassignment to the position of Administrator on Special Assignment. Jack Thompson, previously Assistant Superintendent in charge of business and operations for the Snohomish School District, took on the role of superintendent immediately after a Dec. 14 meeting dealing with Tresvant's request. He will serve as the district's leader for a period of 18 months.

The nationwide search for a new superintendent will be suspended until June of 1999, the same month as Tresvant's retirement.

The board voted 5-0 in favor of Thompson's appointment to the superintendency at the Dec. 14 special meeting.

Tresvant is on leave at this time, and was unavailable for comment. But in a letter to the board requesting reassignment, she expressed her feelings for the district and her shared vision for its future.

"I love this district and have its best interests at heart," Tresvant wrote.

She said in the letter, "If the reassignment is granted, I will step away from the superintendency to allow new leadership in the district."

Tresvant said she had faith in the board to carry on the educational goals set by the Strategic Plan, a living document that serves as a guide for the district.

Tresvant will spend her final six months before retirement performing independent research for the Strategic Plan, which outlines the district's beliefs, guiding principles

and goals.

"She's a very hard worker and has been really dedicated" to that plan, said School Board President Candace McKenna.

For the remainder of Tresvant's service, all other elements of her contract will remain the same.

Thompson joined the school district July 1, 1998. His list of work experience and recognition includes work as Executive Vice President of Saint Martin's College in Lacey. In Ferndale, Thompson served as superintendent of schools, receiving honors for his work advancing the Journalism program there. Ferndale schools and the Ferndale School Board received recognition from the Office of the State Superintendent under his leadership.

Thompson spent 27 years with the Renton School District where he served as Director of Secondary Education, then Curriculum Coordinator for the central office. In Renton, Thompson taught classes at the high school, junior high and elementary levels.

Thompson earned a doctorate in education from the University of Washington and his master's degree in School Administration and Curriculum from Stanford University.

When McKenna was asked how she felt about the leadership change at the district, she said, "I am delighted to welcome Dr. Thompson to the position of superintendent. I believe he has the leadership qualities that we need to bring stability and financial health to our district. And, I believe he has the trust and confidence of the staff and community — he certainly does of the board."

Tribune
Dec. 23, 1998