



The School District of Osceola County, FL

Terry Andrews, Superintendent

Press Release (English and Spanish)

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Osceola School District's New Administrative Appointments

On July 12, the Osceola County School Board approved the following administrative appointments:

Virginia Costa, Principal of St. Cloud High

Virginia Costa began her career in the Osceola County School District in 1999. She has served as an Exceptional Education Teacher at Osceola High School (1999-2004); Dean of Students at Osceola High School (2004-2007); and Assistant Principal of Facilities at Liberty High School (2007-2008). Ms. Costa currently serves as the Assistant Principal of Instruction and Curriculum at Liberty High School, a position she has held since 2008. Ms. Costa earned her bachelor's degree in Exceptional Child Education at the University of Central Florida and a master's degree in Education Leadership from Stetson University.

Jim DiGiacomo, Principal of Osceola High

Jim DiGiacomo began his teaching career in Orange County, where he taught for two years before coming to Osceola County. He began his employment with the Osceola School District in 1979. He has served as a teacher at Denn John Middle (1979-1982); Curriculum Coordinator at Ross E. Jeffries Elementary (1982-1985); Principal at Ross E. Jeffries Elementary (1985-1987), Lakeview Elementary (1987-1993), Denn John Middle (1993-1998), and Narcoossee Community School (1998-2003); Deputy Superintendent for School Administration (2003-2007); and Chief Administration Officer (2007-2009). He has been Principal of Koa Elementary since 2009. Mr. DiGiacomo earned his bachelor's degree in Art from the University of Central Florida and a master's degree in Reading from the University of Central Florida, Certification in Educational Leadership, Principal, Elementary Education, Reading Specialist, and Art.

Thomas Rademacher, Assistant Principal at St. Cloud Middle School

Thomas Rademacher began his career in the Osceola School District in 2007. Previously, he was a Teacher at Lakeview Middle School in Winter Garden, Florida. In Osceola County, he has served as a Teacher (2007-2010) and, most recently, a Dean (2010-present) at St. Cloud Middle School. He earned a bachelor's degree in Business Education from the University of South Dakota and a master's degree in Education Leadership from the University of Central Florida.

Tammy Cope-Otterson, Chief Human Resources Officer

Tammy Cope-Otterson has completed close to 24 years of service with the Osceola School district in a variety of departments. She has served as a Research Specialist for the Grant Management Department (1995-1999); Supervisor of Staffing and Operations for Human Resources (1999-2005); Supervisor of Operational Systems for Human Resources (2005-2007); and most recently as the Coordinator of HR Staffing, Personnel Services Systems and Operations (2007- present). Ms. Cope-Otterson earned her bachelor's degree in Organizational Management at Warner Southern College and a master's degree in Human Resource Management from Nova Southeastern University.

Lisette Brizendine, Executive Director for Professional Development

Lisette Brizendine started with the Osceola School District as a teacher at Beaumont Middle School in 1983-1984. From 1983 - 1989, she taught at Reedy Creek Elementary, Boggy Creek Elementary, and Gateway High. Other positions she has held in the Osceola School District include ESOL Resource Teacher in the Instructional Programs Department (1989-1994) and Coordinator of Multicultural Education (1994-2001). In 2001, Ms. Brizendine's career took her to the Orange County School District where she held the positions of East Learning Community Senior Administrator (2001-2003); Assistant Principal at Cypress Springs Elementary (2003-2005); and Assistant Principal at Columbia Elementary (2005-2006). In 2006, she returned back to the Osceola School District as Assistant for Professional Development (2006-2009) and, most recently, Principal of Mill Creek Elementary School (2009-present). Ms. Brizendine earned her bachelor's degree in Modern Language Education from Florida International University, a master's degree in Multilingual/Multicultural Education from Florida State University, an educational specialist degree in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University, and an educational doctorate degree in Education Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

Leslie Campbell, Coordinator of Special Programs

Leslie Campbell has worked for the Osceola School District since 2005 as a Budget Specialist and, most recently, as a Senior Budget Analyst/FTE in the Business and Finance Department. Prior to 2005, she held the following positions: Business Counselor with T.L.C. & Associates (1995-2002); Director of Finance for Stetson University (1996-1997); Director, Distributor Finance and Operations for Tupperware U.S., Inc. (1992-1995); Area Financial Advisor/Regional Controller for Tupperware U.S., Inc. (1989-1991); Senior Financial Analyst for Tupperware U.S., Inc. (1986-1988); Senior Budget Analyst for Seminole Electric Cooperative (1984-1986); and Controller for Econo Auto Painting, Inc. (1982-1984). She earned her bachelor's degree in Accounting/Finance from Kentucky Wesleyan College and worked towards a master's degree in Business Administration at the University of South Florida.

Mark Cavinee, Coordinator, Building and Fire Safety Code

Mark Cavinee has worked the majority of his career since 1987 for the Osceola School District as a General Maintenance Tech (1987-1992); Pest Control/Safety Specialist (1992-1994); Health and Safety Inspector (1994-2002); and most recently as Health and Safety Specialist (2002-present). His certifications include Special Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Safety Inspector I, National Fire Inspector II, and National Fire Plans Examiner. Mr. Cavinee earned his bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from Rollins College.