



RESPONSIBILITY | COURAGE | HONESTY | RESPECT

June 2, 2022

Dear Sherman School Community,

I am very pleased to inform you that Dr. Mary Fernand has been appointed as the next principal at The Sherman School, effective July 1, 2022. Dr. Pat Cosentino, the incoming part-time Superintendent, led a committee of teachers and parents through the hiring process. Dr. Fernand was the committee's top choice.

Dr. Fernand earned her BA in Communications-Media Arts and her BS in Secondary Education-English from Western Connecticut State University. In addition, she earned her MS in Leadership and Strategic Management from Manhattanville College, and an Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership from Western Connecticut State University.

Dr. Cosentino's recommendation to hire Dr. Fernand is based on her personal knowledge and work with Mary over the course of the last 20 years. Mary has been described as "an engaging high school English teacher, a dynamic department chair and has been a highly effective Assistant Principal at Bethel Middle School for four years. She has strong leadership skills and is a wonderful communicator." In addition, Dr. Fernand has been recognized as the *Bethel High School Teacher of the Year* and she has received the *Hennessey Distinguished Teacher* award.

I know that both Dr. Cosentino and Dr. Fernand are eager to begin their leadership in Sherman. Please join me in offering them both your warmest welcome!

Sincerely,

Jeff Melendez
Superintendent-Principal
The Sherman School