

July 16, 2018

Dear Squalicum Community, Friends, and Families,

Some of you may have heard that Squalicum High School would be getting a new principal. I just wanted to take a moment to introduce myself to you and share how excited I am to return to Whatcom County to be part of this school and this community. I also hoped to put a few dates on your radar.

I am honored to be the new principal of Squalicum! It has been exciting meeting many of you, and I look forward to getting to know more as we start this school year together. It is evident that our community is welcoming, engaged, steeped with tradition and committed to the success of all students. What a privilege it is to work alongside you to support our students, staff and community.

Having attended four Whatcom County school districts, it is an honor to give back and return home to a community that provided so much support to me as an adolescent. There is no other community I would rather raise my daughter. I completed my undergraduate work at Western Washington University and graduate work at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I started my teaching career in Hawaii, and I returned to Washington state and spent eight years in the Federal Way School District. There I served as a teacher, coach, an athletic director and assistant principal. In 2011, I received my National Board Certification. Following my eight years in Federal Way, I spent three years in the Puyallup School District as an assistant principal and principal at both the high school and elementary school levels. In early 2017, I returned to Hawaii to take a position for the Hawaii Department of Education, where I served as an educational officer and program manager. While that was a great experience, it was more important that my daughter's childhood was spent in Whatcom County.

A school is a partnership between many people and organizations. As such, I hope that much of these experiences will benefit the support of our students, staff and community. I look forward to my new role as principal of Squalicum and providing the best education possible for our students. I encourage you to contact my office with any questions or concerns that you might have or visit our school's website at <http://squalicum.bellinghamschools.org>.

Three key dates to remember are:

Aug. 23 – Orientation Day,  
Aug. 29 – First Day of School, and  
Sept. 17 – Back to School Night.

The SQHS staff is excited to start the 2018-19 school year!

Sincerely,

Miguel Perez