



# THE EWING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### New Year: New Administrative Team at EHS



As the school year begins, a new administrative team will be welcoming students to Ewing High School.

The administrators may be new to their positions, but they are certainly no strangers to the Ewing school community. Ed Chmiel makes the jump down Scotch Road to become the new EHS principal after four years as the principal of Lore Elementary School. Mr. Chmiel has been a successful principal at two districts, achieving tenure at both Bordentown and Ewing.

While Mr. Chmiel has a well-earned reputation as a student-centered educator, what people may not know is that Mr. Chmiel has a strong background in secondary education and high school administration, previously serving as a high school teacher, coach, administrator and athletic director.

“In a way, I’m returning to my roots,” Mr. Chmiel stated. “I really enjoyed my time at Lore, but I am excited to work with the staff and students at Ewing High School.”

Mr. Clifford “Kip” Harrison makes the jump from EHS Dean of Students to become one of Mr. Chmiel’s assistant principals. Mr. Harrison has been at EHS since 1995 and has served as a teacher, coach, Dean of Students,

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Director of the ALP program and interim Assistant Principal. He was the Teacher of the Year for Ewing High School last year.

Mr. Harrison emerged as a successful candidate after the screening of 153 applicants for the district's posted Assistant Principal vacancy and going through the interview process.

"Mr. Harrison had certainly proven his value during his career at Ewing High School," Superintendent Michael Nitti commented. "He is invested in our students and the community, and we think he will do excellent work in his new role."

The second assistant principal at Ewing High School will be Ms. Karen Allen Benton, who has been a District Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction with the district since 2014. An excellent instructional leader, Ms. Allen Benton brings a strong focus on effective teaching and learning to her new position.

"As a secondary-level supervisor, Ms. Allen Benton is well aware of our curricular initiatives at Ewing High School," Mr. Nitti remarked. "She knows our staff, our students, and will be a very valuable part of the leadership team at the school."

Mr. Chris Heywood remains as a Dean of Students/Anti-Bullying Coordinator at EHS and will be joined by newcomer Mr. Drew Besler, who moves from his position as English Teacher to replace Mr. Harrison as a Dean of Students. Both Mr. Heywood and Mr. Besler have Masters Degrees in Educational Administration.

"Our main focus in building our administrative teams is seeking school leaders who put the needs of students first and foremost," Mr. Nitti stated. "EHS has a long tradition of achievement in academics, the arts, and athletics. We truly believe these educators will continue to promote success for our students."