Onalaska Middle School

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Middle School

Dr. Benjamin Burns, Principal
Jana Yashinsky, Associate Principal
Laura Kemppainen, Administrative Assistant

To Onalaska Middle School Families:

My name is Ben Burns and I am the new Principal at Onalaska Middle School. I am honored and excited to be stepping into this role. As part of an introduction, I would like to share some professional and personal information about myself and my family.

Professionally, this will be my ninth year as an administrator, following various experiences as associate principal and principal in La Crosse, Sun Prairie, and Colorado, spanning preschool to 12th grade. Before becoming an administrator I spent 7 years as a school psychologist between Tomah and La Crosse. I obtained my Bachelor's degree from UW-Madison, my Master's degree from UW-La Crosse, my Principal license from Viterbo, and finally back to UW-Madison for a PhD in Educational Leadership.

My wife Kylie is also an educator. We have four boys, two in middle school and two in elementary school. We enjoy anything from sports to fine arts, from playing games to spending time outdoors, and everything in between. There is a good chance you will see us out and about at the pool, library, or various community events.

Construction at the middle school is exciting and making good progress! It will, however, likely impact our typical beginning of the year preparations to some extent. We will communicate with you the exact plans for pictures, open house, and those types of activities as we get closer to that time so please be on the lookout for that information.

I fully believe in the mission of the School District of Onalaska and that we will work together to ensure high levels of learning for all. All students are capable of learning at the highest level possible and the School District of Onalaska fosters the experiences for this to happen.

I am excited to meet and work with all of the students and families!

Sincerely,

Ben Burns

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