“To lead is to walk beside them”

An assistant superintendent helps facilitate the establishment of a vision for their district. This vision drives the district's work for the future. Monday, May 3, 2021, the West Haven Board of Education voted and appointed Mackrille School’s current Principal Judith Drenzek, as the new Assistant Superintendent of West Haven Public Schools. With her 43 years of experience in education, Mrs. Drenzek is excited to bring everything she has learned into her new role.

Rose Richardson, Vice President of the board, commented on her vote. “I am so excited… I want her to start now! I’ve had the opportunity to work with Judy; Mackrille is my adopted school and I have witnessed her professionalism.”

When asked what her first steps will be, Mrs. Drenzek acknowledged using what is already in place. “To look at what is in place, what is working, and what to adjust.” Most importantly, she emphasized the need to bring ALL students back to in-person learning. “We need to take a look at the whole child, not just academics, but socially and emotionally, and how do we support them.”

Mrs. Drenzek recognizes that some students have been out all year and will need support to get back on track. She intends to accomplish this with what she referred to as her strongest tool, feedback. “Feedback will help me to better service these kids. We are at an advantage having used so many levels of learning. I will use feedback from Principals who receive feedback from their staff!” Mrs. Drenzek envisions her future position starting with Monday meetings, professional development, and plenty of feedback from staff, teachers, and administration.

Cebi Waterfield, Board Chairperson, commented that Judith Drenzek will compliment Neil as an assistant superintendent. “She has provided students with a multitude of services…she is well-respected and will do a great job.”

Mrs. Drenzek stressed that her future decisions as assistant superintendent will all be made as if she is still in the classroom with the kids in mind and doing what is best for them. “The kids have
had enough computers, it’s time to be hands-on, bring out their creative and problem-solving skills.”
Lori Hunt, Judy’s secretary at Mackrille views the decision as bittersweet. “We will miss her, but we are very happy for her. She is a hard worker and dedicated to the children of the community.”

As we continue to work towards resuming a more normal way of educating, we are proud to announce Judith Drenzek as our new assistant superintendent. Everyone, please give a warm welcome to Mrs. Drenzek as she takes on this important new role.