

RIS Welcomes Dr. Brook MacNamara!



The Board of Directors, Administration, Faculty and Staff are extremely proud to introduce Dr. Brook MacNamara to Ruamrudee International School as the Director for Curriculum and Professional Development.

"It has been a great experience for me to welcome into our team someone with such breadth of understanding and vision as Dr. Brook MacNamara - and the bonus is, she is a person of great warmth and humanity with whom it is a pleasure to work," comments Mike Booton, RIST Assistant Principal.

Dr. Brook MacNamara is an exceptional administrator and educator whose 28-year career has afforded her opportunities as an administrator, director, consultant, specialist, teacher, and board member in the public, private and non-profit sectors.

Dr. Brook has worked extensively with principals, classroom teachers, students, parents, and school boards and has taught and been an administrator in some interesting places including remote Yupik Eskimo villages in Alaska, a one-room school in Oregon, and a large school district with over 7,000 students.

Before joining RIS, she was a member of the Executive Team of Corvallis School District located in Oregon (USA), where as a director she was charged with managing all aspects of the day-to-day operation of 22 district-wide programs in 13 schools (8 elementary, 2 middle, and 3 high schools) serving 7,000 students. She provided educational leadership to 19 principals, over 80 specialists, several coordinators, directly supervised 180 teaching staff, and assisted in managing 940 staff. She was responsible for administrative and staff recruitment, training, retention and evaluation; and with her team successfully balanced a \$105 million budget. She worked with her colleagues to successfully implement a 7-year curriculum cycle and both supervised and participated in various district-wide initiatives including the implementation of the Continuous Improvement Plan and School-wide Strategic Plan.

Here is what Superintendent Tarzian says about Dr. Brook, "Brook's leadership has been transformational in our district in terms of her ability to assess how reoccurring problems can be solved, her influence on staff that inspires enthusiasm and commitment, and how her work and support of principals and teachers has a direct positive impact on student's learning. I relied on her guidance in my position as Superintendent and deeply appreciated her leadership and ability to bring numerous resources to our district. She approaches her duties in a professional and collegial manner, using her exceptional communication skills, "roll up the sleeves attitude" and deep commitment to the needs of and success of each individual child in our school system. She is extremely positive and brings energy and humor to our executive team and our district culture, and our district has significantly improved and grown as result of her work."

When asked about coming to Thailand, this is what Brook has to say, "I am honored to join a talented administrative council and strong department. I have been particularly impressed with the level of commitment of teachers in participating in planning and implementation of curriculum. This collaboration of time, talent, and resources is a very real asset to our schools. When I attend an assembly or step into a classroom, I experience first hand the bright, enthusiastic and creative nature of our students, the total dedication of our teachers, and the loving commitment of our parents. I feel most fortunate to be a part of the vibrant RIS/RIST community and look forward to working together."

Dr. Brook is a member of an ethnically diverse family, personally enhancing her understanding and sensitivity of cultural and ethnic diversity. She is the mother of three children: two grown sons residing in the United States, and one daughter attending RIS.

She has traveled extensively throughout many regions of the world and lived in The Netherlands, France, England, Ireland and now Thailand.

Matt Sipple, HS Academic Dean sums it up. "Brook's extensive administrative and teaching experiences make her a valuable addition to our team. Her smile and warm disposition have quickly made her a new friend. We are happy to have her here!"