

Bonny Doon Has 'New' Administrator

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Bonny Doon School District has a new administrator, but it's not the man the School Board selected Friday.

Peter Reimer, the board's unanimous choice Friday to take over the leadership of the one-school district, declined the job Monday, Board Chairman Starr Saam reported.

William Howe, the board's second unanimous choice, has verbally accepted the post and the contract probably will be signed at Wednesday night's board meeting, Saam said.

Howe will take over July 1 from Howard Hazeltine, who was fired as of June 30 in a 4-1 vote of the board.

Reimer, the 42-year-old principal of Ravenswood (East Palo Alto) High School, told the board he had the intellectual energy for the Bonny Doon job, but just didn't have the physical energy, Saam said.

Reimer, Saam confided, was looking for a job that would be less taxing than his current job and he decided he'd have to put out too much energy at Bonny Doon.

Howe, 51, has spent the last 10 years as a partner in a private self-enhancing education project. His two partners, now in their seventies, have retired, but Howe still wants to work, he told The Sentinel.

In 1963, Howe was chosen as associate director of a federally-funded project in the Cupertino School District to start a self-enhancing education program.

The program, he said, was designed to develop skills in teachers and parents for better communication with children and to increase motivation and performance among children.

When federal monies ran out, Howe helped start a private company to disseminate this

training program. He and his partners have taken their program to schools and businesses in 20 states in the past 10 years.

Before his work in self-enhancing education, Howe was director of instruction in the Menlo Park School District from 1964-67, principal of Grant School in Cupertino from 1959-64 and principal of a one-school district in Ohio from 1953-55.

His wife is a teacher in the Cupertino School District and they have three sons and a daughter.

Howe is expected to sign a two-year contract for the \$24,000-a-year job Wednesday night. Asked why he chose to apply for the Bonny Doon post, he answered, "It looked like an interesting school district. As a small community, it offers some opportunity to use the skills I've developed. It also offers a chance to get out of the Santa Clara County pressures."

Howe enters a school district recently shaken with controversy over the dismissal of Hazeltine, who taught in the school for 20 years before being selected the district's first superintendent-principal four years ago.

The four trustees who voted for Hazeltine's dismissal Saam, Joyce Agur, Steve Homan and Davic Swanger - all face a

recall election late this summer. Trustee Cromwell McIntosh, who has refused to support any move to dismiss Hazeltine, doesn't face a recall election.

Howe said he knows little about the reasons behind the selection of a new administrator or about the recall move.

"If I do the job I'm suppose to do, then it really doesn't matter whose on the school board," he said. "They need an administrator. I'm going there to do the best I can to perform services for the community and the children."

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