James Strait selected Pacific West District Chief of Staff

Dr. Jacob Sherwood, Pacific West District Superintendent, is pleased to announce the selection of Mr. James Strait as Pacific West District Chief of Staff.

Mr. Strait joins the Pacific West District from the Pacific South District, where he has served as principal of Kubasaki High School since 2019. He brings 23 years of experience as an educational leader to the role, having served as a teacher and administrator in Minnesota Public Schools for 12 years and 11 years with DoDEA as an assistant principal at Fort Campbell High School, assistant principal at Antilles Middle School, principal at Ramey Unit School, and principal at Kubasaki High School. In 2021, Mr. Strait was named DoDEA Principal of the Year.

A native of San Antonio, Texas, Mr. Strait attended Bethel University in Minnesota on a track and field scholarship. While attending Bethel University, he joined the Army Reserves and became an active-duty soldier after graduation in 1994. Mr. Strait served three years at Fort Drum, NY, with the 10th Mountain Division. In his 22 years of military service, he deployed to Oman, Panama, Haiti, Iraq and Kuwait. Mr. Strait retired as a Chief Warrant Officer from the United States Military in 2013. He earned many accolades from the United States Army to include the Army Commendation Award, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Humanitarian Award. He was also selected to try out for the All-Army Track and Field Team at Fort Huachuca. As he worked and served in the Army Reserves, Mr. Strait completed his master’s degree in education administration in 2005 from Capella University, and superintendent licensure from Saint Mary's University. A lifelong learner, he is currently in the dissertation phase of a doctorate program.

Mr. Strait and his wife, Michelle, are proud parents to three adult sons – Jordan, Javen and Josiah. Mr. and Mrs. Strait love travel and experiencing all life has to offer. They are excited for the adventures and opportunities ahead in Korea. Mr. Strait is honored to use his skills and education to expand the solid foundation in the Pacific West District.