



SADDLEBACK VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saddleback Valley USD Board of Education Selects Dr. Crystal Turner as Superintendent



Mission Viejo, Calif. (April 7, 2017)—The Saddleback Valley Unified School District (SVUSD) Board of Education is pleased to announce that Dr. Crystal Turner has been selected as the new superintendent of schools. The Board voted unanimously to approve Dr. Turner’s appointment at the April 6 Board Meeting. She is scheduled to begin her position on April 20, 2017.

Input for the new superintendent included sessions with administrators and staff, a community open forum for parents and district stakeholders, and an online survey. Using this information, Leadership Associates, a top search firm, conducted an extensive search. The Board selected Dr. Turner from an incredibly talented and impressive list of candidates.

To verify the Board’s selection, two Board members and SVUSD stakeholder groups visited the Tustin Unified School District on March 21 to meet with Dr. Turner and her colleagues, staff and teachers. After the verification visit, SVUSD Board President Dolores Winchell said, “Dr. Turner

is an innovator and a collaborator who recognizes the importance of technology in education and has a proven track record of success engaging teachers and students. She is a trailblazer who thinks outside the box and doesn't stop until she achieves success.”

Dr. Turner earned her doctorate from the University of Southern California and her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of California, Irvine. She currently serves as Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services in the Tustin Unified School District. Dr. Turner is an innovative leader who opened a STEAM magnet elementary school, created and supported an elementary through high school competitive robotics program, coordinated a local bond measure Citizens' Oversight Committee to provide transparency and communication with the community, and led the implementation of next generation classrooms.

Prior to TUSD, Dr. Turner worked as Director, Educational Services, in the Fullerton School District in North Orange County where she led the instructional department and oversaw educational programs, implemented one-to-one technology in schools, coordinated professional development for teachers and principals, and developed Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs.

Dr. Turner also has a rich history with SVUSD as a teacher, assistant principal and principal. Her SVUSD experiences combined with district-level leadership in educational services, technology, and administrative services uniquely qualify her for the role of superintendent in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District.

Dr. Turner said, “It is my honor to return home to SVUSD, and I'm excited to create and renew my relationships with students and their families, staff, and the community. I am humbled by the Board's selection and look forward to working with the SVUSD team again!”

Dr. Turner lives in Trabuco Canyon with her husband and their two children.

The District will host a meet-and-greet opportunity for students, parents, staff, and community members to meet Dr. Turner on May 17, 2017 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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