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Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services

Encinita Elementary Leadership Academy's Mission Statement:
"Inspired to Learn, Empowered to Lead, Enriched to Give"

March 26, 2019

Dearest Encinita Families,



I am delighted to let all of you know that we have officially selected a permanent new Encinita principal, Dr. Linda Chang, who will be starting her first day on April 1, 2019. Dr. Chang comes to us with five years of principal experience and she is multilingual-Cantonese, Mandarin and Spanish. She was selected not only because of her exceptional background as an instructional leader, but because of her character, ability to build relationships, love of students and a commitment to doing what is best for kids. I know you will love having her as the new principal as I formally pass the principalship to her.

Thank you all for your understanding and support during this school year by lending me out to the district office to serve as the interim superintendent to lead the district during a transitional period while our school board searched for a permanent superintendent. After a rigorous process, Mr. Alejandro Ruvalcaba was selected as our new superintendent. I'm very honored to have had this opportunity to serve in that capacity and now, I'm especially grateful for the opportunity to be a part of Superintendent Ruvalcaba's team as the new assistant superintendent of educational services. As you know, I was not planning to leave Encinita, but this opportunity allows me to support not just Encinita, but all of our Rosemead schools- Janson, Savannah, Shuey and Muscatel. So, you will still see me around.

Since last August, we had two wonderful interim principals, Dr. Lis Hanaceck and Mrs. Kathy LaPiana, who did a fantastic job maintaining Encinita's positive culture and school programs. I'm confident that Dr. Linda Chang will also do a great job by working collaboratively with you as parents and families in supporting the learning of all students. Together with the entire Encinita teachers, staff, parents, community and most importantly, our students, continue the legacy of our wonderful little school and growing it from great to even greater. Encinita Eagles, get ready to soar to new heights!

From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank all of you for trusting in me to lead our school. I came to Encinita nine years ago and you welcomed me into the family. I appreciate all of the support you gave me and I will always cherish the beautiful memories and experiences we created together as a team. The mission statement we created together is all of our personal life mission now. We strive to embody *"Inspired to Learn, Empowered to Lead, Enriched to Give"*, which is the motivation behind everything we do. Some of the things we created together that are distinguishing features of our school have been: becoming the second school in the district to achieve the Leader in Me/7 Habits Lighthouse milestone; being a "lab" school by being the first to have a STEAM Lab for project-based learning; Family Leadership Days where our own teachers/staff and students lead workshops for parents and enjoying Panda lunches with your kids; Leadership Days for Educators; Family Weekend Field Trips to museums; STEAM/Robotics Family Workshops; Art Festivals; Kindergarten Summer Parent and Me Workshops; Organic Gardens; Giving Projects in every grade level; fun Jog-A-Thon themes; and instructionally, we are the only

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school in the district using a balanced literacy workshop model for teaching that develops children's life-long love of reading, writing and learning.

Although I will miss seeing all of our Encinita students, parents and team on a daily basis, I will be visiting all of our schools frequently, so I look forward to seeing you at as many Encinita events as I can attend like your Open House this May.

Thank you for enriching my life and being a blessing to me both personally and professionally. It has been a joy to serve Encinita. I am thankful I will continue to serve Encinita and all of our Rosemead Schools in an exciting adventure through my new role leading the instructional side of the district. I am excited that in my new role, I am the support system for our schools and principals, so I will be working closely with Dr. Chang. This is an exciting new chapter for Encinita and for our district. Let's continue to work together to help our district to flourish and shine our light.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Linda Chang as the new Encinita principal!

With gratitude and love,
Jennifer Fang