



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 15, 2017

CONTACT: Lindsay Ivins, Maritza Fairfield

PHONE: 909-445-1001

Lynwood Unified Superintendent Named San Diego County Superintendent of Schools

Lynwood – Lynwood Unified Superintendent Paul Gothold has been named the next superintendent of the San Diego County Office of Education following a unanimous vote by the San Diego County Board of Education on May 10. Gothold will assume his new role on June 1.

Gothold has been a champion of equity and access for all students in Lynwood Unified, working to break down barriers to student success.

"It has been a true honor to have worked with some of the most skilled and dedicated teachers, staff and administrators who are wholeheartedly committed to ensuring every student finds a pathway to success," Gothold said. "I am grateful to Lynwood Unified's distinguished Board of Education for their support and for giving me the opportunity to serve such a special community that values education and rallies behind our students, who have shown they are capable of doing anything they set out to accomplish."

As San Diego's top education leader, Gothold will take the demonstrated successes he's helped forge at LUSD to address challenges and strengthen the academic achievement of the county's more than 500,000 students.

Gothold joined Lynwood Unified as chief academic officer in 2011 before being named superintendent in 2013.

He crafted a comprehensive professional development plan for all teachers and administrators to improve the district's instructional program and initiated the Achieving Greatness Strategic Plan, which focused on making systemic changes to improve student outcomes. His efforts to promote collaboration among the Board of Education, parents, teachers, staff and community has boosted student success and achievement across Lynwood Unified.

Under Gothold's leadership, Lynwood Unified has eliminated prerequisites and tracking so that any student can enroll in advanced coursework, including Advanced Placement (AP), honors and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs. The District provides teacher training to support AP students; free AP summer camps and support outside of the instructional day; access to online tutoring courses; and District funds to cover the cost of exams.

For this, the District is one of three in the nation – and the only one in California – to be selected as a 2017 AP District of the Year for continuously raising the number of students taking AP classes while simultaneously improving passing rates on AP exams.

Since 2010-11, the graduation rates at both Lynwood and Firebaugh high schools have increased by more than 23 percentage points, with each achieving 93 percent in 2015-16.

MORE

The Lynwood Unified School District is dedicated to offering students a world-class education to prepare them for success in college and career in the 21st century. Under its Achieving Greatness Initiative, the district is realigning all aspects of its organization to strengthen and expand instructional programs, enrichment and extracurricular activities, and support system for students and staff. For more information, visit www.lynwood.k12.ca.us.

Follow us on  Twitter @LynwoodSchools, or "like" us on  Facebook at www.facebook.com/LynwoodUSD



"We cannot thank Paul enough for his collaborative approach to leading this District. Like with great teachers who are recruited to become administrators and multiply their impact, Paul will now be able to replicate our District's success to impact hundreds of thousands more students," Lynwood Unified Board President Alma-Delia Renteria said. "Although we are sad to see him go, we are proud of him and his new position at the county. This is every educator's dream come true!"

The Lynwood Unified School District Board of Education will announce the District's plans moving forward at its May 23 meeting.

###

The mission of **Lynwood Unified School District**, the cultivator of innovative thinkers, is to ensure each student fearlessly achieves his or her highest academic and personal aspirations while contributing to the greater society through a unique system distinguished by:

* People of great character who inspire and lead by example * The instilling of courage to be creative * The transformative uses of