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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** April 8, 2025

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### **Covina-Valley Unified Administrator Honored as National Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year**

**COVINA, CA** – Ben Lomond Elementary School Principal Ryan Price will represent the state of California as the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year in Washington D.C., from April 9-12, recognizing her as a standout administrator who has dedicated 25 years to serving Covina-Valley Unified School District’s students and families.

Price previously served as an assistant principal at Sierra Vista Middle School for five years. She was named the 2024 Secondary Co-Administrator of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) for Region 15 in the 2023-24 school year. She will join middle and high school assistant principals from across the country at the NASSP National Educational Leadership Awards program, where she will participate in networking, workshops, and celebrations.

“This has been a very surprising but exciting experience for me,” Price said. “I don’t do my job for awards and recognitions – I do it for the students, staff, and the community, but this is extremely validating. I am honored to be recognized in this way.”

Over the years, Price has served in various roles in Covina-Valley Unified, including tenure as an English teacher at Sierra Vista, a dean at South Hills High School, an assistant principal at Las Palmas Middle School, an assistant principal at Sierra Vista, and now as principal at Ben Lomond. She has watched generations of families move through the District and now finds herself serving as principal to the children of her former students.

“I’ll admit, if I ever hear, ‘You taught my grandpa,’ it might be time to retire,” Price joked. “But having these long-standing relationships makes every transition feel natural. There’s a deep trust and connection that comes from knowing these families, having taught their parents, and now guiding their children.”

Price is deeply ingrained in the District community as both a resident of Covina and a mother of children attending schools in Covina-Valley Unified. She said her favorite thing about the District is its strong sense of family-like community that makes up Covina-Valley Unified, with students, families, and educators who continually support each other.

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“There’s a mantra I always come back to – don’t get tired of doing good work,” Price said. “If you keep doing what’s right for kids, you’ll see good things happen, and that’s when the magic happens in schools.”

Though she has only been principal at Ben Lomond for a short time, Price is committed to continuing the school’s trajectory of success and fostering a culture of belonging and excellence to inspire lifelong learners.

“Mrs. Price displays the heart of Covina-Valley Unified in everything she does,” Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Eminhizer said. “She is an exceptional leader whose dedication to student success and community engagement showcases the very best of our District. This recognition is a testament to her passion for education and the lasting impact she has on our students and families.”

#### **PHOTO CAPTIONS:**

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