

PVPUSD ANNOUNCES NEW PRINCIPALS May 10, 2018

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District (PVPUSD) believes strong leadership is essential to student success. At the May 9, 2018 Board meeting the PVPUSD Board of Education approved the hiring of principals for vacancies at Lunada Bay Elementary and Vista Grande Elementary School. The Board approval came after an extensive hiring process that included a paper screening and three rounds of interviews including two panel interviews made up of stakeholders from both Lunada Bay and Vista Grande.



Dr. Taylor Holloway was selected to replace the retiring Jeri Delatorre as principal of Vista Grande Elementary. Taylor has been a member of PVPUSD for 13 years. She served as a science teacher for her first nine years in the district and for the last four years has been the assistant principal at Ridgecrest Intermediate School (RIS). Taylor received her Doctorate of Education degree from the University of Southern California in 2007 and her undergraduate degree from UC San Diego. As assistant principal at RIS, Dr. Holloway oversaw the special education program, led professional development for curriculum and instruction initiatives and played an integral role in the implementation of their Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports program. Dr. Holloway commented, "I am thrilled and honored to join the Vista Grande Elementary community as their Principal. I look forward to being part of the amazing Vista Grande family. While I will always treasure my time as a Ridgecrest Raider, I welcome the new opportunity and am proud to now call myself a Vista Grande Voyager."



We are also excited to announce the new principal of Lunada Bay Elementary, Mr. Rafael Bernal. Mr. Bernal returns to his roots where he was raised and graduated from Rolling Hills High School. Rafael has extensive elementary school experience having served as an elementary school teacher for 11 years. Upon leaving the classroom, he assumed the position of English Learner and Intervention Coordinator at Van Deene Elementary school in Torrance. For the past two years, Mr. Bernal has served as an assistant principal at Lynwood Middle School where his focus was on providing professional development and support, leading their school to focus on the social and emotional well-being of the students they serve and improving the technological capabilities at their school. Mr. Bernal stated, "I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to work in my chosen field in the very area where I grew up and that meant so much to my own education and development."

PVPUSD serves over 11,400 students from the communities of Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, and Rolling Hills Estates. It is one of the top school districts in the nation and prepares all students for post-secondary college and career options. Community engagement and support supplements powerful teaching and learning in a school system designed to help all students realize their full potential with the help of talented and caring adults. PVPUSD attracts, develops, and retains best-in-class talent who add value and make a difference for our students through a relentless work ethic, growth mindset, passion for learning, and commitment to our dynamic school district. <http://www.PVPUSD.net>
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