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NMCUSD Board of Education Selects Interim Superintendent

CASTROVILLE, CA — At a special board meeting on August 29, the North Monterey County Unified School District Board of Education approved the appointment of an interim superintendent. Steve Betando will serve as Interim Superintendent of NMCUSD where he will serve into January 2024.

Steve Betando is a retired superintendent with a career spanning over three decades. Betando most recently served as interim superintendent for Evergreen School District. He has held influential roles, including superintendent of the Morgan Hill Unified School District from 2013 to 2021. Betando brings a wealth of experience from positions such as Chief Human Resources Officer at San Lorenzo Valley USD and Morgan Hill USD (2011–2012) and Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources at Fremont USD (2006–2011).

“We are pleased to announce that our district will have an experienced and skilled leader to serve as Interim Superintendent for the 2023-24 school year,” said Elizabeth Samuels, Board President. “This appointment will allow the board to focus on finding the next permanent superintendent. This important process will include numerous opportunities for our families, staff, and community members to provide their input on the characteristics they would like to see in the next leader of NMCUSD.”

Steve Betando began serving as interim superintendent on September 5, 2023. Currently, he plans to serve the school district into January 2024. Betando’s role will be to work with the Board of Education, support the superintendent’s cabinet who will be managing day-to-day operations within the district, and support the school sites.

Mr. Betando stated, “It is my privilege to serve as Interim Superintendent of North Monterey Schools. I’ve already learned much about the NMCUSD education community.” After speaking with the NMCUSD Governing Board, Mr. Betando said, “I immediately see a strong history of dedicated advocacy for children, the tremendous team efforts of staff, and a passionate work for student experiences and achievement. I look forward to leading and providing the best transition for the students, the staff while the Board hires the district’s next superintendent.”

Steve Betando was appointed as interim superintendent to replace Superintendent Kari Yeater, who entered into a mutual separation agreement with the Board of Education last week and whose last day is August 31.

The search process for a new superintendent will be an extensive one. It will include the following steps:

1. The Board of Education will seek proposals from identified California executive search firms for superintendents.

2. The Board will select and approve a firm at a public board meeting.
3. The selected firm will work with the Board to identify the process and timeline, which typically includes several components such as community/staff surveys, focus groups, and candidate recruitment, vetting, interview and selection process.
4. The timeline from identifying the open position to selecting and onboarding a new Superintendent is between 3-6 months,

Information regarding the process and timeline will be forthcoming after the Board selects a search firm and information will be posted on the district website and fully communicated to the North Monterey County community, staff, and students.

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