



## Cupertino Union School District

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June 22, 2015

Dear West Valley Parents:

Here's another update regarding the District's on-going work in laying a strong foundation for the West Valley School community's new school year ahead. I will continue to keep you updated throughout the summer.

First, thank you for your caring and support of staff during this difficult time. We appreciate all feedback we've received and understand how difficult it is to accept our legal limits on information we can provide to you. The Board of Education and I are pleased to let you know that:

- We have been in regular communication over many weeks with the teachers' union (CEA); and the District has, and will follow, both contract and MOU agreements with the union.
- Over one-third of the new West Valley teaching staff has been assigned. These fully credentialed, child-centered and community-oriented teachers have confidently chosen to accept West Valley assignments for 2015-2016; these teachers are coming from other District schools as well as from outside the District.
- Grady Wright, an experienced CUSD elementary school assistant principal, has eagerly accepted reassignment to West Valley and the opportunity to work closely with Principal Robin Robinson, staff and parents. This additional resource will ensure that attention can be paid to all aspects of the reinvention process.
- The veteran West Valley teachers are being reassigned to District schools. Each one's list of preferred school sites and grade-level placements are being carefully considered, and Human Resources is meeting right away with each teacher who requests a conference.

In addition, Principal Robin Robinson is engaging with the parent leadership at West Valley to understand the parents' perspective and needs during this transition. Her goal is to create a warm and positive learning place for the children as school begins in August.

Robin looks forward to your participation in the school plan design process as we reimagine West Valley's future identity as a model school for 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. There will be multiple community meetings throughout the upcoming school year to craft the identity of West Valley. The next community meeting is scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Additional details will be sent at a later time. There will also be a parent, student, and teacher gathering before school

begins so that parents and children can meet their new teacher before the first day of school. Robin will be sending out more information about this in July.

When I think about the demands of change, given the various viewpoints of all stakeholders, I truly empathize with some unavoidable discomfort and disorientation. This is expected as it is more difficult to work through change without all of the information desired. We will be communicating with you throughout the summer, providing information that will help to relieve this discomfort.

We are dedicated to the West Valley community, and at the District level, we are committed to providing various resources to the next school year as insurance of your school's success. As noted above we have already added a very experienced assistant principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wendy Gudalewicz', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Wendy Gudalewicz  
Superintendent

WG:jn