



South Bay Union School District

A community dedicated to achievement for all

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South Bay Selects Finalist for Superintendent Position

Jose Espinoza, Superintendent, San Bruno Park School District

Imperial Beach, CA – After conducting a nationwide, wide-ranging search and a lengthy process of gathering input from employees and members of the community, which included the review of over twenty-four applicants recruited by Leadership Associates, the South Bay Union School District Board of Trustees is honored to announce Jose Espinoza as the finalist to replace Superintendent Katie McNamara.



The Board formalized a contract with Mr. Espinoza and approved an offer of employment at their meeting last evening. Mr. Espinoza currently serves San Bruno Park School District as the Superintendent and previously as Assistant Superintendent, Director of English Language Learner Services, Elementary Principal, and High School Vice-Principal of the Mount Diablo Unified School District. In each of these roles, he demonstrated high expectations with high support, compassion, dedication, and a commitment to strong collaboration and communication with students, families, staff, and community.

South Bay Union Board President Mary Doyle stated, “We are excited to bring a strong and proven leader to our school district. After our extensive search and interview process with many very strong competitors, we found Jose, who comes from a school district much like South Bay.”

Mr. Espinoza stated, “I am overwhelmed with excitement about working with our Board of Trustees in the leadership of the South Bay Union School District. My focus on accelerating student achievement in this district is very appealing to me. I will work closely with our Board, unions, and community to get the work done in a transparent and collaborative manner.”

Espinoza earned a Bachelor’s Degree from the University of California, Berkeley; a teaching credential from National University; and a Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fresno.

Mr. Espinoza is an excellent instructional leader, cares deeply about children, and brings new perspectives and an excellent vision for South Bay. He is known as a strong communicator and collaborator who exemplifies transparent leadership and enjoys working with others. His expectations for himself and others are very high and are always centered on accelerating student achievement. In addition, his leadership goals are centered on social justice and equity for all South Bay students. He embraces challenges that will improve the organization and is driven to constantly improve relationships and bring people together to improve the lives of students. He admires and respects the people with whom he works and is a life-long learner.

Superintendent
Katie McNamara, Ed.D.

Board of Trustees
Marco Amaral • Louis Barrios • Mary Doyle • Jannet Medina • Cheryl Quiñones



In all of Jose's prior work, he managed to maintain robust instructional programs, successfully navigating programs through the challenge of the pandemic and keeping the social-emotional side of students at the forefront of his work. He has managed to keep teachers and students safe and implemented a balanced return to in-person instruction. He also worked closely with his Boards of Education and participated and engaged in governance training for the entire board. Jose led the way in developing equity for all students, families, and communities in his districts. His passion and leadership style resulted in a dynamic District English Language Advisory Committee and the development of exemplary bilingual and dual immersion programs, which have attracted students to schools in his former districts. He has a keen sense of social justice that has served families well. Jose's approach to his job can be characterized as truly professional. Jose has the insight to know what services are available to assist our staff, students, and families at both the district and community level.

About the South Bay Union School District:

The award winning South Bay Union School District proudly serves over 7,500 students in Imperial Beach, San Ysidro, and south San Diego. The District is comprised of twelve campuses, including nine K-6 schools, two K-8 charter schools, and one Preschool. South Bay offers several specialized programs including Dual Language, Instrumental Music, Leader in Me, Global Leadership and Empowerment, No Excuses University, Visual and Performing Arts, and a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Academy.