Dr. Jim Brown Biographical Sketch

Dr. Jim Brown joined the College School District as Superintendent in July 1999. Jim is senior among Santa Ynez Valley and Santa Barbara County Superintendents and recently celebrated his 36th year as a California educator.

Jim's experience includes service as a classroom teacher, school principal, and district level administrator. He has served as a school or district administrator as elementary and middle school Principal, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, and Coordinator of Elementary Education and Categorical Programs, supervising district curricular and instructional programs for twelve elementary schools. Dr. Brown also serves as University Lecturer, teaching a wide variety of educational classes to prospective national and international educators. Jim is a Fellow of the Harvard Principals' Academy at UCLA, and the California School Boards Association's Good Beginnings and Masters in Governance Programs. He is a Senior Associate of the California School Leadership Academy. Jim holds a doctoral degree in education (Ed.D.), from the University of La Verne, with an emphasis on organizational leadership. He was recognized as California Superintendent/Principal of the year in 2011.

Jim has served on numerous County, State, and National Committees and Boards including service as a District Representative to the San Bernardino County Early Literacy Teams (SanBELT) Project, California Board representative for the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), Charter President and State Superintendent Symposium Planning Committee Representative for the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), Vice President of a Regional Museum Association, and Santa Barbara County Response to Intervention

(RtI) Taskforce. Jim currently serves as Treasurer of the Tri-County Education Coalition, whose task is to put aside stakeholder differences, to advocate for our public schools.

Jim is proud of the many accomplishments of the District since his arrival, including the first-ever Distinguished School Award (2002 and 2012), the first-ever Title One Achieving School Award (2008), and the first-ever nomination for a National Blue Ribbon Award (2009), one of only seven in Santa Barbara County since the program's inception in 1982. In 2007 the district led all Santa Barbara County school districts with the highest state academic performance index (API) growth score. In 2008, the district once-again led the entire County with the highest API score amongst English Learners. Further, the district's API scores demonstrate a dramatic reduction of the achievement gap, in support of state goal for all schools. The district's scores continue to rank among the highest in the Santa Ynez Valley and Santa Barbara County.

Jim works closely with all of the district's many stakeholder groups to ensure a focused district mission and vision to maximize achievement for all students and adults. Jim's emphasis on a district "community of learners" led to the development of the district's first-ever strategic plan, giving districtwide direction and focus.

In 2004, the Santa Ynez community demonstrated support of the District and its programs, by passing the first-ever district bond measure, securing over $9 million to build and improve facilities at each of the district's two campuses. Since passage, Jim has led efforts to nearly double these funds through state and federal match programs, including an $11 million Charter School Facilities Project Grant, the only such grant awarded on the Central Coast.

Jim believes in the value of positive and productive relations

throughout the district and works hard to this end. When asked the key to the district's success, Jim responds, "relations and results go hand-in-hand". Jim offers an open invitation to the community and the district's support to all students and families. On behalf of the district, Jim thanks all supporters, in advance, for continued support of the district and its programs. As the district slogan states, Jim believes that "Our College Kids Can!".