

Press Release

July 15, 2015

For Immediate Release

College School District Board Welcomes New Teachers

The College School District Board voted on July 14, 2015 to approve Superintendent Dr. Jim Brown's five nominees for District Certificated staff. Dr. Brown gave a short introduction of each new staff member and the Board took time for a small reception to welcome the newly hired teachers.

With 100 applicants for the open positions, each potential staff member went through a rigorous application process, interviews, and for some a practicum. "The new P.E. teacher and Athletic Director, Greg Blessing, was one of four final applicants for his position, explained Dr. Brown, and we decided to have them also deliver a practicum. We were impressed with the way Greg wove the P.E. skills into his lesson and the way he communicated with his students."

Stephanie Lewis, new 4th grade teacher, has the distinction of being a former College School District *Bobcat* as she attended school in the District and also attended Santa Ynez High School. While she and her siblings were part of the school district, her parents were very involved with the schools. She formerly was an Instructional Assistant in Kim Snyder's class and received her credential from Brandman University. The staff is excited to welcome her back as a Certificated Teacher.

The new K-6th grade science and 3-6th GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) teacher, Nikole Delman, comes to College from the Blochman Union School District where she was an elementary teacher. A graduate of San Jose State in Meteorology, Nikole also serves as a weather observer and analyst at the Vandenberg Air Force Base. She also did her credential/graduate work at Brandman University.

A local product of UCSB with experience in the Santa Barbara Community, Laurel Patterson, is looking forward to her new position as the 6th grade teacher.

Winning the award for coming the farthest to accept a position in Santa Ynez is Ronnie Tow who is moving to the area from the Tulsa area in Oklahoma. He will take on the 7th/8th grade Social Studies classes.

Dr. Brown spoke to the new teachers about how they will be supported by the Board, himself, and the other teachers in the district. Maurene Donner, Principal also welcomed everyone with offers of

support and a little bit of College School District branding – new water container for their new hydration stations, pen, and pad. Dr. Brown concluded that they have a great year ahead especially with the students and families that comprise the College School District Family.