

Board of Education

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Allan Mucerino

Superintendent of Schools

2Superintendent@alvordschools.org

On Monday, April 27, The AUSD Board of Education Appointed Ms. Georgina Ramirez as Director II, Equity and Access, Mr. Israel Avila as a High School Assistant Principal, and Dr. Tania Cabeza as the Principal of La Sierra High School, Effective July 1, 2020.

Ms. Georgina Ramirez was appointed as a Director II, Equity and Access. Ms. Ramirez is a veteran member of the Alvord family and is currently an Assistant Principal at Hillcrest High School. Ms. Ramirez is a first-generation college graduate and a lifelong EL learner. She has amassed a wide range of experiences in the field of education as a teacher, Title 1 Coordinator, Upward Bound Director, middle school counselor, UCR Extension counseling program instructor, and a San Bernardino Valley CC counselor. More recently she co-authored the Blueprint for Action, published by RCOE's African American Achievement Initiative Committee. Ms. Ramirez is also the proud mom of Ismael and Mateo.

Mr. Israel Avila was appointed as a High School Assistant Principal at a high school to be determined soon. Mr. Avila is currently the Principal of Foothill Elementary, where he has led the school since 2015. With a background in secondary education, Mr. Avila expressed an interest in returning to his roots at the secondary level, where he taught and held various leadership positions for eight years at the middle school level. Now, he will join the ranks of high school administration to round out his K-12 experience and provide him with a 3-level perspective that will best position him for a great variety of leadership opportunities throughout his career.

Dr. Tania Cabeza is new to the district and community. Mrs. Cabeza comes to AUSD from the Centinela Valley Union High District in Lawndale, Ca, where she began her career in education in 2004. Dr. Cabeza is a Los Angeles native and first-generation college graduate. She credits her parents for instilling in her the value of a strong work ethic and an education. She earned a Bachelor's degree in biological sciences from the UC, Santa Barbara. She earned a second Bachelor's degree and her teaching credential in English, in addition to her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University Northridge.

After a ten-year high school teaching career, she joined my support staff at the District office in Centinela Valley as a TOSA supporting high school academies using the Linked Learning model, a systemic approach to education that helps students prepare for college, career, and civic life with a focus on real world experiences. She then became an Assistant Principal at Hawthorne High School, and then an Associate Principal at historic Adolph Leuzinger High School, where she currently serves about 2,000 students. With a passion for teaching and learning, Dr. Cabeza makes it a point to engage actively in her school's instructional program, staying connected to the classroom by working closely with students and teachers to support them and model best practices. As an instructional leader, she brings 16 years of experience and a wealth of knowledge as a high school teacher, teacher leader, district administrator, and high school administrator. We are fortunate to have Dr. Cabeza join the Alvord family.

Dr Cabeza is excited and overjoyed with her appointment as the lead learner at La Sierra High School. She is eager to begin her tenure as the lead Eagle. She is also eager to move to Riverside community along with her husband, Robert and their six-year old daughter Mia. When asked what her overarching goal as the La Sierra Principal is, she never hesitated: *"My goal is to love, care, and support every student, teacher, parent or guardian, and classified staff member of the La Sierra family into making La Sierra High School the top high school in the region."*

ABOUT US: [Alvord Unified School District](#) serves the westernmost portion of the city of Riverside, as well as parts of the city of Corona and an unincorporated area of Riverside County. We serve about 18,500 students in fourteen K-5 elementary schools, four 6-8 middle schools, three comprehensive 9-12 high schools, and two alternative education centers.

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