



# El Dorado County Office of Education

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Gold Oak Union School District Welcomes Wendy LaDue as Its New Superintendent/Principal**

The Gold Oak Union School District announced today that Wendy LaDue has been selected as their new Superintendent/Principal. LaDue replaces Dick Williams, who has served as both Superintendent of Gold Oak and Pioneer School Districts for the past six years.

The Gold Oak School Board has been engaged in the search for this position since Mr. Williams announced earlier this spring he is returning full-time to the Pioneer district. Board Member David Ashby said of Mr. William's tenure at Gold Oak, "Despite the challenging economic times, Dick provided the district with superb leadership. We were very fortunate to have someone of his caliber working for us." Board President Suzanne Holtrichter echoed these sentiments and added, "In the time I've been on the Board, Dick has earned my respect. I've learned first-hand he's someone who operates with great integrity. He puts the future of our district first - even before himself. As a parent of children in this district and as a board member, I really appreciate that."

Ms. LaDue is a resident of El Dorado Hills and is currently the Coordinator of Instruction, Professional Learning and Innovation for the San Juan Unified School District. As such, she coordinated instruction and professional development in all subject areas for teachers and administrators, coached administrators and teachers in order to improve instruction, coordinated special programs, managed large department budgets, and coordinated the implementation of the California Common Core Standards.

From 2005 to 2010, Ms. LaDue was a Principal for the Magnolia School District in southern California. Over the course of her career Ms. LaDue has been involved with various committees, including: Response to Intervention, Employee-Employer Relations, District Safety, and Employee Benefits. She has also taught at Concordia University as an adjunct Professor, served as a Vice Principal, an elementary school teacher, and a middle school teacher. Ms. LaDue has the reputation of being an energetic and positive educator and administrator who puts students first. She follows the philosophy that, "It's all about ALL students learning." She guided her previous schools to gain sustained academic growth through collaboration with staff, parents, and students.

Holtrichter said, "Along with the County Office of Education, who was instrumental in this search, the School Board thanks our staff, parents and community for their assistance in the search process. It is with their help that we have found a candidate who has great credentials and who we think will do a fantastic job in the new role of Superintendent/Principal. We look forward to a great future with Ms. LaDue."

It is anticipated that Ms. La Due will officially start July 11, 2011.