

## Board Media Statement

In light of the recent inaccuracies in the LASD budget, we are announcing leadership and procedural changes in the district. The Board has accepted the resignation of Superintendent Kyle Corlett, which will be effective Dec. 7. We appreciate Kyle's many efforts on behalf of the District over the past three years and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

The Board has appointed Mary Marshall as Interim Superintendent. She brings with her more than three decades of education experience, both in the classroom and in administration. Mary has worked for districts in Ypsilanti, Dexter and Pentwater, serving as a Superintendent in Dexter and Pentwater where she had a strong reputation for collaboration. She currently lives in Pentwater where she serves as the Village Council President. Mary appreciates the opportunity to support LASD and will be ready to begin her work on December 8.

Business Officer Laura Jacobs has announced her retirement, which was effective Dec. 1. We are currently in discussions with an experienced financial professional who will be able to provide day-to-day oversight of our Business Office. While we are finalize discussion for our Interim CFO and begin the search for a full-time replacement, the West Shore ESD has offered to support our Business Office. We are grateful for the ESD's willingness to work closely with the Board's Finance Committee on the District's finances.

Financial reporting is one of the most basic functions of any organization, and the District simply must have accurate information so we can make decisions. The fact these errors happened during our contract negotiations is inexcusable. The Board is working to begin the reviewing of the Business Office's current accounting practices to ensure they will align with generally accepted accounting procedures. This was an area of weakness identified by the audit and the investigation and must be addressed immediately.

As a Board, we apologize again for these mistakes and the impact they have had on our teachers and staff. We recognize the District needs to work to rebuild trust in the Board, and acknowledging and apologizing for the errors are only the first steps on that journey. It's our hope these leadership and procedural changes will help us move forward together productively so we can focus on our mission to provide a high-quality learning experience for every student, support for educators who lead in the classroom and strong community partnerships that enrich the educational experience.