

December 4, 2007

In the first of many significant decisions the new north area unified district board will make, the newly-elected trustees hired Frank Porter as Interim Superintendent. In the meeting Tuesday night, trustees voted unanimously to approve Porter's appointment, which will be effective sometime later this month. Porter is currently the Superintendent for the Rio Linda Union School District.

Board Vice President Bob Bastian said Porter is a good selection for the district because of his knowledge of the north area, educational expertise, and deep commitment to the community. "He knows how to bring people together and is very involved in our community organizations," said Bastian.

Porter has served as Superintendent of the Rio Linda Union School District for more than six years, guiding the district schools to numerous State education awards. During his tenure, eight Rio Linda schools have received California Distinguished School Awards and nine schools have earned Title One Achieving School Awards. In addition, the District earned its first National Blue Ribbon Award in 2006.

"He's very connected to the community and has earned the respect of staff in the districts." said Board Clerk Michelle Rivas. "Frank worked so hard to bring our districts together and create this new opportunity for north area students. I trust him and know his intentions are pure."

Porter's thirty-two year career in education includes service as a bus driver and instructional assistant before rising through the ranks as a classroom teacher, principal, and district administrator.

In other business Tuesday night, the trustees acquired insurance, an interim attorney, and an educational consultant to assist with creating the structure for the new district. The Board also indicated that the district should be referred to as the "North Area Unified School District" until a new name is decided upon. The trustees asked Porter to begin work on a process for collecting name suggestions from the community.

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