

FLAGSTAFF UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



For Immediate Release

Press Release: Statement from Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board



March 8, 2016 The Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board recognizes and appreciates Barbara Hickman's leadership of the District since 2010. The District is in a very strong position right now, due in large part to the excellent programs that were implemented during her tenure. We wish Ms. Hickman well in her new position.

The Governing Board intends for the District to continue on its present mission of providing the best comprehensive educational opportunities for all in a safe, collaborative environment of high standards and expectations. With that intention, the Governing Board is appointing Mr. David Dirksen as Interim Superintendent, effective March 16, 2016.

Prospectively, the Board will conduct a national search for the most highly qualified candidates for a new Superintendent and looks forward to the opportunity to involve all stakeholders in that process. In the meantime, the District is very fortunate to have someone of Mr. Dirksen's caliber assume the role of Interim Superintendent. Mr. Dirksen brings decades of leadership experience from Iowa, Alaska, and Arizona. This May, he will be inducted into the Alaska Superintendent's Hall of Fame. Mr. Dirksen has served our District as an Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, which has afforded him the opportunity to develop very positive relationships with many of our staff members and nearly every Principal in the District. As a result of Mr. Dirksen's wealth and breadth of administrative and leadership experience, and the relationships he already has within the District and the community, we are confident that our community will be well-served during this transitional period. The Governing Board is excited by the opportunities that this transition offers for the success of our students, staff, and the community.