

Dr. Dennis Smith

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District Superintendent

WHEREAS, Dr. Dennis Smith has been active in the field of education for the last thirty-eight years, the last twenty-five of which have been spent serving as superintendent in five uniquely different school districts: Laguna Beach Unified, Cajon Valley Union, Irvine Unified, Orange County Public Schools in Orlando, Florida and currently as superintendent of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith has demonstrated his devotion to the education profession throughout his distinguished career; he has striven to provide students with a first-rate education that will benefit them throughout their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career Dr. Smith has served as a teacher, assistant principal, principal and assistant superintendent; he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Arizona State University and has a doctoral degree in Educational Administration from the University of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith has established a reputation for focusing on student achievement and leading school districts to consistent academic gains as evidenced by his selection as one of the "Top 100 Executive Educators in North America;" and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith has been recognized many times over for his contribution to education; he was named a Los Angeles Times "89 Rising Stars in Southern California;" in 2004, he was named Orange County Superintendent of the Year and in 2008 was selected by KABC Radio in Los Angeles as the "Best Boss in Southern California;" and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith has decided to retire at the end of the 2012 school year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith can point to many achievements during his illustrious tenure with the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District; he has been instrumental in leading the school district to many significant accomplishments over the past eleven years; these achievements include dramatically raising the level of technology in local schools, leading the effort to build new schools and renovate existing ones through the community's support of two diversely different school bond measures, and most importantly, raising the level of academic achievement of an already great school district; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith has consistently distinguished himself as a dedicated, enthusiastic educator; his efforts in educating young people and preparing them for life's challenges are of tremendous value and are truly appreciated by the people of Irvine and Orange County; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith's many years of diligent service to Orange County's students are worthy of much thanks and recognition as he enters retirement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT SUPERVISOR BILL CAMPBELL AND VICE CHAIRMAN SHAWN NELSON do hereby congratulate Dr. Dennis Smith on his retirement from the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District, commend him for his thirty-eight years of outstanding service to the education profession, and offer him best wishes for a long, happy and fulfilling retirement.

June 4, 2012

BILL CAMPBELL
Supervisor, Third District

SHAWN NELSON
Vice Chairman of the Board
Supervisor, Fourth District