



May 16, 2018

Good Afternoon, SUSD Family,

Today marks my third day on the job as your new Acting Superintendent. This has been a homecoming for me, and I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all of you who have already extended such a warm welcome back.

As we approach the end of the school year next week, all of our focus is on a successful home stretch for our students. However, before we break, I want to share with you some of the work that will be underway this summer.

My first priority will be to restore mutual trust and confidence at all levels and among all stakeholders: students, teachers, parents, staff, administration and Governing Board. Rebuilding trust takes time, and this will be an ongoing commitment.

Additionally, SUSD will need to examine, and possibly audit, our Human Resources and Purchasing/Procurement practices. In conjunction with those reviews, it is one of my top priorities to oversee the selection and hiring of some critical personnel, including an exemplary Chief Financial Officer.

I believe successful schools and districts do three things:

- #1. Treat students with respect
- #2. Treat staff as professional colleagues
- #3. Treat parents as partners in their students' education

These three things are our way forward to rebuilding **respect** and **professionalism** – two words you will hear me say often. I look forward to the work ahead and to serving your students.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Kriekard

Acting Superintendent