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**For Immediate Release**

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## Governing Board Approves Contract for SUSD's Next Superintendent

**SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (March 17, 2020)** – Dr. Scott Menzel is officially the next superintendent of the Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD). At its regular monthly meeting today, the SUSD Governing Board formally approved a contract that will bring the Michigan educator to Scottsdale and pay him \$205,000 in the 2020-2021 school year.

Menzel has served as superintendent of the Washtenaw Intermediate School District in Ann Arbor, MI since 2011 and, prior to that, was superintendent of the Livingston Educational Service Agency and Whitmore Lake Public Schools, also in the state of Michigan. Menzel will be SUSD's 27<sup>th</sup> superintendent in its 124-year history and will succeed Dr. John Kriekard, who is retiring, having served as the District's superintendent since May 2018.

The Governing Board today also approved a per diem contract of up to 20 days with Menzel that will allow him to work for the District before his annual contract begins.

"It is with great pride and excitement that I accept the endorsement of the Scottsdale Unified School District Governing Board to serve as the next superintendent. I would like to thank the many students, parents, community members, teachers and employees who served on committees during the selection process," said Menzel.

"Through that experience and in weekly teleconferences with Dr. Kriekard, I have gained a sense of the dynamic, supportive and collaborative community that makes up our District. Although my official start date is July 1, I anticipate the opportunity to be in Scottsdale earlier to work hand-in-hand with Dr. Kriekard. I am grateful for his willingness to share valuable insights, and know that his passion and support for SUSD will help ensure a smooth transition."

Menzel is looking forward to engaging with SUSD staff in the planning for next school year, as well as having the opportunity to attend to important hiring decisions, including that of a Chief Financial Officer.

"I look forward to building a positive working relationship with parents, students and employees, and continuing to build upon the connections I have forged with the Governing Board thus far."

“To the SUSD community, I’d like to say that I am honored and excited to begin our work together. I am confident that the hard work and dedication of all Scottsdale Unified employees and the involvement, support and commitment from students, parents and the community provides an environment where we will face upcoming challenges and opportunities with resolve, determination and resilience.”

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### **About the Scottsdale Unified School District**

Located northeast of metropolitan Phoenix, the District serves the educational needs of students and families of 23,000 students across 29 campuses. Approximately 240,476 people reside within its boundaries. The District’s award-winning academic, arts and athletic programs draw students from Phoenix, Paradise Valley, Fountain Hills, Tempe and Scottsdale. A highly experienced, professionally certified teaching staff fosters a diverse and rigorous educational environment to develop the potential in every individual learner. Offering gifted learning, special education, career and technical education, and a variety of athletics, arts and enrichment programs and clubs, SUSD provides the rich environment today’s students need to explore their interests, develop important social skills and grow into tomorrow’s leaders. For more information, visit [www.susd.org](http://www.susd.org) and follow along on social media: [Facebook](#): @ScottsdaleUSD, [Twitter](#): @ScottsdaleUSD, [Instagram](#): @ScottsdaleUnifiedSD, [Nextdoor](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).