



TEMPLETON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home of Tomorrow's Leaders"

960 Old County Road • Templeton • 93465 • (805) 434-5800 • FAX (805) 434-1473

May 24, 2019

Dear Staff and Community Members,

On February 14, 2011, I was honored to begin serving as the Superintendent of the Templeton Unified School District. I accepted this position knowing that in addition to the Superintendent duties I was being asked to assume the roles of Human Resources Director, Curriculum Development Director and Alternative Education Director, including the principal for three schools. For the first few years, this workload was manageable. In hindsight, this was primarily due to the fact that California's content standards and assessment system had been in place for over 14 years. This created stability enabling the skilled and veteran teaching faculty and other staff to operate our schools like well-oiled machines.

Several years into my tenure, the California Department of Education dramatically changed the content standards, accountability system and the high stakes assessment in a single year. These sweeping reforms ushered in a depth and severity of change rarely seen in California's educational history. Despite the valiant efforts of my staff and me, TUSD has been fighting an uphill battle to maintain excellence. There is much to be proud of since the adoption of the California Content Standards, Local Control Accountability Plan and the Smarter Balanced Assessment; however, I have come to realize that the scope and number of my duties are no longer tenable. I believe it is time for the district to make changes to the composition and structure of the leadership team. In order to pave the way for those changes, I notified the Trustees that I will not be pursuing a contract extension beyond June 30, 2019.

I am grateful for my tenure and the many people who toiled alongside me in service to our youth and community. I appreciate the support of the members of my Management Team and the Board. The current Trustees are fair, effective and respectful toward each other and the community. They deliberate with wisdom and use the best interest of students as their paramount metric for decision-making. I encourage all employees and the community to support them as they write a new chapter for the Templeton Unified School District.

Sincerely,

Joe Koski, Ed.D.
Superintendent