

CYPRESS SCHOOL DISTRICT
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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Cypress School District Superintendent Sheri Loewenstein has announced her retirement, effective June 30, 2011. Superintendent Loewenstein said, “It is with tremendously mixed emotions that I let you know that I have made the decision to retire. The thought of no longer being a daily part of this remarkable school district and community is difficult to imagine.”

In her 37 years in education, Ms. Loewenstein has worked with many wonderful people and feels especially blessed and honored to have had the opportunity to work with the outstanding Board members , administrators, teachers, classified employees, and community members over the last five years in the Cypress School District. Ms. Loewenstein has served as the Cypress School District Superintendent since she was appointed in June 2006. During that time, she worked with staff and community members making difficult decisions regarding budget cuts and the closure of three schools. She also led the District through the process of passing the Measure M general obligation bond in 2008, allowing the District to begin modernization of the six remaining schools. Cypress School District continues to be one of the highest achieving districts in Orange County, with all six schools garnering the distinction of being named a California Distinguished School.

Prior to her Superintendency in the Cypress School District, Ms. Loewenstein served in the Westminster Elementary School District for 16 years as Superintendent, Associate Superintendent of Personnel, and an elementary and middle school principal. Prior to her employment in the Westminster School District, Ms. Loewenstein was a coordinator for the West Orange County Consortium for Special Education. She was also a former high school administrator and teacher.

In 2002, the Association of California School Administrators named Ms. Loewenstein Personnel Administrator of the Year in Orange County, and in 2004 she received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for "Women Who Make a Difference" in their community. In 2006, Ms. Loewenstein was the recipient of the Westminster School District Council PTA Golden Oak Award -- an honor that has only been given three times in over 40 years. In 2009, she was awarded the Association of California School Administrators, Region XVII Tracy Gaffey Award, which is given to educators who exemplify the characteristics of guiding and mentoring administrators in their personal and professional growth, thereby contributing significantly to public education and educational leadership in Orange County. Throughout her five years in the Cypress School District, she has been an active member of the Cypress Rotary Club.

Ms. Loewenstein has indicated that she is confident the Board of Trustees will conduct a very thorough search process to find a Superintendent of the highest quality and that the District will continue to thrive under the Board's leadership. Board President Valeri Peters Wagner stated, "As Board President in 2006, we worked together as a Board to find the perfect fit for the Cypress School District, and I am confident we will do that again."