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ALAS Elects New Board Officers at Annual Conference

Dr. Christina Kishimoto of Arizona Assumes Board President Position

WASHINGTON, D.C.—October 30, 2015—Dr. Christina Kishimoto was elected president of the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS) by its board of directors at the organization’s annual education summit in New Mexico.

Dr. Kishimoto is recognized nationally as a visionary leader in education and for her educational reform work in school turnaround and portfolio school development. She began as superintendent of Gilbert Public Schools in Gilbert, Arizona, on July 1, 2014. Gilbert Public Schools, a district of 39,000 students, is rated an “A” level district by the Arizona State Department of Education and is a 2014 top 10 district in the state.

Dr. Kishimoto assumes the president position after the successful term of Dr. Edward Lee Vargas, executive vice president with AVID in San Diego, California. Dr. Vargas will serve as immediate past president.

Other newly elected ALAS board officers are:

- Pennsylvania Department of Education Secretary Pedro A. Rivera - President-elect;
- Superintendent Richard A. Carranza, San Francisco (CA) Public Schools – Secretary;
- Superintendent Jose L. Banda, Sacramento City Unified School District (CA) – Treasurer.

Serving as ALAS board directors are Alberto M. Carvalho, superintendent of Miami-Dade County (FL) Public Schools; Dr. Thelma Melendez de Santa Ana, chief executive officer for Educational Services with the Los Angeles (CA) Unified School District; Dr. Sharon L. Contreras, superintendent of Syracuse (NY) City School District; Susana Cordova, chief of schools for Denver (CO) Public Schools; Dr. Francisco Duran, chief academic officer for Fairfax County (VA) Public Schools; Dr. Daniel P. King, superintendent of Pharr-San Juan-Alamo (TX) Independent School District; Dr. Maria G. Ott, executive in residence at University of Southern California School of Education; and Ray Trejo, assistant superintendent of Deming (NM) Public Schools.

The ALAS board officers and directors were sworn into office Oct. 16, 2015, by Chief United States District Judge M. Christina Armijo, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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About the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS)

The ALAS mission is to provide leadership at the national level that ensures every school in America effectively serves the educational needs of all students, with an emphasis on Latino youth, by building capacity, promoting best practices, and transforming educational institutions. ALAS was established in 2003 in response to a lack of national advocacy and representation of Latino students.