



For Immediate Release:
January 5, 2018

Contact: Lee Neves
(209) 403-1456

Gratton School District Superintendent Shannon Sanford Officially Announces Candidacy for Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools

Sanford has been Superintendent of Gratton School District for 12 years, consistently achieving among the highest test scores in Stanislaus County

Turlock- Gratton School District Superintendent Shannon Sanford today officially announced her Candidacy to become Stanislaus County's next Superintendent of Schools. Currently the longest serving School District Superintendent in Stanislaus County, Sanford is excited to bring the success achieved at Gratton Schools to the County's Office of Education.

"I'm proud of our test scores at Gratton. We have consistently scored well above both the State and County Average and have consistently had the best test scores in our county" said Sanford. "I want to take our success at Gratton and support every district in our county to achieve the same." In addition, the district has no debt, has never gone out to bond and has a healthy reserve.

Sanford already boasts a wide cross section of supporters from across Stanislaus County, including County Supervisor Vito Chiesa, Ceres Mayor Chris Vierra and Hughson Mayor Jeremy Young.

"As the Mayor of Ceres, it's important that we have a homegrown workforce that is ready for the 21st Century economy so that Ceres, and the rest of Stanislaus County can provide good, high paying jobs for our local families." Said Ceres Mayor Chris Vierra. "As the Superintendent of Gratton School District, Shannon Sanford's focus on S.T.E.M. Education and practical, career oriented curriculum makes her uniquely qualified to lead our county office of education. That's why I'm endorsing Shannon Sanford for Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools"

Sanford also has the support of numerous education officials in Stanislaus County, including the Superintendents of Shiloh, Knights Ferry, Valley Home and Paradise as well as School Board Members from the Turlock, Ceres, Hughson, Chatom, Knights Ferry and Gratton School Districts.

With a keen focus on S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education, one of Sanford's main focuses will be to ensure that Stanislaus County has an available, homegrown workforce for the 21st Century. "We must improve coordination among the districts, business community, the general public and our higher education systems. Vocational programs should be tailored to best suit the needs of the marketplace and include a built in "pipeline" to skill certification. Effective, streamlined articulation between the K-12 system and the college system should allow students a seamless transfer to successfully pursue their educational goals."

A 28 year education veteran, having spent 16 years as a teacher in the classroom and the past 12 years as Superintendent, you can learn more about Shannon Sanford at www.SanfordForSchools.com. You can also connect with Shannon on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/SanfordForSchools/ and via Twitter: @Sanford4Schools.