



Orange Unified School District
CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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February 2, 2016

Dear Staff, Colleagues and Stakeholders,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Administrator of Child Development-Elementary Education for Orange Unified School District. Orange Unified School District, and in particular the Child Development Services department, has a proven reputation of excellence. I feel fortunate to be joining a culture focused on student learning, high expectations and a commitment to success. I am excited to partner with dedicated staff to provide the best possible high-quality pre-school educational programs, as well as expanded learning programs for children, while fostering opportunities for innovation and collaboration.

As I am new to the Orange Unified School District family, I would like to share some information about my education and professional experience as well as a little bit about my personal background. I earned my B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts from Mount Saint Mary's College and immediately began working in various social service and educational fields. I decided to follow my passion and enroll in a teacher credential program a few years later. I earned my elementary teaching credential and subsequently my Master of Educational Administration degree from CSU Bakersfield. I began my teaching career fifteen years ago as a Kindergarten teacher for Palmdale School District. I taught various grades at the primary level, serving as Administrative Intern concurrently. I also taught several parent education courses and facilitated the only Parent Resource Center in the district. Most recently, I served as the Coordinator of Child Development at ABC Unified School district for the last two years.

I am enthusiastically beginning this new journey with Orange Unified School District as part of a successful educational team providing outstanding services comprised of Early Learning/State Preschool programs, Transitional Kindergarten classes, Child Development Center programs and CARES before and after school programs. My professional experience prior to the elementary school setting includes training family child care providers at Child Care Resource Center; coordinating early intervention programs for developmentally delayed infants and toddlers as well as coordinating Healthy Start and grant funded after school programs in K-8 schools.

It is my objective to maintain the features of our programs that make us excellent and high-quality. I also aim to nurture relationships that will become the foundation of environments rich in support, collaboration and professionalism. Collaborative, collegial relationships will help all of our staff engage with each other and their students in positive, meaningful ways. Please know that I strive to have an open door policy in which I think you will find me to be open, transparent, and compassionate. I look forward to meeting those of you I have not had the pleasure of meeting and visiting sites to discuss with Principals how I might support any needs you have. My goal is to work collaboratively with you to ensure our future success.

Sincerely,

Amie Wilson Bird
Administrator
Child Development-Elementary Education