

PRESS RELEASE

Manhattan Beach Unified School District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kimberlie Linz Selected as Principal of Pacific Elementary School in MBUSD

Manhattan Beach, CA, June 21, 2011—

The Manhattan Beach Unified School District is proud to announce that the Board has approved Ms. Kimberlie Linz to be the new principal of Pacific Elementary School. Ms. Linz has served as the assistant principal of Manhattan Beach Middle School for the last three years. She also has experience as an elementary school teacher, a special education teacher, and a math coach.

The district advertised for the position and received thirty applications. From that initial pool, eight applicants were selected to be interviewed. Approximately twenty teachers, staff, parents and administrators served on interview panels and analyzed spontaneous writing samples from each candidate. MBUSD senior administrators conducted further interviews and reference checks on applicants who advanced in the process. Dr. Michael Matthews, MBUSD Superintendent, interviewed the finalists and then recommended Ms. Linz to the Board for their approval.

"Ms. Linz has the background, the expertise and the love of children that it will take to be a successful principal in our district," stated Dr. Matthews. "She emerged from a pool of highly qualified applicants as the best candidate for our district. The fact that she already knows our district well will be an added bonus in helping her to succeed."

Ms. Linz added, "I am thrilled to be joining a great educational community like Pacific where teachers, parents and the community work closely for the success of all students and where education is so highly valued. I know from my time at Manhattan Beach Middle School how outstanding the children from Pacific are, and I look forward to becoming a part of their lives and success."

John Jackson, Principal of Manhattan Beach Middle School, where Ms. Linz has served for three years, noted, "I know she will be a top notch leader of an already outstanding school."

Ms. Linz will assume her new duties as principal of Pacific Elementary School on July 1, 2011. Debbie Mabry, Pacific Principal since 2007, will become principal of Pennekamp Elementary. Under Mrs. Mabry's leadership, Pacific was honored as a California Distinguished School and a California Service Learning Leader School. In addition, Pacific earned statewide rankings of 10 and similar school rankings of 10, the highest rankings available, all four years. Mrs. Mabry is replacing Dale Keldrauk, principal of Pennekamp since 1996. Mr. Keldrauk retired at the end of the 2010-2011 school year after a highly successful fifteen-year career in the district.

About the Manhattan Beach Unified School District

Manhattan Beach Unified School District ranks as the third highest performing unified school district in the State of California with a 2010 Growth Academic Performance Index (API) of 926. MBUSD serves nearly 6,900 students from preschool to twelfth grade at eight school campuses—one preschool, five elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. Mira Costa High School's API places it in the top 1.3% of public high schools in California, and it was named number fifteen in ESPN's "Fab 50" High Schools in the Unified States in 2010 for its superior athletic programs. In addition to outstanding students and excellent teachers, MBUSD is extremely fortunate to have a high level of parental involvement in the schools and very strong partnerships with the Manhattan Beach Education and Athletic Foundations, the City of Manhattan Beach, Chevron, Northrop Grumman, Continental Development, the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce and other local organizations and businesses. More information about MBUSD is available at www.mbusd.org.