

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**May 27, 2021**

**COACHELLA VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTS  
SUPERINTENDENT**

**Thermal, CA –** The Coachella Valley Unified School District Board of Education is pleased to announce that Dr. Luis Valentino has been selected as Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Valentino was appointed at the May 27<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting and his start date will be July 1, 2021.

Dr. Luis Valentino is a transformational leader with over 30 years of experience serving diverse urban school districts. He is bilingual and bicultural. Throughout his career, Dr. Valentino has fought to address the marginalization of historically underserved students and their communities and has been an advocate for equity. Board President Joey Acuna Jr. stated, “The board is happy to welcome Dr. Valentino to the CVUSD family! We look forward to working with him to lead our district and providing our students, staff and community a progressive path into the future.”

Dr. Valentino presently serves as the Chief Academic Officer with the Portland Public Schools, where he has focused on creating comprehensive, rigorous, and supported educational experiences for the students he serves. He has served as CEO of the Valgar Institute, where he launched several resources for educational leaders. He has also served as Superintendent, Associate Superintendent/ Chief Academic Officer, and Director, site administration and classroom teacher. Dr. Valentino shared, “I am excited and honored for the opportunity to serve the Coachella Valley Unified School District. I look forward to meeting and collaborating with students, staff, and community, as we embark on a shared journey to realizing our vision so that every CVUSD graduate will possess the skills and personal motivation needed to achieve their personal dream.”

Dr. Valentino has taught at UCLA, USC, and Cal State, Los Angeles. He holds a BS degree from University of Texas at Austin, an MS from Pepperdine University and an MA from Cal State, Los Angeles. He also holds an Ed.D. from UCLA and has completed an Advanced Leadership program at Harvard University.

Dr. Valentino did share information with the Board about his departure from the Albuquerque Public Schools. Dr. Valentino took full responsibility as the Superintendent and stepped away voluntarily which he felt, at the time, was in the best interests of the Albuquerque Public Schools system and the community. We believe he will be a great fit at CVUSD and we give him our full support.

Luis is married to his wife Libby, and has two children, Audrey and Anthony. The Valentino family has lived in the Coachella Valley for the past 3.5 years.

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