



Mr. Kotko holds a degree in Physics and works to instill a foundation of problem solving and critical thinking in his students. Having taught in Folsom Cordova since 2002, he renewed his National Board Certification in 2017. President Barrack Obama named Mr. Kotko as a national winner of the 2016 President's Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching and invited him to the Whitehouse to receive his award.

From 2014-2017, Mr. Kotko served as chair of the 12-member California Teacher Advisory Council, where he teamed with industry professionals and state policy leaders to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education in the public schools. He has also traveled to Washington, D.C. to speak to the U.S. Congress about improving university-level teacher training. Locally, he served as a member of the FCUSD Professional Development Cadre where he facilitated teacher training and the adoption of Common Core standards.

Mr. Kotko's enthusiasm for education has also led him overseas; he has ventured to India to help train local teachers and to Nicaragua to assist in constructing a school. He also spent several years working with the People to People Student Ambassador Program where he led teams of high school students through Australia.