



TRACY
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*"The future belongs
to the educated"*

TUSD Names STEM Coordinators

(TRACY, CA) – Tracy Unified School District has named Ms. Elisavet Barajas and Mr. Thien Vu-Nguyen as STEM Coordinators. They will be replacing Richard Newton and Deb Coker, who will both be retiring at the end of this school year.

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Barajas has been the principal of Wanda Hirsch Elementary School for the past two years. Prior to that position, she was the vice principal at Visions in Education located in Carmichael for four years. Previously, she has held several positions including, a high school math teacher, STEM Summer Program Coordinator at UOP, curriculum specialist, and an assistant principal of West High School. She attended the University of the Pacific, where she earned her Bachelor's in Mathematics, and a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction.

Vu-Nguyen has been a STEM Teacher in San Benito High School District since 2016, where he teaches Chemistry, Principles of Engineering and Engineering 2. Previously, he held positions including Science Teacher and Researcher Intern. He is the founder of Sam Benito Robotics which has developed hands-on STEM curricula, educator training, computer science and project based learning into the classrooms. He attended California Polytechnic, where he earned his Bachelor's in Materials Engineering, and Western Governors University where he earned his Master's in Technology and Learning. He also holds a CTE Credential in Engineering & Architecture and Science Education Credential (Biology and Chemistry).

"Tracy Unified is fortunate to fill these coordinator positions with these two individuals whose expertise, dedication, and passion for fostering innovation will be instrumental in shaping the future of STEM education in our district."
[Dr. Rob Pecot, Superintendent]

They will take on their new roles July 1st of this year.