June 1, 2015 (Phoenix, Arizona) – Leadership West has just announced the members of the 2015-16 Class XXII with Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux as a selected participant. The organization has a rigorous process that participants engage in from orientation meetings to applications to interviews and final selections.

The mission of Leadership West is to, “Cultivate leadership capital for the West Valley and prepare those leaders to affect positive change in Arizona. Its diverse membership believes that intelligent, active engagement in public affairs is the true measure of citizenship and the foundation for the community.”

The nine-month educational and relationship-building program brings together a diverse mix of emerging and established West Valley leaders who learn about critical issues facing the region and communities and further develop leadership skills. Speakers of the highest caliber inform and interact with class members, and intriguing “Focus Tours” highlight key locations in the West Valley. Class members work cooperatively and present team projects that address needs in the community. Leadership West participants gain broadened community perspectives, exposure to key issues, access to valuable personal and professional contacts and an opportunity to “give back” to the West Valley.

For Matos DeBlieux it is, “An amazing opportunity to highlight Pendergast District and solidify great partnerships in our communities. Leadership programs such as Leadership West are what servant leadership is all about, giving back to the communities that provide so much for our students, staff and families. I look forward to learning about the assets that make the West Valley a treasure for all who live and work here. The knowledge will benefit our district and its schools.”

Pendergast Board President Susan Serin believes, “The Governing Board hired Dr. DeBlieux one year ago and we have seen her inclusive leadership style that has brought recognition, partnerships and a ‘can-do and will-do’ attitude to Pendergast District. We look forward to all of the marvelous ventures that will spring from Lily’s involvement with Leadership West.”