



January 6, 2016

Arenas, Gutiérrez Elected to PESD Board Leadership Positions

2016 officers to continue tradition of school and district achievement and excellence

January 6, 2016 - Phoenix, Arizona – Jose Arenas and Rubén Gutiérrez were elected as Pendergast District president and vice-president respectively at the Governing Board meeting on held Tuesday, January 5, 2016. Arenas, the former PESD board vice-president, stepped into the role as president with extensive educational experience as a teacher, principal, and currently the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources for the Phoenix Union High School District. He is a strong advocate for students, staff, families and communities. Gutiérrez, also an educator, currently serves as the Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning for the Riverside Elementary School District. Both Arenas and Gutiérrez have a strong belief that “every child will succeed in Pendergast and they make decisions that are always in the best interest of students.”

Susan Serin served as board president last year and was honored for her commitment and leadership to the schools and District as well as the countless volunteer hours she has devoted to her service to the betterment of students and the district.

The Arizona School Board’s Association recently honored the Pendergast board for their outstanding efforts as they received the Total Boardsmanship Award last month. The award recognized their focus on students, collaborative efforts and visionary leadership and well as the skills and knowledge necessary to serve as exemplary board members. The Governing Board, together with Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux, superintendent of Pendergast District is responsible for setting the course of the district through the District Strategic Plan’s vision, beliefs and mission.

Dr. Matos DeBlieux, Pendergast superintendent, reflects on the board and district’s accomplishments. “The Pendergast board is comprised of a group of dedicated individuals who share a collective vision of providing the best educational experience for students, staff, families and the communities they represent. Their leadership serves as a role model for others and inspires all of us daily. It is an honor and a privilege to work with them.”