

**For Immediate Release**

**San Carlos School District Hires Interim Superintendent**  
*Dr. Craig Baker to assume role vacated by Steve Mitrovich's retirement*

**SAN CARLOS, CA – June 26, 2009** – The Governing Board of the San Carlos School District announced today that it has signed a contract with Dr. Craig Baker to become the Superintendent of the San Carlos School District effective August 1, 2009. Dr. Baker's contract is for a period of one year. Dr. Baker will assume the position from Steve Mitrovich, who announced his retirement last month. The San Carlos School Board unanimously approved Dr. Baker's contract at its meeting last night.

Since July 2005, Dr. Baker has been the Executive Director of the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and their Communities (JGC). As part of Stanford University, JGC partners with communities to research, develop, and disseminate effective practices and models for developing well rounded young people. Dr. Baker will be taking a leave of absence from Stanford University to assume the superintendent position.

Dr. Baker's experience also includes being the Executive Director of the Robert N. Noyce Center for Learning at The Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose as well as 22 years experience in public education as a teacher, principal, and assistant superintendent with the both the Pajaro Valley Unified and the Redwood City School Districts. Dr. Baker spent several years as Director of Leadership Schools for the Bay Area School Reform Collaborative (BASRC) and served two years on the School Board for the Redwood City Elementary School District. He received his Bachelors and Masters of Science degrees in Psychology and Education from the University of California at Santa Cruz; his School Administration Credential from San Jose State University; and his doctorate in education from the University of San Francisco.

"The School Board is extremely excited to have Dr. Baker on board as our new Superintendent," said Carrie Du Bois, President of the School Board. "He brings with him a wealth of experience in education, strong managerial and leadership skills, and the vision to build upon the great foundation we have in our amazing School District."

Last month, the San Carlos School District announced that Steve Mitrovich, the Superintendent since July 2007, was retiring and that the Board would seek to replace him with an interim superintendent. Mr. Mitrovich is credited with a number of accomplishments during his tenure, including the building of a strong administrative leadership team within the district, greatly improving relationships with the community, and managing the District successfully through one of the worst budget crisis in history (including providing leadership for the recently-approved Measure B parcel tax, which allowed the District to retain all of its teachers and most of its programs). With the assistance of a professional search firm, the Board recruited and interviewed a number of qualified candidates for the interim Superintendent position.

"I have worked with Dr. Baker in many capacities, including his role as a board member in the Redwood City School District as well as with him at the Gardner Center, and I can say unequivocally that San Carlos is extremely lucky to have landed someone of his caliber," commented Shelly Masur, President of the San Mateo County School Boards Association and Trustee of the Redwood City School District. "He is a natural leader who is passionate about public education, and he will definitely be an asset to the San Carlos schools."

Dr. Baker added: "I am very excited to be joining the San Carlos School District. Having lived in this area for the past twenty years, I am very familiar with the wonderful San Carlos school community and the top-notch education that they deliver for its children. I look forward to working with the staff, parents, board members, and the larger community to build on the great work they have done."

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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