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Published February 24th, 2016 School District Appoints New Superintendent

By Victor Ryerson

The Orinda Union School District has announced the appointment of Carolyn Seaton as the next superintendent, succeeding Dr. Joe Jaconette, who retired last month. Seaton will assume office on May 2.

Seaton comes to Orinda from Manhattan Beach Unified School District, where she is currently Executive Director of Human Resources. She holds a bachelor's degree in history from Southern Methodist University and a master's in education from the University of North Texas, and is expected to receive her Ed.D. in K-12 Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California this May. She began her career in public education as an elementary teacher in Texas in 1984, and has served as a middle school teacher, assistant principal, principal, and administrator in Manhattan Beach.

Seaton's selection follows a process that involved extensive public input to guide the board in selecting a leader who would reflect the aspirations of the community. "I look forward to partnering with district, school, community, and business organizations to expand the educational opportunities available for our students," she says. "I am passionate about teaching and learning and committed to providing Orinda's children with the educational experiences that will best prepare them for college, career and life."

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