



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Goose Creek CISD trustees name lone finalist for superintendent

The Goose Creek CISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved Dr. Salvador Cavazos as the lone finalist for Superintendent of Schools on June 28.

Dr. Cavazos currently serves as superintendent of Alice ISD in south Texas, a position he has held since 2009.

State law requires school districts to name lone finalists for their top posts, followed by a 21-day waiting period, before actually awarding the job. Board members have called a special meeting on July 19 when Dr. Cavazos is expected to sign his contract.

When the contract is signed, Dr. Cavazos will become the 14th superintendent in Goose Creek CISD history. He replaces Dr. Toby York who is retiring July 31. Dr. York has been superintendent since 2009.

After Dr. York announced his plans to retire in February, the Board hired Thompson & Horton LLP to direct the superintendent search. Led by attorney David Thompson and Mike Moses, a former Commissioner of Education, the search firm developed a candidate profile through input from students, parents, teachers, principals, and community members.

This profile was the yardstick used by the Board and the consultants in evaluating the 42 applicants for the position. The Board narrowed the applicant pool to seven and interviewed these candidates. Following the first round of interviews, the Board invited two of the candidates for a second interview before deciding on a lone finalist.

"We are proud to announce the selection of Dr. Cavazos as our lone finalist for superintendent of Goose Creek CISD," said Board President Jenice Coffey. "Dr. Cavazos has a strong curriculum and instruction background and a proven record of leading districts to higher academic performance."

Mrs. Coffey said those were just a few of the reasons why trustees believe that Dr. Cavazos is the ideal candidate to lead Goose Creek CISD.

"He brings a wealth of knowledge to our district through his work experience and success in diverse districts — both rural and urban. He is an excellent communicator and an enthusiastic individual. We look forward to working with him in positively impacting our students and staff," Mrs. Coffey said.

Dr. Cavazos, 48, has more than 24 years of experience in Texas public schools and the non-profit corporate field.



Dr. Salvador Cavazos

Prior to his appointment in Alice, he served as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction in Brownsville ISD.

During his tenure there, the district received the Broad Prize in Education, designating Brownsville ISD as the highest academic performing urban district in the United States.

Other positions he has held include Chief Development Officer for Southwest Key Programs, Inc. in Austin, principal of Johnston High School and Fulmore Middle School in Austin ISD, principal of Santa Maria High School in Santa Maria ISD, and assistant principal of McAllen Rowe High School and Lamar Middle School in McAllen ISD. He also served as a teacher at McAllen High School.

Dr. Cavazos earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science and English from the University of Texas-Pan American in 1986, and his master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of Texas-Pan American in 1988. He earned his doctorate degree in Educational Leadership at the University of Texas at Austin in 2002.

He holds Texas Educator Certification for superintendent, mid management administrator, counselor, and secondary (grades 6-12) teacher for government and English.

"It is a great honor to have been named lone finalist of Goose Creek CISD," said Dr. Cavazos. "My wife, four children and I have enjoyed living in Alice. However, working at GCCISD would be a great opportunity that I look forward to discussing with the Board of Trustees."

Dr. Cavazos and his wife, Bertha, have two college-aged children and two school-aged children. Dr. Cavazos and his family will relocate to Baytown this summer.

Goose Creek CISD serves more than 21,000 students in the communities of Baytown and Highlands.

Encompassing a 128-square-mile area, Goose Creek CISD has one primary school, 13 elementary schools, five junior schools, and three high schools, as well as a wide range of special programs and services, including IMPACT Early College High School, John M. Stuart Career Center, the POINT Alternative Center, and the Peter E. Hyland Center.

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