



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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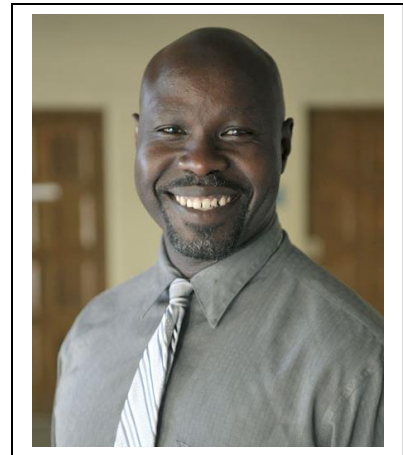
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 27, 2016

SMMUSD Conducts Superintendent Validation Visit

A team of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District board members, administrators and union leaders conducted a validation visit during a special board meeting at the Santa Barbara Unified School District on October 27, 2016.

The special board meeting was scheduled to discuss superintendent finalist Dr. Ben Drati with his current colleagues and community members.

The excitement and enthusiasm for Dr. Drati was confirmed after hearing from his current community. The SMMUSD Board of Education looks forward to approving the appointment of Dr. Drati as the new SMMUSD superintendent at the regular meeting on Thursday, November 3, 2016. The appointment will be effective Jan. 1, 2017.



Dr. Ben Drati

Dr. Drati has served as the assistant superintendent of secondary education for the Santa Barbara Unified School District since 2012, where he has been instrumental in bringing achievement and access to all students and helping to create a district focused on diversity, inclusiveness and cultural proficiency.

“During our validation visit we heard very favorable common themes from participants in describing Dr. Drati: that he is authentic, noble, a uniter, a good listener, displays trust and heart, builds cohesion and forms highly productive relationships,” Laurie Lieberman, board president, said. “His passion for providing educational opportunities so all students may reach their full potential fits in perfectly with our Excellence through Equity plan implementation.”

Additional information about Dr. Drati will be provided following board approval on November 3.

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