

January 13, 2010

Dear Staff and Community,

It is with mixed emotions that I'm letting you know that this will be my last year as Superintendent of Schools in Clovis, and that I will not be serving the 2010-2011 year of my contract. My husband, Jerry, and I will be leaving at the end of June 2010. There are two primary reasons for my decision – one professional and one personal.

On a professional level, I believe I've been the best person for the job these past five years. Among other things, I'm proud of our accomplishments involving the new mission for Lincoln-Jackson, our conversion from junior high schools to middle schools and a freshman campus, the focus on national initiatives such as High Schools That Work, and the establishment of our Education Foundation.

However, I do not believe I will be the best person for the job over the next five years. Clovis is getting ready to launch a major building program to deal with the incredible growth that is coming our way, and this will be a major focus for the superintendent in the foreseeable future. While I could manage that focus, it is not my area of expertise.

On a personal level, Jerry and I realized this past summer that we are beginning a new phase of our lives, and we need to return to Albuquerque. I have truly loved the opportunity of leading Clovis Municipal Schools, and feel blessed to have lived in this community and served with the incredible people who support our children every day. Clovis, its people, and CMS will always be very dear to me. It is simply time for my family and me to move on.

I pledge to you that CMS will have my best efforts over the next few months, just as you have come to expect over the past several years. Because I want the Clovis School Board to have all the time they need to consider a replacement for me, I am presenting my resignation now.

I sincerely thank everyone for their support of our students in the Clovis Schools. Clovis has a spirit of community unsurpassed in New Mexico, and it is an honor to be a part of it.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Seidenwurm, Ph.D.