



Governing Board

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March 17, 2025

Dear Verrado High School Students, Families, and Community:

I am writing to inform you that Principal Kevin Thomas has submitted his resignation, effective June 30, 2025, and will complete the school year as Principal. We are grateful for his leadership, and we wish him all the best in his future endeavors. His letter of resignation is attached for your reference.

We are beginning the process of selecting a new principal and are committed to finding the best candidate for this important role. The new principal will begin on July 1, 2025, ensuring a smooth transition into the next academic year. Below is an outline of the hiring process:

- **Position Posting - March 18:** Position will be posted both internally and nationwide, to attract a broad pool of highly qualified candidates.
- **Application Review - April 8:** Deputy Superintendent of Academics and Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources will review all applicants through a paper screening process.
- **Initial Interviews - April 14:** Selected applicants will be interviewed by the Deputy Superintendent of Academics, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, and myself. We will identify up to five candidates to move forward to a panel interview.
- **Panel Interview - April 17:** Candidates will participate in a panel interview facilitated by Human Resources, with Verrado High School staff, parents, students, and community.
- **Community Forum - April 28:** The top two or three finalists will participate in a forum to meet with parents, students, staff, and community members. This is an opportunity to interact with the candidates and provide feedback.
- **Recommendation for Hire - April 29:** Deputy Superintendent of Academics will make a recommendation to me, and I will present it to the Governing Board on May 7, for their consideration.

I am confident that together, we will find the right leader to become the Principal of Verrado High School. Should you want to be part of the interview panel, please email Phillip Nowlin by March 25: pnowlin@aguafria.org

Thank you,
Mark Yslas
Superintendent

Ms. Holly Bonessi
Assistant Principal

Mr. Matt Lees
Assistant Principal



Mr. Barry Cromer
Assistant Principal/AD

Mr. Kevin Thomas
Principal

Mr. Garrett Maier
Assistant Principal

20050 W. Indian School Rd. Buckeye, AZ 85396 Phone: (623) 932.7400

3-17-2025

To the Verrado Community and AFUHSD,

With a heavy heart, I submit my resignation as Principal of Verrado High School, effective at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year. While I will complete this school year, I will not be returning in the fall. This decision has been incredibly difficult, but my wife has been presented with an exceptional career opportunity in Kansas City, and our family has made the choice to pursue it.

Serving the Verrado community has been one of the greatest privileges of my career. The welcoming staff, dedicated colleagues, and incredible students have made this experience truly unforgettable. While I am excited for the new adventure ahead, leaving a school and a team that mean so much to me is bittersweet. The relationships I've built, the lessons I've learned, and the growth I've experienced—both professionally and personally—have profoundly shaped my life. My gratitude cannot be fully expressed in this letter.

Verrado High School is a special place, and I remain committed to serving to the best of my ability through the end of the school year. In the coming weeks, as I have for the past two years, I will continue to give my full effort in supporting our students and school community.

Thank you for giving One Verrado its meaning—I certainly will carry it with me as my family and I begin this next chapter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Thomas', is written over a series of horizontal lines.

Kevin Thomas
Principal