Richard Carranza Sworn in as Schools’ Superintendent

June 27 2012 (San Francisco) – At its regular meeting last night, outgoing school superintendent Carlos Garcia officially swore in Richard Carranza as the school district’s new superintendent. Carranza has held the position of Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, Innovation and Social Justice at the district since 2009. He succeeds Carlos A Garcia, who has been at the helm of San Francisco’s public schools for the past five years.

“As someone who started in school as an English learner, this is a momentous occasion not just for me but for what I represent. Regardless of who you are, the schools are here for you. I follow someone who I consider to be the most pre-eminent superintendent in the country, Carlos Garcia. We have the greatest job of all and that’s working with children,” said Carranza.

As Deputy Superintendent, Carranza led the implementation of the district’s equity focused strategic plan. His responsibilities included the redesign of the district’s central office to better support school sites and the implementation of a core instructional curriculum to achieve more equitable educational results for all students.

Prior to his work with SFUSD, Mr. Carranza was Northwest Region Superintendent for the Clark County School District in Las Vegas, Nevada, where he oversaw 66 schools and over 66,000 students. Under his leadership the Northwest Region made significant strides towards improving student achievement including an increase in the number of middle schools and high schools making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and double digit reductions in the percentage of special education and Limited English Proficient (LEP) students performing below proficiency levels in mathematics and language arts.

During Garcia’s time at SFUSD, the district has increased student achievement test scores across the board and narrowed the achievement gap. The school board expanded access to curriculum that prepares students for college and careers, including changing graduation requirements to meet the course sequence students must take to be admitted to a California state university. Numerous other new programs, designed to increase the number of SFUSD graduates continuing on to college, have begun in partnership with the city and local colleges, including Bridge to Success, SF Promise, Kindergarten to College, and Plan Ahead.

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