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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2018

## GUSD NAMES LATEST EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CELEBRANTS

Staff Recognized for Invaluable Service to the District

**Gilroy, CA** – The Gilroy Unified School District (GUSD) is pleased to announce and congratulate the award recipients of the Employee Recognition Program who will be honored at the May 17, 2018 Board Meeting by Superintendent Dr. Deborah A. Flores and Board of Trustees.

The honorees were chosen from GUSD's four bargaining units – Rachel Mendoza, California School Employees Association (CSEA); Sara Espinosa, Gilroy Federation of Paraeducators (GFP); Adrienne Summers, Gilroy Teachers Association (GTA) and Kermit Schrock, Management.

The vision and goal of the program, developed by Superintendent Flores and the Board of Trustees, is to recognize the valuable contributions to the District's students, schools and community by staff members. Unlike traditional programs, GUSD's program allows any staff member, regardless of position and bargaining unit, to nominate another staff person for their contributions and hard work.

President Linda Piceno states, "This program was established in 2017 and has been reinstituted in 2018. The Board of Trustees is so pleased to see staff being recognized for their dedication and commitment to the District."

The review committee, comprised of representatives from each of the units, reviewed 30 nominations and presented four finalists to the District's seven-member Cabinet, who approved the recommendations made by the committee.

"As always with these types of programs, it was a difficult decision because so many of our staff make incredible contributions in their own individual way on a daily basis benefiting our students, staff and community," stated Superintendent Flores.

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## Page 2 GUSD Employee Recognition Program Honorees Named

## **May 2018 Award Recipients**

**Rachel Mendoza** (CSEA), *Christopher High School*, nominated by Attendance Liaison, Melissa Vernon, for her contagious positive energy that makes CHS a great place to be and dedication to every aspect of her job.

**Sara Espinosa** (GFP), *South Valley Middle School*, nominated by Education Specialist Special Day Class Teacher, Maria Jose Garcia, for going above and beyond in her work performance and the kind, loving care she shares for her students.

**Adrienne Summers** (GTA), nominated by Student Services Director, Anna Pulido, for her tireless dedication to students in the District and support she shows her colleagues.

**Kermit Schrock** (Management), nominated by Luigi Aprea Elementary School Principal, Tami Espinosa for his willingness to help staff at all school sites with data analysis and program support.

For additional information about the Employee Recognition Program, please visit <a href="https://www.GilroyUnified.org/employeerecognition">www.GilroyUnified.org/employeerecognition</a>. Award nomination submissions may be viewed at <a href="https://www.GilroyUnified.org/awardrecipients">www.GilroyUnified.org/awardrecipients</a>

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