



December 11, 2019

Dear Laveen Staff:

I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Johnson as he nears his retirement this summer.

It is Dr. Johnson's leadership that has brought Laveen schools to where they are today. Laveen has implemented many successful initiatives since he joined us back in 2005. In 15 years we have seen the district grow from one that was virtually unknown outside of our immediate community to one that is widely recognized for its many achievements and innovative programs, as well as having a voice in state level policy decisions.

These accomplishments take years of dedication and determination. We are fortunate to have had a superintendent that was so deeply committed to the Laveen District and community as a whole.

That is why, as Governing Board President, I must carefully consider who will carry on the work after Dr. Johnson's departure. At the December 12 Governing Board meeting, I plan to nominate our current Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Dr. Jeff Sprout, to become our next superintendent effective July 1, 2020.

Dr. Sprout has served our district for over six years and has been dedicated to making Laveen a great place to work for our staff in the areas of recruitment, retention, benefits, and leadership development, to name a few. He has been actively involved in the community, serving in the Laveen Lions Club and has chaired the Laveen Community Parade for four years. He has volunteered many hours in developing the Laveen Education Foundation and has supported the last several bond and override measures.

Before joining Laveen, Dr. Sprout was a teacher, principal, and Director of STEM Research and Development in the Alhambra District. He was the recipient of the Excellence in Education teaching award, Rodel Exemplary Principal Award, and, along with his staff, received the A+ School of Excellence Award. He completed his doctoral program at Arizona State University.

If approved by my fellow board members, I have no doubt that Dr. Sprout will continue Dr. Johnson's trajectory of building a successful and highly respected school district.

Sincerely,

Jill Barragan, Governing Board President