



# PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Poway Unified Welcomes New Director of Communications**

Poway Unified School District welcomes Jessica Wakefield to the role of Director of Communications and Community Engagement. Ms. Wakefield joins PUSD after over eight years as Communications Specialist with the Tracy Unified School District in Northern California. Prior to Tracy Unified she worked as a freelance journalist and was creator and editor of a university online magazine.

Jessica earned a Bachelor's degree in Communications, Emphasis in Print Journalism, from University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, and a Master's degree in Journalism and Mass Communications from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The Director of Communications and Community Engagement develops and strengthens the District's internal and external communications and promotes and/or coordinates District events. "Jessica's strong background in social media and emphasis on maintaining and evolving communications among all stakeholders will help our students, parents, community members and staff be informed and empowered to communicate within our District community," said Dr. John Collins, PUSD Superintendent.

"I am excited to join the tremendously dedicated PUSD team and take the District and its community to new levels in the world of communication," said Wakefield. "Well-informed, active students, families and citizens are our greatest assets as a school district and it is my goal to create a dynamic, two-way conversation within our community to discuss all aspects of our evolving education system frequently and openly."

Ms. Wakefield will be filling the position left by Sharon Raffer who retired in February. She joins the District today, September 30, 2013.

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