

News Release

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For immediate release

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**SCOE announces new
assistant superintendent for special education**

Concluding a statewide search, Sonoma County Superintendent of Schools Carl Wong today announced the selection of Ronald R. Whitman as the Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE) assistant superintendent for special education.

In this executive leadership position, Mr. Whitman will plan, organize, and direct all of the special education programs administered by SCOE, which serve over 400 of the county's most severely disabled school-age students. He will also oversee the special education support services provided to 300 children at district schools, 160 students residing in licensed children's institutions, and 280 adult residents of the Sonoma Developmental Center. As SCOE's top special education official, he will coordinate these efforts with school districts, SELPA, and other public and private agencies serving these populations.

Throughout his 25 years in education, Mr. Whitman has demonstrated a strong commitment to children and adults with special needs. He is currently the director of special education for the Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified School District, a position he has held for nine years, and has been a special education teacher and program supervisor. He holds a master's degree in school administration, an administrative credential, and state credentials in general and special education, including certification as a resource specialist.

In announcing Mr. Whitman's selection, Superintendent Wong said, "All of Mr. Whitman's professional experiences have prepared him for this leadership role. He has much to contribute to our programs, our organization, and our mission of fostering student success in Sonoma County. I am very pleased to welcome him to the SCOE management team."

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