PRESS RELEASE

## CNUSD Teacher named 2019 California Teacher of the Year

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Evita Tapia-Gonzalez, MPA Administrative Director - Communications Corona-Norco USD 951-736-5003

Liliana Mota Public Relations Specialist Corona-Norco USD 951-736-5013

Corona, CA – State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced the 2019 California Teachers of the Year. Amongst them is Dr. Angel Mejico from El Cerrito Middle School. Dr. Mejico teaches seventh and eighth-grade art. She has been teaching for 15 years, five at El Cerrito Middle School.

Dr. Mejico founded the Art Academy and an annual Art Expo at El Cerrito Middle School with students, staff, and the community. She teaches art to 450 students each year. Her passion is helping students find their purpose. She seizes cross-curricular opportunities to mix art with core academics. Language arts students use art to create poetry. Home economics incorporates principles of design into banking. In self-assessment, students design a personal curriculum map outlining what they are studying: elements of art, artists, media, and famous works.

"Dr. Angel Mejico is an exceptional educator. She genuinely cares about people, especially her students. In her art classes, she encourages students to express talents that might go unrecognized in the regular academic setting," said Dr. Shelly Yarbrough, Principal, "Allowing students—all types of students—to flourish is Angel's passion. Her passion extends to the adults as well. She looks for opportunities to make others shine and expects nothing in return. Dr. Mejico inspires me to be a better educator and a better person. I am honored to have her as a teacher at El Cerrito Middle School."



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## ABOUT CORONA-NORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Corona-Norco Unified School District is located approximately 45 miles southeast of Los Angeles in western Riverside County. CNUSD consists of thirty-one elementary schools, eight intermediate/middle schools, five comprehensive high schools, a middle college high school and three alternative schools. The district serves over 53,000 students in the diverse communities of Corona, Norco, and Eastvale. CNUSD is the largest school district in Riverside County and the tenth largest district in California.