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BARBARA BLACK RESIGNS AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OXFORD PREPARATORY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS

*Interim Executive Director and new Board Member appointed as top performing
charter school pursues county appeal*

Chino, California – December 6, 2016 - Today, the Oxford Preparatory Academy (OPA) Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Barbara Black, Executive Director since July 1, 2015, effective immediately.

“Thank you for the opportunity to serve the board, staff, parents, and students.” Black shared in a statement. “It has been a privilege to be a part of the Oxford Preparatory Academy Champion family.”

The Oxford Preparatory Academy Board of Directors, under newly appointed Chairman Andrew Vestey, will guide a national search for a replacement. “We want to thank Barbara Black for her service and wish her well in her future endeavors,” Vestey said. “We now look forward to moving ahead and working collaboratively with the San Bernardino County Board of Education to renew the Chino Valley charter petition for the 1,226 students and their families who love their school. We have important work ahead and we thank every stakeholder for the important part they play in the future and success of this organization.”

Oxford Prep SOC Chancellor Named Interim Executive Director

At a meeting of Oxford’s Board of Directors held at the OPA South Orange County campus in Mission Viejo on Tuesday, December 6, 2016, with a unanimous vote, Mrs. Denise Pascoe was named Interim Executive Director of the three OPA schools. Mrs. Pascoe will shift from her role as Chancellor of the South Orange County campus and lead the charter school organization while the nationwide search is conducted for a permanent replacement at the helm of OPA.

Prior to joining Oxford Preparatory Academy, Mrs. Pascoe spent 25 years in the education field. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business from California State University at Los Angeles, and a Master of Arts degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the California State University at Long Beach. She also furthered her education with a credential specializing in mathematics at California State University at Long Beach.

Ms. Debra Tarver Welcomed to Oxford Board

At the same meeting, with a unanimous decision, the Board Members of Oxford Preparatory Academy welcomed charter school veteran and advocate, Debra Tarver, to join their ranks. Ms. Tarver brings more than 25 years of experience in education, a Masters in Educational Administration, and a BA in Business Administration to the organization. She is currently the CEO and Founder of two charter schools, LaVerne Elementary Preparatory Academy and Desert Trails Preparatory Academy, both located in the High Desert. Additionally, she has operated other charter schools and mentored charter leaders. Ms. Tarver’s service also extends beyond school sites with

her role as a Council Member for the California Charter Schools Association (CCSA) and the Vice Chair of CAHELP, Desert Mountain's SELPA. She also holds many other affiliations with professional educational organizations.

Just this past March, Ms. Tarver successfully navigated her Desert Trails charter school through a petition renewal appeal with the County of San Bernardino. Her experience, tenacity, and knowledge will be a welcome addition to the Oxford organization as they continue efforts to renew OPA-Chino Valley's petition and strengthen operations at the Oxford Prep-SOC and Saddleback Valley schools.

Ms. Tarver is a true advocate for children. Her passion, work ethic, and community involvement speaks volumes of her dedication to work with children and families to ensure access to the best education possible.

[Oxford Preparatory Academy Charter Schools](#) are tuition-free public charter schools serving kindergarten through eighth grade students with an innovative educational program based on the Theory of Multiple Intelligences. As K-8 schools, OPA's instruction is modeled from Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences. The Chino Valley and South Orange County schools are recent recipients of the [California Distinguished School](#) award, [10 out of 10 Similar School and Statewide rankings](#), as well as earning [WASC Accreditation](#) from the Western Conference of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

The Chino Valley campus was founded in 2010, and chartered under Chino Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) following unanimous approval by the CVUSD School Board. In 2011, after unanimous approval by the Capistrano Unified School District Board of Trustees, Oxford Prep South Orange County was opened in Mission Viejo, California. The Saddleback Valley campus, located in Lake Forest, opened in September of 2016 and is chartered under the Orange County Board of Education.

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