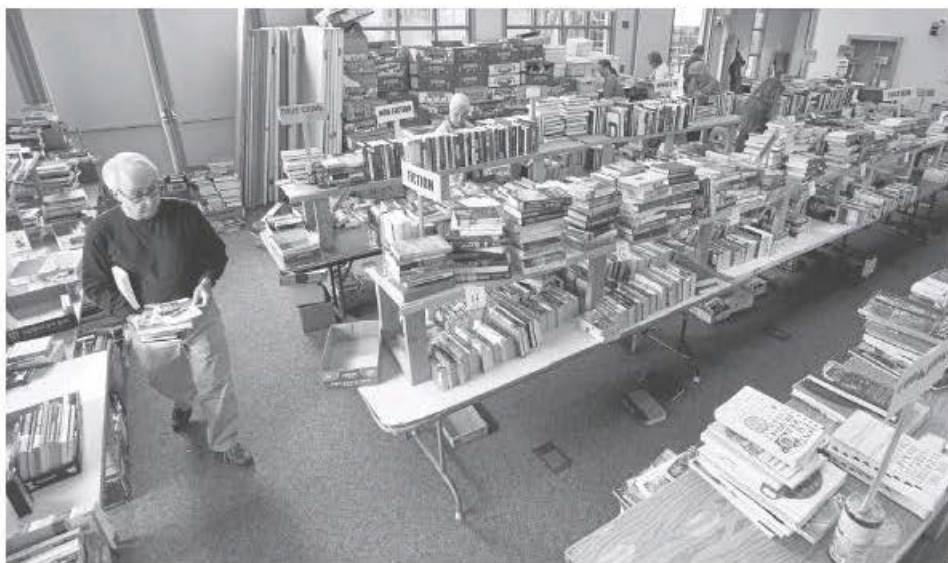


Former teacher named superintendent

The Mercury News 13 Apr 2016 By Sharon Noguchi snoguchi@mercurynews.com Albarrán



Volunteers and members of the Clayton Community Library Foundation get ready Tuesday for this weekend's used-book sale as they sort thousands of books at the library in Clayton. Volunteer Tim Delony, left, looks for the right category to place a stack of books. The sale will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday for CCLF members only (but you can join at the door), from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 12 to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Nancy Albarrán, who worked her way up from classroom teacher to interim chief of the San Jose Unified

School District, tentatively has been selected as the next superintendent.

The five-member district board on



Sunday named Albarrán its sole finalist after interviewing four candidates over the weekend. Twenty people had applied for the position, after the district's consultants conducted a national search.

The board expects to formally approve the appointment at its May 5 meeting, board President Teresa Castellanos said. Albarrán has been filling in as the interim superintendent since Vincent Matthews, who led the district for five years, abruptly resigned in October. He took a job in Southern California as the state administrator for the Inglewood School District, which is in state receivership.

Castellanos said she was impressed with Albarrán's capacity to work with the district's diverse student body. "We have students who succeed in school and need more than what typical schools can offer, and we have students not succeeding and need more help," Castellanos said. "We are not an easy district to understand."

Albarrán began teaching in Los Angeles Unified, and then the Oakland Unified School District. In 1999, she joined San Jose Unified as a bilingual teacher at Horace Mann Elementary. She became an assistant principal, and then principal, at Lowell Elementary. She later became director of bilingual education and special programs. In 2010, she was appointed director of el-

ementary curriculum, instruction and bilingual programs, and in 2012 she became assistant superintendent of instruction.

"I am incredibly privileged and very excited," Albarrán said.

She praised district employees. "The entire organization is working relentlessly toward graduating every student college- and career-ready."

San Jose Unified is Santa Clara County's largest school district, with about 32,000 students.

Albarrán has a bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley, a teaching credential from the former Cal State Hayward and a master's from San Jose State. She and her husband, Edwin Gackstetter, have sons in second and fourth grade and live in San Francisco.

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San Jose Unified

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snoguchi@mercurynews.com

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