

# ***Lewis Center for Educational Research Academy for Academic Excellence***

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Hello to the AAE Community,

This school year, I will be starting at AAE as the new principal. This is an exciting opportunity as I begin to work in the town that I have lived in for over 30 years. In my 26 years in education, I worked in Snowline and Helendale. I was a math teacher, wrestling coach and Dean of Student at Serrano High School. In the past 5 years, I have been the principal of Helendale Secondary School which enrolls about 450 7-12 grade students. These have all been areas in which I have gained experience and knowledge about how education can be successful from many different perspectives.

AAE has a strong reputation for holding strong academic and behavioral standards, and I look to maintain that culture. My goals are to continue to grow and evolve as a learning institution and create a culture that provides the best atmosphere for students to learn and become our future leaders. The last few years in education have been challenging for everyone. As we work towards gravitating towards getting back to more of a normal school setting, I hope to work on bridging learning gaps, creating a lifelong learning focus, and developing a structured school environment that will promote student growth so that they will be prepared for any path that they choose to take in life.

I have been blessed to work within education and be able to serve a role in supporting students to achieve their goals and dreams. This has been a fulfilling mission and I view my role as a facilitator who supports the staff and students to help them to attain all that they need to find success. The safety, education and support of our students and staff is my utmost priority.

I look forward to being a part of the Lewis Center for Educational Research and becoming a member of the Academy for Academic Excellence family. It will be a challenge and a pleasure getting to familiarize myself with all of the people that have made this school such a success. I anticipate a very successful and prosperous school year.

Chet Richards  
Principal