



Queen Creek School District No.95

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Excellence Through Leadership
Engage, Empower, Excel

Queen Creek Unified School District Names New Principal for Gateway Polytechnic Academy

QUEEN CREEK, AZ— Dr. Perry Berry, Superintendent of Queen Creek Unified School District (QCUSD), and the QCUSD Governing Board have named Mr. Thomas Swaninger as the new principal of Gateway Polytechnic Academy (GPA). Mr. Swaninger's hiring was approved at the March 5, 2019, Governing Board meeting. He will take over for Mrs. Allison Carmichael as she takes on her new role as principal of QCUSD's newest school, Silver Valley Elementary (SVE), starting in the 2019-2020 school year.

"Tom is an experienced principal who brings a unique set of skills to our District," Dr. Berry said. "We are excited to have him on the QCUSD team."

Mr. Swaninger has nearly twenty years of educational experience. Fifteen of those years he served as a classroom teacher and counselor, followed by three as a principal. Tom received his bachelor's degree from Arizona State University in elementary education. He has a master's degree in counseling from Oakland University and a doctorate (pending dissertation defense) in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University.

"I am honored and privileged with the opportunity to serve as principal for Gateway Polytechnic Academy," Mr. Swaninger said. "I strive to lead with passion and dedication, forever motivated to optimize the academic, social and emotional growth of every student in our care."

Gateway Polytechnic Academy will serve students in preschool through sixth grade starting next school year. GPA is located at Signal Butte and Ray in Mesa's Eastmark community.



Tom and his wife have three daughters. Their nights and weekends are filled with piano, softball, swimming and more. When not in the stands or at a recital, Tom enjoys hiking, mountain biking, reading and following our local teams – especially Sun Devil football and Diamondbacks baseball.

About QCUSD

Queen Creek Unified School District supports the development of the whole child by modeling positive academic, social and emotional learning through an innovative and challenging curriculum. Learning is maximized by empowering the community, and its members, to partner with us to create safe and secure learning environments for all students. Queen Creek Unified School District expects their students to be successful, compassionate and productive in their learning so that the next generation of ethical citizens can lead our community both locally and globally. To learn more about the district, visit [Queen Creek Unified School District](http://www.qcused.org) website. Connect with Queen Creek Unified School District on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/qcused), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/qcused), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/qcused).

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