

## Fontana Unified School District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY AND FUSD SIGN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

FONTANA, CA – The Fontana Unified School District and Loma Linda University have entered into a partnership that will provide Loma Linda's behavioral health graduate students with clinical experience while providing Fontana's students with mental health support.

At the November 6, 2015 Board Meeting, Dr. Beverly Buckles, Dean of Loma Linda University's School of Behavior Health, and FUSD Superintendent Dr. Leslie Boozer signed Memorandums of Understanding entering into a contract for clinical and instructional programs, through which the university will assist the district in providing resources to support our efforts in increasing academic achievement, as well as providing our children with tools to have healthy minds and bodies.

"We have learned that we need to focus on the issues of low academics and student mental health as one and the same. Fontana's Transforming Together provides us with the guidelines to begin making that paradigm shift and create partnerships outside the district because we can't do it alone," said Dr. Boozer.

"There is a misconception that mental health is synonymous with special education," said FUSD Board President BarBara Chavez. "It is not. Research shows that one in four people suffer with some sort of mental health issues. With several partnerships already in place, with the County and several universities, focusing on the academics, I am proud to announce that we are now having a partnership with mental health."

"As a behavioral health specialist, I am delighted about the direction you are taking," said Dr. Buckles. "It is a travesty if we can't start to get a handle on the things that are destroying our children. It is certainly a pleasure to enter into an agreement where our graduate students in Behavioral Health will be placed in your school district to support the needs of your students and your teachers."

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For more information, call Olivier Wong Ah Sun, Ed.D., Chief of Staff at (909) 357-7600, ext. 29106.



In photo, from left: Oscar Duenas, Associate Superintendent of Student Services, Dr. Beverly Buckles, Dean – School of Behavioral Health at Loma Linda University, FUSD Superintendent Dr. Leslie A. Boozer, FUSD Board President BarBara Chavez, and Student Board Member Isaac Rubalcava.