

## Two Peoria School Principals Receive Award

### *County School Superintendent Honors 2018 Exemplary Principals*

PEORIA, March 27, 2018 — The Maricopa County School Superintendent Steve Watson is pleased to announce that Dr. Eric Gundrum and Mr. Dale Shough have been named 2018 Maricopa County Exemplary Principals. Dr. Gundrum is the principal of Sahauro Ranch Elementary and Mr. Shough is the principal of Cheyenne Elementary, both in the Peoria Unified school district.

Maricopa County School Superintendent Steve Watson values school leaders that support and empower teachers that provide excellent education opportunities to students. The Superintendent annually announces the Maricopa County Exemplary Principal Award to school leaders that:

- Exemplify practices and leadership (during the past three school years) that contribute to improved student learning.
- Involve staff, parents, and community members in developing an effective school culture.
- Have a history of high teacher retention.

Both men are receiving this honor based on their exceptional leadership skills in building a strong school culture resulting in high student achievement and low teacher turn-over. They were recommended for the award by Peoria Unified School District Chief Instructional Officer Steve Savoy.

When asked about the two principals, Mr. Savoy stated, “Dr. Gundrum is known throughout the school district and community as an educator that has consistently demonstrated effective leadership over a long and illustrious career in PUSD. Although an administrator with many years of experience, he is always on the forefront of change and innovative practices.”

“Mr. Shough is able to navigate through and above to inspire teachers and students to believe in the impossible. Dale is changing learning on his campus to a blended approach which allows for experimental classrooms, teacher development, and

integrated technology in the learning. He is a true leader in pushing the envelope for technology and learning.”

Superintendent Watson stated, “I am a teacher that ran for County School Superintendent in order to support my fellow teachers in improving learning for all students. One way to do that is by celebrating the leaders that clear the way for great teaching to happen. Principals have the power creating positive teaching environments and, in turn, excellent learning opportunities for students. Eric Gundrum and Dale Shough are two of those principals, and I am pleased to present them with this award.”

Eight Exemplary Principals will be awarded by Steve Watson this coming week. Learn more about the Exemplary Principal award and view the other winners as they are notified at [mcesa.info/exemplary-principals](http://mcesa.info/exemplary-principals).

#### About the Office of the Maricopa County School Superintendent

The Office of the Maricopa County School Superintendent, led by elected Superintendent Steve Watson, is statutorily responsible to serve Maricopa County residents, especially its 725,382 students. The superintendent’s office works to strengthen teacher voice, increase respect for the teaching profession, and create resources that teachers can use to teach creatively and with autonomy.

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