At the May 27, 2020 board meeting, the Board of Education named Dr. Pilar G. Vargas as the new Principal at Orange Glen High School starting July 1, 2020.

Dr. Vargas has over 17 years of experience as an educator. She has been an administrator for the last 6 years in the Sweetwater Union High School District. She served as the Assistant Principal of Montgomery High School and the Assistant Principal at Rancho Del Rey Middle School. As a bilingual teacher for over 7 years, she served as the Social Science Department Chairperson and Dual Language Coordinator. Her career in education began as an Instructional Aide for Special Education.

Dr. Vargas’ educational focus is to create a positive school culture and support students and staff in their academic and social emotional growth. She actively engages in Professional Learning Communities with staff to ensure that all students reach their potential. She also led the charge in creating a Restorative Practices room and a Connect Crew, where students can connect with other students and create positive school connections. Dr. Vargas is actively engaged with site, district, and state committees including: Site and District Leadership Team Planning Committees, Culture & Climate Committee, Suicide Prevention Council, Management Evaluation Committee, and the Bilingual Reauthorization Commission for the California Department of Education.

Dr. Vargas attended California State University, Chico and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in social science. She earned her single subject BCLAD teaching credential, Master of Arts in Education, and Administrative Services Credential at San Diego State University. She most recently attended UCSD/CSUSM for the Joint Doctoral Program to earn her Doctorate in Educational Leadership in 2019. Her dissertation topic was titled “Dual Language Doesn’t Translate: Equity and Access in Dual Language Education on English Learners and Low-Income Students.”

Throughout her teaching and administrative experiences, Dr. Vargas has been a champion and advocate for all students, including those that are underrepresented in higher education and underserved in our educational system. She has a proven track record and commitment to creating respectful, inclusive, equitable school environments while simultaneously promoting opportunities for academic achievement.

We welcome Dr. Pilar G. Vargas as Principal to Orange Glen High School and to the Escondido Union High School District.

For more information please contact Dr. Anne L. Staffieri, Ed. D., Superintendent, at: 760.291.3201 or astaffieri@euhsd.org.