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## Announcing New Principal at Rigler, Chris Silvas

**April 2021**

Dear Rigler Community,

I am pleased to announce that Chris Silvas, an experienced, bilingual educational leader from California, will be the new principal at Rigler Elementary School in the 2021-22 school year.

Chris will take over from Keyla Santiago, who has been serving as interim principal since October. We thank Keyla for stepping in and providing steady leadership after the resignation of the previous principal.

Chris is a committed educator who relates easily to students and staff. He is laser focused on instruction and is a fluent Spanish speaker. He comes to PPS from El Rancho High School, near Los Angeles, where he has been serving as principal. The school currently leads the district in English Language Learner transition to a full English program.

Chris also was principal at Gladstone High School in Azusa. Under his leadership, Gladstone was named a "silver medal" school by U.S. World and News Report for the first time in its history, and the school's English Language Arts progress rating was No. 1 in the Azusa district and 12% above the state average.

He started his career as an elementary school teacher, in grades 5 and 6, and later taught high school English and Social Studies. He also served as a high school athletic coach in football and wrestling for 10 years.

Chris earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Concordia University in Irvine, California.

Please join me in welcoming Principal Silvas to Rigler.

Shawn Bird, Ed.D.  
Chief of Schools



Chris Silvas

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