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St. HOPE Public Schools Names New Superintendent and New Leaders for PS7

SACRAMENTO, CA—August 18, 2011—St. HOPE Public Schools (SHPS) announces the hiring of Jim Scheible as Superintendent in addition to a new leadership team at PS7. PS7 will use a co-principal model starting this year with Audria Johnson heading up the elementary campus for grades K-5 and Kristen Coates leading the middle school campus for grades 6-8.

Jim Scheible, who was born and raised in Curtis Park, took over as Superintendent June 9th, 2011. After graduating from U.C. San Diego with a degree in American History and Economics, Scheible joined Teach for America and taught elementary school in the Bronx. He returned to Sacramento in 2006, joining PS7 as a 6th grade teacher. The following year, he became the middle school's lead teacher, a position he held for three years. Jim was the principal of PS7 last year.

"Jim is an exceptional leader with a passion for academic excellence. His leadership is directly validated by the strong academic gains at PS7. His appointment to Superintendent will ensure that the academic growth and culture of excellence will remain on an upward trajectory for all St. HOPE Public Schools." said outgoing superintendent, Ed Manansala, who will remain with St. HOPE in the position of Director of Strategic Partnerships.

"I'm excited to take the St. HOPE program to the next level and make a university degree a reality for 100% of our students. Our results at all levels are indicating that we are on track to accomplish this goal and ensure that our students graduate from college ready to make a positive impact in their communities." Jim Scheible stated when asked about his new role.

When asked about the new leaders at PS7, Jim Scheible remarked, "Both Audria Johnson and Kristen Coates have been with the PS7 families for several years. They are instructional leaders who are fully prepared for their new roles and I am confident they will take our students to the new heights and levels of academic success."

Audria Johnson is originally from Atlanta, Georgia. She graduated from Oglethorpe University in Atlanta with a degree in Early Childhood Education in 2001. Mrs. Johnson taught elementary school for five years in Atlanta before moving to Sacramento in 2006. She joined the PS7 family that year as a first grade teacher, and held that position for four years. In 2010, she earned her MA degree in Curriculum and Instruction from California State University Sacramento. Last year, she held the lead teacher role for the elementary campus. She is entering her sixth year with St. HOPE and this position marks her debut as a principal.

"It is truly a privilege and honor for me to serve the students, families, teachers and staff of PS7 in this capacity. I am looking forward to continuing to build upon the success that PS7 has seen over the past 8 years," said Mrs. Johnson.

Kristen Coates took on the position as PS7 Middle School Principal after serving as a Lead Teacher during the 2010-11 school year. Mrs. Coates has been with St. HOPE since 2008, serving as an instructional leader in the classroom and as a support to other teachers. In addition, she served as an instructional coach across multiple schools, literacy clinician, and reading specialist prior to joining St. HOPE. Coates is completing her doctorate degree at U.C. Davis, with an emphasis in Leadership and Policy.

"I'm excited to be taking on this new role. PS7 has been a wonderful community to become a part of the last few years. I'm looking forward to raising the bar at PS7 to ensure that students are both academically prepared and emerging as leaders among their peers," stated Kristen Coates.

"Ultimately these transitions allow us to work more strategically with limited resources, further St. HOPE's mission and increase our impact to ensure that all our students are college bound," stated Superintendent Scheible as a summary of the recent staffing adjustments.

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About St. HOPE Public Schools:

St. HOPE Public Schools (SHPS) is a public charter management organization that focuses on serving students from Oak Park and South Sacramento with a majority of students coming from low-income and minority backgrounds. St. HOPE provides all students with a high-quality, rigorous college preparatory education. PS7 (grades K-8) and Sacramento Charter High School (grades 9-12) provide personalized attention to their students and commit more time to learning with an extended school day. In eight years the program has experienced remarkable academic results. SHPS also operates Triumph Center for Early Childhood Education, a public preschool providing unique early childhood education to approximately 65 children. The three schools serve approximately 1,500 students. Visit www.sthopepublicschools.org for more information.