



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

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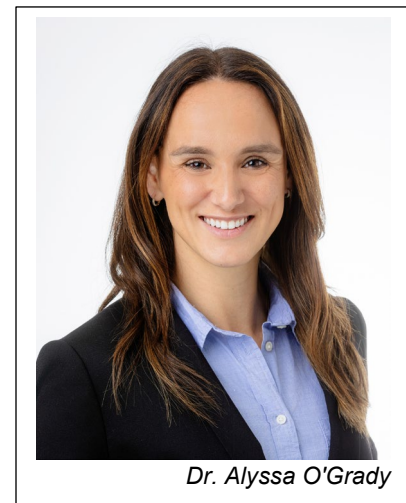
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 24, 2025

SMMUSD Appoints Dr. Alyssa O'Grady as New Director of Assessment, Research and Evaluation

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) approved the appointment of Dr. Alyssa O'Grady as the new director of assessment, research and evaluation, at its June 5, 2025, regular meeting.

Dr. O'Grady comes to SMMUSD with more than 12 years of education experience, serving as a high school teacher, director of instruction, high school assistant principal, TK-8 principal and most recently, elementary school principal in the Redondo Beach Unified School District.

"I am honored to step into the role of director of assessment, evaluation and research," said Dr. O'Grady. "I look forward to working with educators and partners to ensure that data is used thoughtfully and equitably to support student learning and continuous improvement across our district."



Dr. Alyssa O'Grady

Dr. O'Grady is known as a data-driven leader committed to using assessment and evaluation to drive instructional excellence, ensure equity and support student success. She has been recognized for leveraging data to strategically identify areas for improvement, implement targeted interventions, and enhance overall student outcomes. She is dedicated to building and refining assessment systems that provide meaningful insights, ensuring continuous improvement at both the school and district levels. Dr. O'Grady is committed to fostering a collaborative culture with all educational partners. She has developed and implemented English learner curriculum and directed growth in scores for this group and students with disabilities.

Dr. O'Grady holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Occidental College, a master's degree in educational leadership from Cal State Northridge, a clear administrative credential from Cal State Dominguez Hills and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies from UCLA. She was a scholarship recipient at both Occidental and UCLA; she has served as a mentor for the UCLA educational leadership program and is a guest lecturer for the UCLA women's school leadership academy.

"I would like to welcome Dr. O'Grady to the SMMUSD family," said Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton. "Her demonstrated leadership and exceptional experience make her a great addition to our management team, serving in the educational services department."



Dr. Alyssa O'Grady (front with flowers) with school board members, Superintendent Dr. Shelton, Assistant Superintendents: Dr. Doug Meza, Gerardo Cruz and Dr. Stacy Williamson

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SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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