



## **Chris Vlastic – Administrator of the Year, Director of Safety and Student Services**

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Mr. Chris Vlastic, our Director of Safety and Student Services, as Administrator of the Year for Los Alamitos Unified.

At his core, Chris Vlastic believes that educators need to not only to be passionate about having all children learn at high levels, but that students reach their full potential when they are taught by educators who are loving in their treatment of students and their delivery of their content. Chris embodies the District's motto of Igniting Unlimited Possibilities for Students and promotes one of the District's beliefs that “students learn best when they are in a safe, nurturing, supportive, and accepting environment. Such an environment fosters physical and emotional security, allows responsible risk-taking, builds resiliency, and focuses the school climate on learning.”

Chris is an exemplary leader of Los Alamitos USD's three task forces: Bullying Prevention, Violence Prevention and Response and Substance Abuse. The task forces are made up of teachers, classified staff, administrators, school board members, and community members meeting three times each school year. Chris possesses tremendous understanding of District's needs and specifically addresses those needs by creating relevant agenda topics, eliciting responses from all stakeholders, and shaping each group's contribution. Planning, coupled with detailed organization and anticipation, is an important characteristic of his work. Chris has also formalized and systematized the District's response to school related crisis and threat assessment. Detailed teams now exist to respond and support school sites in all forms of school crisis.

Chris believes in people and that people, not programs, create and sustain excellence. Chris' personal attributes propel him to excellence in the field of public education.