

## PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### PENRYN RESIDENT NAMED PLACER COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

**Auburn, CA**– Placer County Superintendent of Schools Gayle Garbolino-Mojica is pleased to announce Holly Justice, Penryn resident and teacher for the visually-impaired, as the Placer County Office of Education (PCOE) “Certificated Employee of the Year.”

“Holly is our Certificated Employee of the Year for her dedication to meeting the unique learning needs of students in their educational setting,” said Superintendent Garbolino-Mojica. “And, I’m thrilled to honor that dedication.”



*(Placer County Superintendent of Schools Gayle Garbolino-Mojica pictured with the PCOE Certificated Employee of the Year Holly Justice.)*

“I was so surprised to receive this award. It was unexpected and a special moment,” said Ms. Justice.

Ms. Justice joined PCOE in November 2011 as an Academic Intervention Support Practitioner I. In February 2013, she became a Teacher Assistant I for the Visually-Impaired Program. Ms. Justice works alongside school districts to ensure students have the in-class supports they need to succeed.



**See why Holly Justice is #goldineducation – watch the video:**  
<http://bit.ly/HollyJustice>

Each year, the Placer County Office of Education honors its employees for their work performance through Employee of the Year Awards in five categories which include Classified, Certificated, Management, Rookie of the Year and the Superintendent’s Award. Nominations are submitted from peers in the organization and then selected by the leadership team. The PCOE Classified Employee of the Year and the Certificated Employee of the Year then move forward to the county-wide awards program in May, to which those winners will advance to the state awards program.

Under the leadership of the Placer County Superintendent of Schools Gayle Garbolino-Mojica and the County Board of Education, PCOE serves as the link between the California Department of Education and the 16 local school districts in Placer County. PCOE's role includes approval of local school district budgets to ensure sound fiscal operation, reviewing and approving Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs), and developing professional development and educational opportunities for educators. In addition to providing services to local school districts, PCOE also operates educational programs that provide services directly to students such as special education programs for students with rare disabilities and alternative education programs for students who have been expelled or probation referred.

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**About Placer County Office of Education**

*Nestled in the Sierra Foothills, Placer County Office of Education (PCOE) serves over 68,000 students in sixteen individual school districts across Placer County. In order to serve the students of Placer County, PCOE provides an array of programs and service to meet student needs. This task is accomplished by providing high quality specialized programs for students; recruiting, retaining, and developing highly qualified staff; and monitoring fiscal accountability and expenditures of our tax dollars. For more information, please visit [www.placercoe.k12.ca.us](http://www.placercoe.k12.ca.us).*