



NEWS RELEASE

Lake Elsinore Unified School District

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Release No. 1718-06update

April 12, 2018

LEUSD's first Board President

Former Trustee Sonja Wilson Dies

LAKE ELSINORE—Former LEUSD Trustee Sonja Wilson passed away earlier this week after a lengthy illness, according to family friend and Board colleague, Jeanie Corral.

Ms. Wilson, a former school teacher, served 34 years in education in the Lake Elsinore Valley, presiding over two school boards, including the Elsinore Elementary District and the Lake Elsinore Unified School District, which was formed in 1988 upon unification of the Elsinore Union High School District and the Elsinore Elementary District.

Ms. Wilson became LEUSD's first Board President in January of 1989, after being elected to LEUSD's inaugural Board of Trustees in November of 1988.

Sonja Wilson held a long tenure on the Board of Trustees until 2010, resigning for health reasons. She served as a volunteer on numerous community groups and national philanthropic organizations during her tenure on the Board.

In accepting her resignation, Board colleagues praised Sonja Wilson for her deep passion and commitment to education, especially in meeting LEUSD's most formidable growth challenges through her lifelong advocacy to fund and build new schools for quality education in the valley.

In 2017, LEUSD Trustees unanimously voted to acknowledge Ms. Wilson's legacy by naming and dedicating the future Library/Media Center at Alberhill Elementary School in her honor.

Sonja Wilson was a proud grandmother and great grandmother. She is survived by her two daughters and three sons.

Update reprinted from The Press-Enterprise, April 13, 2018...A viewing is scheduled from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at Evans-Brown Mortuary, 27010 Encanto Drive, Menifee. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m. Friday, April 20, at St. Frances of Rome church, 21591 Lemon St., Wildomar.

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The Lake Elsinore Unified School District covers more than 144 square miles and serves TK-12 students from the cities of Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake and Wildomar, plus several unincorporated Riverside County communities, including Lakeland Village, Horsethief Canyon, and The Farm. The district serves over 21,000 students and operates 23 different schools, along with alternative education, online and blended learning programs. LEUSD offers a Dual Immersion program at the elementary level, and the rigorous International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at Temescal Canyon High School, a fully certified IB World School. The district's mission of preparing students for college and career success is evident every day at every school.