For immediate release June 14, 2016

Contact: Ken Blackstone

(408) 453-6662

Seventh installment of SCCOE PSA series highlights 'Why I Teach'

SAN JOSE, CA – The <u>seventh volume</u> of the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) <u>Teacher PSA series</u>, 'Why I Teach," is now posted online in advance of the "<u>Step into Teaching</u>" event this Saturday, June 18.

The latest installment features Bill Larraway from Silver Oak Elementary School in the Evergreen School District, Evan Bayless from Valle Vista Elementary School in the Mount Pleasant School District, and Lori Ross from Los Paseos Elementary School in the Morgan Hill Unified School District. All the teachers featured in this video series were honored during the SCCOE's 2015-16 Teacher Recognition Celebration last fall in Campbell.

The PSAs, which are being rolled out every week until the end of June, are part of a wider countywide initiative to address the teacher shortage. A few months into last school year, there were still almost 4,000 teaching positions open in the state of California.

The SCCOE is working on recruiting and developing the next generation of excellent teachers through many means, including Schools Event on June 18. This inaugural event will help candidates who may have never considered teaching see themselves in the position by helping them learn and prepare for the joys of a teaching career.