

Contact: Rita Sippel

Chief Customer Officer and Assistant Superintendent

San Tan Charter School

480-277-0801

## **San Tan Charter School Continues to Expand its Montessori Program with the Hiring of a New Upper Elementary Lead Teacher**

*Mrs. Mary Navarro will join the School's Montessori Program in the Fall of 2020*

**GILBERT, Arizona**—As part of San Tan Charter School's plan to expand their successful "school within a school" Montessori Program, the school has just hired a new Upper Elementary Lead Teacher.

As Chief Customer Officer and Assistant Superintendent Rita Sippel noted, Mrs. Mary Navarro will join San Tan Charter School's Montessori Program in the Fall of 2020. The Arizona native and Chandler resident has spent the past 10 years in Montessori Education—first as an Assistant and then as a Lead Teacher and Special Education Director.

Navarro earned a bachelor's degree in Educational Studies from Arizona State University, and a Post-Bac in Special Education from Rio Salado College; she will soon earn her master's degree in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University, Sippel said.

Navarro also maintains her Arizona State Teaching Certification in both Elementary and Special Education, as well as two Lower Elementary and one Upper Elementary Montessori Certifications from Houston Montessori Center and the South Mountain Montessori Teacher Preparation Program.

"She is passionate about social-emotional learning and is currently in training to become a Conscious Discipline-Certified Instructor," Sippel said, adding that Navarro hopes to grow San Tan Charter School's Montessori Upper Elementary Program from fourth through sixth grade in the coming years.

"She is excited to bring her Montessori experience and state standard knowledge into the classroom to help foster the whole child approach within our charter school community," Sippel said.

