NEWS RELEASE

The Unified Association of Conejo Teachers

UACT Contact: Randy Smith 805-497-8220; conejoteachers@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 8, 2018

The Unified Association of Conejo Teachers Votes to Endorse CVUSD School Board Candidates

<u>Thousand Oaks, CA-</u> On May 7, 2018, the Representative Council of the Unified Association of Conejo Teachers (UACT), the union representing the classroom teachers and other certificated employees of the Conejo Valley Unified School District, voted unanimously to endorse Bill Gorback, Cindy Goldberg, and Jenny Fitzgerald for the CVUSD School Board. The Representative Council is the policy-making body of UACT which is comprised of representatives from each school site and job classification.

"Our Representative Council deliberated long and hard about this decision," said Randy Smith, President of UACT. "In the end, we felt these three community members are best-suited to move us into the next era of the CVUSD. We have successfully maintained a positive working relationship with the current board even though we have disagreed with some of the decisions that have been made in the past. Despite that, UACT has decided to put its support behind candidates we feel will maintain the Board's focus on productive discourse, governance, and insuring a high-quality education for all of our students." Doug Freed, UACT Political Action Chair said, "We followed our historical practice of written and oral interview questions for all eight of the declared candidates. Our interview panel deliberated into the early hours of the morning- it was not an easy decision given how many quality candidates there are. The decision to start the process this early was also one we did not arrive at easily. This election is far too important for us to wait until the fall to get started. We need to take a different approach to our campaign and get our members and community educated about Bill, Cindy, and Jenny immediately." Susan Pease, elementary teacher said, "I am really excited about our decision. These three amazing people have a proven track record of dedication to education, the CVUSD, and have an understanding of what we do in our classrooms every day."

###

UACT represents the 880 educators of the Conejo Valley Unified School District and is affiliated with the California Teachers Association and the National Education Association.