

## Michael Klentschy Ph.D.

Michael Klentschy Ph.D. is Superintendent of the El Centro School District. He received his doctorate in assessment and evaluation from UCLA. He is also currently the Principal Investigator (PI) for the NSF funded Valle Imperial Project in Science (VIPS) and has served as Co-PI on several NSF funded elementary science initiatives with CAPSI at Cal Tech. He is part of a university research team studying the longitudinal effects of inquiry-based science programs on student achievement; and is currently working with Dr. James Stigler of UCLA on the development of video-based technology for preservice, professional development and lesson study applications.

Dr. Klentschy was named the Southern California Superintendent of the Year in 2001 by the Association of California School Administrators. In addition, the California Science Teacher's Association acknowledged his efforts by naming him the Administrator of the Year in 2001.



## David M. Seidel

David M. Seidel is the Manager of Pre-College Programs at the NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. He is also a member of the Mars Exploration Program Public Engagement Team.

His voice, if not his face, is familiar to many. David was the NASA Television "Mission Control" commentator for Mars Pathfinder, Mars Polar Lander, Mars Odyssey among other NASA missions. In this capacity he not only reported on mission events as they unfolded but translated and explained the technical jargon and concepts for the public audience. For his education work across JPL and with NASA, David has received the NASA Exceptional Service Medal.



With JPL since 1990, he has a Masters of Science degree in Science Education from USC and is a Superintendent's Advisory Board Commissioner for the Beverly Hills Unified School District. Prior to joining JPL he was a science teacher and planetarium director at Beverly Hills High School. One of his hobbies is sailing on Mission Bay. His fourth grade son doesn't think that he wants to be an astronaut when he grows up but his dad is making sure that he keeps the option open.

## Splasztastic

Emmy award winning master magician Kevin Barnes (a.k.a. Dr. Wilderness), will perform the high-energy educational magic show "Splasztastic", sponsored by the San Diego County Water Authority.



You'll learn about the properties of water molecules, and the water cycle, as well as environmental and water conservation concerns.

## **Deborah Tucker**

Deborah Tucker is a Science Curriculum Consultant for the California Department of Education. She works with the State Science Standards, the forthcoming State Science Framework, and a wide range of science curriculum and instruction issues. She is a former science teacher and former president of the California Science Teachers Association.

## **Phil Lafontaine**

Phil Lafontaine is a Science Curriculum Specialist for the California Department of Education. He works with the State Science Standards, the forthcoming State Science Framework, and other science curriculum and instruction issues. Phil is a former middle school and high school science teacher and K-12 Alliance staff developer.



## **Diane Hernandez**

Diane Hernandez is a Science Assessment Specialist for the California Department of Education. She works with the Standards and Assessment Division of the department, on how science standards will be tested at all grades K-12.