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K – 12 Public Schools


3rd
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Los Angeles County Office of Education

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562/922-6360 www.lacoe.edu



Darline P. Robles, Ph.D
Superintendent

I am pleased to welcome you to *School News Roll Call's Los Angeles County Superintendents Issue for 2010-2011*.

As with past year's well received editions, you will find here essential information not only about your own community school district, but the many neighboring districts, sampling the rich diversity that is Los Angeles County public education.

There are 80 K-12 school districts spread across the 4,000 square miles of our county. The Los Angeles County Office of Education, which I direct, exists to serve all those districts and their 1.6 million-plus students. We do this in many ways.

As mandated by the state Legislature, "LACOE" certifies the financial health of individual districts and works with them to correct any budgetary problems. We also help districts save, and safeguard, their money through the cost-effective delivery of essential administrative and business services.

We serve districts also by educating the county's most vulnerable students, annually providing direct classroom instruction for about 27,000 young people, including children with severe disabilities, juvenile offenders and others at high risk of dropping out or with unique needs.

Through our Early Advantage initiative, LACOE reaches out to students, families and communities with early childhood programs, parenting and literacy classes, as well as job development services. The centerpiece of our school-readiness efforts is the nation's largest Head Start-State Preschool program, serving 22,000 preschool children and their families.

In addition, LACOE plays a key role in turning around low-performing schools and ensuring compliance with federal and state laws, providing districts with technical assistance and intervention/support strategies.

Districts also turn to LACOE for state-of-the-art technology services and specialized training and professional development for teachers and school administrators.

And, with that, let me yield to my many distinguished superintendent-colleagues to tell their own stories.

Your Reading Electives—Roll Call by District

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The following districts information was not received by press time. Please review their individual web sites.

Bassett Unified
Inglewood Unified
Los Nietos School District
Manhattan Beach Unified
Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified
Sulphur Springs School District
Wilsona School District



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Kay Coop

Founder / Publisher



It is with great pleasure and pride that we publish this third edition highlighting each of the district superintendents in the Los Angeles County K-12 public schools. Our goal is to introduce each superintendent with their brief message to encourage you to visit their individual web sites for indepth information.

The quality of our communities are directly related to the quality of our public schools and Los Angeles County has much to be proud of!

Each district is dealing with unprecedented economic challenges; however, their number one focus is educating our youth to reach their potential.

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3rd Annual Edition

Covering the
Los Angeles County
Public Schools K-12
Superintendents

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2551 West Ave. H, Lancaster CA 93536 • 661-948-6060

Go to www.avfair.com for information, register to download the official Read & Ride report form and money saving coupons.

ABC Unified School District

16700 Norwalk Blvd., Cerritos, CA 90703
562/926-5566 www.abcusd.k12.ca.us

Main Thing—Student Achievement



Dr. Gary Smuts
Superintendent

ABC Unified School District is an award-winning school district composed of 30 K-12 schools, serving nearly 21,000 ethnically diverse students from the cities of Artesia, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, and sections of Lakewood, Long Beach and Norwalk.

A successful school district is made up of three elements: hard working students, supportive parents, and dedicated well-trained educators. The evidence is clear that ABC continues to prosper because of the sustained commitment of this triangle of support. We recognize parents as our students' first teachers and we have created a living network of parent communication and education.

Our Mission

Our District's mission is supported by the ABC Board of Education, a strong partnership with its employee organizations, business partnerships, volunteers, PTA's, booster organizations, and educational foundations.

ABC has a vision that is simple and powerful:

We believe students in ABC should be as well educated as any in the world.

We believe all students have the capacity to be high achievers.

We believe people are the cornerstone of our district and students are the reason we are here.

In ABC, we believe that our district should function as an integrated system where all parts work together to support the classroom teacher. This approach provides a focus of energy, talent, and resources aimed at our "Main Thing" which is student achievement.

Alhambra Unified School District

1515 West Mission Rd., Alhambra, CA 91803
626/943-3330 www.alhambra.k12.ca.us

Beyond Academic Success



Donna Pérez
Superintendent

Alhambra Unified School District is the proud home of 19,000+ K-12 students residing in the San Gabriel Valley Area of the Los Angeles County. Since 2002 our 18 campuses have earned over 60 state and national recognitions including two California Career and Technical Education Awards, one California Continuation Model School Award, 43 National Title I Academic Achieving School Awards, 13 California Distinguished School Awards, three Golden Bell Awards, and one prestigious National Blue Ribbon School Award. More over, thirteen schools in our District are now proud members of the "800+ API" club.

Today, our tradition of excellence continues strongly with appropriate programs and services effectively supporting the educational goals of a diverse student population including English learners, students with special educational needs, and gifted and talented students. In addition to the powerful test scores annually achieved in Math, English, Science and Social Sciences, our students continue to excel in the arts, athletics, and technology. Collectively, the District teaching staff, supportive staff, students, parents, administration and leadership are committed to meet and exceed the highest state and national academic standards.

"Academic success is our first priority, however, we want our students to reach beyond that. Our goal is for them to become future social and political leaders, to take charge of our economy, to take an active role in addressing important issues facing our nation and our world," explains Superintendent Donna M. Pérez. "And we're accomplishing this by building our program one student at a time," concludes Pérez.

Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District

32248 Crown Valley Road, Acton, CA 93510
661/269-0750 http://aadusd.k12.ca.us

Developing Individual Potential



Dr. Stan Halperin
Superintendent

The district unified in 1993 and is comprised of three elementary schools, a junior high, and a high school. The District provides a comprehensive education program and serves a population that is 82% Anglo, 13% Hispanic and 5% other ethnic groupings. District schools have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools. A challenging curriculum emphasizing basic skills for all students in the district K-14, which includes distant web based learning and college credited courses. On nationally normed tests, the district scores one to four years above grade level. The focus in the district is developing each child's potential for success in the 21st Century Educational Framework.

Vision Statement

The Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District is committed to pursuing and maintaining educational excellence in order to achieve academic distinction at all campuses. We are committed to a vision of developing our youth into productive and creative individuals that can achieve their highest degree of individual potential and who will responsibly shape our future.

The Board

The Board of Trustees represents the people of the Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District as the elected body created to determine, establish, and uphold the educational policies of the District. In this capacity, the Board functions under the laws of the State of California but is free to plan for an educational program tailored to both the needs of the communities served.

Antelope Valley Union High School District

44811 Sierra Highway, Lancaster, CA 93534
661/948-7655 www.avdistrict.org

Innovative and Creative Spirit



Dr. David J. Viera
Superintendent

The Antelope Valley, which includes the cities of Palmdale and Lancaster, is the home of some of the most innovative aerospace developments that have occurred in this century. Our District has embraced the creative spirit that prevails in the Antelope Valley.

Antelope Valley Union High School District prides itself in providing a safe and secure environment where a diverse student population can develop the skills necessary to perform effectively in a technological, information-based society. With a focus on school-to-careers, our District strives to determine what skills are necessary for our students to master to be effective as adults. To this end, the District aggressively pursues continuous improve-

ment in the structure of curriculum to reflect not only high academic standards but also relevancy to real-world application. Our District believes that the best school-to-career preparation a student can receive is a rigorous and relevant academic program. To support our curriculum improvements, an extensive staff-development program has been implemented to provide training for staff members in the use of technology in the classroom as well as innovative classroom teaching strategies.

From special-population students to the most gifted students, our District has a program or academy that meets the personal and educational needs of all our students. Our District staff is proud of the fact that our students are given wonderful opportunities in preparation for their adult roles.

As a parent, I share your concerns for the quality of education being provided, the safety of our students and the future for our children. It is the concern for the education of all students which drives my vision for the future of the Antelope Valley Union High School District.

Arcadia Unified School District

234 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007
626/821-8300 x6728 www.ausd.net

Engaging the Future



Dr. Joel Shawn
Superintendent

A part of Arcadia's longstanding vision is to engage and support all of our students in meaningful and active learning that prepares them to be creative thinkers and problem solvers. Our progress in pursuing this goal is illustrated by the following three examples.

Students at all levels use technology as a tool to increase their understanding, engage their interest, and use knowledge in real world applications, from first graders who display their animated power points and demonstrate their reasoning for classmates using a microphone and a "document camera" to robotics science programs at all levels.

All of our schools achieve success in high stakes academic measures (all are rated 10 on the states Academic Performance Index) and in visual and performing arts, athletics and other special academic programs which allow students to use their skills; for example, our high school instrumental music program is the largest in the State and our Constitution team has gone to the final four in the State for 21 consecutive years, an unmatched record.

We are building the human connections among and between staff and students that can make the difference in all students finding success and becoming contributing members of a diverse society. Expanded counseling serves individuals K-12 and seamlessly transitions students from middle to high school. Strong intervention programs catch students before they fail, and a wide variety of programs such as robotics engineering, video production, bio physics, culinary arts, civil law, & sports medicine, connect students to real interests.

We are well into our major facilities improvement projects which provide our students and staff with the environment necessary to continue to improve our programs and assure all of our students a first-rate education in first-rate facilities.

Azusa Unified School District

546 S. Citrus Avenue, Azusa, CA 91702
626/967-6211 www.azusausd.k12.ca.us

Excellence and Innovation



Cynthia Cervantes McGuire
Superintendent

Azusa Unified is a community that believes its children deserve the best education possible. Approximately 10,500 students attend AUSD schools which include 11 elementary schools, three middle schools and three high schools. The District also offers an extensive Adult Education Program, Think Together After School Programs for K-8 and 21st Century Tutorial and Enrichment Classes for 9-12.

Our instructional program prepares students to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Azusa Unified has high expectations for students. Programs such as JROTC, GATE and AVID offer valuable enrichment activities. In the last three years, the District has won three Golden Bell Awards for Gladstone High's Link Crew Program, Azusa High's WORTHY Program and Sierra High's Mural Program.

Both Azusa High and Gladstone High offer a vast selection of Advanced Placement classes and Honors classes. In addition, Azusa students continue to make significant gains on statewide tests. AUSD teachers make a difference. To ensure the success of beginning teachers, the District offers an extensive training program with support from veteran teachers. Our dedicated classified staff provides vital support services for students. Technology skills are incorporated into the District's curriculum. Center Middle School continues to serve as an AVID Demonstration Site. Every school has a computer lab and every classroom has access to the Internet.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, 13 of our schools have been modernized and feature state-of-the art amenities. Students benefit from partnerships with local colleges such as Citrus Community College, businesses and government entities. Programs such as CHAMPS, a partnership with Azusa Pacific University, encourage elementary students to start thinking about college. AUSD offers many opportunities for parent participation in PTA, Parent Boosters and the Superintendent's Parent Roundtable.

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Baldwin Park Unified School District

3699 N. Holly Avenue, Baldwin Park, CA 91706
626/962-3311 www.bpusd.net

Accelerating Student Learning



Mark M. Skvarna
Superintendent

The Baldwin Park Unified School District continues its commitment of making student achievement its top priority. The Board of Education continues their efforts to prepare all students for success and has high expectations for our students, staff and community. Through the use of innovative programs, students and families have experienced great academic gains while staff continues to grow professionally.

This year, we are focusing on three professional development areas: Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD), Reading/Language Arts, and technology. Professional development is offered for all staff during weekly Learn Together Tuesdays and Common Meeting Times.

Despite the current budget realities, morale throughout the district has been extremely high. We continue to offer 20:1 Class Size Reduction in grades K-3 and our schools have maintained high quality facilities. In addition, the district also adopted a new Reading/Language Arts program for Preschool through 12th grade.

Our students and staff continue to bring pride and achievement to the community. This school year, BPUSD had the honor of receiving two Golden Bell Awards, one for the Baldwin Park USD Online Education Program and the other for our English Learner PROMISE Task Force. Additionally, Holland Middle School received distinction as a National AVID Demonstration Site and Olive Middle School received the 2010 CABE Seal of Excellence Award. This past year, another BPUSD school joined the 800 API club and many more are on the threshold. We are also pleased to share that seven of our schools met their Adequate Yearly Progress targets.

Our district represents the finest examples of certificated and classified professionals working together to create an environment in which everyone can achieve success.

Bellflower Unified School District

16703 South Clark Avenue, Bellflower, CA 90706
562/866-9011 www.busd.k12.ca.us

Quality Education for All Students



Rick Kempainen
Superintendent

The Bellflower Unified School District is committed to providing a quality education for all students in a safe and inviting environment. Eight district schools have attained the prestigious honor of being recognized as California Distinguished Schools and three have been honored as National Blue Ribbon Schools. In addition, the district's continuation high school was honored with the title of California Model Continuation High School. As proud as we are of these honors, we are more proud of the parents, the children, teachers and all of the support personnel who work hard everyday to keep these high standards in place.

Bellflower Unified School District offers programs and a multitude of services that support classroom learning. These services include state-of-the-art computer labs, well equipped student libraries, guidance programs, career academies, tutoring programs, vocational training, health offices, and cafeterias serving hot meals. The district also makes available to the community an alternative education center, Head Start programs, a large adult school program, speech and language services, and expanded special education services. The clean and attractive appearance of our campuses and the safety of our students are priorities.

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining high quality programs and beautiful facilities while continuing to maintain a balanced budget and take the district to even higher levels making our schools showcases of progressive educational programs.

The entire community is invited to join us as part of the school district team so that we may fulfill our purpose to provide a quality education for all students.

Beverly Hills Unified School District

255 South Lasky Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90212
310/551-5100 www.beverlyhills.k12.ca.us

Academic Excellence



Jerry C. Gross, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Beverly Hills Unified School District serves a diverse community of learners. Our schools are high performing and consistently receive high academic rankings on State Accountability measures for student achievement. We educate more than 4800 students at four K-8 sites, a comprehensive high school, a continuation high school, alternative education programs and a large adult education program. All of our schools are California Distinguished Schools and two have been recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence.

Our school district is a collaborative partner with the City of Beverly Hills and the Beverly Hills Education Foundation. Together we ensure outstanding pre-school through adult education programs with a shared use of facilities and resources dedicated to a broad range of elective, enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities for our students. Our community, in its continuing support of quality facilities to enhance student opportunities, passed a \$334 million school bond to support our commitment to upgrade facilities, infrastructure, classrooms, elective and alternative education setting and is moving forward in our facility improvement projects.

Beverly Hills students have a variety of opportunities to explore their academic and creative interests, while pursuing a rigorous college preparatory experience. Our teachers are committed to collaborative planning, aligned curriculum and standards-based instruction. We pride ourselves on our small class size, commitment to personal relationships and academic enrichment and support.

Bonita Unified School District

115 W. Allen Avenue, San Dimas, CA 91773
909/971-8200 www.bonita.k12.ca.us

Student Progress Is Our Business



Dr. Gary Rapkin
Superintendent

Bonita Unified School District educates nearly 10,000 children in eight elementary schools, two middle schools and three high-schools. At BUSD, we believe "student progress is our business." In order to effectively serve the communities in our District, we believe every employee, from teachers and administrators to classified and confidential staff, must work together as a team toward a common vision for student success. It is the efforts of the entire BUSD community that allow us to continue to strive for excellence, find new ways to work effectively and finally, help each and every student gain access to their dreams.

Committed to Academic Excellence

The results of such hard work and dedication by our staff are evident in the success of our students, who have been consistently recognized for their achievements in the arts, athletics as well as academics. One example is how our students' consistent increases in test scores resulted in the District earning an 832 on the California State Academic Performance Index.

Here at Bonita Unified School District, we pride ourselves on our commitment to academic excellence and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to succeed. For the students in our care, and in partnership with the community, we strive to create a safe, challenging and comprehensive learning environment that not only shapes our students' characters, but also encourages them to be the best they can be in school and throughout the rest of their lives.

Burbank Unified School District

1900 W. Olive Avenue, Burbank, CA 91506
818/729-4400 www.burbankusd.org

Scores Continue to Soar



Dr. Kevin J. Jolly
Superintendent

The Burbank Unified School District, like school districts throughout California and the nation, is committed to continual growth in student achievement. Students throughout the district made incredible gains over the last year, with the district API jumping 20 points, from 797 to 817. In the last four years, the district API has grown 51 points.

Ten of our 11 elementary schools have scores over 800, with the final school having jumped 30 points to 792. Three elementary schools, Providencia, R. L. Stevenson, and Walt Disney, advanced over 50 points this past year. All three middle schools are now over 800, and both high schools are over 800, with Burbank High gaining 48 points. The district, and all but two of our schools have met Annual Yearly Progress targets under No Child Left Behind. The two exceptions are both in Year One of program improvement, and we are confident they will reach their targets this year. None of this would be possible without the hard work and commitment shown by our staff, the dedication of our students, and the support of our families, city, businesses, and community.

While we are pleased with the progress our students are making, we must maintain high expectations for all students, and provide the resources to staff, students, and our schools to facilitate further growth. We strive to have all students become proficient, demonstrating mastery of California's content standards, which will prepare them to realize their dreams.

Castaic Union School District

28131 Livingston Avenue, Valencia, CA 91355
661/257-4500 www.castaic.k12.ca.us

High Standards—Collaborative Effort



James M. Gibson
Superintendent

Castaic Union School District is a suburban district located in the Santa Clarita Valley, in the northern portion of Los Angeles County. The district, established over 120 years ago in 1889, is one of the oldest in California and has been the historical gatekeeper for passage from southern California to northern California! That first Castaic school served approximately 20 students, grades 1 through 8, depending on the time of year. As the valley grew and developed, the district grew as well. In the early seventies the district served just under 350 students, in the eighties just over 400, and in the nineties student enrollment topped 1,000. Today, the district (API 832) supports four schools and over 3,300 students in grades K-8 at Castaic Elementary (API 857), Live Oak Elementary (API 801), and Northlake Hills Elementary (API 848) Schools, and Castaic Middle School (API 830). Three of the four schools are California Distinguished Schools with Castaic Middle School recognized as one of 200 national “Schools to Watch.” Live Oak Elementary School is one of 15 Standard and Poor’s nationally recognized schools for “Closing the Gap.”

The Castaic Union School District has developed specific core values that support teamwork, collaboration, and sharing responsibility and decision making. The District values setting high academic and achievement standards. Castaic Union School District values nurturing and caring for the whole child, respecting individual diversity, striving for personal best, building positive character traits and having the courage to stand by your convictions.

Charter Oak Unified School District

20240 E. Cienega Avenue, Covina, CA 91724
626/966-8331 www.cousd.k12.ca.us

Symbol of Academic Excellence



Dr. Clint Harwick
Superintendent

The Charter Oak Unified School District which has been serving students, families, businesses and community members since 1894 in the cities of Covina, Glendora and San Dimas. Like the mighty oak, Charter Oak has roots of tradition in academic progress and extracurricular successes; a trunk of core values based on a sturdy dedication and investment in students; and branches of community outreach that stretch beyond the classroom walls.

Charter Oak has been a symbol of academic excellence with the past few years offering a spike of success including some of the highest API gains in all of Los Angeles County, the continuance of the first International Baccalaureate Diploma program, and numerous distinguished schools. It is also home to a model continuation high school and a comprehensive high school named as one of the top 1500 High Schools in the United States of America.

Charter Oak has also become a destination for co-curricular opportunities as students and community members participate in sports, music, band and theater arts. It is home to CIF Champions, a BRAVO Award winning theater, choirs that perform in multiple languages, and a band program in grades 4-12.

Students learn to plant their own seeds of success through community service and global outreach. They work with Rotary International; the Operation Santa Clothes program; the “Blankets of Love” campaign for City of Hope and the “Remembrance Walk” to remember loved ones touched by cancer. In a global outreach, Charter Oak welcomed 13 Burmese families who were given food and shelter while students gained a love of learning.

Centinela Valley Union High School District

14901 South Inglewood Avenue, Lawndale, CA 90260
310/263-3200 www.centinela.k12.ca.us

Students Have Options



Jose Fernandez
Superintendent

The Centinela Valley Union High School District is located in Los Angeles County, close to the Los Angeles International Airport. It serves an ethnically diverse population in the cities of Hawthorne, Lawndale, and Lennox, and is near the famous beach recreation area of Redondo, Hermosa, and Manhattan Beach.

CVUHS is a student population of approximately 7,000 students who attend either Lawndale, Hawthorne, or Leuzinger High School for their comprehensive secondary programs. The district also has Lloyd Continuation High School and an Independent Study program for students needing help in completing their high school diplomas. Centinela also has an extensive adult school program that serves over 9,000 students per year.

The high schools currently offer four Career Academies with six more slated to begin in the 2010-11 school year; there are also several Special Programs offered at each high school. The academies provide advanced learning opportunities, technology acquisition in the student’s selected field; career path development, mentoring relationships, college preparation and the mastery of learning skills, all acquired within a more personal “school within a school” environment.

In the fall of 2010, students in the Centinela Valley Union High School District will be able to choose from any of the following career focuses: Biomedical, Multimedia, Environmental, Marine Science, Media Arts, Visual and Performing Arts, Criminal Justice, Information Technology, Engineering, and International Business. Special programs will include Robotics, High School Involvement Partnership (HIP), and Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID).

Claremont Unified School District

170 W. San Jose Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711
909/398-0609 www.cusd.claremont.edu

Shoulder-Tapped Graduates



Dr. Terry Nichols
Superintendent

Claremont Unified School District provides 21st Century curriculum with instruction, programs and partnerships that are second to none. Our “shoulder-tapped graduates” will be recruited for worldwide competition which demands that they demonstrate global, digital, cultural and health competencies crucial to their success. In Claremont these global skills are enhanced with learning beyond the school walls and beyond the school day, including resources provided by The Claremont Colleges, some of the most prestigious colleges in the world, and unique to the Claremont community. Our students are provided an educational environment that allows for exploration, teaches adaptability and nurtures a sense of entrepreneurship.

This educational environment is based upon our four adopted Board Goals:

- Quality teaching and learning for the whole child
- Quality facilities that meet educational and community needs
- Curriculum and services that support students coming to school ready to learn and which promote healthy choices and lifestyles
- Communicate with and engage our community

We believe that our graduates will have a distinct advantage because the faculty, staff, administration and community are committed to making Claremont Unified a destination school district “where students, learning and passion connect.”

Compton Unified School District

501 S. Santa Fe Avenue, Compton, CA 90221
310/639-4321 www.compton.k12.ca.us

Excelling in the Face of Challenges



Dr. Kaye E. Burnside
Superintendent

Under the leadership of Superintendent Kaye Burnside, Ed.D. students are the first priority as Compton Unified School District (CUSD) continues to work towards encouraging higher student achievement across all grade levels. Since first arriving at CUSD in March 2008, Dr. Burnside has inspired a spirit of reinvention within the district and its 40 schools.

Last year all 14 of the District's Quality Education Investment ACT (QEIA) elementary and middle schools surpassed, and doubled the state average of 13 percent on their Academic Performance Index (API) 2008-2009 test score goals with 26 percent; a feat unmatched by other Californian school districts.

Although the state's current fiscal crisis has forced CUSD to implement its first round of over \$40 million in budget cuts, it remains committed to maintaining its innovative and nationally-recognized advanced learning programs. Through its partnership with non-profit College Bound, CUSD is providing high school students with programs that prepare them to enter and graduate from a four-year university. This spring local universities, businesses, parents, teachers, administrators and labor organizations will meet to develop comprehensive secondary school reform so that students can compete on a global economic scale.

Dr. Burnside believes that despite economic challenges, the District will continue to ensure Compton students' civil rights to a quality education.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Compton Unified School District is to empower leaders to lead, teachers to teach and students to learn by fostering an environment that encourages leaders and teachers to be visionary, innovative and accountable for the achievement of all students.

Culver City Unified School District

4034 Irving Place, Culver City, CA 90232
310/842-4220 www.ccusd.k12.ca.us

Filling the Future with Options



Dr. Myrna Rivera Coté
Superintendent

Culver City Unified School District has long been recognized as one of the premier public school districts in the state. The District is home to two national Blue Ribbon Schools, six California Distinguished Schools, and two Title I Academic Achievement Award Schools. We are very proud of our nine schools, which provide outstanding educational programs that prepare our students for future academic achievements and personal success. C.C.U.S.D. also provides childcare services through the Office of Child Development and learning opportunities for adults through extensive Adult School programs.

The Culver City Unified School District is dedicated to creating a learning environment that allows students to make strides both in and out of the classroom. The District encourages students to tap into their talents and interests by providing a rigorous standards-based curriculum and by giving them opportunities to participate in a wide range of creative, athletic and social opportunities. Every year, students from CCUSD matriculate to a host of prestigious colleges and universities across the country and excel in every field from high-technology, motion pictures and engineering to education, medicine and law.

Culver City Unified School District also offers extensive programs in the area of visual and performing arts. CCUSD is one of the original Arts for All Districts, a countywide network of school districts implementing comprehensive arts programs for all students. We are also proud of our efforts in the field of technology and continue to strive to keep our students on the cutting-edge by providing them with the latest in technological instruction and tools.

Truly, CCUSD is filling the future with options for all of its students.

Covina-Valley Unified School District

519 East Badillo Street, Covina, CA 91723
626/974-7000 www.cvusd.k12.ca.us

Committed to Student Success



Dr. Louis A. Pappas
Superintendent

The Covina-Valley Unified School District Family of Schools – "Award winning environments, highly qualified staff, committed to student success."

Covina-Valley Unified School District serves 14,000 students in grades K-12. Through ten K-5 elementary schools, three 6-8 middle schools, three comprehensive high schools, an alternative education high school, children's center program, and adult education centers, we offer personalized service and instruction from highly-skilled professionals in a safe, caring, and supportive environment.

Covina-Valley is proud of its California Distinguished Schools, Title I Achieving School, CSBA Golden Bell Awards, Los Angeles County Award Winning Teachers, as well as an outstanding Children's Center Program serving infants to 5th grade. All schools boast parent involvement in PTA, booster clubs, sports, and other activities.

As part of our mission to educate and prepare the whole child, we recognize the community's need for safe, quality educational extended day care programs.

K-8 schools provide district-sponsored childcare programs, providing enrichment and instruction in a supportive and nurturing environment.

Two facilities bonds have provided \$116 million to modernize and remodel schools to include new classrooms, technology, new Library Media Centers, and improved playgrounds. In addition, the District's Career Technology and Education (CTE) Program will be enhanced with a matching state CTE grant to establish an Instructional Technology Academy at South Hills High School and two Qualified Zone Academy Bonds to establish an Arts Media and Entertainment Academy at Northview High School and a Finance and Business Academy at Covina High School. Come visit us for a tour!

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Downey Unified School District

11627 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA 90241
562/469-6500 www.dusd.net

Reputation for High Performance



Dr. Wendy L. Doty
Superintendent

Our district of 22,300 students is located approximately 12 miles south of Los Angeles within driving distance of scenic mountains and beaches.

For decades, our schools have enjoyed the reputation of a superior school system. Downey Unified School District has been recognized again and again with distinguished State honors for its high performance. Please compare our Academic Performance Index (API) scores that are readily available on the Internet at www.cde.ca.gov. You are also welcome to schedule a visit to any DUSD school. I know you will be impressed with the safe, learning-centered environment, and top quality instruction you will encounter on all our campuses.

In addition to our strong academic program, we offer the nationally recognized CHARACTER COUNTS! program districtwide. This character education program, which is integrated into academics, discipline, and athletics, is based upon the following six pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

All of our schools have been renovated in recent years to include state-of-the-art technology as well as first-rate athletic facilities. We provide a full range of programs for students with individual needs including GATE, AVID, and Title I. Our K-8 campuses now offer ASPIRE, a free after-school, academic childcare program that runs until 6:00 p.m. and some sites offer YMCA child care before and after school.

On behalf of the Board of Education and our employees, I welcome you to visit the Downey Unified School District

Duarte Unified School District

1620 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010
626/599-5000 www.duarte.k12.ca.us

20/20 Vision



Dr. Dean Conklin
Superintendent

Our commitment to the education of all our students is based upon four cornerstones: Prepare students for success, a staff that provides high quality service, community and parents that actively participate and an environment that supports learning. While keeping these cornerstones as the foundation of our educational philosophy we have committed to going one step further...Duarte's 20/20 Vision. Our 20/20 Vision revolves around our current group of second graders. In ten years (2020), these second graders will be graduating from high school. What will be the obstacles that they face in the intervening years, how can we prepare them for jobs that have yet to be created, what tools will they need to be contributing members of society?

In order to meet these challenges we are focusing on student needs such as critical data analysis, creative thinking (outside-the-box), and effective communication. How do we achieve this: student engagement, service learning, cutting-edge technology and real-world success are but a few of the deliverables incorporated into our 20/20 planning. Couple this with the creation of an innovative support system, personal reflection, goal-setting and high expectations and we can change the landscape of our educational system. We will have the ability to turn challenges into opportunities and weaknesses into strengths...all of which will provide a fresh canvas for creativity.

Our teachers have maintained their focus and passion on student improvement even in light of the current financial situation and setbacks, and our administration/classified have stepped up to the plate to ensure the smooth running of day-to-day business. Our district is committed to this 20/20 vision and the visionary philosophy that it is based upon.

East Whittier City School District

14535 E. Whittier Blvd., Whittier, CA 90605
562/907-5900 www.ewcsd.k12.ca.us

Motivate, Inspire Lifelong Learners



Dr. Joe Gillentine
Superintendent

The East Whittier City School District (EWCS) is a great place for students to learn and for staff to work. We value the involvement of the family in the learning environment and we encourage a family atmosphere in our schools.

It is the aim of the EWCS to provide students with the knowledge of those academic skills and concepts which they must learn and apply to function effectively in our society. The District, in partnership with parents, endeavors to motivate, inspire, and encourage all students to use their unique potentials to reach their highest level of academic achievement and emotional and physical well-being.

Working Together

The District provides an outstanding educational program for all students. We are fortunate to have teachers and support staff who care deeply about learning and recognize the important role they play in the lives of our students. Our parents and community members believe in our schools and make every effort to be the best partners they can be.

From our Board of Education to our many volunteers, from our teachers to our support staff, we are all committed to the students of this great district. We know the difference we make in each child's future and the difference each of them will make in the future of this community and nation.

We encourage and invite you to become involved in the learning process of our students. There are many opportunities for you to participate in school and District committees or volunteer at the school site.

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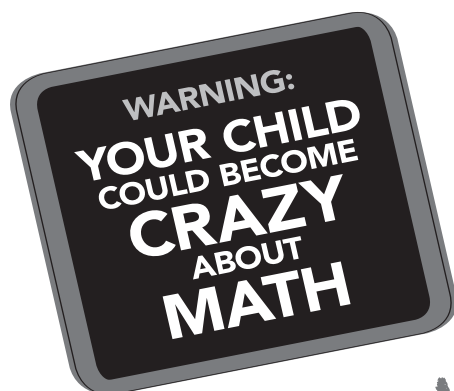


Cecilia Martinez-Morris
8050 Florence Ave., #10
Downey, CA 90240
(562) 861-9211
University of LaVerne, Alumni & Trustee



Stan Carmichael
10802 Downey Ave., #B
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Eastside Union School District

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Strong Growth Toward Goal



Dr. Roberto Villa
Superintendent

A question I am asked frequently is, "By the way, where is the Eastside Union School District?" The District is located in the City of Lancaster. The District covers a large area which is bound on the west by 20th Street East; south to Avenue M; north to Avenue D; and east to 240 Street East. While many districts throughout California are in declining enrollment, Eastside remains steady with slight growth in enrollment. The District is currently designing elementary school #5 (to open in Fall of 2011) and designing a Community Day School and an expansion of our middle school.

The District's current enrollment is 3,341 students in grades K-8.

Each of the four schools is fully supported by the Business Services Division, Educational Services Division, Human Resources Division, Special Education Division, Student Services Division, Child Nutrition Division, and Maintenance and Operations.

The Board of Trustees and the Superintendent of Schools believe that student achievement is by far the most important responsibility and challenge facing us given the financial hardship we find ourselves in. Despite the tough economic challenges faced by the District, we have retained our commitment to Class Size Reduction in grades K-3 and we have been able to submit positive budgets to LACOE. The District Administrative Team has clear direction to ensure that all of the resources available in the District are directed toward our 163 classrooms and the more than 3,300 students entrusted to us. We offer parents classes in English, computer literacy, parenting and the District benefits tremendously from the home-to-school relationships we are building.

The results of the Spring 2009 STAR testing showed strong growth among all subgroups. Although we have a way to go before we reach our 800 API goal, the District is well on the way to doing whatever it takes for our students to achieve.

El Monte Union High School District

3537 Johnson Avenue, El Monte, Ca 91731
626/444-9005 www.emuhdsd.k12.ca.us

School, Home & Community



Nick J. Salerno
Superintendent

With the beginning of our second century of academic excellence and with the skills of a highly professional and well-trained staff, the El Monte Union High School district provides its students with strong academic skills aided by innovative programs and technology.

Our six high schools serve more than 10,000 students in grades 9-12, and our adult education program serves more than 23,000 in the El Monte-Rosemead Adult School.

The District philosophy of education calls for the school, the home, and the community to work cooperatively toward the achievement of its educational goals.

Our District schools awards include: National Blue Ribbon School, California Distinguished School, National Breakthrough High School, California Model Continuation School, Golden Bell Awards, Los Angeles County Award Winning Teachers, and National Merit Scholarship winners. Our Enrichment and Co-curricular Programs include: Award-winning bands, choral, and art programs, and outstanding athletic programs including CIF recognition awards. We offer Districtwide AVID (college prep) Programs; GATE Programs, Advanced Placement and Honors Courses; Smaller Learning Communities, California Partnership Academies, Specialized Secondary Programs, and Career Path Programs; Regional Occupational Program Classes; Mathematics, Engineering, Technology, and Science Achievement Programs; Academic Decathlon Teams and much more.

With a commitment to excellence underlying all goals, the Board of Trustees constantly strives to provide outstanding educational services to the youth and adults of the community.

El Monte City School District

3540 N. Lexington Avenue, El Monte, CA 91731
626/453-3700 www.emcsd.k12.ca.us

Striving for Excellent With Results



Jeff Seymour
Superintendent

As the end of the 2009-2010 school year approaches, I know that you may have some concerns about the school year as the District, the community, the state and the nation dealt with the economic crisis that absorbed so much of our time and energy this year.

While it is true that the District began the school year with 18% less in its budget for each student in our schools, the teachers and our support staff worked to make sure your child had a terrific year of discovery and learning.

The El Monte City School District strives for excellence with great results. Our students are outstanding. We are working to keep our reductions and cuts to a minimum even with the unprecedented budget reductions from the State.

At the same time we are making commitments and taking action to improve the quality of instruction in every way we possibly can. Special funds that can only be spent on teacher training are being used this year to better support students' needs to become outstanding readers, writers and mathematicians. We will continue to provide music instruction, counseling and other support services that have special funds to pay for them.

Hopefully, our state and district will emerge from this difficult period stronger and smarter in how to utilize resources. At the same time, our children will have much more supportive and up to date learning environments in which to work, study and play. We will continue to upgrade our curriculum with the finest teaching and an outstanding learning environment in each of our classrooms.

El Rancho Unified School District

9333 Loch Lomond Drive, Pico Rivera, CA 90660
562/942-1500 www.erusd.k12.ca.us

Belief: All Students Will Succeed



Norbert Genis
Superintendent

The El Rancho Unified School District serves over 11,500 students in twelve K-5 elementary schools, three 6-8 middle schools, El Rancho High School, Salazar Continuation High School, Adult School and our Early Learning Child Development Center.

Our school and community pride themselves in developing the total student by presenting a rich academic program supported by strong parental participation. Students, parents and staff take great pride in our district as evidenced by five of our schools receiving state and federal recognition for being achieving schools, and three Golden Bell Awards presented by the California School Boards Association.

Strong Community

The strong sense of community is reflected by the fact that over one hundred of our certificated and classified employees are El Rancho High School graduates with seventy of that number being teachers. Our 1300 employees are stakeholders in the success of our students and understand that they all contribute to their ultimate graduation.

Although our schools are more than fifty years old, a \$100 million dollar modernization program financed by Measure A Bond and state funds has renovated classrooms, installed districtwide internet connectivity, built new libraries, installed new asphalt and playground equipment, and are in the process of building a new gymnasium at the high school.

The staff, community and Board of Trustees are committed to the belief that all students will succeed.

El Segundo Unified School District

641 Sheldon Street, El Segundo, CA 90245
310/615-2650 www.elsegundousd.com

Rigorous Goals



Dr. Geoff Yantz
Superintendent

As both a former Principal and Assistant Superintendent, I have witnessed first-hand our community's unfailing commitment to the students and families of El Segundo. We are a small district of five schools and a preschool, but size does not inhibit the unlimited aspirations of those who serve the students in this community. El Segundo schools are modeled on the Professional Learning Community vision that collegiality, collaboration, and individual attention to each student's needs lays the groundwork necessary to ensure each student lives up to his or her full potential.

The Board of Education has established rigorous goals for superior educational programs that address the needs of all students, as well as created an environment that supports teachers and staff while providing the resources to guarantee the success of all district programs.

The community-at-large is an integral part of the success of our schools, as evidenced by the extensive school modernization program completed after the passage of multi-million dollar bond measures. Although two of our school sites were constructed during the 1920's and 1930's, the renovation process labored to preserve the history and architectural splendor of early El Segundo.

Each school site benefits from strong, effective Parent Teacher Associations, as well as the support of the El Segundo Educational Foundation that makes direct annual contributions to all schools in the district. We are especially proud of the district's close relationship with the City of El Segundo with whom we share a common vision for student success both academically and as productive community members.

Glendale Unified School District

223 North Jackson Street, Glendale, CA 91206
818/241-3111 www.gusd.edu

Focused on Student Achievement



Dr. Michael F. Escalante
Superintendent

Glendale Unified School District is a leader in initiating reforms to increase student academic outcomes. Realtors and other major businesses report that the reputation of the Glendale schools is often a motivating factor when moving to Glendale or the adjacent communities of La Crescent and Montrose.

This year our District Academic Performance Index (API) increased 13 points, and with over 80% of our 31 schools above 800 API, and six schools scoring above 900 API, Glendale Unified continues to be a leader in academic instruction and student academic outcomes. The Foreign Language Academy of Glendale (FLAG) program continues to grow offering programs in Spanish, Korean, Armenian, German and Italian. This year Glendale Unified was named Bilingual District of the Year by the California Association of Bilingual Educators (CABE). In addition, *US News and World Report* ranks our high schools in the top 3% of US schools.

Our District includes 20 elementary schools, four middle schools, three comprehensive senior highs, one continuation high school, one magnet high school, a developmental center for multi-handicapped students, and numerous preschool/childcare centers. The regular school year runs from late August/early September to mid-June employing 2500 people to serve 27,000 students with a total budget of about \$250,000,000. The district has many noteworthy qualities, among them experienced teachers, safe campuses, involved parents, up-to-date technology, college/career programs, innovative programs such as the FLAG, competitive test scores, and high student outcomes. Glendale public schools are committed to the highest quality instructional and support programs.

Garvey School District

2730 No. Del Mar Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770
626/307-3444 www.garvey.k12.ca.us

Academic Excellence



Virginia Peterson
Superintendent

The Garvey School District serves children in preschool through eighth grade in one of the most culturally diverse communities in the area. The district covers a four square mile portion of Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel and an area of Los Angeles County, known as South San Gabriel. We have nine elementary and two intermediate schools.

Children in the district receive an outstanding education, one that prepares them to be academically successful and equally important, to be productive citizens. We are committed to academic excellence and are acknowledged leaders in challenging and innovative standards-based curriculum, research-based

instructional strategies that enhance our ability to meet the needs of all students, and access to up-to-date technology.

We are also committed to educating the whole child, providing a rich curriculum that integrates all areas of study including the arts. Across the district we are implementing Steven Covey's *The Leader in Me* Program based on the *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. Students at all ages are taught to be leaders in every aspect of their life, taking responsibility for their learning and their behavior, planning for their future and working on their relationships with others.

Community Involvement Encouraged

The district has an active community involvement program which encourages parent involvement in the schools, including school governance. We reach out to the community on a regular basis, providing oral and written translation of materials and presentations.

Please visit our website to learn more about the Garvey School District.

Glendora Unified School District

500 N. Loraine, Glendora, CA 91741
626/963-1611 www.glendora.k12.ca.us

Our Focus—Quality Education



Dr. Catherine J. Nichols
Superintendent

The Glendora Unified School District brings excellence to education. From learning to read in our full-day kindergarten to calculus, basic skills to physics crayons to digital photography, there is commitment to, enthusiasm for, and pride in excellence!

The District has earned its reputation for excellence. Glendora is in the select group of only 10% of the Districts in the state which have achieved an API score of 800 at all its schools. Our commitment to our parents and students is that every child will graduate prepared to attend college. We are proud of our success, 66% of the schools have become California Distinguished Schools and five schools have been recognized for excellent achievement by California for Business and Just for the Kids.

At Glendora USD, we offer a comprehensive educational program designed to develop committed, life-long learners. We offer a wide variety of experiences to our students-academic, cultural, community, athletic-to spark the imagination and encourage achievement.

Children are best served when the community joins hands with the schools to create a supportive and nurturing environment. Broad-based community outreach and support lift up the students of GUSD, as expressed in innumerable technology. Students learn in newly modernized schools, thanks to the generosity of our community, which has approved two bonds.

We are challenged to provide a first-class education to ensure students will be prepared to compete in an increasingly borderless world. Our students will be working in a global economy requiring a multitude of skills, including the ability to problem solve in innovative ways and to bridge different cultures. GUSD is prepared to embrace that challenge.

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Gorman Joint School District

49847 Gorman School Road, P.O. Box 104, Gorman, CA 93243
661/248-6441

All Students Learning Well



Martin Schmidt
Superintendent

The Gorman Elementary School District is located at the southern tip of the beautiful Tehachapi Mountains, 60 miles northwest of downtown LA. Gorman has one K-8 school with 60 students and four teachers. The small size of our school makes it possible to have an individualized nurturing environment in each classroom where the average class size is 15 students. Gorman Elementary is designated by the State Department of Education as a district of choice.

As such many families from surrounding districts enroll their students at Gorman to take advantage of the small school environment.

Gorman Elementary School is committed to improved levels of academic performance. The school recently saw a 51 point increase of its Academic Performance Index. Our teachers are building on this success and have set a goal of becoming an 800 API school. Our dedicated teachers are committed to high levels of teaching and learning and are involved in professional development training designed to strengthen their teaching skills.

The Gorman School District is known for having a very supportive Board. District goals have been developed that are guiding the Gorman Elementary District forward toward our vision of academic success for each student. The mission of our District is to provide a challenging and rigorous educational experience for each of our students.

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District

15959 E. Gale Avenue., City of Industry, CA 91716
626/933-1000 www.hlpusd.k12.ca.us

Partners in Your Child's Future



Dr. Barbara Nakaoka
Superintendent

"Partners in Your Child's Future" is Hacienda La Puente Unified's pledge to the communities we serve. This partnering connects our students' parents and extended families with our schools' and our District's staff. It also extends to the communities surrounding our 35 neighborhood schools and to the businesses in Hacienda Heights, La Puente, Valinda, and the surrounding La Puente Valley.

Our District is a rich mixture of generations of families that have attended and worked in our schools, families new to our area, and families new to our country. As "a community committed to developing lifelong learners," we are continually building our abilities to prepare every youngster for success in a four year college, even those who may not choose that step right after leaving high school, and to support adults in meeting personal goals.

Our commitment to partnerships exemplifies our Board's Guiding Principles. Our Board believes students, parents, staff and community have a shared responsibility: For the establishment of a professional culture built upon dedication, honesty, integrity, pride, perseverance, collaboration, teamwork, and mutual trust and respect; For recognizing the diverse learning styles and individual needs of students and ensuring all students meet high learning standards; To create a learning environment reflecting our community's diversity that is safe, clean, supportive, and responsive; To protect and preserve the short- and long-term financial well-being of the District.

HLPUSD serves over 22,000 pre-K through Gr. 12 students as well as many thousands of adults through an extensive Adult Education program.

Hawthorne School District

14120 S. Hawthorne Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250
310/676-2276 www.hawthorne.k12.ca.us

Committed to Academic Achievement



Donald Carrington
Superintendent

Hawthorne School District provides a safe learning environment with high expectations that promotes excellence and success for all students. We are committed to building a team effort among families, district, and community that prepares our culturally diverse students to achieve academically and socially in an ever changing world.

Located in Southern California's Los Angeles basin, minutes from the Los Angeles International Airport, the Hawthorne School District educates close to 10,000 pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade students in the diverse urban community of Hawthorne. Founded in 1907, the

District is proud of its long tradition of academic excellence. There are currently seven elementary schools, three middle schools, and a charter high school in the District. All schools follow a modified traditional school calendar. The District's high school, Hawthorne Mathematics and Science Academy, opened in the 2003-04 school year and offers a rigorous, college-preparatory program. Students from Hawthorne School District not attending the charter high school attend high schools in the Centinela Valley Union High School District.

The Hawthorne School District is dedicated to providing the absolute best in educational programs and learning opportunities for our students. The District strongly encourages parental involvement with the classroom teacher to create a partnership that will give every child the maximum opportunity for success both for the present and for the future

Hermosa Beach City School District

1645 Valley Dr., Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
310/937-5877 www.hbcasd.org

Education—A Community Priority



Dr. Bruce Newlin
Superintendent

Education in Hermosa Beach has always been a community priority. As evidence of this commitment we can point to the highly successful fund raising that parents and the community have been involved in over the past several years. Without that support the schools of Hermosa Beach would not have been able to offer many of the programs that we currently make available to our students. The result has been API scores over 900 and students who have been exposed to the arts and make use of technology on a daily basis.

But schools are now being asked to accept a different sort of challenge, the challenge of teaching 21st Century Skills (Creativity, Problems Solving and Collaboration) as well as the basics and doing all of this with diminishing resources.

Public schools in California are highly dependent on the state for the funding necessary to operate education programs that all of us feel are very important. When you are dependent on someone else to provide you with the necessary fiscal resources then when they have fiscal issues we have fiscal issues.

Because schools are people organizations, 85% of our budgets are people expenses. Classroom teachers, school administrators, instructional aides, secretaries and clerks are all part of this so when we talk about cutting back what is really happening is that we are reducing the number of people who work in schools.

In Hermosa Beach we are faced with the cost cutting problems that all school districts in the state are faced with and like those other district we are having to reduce the kinds of services we provide and to cut back on the people who provide those services. The net result is that our educational programs will be dramatically impacted and our focus on quality will take a back seat to survival.

Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union School District

16633 Elizabeth Lakes Road., Lake Hughes, CA 93532
661/724-1231 www.heluesd.org

Small But Mighty



Diane Parkins
Superintendent

Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School District is a rural K-8 one school district, nestled in the hills of the Angeles National Forest. Sitting in the northern most portion of Los Angeles County, with an enrollment of 360, the school serves students from the communities of Lake Hughes, Elizabeth Lake, Green Valley and Pine Canyon.

Located on a hillside between Lake Hughes and Lake Elizabeth, the school's setting is picturesque with a view that stretches from Sawmill Mountain in the west to Mount Baldy in the San Gabriel Mountains far to the East. The school prides itself on meeting the needs of each student because of small

class sizes and continuity of teaching staff and children enrolled in the school. All students are served in the general education classroom and the school offers RSP support for students within the regular classroom setting.

The school/district is the oldest in all of the Antelope Valley. The Elizabeth Lake School District was formed July 6, 1874 and the Lake Hughes School District was formed on March 6, 1899. The two districts merged in 1950 to become the Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School District.

The school offers a solid core, standards-based instructional day, supported by afternoon academic intervention. Teachers engage in regular professional development, collaboration and analysis of their instructional practice. Parents and community members are an integral part of our school community. The environment is upbeat and friendly and visitors to our campus routinely comment on the upbeat, helpful nature of everyone at HELUS.

La Canada Unified School District

4490 Cornishon Avenue, La Canada, CA 91011
818/952-8300 www.lcusd.k12.ca.us

Every Student Succeeds



James Stratton
Superintendent

La Cañada Unified School District is a learning community committed to personal growth and academic excellence. Current student enrollment is approximately 4000 and students in all grades consistently score among the top 10% on California Standards Tests.

The district operates three elementary schools and a combined 7-12 school. Each school in the district has scored over 900 on the Academic Performance Index (API) and has developed an "Every Student Succeeds" plan to ensure that all students receive appropriate support in mastering academic standards.

La Cañada Unified School District encompasses the residential community of La Cañada Flintridge, situated in the foothills about thirteen miles north of downtown Los Angeles. La Cañada Flintridge is home of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Descanso Gardens. The professional residents of La Cañada are attracted to the city because of its excellent schools and its strong community spirit. Parent participation and involvement in the schools are extensive as evidenced by a robust educational foundation which contributes over a million dollars annually to the district. District residents also recently passed a parcel tax to support the schools.

Approximately 98% of graduating seniors enroll in post-secondary schools with many students attending some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the nation.

The high school has twice been named a National Blue Ribbon school and all four schools were named as Gold Medal winners by California Business for Education Excellence.

Keppel Union School District

34004 128th Street East, P. O. Box 186, Pearblossom, CA 93553
661/944-2155 www.keppel.k12.ca.us

Lifelong Learners/Contributing Citizens



Steve Doyle
Superintendent

The Keppel Union School District is a K-8 District of 3000 students, located in the southeastern portion of the Antelope Valley, which is approximately 60 miles northeast of Los Angeles. Keppel serves the communities of Littlerock, Pearblossom, Lake Los Angeles, Llano and surrounding areas. Keppel is proud to offer six small schools of less than 650 students each. Class size reduction is in place in grades K-3, and all kindergarteners benefit from full-day instruction. Keppel staff is committed to the goal of achieving academic excellence through a program of instruction which offers each child an opportunity to develop to the height of his or her individual capabilities.

We have much to celebrate and be thankful for in Keppel Union School District. We are extremely proud of all of the academic accomplishments we have made this past year. As a district, we made our API growth target and all district elementary school sites exceeded their API targets with gains from 15-32 points. Two schools, Gibson and Pearblossom met all of their site AYP criteria and have frozen in their current status of program improvement. The remaining elementary schools, Alpine, Antelope, and Lake Los Angeles were within twocriteria measurement points of also meeting that mark. Our middle school did not make the achievement growth necessary but we are optimistic that the significant structural changes that we have put into place will help the school to turn around their performance.

The scores validate the direction set by the Board of Trustees and encourage us to stay the course. We are confident that our daily classroom instruction focus will enhance the learning outcomes for all Keppel children! We encourage all parents and community members to visit our schools and see the great things happening.

Las Virgenes Unified School District

4111 North Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302
818/880-4000 www.lvusd.org

District & Community Commitment



Dr. Donald M. Zimring
Superintendent

While our district like virtually every other district in the state is facing extraordinary challenges, our Board of Education and leadership team remains firmly committed to the concept that crisis can often bring new opportunities. Our district has continued to build upon the basic premise of focusing on that which delivers the most options and opportunities for our students. Our commitment to exploit the tremendous resources that technology can offer in the delivery of instruction and the improvement of student achievement continues to be a cornerstone of our approach even as we begin to grapple with the fiscal crisis facing the state and local school districts.

We are a community in every sense of the word. It is our community that has supported our students with the passage of bond measures and a parcel tax and it is that same community that supports us now in having to deal with the fiscal unknowns ahead. It is that same community as represented by the support of our four cities that continues to expand our use of technology in the classrooms and it is our community through the Las Virgenes Educational Foundation that has continued to support our students through its highly successful summer school program and preparation for higher education through the sponsorship of the Naviance online college services.

These partnerships and collaborations continue to make our district a "destination" district for many parents coming to our region. We are proud of our reputation and our unwavering commitment to "do great things for kids."

The Las Virgenes School District is governed by an elected Board of five trustees. Board members are elected to four-year terms. Our district continues to be ranked among the highest public school districts in the state in terms of academic performance.

Lancaster School District

44711 N. Cedar Avenue, Lancaster, CA 93534
661/948-4661 www.lancaster.k12.ca.us

Academic & Personal Excellence



Dr. Howard Sundberg
Superintendent

Lancaster School District is located in the high desert about 60 miles northeast of Los Angeles and serves students in preschool through eighth grade. Most of the District's 82.5 square miles lies within the City of Lancaster with a small portion in the unincorporated boundaries of Los Angeles County.

Educating Antelope Valley youth since 1885, we believe the District provides excellent educational opportunities for the more than 15,000 students who attend our schools. We have one alternative education, five middle, and thirteen elementary schools. In addition, we serve over 700 students in our preschool program.

The District is an active participant with the seven other Antelope Valley elementary districts and the high school district to provide quality programs. Teams of teachers and administrators from these districts meet monthly to articulate the K-12 programs.

The mission of the Lancaster School District, a group of dedicated and caring professionals, is, with the support of the community, to develop academic and personal excellence in all students through a rigorous curriculum infused with high expectations within a safe and secure environment fostering socially responsible citizens who enrich our diverse community.

Our district has implemented a Five Year Strategic Plan designed to "chart our course" through the year 2012. Developed within mutually agreed upon parameters and based on shared beliefs, four key objectives will be our focus: Academic rigor, Safety for all, Positive community relations and Personal excellence and social responsibility.

Lawndale Elementary School District

4161 W. 147th Street, Lawndale, CA 90260.
310/973-1300 www.Lawndale.k12.ca.us

History of Effective Leadership



Dr. Ellen Daugherty
Superintendent

The Lawndale School District has a long history of caring and effective leadership by the Board of Trustees who have created an outstanding family where educators and parents focus on the academic and emotional success of students. While we face the same issues and complexity of challenges as all organizations, we are small enough to address solutions on a personal level.

The Superintendent is the Secretary to the Board of Education that is elected by our community to set the direction for our District. Because of the Board's stable leadership, Lawndale continues to be a forward thinking organization that focuses on the needs of students. The Superintendent's Office is responsible for all District services that are delivered by our more than 700 employees. In addition to our core educational programs for students in Kindergarten through grade eight, our services include home visits for preschool age students and their parents, preschools for students ages three and four, and extended day programs before and after school.

Lawndale is a family of students, parents and employees committed to the achievement of all students allowing them to enter college or career options upon graduation from high school. With comprehensive programs for students beginning with home teaching during the preschool years, through all grade levels, and concluding with exciting after school programs in eighth grade, each child's needs can be met.

The recently released STAR testing results show that our students continue to improve, which is a great source of pride for employees and parents.

Lennox School District

10319 Firmona Avenue, Lennox, CA 90304
310/695-4000 www.lennox.k12.ca.us

One Hundred Years of Success



Dr. Bruce McDaniel
Superintendent

This year the Lennox School District will celebrate its 100-year centennial anniversary. The District began under the name of the Jefferson School District in 1910 in a single schoolhouse.

Over the past 100 years we have grown to now serving 7,000 students in a Readiness Program, State Preschool Program, five K-5 elementary schools, one middle school, and a charter high school.

Although a relatively small school district, we have developed a reputation over many years of being an educational community where the needs of our students are our highest priority. Recently our Board of Trustees has adopted new vision and mission statements and a list of strategic priorities that will provide our focus and direction for the upcoming years.

For the second consecutive year, U. S. World and News report ranked our charter high school, Lennox Math, Science and Technology Academy (LMSTA), in the top 25 high schools in its list of the nation's best high schools. Approximately 10,000 high schools were evaluated in this process.

Much like every school district in the state of California, our District is struggling with the severe fiscal crisis which has been imposed on all of us. I want to express my gratitude to everyone in our school District family, including teachers, administrators, support staff, parents and community partners for their ongoing support in ensuring that a high quality education is provided for all of our students, even during these difficult financial times.

One aspect of the Lennox School District I can say with confidence that will continue as we begin our next 100 years is the ongoing priority for making sure that we are doing all we can to provide the best possible educational opportunities for our students.

Little Lake City School District

10515 S. Pioneer Blvd., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
562/868-8241 www.littlelake.k12.ca.us

History of Excellence



Dr. Phillip Perez
Superintendent

Little Lake City School District has a long and distinctive history of excellence. Serving the communities of Santa Fe Springs, Norwalk, and portions of Downey, the District educates 4,900 youngsters in grades K-8 at seven elementary schools and two middle schools. Generations of families attend Little Lake schools, including those of many of our faculty, staff, and administrators.

Little Lake is extremely proud of our academic accomplishments. Our students are meeting increased and rigorous expectations for learning with increasing percentages scoring proficient and advanced on the California Standards Tests each year. Little Lake schools have earned state and national recognition, including: Title I Achieving School, California Distinguished School, California Business for Education Excellence Star Honor Roll recognition, and nomination as a National Blue Ribbon School. Our highly qualified teachers collaborate on instruction to ensure struggling students receive support and those who are excelling continue to be challenged academically.

With a focus on learning, the Little Lake City School District provides a student-centered, standards-based curriculum in a stimulating and safe environment and in partnership with a supportive community. We invite you to visit our website and to visit it often for information about the District and our schools.

Long Beach Unified School District

1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, CA 90810
562/997-8000 www.lbschools.net

Finding a Way in Tough Times



Christopher J. Steinhauser
Superintendent

In a quest to become more efficient and save jobs here, the Long Beach Unified School District is sponsoring a new bill in the California Legislature.

The bill, recently introduced by Sen. Alan Lowenthal, D-Long Beach, would relax spending restrictions on state funds for three eligible districts, including LBUSD, as part of a pilot program. The added flexibility would begin in 2011 and run through 2014.

Some state funding sources for education, known as categorical funds, are earmarked for specific purposes. While the state recently loosened some of those restrictions in light of ongoing cuts to education, the new bill would eliminate all existing restrictions on categorical funds, providing greater freedom to LBUSD.

The added flexibility would allow the school district to take surplus funds from some programs and redirect them to other areas where the need is greater. The flexibility could also allow the district to reallocate funds to reduce the need for layoffs.

We believe our school district has shown that it can manage its finances responsibly while achieving solid results for kids. And while our main problem is that California schools are funded at levels that are among the lowest in the nation, unfortunately we don't see that changing anytime soon due to the state's slow economic recovery. In the meantime, our school system can do much better if given the flexibility we need to run our schools more effectively and efficiently.

In return for the extra flexibility, eligible districts would have to agree to accountability measures. Those measures include showing significant academic progress, submitting reports to state authorities and linking the superintendent's evaluation to student performance goals.

Contact your elected officials in Sacramento if you'd like to urge passage of this important legislation. You'll be doing your part to help our schools do more with less.

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The Long Beach Branch NAACP

has been serving the needs of our youth for more than 60 years. This year the Branch is focusing on education in the greater Long Beach area. The NAACP's goal is to improve the educational opportunities of the over 40,000 at risk children residing in Long Beach. The objective is to promote academic excellence, social responsibility, and professional development. Some of our impact programs include: NAACP Scholars and Scholar Dollars; Youth Wealth Empowerment; Stay In School; Leadership Academy and Development; ACT SO Program; Conflict Resolution Training; Fitness and Focus; Camps; Discovery of the Arts; Careers – Law, Medicine; Mentorship; Talent Search and Development; Young Entrepreneurs; Math and Science Collaborative.



Naomi Rainey-Pierson
President
Long Beach Branch
NAACP

P.O. Box 1594 • Long Beach, CA 90801
562.856.7586 • www.lbnaacp.org • mnnaacp@gmail.com

Long Beach Branch NAACP General Membership Meeting
3rd Sunday of each month - 3:00pm • Ernest McBride Senior Park
1550 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813

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Los Angeles Unified School District

333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90017
 213/241-1000 <http://notebook.lausd.net>

Shared Commitment



Ramon C. Cortines
 Superintendent

The Los Angeles Unified School District community is unique in the strength and commitment of the students, parents, teachers, classified staff, and administrators. We share a belief in the power of the LAUSD school community to improve student learning.

The priorities for the district will, of course, be shaped by the deep budget cut environment we are in — we will need to do more with less, reorganize and provide services differently, and be extremely focused. In addition, we will have contingency plans if economic conditions worsen.

As such, we will drive resources and efforts towards achieving our ultimate goals for LAUSD— high academic achievement and progress, graduation, and career readiness and college preparedness for all.

I ask all parents and guardians and the entire school community to continue to support and stay involved in your child's education and to be part of your child's school activities. The priorities and accomplishments will set the stage and momentum for even greater change and improvement across the district.

LAUSD, the second largest school district in the nation, serves students who live within a 710-square-mile area that includes the cities of Los Angeles, Cudahy, Gardena, Huntington Park, Lomita, Maywood, San Fernando, Vernon and West Hollywood as well as a portion of nearly two dozen additional cities and several unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The district has a total K-12 enrollment of 617,000 students, who attend 885 schools. There are also 196 other schools and centers including: early education centers, state preschools, regional occupational centers/programs, skills centers and community adult programs.

Lowell Joint School District

11019 Valley Home Ave., Whittier, CA 90603
 562/943-0211 www.ljsd.org

School & Community Collaboration



Dr. Patricia A. Howell
 Superintendent

The Lowell Joint School District is located in the southeastern portion of Los Angeles County and the northwestern portion of Orange County. It serves families from the communities of La Habra, La Habra Heights, and Whittier. The parents of the community are very supportive of programs and involved at the schools.

The District serves the educational needs of approximately 3,100 students in Kindergarten through eighth grade at five K-6 elementary schools and one junior high school. An independent study program is provided for families wishing to home school their children. The District is committed to providing a strong academic program of basic skills having achieved API scores in

the 800's. There is also a commitment to a well-rounded program of traditional subject offerings and a focus on high achievement and accountability for all students. All six schools acknowledge the importance of education, the family, and traditional American values. There is an emphasis on higher education, personal integrity, social responsibility, Character Education, and an appreciation of our national heritage.

Special programs provided at the schools include art and vocal music (K-8), instrumental music (6-8), drama (7-8), and physical education (K-8). Libraries and computer labs are available at all of the schools and before- and after-school day care is available at four of the elementary schools. Honors classes, AVID, and after-school sports are offered at the junior high school.

Compare Lowell Joint schools to area public or private schools. Parents will see that Lowell Joint schools offer the best educational opportunities.

Lynwood Unified School District

11321 Bullis Road, Lynwood, CA 90262
310/886-1600 www.lynwood.k12.ca.us

Committed to Student Success



Patrick Leier
*Interim
Superintendent*

The Lynwood Unified School District continues to provide basic and supplemental services to meet the needs of students and the community. The District focus is on closing the achievement gap and improving the CAHSEE passing rate at secondary schools.

Firebaugh High School graduated its inaugural class in 2009. Lynwood High School continues to provide outstanding programs through the Arts Academy and related specialized fields. The QEIA program thrives at four of our schools—Wilson, Mark Twain, Will Rogers Elementary and Lynwood Middle Schools benefit from class size reduction and individualized instructional plans. Helen Keller Elementary has achieved top API scores in the District,

setting a standard for competition. The District provides a free of charge preschool program for children who will be part of the K-12 program. In addition, an afterschool program that combines educational intervention, nutrition education and recreational components is offered to all elementary and middle school students.

The District has made great strides in LACOE Williams Case visits, which measure facility condition. Average scores for schools have been over 90%. The District and Cesar Chavez Middle School were recognized for innovative child nutrition programs, featuring healthy eating practices. Ground breaking has taken place at Washington Elementary for a new outdoor assembly covering for students.

The Board of Education and District staff is committed to the success of each student and maintaining fiscal solvency and local control. The Road to Fiscal Recovery serves as a map, as outlined by staff, approved by the Board and implemented by all District employees in reaching higher standards of District and student success.

Montebello Unified School District

123 S. Montebello Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640
562/806-7900 www.montebello.k12.ca.us

Career-Prepped & College Ready



Edward Velasquez
Superintendent

At MUSD, we work hard to provide all of our students with the tools they need to succeed. Characterized by a rigorous curriculum with a variety of academic programs, strong parent involvement and high-quality teachers, the District is recognized locally and statewide for its efforts to ensure success for all students. The District also works daily to make certain its students are put on learning paths that result in them graduating college-ready and career-prepared.

Such hard work is reaping strong results. Some highlights include: MUSD has more than 95% of its students attending school daily. MUSD's has more than 91% of its high-school students graduating. MUSD schools have shown improvement on their Academic

Performance Index scores since 2007-08, with some schools showing double-digit growth!

MUSD believes that at whatever age a student enters our District, they will be offered a world-class education from their first day of school. While in our care, students are taught in safe, high-quality learning environments by highly-qualified educators and support staff. At the kindergarten to third-grade level, our students are taught in small classroom sizes (20:1 student/teacher ration). At the middle-school level, our students are challenged with leadership programs and extracurricular activities, such as athletics and Student Government. At the high-school level, students are offered several Advanced Placement (AP) class options and academic pathway programs to help prepare them for either a career or college environment after graduation.

We believe the Montebello Unified School District is one of the most outstanding education providers in California. From the first day of kindergarten through high-school graduation, an MUSD student is encouraged to exceed academically, to thrive, to be confident and celebrate diversity.

Monrovia Unified School District

325 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016
626/471-2000 www.monroviaschools.net

A Clear Vision: Dramatic Progress



Dr. Linda Wagner
Superintendent

Monrovia Unified School District's vision is clear and measurable: by the end of 2009, all schools will become California Distinguished Schools and score 800 or better on the California Academic Performance Index.

To date, academic progress has been dramatic. Six schools have achieved status as California Distinguished Schools, six have been designated Achieving Schools by the U.S. Department of Education, and our Preschool was named a California State model. Five schools exceed 800 on the Academic Performance Index and all other schools exceed 700.

Monrovia has won thirteen Golden Bell Excellence in Education awards from the California School Boards Association. Eighty-nine percent of Monrovia's Class of 2009 went on to higher education, including UCLA, Berkeley, USC, Princeton, Harvard, Notre Dame and other notable local and national colleges and universities.

Our District's success is built on partnerships with parents, the City, the Chamber of Commerce, businesses, local colleges, and the greater community.

Our many joint projects and programs range from award-winning tutoring (PAT), to student career education (Monrovia Works), to a nutrition program that has gained state-wide recognition, and after school elementary music programs.

Our parents remain a powerhouse of support. They lead the PTA/PTSA, booster clubs and programs like WatchDOGS (Dads of Great Students). The Monrovia Schools Foundation helps fund our music, science/math, and reading programs, and awards grants to teachers for special projects. Monrovia Reads supports community literacy through our local library and our schools.

We salute our 6,000+ students and the progress and pride they continue to bring to the Monrovia community.

Mountain View School District

3320 Gilman Road, El Monte, CA 91723
626/652-4000 www.mtviewschools.com

Team Mountain View



Lillian Maldonado French
Superintendent

Mountain View School District is a K-8 district located in El Monte in the San Gabriel Valley. Each day MVSD welcomes approximately 8,400 students through the doors of its 10 elementary schools, one intermediate school, one middle school and alternative school. The District also serves the educational needs of approximately 800 preschool students and families through the Head Start State Preschool, Children's Center, L.A. UP and First 5 School Readiness Programs.

MVSD is a district that believes in its students through a spirit of commitment, high expectations, teamwork, respect and care. "Team Mountain View" is more than just a slogan.

It means that each member of the Mountain View team cares intensely about the children they work with, are passionate about the work they are doing, and provide for students the full commitment of their time and talent.

Throughout MVSD a solid foundation of academic instruction is enhanced by our commitment to provide all students, from preschool to eighth grade, with an engaging and supportive learning environment that encourages creative, high level thinking, fosters values, diversity and collaboration, and responds to each student's individual needs. In Mountain View our students come first and our number one goal continues to be for all students to achieve their highest potential. Team Mountain View is committed to making a significant impact on the students we are privileged to serve.

Newhall School District

25375 Orchard Village Road, Valencia, CA 91355
661/291-4000 www.newhallschooldistrict.net

High Expectations–High Honors



Dr. Marc Winger
Superintendent

Comprised of ten elementary schools and 7,000 students, the Newhall School District serves preschool and kindergarten through sixth grade children who reside in Newhall, Valencia, Stevenson Ranch, and Westridge.

We maintain the highest expectations for students and staff and we are proud of the fact that Newhall’s ten elementary schools have consistently received high rankings for achievement. Four have been recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools, eight schools have received State Distinguished School status (most have received this honor multiple times), four have received Title I Academic Achievement Award recognition under No Child Left Behind (NCLB), and six schools have been named to the California Business for Education Excellence (CBEE) Foundation’s “Honor Roll” of top achieving schools.

The District also takes great pride in its 30+ year-old music program. Students of all grades are taught vocal music, learn to play the recorder in third grade, and have the opportunity to move on to a robust and vibrant instrumental music program in grades 4-6. Currently about 850 students receive small group lessons on a variety of string, wind, brass and percussion instruments and 650 participate in a chorus program.

In the last nine years we have built three state-of-the-art elementary schools and we have renovated, expanded, and modernized each of our older sites thanks to the voters in our community who passed Measure K, our \$35.5 million school bond. We combined local dollars with local developer and state matching funds to achieve our goals. We believe our buildings now reflect the instructional excellence that takes place in every classroom.

Palmdale School District

39139-49 10th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550
661/947-7191 www.psd.k12.ca.us

Basis for a Lifetime of Learning



Roger D. Gallizzi
Superintendent

Mission

The mission of the Palmdale School District is to provide each of our children with a rigorous academic education, a safe learning environment, and the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for success.

District Facts

Palmdale School District serves the community by providing a quality educational experience to over 22,000 children from pre-school through 8th grade. With 26 schools and more than 3,000 employees, Palmdale School District believes it is launching a lifetime of learning through a focus on quality standards-based instruction. Our highly qualified teaching and support staff work diligently to see that every child receives an equitable education. Our schools and workplace are a safe and healthy environment for learning. We will keep focused on “the main thing” which for us is student achievement and closing the achievement gap. We have several schools with API scores exceeding 800. Our API growth is faster than the County and State growth rates.

Palmdale School District is the fourth largest elementary district in the state of California. We offer a variety of grade span configurations from K-8th grade, including a dual-immersion Spanish/English school of choice and an International Baccalaureate school of choice. The district is proud to offer AVID to students starting in the fourth grade.

It is my pleasure to serve as a Superintendent in what is now my fifth year.

Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District

12820 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650
562/868-0431 www.nlmusd.k12.ca.us

Focus on Core Academic Skills



Dr. Ruth Pérez
Superintendent

The Norwalk - La Mirada USD proudly serves approximately 21,000 students of our local communities with broad opportunities for high academic achievement. The district has a long history of offering not only a comprehensive K-12 program, but also of strengthening the communities as a whole through Adult Education, ROP, Career Tech (through a partnership with Cerritos College), Head Start/State Pre-school Program, online learning, tutoring and college prep. We support this range of opportunity with a strong leadership drive to ensure all students have high academic achievement.

The reality is we are in an age of economic uncertainty where severe cutbacks are impacting every district and unfortunately, every classroom. We believe that challenges such as this are not reasons to surrender; they are opportunities to demonstrate excellence. This starts with accountability and through research- based methods; we hold each other and each student accountable for progress.

In 2009, our overall district API scores increased by 13 points. (Elementary 10 Points, Middle Schools 15 points, High Schools 10 Points) Nine schools (7 Elementary and 2 Middle) scored above 800 points. Our district schools and programs have also received the following honors: California School Board Association Golden Bell Award, Title 1 High Academic Achievement, California Business for Education Excellence, California Distinguished School and National Blue Ribbon School Awards.

The district provides a strong focus on core academic skills with special attention to Literacy as a top priority. Our children are deserving of high academic achievement and tough economic times may challenge our delivery, but we see it as a moral imperative to ensure our students a high quality educational experience that prepares them for their future. That future will affect their children, their communities and our country.

Paramount Unified School District

15110 California Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723
562/602-6000 www.paramount.k12.ca.us

Ensuring Learning & Success for All



Dr. David J. Verdugo
Superintendent

Paramount Unified School District is a Kindergarten through 12th grade School District serving the communities of Paramount, Bellflower, Lakewood, Long Beach, and South Gate. We serve nearly 16,000 students.

Our dedicated team of students, parents, teachers, classified employees, administrators and Board members have truly embraced our motto, “Great Things are Happening in Paramount Schools.” We have much to celebrate as we are continuing to build a case for reform and excellence across our school District. During the last four years, Paramount has accomplished a great deal to be proud of. For example, among the 47 Unified School Districts in the Los Angeles County, Paramount has ranked in the top three Districts in terms of API point gains. The average API in K-8 schools has grown from approximately 507 to 756. The Board of Education has had a clear vision of what they want Paramount schools to implement and achieve. That “District Vision” has been achieved through High Quality Instruction, Standards-Aligned Content, Consistency and Coherence in Instructional Practices, High Levels of Achievement for All Students, and Highly Effective Teachers and Learning Leaders.

Paramount USD enjoys much community support, our voters passed a \$100 million facilities bond allowing for a new stadium, library and science building to be built at Paramount High School. In addition, a new “Arts For All” program, Career Technical Education Pathways and a new comprehensive Alternative Education Center has been implemented. We remain dedicated to enhancing the potential in every child.

It is my distinct pleasure to serve as Superintendent of the Paramount Unified School District.

Pasadena Unified School District

351 S. Hudson Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91109
626/795-6981 www.pusd.us

Empowering Students



Edwin Diaz
Superintendent

The Pasadena Unified School District serves students from Pasadena, Altadena and Sierra Madre. All schools offer an academically rigorous program in an environment that engages and empowers students to become lifelong learners. PUSD's curriculum is based on the learning standards adopted by the California Department of Education, and designed to encourage the highest level of achievement for every student. Students are guided to become literate, critical thinkers prepared for success in college and careers in a changing world. In 2009, 24 of our schools had Academic Performance Index (API) scores over 700 and nine exceeded 800.

PUSD schools offer a range of signature academic programs designed to enrich students' academic experiences, including Dual Language Immersion programs, the International Baccalaureate Program, Middle School Academic Scholars and College and Career Pathways. PUSD also provides early childhood education, full day kindergarten and the Pasadena LEARNs afterschool enrichment program.

Reflecting Pasadena's passion for the arts, visual and performing arts education is a major focus at PUSD schools. PUSD is a designated Arts for All district, offering K-12 arts education including instrumental music, visual arts, digital media, chorus, band, orchestra, drama, dance and more. Annual arts showcases such as the No Boundaries art exhibition and spring music festivals featuring orchestral, vocal and instrumental performances display the emerging artistic and musical talents of K-12 students.

PUSD schools have received numerous awards including: A Blue Ribbon School, Title I Achieving Schools, California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll Schools, Newsweek Magazine, Top 300 Schools in the Nation, and U.S. News and World Report Silver Medalist High School, among many others.

Pomona Unified School District

800 S. Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91766
909/397-4800 www.pusd.org

Reaching, Teaching, and Learning



Richard L. Martinez
Superintendent

Imagine a school where meeting the needs of students is everyone's mission; where each student makes a personal connection with a caring adult; where teaching is individualized so that no one gets left behind; and where each student gains a deep understanding of key concepts.

That's what happens at America's best schools, and that's what we want for each of our students at Pomona schools, based on our three core values of Respect, Responsibility, and Results.

Guided by those values, our goal at Pomona Unified is Reaching, Teaching, and Learning for each student to provide them a wide variety of options for success.

Just think of it as outstanding customer service in the classroom.

"Reaching" means first connecting with each student. We reach out on a personal level, help them understand that we care about them as individuals, and prepare them to succeed.

Next comes "Teaching." We teach responsively, which means combining excellent interactive instruction with careful analysis of student-achievement data. That way we know who's having trouble understanding, and when and how best to respond so that each student understands and no one gets left behind. Because the best intervention happens right there in the classroom, not long after the fact.

The result is true "Learning." It's not enough for students just to know facts. We do whatever it takes to help each student fully understand and be able to use key concepts.

Reaching, Teaching, and Learning is helping us transform education at Pomona Unified School District.

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Redondo Beach Unified School District

1401 Inglewood Avenue, Redondo Beach, CA 90278
310/379-5449 www.rbusd.org

The Mark of Distinction



Dr. Steven E. Keller
Superintendent

Redondo Beach Unified School District consists of eight elementary schools, two middle schools, one high school, one continuation school, one community day school, one adult school, and a district-wide child development center. The district serves more than 8,000 students. Currently, our schools are undergoing comprehensive modernization utilizing the \$145 million advancement bond passed by our citizens. RBUSD desires to jump to greatness by becoming the mark of distinction for public education in the beach cities. We have already earned the honors of housing three 10-10 (API) schools, the highest ranking available in California.

Continued forward progress has been the focal point for the Board of Education, the administration, and the staff. Establishing data-driven educational programs, careful utilization of resources, and enhanced community and city relationships have secured a stronger commitment to better serving students. RBUSD has also created community-focused programs, such as the Safe School Ambassador Program, Energy Education, Redondo Beach Learning Academy (CDS), US Dept of Education Three-Year Counselor Grant, and a new Special Education Transition program. Too, our new facilities are likely to continue this outreach into our city and wider community. The whole child's needs—socially, academically, emotionally, and physically—are the centerpiece for success at RBSUD.

Redondo Beach Unified is just that, unified. Students, parents, and staff model schooling and learning that is collaborative, rigorous, and transformational. We are proud of our excellent PTA and the resurgence of our Education Foundation; these groups assist the district with providing a sound educational program. The culture of our district does not embrace the status quo, but rather reaches for what tomorrow's learning may bring to us all. Redondo is indeed GREAT.

Rosemead School District

3907 Rosemead Blvd., Rosemead, CA 91770
310/312-2900 www.rosemead.k12.ca.us

Cultural & Linguistic Diversity



Dr. Amy Enomoto-Perez
Superintendent

Encinita, Janson, Savannah and Shuey Elementary Schools along with Muscatel Middle School make up our district. We are a diverse community of learners. Our cultural and linguistic diversity enrich our daily work as a school community. We are committed to excellence, innovation and lifelong learners.

We focus upon academics and educating the whole child. Our schools are known for their outstanding California State Academic Performance Index (API) results. Our elementary schools have received the designation of California Title 1 Achieving Schools. Students receive leadership and character development through the Leader in Me program. This program is a generous grant from the Panda Restaurant Group and Franklin Covey.

Along with textbooks and print materials, our teachers and students rely upon technology and the internet to engage students' interest, track their progress, communicate more effectively with our parents to engage them as our partners in learning, personalize student instruction, teach the arts and aid in decision making.

Our classrooms have state-of-the art instructional technology. We also use web based digital instructional content whenever possible that can be accessed from the classroom or home help to prepare students to work in the 21st century workforce.

Muscatel's Science Olympiad Team focuses have won numerous county, state and national accolades. The middle school also offers an exciting array of electives in art, technology, leadership, and the AVID program helps students achieve who will be first time college entrants from their families.

After school enrichment programs are available both on a free and paid basis. These programs offer child care and homework tutorial programs at all of our campuses. These services are available until 6 pm on school days.

Rowland Unified School District

1830 Nogales Street, Rowland Heights, CA 91748
626/965-2541 www.rowlandschools.org

District on the Move



Dr. Maria G. Ott
Superintendent

Rowland Unified School District (RUSD) is proud to be one of the premiere districts of the San Gabriel Valley (SGV). We offer families quality schools, teachers, programs and a caring culture that enables students to become global thinkers and leaders.

We provide innovative programs and support for each student's personal and academic success:

One of the Top High Schools in the Nation: Rowland High School named by *U.S. News & World Report*.

International Baccalaureate Schools: Both Nogales and Rowland High Schools offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) and dynamic Career Certification programs.

IB Primary Years Programme Candidate Schools: District is expanding IB international curriculum designed for elementary students to both K-8 schools in the District: Oswalt Academy and Ybarra Academy of Arts and Technology.

Apple 1 to 1 Laptop Learning Program: Oswalt Academy was just named one of only eight schools in California as an "Apple Distinguished School" for their innovative Apple Laptop Learning Program. All students and teachers in 5th-7th grades use an Apple MacBook laptop computer for 24/7 access. Teachers and students are constantly connected and dramatic student academic growth has taken place.

Committed to the Arts K - 12: RUSD is the only District in the SGV area to provide elementary strings, jazz and marching band.

Building for the Future: \$118 Million in modernization funding was approved by voters in 2006. Have opened nine new Wonder of Reading elementary libraries by end of 2010.

See why Rowland Unified has become a preferred choice for families in the San Gabriel Valley. Explore www.RowlandSchools.org.



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San Gabriel Unified School District

408 Juipero Serra Dr., San Gabriel, CA 91776
626/451-5400 www.sgusd.k12.ca.us

District is Responsible & Responsive

Dr. Susan C. Parks, *Superintendent*

San Gabriel USD is one reason that the City of San Gabriel is a great place to live, work and attend school. Please meet our eight fine schools:

Gabrielino High School is the crown jewel of the district. A California Distinguished High School, GHS for the third straight year, was named in the *U.S. News and World Report* as a Silver Medal School placing it among the top 6% of high schools in the nation. GHS soaring Eagles serve the community with thousands of volunteer hours.

Del Mar, our Continuation High School, serves students who thrive in alternative settings. Del Mar is a small, accredited high school with a personal touch “Where Second Chances Happen,” with volunteers who provide service throughout the community.

Jefferson Middle School is a vibrant middle school campus and community. As our only middle school, JMS is the center of activity where students start to envision college and life plans.

Five Great Elementary Schools round out our District: Wilson, Washington, Roosevelt, McKinley and Coolidge. Each serves as a traditional neighborhood school that reflects and celebrates the rich diversity of our city.

This is an excellent school district with employees who care deeply about all students. Although we currently face extraordinary financial challenges, I will state emphatically that San Gabriel USD has been and will continue to be a well-managed district with a very responsible and responsive Governing Board. We are doing our part to keep San Gabriel a great place to live, work and attend school.

San Marino Unified School District

1665 West Drive, San Marino, CA 91108
626/299-7000 www.san-marino.k12.ca.us

Collaboration Brings Results



Dr. Gary W. Woods
Superintendent

With a 2009 district API of 952, SMUSD consistently enjoys one of the highest academic rankings in the State. These successes are a result of many groups and individuals, including our outstanding classified and certificated staff members, our administrators, our students and their parents, and our committed community partners.

The following is a partial list of the most recent awards and recognitions our schools have earned over the past few years. As you will see, the list is impressive.

Carver Elementary School: 2004 California Distinguished Schools Award; 2005 NCLB Blue Ribbon Schools Award; 2005-09 California Business for Educational Excellence Award; 2007-09 Top API Elementary School – LA County.

Valentine Elementary School: Top 60 Schools in LA County - Los Angeles Magazine (twice); 2004 California Distinguished Schools Award; 2005-09 California Business for Educational Excellence Award; 2006 CDE Competitive Grant for School Gardening Project; 2008 LA Music Center BRAVO Award - Visual Arts Program.

Huntington Middle School: 2005, 2009 California Distinguished School Award; 2006 LA Music Center Bravo Award Runner Up; 2005-09 California Business for Educational Excellence Award; 1999-2009 Top API Middle School – LA County.

San Marino High School: 2005 California Distinguished School; 2005-09 California Business for Educational Excellence Award; 2006 NCLB National Blue Ribbon Schools Award; 2007 LA Music Center BRAVO Award – High School VAPA Program; 2007 U.S. News and World Report Gold Medal High School (#82 in nation); 2007, 2009 Top API “non-magnet” High School – LA County; 2008-09 California State Speech and Debate Team Champions.

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404
310/450-8338 www.smmusd.org

A Community of Learners



Tim Cuneo
Superintendent

The mission and focus of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) is extraordinary achievement for all students while simultaneously closing the achievement gap. As a community of learners, our district works together in a nurturing environment to help students be visionary, lversatile thinkers; resourceful, life-long learners; effective, multi-lingual communicators and global citizens. We are a richly varied community that values the contributions of all its members. We exist to prepare all students in their pursuit of academic achievement and personal health and to support and encourage them in their development of intellectual, artistic, technological, physical and social expression.

Our districtwide base API has increased every year for the past five years and continuously exceeds the 800 mark, we employ sixty-one National Board Certified Teachers, 92% of our tenth-graders passed the CAHSEE on their first attempt, our Title I schools are making impressive gains, and we have two National Blue Ribbon schools and several CA Distinguished schools.

SMMUSD's exceptional music program boasts a 50% participation rate among district students. SMMUSD is considered one of the nation's top districts due to the dedication of our educators and the achievements of our students. SMMUSD consists of eleven elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools, one continuation high school, adult education, and many early child development programs. Enrollment for the 2009-10 school year is approximately 11,565 students.

Saugus Union School District

24930 Avenue Stanford, Santa Clarita, CA 91355
661/294-5300 www.saugus.k12.ca.us

The Saugus Way



Dr. Judy Fish
Superintendent

Public Education is at a crossroads. Never before have we been so challenged by claims that the public schools are failing to meet the needs of all students. Never before have we experienced such cuts to the very programs designed to meet the needs of our students. We have two choices. We can wring our hands and talk about the terrible things that are being done to us, or we can take charge of that over which we have control, educate our communities on the great programs we continue to offer and look for new opportunities to develop exciting alternative programs.

In our district, we talk about “The Saugus Way.” Everyone understands that means setting high standards and working together with mutual respect at every level to achieve academic and personal success for every child. As we deal with unprecedented economic challenges and budget cuts, the phrase “working together” takes on new meaning. How we treat one another becomes paramount when dealing with sensitive issues. We define ourselves individually and collectively by how we behave in times of adversity.

Unfortunately, we have had to close a temporary school for the 2010-11 school year due to a lack of construction funds for their new school. We also will be closing another school temporarily because of declining enrollment.

However, on a positive note, most of our schools will be offering full day kindergarten next year. Each of our 14 schools is in the process of defining and marketing its unique culture and programs. We also are opening our first developer built school, West Creek Academy, as an open enrollment school with a focus on music and the performing arts. Through music, a universal language, we hope to make connections to other countries, classrooms and students around the world. We want our schools to become “Gateways to the World.”

South Pasadena Unified School District

1020 El Centro Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030
626/441-5800 www.spusd.net

Igniting Student's Potential



Joel Shapiro
Superintendent

In South Pasadena, we focus on rigorous instruction to meet the needs of all students every day. We're proud of our schools' record of academic growth. Our District API of has increased steadily over the past few years to the current Growth API of 897. We take pride in the fact that most subgroups have shown more growth than the District-wide gains, and it's a credit to our dedicated professional staff that we've made significant progress toward narrowing the achievement gap in a district that is high-performing.

We also know that test results provide insufficient evidence of the kind of learning that will prepare young people to be successful when they leave our schools. Our vision statement describes what we strive for every day: *Our students reach their individual potential by developing intellectual abilities, emotional maturity, unique talents, love of learning, and responsibility for their own learning. They confidently participate in the complex global environment.* Our motto is "Igniting Students' Potential," and by this we mean their potential for creativity, problem-solving, and social responsibility. To accomplish this, teachers work collaboratively to create the best lessons and to analyze the results of instruction. We believe that mastery of the state standards is a beginning point, and we create opportunities for students to analyze real-world problems, applying what they have learned to develop solutions. We also believe that building character and confidence is important in order to prepare students for the future. In addition, we value what our families contribute to the educational process, and we strive to make parents true partners in achieving our vision.

South Whittier School District

10120 South Painter, Whittier, CA 90605
562/944-6231 www.swhittier.k12.ca.us

Success for Every Student



Dr. Erich Kwek
Superintendent

The South Whittier School District has been in existence for almost 100 years and has developed a reputation for excellence. We work very hard to live up to this reputation and our efforts receive strong support from parents and the community. This is demonstrated by the many generations of families that have gone through our schools and their strong commitment and support for maintaining our tradition of excellence.

South Whittier School District is committed to a standards based curriculum while also educating the whole child. All schools have made excellent progress in meeting academic standards set by the state, and they also provide an opportunity for students to develop individual skills and talents.

The mission of South Whittier School District is to prepare every student for success in high school and beyond by focusing on the core academic subjects in an effective and integrated curriculum. We believe:

- students learn best when they are engaged in challenging and appropriate learning focused on the core academic subjects of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies integrated with physical education and the fine arts.
- quality teachers are the single greatest predictor of student success. in respecting the diversity and uniqueness of each student.
- students learn best when families value education, and teach their children to accept increasing responsibility for their own learning.
- quality education improves the quality of life for students, their families, and the community now and in the future.

In the South Whittier School District we are achieving our mission, upholding our beliefs and living up to our motto of success for every student.

Temple City Unified School District

9700 Las Tunas Drive, Temple City, CA 91780
626/548-5000 www.templecity.k12.ca.us

Collaborating to Empower Students



Dr. Kang-Smith
Superintendent

Temple City Unified School District's mission is to empower all students to maximize their learning potential through rigorous academic and extra curricular activities in a positive learning environment that builds strong character and embraces the diversity of our students. We believe that all students are learners and foster a continuous learning environment.

We celebrate the diversity in our family with a positive and safe learning environment. All of our students at Emperor, Cloverly, La Rosa, and Longden Elementary Schools attend Oak Avenue Intermediate School and Temple City High School. All of our six comprehensive schools continue to excel in the California Department of

Education's Academic Performance Index scoring above 800. Emperor Elementary School, with a 925 API score, was recognized by the California Business for Education Excellence for their high academic achievement and for narrowing the achievement gap. Emperor and La Rosa Elementary Schools were eligible and applied for California Distinguished School Awards. In the past, every one of our comprehensive schools has received this recognition. Our alternative/continuation school has also received awards.

We have high expectations for our students in academics and extra-curricular activities. Temple City High School received the 2009 Silver Award from the U.S. News and World Report as one of America's best high schools. Students excel in athletics in all sports. The Temple City High School's Band, Auxiliary, and Brighter Side Singers won numerous awards for their performances. We have a strong music program at all of our elementary, intermediate, and high schools. The visual and performing arts program are also outstanding.

Our positive family environment is promoted at every one of our schools in building a strong character program. We work together, in open collaboration, to promote community service projects so that our students become contributors and leaders of the future.

Torrance Unified School District

2335 Plaza Del Amo, Torrance, CA 90501
310/972-6500 www.tusd.org

Preparing for Higher Education



Dr. George Mannon
Superintendent

The Torrance Unified School District is nestled in the heart of the South Bay, minutes from the expansive Pacific Ocean coastline. Our mission is to maximize individual potential in students in order to develop lifelong learners who will become contributing members in a global society. The District's 32 schools educate 25,000 students who speak 83 different languages.

TUSD continuously meets and exceeds its educational goals as well as state and national standards. In 2009, the District met their AYP targets and our API score rose twelve points to 844.

TUSD is fortunate to have a group of dedicated, passionate, and innovative teachers. Even during difficult budgetary years

they continue to provide our students with creative and valuable educational experiences. Recently one of our teachers, Mrs. Eileen Hirata, was recognized by Expo Markers with an Extraordinary Educator Award and part of a national campaign to promote educational resources. Mrs. Hirata is just one example of the skilled teachers educating our students.

TUSD students are equally exceptional in their academic, athletic, and extracurricular achievements. Once again, our high schools' Academic Decathlon teams took top honors in the L.A. County Decathlon competitions, with West High School coming in first county-wide and Torrance High coming in third. TUSD students go on to attend universities like USC, the UC's, and many are accepted to the Ivy League schools.

Educating children is a collaboration that is greatly benefited by parental and community involvement. Thank you to the teachers, staff, parents, and community leaders that contribute to making TUSD an award-winning District!

Valle Lindo School District

1431 N. Central Avenue, South El Monte, CA 91733
626/580-0610 www.vallelindo.k12.ca.us

A Place of Award Winning Schools



Dr. Mary Louise Labrucherie
Superintendent

Valle Lindo School District has been hailed as the “best kept secret in the state” and “a peach of a district” by program quality reviewers and auditors. We invite you to visit our schools and tour our historical school house, botanical gardens, and engaging classrooms. Established in 1863, this District of two schools is the third oldest district in the state, rich in history and accomplishments. Dean L. Shively Middle School was recognized as a California Distinguished School, and both Dean L. Shively Middle School and New Temple Elementary School have earned Title I Academic Achievement Awards.

Congresswoman Hilda Solis took personal interest in furthering the success of the District by providing a \$73,000 technology grant. The District’s focus on using technology to advance effective and efficient instruction extends to our state-of-the-art technology/media centers. All teachers use the latest technology in their classrooms, including laptop computers, LCD projectors and CD/DVD equipment access. Advanced technology allows teachers the ability to fully implement all aspects of new textbooks and instructional materials, as well as electronic media.

The District was honored by the California School Boards Association with a Golden Bell Award for an 8-step instructional process, whereby teachers use multiple assessment data to construct a 36 week instructional calendar. Teachers meet weekly by grade level throughout the year to plan and assess student mastery of the content standards. Active student government, athletics, and music programs complement our rigorous academic programs.

Walnut Valley Unified School District

880 South Lemon Avenue, Walnut, CA 91789
909/595-1261 www.wvusd.k12.ca.us

Kids First—Every Student, Every Day



Dr. Cyndy Simms
Superintendent

The Walnut Valley Unified School District has a long history of demonstrating excellence in education. Our outstanding teachers and staff have a genuine commitment to put “Kids First...Every Student, Every Day.”

Walnut Valley Unified School District is a kindergarten through 12th grade district serving approximately 15,000 students in Diamond Bar and Walnut.

We appreciate the support from our Walnut Valley community. Each year, parents and community members volunteer countless hours and donate a variety of resources to enrich the educational experience of our students.

Construction projects are now underway in our schools, made possible by voter approval of Bond Measures S and Y. Our students will benefit from innovative technology, improved classrooms and campuses, and new sports and performing arts facilities.

Walnut Valley students consistently receive high scores on standardized testing and achieve high honors in academic competitions. Every school exceeds the state’s target of 800 on the Academic Performance Index, with eight schools scoring over 900.

Walnut Valley schools have been recognized as California Distinguished and U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Schools. Our schools have also been awarded prestigious Golden Bell Awards by the California School Boards Association. Both Walnut High School and Diamond Bar High School have been honored as two of the best International Baccalaureate Schools in America by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Walnut Valley’s Blueprint for Excellence is the foundation that guides our every decision and action. The heart of the Blueprint is “Kids First...Every Student, Every Day” and our students’ successes are the result.

West Covina Unified School District

1717 W. Merced Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790
626/939-4600 www.wcusd.org

Providing Quality Programs



Liliam Leis-Castillo
Superintendent

With a strong commitment to excellence and a pledge to be the best in the valley, the West Covina Unified School District provides quality educational programs to approximately 13,000 students in eight elementary schools, two middle schools, one intermediate school, one comprehensive high school, one alternative high school, one K-8 charter school, and a K-12 “virtual” charter school. Increasing test scores reflect these goals, as do a stable enrollment, and satisfied clientele.

The District’s success can be attributed to a forward-thinking Board of Education, strong leadership, a capable, dedicated teaching force and support staff, supportive parents and community, and bright, eager young learners! We are proud of our 3 National Blue Ribbon Schools, our 10 Title I Achieving Schools, our 11 California Distinguished Schools, and that our comprehensive high school, West Covina High, was named among the top 5% of all high schools nationwide in 2008. We are proud that we provide art and music lessons and a comprehensive physical education program to our elementary students at a time when these services are being eliminated elsewhere. We are proud to offer a seamless, high quality program to our students, from the first day of kindergarten to the last day of high school – one that affords students with post-secondary opportunities that include college and career.

Our mission is to work in concert with our families, the community, and businesses to provide all students with a high quality education that will prepare them for life in the 21st century. We are prepared to develop a student population of problem solvers, critical thinkers, and users of knowledge and information in innovative and meaningful ways. We pledge to graduate competent students who are well prepared for a future that increasingly requires active participation from every responsible citizen.

Westside Union School District

41914 N. 50th Street West, Quartz Hill, CA 93536
661/722-0716 www.westside.k12.ca.us

Rigorous Curriculum



Regina L. Rossall
Superintendent

Westside Union School District encompasses about 360 square miles of the Antelope Valley in the northeastern section of Los Angeles County. Serving students in kindergarten–eighth grade with an enrollment over 9000 and 12 sites, the district continues to grow with the development of the area’s affordable housing.

All students receive a rigorous curriculum for all core academic areas. Students have continued to maintain high test scores as well as mastering personal/social skills provided through character education programs.

As a long time participant in the Los Angeles County/Regional Science Olympiad Program, students from many of the district schools are very active, enthusiastic, young “scientists.” In addition, an all day Saturday competition program attracting nearly 500 students is held annually for fourth–eighth grade students to learn more about science with a series of hands-on events. Sponsors of this event include organizations like Lockheed-Martin, the West Antelope Valley Educational Foundation, and the PTAs. This has become a signature event for the district, and is highly anticipated by the students and their families.

Another co-curricular program has been ACME Acting Company that provides musical theater experience for all the district’s students. This ten-year-old children’s theater company has provided a musical play for nearly 7000 students twice per year. In partnership with the City allows these performances to be held in a professional theater with all the Broadway music, lights, sound, and settings. Each cast also provides acting, singing, dancing, and technical instruction to over 100 students and faculty who provide the live performances to students who might not otherwise have this unique experience that packages art, music, literature, technology, science, and history in new way.

Whittier City School District

7211 S. Whittier Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602
562/789-3075 www.whittiercity.k12.ca.us

Students First, Every Decision, Every Day



Dr. Ron Carruth
Superintendent

Whittier City School District's motto, "Students First, Every Decision, Every Day", signifies our commitment to providing all students with the greatest opportunities for future success. It also represents our vision of working together to make crucial decisions that will ensure high quality instructional programs. The foundation for our current work is the implementation of the Curriculum Improvement Teams (CITs). The CITs consists of teachers and administrators working together to examine and improve upon our current practices in Mathematics, Writing, Assessment and Collaboration, Response to Intervention and English Language Development. Based on a distributed leadership model, the CITs allow teachers to take an active role in developing the curriculum that will best support our students.

Whittier City School District's commitment to high quality instruction includes opportunities for teachers to participate in ongoing professional development. The "Equal M" Math Grant allows us to provide professional development and coaching to teachers throughout the district. Two of our elementary schools participate in a multi-year FOSS Science Program at the Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley, the California K—12 Alliance, and Delta Education. Another two schools have been selected by the Cotsen Foundation to receive additional support and professional development through full time mentor teachers and fellowships. Finally, we have an outstanding science program, SEARCH (Science Education Actively Realized in Children's Hands), whose coordinator was recently recognized recently honored as Teacher of the Year by the Youth Science Center of the San Gabriel Valley.

All of our schools have an outstanding after school program "Reach for the Stars." Whittier City is proud of our outstanding teachers and staff.

Whittier Union High School District

9401 S. Painter Avenue, Whittier, CA 90605
562/698-8121 www.wuhdsd.k12.ca.us

Whatever it Takes



Sandra Thorstenson
Superintendent

Two new books written by highly-respected educational leaders highlight Whittier Union as a national model of exceptional instruction and support services that have resulted in student success year after year across all demographics.

Leading Change in Your School, by Dr. Doug Reeves and *Raising the Bar*, by Dr. Rick DuFour, praise the District for its focused efforts to help students reach higher levels of academic achievement through its "Whatever It Takes" initiative. Through this initiative, high-functioning professional learning communities implement common assessments for the purpose of improving instructional practice and a Pyramid of Interventions provides targeted student support.

Our District serves approximately 13,800 students at five comprehensive high schools, a continuation school, an independent study program and an adult school with over 10,000 students.

Whittier Union High School District is one of few high school districts in California to have attained and sustained substantial academic progress over several years. The District's scores on the California State Academic Performance Index (API) have increased steadily by more than 100 points in the last few years. We have also narrowed the achievement gap between the highest and lowest performing students from 25% to only 10%.

In addition, the number of District students on-target to graduate continues to grow. Nearly 100 % of our seniors pass the CAHSEE, more than 40% of our students are completing all courses required for entrance into four-year universities and 83% of seniors are going on to higher education or trade schools.

William S. Hart Union High School District

21515 Centre Pointe Parkway, Santa Clarita, CA 91350
661/259-0033 www.hartdistrict.org

Fitness Program Earns Recognition



Jaime L. Castellanos
Superintendent

"No Child Left on His/Her Behind." That tongue-in-cheek adaptation of a familiar slogan marks the implementation of an award-winning physical education program at our Sierra Vista Junior High School. The key is switching from the concept of teaching sports skills to focusing on a wellness program which keeps students attuned to life-long fitness.

Using fund-raising and community awareness campaigns, the school has developed a fitness center with game-oriented exercise programs, exercise machines and a climbing wall that students love to use. The program has earned recognition on a state and national level and won a Golden Bell from the California School Boards Association.

Students' fitness scores have gone from the lowest in the district to among the highest in the state, and academic achievement has improved right along with increased fitness.

The Hart School District is a high-achieving 7-12 district in northern Los Angeles County with just under 23,000 students. The district currently has 12 comprehensive junior and senior high schools, a model continuation school, a middle college high school currently ranked among the top 10 percent in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, an independent study school, an adult school and charters serving students with special needs.

The District's Academic Performance Index hit a record 818 points in 2009, and 11 of the district's 17 schools also exceeded the state goal of 800 API. Like all California school districts, we face financial challenges in the years ahead, but our focus remains solidly on student achievement.

Wiseburn School District

13530 Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250
310/643-3025 www.wiseburn.k12.ca.us

Diversity With Balance



Dr. Tom Johnstone
Superintendent

With approximately 2,400 students and four schools, the Wiseburn School District is one of the few remaining small school districts in Los Angeles County. Currently, the ethnic composition of the student body is: Caucasian 20%, Latino 53%, African-American 18%, and Asian 9%, reflective of current California demographics. Diversity, with balance, is one of Wiseburn's greatest strengths in preparing graduates for life in Southern California's future. Being both small and suburban, Wiseburn offers a unique combination of a "family atmosphere" in an opportunity-rich setting.

There is a well deserved reputation for educational excellence in the Wiseburn School District. Parents and the community perceive the District as successfully offering a personalized learning process focused on mastery of the basic skills in a safe, and orderly learning environment. Staff members are highly committed and students achieve. The staff is dedicated to maintaining high academic standards for students and continuing the tradition of pride in the District. All schools continue to meet API/AYP targets.

To complement the strong academic tradition, Wiseburn is an Arts for All District! Since 2006, this Los Angeles County-wide initiative has been dedicated to providing high quality arts education for every public school student. We believe that the arts are a vital and indispensable part of the comprehensive education of every student.

In August 2009, Wiseburn opened two K-12 Charter Schools, Da Vinci Science and Da Vinci Design, to offer Wiseburn families a high school option for the first time in our 114-year history. The Da Vinci Schools excel academically using project-based learning and strong support from the local aerospace corporations.



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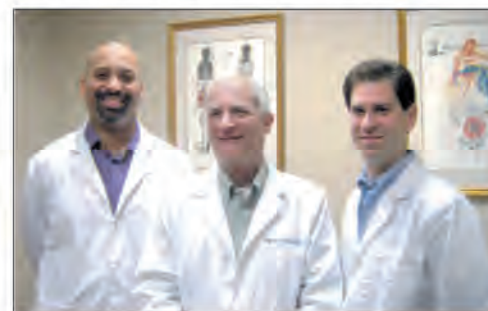
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