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6th Annual Edition

Covering the
**Los Angeles County
Public Schools K-12
Superintendents**

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Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher



This is our 6th Edition highlighting each of the district superintendents in the Los Angeles County K-12 public schools. Our mission 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!

To enjoy our publications covering individual districts, please visit our web site www.schoolnewsrollcall.com.

Los Angeles County Office of Education

9300 Imperial Hwy., Downey, CA 90242 • 562/922-6360 • www.lacoe.edu



Dr. Arturo Delgado
Superintendent

I am pleased to welcome you to *School News Roll Call's* Los Angeles County Superintendents Issue for 2013-14.

In this special annual edition, you will find valuable information about your own community school districts, as well as their achievements and efforts to provide the best education for our students. In addition, as you browse these pages, you will also learn about your many neighboring districts and sample some of the rich diversity that is Los Angeles County public education.

There are 80 K-12 school districts spread across 4,000 square miles of our county. The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) serves all those districts and their 1.6 million 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 also educate the country's most vulnerable students, annually providing direct classroom instruction for more than 15,000 young people, including children with severe disabilities, juvenile offenders and others at high risk of dropping out or with unique needs.

In addition, 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 23,000 preschool children and their families.

LACOE also 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 our distinguished district superintendents to tell their own stories.

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ABC Unified School District

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

Schools for 21st Century Learners



Dr. Mary Sieu
Superintendent

ABC Unified School District is comprised of ten preschools, 30 schools and serves over 21,000 (K-12) ethnically diverse students in the cities of Artesia, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, and portions of Lakewood, Long Beach and Norwalk. Our Adult School serves an additional 14,000 adult learners in the region. As Superintendent of this award winning District, I am honored to be a part of its rich history of academic achievement and innovative partnerships. The District continues its commitment to raise student achievement with a dedicated staff, engaged parents and hard working students. Our strong collaborative partnerships with our employee organizations, local businesses, PTAs, colleges, and civic groups help to advance our mission.

The mission of ABC Unified School District is to develop a community of life long learners, creative thinkers, and responsible individuals by providing innovative and high quality educational programs in a safe and supportive environment.

The District offers an array of educational options for students and families to participate in. This includes thirteen thematic magnet schools, a dual language immersion program, the STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) Program, an IB World School, bi-literacy programs, international exchange programs with Pacific Rim countries and visual and performing arts classes at every level. Technology is transforming our classrooms where 1:1 mobile devices are being implemented in several of the schools.

We are proud of our numerous National Blue Ribbon School Awards, California Distinguished Schools, eleven Golden Bell Awards from CSBA, Seal of Excellence Award from CAFE, and California Business for Educational Excellence Honor Roll.

The District maintains a sharp focus on teaching and learning to ensure that “every student, in every classroom, every day” is provided a world class education.

Alhambra Unified School District

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

Commitment to Excellence



Dr. Laura Tellez-Gagliano
Superintendent

Through the collaborative efforts of supportive School Board members; experienced and dedicated administration, faculty, and staff; and concerned and involved parents the Alhambra Unified School District is committed to preparing students to meet the demands of a changing world and of challenging them to attain their full potential. Through improvement of student performance, mastery of identified competencies, and by ensuring that a safe environment for both students and staff exists, the district reflects this commitment to excellence.

We achieve success by meeting every student's needs and encompass components that strengthen our programs.

Technology plays a vital role in realizing this mission. In Alhambra, technology is incorporated throughout the curriculum. We are supported by district advocates and community members.

By strategically focusing on the individual's challenge areas that need to be enhanced, our teachers work cohesively to build strong curriculums and lesson plans to support our students. We embrace all of our students' needs and aspirations. Along with a strong academic emphasis, Alhambra provides several extracurricular opportunities that help shape and enlighten our students.

One of our strengths is that our community is culturally diverse. This opportunity affords our students real life experiences that help prepare them to be successful in a global society. Our students leave our schools ready to succeed in college and in their careers. Alhambra Unified School District sets the foundation for all of our students to attain their full potential and to lead successful, happy lives!

Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District

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

Catalyst for Positive Change



Dr. Brent Woodard
Superintendent

Beginning with the end in mind, my priority as Superintendent of Acton-Agua Dulce School District is to serve as a catalyst for positive change. Our district is on the brink of a new era, with a renewed spirit that nothing is impossible! This fresh vision is founded on our community's century old traditions, strengthened by a fervent belief that each child is entitled to a quality education that seeks the truth in knowledge and promotes a better human understanding.

Our developing district, which serves a vast rural area of over 200 square miles, offers an innovative Virtual Learning Academy, two celebrated Elementary Schools, a nationally recognized Middle School and a prominent comprehensive High School. To enhance school culture, our successful district wide Project Friendship program addresses specific strategies to empower students on the playground and in the classroom. Our Congressional Medal of Honor Core Values Education program encourages students to meet their highest level of achievement, while demonstrating a caring and respectful attitude.

At AADUSD we believe that parent communication and involvement is essential to providing a working dialogue to meet the needs of all students. Unlike traditional parent involvement activities that emphasize passive support roles for families (e.g., volunteer, fundraiser), partnerships involve families and educators working together as active, equal partners who share responsibility for the learning and success of all students. The more continuity between home and school, the greater success children are likely to experience.

Building a foundation of trust and communication between stakeholders is what we strive for at Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District. We know with certainty that with a common vision of student success, the many paths of learning created will result in one standard of excellence.

Antelope Valley Union High School District

44811 Sierra Highway, Lancaster, CA 93534 • 562/926-5566 • 661/948-7655 • www.avdistrict.org

Innovative and Creative Spirit



Dr. David J. Vierra
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 improvement 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 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.

- All of our schools achieve success in high stakes academic measures and in visual and performing arts, athletics and other special academic programs which allow students to utilize what they've learned and demonstrate readiness for the 21st century.

- 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. Robust counseling serves K-12 and seamlessly transitions students from elementary to middle and to high school. A highly articulated K-12 Response to Intervention and Instruction program catches students before they fail and provides targeted interventions so that they can succeed in the core academic program. Additionally, a wide variety of highly engaging offerings such as robotics engineering, video production, bio physics, culinary arts, civil law, and sports medicine, connect students to real world interests.

As our construction and modernization programs reach completion, including state-of-the-art science, lecture, and student services buildings at our high school, along with other significant structures and technological upgrades at all schools, we are providing 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

Well-Rounded Instructional Program



Dr. Linda Kaminski
Superintendent

Azusa Unified strives to provide a rigorous, engaging and well-rounded instructional program. We offer an array of Advanced Placement and Honors classes, and AVID in grades 6–12. Our graduates attend colleges and universities across the nation and State.

Over the last couple of years we have made significant gains in student achievement across the board on statewide tests. Teachers regularly engage in professional development opportunities and they are committed to making a difference in the lives of the students of Azusa Unified. Newer teachers are supported with additional training and coaching.

We have had five Gates Millennium scholars, received Golden Bell Awards for a partnership with Northrop-Grumman, the Link Crew program and for the Mural Program at our continuation school. Both high schools provide JROTC and tout award-winning music programs and Academic Decathlon teams. The district also continues to support drama programs and fine arts classes.

The District provides after school programs for all grades including high school. These provide students with tutoring opportunities and enrichment classes. We enjoy partnerships with local colleges and universities, which greatly expand the opportunities we provide our students. We offer a Majors Fair for students at the middle school level to ensure students are preparing for college.

Technology skills are incorporated into the District's curriculum and every school has a computer lab and every classroom has access to the Internet.

With every effort we are engaged in, the focus is on building the academic and personal excellence of every student.

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Baldwin Park Unified School District

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

A Community of Learners



Mark M. Skvarna
Superintendent

Baldwin Park Unified School District is a community of learners ranging from early childhood through adulthood. We provide learning opportunities and activities in a safe and supportive environment for every person to attain the relevant academic and career skills, knowledge, and personal attributes required to succeed. In these uncertain times that we live in, it is wonderful to know that we have an extraordinary educational community who contributed to the achievement of the following:

- Recognition during NBC's Education Nation for the District Dual Language Program. Ernest R. Geddes Elementary was one of ten schools showcased nationwide, the only west coast school to be featured.
- Beginning the transition to the Common Core State Standards by embarking on a professional development plan that included a 21st Century Summer Institute that ensures the attainment of skills required for our global society.
- Recognition by the California School Boards Association for our Early Childhood Education Program. BPUSD understands that an early foundation of skills and knowledge pays dividends in students' educational career.
- Providing clean, safe, and conducive learning environments with 100% pass rates for facilities and instructional materials at all school sites currently under the William's Legislation.
- The unveiling of the new Sierra Vista High School Classroom and Science Building, a state-of-the-art facility housing 36 classrooms fully equipped with the latest technology.

I am thankful for the energy, commitment and generosity of our community, and look to the future with great enthusiasm knowing that our combined efforts will help reach new levels of achievement and success.

Bellflower Unified School District

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

Success Breeds Success



Dr. Brian Jacobs
Superintendent

As Superintendent for the Bellflower Unified School District, I am blessed and excited about this new school year. I am excited not just because of the academic excellence we displayed last year, but knowing that we have communities and parents that support the Standard of Excellence; Nothing Less that we model daily. As this school year continues, the team here in BUSD is looking forward to surpassing the achievements of the past year, and meeting the innovative challenges that lie ahead.

I believe that extraordinary success for each student and staff member is possible in the Bellflower Unified School District. What does it take to make extraordinary success a reality? It will occur when we have positive relationships and personal connections; expect the best from each other and make positive differences for those we serve daily; focus on our strengths, provide support, and make our shortcomings insignificant. Each of these in practice will make us the district that models the Standard of Excellence!

My promise and commitment to the communities I serve, is to continually strive to provide a quality school district that everyone can be proud of. It will always be my goal to give our students a safe and positive experience while they attend the schools within our district. We are blessed with great kids, supportive parents and community, along with a caring staff. Those ingredients are all part of the recipe for success! Thank you to everyone that makes BUSD "A Great Place for Children."

Bassett Unified School District

904 North Willow Avenue, La Puente, CA 91706 • 626/931-3000 • www.bassett.k12.ca.us

A District On the Move!



Martin Galindo
Superintendent

Project 100 has taken center stage through the leadership of our Board of Education and our Office of Instruction. The Bassett Unified School District is committed to 100% reclassification and 100% graduation rate for Bassett USD students.

Don Julian, Edgewood Academy, Van Wig and Don Julian Elementary Schools met Safe Harbor goals based on NCLB guidelines for the 11-12 school year. As a result of meeting Safe Harbor for the past two years, Don Julian is no longer a Program Improvement School. We are very proud of the model set by the Don Julian school community

API scores continue to substantially increase in our district. Edgewood Academy grew 48 points for an API score of 828. Don Julian ES grew by 40 points to 820. Van Wig grew 31 points to 773. Torch MS grew 37 points to 793.

Torch Middle School has received the prestigious recognition of being named one of 32 schools as a Schools To Watch-Taking Center Stage School.

English Language Learner support is flourishing in our district. From core ELD instruction on a daily basis to afterschool and Saturday School, our students are receiving the extra support to help them reclassify.

Parent Engagement is critical to our student's success. Through our Saturday Parent Institutes, our parents are becoming engaged advocates for their children.

We have a Board of Education with extremely high expectations for staff, parents and students who as a team will create the conditions for student success as we become an exemplary school district. The Bassett Unified School District can help you achieve the dreams and hopes you have for your child. Bassett is on the move!

Beverly Hills Unified School District

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

The Cornerstone of the Community



Dr. Gary Woods
Superintendent

The Beverly Hills Unified School District is the cornerstone of the Beverly Hills community. With a 2012 district API of 892, the BHUSD remains committed to effective teaching and learning aimed at the achievement of high standards by all students.

In collaboration with students, parents, and community stakeholders, we pride ourselves on providing students with an exceptional educational experience. Countless individuals have contributed to a long tradition of excellence and have given freely of their resources, time, and expertise to promote a climate of excellence and to further our mission to inspire and empower each student to achieve academic excellence, embrace social and individual responsibility, and lead with integrity. To these ends, the BHUSD provides dynamic and enriching educational opportunities, collaborative community partnerships, and challenging and supportive learning environments.

This effort is achieved by building a foundation of trust at every level. By establishing trust, we create positive relationships, establish clarity of purpose, and breed an environment that empowers students and adults to reach their true potential.

Our students must be prepared to meet challenges on a global level. Through disciplined leadership, teamwork, collaboration, focus, and planning, the BHUSD is committed to maintaining and improving a culture that values effective teaching and learning and an instructional program that supports it.



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Presenters:



Richard L. Swanson, Ph.D.
Former School Administrator, Principal and Former Superintendent of Tehachapi Unified School District—
Dr. Richard Swanson is the administrator who, with the guidance of the Office of Civil Rights and the US Department of Justice, processed the Seth Walsh claim at Tehachapi Unified.



Deborah S. Reisdorph, Esq.
Founder and Executive Director of BARE Bully Awareness Resistance Education Inc., Discrimination and Harassment Attorney, Licensed in California and New York, and before US Supreme Court.

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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 865 on the California State Academic Performance Index, with three schools over 900. Nine out of twelve eligible schools in Bonita Unified School District have been named California Distinguished Schools, representing 75% of our schools. One of our elementary schools is a National Blue Ribbon School.

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.

Castaic Union School District

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

Commitment to Excellence



James M. Gibson
Superintendent

The Castaic Union School District has a very simple vision: “A Commitment to Excellence!” We believe the District should provide children a rigorous education supported by a safe and nurturing environment that maximizes student learning and achievement. To support this vision and mission, 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, and 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.

These traits have been evident since the opening of the District as a one-room school of approximately 20 students over 120 years ago in northern Los Angeles County in 1889. Since those humble beginnings the District has grown and developed in concert with the entire Santa Clarita Valley, reaching just under 350 students in the early seventies, 400 students in the early eighties, 1000 students in the nineties and over 2900 students in four schools today. The District (API 844) supports three grades K-5 elementary schools; Castaic Elementary (API 854), Live Oak Elementary (API 827), and Northlake Hills Elementary (API 869) schools, as well as Castaic Middle School (API 838). 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.”

Burbank Unified School District

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

Exceeding Our Goals



Dr. Jan Britz
Superintendent

The Burbank Unified School District’s goals are focused on school safety, student achievement, accountability, fiscal solvency, and parent involvement. These goals embrace the challenging work that teachers, administrators, and staff members have put forth toward supporting our students academically. This year, again, with less resources, 13 of the 15 traditional schools increased their API scores. The District now has an API score of 846 and all of the schools in the District have attained an API score over 800.

There are several reasons why the District’s student achievement scores are rising:

- The teachers and staff are highly qualified
- Burbank High School and John Burroughs High School have a 97% graduation rate – significantly higher than the national average
- Physical education specialists teach PE to all elementary level children
- Excellent music programs are taught in elementary schools by credentialed teachers
- RtI programs have been implemented at every grade level in every elementary school
- All schools have designated teacher collaboration time – either late starts or early dismissals

The District’s CAHSEE results—94% in ELA and 93% in Math—far exceed the state’s passing rate of 83% in ELA and 83.6% in Math. BUSD continues to attain student proficiency rates that far exceed the state in all mandated assessments.

This year, we continue to expand educational options for our students. Two Transitional Kindergarten classes began this year. This program was developed to meet the criteria outlined in AB 1381 to begin a two-year kindergarten program. At the high school level, state-accredited online courses were offered for both initial credit and credit recovery.

Centinela Valley Union High School District

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

CVUHSD Plans IB Program



Jose A. Fernandez
Superintendent

The Centinela Valley Union High School District continues to make historic gains in student achievement. CVUHSD’s commitment to college and career readiness is evident in its award-winning California Partnership Academy programs and its latest innovation, an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. The strength of the district and the community it serves has been recently reinforced with the passage of a parcel tax in November 2012, providing further support for the district’s unprecedented growth.

Under the leadership of Superintendent Jose A. Fernandez, CVUHSD was recently awarded a competitive State grant to further develop career and college readiness academies in partnership with the Linked Learning Alliance. The grant supports district efforts to bring instructional relevance to our students’ post-secondary aspirations.

All three comprehensive high schools are in the midst of a renaissance with the advent of new campus construction which has breathed new life into the newly modernized campuses. Students at Leuzinger have profited greatly from its exceptional new Center for the Arts and Sciences. A Culinary Arts Academy building at Leuzinger and a Science and Engineering Academy building at Hawthorne are under construction. At Lawndale, a multi-classroom and multimedia facility and Student Center is being erected next to one of the finest arts centers in the County, the Centinela Valley Center for the Arts. It has become the hub of the community, housing numerous school and community functions. Partnerships with distinguished performance companies provide the opportunity to bring first class entertainment to the local and surrounding community. The success of the facility enriches all of our lives.

The CVUHSD looks forward to an exciting future for its students and our community.

Charter Oak Unified School District

20240 E. Cienega Avenue, Cerritos, CA 91724 • 626/966-8331 • www.cousd.net

A Commitment to Excellence



Dr. Mike Hendricks
Superintendent

The Charter Oak Unified School District, in collaboration with our families and community, provides a balanced, quality educational experience that meets the physical, intellectual and emotional needs of all students. Our focus is providing students with the skills needed to adapt to a changing world, equipping them for college, career choices, and life choices. We offer a rigorous and comprehensive education that meets the individual academic needs of our students and prepares them to be socially responsible adults who make positive contributions to the global community. We embrace individual differences and create safe learning environments in which educational integrity and character are our cornerstones.

Charter Oak demonstrates a commitment to excellence with outstanding programs, services and increased achievement on a number of indicators. Charter Oak High School continues to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma and AVID programs. The District has six California Distinguished Schools and 2 Title I High Achieving Schools.

Charter Oak has also become a destination for co-curricular opportunities for students in award winning sports, music, band, and visual and performing arts programs. It is home of CIF Champions, a BRAVO Award winning dramatic arts teacher and a Golden Bell Award winning English program. Students engage in community service and outreach projects at all levels. They work with Rotary International; the Operation Santa Clothes program; the “Blankets of Love” campaign for the City of Hope and other area hospitals; and the “Remembrance Walk” to raise money for student scholarships while remembering cancer victims.

Charter Oak is home to the unique Oak Knoll Virtual Academy (OKVA) that serves K-12 students residing in Los Angeles, Ventura, Kern, Orange, or San Bernardino Counties with a comprehensive academic program. Students take all their required courses online facilitated by a high quality teaching staff. OKVA enables truly individualized learning and flexibility in pace, schedule, and learning styles.

Claremont Unified School District

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

Quality Education—Second to None



Dr. James Elsasser
Superintendent

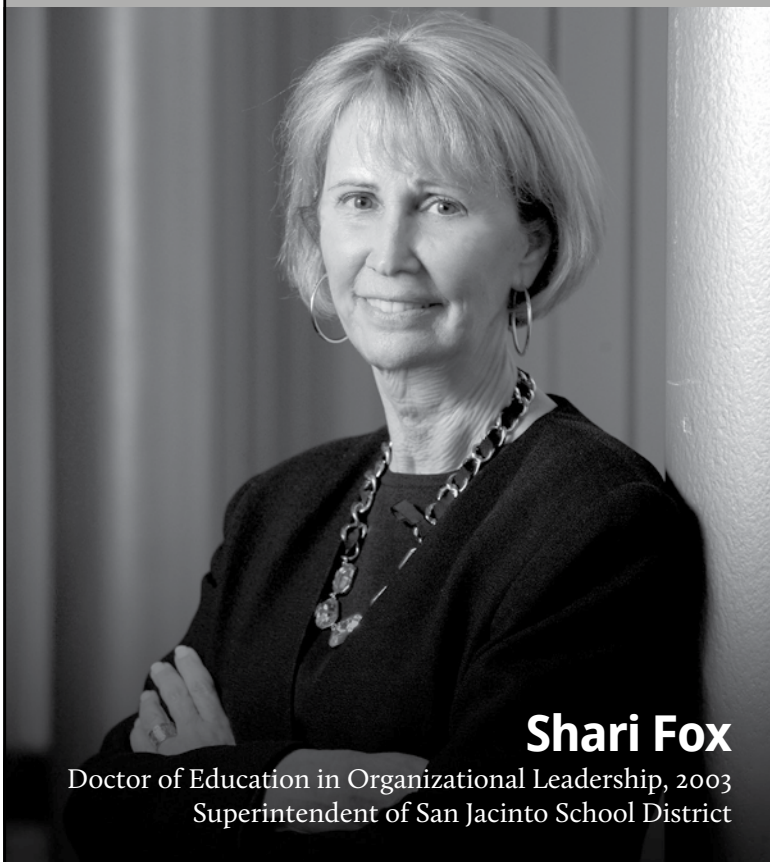
Claremont Unified School District has experienced tremendous successes in the areas of academics, arts and athletics over the past several years.

For the first time since the inception of the state’s Academic Performance Index, all of our schools’ API scores are now over 800, with Chaparral and Condit Elementary Schools scoring 930. Mountain View School celebrated their 50th birthday this year, and is the only school to be named a National Blue Ribbon School, a California Distinguished School, and a Title I Academic Achievement Award school. Oakmont Elementary School experienced an 86 point API growth, the highest gain in the

District. In December, a third grade student from Sumner / Danbury Schools organized a Toys for Tots donation drive that resulted in over 200 families receiving toys for the holidays. Sycamore’s multi-age learning environment shines for Across Generations Day when friends and family members from other generations join students for a day of curricular study. Vista del Valle School celebrated academic achievement with a 38 point API growth pushing them to a score of 877. Our secondary schools have experienced similar success. El Roble Intermediate School was recently nominated as a 2013 California Distinguished School. Last spring, San Antonio High School was named a Model Continuation High School. Claremont High School is the home of award winning music and theatre arts programs. Our sports programs boast several CIF titles.

The success of our schools can be directly attributed to CUSD’s Board, staff, students, parents, and community working together to ensure that students in Claremont receive a top quality education, second to none!

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Compton Unified School District

1501 S. Santa Fe Avenue, Compton, CA 90221 • 310/639-4321 • www.compton.k12.ca.us

Getting on the Fast Track to Success



Darin Brawley
Superintendent

For Compton Unified School District (CUSD) Superintendent Darin Brawley, there is no time to waste as he collaboratively works with all District stakeholders to bring major changes as CUSD schools continue closing the achievement gap.

Superintendent Brawley's arrival comes at a time of great transition for the District, which has consistently raised its academic performance and has pushed for more effective professional development designed to prepare teachers for next year's common core standards. Under his leadership CUSD is forging new partnerships and improving its relationship with community members.

During the 2011-12 school year the District's Academic Performance Index (API) score increased by another 11 points and 13 schools scored higher than 800. Last year's newly minted 2012 California Distinguished School, Laurel Elementary maintained an API of more than 900 points.

Although the State's fiscal crisis continues to impact school districts, CUSD has remained proactive in implementing cost-savings measures while acquiring and maintaining long-standing sponsorships to help improve the quality of its educational programs for all students.

And as the District continues its efforts to close the achievement gap, several more Compton teachers are working towards becoming National Board Certified instructors through the professional development program.

Superintendent Brawley believes Compton Unified is ready for further reinvention that will not only improve the education of all students, but also mold them into intelligent, independent, and skilled leaders.

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.

Covina-Valley Unified School District

519 East Badillo Street, Covina, CA 91723 • 626/974-000 • www.cvusd.k12.ca.us

Creating Extraordinary Futures!



Dr. Catherine Nichols
Superintendent

Covina-Valley Unified School District is committed to preparing students to meet the future with confidence. Our goal is to tap into the talents of each student and create an environment where students flourish, individually and collectively. C-VUSD is ranked 6th in the State for closing the achievement gap and overall performance!

Community support is a hallmark of Covina-Valley Unified. Students will benefit from the \$129,000,000 bond that was passed with 73.1% of the vote! Our plans include:

- New performing arts theaters
- Technology permeating all schools, reaching all students
- New athletic facilities including pools and a football stadium
- High tech science labs and updated classrooms

This bond will be used to support the rigorous learning opportunities our students experience to achieve at the highest levels.

Covina-Valley boasts four high school academies:

- The Technology Academy offers Project Lead the Way for Engineering
- Fine Arts, Media, and Entertainment Academy (FAME)
- The Finance and Business Academy enhanced with Chinese language classes
- International Baccalaureate Program (IB)
- The vocational trade center is in development for pathways in carpentry, welding, and HVAC systems

Graduates attend colleges and universities across the country, the United States Military Academies, and Ivy League schools.

Success builds upon success and the positive results of hard work by teachers, administrators, and support staff is apparent throughout our schools. We are proud of our California Distinguished Schools, Title I Achieving School, Model Continuation High School, Golden Bell Award Winning Schools, National Hispanic Scholars, and National Merit Scholars! Visit us for a tour!

Culver City Unified School District

4034 Irving Place, Culver City, CA 90232 • 310/842-4220 • www.lccusd.org

Successful Child is A Whole Child



Dave LaRose
Superintendent

The Culver City Unified School District is, like all districts, committed to the success of all children. What sets us apart is our deep belief that a successful child is a "whole child." In addition to our passionate pursuit of high levels of learning for all students, we are thoughtful and intentional about all factors that impact a child's ability performance. Consequently, we define a successful child with the terms that also reflect what a child needs in order to succeed – Safe. Cared For. Connected. Healthy. Challenged. Hopeful. This definition guides our work and our commitment to providing a learning environment that is as caring as it is rigorous.

Our vision for all children succeeding is built on our belief that all children are capable of success – NO EXCEPTIONS. This belief is evident in our high expectations of our students and of one another. From high quality, best instructional practices in all classrooms to systemic and strategic interventions for those students who need more from us and more of us, CCUSD is a place of learning where "All truly means ALL!"

Our students are afforded rich opportunities to learn and grow beyond the traditional classroom through before and after school programs, unparalleled Arts pathways K-12, social and emotional support systems, competitive and intramural athletics, student leadership programs, career and technical education, and many more. We are fortunate to serve children within a community that is deeply invested in the success of our schools, our staff and our students. Our community partnerships afford unique, creative, and innovative opportunities for our students – assisting them as they grow and develop in their joyful pursuit of learning. We believe that "Success for All Takes Us All" and our impressive student outcomes – in the classroom, on the field and on the stage – are proof that CCUSD is a great place for children to learn and grow.

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Downey Unified School District

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Reputation for High Performance



Dr. Wendy L. Doty
Superintendent

Our district of 22,700 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.

East Whittier City School District

14535 E. Whittier Blvd., CA 90605 • 562/907-5900 • www.ewcsd.org

Quality Education and Safe Environment



Mary Branca
Co-Superintendent



Dr. Dorka Durón
Co-Superintendent

A safe environment and a quality education are the cornerstones of the East Whittier City School District. Our board of education is committed to maintaining secure and attractive schools in these economically challenging times.

One of the District's greatest resources is a highly trained staff that is totally dedicated to the success of all students. Our teachers and support personnel truly care about student learning and recognize the important role they play in the lives of the children they serve.

As a result, the District consistently delivers a high quality education to its diverse population. All East Whittier Schools have an API above 800 and seven of our schools are recognized as a California Distinguished School and/or a Title I Distinguished School; and one school was nominated this year for the Distinguished School honor. We cannot overstate the fact that all of our schools strive to develop college-ready students. In this effort, the District partners with various community organizations to provide highly effective programs designed to meet the needs of the total child. As the landscape of education undergoes numerous transformations due to technology, new curriculum standards, safety issues and funding fluctuations, our District continues to rise successfully to meet these challenges.

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Duarte Unified School District

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

What is Our Story?



Dr. Terry Nichols
Superintendent

Duarte Unified School District is a LEAP district where student learning is engaging and adapted to the individual passions of our students.

People

The people of Duarte demonstrate their support by providing resources of time, service and monies. Community members spend countless hours volunteering in schools and throughout the city, and provided their financial support in passage of a \$62 million dollar bond.

Purpose

DUSD's purpose is to provide students with the knowledge, skills and inspiration necessary for success in career and life. The *4 Cornerstones*: Student Success, 21st Century Facilities, High-Quality Staff, and Parent/Community Involvement are the foundation that provides the supportive environment necessary to create *Shoulder Tapped Graduates*. Success is measured by our graduates' proven ability to work, lead, and make positive contributions to the world. Recognized as "Shoulder Tapped Graduates," DUSD students are actively recruited by institutions of higher learning and outside organizations.

Passion

Duarte is special because the people possess the passion for the work and for the students we serve. There is excitement and an energy that provides a light in their eyes you will not experience in any other school district. Duarte is about people connected to a purpose and willing to follow their passion to ensure that all students are successful in life and vocation. There is not a better place to educate a child than in Duarte Unified Schools. Success is not by chance but is the direct result of the dedication of the Board of Education, community, parents and staff.

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Eastside Union School District

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Using a Systemic Approach



Dr. Mark Marshall
Superintendent

I am honored to lead and be a part of this Community of Learners. Our main objective has always been “Working to improve school performance.” As we are well aware that American schools are under increasing pressure to produce better results, there are great things happening in our district! I am excited that we are moving to a systemic approach to address our challenges. One reform that I am excited about is the implementation of Instructional Rounds. Inspired by the medical rounds used in teaching hospitals, the Instructional Rounds model developed by Elizabeth City, Richard Elmore, Sarah Fiarman, and Lee Teitel, as outlined in the book *Instructional Rounds in Education: A Network Approach to Improving Teaching and Learning* (2011), provides a powerful form of professional learning where educators develop a shared practice of observing, discussing, and teaching. The Instructional Rounds process is an explicit practice designed to bring discussions of instruction directly into the school improvement effort. The practice works because it creates a common discipline and focus among practitioners, as well as an accountability component for the planned changes. Instructional Rounds introduces educational leaders to the key principles and practices of an effective classroom-oriented approach to observing, analyzing, and improving teaching and learning and cultivates a culture of inquiry and can lead to meaningful improvement in learning for both teachers and students.

As part of our professional development and district-wide reform efforts, the District-Site Leadership Team (DSLTT) are practicing the art of observation and documentation, as this is a critical component of the Instructional Rounds process. Using a Systemic Approach, all schools are participating as host sites for the Instructional Rounds visits and all district and site administrators participate in the Instructional Rounds at each school. To date, this has been an effective practice.

El Monte Union High School District

3537 Johnson Avenue, El Monte, CA 91731 • 626/444-9005 • emuhds.org

Building Upon Success



Nick J. Salerno
Superintendent

In the face of continued fiscal constraints, El Monte Union High School District students continue to shine. Since 2005-2006, EMUHSD schools have significantly improved the Academic Performance Index (API). Out of seventy-two local area high schools, our schools placed first, second, fourth, sixth and seventh in API growth. College entrance requirements (a-g) are being met by a higher percentage of students annually.

Our Rio Hondo Partnership for College students (year one cohort) are outperforming their general, college population peers in retention rates, success rates, persistence rates, and enrollment. This is proof positive that our El Monte Union Pledge

Compact is promoting outstanding results.

EMUHSD schools have experienced great visitations from Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) review teams and are earning six-year terms of accreditation. The District received a phenomenal review from a recent Federal Program Monitoring team. Fernando R. Ledesma High School has recently been recognized as a state “Model Continuation High School.” Arroyo, El Monte, Rosemead, and South El Monte High Schools have earned Silver Medal recognition from U.S. News and World Report.

The EMUHSD and all of its schools is dedicated to the success of every student, every minute, every day. Our staff continues to exhibit that dedication consistently. Our goal is to proceed with the continuous cycle of improvement.

The EMUHSD is extremely appreciative of the support we receive from students, families, and community members in our efforts to achieve academic excellence, healthy lifestyles, and beautiful facilities for each and every student.

El Monte City School District

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

Significant Academic Gains



Dr. Maribel Garcia
Superintendent

The El Monte City School District continues to make significant academic gains and receive recognition for our excellent efforts and results. Together with teachers, classified, parents, management, community partners and board members we continue to plan and provide for a quality education despite the shortfall in state funding.

Over the last couple of years we have made momentous gains in student achievement – 9 our schools have an API of 800 or more, two of our schools have exited Program Improvement and our reclassification data for English Language Learners has increased significantly. Looking ahead, our professional development has been focused around the Common Core Standards – we are on our way to a smooth transition.

We continue to work closely with our community partners, adjacent districts as well as our local colleges to build a college going culture at all of our schools. All six of K-8 schools have an AVID program and we are systematically implementing a college knowledge curriculum - Keys to College – in all of our schools.

In order to assure that we close the achievement gap and meet the needs of ALL our students, we continue to focus on two achievement goals:

- Each student will increase a band on the CST every year and;
- Each EL student will increase a level on the CELDT every year.

As a district we continue to promote healthy lifestyles through quality programs in nutrition, health and wellness for our students, their families and our employees. Last year Rio Hondo Elementary School received the prestigious Gold National Recognition Award, only the 3rd school in the Nation to do so.

El Rancho Unified School District

9333 Loch Lomond Drive, Pico Rivera, CA 90660 • 562/942-1500 • www.erusd.12.ca.us

Quality Education—A Better Tomorrow



Norbert Genis
Interim Superintendent

The El Rancho Unified School District educates approximately 10,000 students in eight elementary schools, three middle schools, El Rancho High School, Salazar Continuation School and an Education Center. The El Rancho Unified School District is a district with a strong commitment to excellence. It is our belief that all students attending our schools can and will learn, achieve and improve academically. Our motto, “Quality Education for a Better Tomorrow” exemplifies our belief that our students will achieve academic proficiency, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop the expertise to contribute as productive citizens in our society.

El Rancho Unified School District is proud that the primary factor contributing to our success is a shared vision of continuous improvement throughout the organization – from the Boardroom to the classroom and in every department and office. We strive to be a data-driven organization throughout the District – looking at past performance, measuring against internal and external benchmarks and analyzing results. Our policies and practices are aligned to a vision of excellence in all areas.

California’s budget crisis continues to threaten fiscal solvency for many school districts. In these difficult budget times, we must continue to all work together to provide our students with the educational programs they both need and deserve. The El Rancho Unified School District never loses sight of its primary focus of “kids first” decision making and fiscal responsibility in light of the current difficult economic times.

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.

Garvey School District

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

Goals for Achievement Paying Off



Dr. Sandra Johnson
Superintendent

Garvey School 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. The District has eight elementary and two intermediate schools serving more than 5300 K-8 students, with pre-school on each elementary school campus.

Student achievement is the top priority in the Garvey School District. These efforts are supported by a Board of Education that has focused the district with specific goals for increased achievement and closing the achievement gap. This year, a priority goal is to ensure high quality instruction aligned to the content and cognitive level of the State Standards. With a District API of 832 and all schools well above the 800 mark (812-874), this work is showing strong results.

Garvey's students benefit from a dedicated and hard working staff that helps the students score significantly higher on the STAR tests. All teachers have received training and are implementing the Focused Adaptable Structured Teaching (FAST) Framework, a quality lesson design. The district also provides after school programs on each campus, full day kindergarten, transitional kindergarten, and class-size reduction in grades K-3. Each intermediate school provides take-home laptops for each student, honors classes, AVID, physical education, band and chorus.

The parents in Garvey participate in active PTA's at each school, many school events, and serve on numerous advisory committees. To provide additional services to families, Garvey works with many agencies in the community.

Glendale Unified School District

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

Focused on Student Achievement



Dr. Richard M. Sheehan
Superintendent

Glendale Unified School District is a leader in initiating reforms to increase student academic outcomes and remains the ideal choice for parents seeking an exceptional, accomplished school district that is accountable for student progress. Realtors and other major businesses continue to report that the reputation of the Glendale schools is often a motivating factor when moving to Glendale or the adjacent communities of La Crescenta and Montrose, located within the school district's boundaries.

This year, our District Academic Performance Index (API) increased another eight points to 858. With 80% of our 31 schools above 800 API, and ten schools scoring above 900 API, Glendale

Unified School District continues to be a leader in academic instruction and student academic outcomes. Twenty-four schools are California Distinguished schools, nine are National Blue Ribbon schools, and eleven are Title I Achieving schools. The Foreign Language Academy of Glendale (FLAG) offers programs, beginning in kindergarten, in Spanish, Korean, Armenian, German, Italian, Japanese and French. Extensive career and technical education (CTE) programs are offered at all of our high schools, including building construction, cosmetology, culinary arts, cinematography, public safety, robotics engineering, and biotechnology.

The district has many noteworthy qualities, among them experienced teachers, safe campuses, involved parents, college/career programs, innovative instructional programs, competitive test scores, and high student outcomes. Glendale public schools are committed to the highest quality instructional and support programs on campuses that are safe and secure. At Glendale, we prepare our students for their future.

Glendora Unified School District

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

Enthusiasm for Excellence!



Dr. Robert Voors
Superintendent

The Glendora Unified School District believes all students can and will achieve. Long recognized as one of the premier school districts in the state, we are in a select group districts that have realized an API score of over 800 at all of our comprehensive schools. Our nine schools include six California Distinguished Schools, one Title I High Achieving School and a Model Continuation High School. The *Washington Post* and *Newsweek* each rank Glendora High School in the top 1,000 high schools in the U.S.A. and a recent study by *WestEd* identified the Glendora Unified School District as one of 30 high performing districts in California for raising the achievement of all students.

Glendora is a District of Distinguished Schools where staff, students, parents, and community work together to provide a caring learning environment for all our students. Additional support is evident through our active PTA, the Foundation for Glendora Unified Schools, various community groups and extensive volunteerism.

In addition to world class academics, we offer exceptional, well-rounded educational experiences for 7,500 K-12 students that include CIF Championship athletic programs and award-winning band, orchestra, choirs and drama. Be sure to watch the Tartan Marching Band in this year's Rose Parade! Of all the quality programs Glendora offers, it is our people that make it one of the most exciting and rewarding school districts in Southern California! The District's success is the result of dedicated and talented teachers, support staff, administrators and school board. The Glendora experience is one of commitment to, enthusiasm for, and pride in excellence!

Gorman Joint School District

49847 Gorman School Rd., P.O. Box 104, Gorman, CA 93243 • 661/248-6441 <http://gorman.k12.ca.us>

Individualized Nurturing Environment



Joe Andrews
Superintendent

The Gorman Joint School District is located at the southern tip of the beautiful Tehachapi Mountains, 60 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles. Gorman Joint School District has one K-8 school with 98 students and five teachers. The small size of Gorman Elementary School makes it possible to have an individualized nurturing environment in each classroom where the average class size is 20 students. Gorman Joint School District is a District of Choice where any parent can choose to enroll their children during an enrollment period. As such many families from surrounding districts enroll their children at Gorman to take advantage of the small school environment.

Gorman Elementary School is committed to improved levels of academic performance. Educating every student must be and will be our number one priority. We consistently strive to provide our students with a high quality education that appropriately meets their academic needs, but acknowledge that a quality experience must go beyond just the classroom. 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. The Board recently adopted five district goals that will help to propel the 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 917416 • 626/933-1000 • www.hlpuschools.org

Partners in Your Child's Future



Dr. Barbara Nakaoka
Superintendent

"Partners in Your Child's Future" is Hacienda La Puente Unified School District's pledge to the communities we serve. Despite huge cuts in State funding, our District continues to deliver on its commitment. Our District's Academic Performance Index (API) now exceeds 800. Seventeen of our schools have APIs exceeding 800; another five exceed 900. Five schools have APIs over 775, and are well on their way to the State's 800 API target.

Our District is a rich mixture of generations of families that have attended and worked in our schools, families new to the area, and families new to our country. As a "community committed to developing lifelong learners," we are continually building our ability to prepare every student for success in a four-year college, even those who may not choose that step directly 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.

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Hawthorne School District

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A Community of Learners and Leaders



Dr. Helen E. Morgan
Superintendent

The Hawthorne School District is nestled in the heart of the South Bay. We proudly serve the families of over 9,000 students through our three preschool programs, seven elementary schools, and one high school. We ensure that our students remain the focus of all we do in our district. As superintendent, I am fortunate to work with a School Board, staff, and professional organizations that understand the significance of maintaining a collaborative relationship and keeping the critical work of teaching and learning in the forefront of all we do. Our students benefit from the hard work and focus of all staff in providing a strong learning environment that maximizes each student's potential to achieve educational excellence.

Through these efforts we have seen our high school become a National Blue Ribbon School, with multiple schools receiving recognition as California Distinguished Schools and Title I Achieving Schools. Each school has created a parent center to facilitate the parent/school partnership necessary for improved student achievement. Our three middle schools have become models for implementing academy programs in STEM, fine arts, business, and two way bilingual immersion. Through staff leadership, we are well underway with the meaningful work to ensure effective implementation of the Common Core Standards. Our teachers have become experts at collaboration and interpreting data to meet the needs of all students. All of these things have translated to improved student achievement and meaningful teaching and learning in all of our schools. They are also the vehicle by which we live our vision each day, "A diverse community of lifelong learners who excel and positively contribute to an advancing global society."

Hermosa Beach City School District

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

Vision of Excellence for All Students



Patricia Escalante
Superintendent

Baby boomers will remember the importance and status of having a full set of Encyclopedias accessible in your own home. Reference materials were found on a shelf. Information was a commodity. Boy, the world has changed. Would you ever have imagined access to information at any time, in any location, on any topic, through a tool called *Google*?

We have entered into a new frontier; an age of education where 21st century learning skills will require students to think: Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity. Known as the Common Core, these 21st century standards will ensure that all students are meeting college and work expectations, prepared to succeed in our global economy and society, and provide rigorous content and application of higher order thinking skills.

The students in the Hermosa Beach City School District have demonstrated at the highest levels their mastery of state academic standards. This level of excellence is a reflection of the “one voice, one focus” commitment of our community to the academic success of all students. Through the fundraising commitment of the parents and community, we have been able to continue to offer programs that promote the application of learning to the arts and real life during difficult and challenging fiscal times.

As our students move into 21st century learning, our collective leadership must continue to build strong educational partnerships with the city, businesses, charitable and service organizations in Hermosa Beach. In the heart of Hermosa, we are reminded that “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Excellent schools are a reflection of an excellent community. Join us in the support of our vision of excellence for all students.

Inglewood Unified School District

410 South Inglewood Avenue, Inglewood, CA 90301 • 310/419-2700 • http://iusd.net

Students Defy the Statistics



La Tanya Kirk-Carter
State Administrator

Located in Los Angeles County, California, the Inglewood Unified School District serves approximately 12,000 students from the cities of Inglewood and Ladera Heights. In total, there are thirteen elementary schools and six secondary schools. In addition, there is one preschool center and a community adult school. Inglewood’s elementary schools are often considered to have defied the statistics. Despite the low average socio economic level of students district-wide, IUSD elementary schools have earned national and international recognition for their outstanding academic performance. Bennett-Kew, Centinela, Kelso, Hudnall and Beulah Payne elementary schools have all earned the title of “California Distinguished School.” Highland

Elementary has earned the recognition of “Blue Ribbon School” and is also a “California Distinguished School”.

The Inglewood Unified School Districts strengths are demonstrated in its support from various partners, including local businesses, organizations, and institutions of higher learning. The district works with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and has both College Summit, and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) programs in place assisting the school district at the middle and high school levels in preparing students to enter and succeed at colleges and universities.

In 1998, the school district embarked upon an extensive program to improve school facilities with the passage of the Measure K bond by Inglewood and Ladera Heights voters. Through the Measure K bond the district has recently completed new construction on La Tijera K-8 School, which opened to students on January 4, 2012.

Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union School District

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

Public School With A Private Feel



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 mountain communities of Lake Hughes, Elizabeth Lakes, Green Valley and Pine Canyon. The District is one of the oldest in all of the Antelope Valley

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 teacher staff and students enrolled in the school. All students are served in the general education classroom. This is the model that earned Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary District the title of California Distinguished School.

HELUS is a District of Choice where any parent can chose to enroll their children during an open enrollment period. The school offers a solid core, standards-based instructional day supported by academic intervention. Teachers engage in professional collaboration and analysis of their instructional practice to ensure all students are successful learners. Parents and community members are an important part of the school community. The environment is positive and friendly and visitors comment on the positive outlook everyone has on our campus. HELUS is a wonderful place to work, volunteer and attend school!

Keppel Union School District

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

Academic Achievement & Citizenship



Steve Doyle
Superintendent

The Keppel Union School District is once again proud to announce that the district has met its API growth target for 2012 with an overall growth of 30 points. Additionally the district made positive API gains in every subgroup area and five of our six schools achieved double digit gains in API. This signifies the fifth consecutive year that we have made positive growth. We are confident in the vision that has been established by our Board of Trustees to ensure that every student is successful by providing the highest quality instruction every day for every child. Our research based strategies that are being implemented by our amazing teaching staff reinforces our belief that every child can and will be successful academically.

Additionally, we have implemented a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports philosophy. We have systematically worked to change the belief system in our schools from one that focuses on punishments to one that identifies triggers for behavior issues and is proactively establishing rewards and intrinsic motivation. Schools that establish systems with the capacity to implement PBIS with integrity and durability have teaching and learning environments that are:

- Less reactive, aversive, dangerous, and exclusionary, and
- More engaging, responsive, preventive, and productive
- Address classroom management and disciplinary issues (e.g., attendance, tardies, antisocial behavior),
- Improve supports for students whose behaviors require more specialized assistance (e.g., emotional and behavioral disorders, mental health), and
- Most importantly, maximize academic engagement and achievement for all students

La Canada Unified School District

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

Every Student Succeeds



Wendy Sinnette
Superintendent

La Cañada Unified School District is a learning community committed to personal growth and academic excellence. Current student enrollment is approximately 4100 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 between 940-980 on the Academic Performance Index (API) and has developed an “Every Student Succeeds” plan to ensure that all students received appropriate support in mastering academic standards and in building their full capacities; socially, emotionally, physically and cognitively.

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 1.5 million dollars annually to the district and the active volunteerism and program support by the PTA at each school site.

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 have been designated as California Distinguished Schools and as Gold Medal winners by California Business for Education Excellence.

Lancaster School District

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

Academic and Personal Excellence



Dr. Michele Bowers
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 1881, we believe the District provides excellent educational opportunities for the more than 14,000 students who attend our schools. We have one alternative education, four middle, one K-8, and thirteen elementary schools. In addition, we serve over 700 students in our preschool program. Focused on 21st century skills, college

and career readiness, and acquisition of core knowledge, Lancaster School District is a district “on the move”. Elementary schools emphasize foundational skills through engaging lessons in mathematics, language arts, social studies, science and physical education while providing students enrichment and intervention support. In addition to our core classes, middle school students have an opportunity to participate in: Electives, Sports, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), Music Programs, Foreign Language and Visual and Performing Arts

Lancaster School District maintains an uncompromising commitment to provide all students the knowledge and skills that they need for college and career success in the 21st Century. Our district’s Strategic Plan is designed to “chart our course” as we continue to refine our practices and programs to promote continuous improvement and ensure positive learning experiences for students. Developed within mutually agreed upon parameters and based on shared beliefs, four key objectives will be our focus: Academic rigor and transition to the common core, Safety for all, Positive community relations and Personal excellence for all.

Las Virgenes Unified School District

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

A Community in Every Sense of the Word



Dr. Daniel D. Stepenosky
Superintendent

Our teachers and staff work together to share best practices, continuously striving to improve education for our students. *Our parents* rally to support schools by working in classrooms, creating and implementing fundraising events and supporting invaluable enrichment activities for our students. *Our city partners*, including Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills and Westlake Village, join with the District and our school sites helping us maintain and invest in services for students. *Our students* are some of the most exceptional kids you will meet. Each of the 11,300 students we serve has his or her own unique talents, gifts, challenges and potential. Every day the students serve as the greatest inspiration for our work.

This year, the District opened two Performing Arts Education Centers at each of our comprehensive high schools. The centers were funded through Measure G, a community supported bond. Each Performing Arts Education Center houses a 650-seat mainstage theater along with a 100-seat black box theater. These centers offer our talented music, dance and theater students a state-of-the-art platform to express themselves. They also serve as an instructional platform for our school community as well as a cultural touchstone for the community to rally around.

The achievement of each student’s unique potential is our goal, and I believe that bringing together the entire Las Virgenes Unified School District community to support this mission is the surest way to make it reality. Together, we make school a rewarding and inspiring experience for our students.

Lawndale Elementary School District

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

Continued Academic Results



Dr. Ellen Dougherty
Superintendent

The Lawndale Elementary School District is in the heart of the South Bay, strategically located 15 minutes from LAX, 15 minutes from the beach and 15 minutes from downtown LA. We are a Preschool through 8th grade student-centered, diverse, elementary school district serving over 6000 students with amazing academic results despite limited resources.

Parents, teachers and school leaders consistently work together to encourage students to achieve the high expectations set before them. Students learn in clean, state of the art classrooms with 100% of highly qualified teachers, and we are proud to say that our district exceeded the State’s academic performance expectation by scoring 807.

Our District is a community in which we are all scholars and all teachers, working together to spark a life-long love for learning. We are fortunate to partner with over 80 community agencies, service organizations and individuals to ensure that our students are prepared for their choice of colleges and/or careers.

At Lawndale Elementary School District, we are committed to ensuring that every student achieves academic success!

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- ▶ Two essay statements
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- ▶ GRE score is optional
- ▶ Students will need access to a classroom

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"I owe a debt of gratitude to the faculty -- my team of mentors... I valued the opportunity to engage in an ongoing dialogue with professors and students alike."

Diana Combs Neebe '08

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- ▶ Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM)
- ▶ 21st Century Literacies
- ▶ Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Inclusive Education



Lennox School District

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

Dedication, Commitment, Achievement



Dr. Barbara Flores
Superintendent

Lennox School District has a tradition of stellar innovative programs in the arts as well as academically. Our dedicated staff of teachers and administrators has closed the achievement gap on a variety of measures. All but three schools are above the 800 API mark—a collaborative accomplishment by the teachers, site leadership, and parents' dedication, commitment, and *cariño*. Our Board of Trustee's Vision, "From Cradle to College," is highly visible in the many initiatives that the district has supported throughout the years.

For example, our district is committed to this vision by developing the whole child and by making sure we do not narrow our curriculum. Instead we offer the following programs to our students and families: 1) School Readiness and Preschool at every elementary campus; 2) Lennox Enrichment After School Program (LEAP), an award winning after school program; 3) A partnership with UCLA's Anderson School of Management's Health Care Institute for the prevention of obesity and diabetes; 4) Educational program partnerships with Loyola Marymount University (LMU) to better serve students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs; 5) LMU Stellar project for Long Term English Learners; 6) The Harmony Project with Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra; 7) Lennox Middle School Mariachi band; 8) our Lennox Math, Science and Technology Academy that is ranked 9th in the state of California as a dependent charter high school; 9) our recent LMSTA Soccer CIF championship in Division 6; and finally 10) T.H.E. Clinic partnership that offers a full integration of school and community health services to the Lennox community and also serves as a demonstration site for Los Angeles County Health Services.

Lennox is a proud community where students achieve because we have a dedicated staff and highly involved parents.

Little Lake City School District

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

Students First!



Dr. Phillip Perez
Superintendent

The Little Lake City School District continues its strong and illustrious history of educational excellence. Serving the communities of Santa Fe Springs, Norwalk and a segment of Downey, the district educates nearly 4,700 students in grades K-8 at seven elementary schools and two middle schools. Generations of families have attended Little Lake schools, including those of many of our faculty, staff and administrators.

Little Lake is proud of our academic achievements. Our students overall and in every subgroup demonstrate consistent growth in grade level proficiency on the California Standards Tests and at a rate that significantly exceeds the state. Little Lake schools have earned state and national recognition, including: Title I Achieving Schools; California Distinguished Schools; California Business for Educational Excellence Honor Roll recognition; and both nominations and achievement as National Blue Ribbon Award Schools. As of spring 2012, all nine schools have attained APIs well above 800, the target set by the state. Complementing a strong core academic program are innovative offerings in the visual and performing arts at all district schools. In spring 2012, the Little Lake voting community expressed its support and appreciation of the district by the overwhelming passage of both a general obligation bond and a parcel tax. This investment in our students' future will ensure their continued achievement.

Driving the district's success are a cohesive and focused governance team, highly qualified teachers and administrators, and a dedicated classified support staff. Our efforts as a Professional Learning Community are aimed at providing a quality education that ensures success for every student. Our belief statements – Students First! Results Matter! Whatever It Takes! – reflect our values and bind us together in our commitment.

Long Beach Unified School District

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

Still Among the World's Best



Christopher J. Steinhauser
Superintendent

A recent international study includes the Long Beach Unified School District among five of the world's highest performing school systems. The "Global Education Study" is the latest publication from the national non-profit Battelle for Kids organization, an Ohio-based group that provides a wide array of school improvement services to educators nationwide.

The study's authors define a high-performing system as one where family socioeconomic status is not a significant driver of student performance. The Battelle group chose Finland; Hong Kong; Long Beach, CA; Ontario, Canada; and Singapore from a larger list of high-performing systems.

Among that larger list were 20 school systems (including ours) whose student achievement results were examined in an exhaustive 2010 study by McKinsey & Company, a trusted advisor and provider of data to many of the most influential businesses and institutions in the world. For the latest study, Battelle officials visited school districts before publishing their findings on educators' best practices.

We're honored and grateful to be in the company of some of the world's leading school systems again. As this study explains, we work hard to provide all students a good education regardless of the hurdles they face. We accomplish this work through a collaborative effort involving our employees, parents, higher education partners and the larger community. We sincerely thank everyone who contributes to these important efforts.

To learn more the Battelle study and our school district, visit us online at lbschools.net.

Los Angeles Unified School District

333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90017 • 213/241-1000 • www.lausd.net

On the Road to Reform



Dr. John Deasy
Superintendent

Here at the Los Angeles Unified School District, our students continue to thrive despite many challenges that include inadequate state funding and multi-million dollar budget cuts year after year. There are reasons for optimism with voters passing Proposition 30 in November, and Gov. Jerry Brown recently proposing a new funding formula for public schools.

Still, despite the uncertain financial outlook, students have succeeded. Student scores jumped 16 points on the state Academic Performance Index in 2012, exceeding average growth statewide of 10 points. At the same time, those passing both portions of the California High School Exit Exam on their first try rose to 67 percent, a record rate for this District. More students graduate, and fewer drop out.

Add to these successes, the meals served to our students are so much healthier. There are more fresh fruits and vegetables, leaner meats and whole grains on the menu.

We continue to seek better ways to educate and support our students. The key strategies to ensure students graduate college-prepared and career-ready are: using data-based instruction; supporting all employees; budgeting for student achievement while creating and supporting quality schools. (Learn more about our strategic roadmap by looking at the superintendent's page at www.lausd.net.)

Change is not always achieved easily in a school district ranked as the nation's second-largest. With more than 664,000 students enrolled in kindergarten through the 12th grade, we serve 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 portions of nearly two dozen more cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County.

Because of our huge enrollment, less than a decade ago, more than half our schools operated on a multi-track, year-round schedule; only three schools do so today. That's progress, and there is more to come.

Los Nietos School District

8324 South Westman Avenue, Whittier, CA 90606 • 562/692-0271 • www.losnietos.k12.ca.us

Consistent Standards Based Curriculum



Jonathan Vasquez
Superintendent

The Los Nietos School District is proud of maintaining double-digit API growth for five straight years! Our combined five-year API growth total of 103 API points is attributed to the implementation of a consistent standards based curriculum, maintaining instructional consistency in our classrooms, and promoting positive teacher collaboration throughout the district. Our District is comprised of three K-6 elementary schools and one 7-8 middle school that is nestled in an unincorporated part of Whittier. The Los Nietos School District is 3.6 miles in circumference and serves a student population that is 95% Hispanic, 43% English Language Learners, 100% free/reduced lunch, and slightly less than 2000 ADA. With a 2012 District API of 794, we look forward to 2013 as being the year our District meets or exceeds the State API target of 800. Additionally, 2012 also brought the second Similar School Rank of "10" to our middle school as it again met all AYP targets and remained one of the only middle schools in the Whittier area to not be identified as a Program Improvement School.

We are proud of our community partnership with Whittier Presbyterian Hospital that is in its second successful year of implementation. Medical residents meet with students, parents, and staff to offer free classes at all four schools that promote a healthier and more active lifestyle. This partnership is one example of the many creative ways our District meets the holistic needs of our community. The Los Nietos School District employs a staff that values the diversity of the students and works deliberately, collaboratively, and passionately to meet the needs of the Los Nietos community.

Lynwood Unified School District

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

Paving the Path for Greatness



Edward Velasquez
Superintendent

At Lynwood Unified, we take pride in fulfilling our mission, which is to ensure that our students have the tools they need to be successful in college and in their future careers. Students at our 12 elementary schools, three middle schools and three high schools are seeing tremendous growth and we anticipate that they will continue the wonderful progress they are making.

LUSD's Academic Performance Index (API) scores are showing great improvement, with nearly all of our schools demonstrating growth. The gains are a direct result of our rigorous curriculum and improved professional development work with principals and teachers and our use of a common instructional model with consistent assessments that promote data-driven teaching. In addition, we're offering programs that contribute to a well-rounded education, including music and dance programs and an expanded menu of career technical educational courses.

Lynwood Unified has a dedicated team of parents, teachers and classified staff that is working hard to continue to strengthen the district's educational programs, reminding students that they are the focus of our efforts. We're also grateful for a Board of Education that provides the resources to continue our district's excellence.

In these fiscally-tough times, we're thrilled that the community was behind us in passing a \$93 million bond measure that will allow us to update our facilities to ensure that students have the best-possible learning environment. We hold high standards for our students and work solidly as a team with the belief that they deserve a world-class education that leads them to accomplish their dreams.

Lowell Joint School District

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

A Strong Academic Program



Dr. Patricia A. Howell
Superintendent

The Lowell Joint School District strives to be among the leading schools throughout the state of California. Our students receive a quality education from outstanding teachers whose top priority is the success of their students. All five of the elementary schools received the 2010 California Distinguished School Award and Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School has one of the highest Academic Performance Index (API) scores as compared to junior high schools in the area.

The 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 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 above the 860's. 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 three of the elementary schools. Honors classes and after-school sports are offered at the junior high school.

Parents will see that Lowell Joint schools offer the best educational opportunities.

Manhattan Beach Unified School District

325 Peck Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 • 310/3189545 • www.mbusd.org

A 21st Century Learning Environment



Dr. Michael D. Matthews
Superintendent

The Manhattan Beach Unified School District is proud of our students' achievements in academics, the arts and athletics. *Forbes* magazine recently named Manhattan Beach #6 in the nation in terms of "Education For Your Real Estate Buck." The Board of Trustees is proud of that distinction, and has set goals for the district that will prepare our students to graduate as 21st Century scholars.

We believe that mastery of writing and literacy is essential to that effort. We have embraced the Columbia Writing Project as our method for developing each of our students into an accomplished author. Our award winning Model United Nations program is the epitome of high quality communication. We nurture creativity and innovation in all students. Every MBUSD teacher has an iPad, and teachers in all of our schools have inspired students to connect beyond the four walls of the classroom. In our middle school, *each student has an iPad* that they use in school and take home. We are learning every day how to operate in a new learning environment and how to maximize the power of technology in the hands of our students.

We strive to develop strong critical thinking skills in all learners. Our K-12 science program reflects the deep-rooted engineering/aerospace legacy of our community. Students learn to investigate in our science laboratories, analyze in our STEM classes, and collaborate with local professionals to gain an understanding of the problem at hand and formulate solutions. Clearly, Manhattan Beach is committed to finding avenues for students to achieve more, not just on standardized tests, but in areas that will help them succeed in the 21st Century.

Monrovia Unified School District

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

World-Class Schools & Students



Dr. Linda Wagner
Superintendent

Monrovia Unified School District's vision is clear and measurable: Distinguished Schools – Achieving Students – Graduates Prepared for Life.

Academic progress has been dramatic. Six schools have achieved status as California Distinguished Schools; four schools have been designated Achieving Schools by the U.S. Department of Education for the extraordinary academic performance of their students; and our Preschool and Continuation School were named as California State model programs. Monroe Elementary School has a dual immersion Spanish program, now in its third year, in which children learn in two languages and become both bilingual and biliterate. Six schools exceed the State goal of 800 on the Academic Performance Index, and the overall District score exceeds 813. The Board has now set an API goal of 900 for our schools.

Monrovia has won fifteen Golden Bell Excellence in Education Awards from the California School Boards Association, with this year's award-winning program being "iTouch Elementary Foreign Language".

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

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 as the #1 Nutrition Program in the State, and after-school elementary music programs that are growing stronger every day.

Montebello Unified School District

123 S. Montebello Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640 • 323/887-7900 • www.montebello.k12.ca.us

Academic Rigor & Student Engagement



Cleve Pell

Superintendents



Susanna Contreras Smith

Every child has dreams and Montebello Unified is committed to helping students achieve at their highest potential. With continual refinement, we provide a rigorous, standards based curriculum that prepares students for college, career and beyond in a global and technologically advanced society.

As a newly formed Superintendent team, we're dedicated to leading the efforts to provide the very best education for our 30,000 students. Our mission is to create a learning environment that fosters effective communication,

collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, high expectations and relationships.

For nearly 10 years, our Academic Performance Index (API) scores have been on a continuum of improvement. In 2011-12, our schools saw gains in student achievement and four MUSD schools have exceeded the state's API goal of 800.

Data also shows that MUSD's attendance rates are on the rise. During the last school year, attendance reached 95.85 percent on an average school day, up from 95.64 percent the year before, which shows that we are continuing to better refine our efforts to engage our students and provide safe and secure schools. We do this by incorporating exciting hands-on learning techniques, career technical courses and extracurricular programs.

Though we celebrate our wonderful achievements and milestones along the way, we are also mindful that our work is not done. It is with the help of our entire Montebello Unified family – parents, teachers, staff, and our Board of Education – that we can continue to see the growth and development of our Montebello Unified students.

Mountain View School District

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

Inspiring Students to Succeed



Lillian Maldonado French
Superintendent

In the Mountain View School District our mission is to inspire each student to succeed every day and ensure that each student attains or exceeds academic proficiency. MVSD's 12 schools, alternative education center and Children's Center/Head Start program are strongly committed to high expectations and improved student achievement at all grade levels.

MVSD is comprised of an excellent team of educators and support staff who believe in each student's ability to achieve.

Our team is dedicated to preparing today's students and tomorrow's leaders for success by providing core academics with 21st century skills. Through innovative instruction students are

encouraged to become critical thinkers, problem solvers, good communicators and collaborators, technology literate, innovative, creative, and globally competent.

A college-bound culture is promoted district-wide among all students and with our parents through a variety of programs including GEAR Up, the Partnership Scholars Program, Parent Institute for Quality Education and No Excuses University, all focused on inspiring future collegiate scholars.

In Mountain View, our strength lies in our highly qualified employees, rigorous curriculum, dedicated parents and caring community, each focused on the educational development of our students, providing them with a solid foundation of skills they may take forward into our ever changing world.

Newhall School District

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

Focused on Student Learning



Dr. Marc Winger
Superintendent

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

The ongoing state budget crisis continues to affect the programs and support we can provide our students. However, the teachers, support staff, administration, and board of NSD maintain their focus on student learning and our schools continue to excel. With a diverse student body reflective of Southern California, the district wide Academic Performance Index (API) reached 906 last year, continuing its steady rise for the last ten years.

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 stellar rankings for achievement. Five have been recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools, including Dr. J. Michael McGrath Elementary in 2011 and Stevenson Ranch Elementary in 2012. All ten schools have received State Distinguished School status (most have received this honor multiple times) and four have received Title I Academic Achievement Award recognition under No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

We pride ourselves on outstanding and ongoing professional development that focuses on student writing as the core skill that affects all areas of learning. The district fosters professional collaboration and planning that leads to student achievement. Parent engagement and involvement is high.

Newhall School District also takes great pride in its 35 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 600 students receive small group lessons on a variety of string, wind, brass and percussion instruments and another 600 participate in chorus.

Thank you for reading *School News Roll Call*.

If you can read this, thank a teacher!

Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District

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

All Roads Lead to Student Achievement



Dr. Ruth Pérez
Superintendent

The Norwalk - La Mirada USD proudly serves approximately 20,000 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 these are not reasons to surrender; they are opportunities to demonstrate excellence. This starts with accountability and thorough research-based methods; we hold each other and each student accountable for progress.

Our district schools and programs have and continue to receive the following honors: California School Board Association Golden Bell, Title 1 High Achieving School, California Business for Education Excellence, California Distinguished School and National Blue Ribbon School Awards. All of our middle schools offer magnet programs in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), Visual and Performing Arts, and more.

Additionally, the district provides a strong focus on core academic skills with special attention to literacy as a top priority. Our students 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.

Palmdale School District

39139-49 10th Street East, Palmdale, Ca 93550 • 661/947-7191 • www.palmdalesd.org

Rigorous Academic Education



Roger D. Gallizzi
Superintendent

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 in the 21st Century.

Palmdale School District serves the urban and suburban communities of East Palmdale in the Antelope Valley, Los Angeles County's northern most region. With 24 elementary and intermediate schools, 20,000 children receive a quality education focused on student learning. Additionally, the district operates one of the largest preschool programs, servicing over 1,800 pre-schoolers in Head Start, Early Head Start, LA Up, and state preschool.

The district offers a variety of educational programs providing opportunities for innovation and choice for parents and families. In addition to our comprehensive K-6 settings, the district also offers "schools of choice," including an International Baccalaureate school, two dual immersion schools (English and Spanish 50/50) and an intermediate AVID academy. AVID is also offered district wide, grades 4 through 8. Several intermediate schools are WASC accredited with the remainder on the way. Many of our schools have API scores over 800.

Unique to our elementary district is the SAGE Planetarium, a fully staffed planetarium with the latest state of the art equipment offering programs in English and Spanish for standards based science instruction as well as programs open to the community. Our newest endeavor is The Palmdale Aerospace Academy, an Independent Charter school, grades 7 through 12. The school is a joint effort between the City of Palmdale, NASA's Aero Institute and the District.

It is my pleasure to serve as Superintendent of Schools in what is now my eighth year.

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Paramount Unified School District

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

Learning & Success for Each Student



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 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." 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 and continues to advance. The Board

of Education has had a clear vision of what Paramount schools are implementing and achieving. 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. Our mission is to ensure learning and success for each student by providing a quality education.

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 model "Arts For All" program, Career Technical Education Pathways and a new Autism Center.

Our instructional focus includes PLC Collaboration, Response to Intervention, Safe and Civil Schools, Learning Walks, Academic Core Coaches at all schools as well as K-12 Counselors.

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 • 626/396-3600 • www.pusd.us

Committed to 21st Century Learning



Jon R. Gundry
Superintendent

The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) provides 21st century learning opportunities to 18,000 pre-kindergarten to 12th grade students that reflect the vibrant community of Greater Pasadena. Nestled in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, PUSD has 28 historic campuses in a 76-square mile area that includes Altadena, Pasadena, Sierra Madre and some unincorporated parts of Los Angeles County.

PUSD offers a rich cultural and academic environment that fosters learning at all ages. PUSD elementary schools incorporate science-based programs into the regular academic curriculum. Dual language immersion programs in Spanish and Mandarin Chinese beginning in kindergarten prepare students to thrive in a global economy.

International Baccalaureate programs are offered in elementary, middle and high school grades. Annual music and art showcases foster creativity, imagination and disciplined critical thinking while providing important performance opportunities for K-12 students.

Our community is dedicated to scientific and engineering exploration, art and design, and civic engagement at local and global levels. A new science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) middle school opening in fall 2013 fuses traditional academics with project-based learning that emphasizes creativity, critical thinking and communications skills. Eight College & Career Pathways offer college preparatory courses with themed high school academics in areas such as engineering and environmental science, web and mobile game development, health, design, hospitality and culinary studies. High schools students learn to apply classroom academics during and workplace learning experiences at partner organizations that include NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech, Huntington Hospital and other businesses and institutions.

With exceptional teachers, rigorous academics and a broad range of cultural and recreational activities, PUSD schools welcome parents and community partners. We invite you to explore PUSD.

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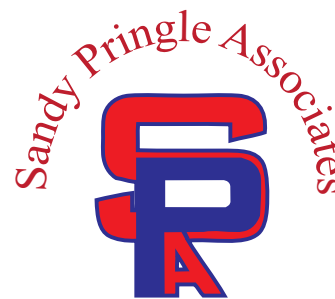
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Pomona Unified School District

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

Excellence through Options for Success



Richard L. Martinez
Superintendent

The Pomona Unified School District offers its 28,000+ students a world-class level of instruction through partnerships with more than 25 outstanding colleges and universities.

Our students select from a broad spectrum of award-winning schools the foundational programs that most interest them—from computers to engineering and robotics; from medical careers where students are mentored by professors at Western University, to programs in Environmental Science, Law, and Music. We offer dual-enrollment programs with DeVry University and CSU Dominguez Hills where students can graduate with both a high school diploma and earn college credit.

Our instructional programs are based on our *Six Essentials*, linking the core values of “Responsive Instruction” with “Shared Leadership,” “Aligned Resources,” “Student Work and Data,” “Professional Development” and “Family and Community.” These values are the foundation of all our work, especially now as we transition to the Common Core State Standards.

We believe in a culture of service to our students and families. Our teachers and staff understand that we are here to support our students whether in the classroom, on the athletic field, or behind the scenes by creating an educational environment where children feel safe to learn and achieve.

Our district’s core values are “Respect, Responsibility, Results, and Relationships.” Each is needed if our students are to succeed and we are proud to partner with our parents and community in building an outstanding, world-class school system where we provide *Excellence – to every student, in every classroom, every day.*

Rosemead School District

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

Preparing Future Global Leaders



Dr. Amy Enomoto-Perez
Superintendent

The Rosemead School District has adopted the 7 Habits Leader in Me program at each of its schools. This process helps develop the essential life skills and characteristics students will need in order to thrive in the 21st century workforce.

Dr. Steven R. Covey’s principle-based leadership skills are well known by adults and the business community. During the past 4 years, our Leader in Me program has been developed and integrated into our school’s core curriculum.

The program creates a common language within our community of learners (students, educators and parents alike). Built on proven principle-based leadership skills found in the book, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, our students are learning:

- Habit 1: Be Proactive® • You’re in Charge
- Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind® • Have a Plan
- Habit 3: Put First Things First® • Work First, Then Play
- Habit 4: Think Win-Win® • Everyone Can Win
- Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood® • Listen Before You Talk
- Habit 6: Synergize® • Together Is Better
- Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw® • Balance Feels Best

The Janson Lighthouse Leadership team invites you to come and see how the 7 Habits and 21st century skills are being integrated and implemented in our elementary classrooms.

SAVE THE DATE! Come and see what we are doing to educate our children for the 21st century workplace on March 12 and 13, 2013.

For more information, please visit our Leader in Me registration site at www.rosemead.k12.ca.us A minimal registration fee covers the cost of materials, refreshments and lunch. I hope to see you there.

Redondo Beach Unified School District

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

Reaching for Greatness



Dr. Steven E. Keller
Superintendent

The newly-renovated 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 8,800 K-12 students and despite declining enrollment trends throughout California, RBusD continues to grow. We attribute the enrollment increase to: 1) great teaching and student engagement; and 2) the passages of a \$145 million construction bond in 2008 and a solar and technology bond in 2012 aimed at providing state of the art instructional tools while relieving the district’s general fund.

The Redondo Beach community supports its public schools in words and action. Redondo Beach Unified School District IS the finest school district in the South Bay!

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 the students in our fine schools. Our reputation, statewide data, and achievement rankings have continued to climb. RBusD has also created community-focused programs and movements, such as our College-Going Culture, Safe School Ambassador, and Vitality Cities. Too, our new and greatly modernized facilities are likely to continue this partnership 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 Parent Teacher Association and Education Foundation; these groups assist the district with providing a sound educational and enrichment programs. 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 Reaching for Greatness.

Rowland Unified School District

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

Raves About Rowland

Ruben Frutos, Interim Superintendent

Rowland Unified School District (RUSD) is proud to be one of the premiere districts of the San Gabriel Valley. Rowland Heights was named in 2011 as “The Best, Affordable Place to Raise Kids in California” by *Bloomberg Businessweek*. We offer families quality schools, teachers, programs and a caring culture that enables students to become global thinkers and leaders.

We are proud of our four National Blue Ribbon Schools and 17 California Distinguished Schools. 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 2011 & 2010*.
- International Baccalaureate Schools: Both Nogales and Rowland High Schools offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) and dynamic Career Certification programs.
- IB Primary Years Programme Schools (PYP): Both Oswalt & Ybarra K-8 Academies are official IB PYP Schools.
- Apple 1 to 1 Laptop Learning Program: Oswalt Academy was named for the 4th consecutive year in a row as a 2013 “Apple Distinguished School.” All students and teachers in 5th-8th grades use an Apple MacBook laptop computer for 24/7 access. Students in grades K-4 use iPod Touches. Teachers and students are constantly connected and enormous student academic growth has taken place. The Apple Laptop Learning Program has also expanded to Giano Intermediate and Nogales High School.
- Telesis Academy of Science & Math: The newest K-8 Academy to open that is a national “No Excuses University” school, the extensive college-readiness program that begins in Kindergarten.
- Committed to the Arts K - 12: RUSD is the only District in the SGV area to provide elementary strings, jazz and marching band.

San Gabriel Unified School District

408 Junipero Serra Drive, San Gabriel, CA 91776 • 626/451-5400 • www.sgusd.k12.ca.us

Proud Traditions and Future



Dr. David Yoshihara
Superintendent

Nestled in the heart of the Valley, the San Gabriel Unified School District stands proud of its traditions as well as its future. At the core of our success lies our students and the dedicated staff that supports them. Their achievements are displayed academically and in the many extra-curricular opportunities that exist within our schools. Some of our proudest moments in recent history include:

- Back-to-back L.A. County Middle School Mock Trial Finalists (winner in 2011-12)
- 19 Advanced Placement courses complemented by a 44% increase in program enrollment in 2012
- Nationally ranked speech and debate program

- Model Continuation High School at Del Mar
- Awareness Via Individual Determination (AVID) program at Jefferson Middle School and Gabrielino High School
- Full Mandarin language program up to Advanced Placement Mandarin
- League champions in volleyball, basketball, and golf
- State finalists for History Day LA at Del Mar Continuation School
- Championship elementary science Olympiad program
- Competitive choral program starting in middle school
- Districtwide Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD) trained teachers
- State-winning Jefferson Middle School First Lego League teams

The priority areas our District includes (1) implementation of the Common Core State Standards in our curriculum and assessment of student learning, (2) utilizing response-to-intervention (RTI) instructional strategies that are applicable to *all* students in our classes, (3) implementation research-based strategies that will close the achievement gap between our Asian and Hispanic subgroups, and (4) offering increasing resources that promote anti-bullying across all our campuses. We are excited by all that San Gabriel Unified has to offer its students.

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

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

High Expectations/Collaborative Culture



Sandra Lyon
Superintendent

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is a high-performing district that benefits from our diversity, our passion, and our commitment to public education, both from employees and from our community members.

We have strong staff at our 16 schools and in our district office, all of whom are here to ensure that the 11, 400 students in the SMMUSD have a high quality education that will prepare them for their pursuit of college, career, and meaningful, engaged lives. In addition to a rigorous academic environment, we also pursue a whole-child approach, as we recognize how important it is to develop the social-emotional, physical, and creative aspects of all of our students.

As a district educating 21st Century learners we know that we must provide rich learning environments that foster creativity, critical-thinking, communication, and collaboration. The academic world, the work world, our society as a whole needs people who have developed their creative skills; who can be critical, innovative thinkers who bring heightened levels of analysis to problems to be solved; who communicate effectively with those around them; and the glue that pulls it all together is collaboration. Our community thrives on collaboration and involvement at multiple levels of our school district and works to ensure that all are involved in creating an environment that supports the wellbeing of our students.

As a collaborative culture with high expectations for all, we will continue to work toward fulfilling our district's mission:

"Extraordinary achievement for all students while simultaneously closing the achievement gap."

San Marino Unified School District

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

Prepared to Contribute



Loren Kleinrock
Superintendent

We are committed to providing our students a world-class education with recognized excellence in academics, arts, and athletics. The district partners with parents and the community to provide students the highest quality education in a supportive and positive climate. Students will develop critical thinking skills, global awareness, and civic responsibility, enabling them to be productive citizens in the 21st century.

With a 2012 district API of 954, for the tenth year in a row, the SMUSD ranks as the highest scoring unified school district in California. The following is a partial list of school awards:

San Marino High School: California Distinguished School Award; NCLB National Blue Ribbon Schools Award; California Business for Educational Excellence Award; LA Music Center BRAVO Award – Visual and Performing Arts Program; *U.S. News and World Report* Gold Medal School and Gold Medal Math and Science School; 2008-09 California State Speech and Debate Team Champions; Athletics – 68 CIF Championships; Civic Learning Award presented at the Civic Learning California Summit

Huntington Middle School: California Distinguished School Award; LA Music Center Bravo Award Runner Up; California Business for Educational Excellence Award; Top API middle school in California for 8 straight years; 2011 Flag Football State Champions

Carver Elementary School: California Distinguished School Award; NCLB Blue Ribbon Schools Award; California Business for Educational Excellence Award; Top 60 Schools in LA County – *LA Magazine*

Valentine Elementary School: California Distinguished School Award; California Business for Educational Excellence Award; 2008 LA Music Center BRAVO Award for VAPA; Top 60 Schools in LA County – *LA Magazine*

With a focus on producing young people of quality, the district remains one of the finest in the nation.

Saugus Union School District

24930 Avenue Stanford, Santa Clarita, CA 91355 • 661/294-5300 • www.saugusd.org

Extraordinary Excellence Everyday



Dr. Joan Lucid
Superintendent

Saugus Union School District boasts over 100 years of academic and personal success for every student. Our teachers are highly qualified and pride themselves in being lifelong learners. All schools achieved over 800 on the state API with five achieving over 900. Fourteen of fifteen schools are designated California Distinguished Schools and five are National Blue Ribbon Schools.

With an increasing English Language Learner population (over 34 languages) as well as increasing diverse ethnic and racial subgroups, district initiatives are focused on:

- Brain-based Direct Instruction – administrators and teachers are focused on providing a 'clean first teach' model to actively engaged children and ensure learning greater teacher modeling and gradual release strategies.
- Systematic ELD – all teachers and administrators are utilizing this model to fully provide English Language Development lessons to English Language Learners. Sites fully commit 30 minutes daily to ELD instruction.
- Response to Intervention – teachers are collaborating and working together to ensure that every child achieves personal and academic success.

As Los Angeles County's lowest funded school district, we are challenged to do more with less and we do. Emblem School will reopen as Emblem Academy with a STEM focus in August 2013. Our parent community is supportive through volunteering and raising thousands of dollars to support school activities. Our board encourages our efforts and takes pride in the accomplishments of our Saugus School family.

South Pasadena Unified School District

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

Success In the Classroom and In Life



Joel Shapiro
Superintendent

We are proud of our continued accomplishments in South Pasadena. Every year seems to bring new achievements. Here are a few recent examples. With our high school about to be formally recognized, all of our schools will be California Distinguished Schools. In the past five years, three of our teachers have been honored as Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year, and they have been named as semi-finalists or finalists for California Teacher of the Year. Our district's API has steadily increased over the past several years; the current API of 912 is 14th highest among unified school districts in California. Our high school Virtual Enterprise team has placed at the top of all teams in California. Our students have repeatedly won top honors in local math competitions, and our new Academic Decathlon team placed first in its division at the recent Los Angeles County event.

We're also proud of the progress that our staff is making in the transition to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Although California does not require these standards to be fully implemented until 2014-15, we have focused on an earlier transition. Teachers are working on pacing guides, assessments, and lesson plans that emphasize the higher levels of Depth of Knowledge. Students are being asked to analyze, interpret, and synthesize what they have learned in order to demonstrate deep levels of understanding. They apply their knowledge to solve real-world problems, so that learning becomes increasingly relevant.

Preparing students for the CCSS fits into our vision for the future. South Pasadena Unified is a member of EdLeader 21, a network of school districts across the country that are committed to focusing on 21st century learning outcomes for all students. These 21st century skills include the four C's of critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration. We're also committed to developing the habits of mind that enable our students to be successful after they leave our schools: goal-setting, perseverance, responsibility, reflection, and adaptability.

Sulphur Springs School District

27000 Weyerhaeuser Way, Canyon Country, CA 91351 • 661/252-5131 • www.sssd.k12.ca.us

District Vision Statement



Dr. Robert Nolet
Superintendent

Sulphur Springs school District is a district where all children have equal opportunity to achieve their full potential through a quality, balanced curriculum. We are committed to providing for our students measurable academic achievement and a nurturing, secure climate that prepares them to work and function in the world of tomorrow. We believe in the appropriate allocation and monitoring of fiscal resources. All personnel work cohesively toward these goals through positive interaction and communication with students, parents, community members and fellow staff, thereby maintaining what has become a positive and unique "family feeling" within the district.

Creating and maintaining facilities that are both safe and healthy environments throughout the district requires the combined efforts of the District's instructional staff, support staff, administration and the community-at-large.

We view housing our students in the healthiest and safest environments as a top priority and expect to accomplish this goal by providing a physical environment that is clean, comfortable, well lit and suitable for the specific purposes required to meet the diverse needs of our students and employees.

The District is committed to maintaining and enhancing positive community relations. Our goal is to be viewed by the community as an organization committed to:

- Safe schools with and disciplined learning environment
- Academic achievement in basic subjects for all students using the best curriculum and teaching practices
- Social skills, basic values and character education
- Efficiency and cost effectiveness

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.tusd.net

The Heart and Pride of Temple City!



Dr. Chelsea Kang-Smith
Superintendent

Temple City Unified School District is the center of our community with 2012 district API of 901! We strive to provide a rigorous comprehensive education in a safe learning environment. Our passion is grounded in the knowledge that all students can succeed and be self-reliant, life-long learners. We respect the diversity in everyone, through cultural and individual awareness.

Cloverly Elementary School received the California Distinguish School Award in 2012. Emperor and La Rosa Elementary Schools were named California Distinguished School Awards in 2010. La Rosa Elementary School received the California Title I Academic Achievement Award in 2011.

We have high expectations for our students in academics and extra-curricular activities. Temple City High School again received the 2012 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 with our Boys Basketball Team finishing undefeated in league in spring, 2013. The Temple City High School's Band, Auxiliary, and Brighter Side Singers won numerous awards for their performances. Our award winning TCHS musical is *King and I*. We have strong instrumental/vocal music and arts program at all of our elementary, intermediate, and high schools.

Our family environment is promoted at every one of our schools in building a strong character program. We have dedicated counselors at every school working with our students and staff. We are diligent in our quest to build a culture of Professional Learning Community so that our students will benefit in becoming contributors and leaders in our society.

Torrance Unified School District

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

Excelling in Tough Times



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 over 24,000 students who speak 83 different languages.

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. The District's Academic Performance Index (API) increased twelve points this year to 869. TUSD students have continued to demonstrate growth in English and Math proficiencies, ACT and SAT scores, and STAR test results. Additionally, TUSD students consistently achieve results significantly higher than state averages. I am proud of the exceptional job our teachers, classified employees, and administrators do for 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 all four high schools placing in the top fifteen. 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, administrators, parents, and community leaders that contribute to making TUSD an award-winning District!

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. Dean Conklin
Superintendent

The Walnut Valley Unified School District is an extraordinary place known for academic achievement, innovation, and leadership. Our outstanding teachers and staff are genuinely committed to the success of the whole child, putting "Kids First...Every Student, Every Day."

We are excited to chart a new course for student success with the implementation of the Common Core Standards. They reflect the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers as 21st century global citizens.

We appreciate the ongoing support from our Walnut Valley community with volunteers donating time and resources to enrich the educational experience of our students.

Construction projects are underway in our schools, including modernization of Cyrus J. Morris Elementary and \$10.7 million Diamond Bar High Aquatic Center, made possible by voter approval of Bond Measures S and Y.

Walnut Valley topped the 900 mark-scoring 906 on the 2012 California API. We are proud to be one of only a few districts in the state to achieve this distinction.

Our students consistently receive high scores on standardized testing. Every school exceeds the state's target of 800 on the Academic Performance Index, with 11 schools scoring over 900!

Walnut Valley schools have been recognized with top state and national awards as California Distinguished and U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Schools. Walnut and Diamond Bar High have been honored as two of the nation's best International Baccalaureate Schools by U.S. News and World Report.

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

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. Both Dean L. Shively Middle School and New Temple Elementary School have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools, and both schools have earned Title I Academic Achievement Awards.

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. Advanced technology allows teachers the ability to fully implement textbooks and instructional materials that incorporate technology, as well as electronic media.

The District was honored by the California School Boards Association with three Golden Bell Awards. The first Golden Bell was received for an eight-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. The second Golden Bell was received for the District's Eight-Step Character Education Program, developed by the guiding principals of the Search Institute's 40 developmental assets model. The third Golden Bell award was received for the District's 4-8th grade Zingy Science Program that dramatically improved the District's science program.

With our incorporation of technology and award-winning programs, the Valle Lindo School District is actively engaged in preparing students for a successful life in the 21st Century.

West Covina Unified School District

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

World-Class Education



Debra Kaplan
Superintendent

The West Covina Unified School District is distinguished by its 14 award-winning schools that provide a world-class education to approximately 10,000 students. Five schools are recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools; ten have been designated as California Distinguished Schools and this year both West Covina and Edgewood High School have been nominated as California Distinguished Schools. Multiple schools have received the Title I Academic Achievement Award and several others recognized on the California Business for Educational Excellence Honor Roll. We have a Model Continuation High School Program, an extensive Advanced Placement Program at West Covina High School and a prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program at Edgewood High School.

Our level of success depends on a constant effort to improve our educational program with the ultimate goal of providing our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful 21st Century global citizens. Our Strategic Plan keeps us focused on student learning within the context of the new common core state standards. We are committed to integrating technology into teaching and learning as well as developing our students as competent and fluent writers. Our plan also includes promoting 21st Century Citizenship skills to enable all students to explore, develop and express their own values and opinions, while listening to and respecting the views of others. In addition, we want to connect math and science with technology and engineering to prepare more students for these studies in college. The hallmark of the West Covina School District is that we are committed to working collaboratively on behalf of our students to empower them to identify their passions and reach their own goals.

Westside Union School District

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

Students On the Path for Success



Regina L. Rossall
Superintendent

Three of our schools have been named California Distinguished Schools, Anaverde Hills, Rancho Vista, and Valley View. Our academic program continues to be rigorous resulting in API scores over 800 districtwide and at all district schools. Currently one school is under construction, and on completion will offer our students outstanding access to technology. There are 8 schools serving K-6th grade, 2 K-8 schools, 2 7-8 schools, and 1 community day school. In addition, parents seeking a home school setting are served through our K-8 Mountain School Program.

Our strong academic programs in middle school are supported by a wide range of electives including woodshop, home arts, art, instrumental music, computers, broadcast journalism, to name a few. There are opportunities to participate in the Civil Air Patrol program, and other leadership training programs. We have two STEM schools of choice, one K-6 and the other 7-8--both became operational this school year, and we've added a 6th grade Honors Academy, too.

The District continues its active participation in antibullying program such as Not in our School, Not in our Town. The work of the District was captured on a PBS Broadcast Program, and several of our schools received grants to continue these programs.

The District continues to receive community support for extracurricular and academic programs from community partners such as the WAVE, SAVE, Rotary and Kiwanis. Through the generosity of these partners, our middle school sports program, AVID, ballroom dance, children's musical theater, career orientated field trips, and many others have been available to our students.

Our District motto is "Pointing the Way, Providing the Path," and everyday our staff endeavors to create the environment that sets our students on the path for success. We are proud to serve the western Antelope Valley.

Whittier Union High School District

9401 S. Painter Avenue, Whittier, CA 90605 • 562/698-8121 • www.wuhisd.org

Student Achievement Soars



Sandy Thorstenson
Superintendent

Recognized by education leaders as a model of excellent secondary instruction, the Whittier Union High School District continues to focus on its mission to achieve and maintain excellence in providing a quality, comprehensive education for all students.

The District serves approximately 13,400 students at five comprehensive high schools, a continuation school, an independent study program and an adult school with more than 10,000 students.

Whittier Union has attained and sustained substantial growth in student achievement at every school, over several years, and across multiple measures. Our students' progress is directly related to the efforts of our exemplary Board of Trustees, teachers and staff who do "Whatever It Takes" to improve every facet of our students' education.

Through our "Whatever It Takes" initiative, teachers collaborate in high-functioning Professional Learning Communities, creating and implementing common assessments for the purpose of improving instructional practices. Our Pyramid of Interventions provides systematic and targeted student support.

Today, seniors have a CAHSEE pass rate of 99.9% in ELA and 99.9% in Math and more than 93% are graduating. Also, 52.3% of seniors are completing all courses required for entrance into four-year universities and 83% of seniors enroll in post-secondary education.

Our overall California API continues to climb, with a gain of 190 points over the last eight years. In addition, all our comprehensive high schools are in the 90th to 98th percentiles for API growth in the state.

Whittier City School District

7211 S. Whittier Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602 • 562/789-3075 • www.whittiercity.net

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 our students with the greatest opportunities for their success within a nurturing and respectful learning environment. With support from our families and community members, and great teamwork at each school, Whittier City has seen remarkable gains over the past three years. Recently, we were recognized by GreatSchools.org as one of the "top 5 greatest improving school districts" in California.

First and foremost is our commitment to providing high quality classroom instruction. The foundation for this work is strong leadership teams that support a collaborative culture at each school site. Based on the concepts of Professional Learning Communities, our teachers and staff work diligently to design an outstanding curricular program with high academic standards, coupled with comprehensive support systems for struggling students. Professional development is embedded in the Data Team Process, with teachers taking the lead on developing standards-based instructional units. Instructional Specialists are available to provide additional support in the PLC Process.

Beyond our high quality instructional programs, our schools have either developed or are in the process of developing exciting and innovative "Themed Academies," the first of which is Mill School Technology Academy that recently received the prestigious recognition as an "Apple Distinguished School." In the fall of 2013, we will offer a Language and Literacy Academy that includes a Dual Immersion Spanish Program, as well as a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Middle School and a University Prep Middle School.

Finally, our "Reach for the Stars" After School program, which serves all schools, offers many enrichment opportunities including art, music and drama for our students. Whittier City School District is a great place for students and their families!

Wilsona School District

18050 E. Avenue O, Palmdale, CA 93591 • 661/264-111 • www.wilsonasd.net

Student Success Our Goal



Teresa A. Grey
Superintendent

The Wilsona School District serves the rural, high desert community of Lake Los Angeles. The Wilsona School District is an organization which views itself as a family. Tucked in the northeast corner of the unincorporated Los Angeles County, Wilsona provides welcoming campuses and devoted staff to its 1420 plus students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The District covers approximately 100 square miles. 90% of the area's population is located within 20 square miles. Wilsona has the highest poverty rate in LA County.

Student achievement and high standards are the focus of our schools. Working collaboratively with student success as a goal, the staff has developed strong bonds focused on teaching and learning. They are constant professionals who actively participate in professional development, engage in self reflection and collaboration. Despite the challenges our students face and the distance staff drives to work in Wilsona, there is a great sense of unity and support for our efforts to educate students. We welcome parents to work with us to educate their children. We love our students and want to provide the best educational opportunities for them. Wilsona may be small but we are mighty in our efforts to educate our students.

I am proud to be the Superintendent of this wonderful District. I feel privileged to work with outstanding teachers, support staff, families, and the Board of Trustees. Each person brings special qualities to the District that supports

students in becoming lifelong learners. Our school community wants all children to excel and fulfill their dreams.

William S. Hart Union High School District

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

Protecting Our Students and Staff



Robert Challinor
Superintendent

The safety of students and staff is the number one priority of the Wm. S. Hart Union High School District, located in the suburban Santa Clarita Valley in northern Los Angeles County. We are fortunate to be located in the City of Santa Clarita with historically low crime rates and an actively engaged Sheriff's Department, under the direction of Captain Paul Becker.

We have always maintained an emergency preparedness plan and have conducted drills each year to make sure that staff leaders are trained and students and parents have the peace of mind knowing the adults in charge will keep students safe. The Newtown Connecticut tragedy that unfolded in December served

as a catalyst for educators nationwide to review current security and safety procedures to ensure that we are providing the safest school environment possible.

The Hart School District is taking extra precautions at our 16 school sites as we review and enhance school safety plans. Through experts in the field of safety and security, our personnel have recently undergone threat assessment training and have learned best practices for campus violence prevention. They now have resources available to discuss and review incidents and potential threats. Online courses are available to staff considered first responders. Sheriff's personnel will be conducting active shooter response training at school sites in the coming months, when schools are not in session. School site administrators will be allowed to participate in the school site active shooter drills.

Families trust schools to keep their children safe during the day. Thanks to the efforts of administrators, principals, teachers and staff, in partnership with the City of Santa Clarita, SCV Sheriff's Department and Los Angeles County Fire Department, schools in the Hart District continue to provide safe environments conducive to learning and student achievement.

Wiseburn School District

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

117 Years of Excellence in Education



Dr. Tom Johnstone
Superintendent

Excellence in education has been our motto and our way of life since 1896! With approximately 2,550 students and six schools, the Wiseburn School District is one of the few remaining small school districts in Los Angeles County. 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 Wiseburn. The District offers a personalized learning process focused on mastery of the basic skills in a safe, positive, and orderly learning environment. Staff members are highly committed and students achieve. All schools exceed the 870 API threshold and Wiseburn is one of only eight districts in Los Angeles County with no schools in Program Improvement.

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 117-year history. The Da Vinci Schools excel academically using project-based learning and strong support from the local aerospace corporations. In August 2011, the Da Vinci Schools launched the Innovation Academy, which provides a two-day per week program that targets the Home School population.

Capitalizing on the community's approval of an \$87 million bond in November 2010, the District purchased a 13.7 acre site in El Segundo in September 2012. The timeline for Wiseburn unification is July 2014 with the opening of the Wiseburn High School during the 2015-16 school year.

California Department of Education

Value Differences—Work Collectively

By Stephanie Papas, School Health Education Consultant

Bullying and harassment are occurring at an unacceptable rate in California schools. There are multiple negative consequences for students, including higher risk for poor academic performance, depression, substance abuse, and even suicide.

Various laws and regulations have been passed over the years with the intent of putting an end to the acts of bullying and cyber bullying that disrupt the learning environment. Yet the issue remains. Students are at risk, and parents and school administrators are frustrated and concerned. While pressure increases from legislators, parents, and the media, funding and staffing decreases, limiting the ability to effectively address these important issues.

The solution starts with teaching students and adults to be kind, compassionate, civil, empathetic, and respectful. We need to value individual differences, yet work collectively to prevent bullying and intervene swiftly and effectively when bullying occurs.

We share the same goal: to create schools that are safe, secure, and peaceful. While each day brings challenges to that effort, having plans and policies in place, providing training to staff, paying close attention to school climate, and using the existing safe school planning process, all schools and students can achieve success.

The California Department of Education provides training, resources, and technical assistance to establish a school community which is physically and emotionally safe, well disciplined, and conducive to learning.

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- Create safe and strong school environments that are resistant to lawsuits
- Protecting your own professional liability

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Presenters:

Richard L. Swanson, Ph.D.
Former School Administrator,
Principal and Former
Superintendent of Tehachapi
Unified School District—
Dr. Richard Swanson is the
administrator who, with the
guidance of the Office of Civil
Rights and the US Department
of Justice, processed the Seth
Walsh claim at Tehachapi Unified.

Deborah S. Reisdorph, Esq.
Founder and Executive
Director of BARE Bully
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Education Inc., Discrimination
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BARE was founded to make a difference in the bully epidemic in our nation.

The Bully, the Bullied, and the Bystander



Kate Karp

Laying a good foundation for your children or students will help them to take the role of advocate for themselves and others instead of bully, victim or both. We've all heard stories of outliers and outcasts who grew up to be vastly successful as technology innovators, film directors and anthropologists. But for every Bill Gates, Steven Spielberg and Jane Goodall, there are too many horrible, haunting stories of young adults and even children who resort to suicide and violence because they were the only way they knew to express anger over the humiliation they were continually exposed to.

Barbara Coloroso has used such case histories to underscore the theme of understanding bullying behavior and breaking the cycle of violence. Her thorough, frank book, *The Bully, the Bullied, and the Bystander*, is a standout among the resource books available to adults who want a good, hard look at bullying and are willing and eager to accept the idea that the ways to break the cycle of violence and empower the actors involved in it are not simplistic, and that sometimes, the credits don't roll through a happy ending.

That's how Coloroso sees the three participants of bullying: the Bully, the Bullied and the Bystander. They're playing roles, and as actors, they have the power to change them through insightful work and self-awareness.

Coloroso stresses that bullying can run in families and that a bully can be created by abuse or benignly ignoring the harassing activity as a natural thing that "kids just go through." But Coloroso wants to show the difference



between teasing and bullying, between flirting and sexual harassment, between toughening up and becoming hard or broken. Her chapter on the Bully advocates throwing off old practices of tolerance ("just leave him alone") or punishing the bully and instead showing the perpetrator how to look into himself or herself. In one brilliant example, she writes of a teacher who demonstrated bullying and its results by hammering a nail into a piece of wood as she instructed her students to think of times that they've harmed someone either physically or emotionally. She then used the hammer claw to pull out the nail as an example of "I'm sorry."

"But it's not enough," the teacher said, and then asked her students, "What are we going to do about the hole the nail left in the wood?"

Names will hurt you—ask anyone who has had so many holes left in his or her spirit from the constant misery of taunting and shunning—even if there was no physical accompaniment. You'll be told that it's a lie. The chapter devoted to the Bullied child provides amazing insight into that child's soul, and it hurts in every way. But the ways of healing are heartfelt and can be practiced, and Coloroso gives explicit ways to do so.

Children who either stand by as the child is bullied out of fear or helplessness or join in are playing the role of Bystander. Coloroso's mission here is to help turn Bystanders into Witnesses. In this chapter, she describes a personal code that a child (or any human) should develop that "guides them to say or do what is right, often in spite of external consequences and never merely because of them." That, she acknowledges, can be a heavy burden to bear.

The remaining chapters put readers to work at becoming activists and advocates for all children, no matter what their role or roles may be. *The Bully, the Bullied and the Bystander* is further enhanced with a list of resources, a glossary, and most appropriately, a newly added chapter (the 2008 printing is a second edition) that covers the relatively recent plague of cyberbullying.

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.

Leadership Word Search Contest

Rules!!! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put LA COUNTY in subject line)

Entries must be received by **JUNE 15, 2013**
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| Intelligent | |

Word Search by Gunnar Coop

Y	O	G	T	E	A	M	W	O	R	K	H	F	T	L
Q	T	N	E	D	N	E	P	E	D	N	I	X	T	U
G	N	I	R	A	C	V	G	D	T	F	B	D	N	F
D	E	D	L	D	R	I	V	E	U	A	A	E	E	R
Z	L	N	X	I	J	T	F	C	J	Y	C	Z	G	E
P	C	A	E	L	B	A	T	I	U	S	C	I	I	W
D	E	T	E	R	M	I	N	A	T	I	O	N	L	O
I	B	S	X	G	W	T	S	U	F	B	M	A	L	P
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T	N	E	D	I	F	N	O	C	O	K	L	R	T	N
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Keeping Our Students Safe



Dr. Arturo Delgado
Superintendent

The recent shooting at Connecticut's Sandy Hook Elementary School has left the nation shocked and shaken. We were at a loss to explain this deeply disturbing tragedy and the other horrific acts of gun violence on our campuses.

As Superintendent of Schools in San Bernardino for a dozen years, and now here in Los Angeles County, I have dealt with the issue of school safety.

My goal, which I'm sure all educators share, has been to look in the eyes of our students and promise them they will be safe.

We want to reassure students that their only concern at school is school work – not whether they can remain out of harm's way in the sanctuary of their classrooms.

But, unfortunately, we cannot make such a promise yet. There's still a lot to do to prevent gun violence in our schools, which continues to claim too many lives.

As President Obama recently said: "Can we say that we're truly doing enough to give all the children of this country the chance they deserve to live out their lives in happiness, and with purpose? I've been reflecting on this the last few days, and if we're honest with ourselves, the answer is no."

At the same time, the president has given us hope when he proposed a new \$150 million Comprehensive School Safety program that would help school districts hire staff and make other critical investments in school safety.

What can we do to make our schools safer? Here are a few key steps we can take:

Make sure our Comprehensive School Safety Plans are updated and useful.

Create a school culture of first preventers. This includes identifying the risk factors affecting students and staff and addressing them effectively.

Train school personnel, mental health specialists, and police officers on ways to maximize personal and collective effectiveness to prevent or reduce school violence.

Conduct parent workshops to be sure they know how to be partners in their children's education.

Prioritize funding for school safety initiatives that protect our learning environments.

The Los Angeles County Office of Education has collaborated with community agencies in promoting school safety. We help county K-12 schools comply with all local, state and federal school safety laws. We offer workshops to train mental health professionals and other school personnel in the recovery process after traumatic school events.

We also hold the annual Safe Schools Conference to share best practices and learn innovative ways to address school safety issues.

I hope that we can all continue to work together to keep our students safe because it will take sustained commitment and resources from all of us to meet this challenge.

Arturo Delgado, Ed.D., was appointed superintendent of the Los Angeles County Office of Education in July of 2011. With headquarters in Downey, the Office is the nation's largest regional educational agencies, providing a range of programs and services to support the county's 80 public school districts and 2 million preschool and school-age children.

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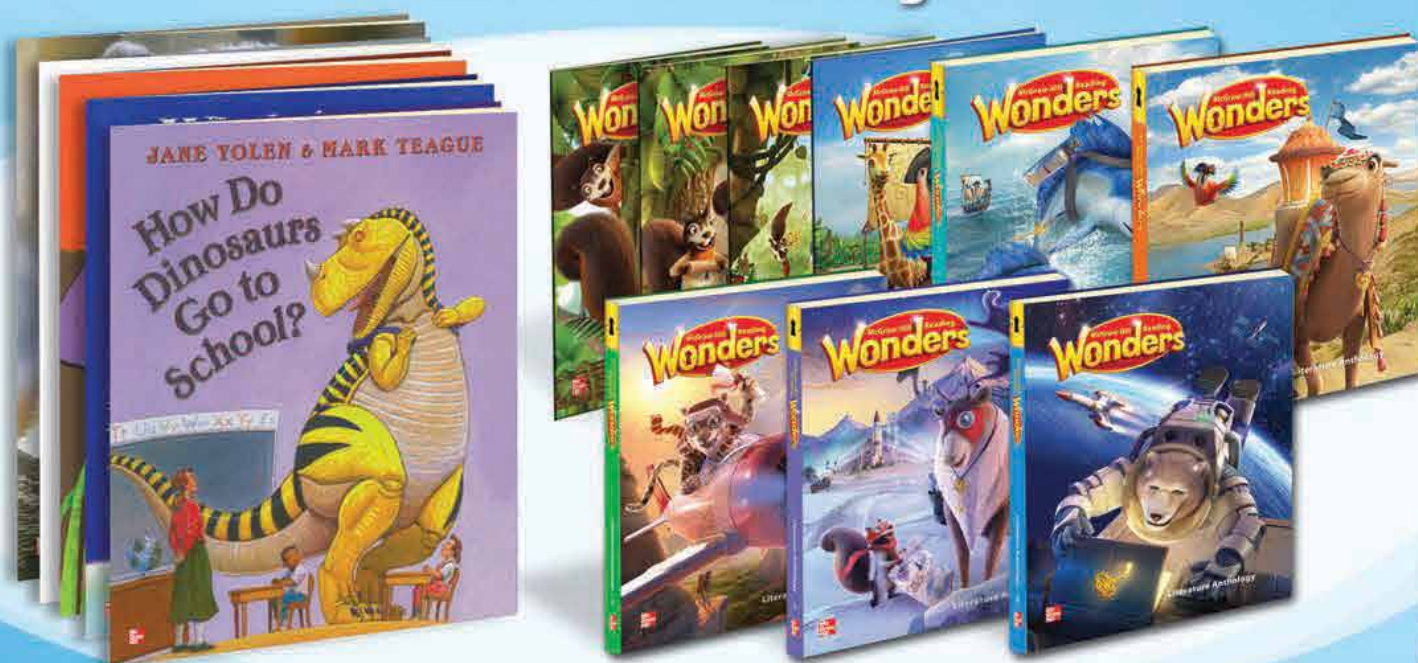
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