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# School News

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# Superintendents



K – 12 Public Schools  
2018 – 2019

2nd  
Edition

# Balfour Beatty



Hemet High School

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Ranked by *ENR California* as the 3rd largest K-12 builder, we believe in strong foundations, trusted partnerships, and staying in tune with local communities. Within the Inland Empire, we have been entrusted to build innovative, award-winning spaces for students to learn, grow, interact, develop, and evolve for the past 20 years.

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**Kay Coop**  
Founder / Publisher



This is our 2nd Edition highlighting each of the district superintendents in the Riverside 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 the public schools in a community sets the standard for the quality of the community. Everyone pays for public education and is a stakeholder. The Riverside County communities have much to be proud of.

Thank you for your interest in public education.



**Dr. Judy D. White**  
County  
Superintendent  
of Schools

You don't have to be a superintendent of schools and read all the research reports that come across my desk to understand the critical nature of education on the growth and success of societies and nations. Locally, we are regularly reminded of the importance of an educated workforce to sustain the future viability of our region of inland southern California.

By the time today's kindergarten students graduate from high school as part of the class of 2030, they will undoubtedly experience continued leaps in technology, governance, industry, and other world events that will shape their lives and future.

Regardless of those changes, the critical nature of educating students today in order to prepare them for their future remains a steadfast value at the Riverside County Office of Education and within each of the county's 23 school districts as you'll read about in this edition of *School News*.

Much like how the CEOs, entrepreneurs, and politicians in seats of influence today have pointed to their education—both inside and outside of the classroom—as critical to their success, the next generation of leaders are learning those lessons that will benefit them in whatever life path they choose to explore.

If we were to assemble a comprehensive list of benefits

from education, we would observe a wide variety of enhancements in the areas of social development, emotional health, interpersonal skills, self-image, resiliency, and much more.

In our day-to-day lives, those additional benefits often go unnoticed. Higher incomes leading to economic growth, increased opportunity and options for career exploration and development, disrupted patterns of poverty, and a more civic and globally-minded community all represent outgrowths from an educated populace.

The elevation of these valuable skills for life is not just life-changing for the individuals involved. In reality, the prospect of students growing into the best possible versions of themselves has tremendous advantages for all of us. The future of our neighborhoods, places of worship, businesses, local governments, and our schools depends on these precepts of educating, graduating, and elevating the next generation in Riverside County.

Each day, in the 23 school districts and 514 schools across Riverside County, thousands of educators are motivating students to embrace learning and focus on the long-term goal of graduation in order to elevate their own future.

My hope is that we will all lead by example. Enhancing ourselves through lifelong learning can lead to graduating to greater heights in life and in our relationships. But, let's measure our impact by how we elevate others along our journey—by helping our students take hold of their education and soar to new heights this year.

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**Phone:** (310) 794-0089

**Email:** [abcdstudy@ucla.edu](mailto:abcdstudy@ucla.edu)

**For more info, visit: [AbcdStudy.org](http://AbcdStudy.org)**

## Alvord Unified School District

9 KPC Parkway, Corona, CA 92879 • 951/509-5000 • [www.alvordschools.org](http://www.alvordschools.org)

### Unlimited Potential



**Dr. Lou Obermeyer**  
Interim  
Superintendent

Dr. Lou Obermeyer was welcomed back to Alvord USD as the Interim Superintendent when the Board appointed her to the position on December 14, 2017. Dr. Obermeyer is a retired Superintendent who began her career in Alvord. She began her career as a teacher at Loma Vista Middle School, teaching Home Economics and English for 11 years, moving into administration at La Sierra High School as an assistant principal for 5 years, then on to Promenade Elementary School as the principal for 3 years. After 19 years in Alvord, she held the positions of Director of Curriculum and Instruction in Temecula Valley USD, Administrator for Riverside County Office of Education, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services in Perris UHSD, Superintendent in Atwater ESD and Superintendent in Valley Center-Pauma USD.

“I am truly honored to return to Alvord and serve as the interim superintendent while the Board conducts a search for a superintendent. I look forward to connecting with friends and colleagues, meeting new employees, families and community members and seeing first-hand the amazing things happening for students in this district.”

Lou and her husband Roger live in Escondido and they look forward to returning to Riverside and the Alvord family. Roger retired from Alvord after 30 years as a teacher and administrator.

Alvord USD Board has commenced a comprehensive superintendent search process and would like to assure all stakeholders that our district will move quickly but carefully to do what is best for all of our students and provide the support they need to carry out our mission to realize their unlimited potential.

## Beaumont Unified School District

350 Brookside Ave., Beaumont, CA 92223 • 951/845-1631 • [www.beaumont-ca.schoolloop.com](http://www.beaumont-ca.schoolloop.com)

### Growing District Focused On Excellence



**Terrence A. Davis**  
Superintendent

Beaumont Unified is a growing school district and our schools and facilities are impacted by this growth. Last year, we added more than 380 students and this year we expect over 10,000 students across the District. Starlight Elementary School, currently under construction in the Sundance community, is the first school in our District to be built in more than nine years. Starlight Elementary, with an anticipated opening date of August 2018, will serve nearly 900 students, host the World Language Program, and have excellent instructional programs to support students.

The mission of Beaumont Unified School District is to provide high quality educational opportunities for all students in a safe and secure learning environment through a shared commitment among home, school and community. We continue to focus on building strong relationships with students and families, building rigor through instruction, and relevance in the activities we provide students as we prepare them to be college and career ready. We stand together serving our students, our community, and one another while embracing the challenges that come with growth.

We have made impressive gains in our high school graduation rate. Over the last four years, we increased from 85.1% to 90.3%, and we anticipate even more growth from the 2016-17 school year. We are incredibly proud of the accomplishments our students and staff have achieved.

## Banning Unified School District

161 West Williams St., Banning, CA 92220 • 951/922-2706 • [www.banning.k12.ca.us](http://www.banning.k12.ca.us)

### Accomplishing Established Goals



**Robert T. Guillen**  
Superintendent

Our students come from many different backgrounds, cultures, and religions. They are all welcome at our schools. We are taking steps to insure that they are receiving the support they need to succeed at every level, the school, the district and the community.

We understand that significant change in beliefs, in practices, in relationships take time. Taking a developmental approach means starting small and building overtime. Giving staff repeated opportunities to learn from formal training, from coaching, staff development, and from colleagues. We will be able to meet the following District's established goals:

- Goal #1: BUSD will recruit, retain, and professionally develop highly qualified teachers.
- Goal #2: BUSD will provide and assess all students with instructional materials aligned with Common Core Standards.
- Goal #3: BUSD will provide all students access to core curriculum, materials, and high quality instruction that leads to college and career readiness.
- Goal #4: BUSD will provide a safe school climate!
- Goal #5: BUSD will actively engage all stakeholders!
- Goal #6: BUSD will maintain fiscal solvency through effective and efficient District Operations.

The Board played an important role in developing the above goals, but also in the planning of insuring that they are being accomplish. I want to stress that I am proud to serve under these highly dedicated individuals.

## Corona-Norco Unified School District

2820 Clark Ave., Norco, CA 92860 • 951/736-5000 • [www.cnusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.cnusd.k12.ca.us)

### Preparing Students for the Future



**Dr. Michael H. Lin**  
Superintendent

Here at the Corona-Norco Unified School District, over 53,000 students across 50 schools depend on us each day to prepare them for a promising future. As educators, we have a great obligation in fulfilling our promise to prepare all students to lead productive lives in a diverse global community.

Paramount to fulfilling this promise is our intentionality as a district in ensuring all students, no matter their background or abilities, are provided with academic excellence, quality teaching, and high standards. Together, as a community of leaders through our Local Control Accountability Plan, educators and parents continue their tireless efforts to ensure all students not only have equal access to a quality education but are equipped with the tools to get them there.

We know teaching the mind starts with the heart which is why all schools within the Corona-Norco Unified School District are committed to educating the whole child with academic rigor, relevance, and social-emotional support.

Education is the greatest equalizer in our society and our promise to bridge students towards pathways of success is our mission. The future of our society depends on the quality of education received by all students, and we are committed to fulfilling our call to action as a community of educators. Corona-Norco Unified School District is committed to preparing all students for the future, today.

**Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.**  
— Benjamin Franklin

## Coachella Valley Unified School District

87-225 Church St. (P.O.Box 847), Thermal, CA 92274 • 760/399-5137 • [www.cvusd.us](http://www.cvusd.us)

### What We Believe in the Coachella Valley



**Dr. Edwin Gomez**  
Superintendent

The Coachella Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) encompasses 1,200 square miles of rural farmland and desert in south-eastern Riverside County, including the small communities of Thermal, Coachella, Oasis, and Mecca, plus Salton City in Imperial County, approximately 60 miles from the Mexican border. The geographical center of the district is Thermal, which is around 30 miles southeast of Palm Springs. In this geographically sprawling and somewhat isolated district of 18,501 students, over 9,500 students are transported daily.

CVUSD serves 21 schools, 14 (K-6) elementary schools, three (7-8) middle schools, one (7-12) school, two (9-12) comprehensive high schools, and one continuation high school.

The district also serves students in state and federal programs for preschool children. The Coachella Valley Adult School is the largest adult school in the Coachella Valley, serving over 3,000 adult students annually. Approximately 92% of students participate in the free and reduced lunch program.

The vision of the Coachella Valley Unified School District is Preparing All Students for College, Career, and Citizenship. The CVUSD Board of Trustees further defines our commitment to all learners as follows: "We Believe":

- All students must have access to student-centered, rigorous educational programs provided by knowledgeable, caring, and committed staff.
- Through educational accomplishments, all students will acquire the ability to become productive, responsible citizens.
- Successful educational programs allow for the aspirations of all individuals by creating opportunities for discovering/developing their given talents.
- A positive relationship between school, parents, and the community is a keystone to student success.
- Our students are the legacy for our future.

## Desert Sands Unified School District

47-950 Dune Palms Rd., La Quinta, CA 92253 • 760/777-4200 • [www.dsusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.dsusd.k12.ca.us)

### Committed to Graduate



**Scott Bailey**  
Superintendent

The 2016-2017 graduating classes from the high schools of Desert Sands Unified School District represented over 91% of 12th grade students. One of the seven high schools, both traditional and non-traditional, had a 100% graduation rate.

Serving the desert communities of Bermuda Dunes, Coachella, Indian Wells, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, and Rancho Mirage, the area is home to such major events as the Indian Wells Tennis Tournaments, Stagecoach, and Coachella Fest. The economy of the region is based on tourism and agriculture with parents of our students employed in these industries.

The mission of Desert Sands Unified School District is to ensure that every student develops the knowledge, skills, and motivation to succeed as a productive, ethical, global citizen by assuring equal access to learning provided by caring, committed, collaborative staff working with families and community partnerships.

The district is committed to providing a sound and challenging education for each student. Along with building a strong foundation of fundamental skills, students have opportunities to explore and expand their lives through a variety of experiences including such programs as AVID, International Baccalaureate, AP Capstone, STEM, and a wide variety of CTE academies. With close to 29,000 students attending 34 unique schools, the district has an appropriate program for each student.

Superintendent Scott Bailey joined the district in April 2017 and is working with the staff and the community-at-large to, as he says, "further polish the gold standard of Desert Sands Unified School District." His plans include furthering the academic goals of the district while increasing community involvement.

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**Superintendents**

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## Hemet Unified School District

1791 W. Acacia Ave., Hemet, CA 92545 • 951/765-5100 • [www.hemetusd.org](http://www.hemetusd.org)

### Excellent Educational Opportunity



**Christi Barrett**  
Superintendent

Hemet Unified School District serves a growing community with a current enrollment of 21,000 students. We offer preschool at nine school locations, 12 elementary schools, three K-8 schools, four middle schools, four comprehensive high schools, one charter school, three alternative education schools, and one adult education school.

Over the past school year, we were able to take action and make necessary changes that benefit our students. I believe that leadership happens from every position and that shared ownership in the success of ALL students is required. Because of these beliefs, two recurring conversations are happening in our organization and will be driving our work as a team. First, what are we, as a District, doing to take risks to improve outcomes for each student we serve? We know that each child that comes through our doors needs something different and we have a moral obligation to meet the child where he/she is. Second, is Hemet Unified School District the premier choice or default system of education for our families? In other words, do our families choose to bring their children to us or is it because they live within our boundaries? In today's world, our families can take their children to a variety of places to gain their education. We need to be mindful of this and ensure that we are offering an excellent educational opportunity to our students. Hemet Unified School District should be the place where our families and children want to be, not where they have to be!

This past school year, we have put systems in place to improve communication, collaboration, and customer service between school sites, departments, and the District Office. Collectively, as a team, we have the ability to give each of our students the resources and experiences they need to be successful post-Hemet Unified. It is through our willingness to reflect, learn, and work together that this will be accomplished.

## Lake Elsinore Unified School District

545 Chaney St., Lake Elsinore, CA 92530 • 951/253-7000 • [www.leusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.leusd.k12.ca.us)

### Positive Accomplishments Set the Bar High



**Dr. Douglas Kimberly**  
Superintendent

LEUSD is well positioned for the 2018 school year! Collaboration between voters, parents, teachers and staff has resulted in student achievement growth, new instructional technology for classrooms, and improved facilities and playing fields under our current Measure V bond program.

Equipping 21st Century classrooms has begun. Interactive whiteboards, iPad lockers with 10 iPads in each classroom, iPad stages to replace aging document cameras, new Juno wireless audio systems to enrich classroom AV and voice instruction, and flexible furniture, are among the elements we are implementing under our Measure V technology initiative.

Under the new accountability system, the California School Dashboard, LEUSD students are making progress. The current Dashboard update provides teachers and principals with valuable performance data that is examined weekly during their PLC collaboration time, and used to guide daily instruction. Below highlights Dashboard results:

- LEUSD earned a 'High' rating due to an increase in graduating students;
- English Learners improved by 3.1%, as more students progress towards English proficiency;
- Suspensions decreased, as we focus on social-emotional behavioral support district wide;
- English Language Arts and Math growth nearly matched levels a year ago, a trend statewide;

To make the most of Dashboard results, we must engage parents, students and teachers in ways to grow achievement in all subgroups. Never before has accountability been so clear on this point, illuminating areas for increased support.

These are positive indicators, so let's be mindful of the many positive accomplishments of 2017 to help set the bar high for 2018.

## Jurupa Unified School District

4850 Pedley Rd., Jurupa Valley, CA 92509 • 951/360-4100 • [www.jusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.jusd.k12.ca.us)

### Learning Without Limits



**Elliott Duchon**  
Superintendent

Unlocking the potential of each student is our primary goal. This starts with a rigorous education and ability to persevere when the task is difficult. We are incorporating the latest neuroscience research into our curriculum to help each student build a better brain. Teachers strive to instill each student with the hope to succeed and follow a path to college or a viable career. We offer AVID at our sixteen elementary schools, and all of our middle and high schools. Our Digital Gateway program provides each kindergarten through twelfth grade student with a Chromebook.

Rigorous Units of Study, created by our highly qualified teachers, promote complex new learning. We offer Dual Immersion programs at three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. At Pacific Avenue Academy of Music, educators unite musical performance with a rigorous standards-based curriculum.

Our middle and high schools offer a wide range of college and career readiness programs, providing each child with a unique learning experience, including the Rubidoux Early College High School, the Patriot High School Advance Placement Capstone, the Mira Loma Middle School STEM curriculum and the Jurupa Valley High School STEAM program. High schools offer career pathways in First Responders, Medical Occupations, Agriculture, Engineering, Welding, and Building Trades.

We offer unique family support including wrap-around health care; Café Literario, a book club for Spanish speaking mothers; ABC Music and Me for toddlers; and support to new mothers.

Our Governing Board is dedicated to providing every student with the opportunity to enjoy a successful life by Learning Without Limits.

## Menifee Union School District

29775 Haun Rd., Menifee, CA 92586 • 951/672-1851 • [www.menifeeusd.org](http://www.menifeeusd.org)

### Engaging World-Class Learning



**Dr. Steve Kennedy**  
Superintendent

The Menifee Union School District is the educational home to some 10,200 TK-8th grade students, all of whom take part in individualized learning experiences from an extremely dedicated team of professional educators representing all corners of our growing and diverse community.

As a public school district, our mission is quite simple, yet effectively encapsulates many of the critical talents and skills that are common in most successful life ventures. We in the MUSD believe that each child is an individual of great worth and value. We teach our students to believe in themselves as they cultivate the foundational skills (literacy) necessary for success in life. We revel in an educational staff with tremendous heart and a strong dedication to craft, who understand and appreciate the value of collegiality, the power of collaboration, and who want to make a difference for all children. As we work together to deliver the very best comprehensive instruction for our students and staff, we can assure the Menifee community that we are well ahead of the innovation curve.

Educational partnerships with over 225 area businesses help promote our work with students and families through on-going support for our many rich educational experiences each and every day. I welcome you to visit any one of our schools to see first hand the power of high level student engagement and creativity as we engage world-class learning.

**An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.  
– Benjamin Franklin**

## Moreno Valley Unified School District

25634 Alessandro Blvd., Moreno Valley, CA 92553 • 951/571-7500 • [www.mvusd.net](http://www.mvusd.net)

### Excellence on Purpose



**Dr. Martinrex Kedziora**  
Superintendent

Moreno Valley Unified School District is soaring and our graduates are heading into the world college and career ready. As superintendent of our great district, I am proud of each and every student, staff member and parent of our community. We are all working together to enjoy incredible success since 2010.

Our team has created an upward spiral of success and we are seeing the results. Our graduation rate has grown 22% the past six years, the greatest increase in Riverside County. In 2017, our graduates were offered \$63 million in scholarships, a record for MVUSD.

Our Board of Education is supportive of our focus on individual students and their unique needs as we Champion Equity for all. We believe each child is worth all of our efforts. With that, we added high-profile academic programs, like International Baccalaureate (IB) and AP Capstone Diploma programs, to support our students on their educational journey.

We have so many reasons to be proud as we are shining brighter here in Moreno Valley; three of our middle schools have been designated Schools to Watch, we have received eight California School Boards Association Golden Bell Awards, we have twelve California Gold Ribbon Schools, district graduates are eligible for free first-year tuition thanks to the Moreno Valley College Promise Initiative, we have 26 Career Technical Education pathway programs, and multiple specialized programs, including an online academy, Computer Science Immersion School and a STEAM Upward Bound program in partnership with Moreno Valley College.

We are providing one of the best learning environments in the state and nation as we practice our culture of “Excellence on Purpose!”

## Nuview Union School District

29780 Lakeview Ave., Nuevo, CA 92567 • 951/928-0066 • [www.nuviewusd.org](http://www.nuviewusd.org)

### Serving the Whole Child



**David Pyle**  
Superintendent

The Nuview Union School District is a small, TK-8 district that serves students in the Lakeview, Perris and Nuevo communities. The District is made up of two, TK-6th grade elementary schools and one 7-8 grade middle school. Our core program consists of a new Math Adoption (Eureka Math) that is now fully implemented at each school site. Engage NY Curriculum is used to teach English Language Arts in grades 4-6, while units of study have been developed for grades TK-3 and 7-8. Teachers in each grade level are provided release days throughout the year to refine these Units of Study. Professional Development has been provided to all teachers in Direct Interactive Instruction and among other things,

Step Up to Writing. PBIS is also being implemented in each of our schools to provide a behavioral framework for students in NUSD. Each of our school sites is equipped with a dedicated STEM lab where students have the opportunity to work hands on with the new Next Generation Science Standards. Each school also has a Teacher on Special Assignment to help deliver Tier 2 Intervention to identified students and also uses the I-Ready program to help address the needs of students needing intervention. In addition, our elementary schools each have a full time PE teacher, allowing for additional small group interventions.

Our goal is excellence and it shall be achieved by serving the whole child through broad based educational experiences that include maximizing student safety and well-being while promoting student achievement in preschool through college by: Technology Support for Instruction, Data, and Assessment to Ensure High Levels of Student Achievement; Align Fiscal and Human Resources to Implement Common Core Instruction to Support Student Achievement; Communication and Stakeholder Engagement to Ensure the Support of Student Achievement; Professional Development for All in Order to Provide a High Level of Support for our Students.

## Murrieta Valley Unified School District

41870 McAlby Court, Murrieta, CA 92562 • 951/696-1600 ext. 1002 • [www.murrieta.k12.ca.us](http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us)

### High Academic Standards for Success



**Patrick Kelley**  
Superintendent

MVUSD is one of the highest performing districts in Riverside County and one of 11 districts in the state to be named a 2016 Honor Roll District by the California Business for Educational Excellence (CBEE). We have eight 2016 CBEE Star Schools, 12 California Distinguished Schools, eight Gold Ribbon schools and our three comprehensive high schools have all been named America's Best High Schools by *U. S. News & World Report*.

Our success as a district is due in large part to our wonderful parents and students, a dedicated school board and excellent teachers and administrators whose shared commitment is to provide the very best education possible for each and every child. Our world-class educational program integrates rigorous academics, career technical skills, highly-acclaimed visual and performing arts programs, championship interscholastic athletic programs, nationally recognized student activities programs and an extensive array of extra-curricular activities from elementary to high school.

The educational options available to students include two Visual & Performing Arts schools, STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) schools, college and career pathways, an IB World High School, dual enrollment with Mt. San Jacinto Community College, K-12 AVID Demonstration schools, a K-12 Independent Study Program, a Dual Enrollment Program with Mt. San Jacinto Community College and an international exchange program. Technology is used extensively in the classrooms to support and assess student learning and achievement.

At Murrieta Valley Unified high academic standards and expectations for all students are the foundation that enables our students to soar in academic success as they prepare for future success in college, careers and life.

## Palm Springs Unified School District

150 District Center Dr., Palm Springs, CA 92264 • 760/883-2700 • [www.psusd.us](http://www.psusd.us)

### Making a Difference Every Day



**Sandra Lyon**  
Superintendent

It is an honor and privilege to be the Superintendent of Schools in a District that prides itself on meeting student needs, taking risks and making progressive changes, all in the interest of what's best for our nearly 23,000 students.

We are a K-12 District with 28 schools along with 12 early childhood education programs as well as a new virtual, online academy. Each of our high schools has at least two Career Academies, along with several career pathway programs in keeping with our mission of preparing our students for higher education and/or careers. Our areas of focus include: Academic Achievement, Human Resources Development, Safe and Secure Environments and Parent/Community Partnerships, and all of the programs and services we implement keep those foci in the forefront. Some of our newest programs include expansion of full-day kindergarten (entire District will be full-day by next year), one-to-one devices for each student by the end of this school year, two Parent Resource Centers, a dual language academy, arts summer camps, Musical Theatre University, an International Baccalaureate Program and new high school automotive and education academies.

The Palm Springs Unified School District family is comprised of a Board of Education, administration and staff who could not be more committed to the success of each of our students. When you visit our campuses, it becomes immediately apparent how much the people who serve our students truly care about them – academically, emotionally and personally. It is truly a wonderful place to work and I couldn't be more proud to be a part of this dedicated team of professionals making a difference in the lives of children each and every day.

## Palo Verde Unified School District

295 N. First St., Blythe, CA 92225 • 760/922-4164 • [www.pvusd.us](http://www.pvusd.us)

### A Collaborative Effort for Students



**Dr. Charles Bush**  
Superintendent

Palo Verde Unified has spent the last year identifying and digging deep into the issues that keep us as a district from reaching the achievement levels we know our student are capable of and that we as a community have as an expectation for them. We began by reaching out to the community and listening to what they had to say about the way we go about the business of providing the educational experience for the children of the Palo Verde Valley. We heard over and over that parents and community want to be involved in a meaningful way. We are now working on the development of several types of regular and ongoing committees that will allow members of the community to visit school sites and provide feedback about what they are seeing for staff to reflect upon and work to improve, we are holding trainings for members of the community in a variety of areas so that they may be better informed about the programs in our schools, and we are working very closely with special education parents to teach them how to advocate for themselves and others.

The other great thing happening in PVUSD is that we have begun to empower staff to do the great work they know how to do. Whether we are talking about our custodians, maintenance crews, teachers, cafeteria personnel, or any other employee in the District, the fact of the matter is that we have excellent people who are well trained and really know what they are doing. We at the district office need to get out of their way and empower them to do the great work they have been trained to do. Building the structures and systems that allows our people to do that great work and supports them when they need additional resources is what will make Palo Verde Unified School District the absolute greatest school district it can be. This is the process of continual improvement, but we are already seeing results. While not yet at levels where we wish to be, PVUSD saw good academic growth in the 2016-2017 school year and we will continue to make headway. PVUSD is a district moving up and doing all we can for the students we serve.

## Perris Union High School District

155 4th St., Perris, CA 92570 • 951/943-6369 • [www.puhisd.org](http://www.puhisd.org)

### Technology and Innovation



**Grant Bennett**  
Superintendent

Perris Union High School District redefines itself and, in the process, is redefining the lives of the students it serves. Graduation rates have continually been increasing over the past few years and have reached a point to place PUHSD in the top five districts in Riverside County. The number of students enrolled in our AVID Program throughout the district has exploded. This leads to more students completing the A-G requirements for college entrance. In addition, more students are now being accepted into America's top colleges and universities.

Our schools have been recognized for excellence in a variety of different programs. The Heritage High School AVID Program was revalidated as an AVID National Demonstration School this year. Paloma Valley High School has been recognized as a Silver Medal School, for the second year in a row, ranking it in the top 10% of the school's in the nation. The California Military Institute was awarded as a Gold Ribbon School by CDE for its outstanding academic program. The California Schools Boards Association awarded Perris High School with a Golden Bell for its CTE Medical Assisting program. The entire PUHSD has been recognized for the district wide Kick Off to College, where every student is involved in some activity revolving around college and career readiness. All of these things do not even take into account that the PUHSD is in its fifth year of our Scholar+ Teaching and Learning initiative. We continue to give teachers the opportunity to be innovative in the use of technology in their classroom and every student in the PUHSD is given a Chromebook to take home and use for their studies. Giving our students an equal opportunity to learn through technology and innovation is a strength of our district.

## Riverside Unified School District

3380 14th St., Riverside, CA 92501 • 951/788-7135 • [www.rusdlink.org](http://www.rusdlink.org)

### Every Student, Every Employee, Every Day



**Dr. David Hansen**  
Superintendent

Riverside Unified School District (RUSD) serves Every Student, Every Employee, Every Day, affirming that all are guaranteed an education that ensures readiness for college, career and the world. RUSD is a full service community school district that emphasizes academic success of all students, as well as emotional support and well-being. RUSD practices three overarching goals:

- Provide high-quality teaching and learning environments for all students.
- Prepare all students to be college, career and world ready upon graduation.
- Fully engage students, parents and the community in support of short and long-term educational outcomes.

Riverside Unified School District is the 15th largest school district in California, serving 42,000+ students in 50 schools in Riverside, California. The district serves a large portion of the City of Riverside as well as unincorporated areas of Highgrove, Lake Mathews and Woodcrest in Riverside County. The District is governed by a publicly elected Board of Education consisting of five members who serve five different trustee areas, and is led by Superintendent Dr. David Hansen.

With vast recognitions and award winning programs, RUSD offers programs like: AVID K-12, International Baccalaureate, Project Lead the Way, Dual Language Immersion, career pathways, STEM Academy, Core Knowledge, custom schools, model continuation programs.

RUSD addresses the opportunities and achievement gap through high-quality instruction, students must be taught by well-prepared, collaborative educators who enjoy the challenge of this work. RUSD is proud of the work we have accomplished with a progressive vision for the future.

## Romoland School District

25900 Leon Rd., Homeland, CA 92548 • 951/926-9244 • [www.romoland.net](http://www.romoland.net)

### A Google Reference District



**Dr. Julie A. Vitale**  
Superintendent

The Romoland School District Board of Education is dedicated to the success of each and every student. We provide a 21st century learning environment with exceptional teachers focused on creating a challenging and supportive classroom learning environment. All Romoland students receive an engaging STEM experience. They study and conduct research on topics such as: earth's spheres, effects of sunlight on earth, amusement park science, and biomimicry.

In addition to providing an academic program that prepares our students for their future in college and careers, we are focused on ensuring every student feels welcomed and connected to their school. As a result of our equity work we are closing achievement gaps. Our English learners lead the county in reclassification and once reclassified, lead our district in achievement. In addition, we offer Advanced Placement Spanish to our 8th grade students. Advanced Placement is a college level course which gives students the opportunity to earn college level credit. We are one of two districts in the entire county that offer this course to 8th grade students!

We also continue to lead the county with our focus on instructional technology. We are one of five districts in the state to earn recognition as a Google Reference District. Coupled with instructional technology, we are committed to teaching our students how to think critically, behave safely, and participate responsibly while using digital media. All of our schools, and the district itself, have been recognized with Common Sense Certification in Digital Citizenship, an honor that recognizes our efforts in teaching digital literacy and citizenship to young people. The Romoland School District is providing incredible educational experiences for all students!

## San Jacinto Unified School District

2045 S. San Jacinto Ave., San Jacinto, CA 92583 • 951/929-7700 • [www.sanjacinto.k12.ca.us](http://www.sanjacinto.k12.ca.us)

### The San Jacinto Difference



**Diane Perez**  
Superintendent

I invite you to experience *The San Jacinto Difference* where we exist to educate and empower all students to achieve academic excellence, personal growth and social responsibility through the implementation of our student-centered vision: each and every student, college and career-bound.

Now serving my fifth year as superintendent, I am honored to support our 9,809 students, our dedicated, highly-skilled and passionate staff, and the community. I am proud to be part of our culture that is characterized by a caring, joyful and safe school climate that is collaborative, rigorous, and engaging.

Eighty-eight percent of our 2017 San Jacinto High graduates shared they would be attending a four-year university (34.2%), two-year college (34.2%), military (4.6%) or trade school (5.5%). Our schools continue to implement robust Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities, including a biomedical pathway, culinary institute, agriculture, environmental awareness, and the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) through all grade levels. Whether our students enter college, trade school, military or employment, they will be prepared to write, think critically and work successfully with others.

As a future-ready AVID district, SJUSD is on the cutting edge as demonstrated by our 1:1 technology device access, integration of 21st Century learning environments, Dual Language Immersion at elementary, and International Baccalaureate (IB) at high school with expansion underway for elementary. Our new 21st Century Media Center at San Jacinto High is unique and already providing results.

We encourage you to partner with us as we continue to create the 'Disneyland' of schools, where excellence and results are the norm, learning is fun and engaging, clear pathways for student success are developed, and passion is ignited — this is *The San Jacinto Difference!*

## Val Verde Unified School District

975 West Morgan ST., Perris, CA 92571 • 951/940-6100 • [www.valverde.edu](http://www.valverde.edu)

### Mission: Every Student Future Ready



**Michael R. McCormick**  
Superintendent

The mission of the Val Verde Unified School District is ensuring that every student is future ready. When our students thrive, our community thrives. This is why we are fortunate to have a Board that recognizes the importance of providing quality and equitable resources to our students. Their focused initiatives of all students reading by 3rd Grade, 1:1 Devices, 21st Century Learning skills (4Cs), Career Technical Education (CTE), Dual Language Immersion, and Science Technology Engineering Arts & Mathematics (STEAM), have helped to encourage and shape our classrooms and teachers to provide our students with the skills they need to be successful.

Val Verde's number one priority is providing safe environment where quality education can take place. We are proud to be the first district in Riverside County to implement a school police force. We believe that community oriented policing will help to build positive relationships and bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community. We look forward to collaborating with our local law enforcement agencies to continue providing a safe and secure environment for the communities we serve.

Val Verde Unified School District is located in the heart of the Inland Empire, approximately 72 miles east of Los Angeles. Neighboring the district and its communities are March Air Force Base and the Lake Perris recreational area. Val Verde Unified School District's schools serve more than 20,245 students residing in the rural and suburban communities of Perris, Moreno Valley, and portions of unincorporated Riverside County. The district currently operates a preschool, 12 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 3 comprehensive high schools, a student success academy, a virtual academy, and a continuation high school.

## Temecula Valley Unified School District

31350 Rancho Vista Rd., Temecula, CA 92592 • 951/676-2661 • [www.tvusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.tvusd.k12.ca.us)

### Thank You to Our Staff and Community



**Tim Ritter**  
Superintendent

As Superintendent for the Temecula Valley Unified School District, I am blessed and proud to be part of a dedicated team of people from across our district that model our mission "High Quality Teaching and Learning for All," as well as our collective goal of "Inspiring Excellence. Impacting the Future."

TVUSD continues to be an award-winning school district because of the people serving at every level of the organization. We continue to be among the highest performing school districts in the state. Our graduates attend top colleges and universities, military academies, programs, and trade schools. With the leadership of our Board of Education and support from our

community, we have achieved many of our goals but we continue to strive to grow in areas that reinforce our 21st century learning opportunities. This year, we continue to focus on preparing students for college and career readiness and are expanding our CTE (Career Technical Education) programs at all high schools with class offerings in engineering, manufacturing, digital arts design, technology, culinary and more. We also continue to modernize schools and facilities through the community funded Measure Y bond. We are truly grateful for this support as these funds continue to help us upgrade learning spaces for our students and staff.



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## The Year in Review: 1918

By D.H. Coop

During the Great War, day-to day life continued in America. In baseball, the Chicago Cubs beat the Philadelphia Phillies 2 to 1 in a 21-inning game. The Cubs then went on to win the pennant faster than any team in baseball—only to later lose the World Series to the Boston Red Sox. In that same season, the Georgia Peach, Ty Cobb, pitched two innings against the Browns, and Babe Ruth scored homeruns in three consecutive games, tying the major-league record. Walter Johnson pitched 18 innings in one game, and the White Sox hired Kid Gleason as their new manager.

The fourth Rose Bowl featured the U.S. Marines defeating Army 19 to 7 (though Army fared much better in 2017!). Many of the players were later shipped overseas to fight the Germans. The boxing ring saw Jack Dempsey “KO” Carl Morris in 14 seconds. And, not to be outdone by the men, Margaret Owen set a world record by typing 170 words in just one minute.

Robert Ripley began his series “Believe it or Not,” and the Great Houdini made an elephant disappear. Charlie Chaplin, then 29, married film star Mildred Harris, who was just 16. In that same year, John J. Hoover changed his name to J. Edgar Hoover. It was also the year that the Great War ended and a pandemic flu spread around the world.

Advertisements in local newspapers featured an array of car companies: Stanley, Comet, Tulsa, Revere, Douglas, Ford, Hanson, Yale and Dodge Brothers, to name a few. This burgeoning American industry sent 110,911 vehicles to Europe for the war effort. The wristwatch began to replace the pocket watch, and men wore garters to hold up their socks. And Royal Vinolia vanishing cream disappeared off of market shelves thanks to its advertisement featuring a female factory worker and the slogan “Beauty on Duty Has a Duty to Beauty.”

Though 100 years have passed since these historic events shaped our country, our lives have not changed that much. Though we enjoy the benefits of many more comforts and much more technology, we still love our sports and our cars, we still enjoy a good advertising campaign, and we are still grateful to those who protect and defend our country so sacrificially by serving in the military. This year, let’s celebrate our country’s rich heritage and its promise for the future.

D.H.Coop is a retired fire/paramedic and retired teacher having taught IB and AP World History 30 years. He continues to substitute, tutor and consult. [www.HistoryDepot.com](http://www.HistoryDepot.com)

# Novelist 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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put Riverside in the subject line)

Entries must be received by June 15, 2018  
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!

COMPUTER	PEN
EDITOR	BROWSER
IPAD	GOOGLE
SPELLCHECK	INTERNET
PRINTER	BING
PUBLISHER	ASPIRIN
NOTEPAD	KEYBOARD
READERS	TELEPHONE
PENCIL	WIFI
IDEAS	IMAGINATION



**Congratulations to Barbara Juliano**  
**Winner of the Word Search Contest in the first issue!**



Not having a paycheck during the summer had been cataclysmic. Having a Summer Saver helps me save throughout the year so I don't have to borrow for the summer."

**ARRONDA H.**  
Intermediate School Teacher  
Member Since 2013

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