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6th
Edition

K – 12 Public Schools

2022 — 2023



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Riverside County Office of Education

3939 Thirteenth St., Riverside, CA 92501 • 951/826.6670 • www.rcoe.us



Dr. Edwin Gomez
County
Superintendent
of Schools

Support and Service to Districts with Innovative Initiatives

A year ago, I launched four initiatives aimed at addressing key issues facing students and schools: Mental Health, Literacy by 5th Grade, Financial Literacy, and Equity and Inclusive Practices. From launching a countywide reading partnership to internships and civic engagement to providing mental health services, these initiatives seek to engage schools, community members, businesses, faith-based and service organizations, law enforcement, and other local agencies to work together for the success of Riverside County's 430,000 students.

I am proud to share some of the significant accomplishments from each initiative that is supporting our students and school communities.

Mental Health

The Riverside County Office of Education has partnered with the Riverside Latino Commission and Riverside University Health System Behavioral Health to provide mental health services for Riverside County students, families, schools, and the community through six CAREspace locations. Each CAREspace is designed to serve as a dedicated location for students to re-charge, re-focus, and get into the right head space for learning while providing access to mental health and related services. For more information about CAREspace, please contact us at 951-276-CARE (2273) to speak with someone from our CAREspace team. We have also established the RCOE Virtual Wellness Center and a community resource guide.

Literacy by 5th Grade

From pre-reading activities and read-to-you stories, to alphabet recognition songs and grammar rules games, the youngest learners in Riverside County now have interactive, new tools right at their fingertips, to boost their early learning and love of reading as a result of a new partnership between the Riverside County Office of Education and Footsteps2Brilliance. The new partnership will plant the seeds of learning for pre-school aged children and nourish the love of reading for elementary students as learn through play via the free apps available now on smartphones, tablets, and computers, at www.myf2b.com/riverside. Other outstanding efforts include a free vision screening and eyeglasses for students through Vision to Learn and the implementation of reading programs with the Cesar Chavez Foundation and Raising a Reader with the California Masons.

Financial Literacy

Working together with local banks, the office will soon launch the Brighter Future Fund (BFF). These funds are student savings accounts that both donors and student awards and activities will establish to support a student's future financial success. Students will be able to access funds in the account when they turn 18 and can use these dollars to pay for college applications, student supplies and equipment, and other future education or career needs. In addition, we continue to support our students and districts in completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) through our Race to Submit effort and have several video recordings of financial workshops and resources available on our website.

Equity and Inclusive Practices

This fall, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the Riverside County Office of Education's first inclusive playground at the La Granada South Elementary School on the campus of La Granada Elementary School in the Alvord Unified School District. A wheelchair swing, an adaptive teeter-totter, ramps to interactive play panels, sensory tricycle paths, outdoor musical instruments, and other features provide a safe and inclusive playground experience for students to enjoy a playground regardless of their abilities. Next year, an inclusive preschool program will be offered at La Granada South. Other RCOE sites across the county are also slated for modernization and inclusive playgrounds. The 8th Annual Excellence in Equity Conference was held in the fall and a mid-year check in with attendees is scheduled. Equity focused arts lessons, promoting social and emotional learning are also available on the RCOE website.

Please visit www.rcoe.us for ways you can join us in supporting these four initiatives that foster effective partnerships and enhance the academic success of students. There are also several resources, activities, and useful information for education stakeholders to use to support children.

School News



Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher

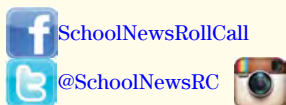
This is our 6th edition highlighting each of the district superintendents in the Riverside County K-12 public schools. Our mission is to introduce each superintendent with their brief message to encourage you to visit their individual web sites for in-depth information.

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.

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

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION EDWIN GOMEZ, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools

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Thank you Dr. Gomez for your partnership in providing quality early education and for serving on the Riverside County Children and Families Commission

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Alvord Unified School District

9 KPC Parkway, Corona, CA 92879 • 951/509-5000 • www.alvordschools.org

Providing a World-Class Learning Experience



Dr. Allan J. Mucirino
Superintendent

In Alvord, striving to provide a world-class learning experience each and every day inspires us. Serving a large geographic area that encompasses the western portion of Riverside, a small eastern portion of the City of Corona, and segments of incorporated parts of Riverside County, we serve and employ a racially and ethnically diverse population. Each of our 23 schools aspires to provide our students with relevant, engaging, and innovative learning experiences that promote self-awareness, a growth mindset, and student agency. We believe that giving students voice and choice gives them ownership of their own learning.

Sharing the City of Riverside with the Riverside Unified School District is a privilege and a blessing. This has been highlighted during the pandemic, as we have strengthened our bond in support of our City's leaders and all of the families that we serve.

We are proud to offer programs such as Dual Language Immersion (DLI), International Baccalaureate (IB), Project Lead The Way (PLTW), Health Academy Partnership with Kaiser Permanente, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Computer Science, and the arts (STEAM), Alliance for a Healthier Generation (Wellness), just to name a few. Furthermore, our unique music program begins at the primary school level. The magic of music is brought into our classrooms by a combination of highly qualified teachers and industry professionals. Capitalizing on the belief that success is a shared responsibility, we empower our education partners to join forces with us in our quest to prepare our children to realize their dreams.

Banning Unified School District

161 West Williams St., Banning, CA 92220 • 951/922-2706 • www.banning.k12.ca.us

Points of Pride



Dr. Natasha Baker
Superintendent

With approximately 4,500 amazing students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12th grade who are cared for by over 500 certificated and classified staff, the Banning Unified School District is committed to success for all students, staff, and parents. For the first time in Banning Unified School District's history, we opened a 27,000 sq. ft. Performing Arts and CTE Center on time and within budget by leveraging the \$30M Measure M bond responsibly. In addition, our balanced budget of \$70M and three-year projections of an increasing fund balance provide opportunities for enhancing programmatic quality.

Our focus is on professional learning and data-driven initiatives to support our students and staff intellectually and socio-emotionally. Our instructional leaders collaborate across schools to discuss best practices that engage students, drive performance, and support staff and families. To become a more competitive and equitable employer, 100% of all staff in Banning received compensation increases because we prioritize the district's needs and best practices for managing talent. Doing so allows Banning USD to support a healthy workforce for the children we serve.

These accomplishments are made possible because of our renewed partnerships with the Riverside County Office of Education, Banning's City Mayor and Manager, Banning's Chief of Police, and a supportive Board of Trustees. Our dedicated students, staff, and parents stand united in our efforts to take our district to the next level academically, operationally, and financially.

Beaumont Unified School District

350 Brookside Ave., Beaumont, CA 92223 • 951/845-1631 • www.beaumontusd.us

A Shared Commitment



Mays Kakish
Superintendent

At Beaumont Unified, we are committed to our mission of providing high-quality educational opportunities for our students in a safe and secure learning environment through a shared commitment among home, school, and community. Our school community values positive academic and social growth, interest-based education, diversity, and decisions that are in the best interest of our school community as a whole.

We are a growing school district as Beaumont remains one of the fastest-growing cities in Southern California. Our district has 1,500 outstanding employees and serves more than 11,400 students from the communities of Beaumont, Cherry Valley, a portion of Banning, and Calimesa. The District is comprised of seven elementary schools, one K-8 school, two middle schools, one comprehensive high school, an alternative high school, an independent study program (that serves all grade levels), and an adult school.

Over the past 11 years, modernization and new construction projects have been underway in our district to meet enrollment demands. In 2018, the district opened a brand new state-of-the-art elementary school, Starlight Elementary School, and in 2021, we celebrated the opening of the district's first-ever K-8 school, Summerwind Trails School. In 2022, we will be celebrating the completion of the first phase of the Beaumont High School campus expansion project. The second phase will be fully completed by the end of the 2023-24 school year.

Our award-winning schools truly stand at the heart of our community, and through a shared commitment, we are dedicated to preparing our students with the tools and skills they need to thrive in college, in their careers, and as citizens. Our Be Ready Beaumont: Real Life. Real World. Real Careers initiative uses programs to focus on the positives of each student's values, interests, and strengths creating a more personalized education that helps them explore how their individual characteristics may connect to the global workforce.

California School for the Deaf, Riverside

3044 Horace Street, Riverside, CA 92506 • 951/248-7700 • www.csdrcde.ca.gov

Grateful for Collaboration & Partnerships



Dr. Nancy Hlibok Amann
Superintendent

California School for the Deaf, Riverside (CSDR) is a specialized public school providing direct bilingual education instruction using American Sign Language (ASL) and English for approximately 400 students from twelve counties in Southern California. Students living 60 minutes away from the school can qualify to live on campus during weekdays through partnerships with school districts. In addition to academics, we provide a wide array of after-school programs such as sports, notable guest speakers, and field trips for students. CSDR is also responsible for providing outreach services for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing students and families in other school districts. These services include ASL classes, workshops, trainings, and assessments.

For almost two years during the pandemic, the school community was brought closer together in every conceivable way through increased possibilities and improved accessibility for students, staff, and families. Literacy and equity remain the school's priority; students are encouraged to read and write more through different strategies.

A highlight of the year beyond academics was when our school 8-man football team entered the state's southern section championship game for the first time. The high, unwavering spirit stayed with us since the first game of the season, and it united the entire Riverside community together. The spotlight on CSDR's Football team is generating a lot of new developments and opportunities with local schools, organizations, and businesses.

Lastly, the school is forever grateful for the ongoing collaboration and partnerships with all of you. In sum, it takes a village to make things possible for our students and for that, I share my gratitude with you.

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Coachella Valley Unified School District

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

Knowledge. Skills. Mindsets.



Dr. Luis Valentino
Superintendent

Like many other districts across the country, the Coachella Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) has been dealing with the challenge of ensuring that we keep students, staff, and families safe as we work through the pandemic. Our approach has been multifaceted, including mandating testing or vaccinations for District staff and offering testing and vaccinations for students, parents, and communities. Our efforts will continue to focus on providing a quality education for each one of our students, with the lens of equity and social justice at its core.

CVUSD has fourteen TK-6 elementary schools, three middle schools, one 7th-12th school, two comprehensive high schools, one alternative high school, and a comprehensive adult education program. The district serves approximately 17,000 students, encompassing 1,200 square miles in Coachella, Thermal, Mecca, Oasis, a portion of Indio, and Salton City in Imperial County.

CVUSD's goal is to foster life-long learning and facilitate teaching and learning experiences that prepare students for college, career, and life by acquiring knowledge, skills, and mindsets. The district offers many specialized programs, including PUENTE, AVID, STEM, and a College and Career Readiness solution that offers Dual Credit programs and CTE Academy Pathways including Agriculture, Aviation, and Health. The district also offers a Spanish Dual Immersion Program in all schools across TK-8th grade.

Driving the vision at CVUSD is the belief that each student possesses multiple assets that will foster their ability to discover and develop their talents and interests through a comprehensive, student-centered, and rigorous learning experiences. CVUSD is One Team with One Dream, and together we will impact each life in positive and immeasurable ways.

Desert Center Unified School District

1434 Kaiser Rd., Desert Center, CA 92239 • 760/3924227 • www.dcusd-ca.schoolloop.com

Expanding Learning Opportunities



Dr. Gregory Sackos
Superintendent

The Desert Center Unified School District lies halfway between the Coachella and Palo Verde Valley's California desert regions and to the southeast portion of Joshua Tree National Park. Remarkable is the fact that our district is one of the largest geographical districts in the state and yet is one of the smallest enrollment districts. Regardless of the settings of our district, our teachers strive diligently to provide the students with robust "learning opportunities." We also have taken steps to ensure our students are provided a culture at the school that promotes inclusion, opportunity, and the ability to have a voice. These opportunities are preparing our students for their eventual transition into high school and ultimately into the real world. This past year 100% of our teachers, as well as administration committed to completing requirements to attain certification with the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). This quest when successfully completed, will have great payoff as we will be able to provide "expanded learning opportunities" for our students.

The ISTE standards help leaders (teachers and administration) to understand the standards that will impact students learning to a higher level. This will support teachers with their pedagogy in delivering content, empowering students' creativity, and properly assessing students to ensure learning is taking place. With the recent pandemic we have been driven to use technology to a higher level and now we need to refine it to the fullest. The digital landscape is no longer a dream but is embedded for all our students. As the "leader of the district," I look forward to engaging all stakeholders and to move our students forward. I appreciate the patience and understanding of our community as we work through the impact of COVID and put teaching and learning at the forefront. We also want to acknowledge the support from the Riverside County Office of Education as we can validate that "inclusion" and "support" are for "all."

Corona-Norco Unified School District

2820 Clark Ave., Norco, CA 92860 • 951/736-5000 • www.cnusd.k12.ca.us

Where Your Future Takes Flight!



Dr. Sam Buenrostro
Superintendent

In 2020, Dr. Sam Buenrostro became the new Superintendent for the Corona-Norco Unified School District. One of his first initiatives as Superintendent was to lead the charge on a strategic plan update and rebranding of the district in order to help guide the district toward its future.

With feedback from various stakeholders, a new strategic plan was created to guide the District's work for the next five years by establishing strategic goals, identifying specific actions to achieve those objectives, and creating a framework to report progress to our community members. The new strategic plan helped shape our vision, mission, values, and brand promise.

CNUSD is focused on providing a quality education for all students within a secure and supportive environment. CNUSD serves over 53,000 students in the diverse communities of Corona, Norco, Eastvale, and Temescal Valley.

Our motto is Where your future takes flight! Our vision is that every student has the knowledge, skills, motivation, and resilience to thrive in a diverse global community. Our mission is to provide high-quality education to meet each student's academic, social, and emotional needs. To accomplish this, we employ well-trained staff, promote family and community involvement, and create a safe and supportive learning environment.

To learn more about CNUSD, visit www.cnusd.k12.ca.us. Stay connected with CNUSD on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

Desert Sands Unified School District

47-950 Dune Palms Rd., La Quinta, CA 92253 • 760/777-4200 • www.dsusd.us

Excellence through Innovation



Scott Bailey
Superintendent

The Desert Sands Unified School District (DSUSD) encompasses a 752 square mile attendance zone. Representing 27,000 students and 2,800 staff, the district is the largest school district in the Coachella Valley. The District's innovative spirit continues to be celebrated on the state and national stage. In 2019 the DSUSD received the prestigious California School Boards Association (CSBA) Golden Bell Award for its LTE network build project, which provided equitable access to broadband through district-provided devices. The project was included in a Government Accountability Office report to congress that same year. In 2021, the District received two Golden Bell Awards from CSBA for its unique early literacy and leadership programs, and was recognized by the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) with the Community Leadership for Digital Equity Award.

Amid the relentless challenges of a global pandemic, DSUSD continues to deliver on its vision, mission, and values. The synergy that was created within the educational community continues to serve the DSUSD well, as students, parents, staff, and community rallied together to expeditiously return students to in-person learning environments once it was deemed safe to do so following emergency school closures. The District celebrates its continued partnership with the local business community, a partnership that supports the District's employee recognition program, and a unique farm-to-lunchroom project with local farmers.

The success of the Desert Sands family would not be possible without the partnership between students, staff, and community, and a long history of excellence through innovation. In the words of Allison Cyr, our 2021 California Teacher of the Year, "our goal is to always be better than the day before."



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PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS IN LEARNING AND IN LIFE



Hemet Unified School District

1791 W. Acacia Ave., Hemet, CA 92545 • 951/765-5100 • www.hemetusd.org

Embrace. Educate. Empower.



Dr. Christi Barrett
Superintendent

One of my greatest joys this year has been seeing students back on our campuses where they can truly see, touch, hear, and feel the love and care we've provided throughout the last year of hybrid and online learning. Every member of HUSD should be proud of what we have accomplished. Though it has come with its challenges, the return to in-person instruction this academic year has brought new opportunities to Hemet Unified School District's students, staff, and parents. Opportunities which further our mission to Embrace, Educate, and Empower; Every student, Every day.

In HUSD, we are committed to providing students a safe and caring learning environment, rigorous instruction, access to technology, and relevant learning opportunities that will prepare students for success beyond high school. In order to do this well, we are working to shape a district culture which mobilizes people to do the work necessary to improve the systems, structures, and practices that support and sustain an accessible, rigorous, coherent, and articulated curriculum for all students, resulting in successful student learning.

As we focus on improved literacy and chronic absenteeism, we are fortunate to have dedicated faculty and staff who remain devoted to continuous improvement. Our desire is that families who attend our schools will take pride in the education that they are receiving and the future college and career opportunities that await them; So that ultimately, communities across the 700 square miles that we serve will be positively impacted for years to come.

Jurupa Unified School District

4850 Pedley Rd., Jurupa Valley, CA 92509 • 951/360-4100 • www.jurupausd.org

A Future Without Limits



Dr. Trenton Hansen
Superintendent

We are excited to have our students back for in-person classes in the Jurupa Unified School District this year. Although we continue to deal with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have remained steadfast in our promise to empower every child to unlock their potential to succeed in career, school and life.

We have many exciting initiatives and opportunities ahead of us. This fall, we conducted an Educational Equity Survey. Results from this survey will help to inform our educational plan for the next three to five years and ensure that we are providing an inclusive and meaningful educational experience for ALL students.

As part of our focus on helping all students succeed, we are proud to offer a robust Career Technical Education program that includes 22 CTE pathways. We also have a popular Dual Enrollment program that offers students a chance to earn community college credits while they finish their high school careers. The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Program is offered at all of our elementary, middle and comprehensive high schools. We also have a strong arts program that includes our Pacific Avenue Academy of Music as well as theater, choir band, orchestra, visual arts and more. Our Dual Immersion program, offered at three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school, supports fluency in two languages — a skill that is essential in today's global economy.

All of these programs are possible with the support of our Governing Board members, who believe in educating and supporting the whole child, so that they can continue *Learning Without Limits*.

Lake Elsinore Unified School District

545 Chaney St., Lake Elsinore, CA 92530 • 951/253-7000 • www.leusd.k12.ca.us

Challenges Spark Growth and Innovation



Dr. Douglas Kimberly
Superintendent

Over the past year, we grew a strong foundation working hand in hand to problem solve and innovate as COVID-19 impacted our regular teaching models and environments. Although extremely challenging, this past year sparked innovations in technology, instructional creativity, and social emotional tools for our students and staff. This takeaway is what we have carried forward into the 2021-22 school year.

It is with excitement that we welcomed students back to campus full time for the 2021-22 school year. All 23 school sites are bustling with students participating in a full day of instruction, activities, and athletics. After many months, it was a sight to see. For the families that have decided to participate in our distance learning programs, we look forward to celebrating the innovation successes and supporting all students with emotional mental health support, and connections to campus with events and activities.

I'm proud of our LEUSD board members, District and site administrators, and our staff for always keeping the safety of students and staff in front of every decision.

Together we will continue to celebrate the successes of our students and staff as we reengage in our classrooms and community. As we continue to work together, we will be able to make a difference in the lives of our students.

**Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn.**

— Benjamin Franklin



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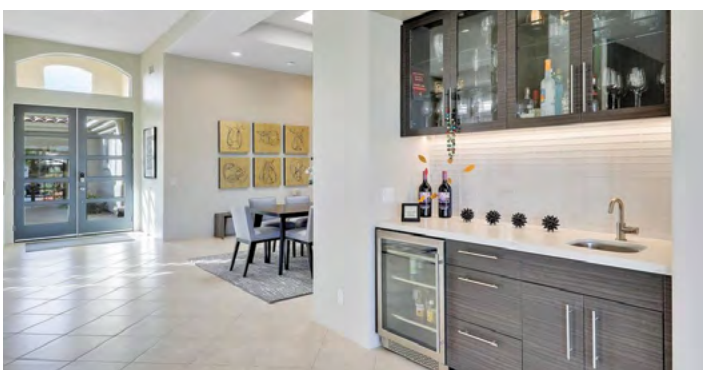
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Menifee Union School District

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Learn. Explore. Imagine.



Dr. Jennifer Root
Superintendent

In January 2020, the Menifee Union School District Board of Trustees made an intentional decision to bring together over 40 stakeholders to develop new vision and mission statements for our District. These vision and mission statements, approved in July 2021, now provide a tangible roadmap through which to guide the future of Menifee Union School District. “Engaging Young Minds for Limitless Futures” is the vision through which we will ensure success for all students. Research says that the children of today will have 5 to 10 different careers throughout their lifetime. It is important that we future-proof our students by preparing them not only with the necessary academic standards but that we teach them to communicate effectively, solve complex problems, work well with others, have perseverance, and be compassionate.

The new mission statement is “To inspire learning, exploration, and imagination.” This statement intentionally connects not only to children as it is the mission of the District to inspire these three things not only in our students but our staff and community as well. When we inspire our staff to learn, explore, and imagine, this directly impacts the quality of instruction and support services provided to our students.

As Walt Disney once said, “Our greatest natural resource is in the minds of our children.” It is a pleasure and a privilege for our team of dedicated professionals to work in collaboration with our community as we “Engage Young Minds for Limitless Futures.”

Murrieta Valley Unified School District

41870 McAlby Court, Murrieta, CA 92562 • 951/696-1600 • www.murrieta.k12.ca.us

Continuously Inspiring Students



Patrick Kelley
Superintendent

Murrieta Valley Unified School District (MVUSD) educates students ages 3 to 23 with excellent programs and services aimed at providing all students an opportunity to excel.

Our highly acclaimed visual and performing arts programs, championship athletic programs, nationally recognized student activities, high parent involvement and rigorous course work are several reasons why MVUSD continues to be one of the highest performing school districts in Riverside County with the highest graduation rates. Even through the pandemic, our world class educational programs continued and encouraged us to reimagine learning by tailoring education for our families. We integrate advanced academics with partnerships with MSJC and Cal State

University San Marcos. We’ve added career technical education pathways and are proudly the only district in Riverside County with a Fire Science pathway. While welcoming students back to campus, we also opened a Learn@Home program, which gives families an opportunity to tailor their student’s education in a post pandemic environment, virtual, homeschool or independent study. We also earned the distinction of having an AVID Demonstration school at each grade level and a CSBA Golden Bell Award for our Horizons Unlimited Arts Program for K-5.

Our success as a district is due in large part to the quality teachers, staff and connected parents who participate in one of several parent groups at the district and school site levels. Our dedicated school board, excellent teachers and administrators have a shared commitment to provide the very best educational opportunities for all students. In doing so, we can continue to tradition of inspiring students to think, to learn, to achieve and to care.

Moreno Valley Unified School District

25634 Alessandro Blvd., Moreno Valley, CA 92553 • 951/571-7500 • www.mvusd.net

Excellence on Purpose



Dr. Martinrex Kedziora
Superintendent

During the past two years, we have had to *Reimagine* how we educate our students in a completely new environment. As the superintendent of the Moreno Valley Unified School District and on behalf of the Board of Education, we are incredibly proud of all students and staff for their accomplishments despite these challenges.

Our graduating class of more than 2,300 students earned over \$165 million dollars in scholarships and grants. All four of our comprehensive high schools were named in the *U.S. News and World Report* 2021 Best High Schools!

Some of our achievements this year include receiving a Golden Bell Award for the Canyon Springs High School’s Anti-Bullying Club, also known as ABC Club. Fifteen of our schools have established Esports programs since August and our district has become an affiliate of the North America Scholastic Esports Federation. We are the first school district in our local county and state to have all high schools and middle schools with Esports programs.

Our district was also one of six recipients of the first-ever Power of Hope Award. The award recognizes school districts that engage school counselors in leadership roles that effectively organize and implement grades 6-12 college and career postsecondary enrollment strategies.

Valley View High School is one of only 232 schools to be recognized by the College Board for earning the school an AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award. It also received an Exemplary Arts Education (EAE) Award, which honors California public schools that offer high-quality, sequential course offerings in arts, media and entertainment.

We deeply appreciate everyone who has helped our students continue to Shine Brighter with Excellence on Purpose!

Nuviev Union School District

29780 Lakeview Ave., Nuevo, CA 92567 • 951/928-0066 • www.nuvievusd.org

Our Goal is Excellence



John Huber
Superintendent

The Nuviev Union School District is a small, TK-8 district that serves students in the Lakeview, Perris, and Nuevo communities. The District comprises of two TK-6th grade elementary schools, one 7-8 middle school, and one dependent charter high school.

Our focus in Nuviev Union School District is developing a well-rounded educational experience for our students. Professional Development has been provided to our staff in core areas such as Direct Interactive Instruction and Step Up to Writing. Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports is also implemented in each of our schools to provide a behavioral framework for students in NUSD. Each of our TK-8 schools is equipped with a dedicated STEM lab where students have the opportunity to work hands-on with the Next Generation Science Standards. Each school also has a Teacher on Special Assignment to help deliver Tier 2 Intervention to identified students and uses the I-Ready and Dreambox programs to help address students’ needs needing intervention. In addition, our elementary schools each have a full-time PE teacher, allowing for additional small group interventions. Nuviev Bridge Early College High School is a small dependent charter high school in our District that offers all students an opportunity to go to college while still enrolled in high school and had a 100 percent graduation rate last year.

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 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.

Palo Verde Unified School District

825 N. Lovekin Blvd., Blythe, CA 92225 • 760/922-4164 • www.pvusd.us

Going the Extra Mile



Tracie Kern
Superintendent

Students, staff, families and our community continue to go “The Extra Mile” to take care of each other and make sure the needs of all are met. Student and staff learning is the heart beat of Palo Verde Unified School District. In order for learning to take place; health and wellness is essential.

This year, PVUSD staff is meeting the health, wellness and learning needs of our students and their families by “Going the Extra Mile” above the marathon of the pandemic. Students have access to school meals if they are attending in-person or through the independent study program. In addition, students can pick up their bulk meals every Wednesday of grocery bags filled with school meals. Staff “Going the Extra Mile” allows for

PVUSD students to have access to school meals seven days a week. Students are provided access to health services for educational and athletic purposes through the partnership of health clinics offering physicals for sports, school required shots, and COVID related vaccines. The transportation department “Goes the Extra Mile” to make sure all students have access to in-person learning and extra-curricular events by continuing to remove any barrier to allow rural, isolated students access through bussing. PVUSD educators continue to “Go the Extra Mile” in their marathon to meet the learning needs of their students as they adjust to ever-changing conditions on their path.

PVUSD honors our determined staff with our “Extra Mile” recognition presented at each school board meeting. The “Extra Mile” staff members are nominated by their peers, students and our community and they are featured in our local newspaper and radio announcements

Palm Springs Unified School District

150 District Center Dr., Palm Springs, CA 92264 • 760/883-2700 • www.psusd.us

Lifelong Learning Starts Here!



Dr. Mike Swize
Superintendent

“Relationships Matter,” and we at Palm Springs Unified School District are heavily focused on cultivating and maintaining strong connections amongst students and staff in our continuing effort to provide each of our nearly 21,000 students with the tools they need to succeed academically, socially and emotionally in a safe and nurturing learning environment.

“Lifelong Learning Starts Here!” continues to be our vision statement here in PSUSD, and our focus is on college and career readiness. It is a truly honor and pleasure to be serving as the Superintendent of Schools in a district where all staff members are committed to striving to do what’s best for students. We are guided by the principles of student equity and meeting the needs of each of our students. To that end, we provide free breakfast, lunch and supper meals for all students, have counselors at each elementary and secondary school, provide a robust TK-12 arts enrichment program and have a full mental health department. The members of our Board of Education, administrators, administrators and support personnel could not be more dedicated to meeting the needs of each and every one of our students because they truly believe that all students can and deserve to learn.

We are a PreK-12 District with 27 schools, many early childhood education programs and a hybrid online academy. We have an elementary dual immersion language program, middle school foreign language elective and each of our high schools has at least two Career Academies, along with career pathways aimed at preparing our students for higher education and/or careers.



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Perris Elementary School District

143 East 1st St., Perris, CA 92570 • 951/657-3118 • www.perris.k12.ca.us

New Beginnings



Jean Marie Frey
Superintendent

The Perris Elementary School District serves approximately 5,400 students. The district has a preschool, seven TK-6 elementary schools, a K-8 dependent charter school, and a new K-6 virtual academy.

This year, we were elated to welcome students back to campus for in-person instruction. Knowing that the best place for our students is in the classroom, everyone worked hard to ensure a strong rollout for the school year. In addition to our rigorous, standards based instructional program, we continue implementation of our multi-tiered system of supports to ensure equity and access for all students. This year we also strengthened our social-emotional learning (SEL) instruction and supports

for students through the continuation of daily classroom lessons, our school counseling program and the addition of student support providers that can provide additional counseling and therapy as needed. Students at every school in the PESD participate in regular Art and PE instruction. By doing so, we are able to provide a broader, comprehensive instructional program for students.

Our Saturday Academies and STEAM Enrichment Camps provide students opportunities to participate in a variety of programs that offer not only enrichment activities but also foster positive student connections with our schools. Students look forward to attending these programs, as they provide a low stress, engaging curriculum in which all are successful.

The achievements our district continues to make would not be possible without the support of everyone involved. Our teachers, classified staff, administrative team, as well as our parents and community have fostered positive working relationships for one cause; serving the students in our community.

Perris Union High School District

155 4th St., Perris, CA 92570 • 951/943-6369 • www.puhisd.org

Getting Back to Business



Grant Bennett
Superintendent

The first-semester transition back to in-person learning has not come without struggles. Students and staff had been out of the classroom for more than a year and a half. To support our students, we have hired extra counselors, added social workers to our staff and created Wellness Rooms on every campus in the District. These new resources have helped numerous students get back into the flow of a more normal educational process. The current freshman class was last on campus as seventh-graders and our seventh-grade students were last in school as fifth graders. The transition to high school or middle school is difficult enough without the challenges these students have faced.

The Perris HighSchool District will support our students both socially/emotionally and academically as we move through this year and the years to come. We have offered vaccine clinics for our students at each of our schools to families interested in being vaccinated.

The staff has felt many of our students' same apprehensions and emotions. The staff has continued to push on, even though being short-handed and not having enough people interested in substituting. At our two professional development days in October, we flipped the script and instead of heavy staff development days we had two wellness days for staff to work on self-care. It was a time for staff to regroup and enjoy some time taking care of themselves. There were optional activities each day and breakfast/lunch brought in each day. It turned out to be two wonderful days.



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Riverside Unified School District

3380 14th St., Riverside, CA 92501 • 951/788-7135 • www.riversideunified.org

Living Our Values



Renee Hill
Superintendent

Riverside Unified School District's mission is to provide engaging, innovative, and equitable learning experiences for all students. This work is guided by our values of community, engagement, equity, excellence, innovation, and well-being. With schools dating back to the 1870s, the award-winning RUSD is now California's sixteenth largest school district, educating nearly 40,000 students across 50 schools.

RUSD is led by Superintendent Renee Hill and governed by a Board of Education composed of publicly elected officials who serve five trustee areas. The trustees work with the superintendent as a united governance team. Superintendent Hill's goals are bold yet simple and best outlined in the acronym **C.A.R.E.**

Care. Make sure that everyone feels cared for and cared about, not only in the classroom but also in the community.

Academic achievement. The primary mission of Riverside Unified is to make sure we help our students meet their aspirations, develop their full potential, and open new worlds so our students understand their bright futures and all the possibilities the world holds for them.

Reduce service gaps. Evaluate outstanding projects that must be completed, including facilities maintenance, academic performance, office culture, and entry manner of service so that we can continuously get better and better.

Excellence every time. Expect excellence from staff, students, families, and our community. We can, and should, strive for excellence with every goal we set and project we complete.

RUSD proudly offers multiple award-winning programs like AVID K-12, International Baccalaureate, Project Lead the Way, Dual Language Immersion, Career Technical Education Pathways, STEM Academy, Core Knowledge, and model continuation programs.

Romoland School District

25900 Leon Rd., Homeland, CA 92548 • 951/926-9244 • www.romoland.net

Blended Inclusive Preschool Program



Trevor J. Painton
Superintendent

Romoland School District has always focused on inclusivity in the classroom. Our Blended Inclusive Preschool Program is an early childhood education program for children ages three to five years old that highlights our focus on inclusion by including students with physical, mental, and developmental disabilities in classrooms with their general education peers.

In partnership with families, this child-centered program provides opportunities for developmentally appropriate learning experiences that have lifelong benefits for students.

The classrooms are uniquely designed through a collaboration between the District's Early Childhood Education and Special Education departments to bridge identified gaps with student services, serve students within their district of residence, and better meet the needs of preschool-age students in the community.

The program's goal is to provide an environment that allows for peer-to-peer role modeling as well as a least restrictive learning environment while providing the necessary additional support of qualified special education staff. Blended classrooms utilize a collaborative, co-teaching model with a State Preschool Teacher, an appropriately credentialed Special Education Teacher, and a Special Educational Instructional Aide. A variety of evidence-based methods for instruction are utilized such as providing opportunities for hands-on learning and use of visuals. Research-based curricula are incorporated to ensure all staff teach the same material linked to standards, thus allowing for collaboration and ease with co-planning and co-teaching. Teachers regularly adjust the curriculum, based on observations of students and collaboration with families to learn about individual family needs.

These collaborative strategies focus on preparing all students with pre-academic skills needed for elementary school level success with an additional focus on fostering independence among students with disabilities.

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San Jacinto Unified School District

2045 S. San Jacinto Ave., San Jacinto, CA 92583 • 951/929-7700 • www.sanjacinto.k12.ca.us

Our Students are Our Highest Priority



Dr. David Pyle
Superintendent

San Jacinto Unified School District's safe, nurturing, transformative and equitable culture ensures each and every student graduates college and career-ready with a passion for learning, the motivation to live responsibly and the capacity to be problem solvers as they successfully navigate their unique futures. Our district ensures our vision is actualized by making decisions based on our values. In SJUSD, we put students first: our students are our highest priority. What's best for students guides our decision-making process every day. We emphasize the importance of respectful relationships between students and staff: strong, respectful relationships are the cornerstone of quality educational experiences. Our students and staff are

valued and consistently demonstrate a high level of integrity, compassion, and respect. SJUSD creates systems that provide for educational equity: every student receives the academic, social, and emotional support needed to succeed. Resources are allocated to eradicate persistent achievement and opportunity gaps. SJUSD's staff regularly engage in purposeful collaboration, recognizing that collaborative learning environments are needed to inspire students and adults to achieve at their highest potential.

We encourage our parents and guardians to continue taking an active role in their student's education. This can take on a variety of forms: talk to your student each day about what was learned in school, read to your student, keep up with district and school news and activities via social media.

While the 2021-22 school year has provided us with many unforeseen obstacles, we remain committed to providing a 1st rate educational experience to the students and community we serve.

Val Verde Unified School District

975 West Morgan ST., Perris, CA 92571 • 951/940-6100 • www.valverde.edu

A Future Ready District



Michael R. McCormick
Superintendent

The 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.

While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to create many challenges for education, the Val Verde Unified School district is well prepared to continue meeting those challenges. We are fortunate to have a Board that recognizes the importance of providing quality and equitable resources to our students and families. As we returned to in-person instruction after more than a year of being out, we have put our focus on our student mental health and their well-being.

In order to strengthen our efforts, we have added counselors and counseling therapists at every school site. In addition, students now have access to 24/7 online tutoring support as well as high dosage tutoring. Our Family Engagement division continues to provide informative classes and trainings for our families. Their partnership with our parents and students strengthens connections not only with the district, but with the community we serve.

Val Verde has always prided itself on being a Future Ready District. COVID-19 has put those words to the test. We are confident in our ability to continue delivering a quality education to our communities. We sincerely thank all of our education partners for their valuable patience and understanding during this very trying time.

Temecula Valley Unified School District

31350 Rancho Vista Rd., Temecula, CA 92592 • 951/676-2661 • www.tvusd.k12.ca.us

Opportunities Abound Amidst Pivoting



Dr. Jodi McClay
Superintendent

Like all districts, TVUSD has become 'masters of change' since the pandemic began. We have transitioned overnight to distance learning; re-opened part-time; re-opened full-time; designed virtual and hybrid programs on a dime; become instant experts on contact tracing and quarantining; and learned new roles as we operated schools with as many as half of our staff absent.

What a year! But despite the ever-changing daily obstacles, like most districts, we've remained positive and sought opportunities to learn and grow from the latest challenges. Several such benefits are the Home Instead Innovation Academy (HIIA), our high school "FLEX" program, and our one-to-one technology integration. HIIA opened its doors TK-8 in August 2021 and quickly grew to nearly 800 students! The program, designed to offer a virtual program with on-campus, voluntary, daily electives has been a huge success! Afternoon courses in STEM, the arts, coding, and more draw students on-campus in smaller numbers while they work remotely in the mornings. The high school FLEX program allows students the flexibility to take some classes on the comprehensive high school campuses while taking others online as their schedules permit. And finally, the one-to-one technology initiative has allowed TVUSD teachers, students, and parents to access our curriculum while in-school and at-home, with integration around the "Four C's" — critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication and continued access to the high quality teaching and learning TVUSD prides itself on.

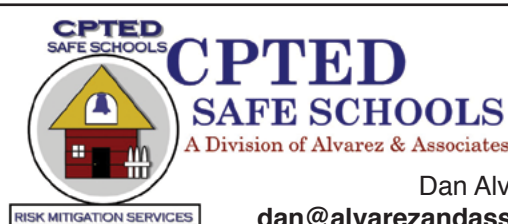
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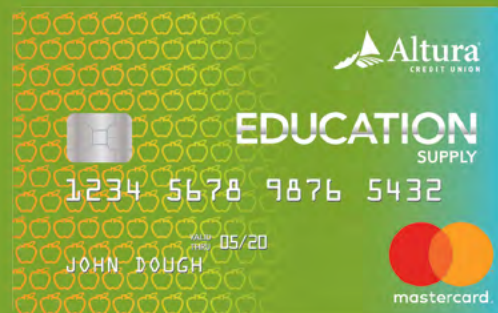
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