

School News

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Covering the San Marino Unified School District

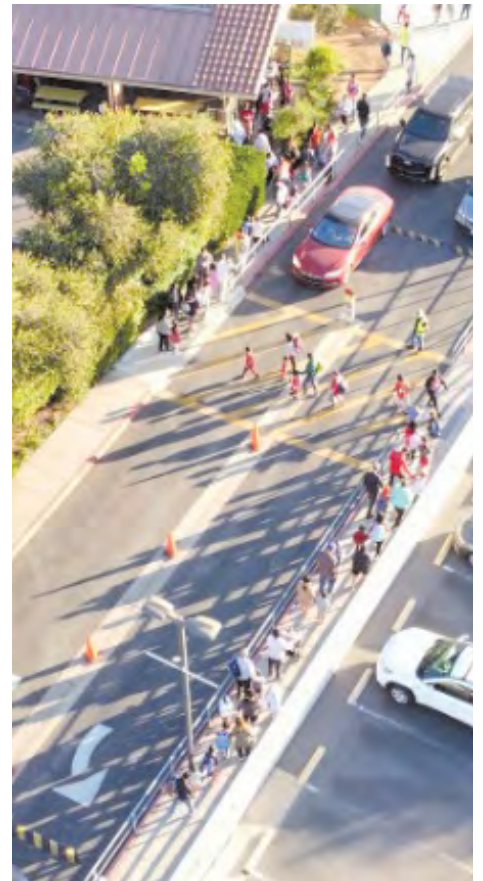


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Celebrating Red Ribbon Week, Soaring Above Carver Elementary School

在 Carver 小學聚首齊歡紅絲帶週



Reaching New Heights: Celebrating San Marino Unified School District's Exceptional Achievements

As Superintendent of the San Marino Unified School District, it is my great pleasure to share some of the remarkable successes we've experienced this year. Together, we are truly "Reaching New Heights," and I couldn't be prouder of our dedicated students, talented staff, and supportive community.

Our District is officially the top-performing unified school district in California based on the latest CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) results. Our students have excelled in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, reflecting the unwavering commitment of our teachers, administrators, and staff to provide a world-class education. This incredible achievement speaks to the academic rigor and personalized support our students receive every day.

The Mandarin Dual Language Immersion program at Carver Elementary is a shining example of forward-thinking education in action. This program is not only enriching our students' academic careers but also equipping them with critical language skills that will benefit them in our increasingly globalized world.

At San Marino High School, the highly successful Medical Arts Academy continues to offer students unparalleled opportunities in healthcare education. This program, now in its second year, prepares students for future careers in medicine and health sciences, all while providing hands-on experience and exposure to real-world medical practices. Our partnership with Pasadena City College ensures that our students have access to top-tier educational resources as they prepare for the future.

Additionally, our students have achieved an impressive 93% pass rate on their Advanced Placement (AP) exams, demonstrating their academic excellence across a wide range of subjects. This outstanding performance has earned our high school Platinum status on the 2024 AP School Honor Roll Progress Report. We are equally excited about the resources we've made available to support their success, including iReady (K-5) and NWEA/IXL (6-12) diagnostic assessments, and free access to Tutor.com, an invaluable online platform offering on-demand tutoring services to students whenever they need it.

Moreover, San Marino High School has been named a National Blue Ribbon School. This prestigious award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, teachers, and staff, as well as the unwavering support of our parents and community. It is an honor that reflects our shared commitment to excellence and our determination to provide the best possible education for every student.

Our accomplishments are only possible because of the collective efforts of our entire community. I want to express my deepest gratitude to our extraordinary Board members, teachers, administrators, and staff for their passion and expertise. I also want to thank our parents, community members, and education partners for their steadfast support. Your involvement in our schools strengthens the bond between home and classroom, ensuring that our students thrive.

As we continue "Reaching New Heights," I am confident that San Marino Unified School District will continue to excel. Together, we will build on our achievements, innovate in our approaches, and prepare our students for bright futures. Thank you for being a part of this journey, and I look forward to celebrating even more successes in the years to come..



Dr. Linda de la Torre
Superintendent

攀登新高峰：慶祝聖馬利諾聯合學區的卓越成就

作為聖馬利諾聯合學區的校監，我非常高興與大家分享我們今年的傑出成就。我們確實在一起“攀登新高峰”，我為我敬業的學生、才華洋溢的教職員以及支持我們的社區感到無比自豪。

根據最新的 CAASPP (加州學生表現與進步評估) 成績結果，我們學區正式成為加州成績最佳的聯合學區。我們的學生在英語語言藝術 (ELA) 和數學方面均表現出色，這反映了我們教師、行政人員和教職員提供世界級教育的堅定承諾。這一驚人的成就展現了我們每日為學生提供的學術嚴謹和個性化支持。

Carver 小學的沉浸式中英文雙語教學 (簡稱: MDLIP) 課程是一個前瞻性的教育典範。這項課程不僅豐富了我們學生的學術生涯，還讓他們掌握在全球化世界中受益的關鍵語言技能。

在聖馬利諾高中，成功的醫學藝術學院持續為學生提供醫療教育的無與倫比機會。該課程已邁入第二年，讓學生在醫學和健康科學方面的未來職業發展做好準備，同時提供實地經驗和真實醫療實踐的接觸機會。我們與帕薩迪納城市學院 (PCC) 的合作，確保學生在為未來做準備時能夠接觸到頂級教育資源。

此外，我們的學生在大學先修 (AP) 考試中取得了 93% 的優秀成績，展現了他們在多領域的卓越學術能力。這一優異的表現使我們的高中在 2024 年 AP 學校榮譽榜進步報告中獲得鉑金地位。我們同樣對為學生成功提供的學習資源感到欣慰，包括 iReady (K-5 小學) 和 NWEA/IXL (6-12 國中到高中) 測試評估，以及免費造訪 Tutor.com，這是一個提供隨時需求學習輔導的寶貴線上平台。

此外，聖馬利諾高中被評為全國藍帶學校。這項殊榮是對我校學生、教師和教職員辛勤付出和奉獻的肯定，並且感謝家長和社區堅定不移的支持。這是對我們共同追求卓越以及致力於為每位學生提供最佳教育的榮耀。

我們的成就得益於全體社區的共同努力。我在此向我們傑出的校董會成員、教師、行政人員和教職員的熱情和專業表示最深切的感謝。我還要感謝我們的家長、社區成員和教育夥伴持續的堅定支持。您對我們學校的參與加強了家庭和教室之間的聯繫，確保我們的學生茁壯成長。

在“攀登新高峰”的過程中，我深信聖馬利諾聯合學區將持續卓越。我們將共同在成就的基礎上創新，並為學生鵬程萬里的未來做好準備。感謝您參與這段旅程，讓我們期待未來慶祝更多的成功。



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San Marino Unified School District Soars To New Heights

By Shelley Ryan, School Board President

San Marino Unified School District (SMUSD) is reaching new heights by continuously striving for academic excellence and introducing innovative programs. The district's number one ranked test scores are a testament to its commitment to delivering a high quality education, with students consistently surpassing state and national benchmarks. These outstanding results highlight the dedication of our students, as well as the unwavering support of our talented teachers, staff, parents, and the broader community.

The district is also seeing a rise in enrollment, reflecting a growing recognition of SMUSD's dedication to a premier educational experience. This steady increase in student numbers underscores the district's strong academic reputation and its capacity to cater to diverse student needs.

One of the cornerstones of our success is the dual language immersion program, which provides students the valuable opportunity to become proficient in two languages while gaining a deeper understanding of diverse cultures. This program not only enhances language skills but also equips students for success in an interconnected global environment.

Adding to its broad spectrum of offerings, SMUSD has developed specialized pathways in medical arts and careers, preparing students for the dynamic and expanding fields of healthcare. These pathways provide hands-on experiences, access to industry professionals, and exposure to advanced medical concepts, enabling students to explore potential career opportunities in medicine and health sciences. This focus ensures that graduates are not only academically prepared but also ready to step into critical and high demand careers.

Furthermore, SMUSD remains committed to fostering student achievement through innovative resources. Initiatives like Tutor.com give students access to personalized, one on one tutoring around the clock, ensuring they receive the academic support they need when they need it. This focus on accessible and tailored learning helps every student excel.

By prioritizing student support, academic growth, and career readiness, San Marino Unified School District continues to set new standards of success, preparing our students to thrive in the future.

瑪利諾聯合學區再攀高峰

學校董事會主席 Shelley Ryan

聖瑪利諾聯合學區（簡稱: SMUSD）不斷追求學術卓越並引入創新計劃，正邁向新的高峰。本學區的考試成績全國排名第一，充分體現其提供高品質教育的承諾，學生的表現一貫超越州和全國標準。這些卓越的成績彰顯了學生的努力，並展示了我們才華橫溢的教師、員工、家長以及整個社區的堅定支持。

學區的入學人數也在不斷上升，這反映了社會對 SMUSD 致力於優質教育體驗的日益認可。學生人數的穩步增長進一步突顯了學區強大的學術聲譽和滿足多樣化學生需求的能力。

我們成功的基石之一是沉浸式中英文雙語教學（簡稱: MDLIP）計劃，這為學生提供了成為雙語流利者的寶貴機會，並幫助他們更深入地理解不同的文化。該計劃不僅增強了語言技能，還為學生在全球互聯的環境中取得成功奠定了基礎。

除新增其廣泛的課程範疇外，SMUSD 還開發了醫療藝術和職業專業道路，為學生進入充滿活力且不斷擴展的醫療保健領域做好準備。這些專業道路為學生提供實踐經驗、接觸行業專業人士的機會，並了解先進的醫學概念，使學生能夠探索醫學和健康科學領域的潛在職業機會。這一重點確保畢業生不僅在學術上準備充分，還準備好進入關鍵且需求旺盛的職業。

此外，SMUSD 致力於透過創新資源促進學生的成就。像 Tutor.com 這樣的舉措讓學生可以全天候獲得一對一的個性化輔導，確保他們在需要時獲得所需的學術支援。這種專注於可及性和量身訂製的學習方式幫助每位學生出類拔萃。

透過優先考慮學生支援、學術成長和職業準備，聖瑪利諾聯合學區繼續樹立新的成功標準，為我們的學生在未來蓬勃發展做好準備。



San Marino Schools Foundation

1665 West Dr., San Marino, CA 91108 • 626/299-7014 • www.smsf.org



Reaching New Heights: Soaring Commitment

The San Marino Schools Foundation exists to provide supplemental funding to the District to achieve its mission of providing an outstanding education for every student. So we are very proud that San Marino High School was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a National Blue Ribbon School Award recipient for 2024. The accolades continue with San Marino High School achieving the top spot in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) test rankings for 2023-2024.

These impressive achievements underscore the consistent commitment and support of students and education by The Foundation, the District, and the San Marino community. This commitment is especially evident in the financial support of The Foundation by San Marino parents and the community. In spite of being one of the lowest funded school districts in California, the community steps up each year to ensure the District has the funding needed to achieve exceptional student performance and recognition. San Marino schools will continue to harness the support of parents and the community to ensure its students receive the best education and school experience possible. Awards and recognition simply serve as a testament to that commitment.



Tony Woo
President

攀登新高峰：翱翔的承諾

聖瑪利諾學校基金會的宗旨是為學區提供額外的資金支持，以實現為每一位學生提供卓越教育的使命。因此，我們非常自豪地宣布，聖瑪利諾高中在2024年獲得美國教育部頒發的國家藍帶學校獎。隨之而來的榮譽還包括聖瑪利諾高中在2023-2024年度的加州學生表現和進步評估（簡稱：CAASPP）測試中名列前茅，獲得了最高排名。

這些傑出成就突顯了基金會、學區以及聖瑪利諾社區對學生及教育的持續承諾和支持。這種承諾特別體現在聖瑪利諾家長和社區對基金會的財務支持上。儘管聖瑪利諾學區是加州資金最少的學區之一，但社區每年都挺身而出積極支持，確保學區擁有實現卓越學生表現和榮譽所需的資金。聖瑪利諾學校將繼續依靠家長和社區的支持，以確保其學生能獲得最佳的教育和校園體驗。這些獎項與榮譽正是對這一承諾的見證。



2024-2025

San Marino Unified School District

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Marisa Kelly, President

PTA Raises The Bar

San Marino Parent Teacher Associations are proud to answer the call of our administration, parents, teachers and students to elevate our schools across the district each and every school year. Not resting on our laurels, PTA strives to overachieve, keeping up with the latest and greatest in every aspect of education to not only maintain our nationally recognized schools, but to go above and beyond to help provide the best possible education, programs and resources for our students.

PTA is committed to raising the bar for everything San Marino School District is known for: rigorous academics, high achieving visual and performing arts programs, top tier athletics, cutting edge technology, and most importantly, positivity. Our parents, teachers and staff come together to help raise funds and lead our exciting community engagement events, uniting our families to make our schools stronger and our students' futures brighter.

家長教師協會 (PTA) 提升標準

聖瑪利諾家長教師協會 (PTA) 自豪地回應我們的行政部門、家長、教師和學生的號召，每學年都致力於提升我們整個學區的學校水準。家長教師協會 (PTA) 不滿足於現有的成就，力求超越，緊跟教育領域的最新趨勢，致力於不僅維持我們在全國享有盛譽的學校地位，還要不斷突破，以提供最佳的教育、課程和資源，讓學生獲得最好的學習體驗。

家長教師協會 (PTA) 致力於提升聖瑪利諾學區所聞名的一切：嚴謹的學術課程、高成就的視覺與表演藝術課程、頂尖級的體育運動、尖端的技術以及最重要的積極氛圍聞名。我們的家長、教師和工作人員齊心協力，不僅籌集資金，還主辦精彩的社區互動活動，團結家庭，讓我們的學校更強大，引領我們的學生走向更光明的未來。



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Aubtin's Review



Aubtin M.

Fourth Grade: Impossible.

Title: *Ramona's World*
Author: Beverly Cleary
Ramona Quimby is a funny book series about a girl named Ramona growing up and the challenges she faces while doing that.



Ramona Quimby is now in fourth grade, which she expects to be the best year of her life. But unfortunately, things aren't turning out as she thought they would. True, she becomes best friends with a girl named Daisy. But how can she have a good year when her teacher, Ms. Meacham, insists that she should improve her spelling and she must be a role model for baby sister, Roberta? However, on the bright side, she has a tenth birthday to celebrate. What will happen for Ramona in fourth grade? What obstacles will she face? Will it be a good year for her? I recommend you read this book to find out.

This book is hilarious and teaches that things may not always turn out as expected. I hope that you will like it and find out what challenges you might face when you're in fourth grade!

Aubtin is a 3rd Grader. When not playing, Aubtin does writing, reading, and drawing. He also likes sports, trains, books and TV. He cares a lot about his family and friends.



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Reaching New Heights: A Magical Place

K.L. Carver is one of the top performing elementary schools in California. This is based upon the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). We are proud of that!

We here at Carver know that, though these test results are impressive and something to be proud of, they don't tell the whole story of what makes us such an amazing place.

K.L. Carver has been part of the San Marino community for over 75 years. Over those years a legacy has been built that brings all of the ingredients together to have a school that is truly a magical place.

Carver has amazing teachers and staff that are committed to our students and our broader community. In fact, over 80% of our Carver staff either have, or have had their own children attend our amazing school. Carver staff really is an extended family.

Carver has a powerful spirit of volunteerism. Our families, current and past, give freely and regularly to our school. They give of their time, energy, expertise and treasure. Our students see just how involved their families are in their daily education. This helps to create an unparalleled sense of community. Our students come to school at an incredibly high rate. Our attendance is regularly over 98%

Most importantly, Carver has amazing students. Our students know that they are loved – yes loved – at Carver. Our students are challenged by their amazing teachers and staff. They are supported by their families and extended families. And, as a result they find joy in learning and being part of our magical school.

Certainly, by the objective measures of state testing, Carver Rocks!!! By the less tangible, but truly the more important things, that make our school such a magical, joyous and wonderful place, Carver absolutely Rocks!



Stuart Caldwell
Principal

高峰再攀：充滿奇妙的地方

K.L. Carver 小學是加州表現最優秀的小學之一，這是根據加州學生表現和進步評估 (CAASPP) 得出的結論。我們為此感到自豪！

在 Carver 小學，我們深知，儘管這些考試成績令人印象深刻且值得自豪，但它們並不能完整地展現出讓我校成為如此優秀的學習環境的主要原因。

Carver 小學已經是超過 75 年聖瑪利諾社區的一部分。在這些歲月裡，一個傳承逐漸形成，將所有要素結合在一起，讓我們的學校成為一個真正神奇的地方。

Carver 小學擁有一支卓越的教職員隊伍，致力於服務學生和我們的大家庭。事實上，超過 80% 的 Carver 小學員工都曾讓自己孩子入讀這所卓越的學校。Carver 小學的教職員是這大家庭的延伸。

Carver 小學擁有強大的志願服務精神。我們的家庭，無論是現任的還是過去的，定期並無私地奉獻給學校。他們貢獻自己的時間、精力、專業知識和財富。我們的學生每天都看到家人如何深度參與他們的日常教育，這有助於創造一種無與倫比的社區意識。我們的學生上學的出席率也非常高，出勤率經常超過 98%。

最重要的是，Carver 小學擁有出色的學生。我們的學生知道他們在 Carver 小學受到關愛——是的，是被關愛著的。學生們在出色的教師和員工的指導下接受每種新挑戰，並得到了家人及大家庭的全力支持。因此，學生們在學習和成為我們這所神奇學校的一部分中找到喜悅和樂趣。

當然，根據國家考試的客觀衡量標準來看，Carver 小學真的很棒！但更重要的是那些無法具體衡量、卻讓我們學校充滿神奇、喜悅和美好氛圍的事物，Carver 小學絕對是名副其實的出色之地！



Reaching New Heights: Raising the Bar!

The students throughout the San Marino Unified School District (SMUSD) have set an impressive benchmark, achieving the highest CAASPP Math and English scores in the state of California, outperforming neighboring districts like La Cañada. These results reflect a committed effort by students, teachers, and staff who are continually working to reach new heights and raise the bar in academic excellence.

Huntington middle school students scored an outstanding 86.97% in English Language Arts (ELA) and 84.21% in Math on the CAASPP. Among them, seventh graders led the charge, posting the highest scores across all grades with an impressive 89% in ELA and 86% in Math. English Language Learners (ELLs) demonstrated remarkable progress as well, achieving a 90.65% in ELA and 85.36% in Math.

This success is partially attributed to the district's updated curriculum, including the expanded use of IXL, now supporting students in English and Math from 6th through 8th grade, as well as in Science. This adaptive learning tool provides real-time feedback, allowing teachers to fine-tune their instructional methods and address specific student needs.

Huntington's science team is piloting a new curriculum called StemScopes, while the Social Science team is introducing weekly Document-Based Questions (DBQ) to promote critical inquiry. Teachers are also integrating Universal Design for Learning (UDL) techniques to create inclusive classrooms, conduct peer walkthroughs, and share best practices, fostering a collaborative learning environment.

Beyond academics, HMS is supporting student wellness through an expanded Wellness team, which now includes an additional counselor. The team collaborates with staff to help students build coping strategies, with the belief that happy, well-supported students excel academically and personally.

The success at HMS goes beyond academics, with the Varsity Flag Football team and JV Girls Volleyball team both capturing league championships this fall. This year, SMUSD is celebrating not only high CAASPP scores but also a strong school community spirit, academic achievements, and athletic victories that embody the pride of being a Fox!



Mary Hazlett
Principal

再攀新高峰: 提升標準!

聖瑪利諾聯合學區 (簡稱 SMUSD) 的學生們樹立了一個令人印象深刻的標杆, 在全加州的 CAASPP 數學和英語測試中獲得了最高分, 表現優於 La Cañada 等鄰近學區。這些成績反映了學生、教師和工作人員的不懈努力, 他們不斷攀登新高峰並提升學術卓越的標準。

在 CAASPP 測試中, 杭廷頓中學的學生在英語語言藝術 (ELA) 方面取得了 86.97% 的優異成績, 而數學成績則達到 84.21%。其中, 七年級學生領先各個年級, 在 ELA 成績達到 89%, 數學成績則為 86%。英語學習者 (ELLs) 也展現了顯著的進步, 在 ELA 成績取得了 90.65%, 數學成績則達到 85.36%。

這些成就部分歸功於學區更新的課程, 包括擴大使用 IXL, 現已支持六到八年級的英語和數學教學, 並涵蓋科學課程。這款自適應學習工具提供實時反饋, 使教師能夠細緻調整教學方法, 針對學生的特定需求進行教學。

杭廷頓中學的科學團隊正在試行一套名為 StemScopes 的新課程, 而社會科學團隊正在引入每週的「文件型問題 (DBQ)」以促進批判性探究。教師們也正在整合「通用學習設計 (UDL)」技術, 創建包容性的教室環境, 進行同儕教學觀摩, 分享最佳實踐, 營造合作學習的氛圍。

除了學業成績外, 杭廷頓中學還透過擴大健康中心團隊的服務來支援學生的身心健康, 現新增了一名輔導員。健康中心團隊與教職員工相互合作, 幫助學生建立應對策略, 相信快樂且受到良好支持的學生在學業和個人生活中都能表現出色。

杭廷頓中學的成功不僅限於學術成績, 校隊中, 旗幟橄欖球校隊和女子排球校隊均在本秋季賽季中奪得了聯賽冠軍。今年, SMUSD 不僅慶祝優異的 CAASPP 成績, 還展現了強大的校園社區精神、學術成就和體育勝利, 這些都充分體現了成為「狐狸隊 (Fox)」的一份驕傲!

San Marino High School Celebrates Historic Achievements

San Marino High School (SMHS) has made headlines with a remarkable trifecta of accomplishments, solidifying its reputation as a premier educational institution.

The school has been awarded the prestigious National Blue Ribbon Award, a distinction given by the U.S. Department of Education to recognize exemplary schools across the nation. This honor reflects SMHS's commitment to academic excellence and its dedication to fostering a supportive learning environment.

In addition to the Blue Ribbon accolade, SMHS has earned the title of an AP Honor Roll Platinum School. This recognition highlights the school's exceptional Advanced Placement (AP) program. To reach Platinum status a school must have 80% of its students take at least 1 AP Exam, 50% of its students pass at least 1 AP Exam and 15% of its students take 5 or more AP Exams with at least one being taken in the 9th or 10th grades. This designation places SMHS among an elite group of schools nationwide, affirming its status as a leader in advanced education.

To top it off, the school has achieved an extraordinary milestone by scoring in the top 1% of all public high schools in California on the most recent California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) tests in English and Math. These impressive scores demonstrate the high level of academic proficiency among SMHS students, showcasing their hard work and the dedication of their teachers.

SMHS Principal, Dr. Benjamin Wolf, expressed his pride, stating, "These achievements are a testament to our students' determination, the commitment of our teachers, and the support of our community. We are thrilled to see our efforts recognized on such a significant scale."

As San Marino High School celebrates these milestones, the community remains united in its commitment to fostering excellence in education, ensuring that the future remains bright for its students.



Dr. Benjamin Wolf
Principal

聖瑪利諾高中慶祝歷史性成就

聖瑪利諾高中（簡稱：SMHS）以傑出的三重成就成為媒體焦點，鞏固了其作為頂尖教育機構的聲譽。

本校榮獲美國教育部頒發的著名全國藍絲帶獎，這項殊榮旨在表彰全國的模範學校。此獎項反映出 SMHS 對學術卓越的承諾，以及其致力於營造支持性學習環境的精神。

除了藍絲帶榮譽之外，SMHS 還榮膺 AP 榮譽榜鉑金學校的稱號。此項表彰突顯了本校卓越的高階先修 (AP) 課程。為達到鉑金標準，學校必須達到以下條件：80% 的學生參加至少一門 AP 考試、50% 的學生通過至少一門 AP 考試，以及 15% 的學生參加五門或以上的 AP 考試，其中至少一門 AP 考試須於九年級或十年級時完成。此項榮譽使 SMHS 躋身於全國頂尖學校行列，並確認了其在高等教育領域中的領導地位。

此外，本校在最近的加州學生表現和進步評估（簡稱：CAASPP）英語和數學測試中，取得了位列全加州公立高中前 1% 的佳績。這些出色的成績展現了 SMHS 學生的高水平學術能力，反映了學生們的努力和老師們的辛勤付出。

SMHS 高中校長 Benjamin Wolf 博士表達了他的自豪之情，並表示：「這些成就是我們學生的決心、教師的奉獻以及社區支持的印證。我們很高興看到我們的努力得到如此大規模的認可。」

在聖瑪利諾高中慶祝這些里程碑之際，社區依然團結一致，致力於培育卓越的教育，確保學生的光明未來。



Reaching New Heights: Stronger than Ever!

I am thrilled to announce that Valentine Elementary is reaching new heights this year, with our students achieving remarkable academic success and our school community growing stronger than ever.

Our CAASPP and CAST state test scores have placed Valentine Elementary among the top schools. This achievement is a direct result of the dedication and hard work of our students, staff, and parents. We saw a 3% increase in English Language Arts, a 4% increase in Math, and a 5% increase in Science. Our teachers have embraced innovative teaching methods and data-driven, individualized learning plans, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to excel. As a result, our students' scores in these subjects have surpassed both district and state averages, positioning us as one of the top-ranked elementary schools in the state.

In addition to academic success, Valentine Elementary has experienced significant growth in enrollment, now serving over 700 students. This growth reflects the trust our community has in the quality of education we provide. As more families join our school, we remain committed to fostering an inclusive, welcoming, and supportive environment for all students.

We take pride in offering a well-rounded education that nurtures the whole child. Beyond our academic achievements, our extracurricular programs continue to flourish, providing students with opportunities to explore the arts, music, and STEM fields. We are dedicated to preparing each student not just for academic success, but for personal and social development as well.

I am incredibly proud of all that we have accomplished together and look forward to another year of reaching new heights at Valentine Elementary.



Whitney McAlpine
Principal

高峰再攀：比以往更強大！

我非常高興地宣布，Valentine 小學今年達到了新的高峰，我們的學生在學業上取得了卓越的成績，而我們的校園社群也比以往更強大。

Valentine 小學在 CAASPP 和 CAST 州考試成績中名列前茅。這成就是我們的學生、教職員工和家長共同努力的成果。我們在英語語文方面提升了 3%，數學提升了 4%，科學則提升了 5%。我們的教師積極採用創新教學方法和數據驅動的個性化學習計劃，確保每位學生都有機會取得優異成績。因此，我們學生在這些科目上的分數超越了學區和州的平均水平，使我們成為全州排名最高的小學之一。

除了學業成就，Valentine 小學的入學人數也顯著增長，目前有 700 多名學生。這種增長反映了社區對我們提供的優質教育的信任。隨著更多家庭入讀我們的學校，我們將繼續致力於為所有學生營造一個包容、友善且充滿支持的學習環境。

我們以提供全面的教育為榮，培養學生的全人發展。除了學術成就，我們的課外活動也持續蓬勃發展，為學生提供探索藝術、音樂和 STEM 領域的機會。我們致力於不僅讓學生在學業上取得成功，也關注他們的個人和社會發展。

我為我們共同取得的成就深感自豪，並期待著 Valentine 小學在新一年再攀另一高峰。



Valentine 4th Grade Students working together on a game-based review of math concepts.

Valentine 小學四年級學生一起透過遊戲複習數學概念

Los Angeles County Office of Education

Staying Engaged and Staying in School



Debra Duardo,
M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent

October is National Dropout Prevention Month, underscoring the critical importance of ensuring that all students can complete their education. National Dropout Prevention Month is a crucial awareness campaign that emphasizes the need for comprehensive strategies to keep students engaged in their education and help them achieve their full potential. As the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, I am deeply committed to fostering a school environment

where every student is valued, supported and equipped to succeed.

The decision to drop out of school is often influenced by a complex interplay of factors, which might include academic challenges, personal difficulties and economic hardships. Preventing students from dropping out of school is a multifaceted endeavor requiring a range of supports and resources, including school-based supports, social and emotional support, parental and family engagement, community-based supports and policy and systemic supports. To address these issues proactively, we must implement strategies that promote student and family engagement and wellbeing, provide essential wrap-around services and forge strong partnerships within the community.

The Vital Importance of School Attendance

Regular school attendance is the foundation of academic achievement. Chronic absenteeism is a strong predictor that a student may drop out of high school. Every day a student is present in the classroom is an opportunity for learning, growth and building essential social and academic connections. When students consistently attend school, they are more likely to:

- Develop stronger social connections, including relationships with peers and adults
- Achieve higher grades and test scores
- Build and practice good study habits, relational skills and routines that are required in work and life
- Graduate and pursue higher education or career opportunities

Our goal is to ensure that every student can benefit from the advantages and promise of a high-quality public education.

Resources

LACOE has partnered with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to take a deeper dive into chronic absenteeism and its impact and to develop an Attendance Playbook. The playbook focuses on assisting school districts and charter schools with navigating school attendance from a systems perspective, providing resources and supports to keep students in school, engaged, and connected. Parts one and two have been released and parts three and four will follow soon. This comprehensive resource offers practical guidance and best practices for school districts to assess and improve attendance rates and mitigate the impacts of declining enrollment. By implementing the strategies and recommendations outlined in the Attendance Playbook, schools can create a more positive and engaging learning environment that fosters student success and prevents student dropout.

Part One of the School Attendance Playbook provides valuable insights and resources to promote effective services and best practices in bolstering attendance efforts. In Part Two, educators will find practical strategies to address attendance challenges, foster a culture of engagement and ultimately enhance the learning experience for every student. From understanding the root causes of absenteeism to applying relevant interventions, Part Two aims to equip educators with the knowledge and tools necessary to cultivate a school environment where attendance is not just a statistic but a gateway to a brighter educational future. Visit our website lacoed.edu to access Parts One and Two of the Attendance Playbook along with additional resources. We will be releasing the playbook in its entirety in the next few months.

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Los Angeles County Office of Education

Innovation Lab Program Bring Educators and Tech Companies Together to Develop Solutions For K-12 Education



Debra Duardo,
M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent

A new Innovation Lab program launched this summer as part of a partnership between the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) and the University of Southern California (USC) Edtech Accelerator, with the support of the Greater Los Angeles Education Foundation (GLAEF). The groundbreaking collaborative effort seeks to gather input from educators and staff on some of the most pressing challenges facing K-12 schools today in hopes of developing better solutions to those complex problems.

This summer, LACOE, USC and GLAEF brought together educators from across Los Angeles County for an Innovation Design Summit to listen to their concerns. The event, held at USC on August 2, 2024, gave educators an opportunity to share firsthand experiences and identify pain points that have long hindered their ability to effectively support students.

Instead of vendors selling solutions in a vacuum, the Innovation Lab Program prioritizes a collaborative model where schools drive the process. This approach ensures that technology solutions are carefully considered and strategically implemented to address the specific needs of schools and ultimately improve student outcomes.

Identifying specific challenges faced by school districts was the first step in the Innovation Lab Program. Next steps include:

- **Solution Sourcing:** Leveraging USC's network to discover potential technology solutions.
- **Company Development:** Providing selected tech companies with a curriculum to enhance their product efficacy and market readiness.
- **Teacher Engagement:** Involving teachers in the program to provide feedback on technology solutions.
- **Evaluation and Dissemination:** Assessing the effectiveness of the solutions and sharing findings to create a trusted vendor network.

By placing teachers at the forefront of the solution-finding process, The Innovation Lab Program aims to create tools that are not only effective but also truly meet the needs of those on the front lines.

This powerful partnership, with its innovative approach aims to transform how technology is integrated into education and enhance the learning experience for students.

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