



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 20, 2019

SUBJECT: TWO OAK GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOLS RECEIVE THE 2019 CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL AWARDS

SACRAMENTO—State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond announced on Monday, February 26 that 162 middle and high schools were being honored under the 2019 Distinguished Schools Program. The program recognizes outstanding education programs and practices. Schools are awarded for achieving exceptional student performance for two consecutive school years or closing the achievement gap between two school years.

“I would like to commend these schools for fighting for a better future for our students, closing achievement gaps, and improving academic performance,” Thurmond said. Schools that applied were eligible based on their performance and progress on the state indicators as described on the California School Dashboard. Indicators include test scores, suspension rates, and graduation rates.

Two middle schools in the Oak Grove School District were honored with the CA 2019 Distinguished School Award – BERNAL INTERMEDIATE and HERMAN INTERMEDIATE/AdVENTURE STEM.

Here are excerpts from their award write-ups:

“At Bernal, we’ve built a family environment that consists of all stakeholders: students, parents, teachers and support staff, and local community members. We have developed a mission and vision for our school that ensures everything we do results in improved student outcomes.”

“Herman Intermediate School and the AdVENTURE STEM Program’s vision is to create a 21st century middle school that engages students, staff and the community. We are devoted to providing an exceptional educational organization where at the core we have a safe, respectful and responsible, student-centered learning environment where a rigorous 21st century academic program is balanced with the development of personal relationships between our students, staff, and community.”

“Our Distinguished School award winners represent examples of not just excellent teaching, learning, and collaboration, but are also the source of our future leaders who will guide our society with compassion, integrity and innovation, José L. Manzo, Oak Grove Superintendent.

Both schools will be recognized at California School Recognition Program Awards Ceremony on April 5, 2019, at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim. Sponsored by the California Department of Education and California Casualty, this event is a celebratory day to recognize their outstanding achievements.