



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Hacienda La Puente Unified Community,

Inspired by the excitement of the fall season, our students are continuing to thrive as they engage in community events, innovative programs and Districtwide celebrations.

In October, our campuses recognized and celebrated Halloween, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, National Custodian Day and National School Lunch Week. Our Cedarlane Academy Dual Immersion students also performed at this year's Korean Autumn Festival, a dynamic celebration of Korean culture, music, arts and cuisine.

Our school sites celebrated Red Ribbon Week with fun and creative activities that embraced this year's theme, "Be Kind to Your Mind. Live Drug-Free." At the same time, our Equity and Access and Family Engagement departments partnered with Foothill Family, school site leaders and elementary school counselors to share important resources in honor of World Mental Health Day and Unity Day with our District community. These events included informational lesson plans and workshops related to the impacts of bullying, helping families effectively address issues related to bullying and the importance of spreading kindness and embracing diversity.

I want to also thank our local law enforcement and non-profit organizations for partnering with us to bring our students, staff and families helpful town halls and assemblies regarding fentanyl and substance abuse to highlight the importance of being drug-free. Celebrations spread across the District when we learned that we had earned a Golden Bell Award for our community involvement and advocacy program, Project LEAD. Congratulations to all our students, teachers, staff, administrators and community partners who put in the work to ensure the success of this program at not one, but nine of our school sites.

This month, I also had the opportunity to present at the annual UC Davis C-STEM Conference alongside Director Professor Harry H. Cheng, where I discussed our District's success and dedication to integrating C-STEM K-12 math and computer science into our curriculum. Thank you to all our amazing educators and administrators who participated in the conference and to our entire team for your commitment to enhancing our C-STEM curriculum and programs across the District.

Lastly, I want to thank our families and community members for their continued feedback regarding the potential school reconfiguration. We do not take this decision lightly, and we are committed to continuing to deliver robust instruction and extracurricular programs to our students with the least possible disruption. The Board is scheduled to decide on whether or not to move forward with the reconfiguration during the Regular Board meeting on Thursday, Nov. 9. Please visit the District's Reconfiguration Information webpage for more information, including community input meeting results, presentations and a full reconfiguration report available in English, Spanish and Chinese.

Hacienda La Puente Unified remains focused on implementing innovative educational opportunities for our students and we look forward to what the last two months of 2023 have in store for us!

As always, we are **#ProudtobeHLPUSD**.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alfonso Jiménez

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Superintendent



## HLPUSD Students Explore New Heights During Annual College and Career Fair

More than 200 middle and high school Hacienda La Puente Unified students and their families gathered to explore various education and career booths, connect with more than 70 college representatives and engage in numerous informational workshops during the [56th Assembly District Annual College and Career Fair](#) at Los Altos High School on October 14.

The fair included an HLPUSD Career Technical Education (CTE) expo, well-decorated and split into fourths, highlighting the CTE pathways unique to each comprehensive high school. Middle school scholars and first-year high school students were encouraged to check out each booth, consisting of CTE students giving potential newcomers a glimpse into their future with interactive demonstrations and exciting testimonials. "I had the best time sharing my experience in the engineering pathway with incoming freshmen students and gaining a bunch of new information from the many representatives during



*Los Altos High School students and staff share their favorite parts about being a Conqueror with incoming freshmen during the annual 56th Assembly District College and Career Fair.*

the college and career fair," La Puente High School senior Hector Garcia said. "It was great talking to my peers about the importance of going for the things they're passionate about and always saying yes to new opportunities. Thank

you, Hacienda La Puente Unified and Assemblymember Calderon, for making this event possible."

[Click here](#) to read more and visit the District's Instagram [page](#) to watch a recap video of the event!

## Hacienda La Puente Unified Wins Golden Bell for Fostering Democracy, Excellence in Citizenship

Hacienda La Puente Unified's Project Life Experience About Democracy (LEAD), designed to foster informed citizens by identifying community issues, developing solutions and participating in real-world civic action, has won the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Golden Bell Award for its excellence in amplifying the student voice and promoting change. The program, founded in 2014, was developed as an extracurricular experience for students to get involved in local politics and collaborate with various neighborhood affiliations throughout the year, including the City of La Puente and its Parks and Recreation Department. Project LEAD is also a multi-year recipient of the California Department of Education's Civic Learning Award.

The award-winning program continues to grow and is now available at nine HLPUSD schools, including Nelson, Del Valle, Sunset and Workman elementary schools, Newton, Orange Grove, Sierra Vista and Sparks



*La Puente High School Project LEAD students, mural artist Franky Fingers (center-left), Principal Dr. Lisa Lopez (center) and Superintendent Dr. Alfonso Jiménez (center-right) celebrate the unveiling of the "Bridge Town" mural located in Old Town La Puente on Oct. 3.*

middle schools and La Puente High School. "Project LEAD provides students with the opportunity to engage in civic learning directly with the City of La Puente staff and elected officials," Nelson Elementary School Principal Dr. Marci Chavez said. "Through

peer mentoring, mock city council meetings and engaging service projects, our students experience what it takes to be civic learners and leaders. This opportunity to learn and grow positively impacts the trajectory of our students' lives."



# National Blue Ribbon School Administrators from Wedgeworth and Wilson Recognized for Exceptional Leadership

Glen A. Wilson High School Principal Dr. Danielle Kenfield and Wedgeworth Elementary School Principal Dr. Paulina Cho were recognized with the 2023 Terrel H. Bell Award for Outstanding School Leadership from the U.S. Secretary of Education on October 16, an honor bestowed upon just nine school leaders from the 2023 cohort of National Blue Ribbon Schools.

Cho has served as Wedgeworth Elementary School's principal for 11 years. She aims to foster a team-centered philosophy, a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere for students, staff, and families, and various innovative programs and electives for all students. The school's notable programs include Computer Science Immersion, Dual Language Immersion, student leadership, life skills and art.

"Being the Principal at Wedgeworth Elementary School and working alongside our talented and hardworking educators and staff has been an immense honor," Cho said. "I'm beyond grateful to have received this award and couldn't have done it without our amazing team and strong support from our parents and Warriors community. Everything we do is for our students. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of our school's magnificent journey in making us a National Blue Ribbon School not once but twice!"

Kenfield has contributed to many of Wilson High School's successes during her nine years as principal, including expanding the Business, Biomedical Science, Engineering and Computer Science pathways. She also helped implement three new college and career pathways: Culinary Arts, Child Development and Visual Commercial Art.

"I am honored to serve in this District, to have been provided with so many opportunities to grow professionally and to work and serve alongside colleagues from whom I have learned a great deal," Kenfield said. "This is my ninth year here and it's been a labor of love because of my students. I want so much for them and their futures; that's why I do what I do. Thank you to all my students, past and present, for being so amazing and to my dedicated team of educators, staff and faculty. None of this would be possible without each and every one of you."

[Click here](#) to read more!



Wedgeworth Elementary School Principal Dr. Paulina Cho (top-left) celebrates academic excellence, outstanding citizenship and perfect attendance during an end-of-the-year assembly in May 2023.



From left to right: Glen A. Wilson High School's Assistant Principal David Purcey, Principal Dr. Danielle Kenfield and Assistant Principals Robert Hidalgo and Karen Ho celebrate being named a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School during a District viewing party on Sept. 19.

# Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Reminders

## California School News Radio Features a Blue Ribbon Special: Academic Excellence in HLPUSD

Glen A. Wilson High School International Baccalaureate teacher Josipa Casey and Wilson High senior Emily Axelrod discuss academic programs and pathways available at the award-winning school, one of four Hacienda La Puente Unified schools to be named a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School and also earn a spot on the U.S. News & World Report, ranking in the top four percent of high schools in the nation.

During the show, Casey and Axelrod discuss the unique and collaborative learning environments, forward-thinking and rigorous curriculum and positive school culture not only at Wilson but deep-rooted across the District.

Please visit the California School News Radio [website](#) to listen to the episode!

**Blue Ribbon Schools in Hacienda La Puente Unified School District**

**JOSIPA CASEY**  
International Baccalaureate Teacher  
Glen A. Wilson High School  
**Hacienda La Puente Unified School District**

**EMILY AXELROD**  
Student Board Representative  
Glen A. Wilson High School  
**Hacienda La Puente Unified School District**

**CALIFORNIA SCHOOL NEWS RADIO**

**vma COMMUNICATIONS**

## Homeless Youth Awareness Month

Hacienda La Puente Unified recognizes November as Homeless Youth Awareness Month and understands that there are students within the District facing personal challenges such as limited access to quality health care, food, clothing and a stable living environment. HLPUSD encourages the District community to participate in the following district-wide initiatives to help bring awareness to homelessness within our schools and community.

- **Wear Purple:** students and staff can show their support by wearing purple on Fridays throughout November.
- **Holiday Program:** HLPUSD Staff is encouraged to participate in the "Adopt-a-Family" program, an annual program designed to help a family/student's holiday season a bit brighter with a gift card and hand-written card. [Click here](#) to sign up or share the link with friends, colleagues and family. Participants must apply no later than Friday, November 10, 2023

**November**

**Wear Purple Fridays**

**Homeless Youth Awareness Month**

- **Non-Perishable Food Drive:** HLPUSD's food pantry supports many of its low-income families. The organization is called New Horizons Caregivers Group and has supported hundreds of HLPUSD families since 2006. In honor of Homeless Awareness Month, the District is requesting the community to support their efforts by hosting a school-community Food Drive from Nov. 1-15. Please contact (626)933-5302 for more information.



## Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Reminders

### **PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE:** The in-person/virtual Regular Board of Education Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9 at the District Office, 15959 East Gale Ave., City of Industry.

There will only be one regular Board meeting this month.

For more information on the Board agenda, how to address the board and access the meeting, please visit <https://www.hlpusd.org/board>.

Hacienda La Puente Unified encourages the community to stay up-to-date with our Board meetings, including our school site and Bond improvement updates and HLPUSD celebrations. Please visit the Board of Education [webpage](#) to catch up on our District successes.



### **HLPUSD is Hiring!**

Hacienda La Puente Unified is committed to recruiting the best individuals who help promote a culture of teamwork, fairness and an environment dedicated to student success.

The District is currently accepting applications for the Accounting Technician and Campus Security Officer positions and continues to seek additional part-time Bus Drivers, Child Development Technicians and a Media Center Aide to join the HLPUSD family.

Please visit the District's career [website](#) to learn more and apply today!



# Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Reminders

## ICYMI: Parenting in a Digital World

Hacienda La Puente Unified families that we're unable to attend the Parent University Parenting in a Digital World workshop are encouraged to watch the [video recording](#) from now till November 25. The passcode is: 8Q%%HRJf. The workshop covers topics including information about popular applications that children are downloading, risks associated with various social media platforms and how to set expectations and consequences with your children regarding their presence and activity online. In addition, the workshop provides helpful tips and tricks on how to monitor online activity, find hidden Instagram accounts, set parental controls and privacy settings and much more.



## Stay Connected with HLPUSD

Hacienda La Puente Unified is proud to offer various communication methods for our teachers, staff and District to stay connected with our families. Click [here](#) to watch an English and Spanish video tutorial, demonstrating the downloading process and significance of each resource.

**STAY CONNECTED WITH HLPUSD!**

1000 East Main Ave., City Of Industry, CA 91706 • (924) 933-1000 • [www.hlpusd.org](http://www.hlpusd.org)

- District & School Websites**  
The District and each school have a website featuring important dates, announcements, information, Board of Education meeting information and much more.  
[www.hlpusd.org](http://www.hlpusd.org)
- YouTube**  
The Hacienda La Puente Unified District YouTube channel is an excellent resource for watching our top HLPUSD district events. Check out our annual State of the District video presentation.  
[bit.ly/HLPUSDYouTube](http://bit.ly/HLPUSDYouTube)
- Social Media**  
Follow our social media platforms to stay up-to-date on our district, staff and District's various events, resources and upcoming events.  
#HLPUSD  
@HLPUSD  
HLPUSD
- ParentSquare**  
HLPUSD provides secure notifications for students, staff and families to ensure consistent communication and engagement between home and the school community. Messages are sent to the email address provided to the District. Please visit [www.ParentSquare.com](http://www.ParentSquare.com) for details.
- peachjar**  
The District's youth digital literacy program, events and resources for our students on Peachjar, as well as exciting events for our families through ParentSquare. Check the HLPUSD Peachjar website to access recent titles.  
[bit.ly/HLPJAR](http://bit.ly/HLPJAR)
- Canvas**  
Hacienda La Puente Unified schools use the learning management system to provide teachers, students and parents quick access to assignments, grading, course announcements and much more. Canvas applications are available on the Canvas You Share App for iOS/Android and Apple iPad (from bit.ly/HLPCanvas). Please visit [www.hlpusd.org](http://www.hlpusd.org) for details.

**Emergency Communications**  
In the rare instance of an emergency at a school that requires communication with our parents/guardians, the school will contact you directly with the information provided on your "Home Emergency Contact" form on the Parent Square website. Please be connected with your phone at the school and District's emergency. During an emergency, our most able is to ensure the safety of our students and staff. In such a case, we will contact you with the most info.