



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Hacienda La Puente Unified Community,

We are well into the holiday season and I hope everyone was able to enjoy their fall break with friends, family and loved ones.

November was a busy month, which provided many opportunities for students to learn about their heritage and pay tribute to those who have paved the way for their success in school and beyond.

As a District, we celebrated Native American Heritage Month, with students learning about traditional Native American songs and dances, while recounting the history of the American Indigenous communities which have shaped our society.

With a backdrop of red, white and blue balloons and scores of students waving flags, Hacienda La Puente Unified celebrated Veterans Day by inviting veterans from the community to ceremonies across the District, honoring their service and giving them the opportunity to talk to students about sacrifice and the importance of serving their country.

Students across the District also supported the community with canned food drives, fundraisers and activities designed to show gratitude and give back. We are deeply appreciative of the students and families who put so much effort into ensuring everyone could celebrate the holiday.

Congratulations are in order for our elementary and middle school robotics students and teams, whose innovation and preparation allowed them to impress judges at the First Lego League Qualifying and Regional Tournaments in November. Best of luck to the teams who advanced and will compete in the championship event in January 2024.

From November 16-17, the leadership teams from our four National Blue Ribbon School (NBRIS) winners, Board President Christine H. Salazar and I journeyed to Washington, D.C. to share ideas, connect with U.S. Department of Education officials and attend a ceremony to honor our four award-winning schools and Terrel H. Bell award-winning administrators Dr. Danielle Kenfield and Dr. Paulina Cho.

The District's award-winning program, Project LEAD – honoring La Puente quad schools, was also recognized during a reception at the California School Board Association Conference on November 30.

Lastly, the Board of Education approved the District's **Reconfiguration Plan** during a meeting on November 9. Currently, the District is putting together an action plan consisting of a timeline, next steps and school site meetings which will be shared with the community upon its completion.

I want to thank our staff, families and students for their patience, collaboration and support as we move forward to ensure the ongoing excellence of our District for our students. We are partners in community, but above all, we are partners in your child's future and will continue to provide every student with the tools and resources to achieve academic and personal success.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Alfonso Jiménez

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Superintendent



La Puente High School Student-Athlete Wins Hispanic & Latino Excellence in Youth Football Scholarship

Over the last four years, La Puente High School student-athlete Josiah Hernandez has emerged as a leader, scholar and advocate for his school and District community, participating in various extracurricular activities, clubs and sports, earning him the Hispanic & Latino Excellence in Youth Football Award by the National Football League.

Hernandez was recognized for his exceptional football abilities, academic achievements and dedication to civics. The Los Angeles Rams selected Hernandez, leading to his inclusion as one of eight finalists in California eligible to receive a college scholarship.

Hernandez has a long list of achievements, including being named a National Advanced Placement Scholar, a Tulane University Posse Scholarship semi-finalist and participant in the Kaiser Permanente Work Certificate Program, assisting in the Critical Care unit of the hospital. Hernandez is also a four-year captain of the football team.

"I'm a huge NFL fan, so winning this nomination and having the chance to be on the Rams field, was a surreal experience," Hernandez said. "I want to thank my coaches, counselors and family for their constant support."

Click [here](#) to read more!



Senior Josiah Hernandez cheers alongside the LA Rams mascot during the Hispanic & Latino Excellence in Youth Football Award nominee NFL game on October 15.

Workman High School Hosts Day of Fun and Frights During Annual Día De Los Lobos Celebration



Workman High School theater students prepare to scare as they welcome guests to enter their haunted house during a Día De Los Lobos celebration on November 2.

Students and staff from William Workman High School welcomed the Hacienda La Puente Unified community to its annual Día De Los Lobos Community celebration on November 2, an exciting evening filled with games, face painting and educational activities designed to underscore the importance of creating a safe, collaborative space to embrace diversity and honor a traditional Mexican holiday.

The event featured career technical education demonstrations, arts, crafts and games led by Workman's various education departments and opportunities to connect with current Lobo leaders.

"The Día De Los Lobos celebration is a highly-anticipated and cherished event that provides us with the opportunity to connect with our local elementary and middle school families and highlight all the amazing things our Lobos are accomplishing," Principal Tim Espinoza said. "When the Workman community is together, amazing things happen. I look forward to future events that engage, inspire and motivate our future Lobos."

The HLPUSD community continued its celebrations during the annual City of La Puente Día De Los Muertos Celebration, where students and staff from across the District set up traditional Día de Los Muertos ofrenda altars, poetry, crafts, candy and school merchandise to pass out to attendees on November 4.

Click [here](#) to read more!

Hacienda La Puente Students Explore the Past, Make Connections during Mobile Museum Experience

Sparks Elementary School kindergarten through second-grade students stepped into the past and experienced the glacial age when the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles and Supervisor Hilda Solis joined forces to bring the La Brea Tar Pits Mobile Museum's Ice Age Discoveries program to Hacienda La Puente Unified.

Working alongside museum experts, students journeyed back to a 50,000-year-old Los Angeles, where they explored fossils and worked together as fellow scientists to make discoveries about Ice Age Los Angeles. The 45-minute program is designed to teach early learners about the past through play, embrace the unknown and inspire wonder, discovery and responsibility for our natural and cultural world.

"I think that the mobile museum is an exciting experience for my peers and it's exciting that I get to be a part of this amazing event," Sparks sixth-grade student Natalie Munoz said. "I think it's important for younger students to learn about the past and better



The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles team, Supervisor Hilda Solis and HLPUSD community gather to celebrate the La Brea Tar Pits Mobile Museum's Ice Age Discoveries Program at Sparks Elementary School.

understand our history to build a brighter future."

The event concluded with a lively performance led by a second-grade class,

where students acted out and sang a song about paleontology and discovery.

Click [here](#) to read more!

Hacienda La Puente Middle School Students Learn About Leadership During Los Altos High Conference

Los Altos High School Renaissance and Associated Student Body (ASB) members made magic happen for Hacienda La Puente Unified's young trailblazers when they hosted the annual Middle School Leadership Conference on November 13, using their mentoring skills to show sixth to eighth-grade scholars how to manage their social skills, work in teams, create fun projects for the whole school and demonstrate kindness to all students. The conference – run entirely by Los Altos students – was attended by leadership students from all HLPUSD middle schools and K-8 academies, as well as St. Mark's Lutheran School in Hacienda Heights. The conference was open to all students expressing interest in school leadership, including ASB students, Where Everybody Belongs (W.E.B.) members, and peer mentors.

"This is one of my favorite events of the year. I love watching my students use their leadership skills to benefit the middle schoolers," Los Altos High Leadership teacher Chris Reeder said. "This event isn't about Los Altos. It is truly about helping those young leaders on their journey."

Lunch was served to all students after the breakout sessions. After lunch, each school got together to discuss the lessons they learned during the conference and what ideas they would want to implement at their own schools. The conference ended with a discussion and farewell from Los Altos students.

Click [here](#) to read more!



Los Altos High School ASB and Renaissance welcomes nearly 200 middle school student leaders to its 10th Annual Middle School Leadership Conference on November 13.

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Reminders

California School News Radio Features Award-Winning Democracy Program

Sunset Elementary School Principal Rosette Holmes, Nelson Elementary School Principal Dr. Marci Chavez and La Puente High School Principal Dr. Lisa Lopez discuss Project LEAD (Life Experience About Democracy), a Golden Bell award-winning program that connects K–12 students with City of La Puente leaders through presentations such as mock city council meetings, fundraisers, community events and much more!

During the show, the administrators discuss not only the benefits of implementing civics across their school but also how the students grow confidence and the ability to lead and develop a love for helping their community, state and the world.

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

Exploring Civics in Hacienda La Puente Unified with Project LEAD



ROSETTE HOLMES

Sunset
Elementary
School Principal

Hacienda La
Puente Unified
School District



**DR. MARCI
CHAVEZ**

Nelson
Elementary
School Principal

Hacienda La
Puente Unified
School District



DR. LISA LOPEZ

La Puente High
School Principal

Hacienda La
Puente Unified
School District

CALIFORNIA
SCHOOL NEWS RADIO



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 part-time bus drivers to join the HLPUSD family.

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

**HACIENDA
LA PUENTE
UNIFIED
IS HIRING!**



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, December 14 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.hlpschools.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.

A vertical graphic with a dark blue background. At the top left is the HLPUSD logo. To its right, the text 'HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT' is written in white. Below the logo is a yellow gavel icon. The main text 'BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING' is in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Below that, 'BOARD OF EDUCATION' is repeated in white. At the bottom, 'Bond/School Improvements and HLPUSD Celebrations!' is written in yellow, next to a yellow party horn icon with confetti.

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.

A graphic with a blue background featuring a hexagonal pattern. The text 'Stay Connected WITH HLPUSD!' is written in a mix of white and yellow fonts. Below it, 'HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT' is written in white. The graphic is framed by yellow lines.



District & School Websites
The District and each school have a website featuring important dates, announcements, celebrations, Board of Education meeting information and much more.
www.hlpschools.org



ParentSquare
HLPUSD provides regular notifications to students, staff and families to ensure convenient communication and engagement between home and the school community. Messages are sent to the email addresses provided to the District. Please visit www.hlpschools.org for details.



YouTube
The Hacienda La Puente Unified School District YouTube channel is an excellent resource for watching our HLPUSD Board meetings, District showcase videos and is the home to our annual State of the District event presentations.
bit.ly/HLPUSDYouTube



Peachjar
The District posts digital flyers on activities, events and resources for our families on Peachjar, as well as sending flyers out to families through ParentSquare. Check the HLPUSD Peachjar website to access recent flyers.
bit.ly/3trJ6yp



Social Media
Follow our social media platforms to stay up-to-date on our student, staff and District success stories, resources and upcoming events.
Facebook: [HLPUSD](https://www.facebook.com/haciendalapuenteusd)
Twitter: [@haciendalapuenteusd](https://twitter.com/haciendalapuenteusd)
Instagram: [@haciendalapuenteusd](https://www.instagram.com/haciendalapuenteusd)



Canvas
Hacienda La Puente Unified schools use this 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 Google Play Store bit.ly/3GqTzRD and Apple App Store bit.ly/3An8RDQ. Please visit www.hlpschools.org for details.