



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Hacienda La Puente Unified Community,

May was an exciting month for Hacienda La Puente Unified, as our District celebrated the end of a successful school year and highlighted student accomplishments with various end-of-the-year festivities.

We kicked off the month by gathering as a District to share the unique and creative ways our scholars have been engaging, experiencing, and connecting during our New Pedagogies for Deep Learning (NPDL) Spring Showcase held May 2. During the event, students, teachers, and administrators presented demonstrations, projects, and various initiatives worked on throughout the school year. [Click here](#) to watch a video recapping the fun-filled event.

Our graduating students radiated joy and pride as they celebrated their accomplishments during senior sunsets, proms, pep rallies, and visits to local elementary and middle schools, igniting a spark of excitement in the young scholars about their futures at HLPUSD.

Our District community, a vital part of our students' success, also gathered to celebrate our Class of 2024 during our annual Senior Award Nights on May 14 and 16. During the event, students were presented with certificates, stoles, and scholarships for achieving academic, athletic, artistic, and philanthropic excellence. Each high school's gym was filled with celebratory spirit as the audience, including HLPUSD Board members, teachers, principals, and District sponsors applauded each scholar called to the podium. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our generous donors who support our students each year. Check out our [photo gallery](#) to view photos from the award ceremonies.

In heartfelt recognition of Classified School Employees Week, our campuses showered their classified employees with gifts, flowers, and hand-written notes.

The District also delivered cookies to all schools and job sites – a small token of our immense gratitude for the hard work and dedication of our staff.

We also took a moment to express our deep gratitude to our exceptional employees and the entire school community, celebrating School Principals Day, National School Lunch Hero Day, Mother's Day, and Teachers Day, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to our District.

I want to give a shout-out to our students from Mesa Robles, who secured a remarkable third place out of more than 200 competing teams across Los Angeles County during the Conga Kids Finale. Your hard work and dedication this year have been truly commendable. I also want to applaud our Student Chef Cook-Off Contest finalists from Mesa Robles and Glen A. Wilson High School. Your culinary skills have been recognized by students from across the District, and we are eagerly awaiting the cook-off contest on June 13 to taste your delicious and nutritious menu items.

We ended our festivities by celebrating our Class of 2024 graduates with five high-spirited commencement ceremonies and recognizing our promoting students with events honoring their academic achievements.

Thank you to our Board of Education, students, teachers, staff, administrators, and community members for your hard work and dedication to ensuring this school year's success.

Hacienda La Puente Unified remains committed to providing enriching learning opportunities for students in the summer months, and we look forward to seeing you all for the 2024-25 school year in August!

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Alfonso Jiménez  
Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Superintendent



# Hacienda La Puente Unified Celebrates Class of 2024 with High-Spirited Commencement Ceremonies

Hacienda La Puente Unified celebrated its Class of 2024 graduates during five vibrant commencement ceremonies on May 21 and 23, with District representatives proudly presenting diplomas to the graduates, who were donned in their caps and gowns, as the atmosphere was filled with anticipation and pride.

The District honored nearly 1,200 graduates from its four comprehensive high schools and alternative high school. Valley, William Workman, and La Puente high schools held their ceremonies on May 21, followed by Glen A. Wilson and Los Altos high schools on May 23.

The festivities included stirring solo vocal and instrumental performances, motivational speeches from valedictorians, salutatorians, and leadership students, acceptance by Superintendent Dr. Alfonso Jiménez, and conferral and



**Los Altos High School Class of 2024 graduates celebrate their most recent accomplishment in front of a crowd of nearly 6,000 attendees during a commencement ceremony on May 23.**

closing remarks from Board President Christine H. Salazar.

"It was so special to see my former principal and high school principal, Dr. Kenfield, waiting to congratulate me at the end of the stage," Glen A.

Wilson High School graduate Emily Axelrod said. "Having the entire District community there to celebrate us made the ceremony feel personal. I have loved being a part of this District and look forward to the future.

Congratulations, Class of 2024!"

During the ceremonies, principals invited graduates who received the School Scholar Award, given to students with a 3.5 GPA or higher, the District Scholar Award, presented to students with a 3.8 GPA or higher, and the California State Seal of Biliteracy Award to stand and receive a round of applause from the audience. Graduates joining the United States Armed Forces also received recognition alongside veteran teachers, staff, and audience members.

Hacienda La Puente Unified Class of 2024 graduates boast academic, athletic, and civic achievements and will continue their educational journey at more than 150 esteemed colleges and four-year universities.

Visit the District's [Youtube channel](#) to watch a video recapping the Class of 2024 festivities!

## Hacienda La Puente Unified Students to Benefit from \$21 Million Community Schools Grant

Hacienda La Puente Unified has been chosen as a recipient of the California Community Schools Partnership Program's (CCSPP) third cohort, an esteemed honor that includes \$21.3 million in state board-approved community school implementation grants, highlighting the District's commitment to advancing innovative student learning initiatives and developing mental health and community engagement solutions.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and the California State Board of Education (SBE) announced the expansion of the CCSPP and its recipients on May 8, with 17 schools from Hacienda La Puente Unified among those celebrated. The District plans to follow the



**Hacienda La Puente Unified administrators, students, and community members celebrate the District being named a community schools grant recipient during a Board meeting on May 9.**

community schools model to strengthen enrichment programs, increase student academic support, and improve resources for students and families.

The grant, which will be distributed over five years, will begin with a planning phase this summer and continue through the first half of the 2024-25 school year.

Following the CCSPP framework, the District will partner with education, county, and other nonprofit entities to introduce a range of services and resources to its campuses, including expanded health services – both physical and mental – enhanced instructional support services, and increased family and community engagement initiatives.

Over the course of the five years, each site will strengthen its existing community school efforts by leveraging the expertise of community school professionals. These specialists will play a crucial role in partnering with stakeholders and community agencies to address students' academic, physical, and social-emotional needs.



# La Puente High School Earns 2024 California Democracy School for Strong Civic Leadership



*La Puente High School was named a 2024 California Democracy School during the Los Angeles County Office of Education's California Civic Learning Student Showcase and Award Ceremony on May 11.*

La Puente High School is one of only four schools recognized as a 2024 California Democracy School by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), receiving the honor for its high-quality civic learning, commitment to strengthening democracy, and pursuit of happiness for future generations across the District community.

The award-winning schools were honored during LACOE's 2024 California Civic Learning Student Showcase and Award Ceremony at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library Museum on May 11, where students, families, staff, principal Dr. Lisa Lopez, and local representatives gathered to learn more about the students' initiatives throughout the 2023-24 school year and celebrate their successes.

During the event, La Puente students shared their civic engagement projects, including recently investigated and proposed city solutions, robust volunteer and community service endeavors, and school safety enhancements.

"Thank you to LACOE for putting on this spectacular event that recognizes our students' exemplary work and commitment to better our schools, community, and country," Lopez said. "I have confidence in our future knowing our students are finding joy and passion in becoming civically engaged citizens and finding solutions to real-world problems."

[Click here](#) to read more!

## Hacienda La Puente Unified Recognized for Student Attendance Strategies

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District's School Attendance Review Board (SARB) has been honored as a Model SARB for initiatives and practices that significantly contribute to reducing chronic absenteeism rates and improving overall student attendance. The District is one of 23 districts recognized by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and the SARB for demonstrating outstanding efforts to decrease reliance on conventional attendance incentives, such as suspensions and expulsions, by placing a focus on prevention and positive measures. "We are overjoyed to be recognized for the hard work and dedication of our entire team," Dr. Karen Dabney-Lieras, HLPUSD Executive Director of Family Services and SARB Chairperson said. "Addressing the root causes of absenteeism and nurturing the individual needs of students and their families is essential. Supports we offer throughout the SARB process ensure that our students are present, ready to learn and on a path to success."

[Click here](#) to read more!



*Hacienda La Puente Unified Executive Director of Family Services and SARB Chair Dr. Karen Dabney-Lieras (left) and Student and Family Services Counselor Ms. Vanessa Ortiz and SARB Co-Chair (right) accept the Model SARB award at the CASCWA State Conference on April 26.*



# Four HLPUSD Schools Honored for Excellence in Real-World, Civic Learning

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District's Workman Elementary School and Newton, Sierra Vista, and Sparks middle schools are four out of 21 schools to receive Civic Learning Awards for 2024, an esteemed honor that celebrates their commitment to promoting civic education and engaging the entire District community in civic learning initiatives.

The awards were announced by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond on May 1 to elementary, middle, and high schools at four levels – the Award of Excellence, Distinction, Merit, and Honorable Mention. Newton Middle School was one of three schools presented with the Award of Distinction, and Workman Elementary School was one of four that earned the Award of Merit. Additionally, Sierra Vista and Sparks middle schools were two



**District officials celebrate Newton Middle School earning the Civic Learning Award of Distinction during a Los Angeles County Office of Education Awards Ceremony on May 11.**

of 11 campuses to receive an honorable mention. "Congratulations to all four schools on this well-earned accomplishment," Hacienda La Puente Unified Executive Director of Elementary Dr. Angela Lin said. "Civic education is recognized as an invaluable and fundamental tool at Hacienda La Puente Unified, and we are thrilled to accept this

prestigious honor." Newton Middle School encourages civic engagement through various opportunities, including its longstanding GATE program, which empowers students to create solutions to real-world problems. Notable contributions also include Hacienda La Puente Unified's Project Life Experience About Democracy (LEAD)



**Workman Elementary School Principal Erika Valenzuela and students learn more about Project LEAD with City of La Puente Mayor Gabriel Quinones on Jan. 26.**

program, which allows students to actively shape their community by collaborating with various neighborhood affiliations. The program, which received a 2023 Golden Bell Award, is available at Workman Elementary School and Sparks and Sierra Vista middle school campuses.

[Click here](#) to read more!

## HLPUSD Awarded \$850,000 in Community Project Funds During Annual Art Show

Hacienda La Puente Unified's modernization efforts will shift into overdrive as it aims to transform Glen A. Wilson High School's campus media center into a state-of-the-art space stocked with cutting-edge technology thanks to \$850,000 in Community Project Funds delivered by Congresswoman Linda Sánchez. Funding for the media center project at Glen A. Wilson High was announced during the 22nd Annual 38th Congressional District Student Art Competition on April 26. The funds were presented in the form of a giant check and presented to Glen A. Wilson High School Principal Dr. Danielle Kenfield and District representatives moments after



**Congresswoman Linda Sánchez, District representatives, and Glen A. Wilson High School administrators receive \$850,000 in Community Project Funds during the 22nd Annual 38th Congressional District Student Art Competition on April 26.**

two Hacienda La Puente Unified students were named first- and second-place art show winners. Glen A. Wilson's media center has served as a learning hub since the late 1960s and is still a meeting place for parent and

community meetings and for students to collaborate on project work. The center is set to undergo significant upgrades beginning in the 2024-2025 school year and is expected to be completed in Dec. 2026.

During the annual art show, Los Altos High School senior Amber Juarez won first place with a \$1,000 scholarship, and Wilson High sophomore Samantha Hung took second place with a \$400 scholarship. As the grand prize winner, Juarez will represent the 38th District at the national Congressional Art Competition in Washington, D.C. Her piece, entitled "Love Sorrow," will compete against student artwork from across the country and will be on display at the U.S. Capitol for one year. Hung, who took second place overall, won first place in the mixed media category for her piece entitled "Deep in the Temple."

[Click here](#) to read more!

# Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Reminders

## SUMMER BREAK

District Summer programs began on Tuesday, May 28 and will run through Wednesday, July 31.

Hacienda La Puente Unified wishes you a safe and fun summer and we look forward to seeing you on the first day of the 2024-25 school year on Wednesday, August 7.



## JOIN OUR TEAM

HLPUSD's Personnel Commission and its staff work to establish policies, practices, and procedures for the District's classified employees, which provide essential non-teaching services to students, educators, and the District community. The Personnel Commission is committed to providing professional, efficient, and effective service in attracting and retaining the best-qualified employees who help promote a culture of teamwork, fairness, and an environment dedicated to student success.

Please visit [hlpusdjobs.org](https://hlpusdjobs.org) to learn more!

HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**JOIN OUR TEAM!**  
Visit [hlpusdjobs.org](https://hlpusdjobs.org) to learn more!

## ENROLL TODAY

Hacienda La Puente Unified is all about creating experiences that will last a lifetime for students – experiences inside and outside of the classroom that explore the untapped potential of hands-on learning. Our award-winning school District's extracurriculars, clubs, and programs cultivate community and multiculturalism and prepare students for success in college, careers, and life!

Please visit the District's enrollment [webpage](#) to give your student the gift of deeper learning!

HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Enroll Your Student Today!**  
**2024-2025**  
*Inspiring the Leaders of Tomorrow!*



# Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Reminders

## Community Summer Meal Program

Hacienda La Puente Unified would like to remind families about this year's Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Community Summer Meal Program, funded by the United States Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Services, which provides free meals for students ages 18 and under in the District community throughout the summer months.

Breakfast will be served Monday through Thursday from 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. and lunch from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. from May 28 to Tuesday, July 16 at select HLPUSD school sites. Friday meal service will be served on May 31, June 21 and July 5. SSO school sites include Bixby, California; Del Valle, Kwis, Los Altos, Nelson, Palm, Sparks, Wing Lane, and Workman elementary schools; Baldwin, Grandview, Los Robles, and Valinda academies; Lassalette School; and Newton and Orange Grove middle schools.



**COMMUNITY SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM**

**MAY 28, 2024 - JULY 16, 2024**  
**MONDAY-THURSDAY**  
**FRIDAY MEAL SERVICE AVAILABLE ON**  
**MAY 31, JUNE 21 & JULY 5**

**COMMUNITY BREAKFAST**  
**9:15-9:45AM**  
**COMMUNITY LUNCH**  
**11:15-11:45 AM**

**COMMUNITY MEALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN AGES 18 AND UNDER. MEALS ARE TO BE CONSUMED ON SITE.**

**COMMUNITY MEALS WILL NOT BE OFFERED AT THE FOLLOWING SITES:**

**CEDARLANE, FAIRGROVE, GRAZIDE, LOS MOLINOS, MESA ROBLES, STIMSON, SIERRA VISTA, SPARKS MS, SUNSET, WEDGEWORTH**

**THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER**

**NUTRITION SERVICES**  
Healthy Choices Healthy Future



**MENTAL HEALTH**

**TAKING CARE OF YOUR MENTAL HEALTH**

**PRACTICAL TIPS FOR EVERYDAY WELL-BEING**

MENTAL HEALTH IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS PHYSICAL HEALTH. IT AFFECTS HOW WE THINK, FEEL, AND ACT. TAKING CARE OF OUR MENTAL HEALTH IS ESSENTIAL FOR OVERALL WELL-BEING. HERE ARE SOME PRACTICAL TIPS TO HELP YOU MAINTAIN GOOD MENTAL HEALTH.

PRACTICE SELF-CARE. TAKE TIME TO DO THINGS THAT YOU ENJOY, SUCH AS READING A BOOK, TAKING A WALK, OR HAVING A RELAXING BATH. PRIORITIZING SELF-CARE CAN HELP REDUCE STRESS AND IMPROVE MOOD.

CONNECT WITH OTHERS. HAVING A SUPPORT SYSTEM IS CRUCIAL FOR GOOD MENTAL HEALTH. REACH OUT TO FRIENDS, FAMILY, OR A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL IF YOU NEED TO TALK OR RECEIVE GUIDANCE.

**RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU**

**Care Solace**  
Available 24/7  
1-888-515-0595

**CalHope**  
Available 24/7  
1-833-317-4673

**Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**  
Available 24/7  
9-8-8

Equity and Access (626)933-5302

## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and Hacienda La Puente Unified is dedicated to creating a nurturing environment where mental health is valued and supported at every level. From classroom initiatives to family workshops and webinars, HLPUSD is committed to promoting understanding to ensure every student feels connected, supported, and empowered to succeed. [Click here](#) to view the District's Equity and Access, Family Engagement Wellness Resources.

# Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Reminders

## **PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE:** An in-person/virtual Regular Board of Education Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 13 at the District Office, 15959 East Gale Ave., City of Industry. 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.



HACIENDA LA PUENTE  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



# BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

# BOARD OF EDUCATION

Bond/School  
Improvements  
and HLPUSD  
Celebrations!



Stay Connected  
WITH HLPUSD!  
HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## **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.

Please visit the District's [website](#) to get connected today!



**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](http://www.hlpschools.org)



**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](https://bit.ly/HLPUSDYouTube)



**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](#)  
Instagram: [haciendalapuenteusd](#)  
Twitter: [@HLPUSD](#)



**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](http://www.hlpschools.org) for details.



**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](https://bit.ly/3trJ6yp)



**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/3Gq7pED](https://bit.ly/3Gq7pED) and Apple App Store [bit.ly/3AnBRDQ](https://bit.ly/3AnBRDQ). Please visit [www.hlpschools.org](http://www.hlpschools.org) for details.