



# INSPIRATION

*from County Superintendent, Ted Alejandre*



Events throughout the month of February centered on creativity, commitment and collaboration.

Thousands of students throughout San Bernardino County celebrated the arts. They shared their incredible talent at the Basin Honor Bands and Honor Orchestras concerts and the Poetry Out Loud performance.

For the first time in nearly 40 years, the Academic Decathlon Competition was held as a hybrid event, with portions of the competition conducted virtually while others were held in-person. Nearly 300 students dedicated months to preparing for this challenging competition. Ultimately, Chaffey High School Decathletes claimed first place in the county.

Also, SBCSS employees headed up the coast to host the state CISC Leadership Symposium in Monterey, California. The event welcomed over 1,000 educators from across the state to connect, collaborate and learn.

Additionally, the incredible progress made through the Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program (SBHIP) was celebrated. SBCSS partnered with four organizations to help address and meet the urgent mental health needs of youth across the Inland Empire.

SBCSS is proud to employ a collective impact approach, and February was a month of powerful partnerships. With your continued support, I am excited to foster these important and impactful connections throughout 2023 and beyond.

In partnership,

Ted Alejandre  
County Superintendent



## The Newsroom

### Chaffey High School Claims Back-to-Back County Academic Decathlon Championship Title



*The American Revolution and the New Nation* was the 40th annual San Bernardino County Academic Decathlon Competition theme for 2023. Nearly 300 students from 18 high schools participated in this year's competition using a hybrid format.

Congratulations to Chaffey High School from Chaffey Joint Union High School District for winning first place overall in the county. This is the second year in a row they have claimed the championship title. The

team's coach and top nine scoring decathletes will represent San Bernardino County at the California Academic Decathlon State Competition in Santa Clara from March 25-26.

[View Academic Decathlon Photo Gallery](#)

[Read More](#)

### Students Showcase their Talents with Live Performances



SBCSS partnered with several organizations to celebrate Arts Education throughout the county.

Students from different regions of San Bernardino County competed in this year's *Poetry Out Loud* county finals. Participants recited poetry in front of a judges' panel comprised of poets and authors.

Faith Bakhos, a student from Big Bear High School, placed first in this year's county finals. She will now compete in the state final on March 19.

Additionally, SBCSS collaborated with the San Bernardino Music Educators Association to host the Basin Honor Bands and Honor Orchestras performances. More than 300 students, ranging from elementary to high school, were selected to perform at these two concerts. Despite having limited rehearsal time, these remarkable student musicians put on outstanding performances.

[View Poetry Out Loud Photo Gallery](#)[View Honor Orchestras Photo Gallery](#)[View Basin Honor Bands Photo Gallery](#)

## **Fast Forward: Educators Come Together to Imagine the Future of Education**



February 22-24, SBCSS proudly hosted the state Curriculum Instruction Steering Committee (CISC) Leadership Symposium in Monterey, California. Over 1,000 educators attended this year's event – the most attendees ever!

This year's theme, *Fast Forward*, encouraged educators from across California to come together to discover how to inspire transformation, ignite leadership, innovate teaching and learning and impact equity.

More than 90 dynamic sessions and six amazing keynote speakers were offered during the three-day event. At CISC 2023, educators were able to connect, collaborate and learn.

[View CISC YouTube Playlist](#)[View CISC Photo Gallery](#)

## **Let's REImagine Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program**

Together, with the Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP), Molina Health Care, San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health and Riverside County Office of Education, we are driving transformative systems change to meet the urgent mental health needs of our most at-risk youth across the Inland Empire.





SBHIP looks to build a system that is equitable, develops staff, involves community and establishes positive school climates. Based on needs assessments, targeted interventions identified by participating LEAs will impact students' overall health and increase academic outcomes.

[View SBHIP Photo Gallery](#)

## Announcements



[Apply For Student Aid](#)

The deadline to submit applications for the 2023-24 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) is fast approaching.

Applications must be submitted by March 2, 2023.

FAFSA and CADAA provide students attending college or career schools, access to various financial aid options.

For more resources on eligibility, deadlines and items to fill out these forms, visit the link provided:



[Apply For Employment](#)

SBCSS acts as an intermediate service agency between the California Department of Education and the 33 school districts in San Bernardino County. SBCSS is committed to meeting the educational needs of 400,000 students county-wide while also serving as the employer for more than 2,000 staff members.

We are seeking talented individuals to join our SBCSS family. Opportunities available include teachers, paraeducators and substitute teachers. A listing of all current job postings can be found by visiting [Edjoin.org](https://edjoin.org).

## Resources



## FINGERTIP FACTS

[Learn More](#)

The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools mission is to transform lives through education. With our Fingertip Facts, you'll find the answers to FAQs, additional information and data about our county and district programs.



## CRADLE TO CAREER

[Learn More](#)

Parents and guardians can use the Cradle to Career Roadmap to help identify key milestones in a child's academic and social readiness. SBCSS encourages partnerships with all sectors of the community to support the goal of meeting the educational needs of all students from cradle to career.



## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERVICES

[Learn More](#)

Educators across the county can use the Professional Learning Services to help identify key resources, support, and professional development workshops. SBCSS is committed to the success of ALL students by providing an equitable, rigorous, and engaging education.



[Visit the Newsroom](#)

Keep up with the latest stories from our Newsroom. Monthly articles feature staff, students and outstanding work being done throughout our county.



[Visit the SBCSS Photo Gallery](#)

See the latest photos in our official SBCSS gallery. Each month we add images from noteworthy events that highlight staff, students and programs across San Bernardino County.

[Visit our Website](#)



Superintendent Alejandre issues this monthly publication to keep education partners informed about the many services and programs SBCSS provides to our learning community throughout the year.

[View the 2023 archive.](#)