



Statement on Death of George Floyd

Just like you, I have been inspired by the spirit of community binding our nation, state and neighborhoods together over the past few months, as we work collaboratively to address the impacts of COVID-19. The coming together of schools, governmental and public health officials, and the incredible efforts of teachers, support staff, first responders and healthcare workers to support individual and public health, has been nothing short of heroic.

However, the events of this past week surrounding the death of Minneapolis-resident George Floyd and the response of our communities is deeply troubling and also deserves our attention. We owe heartfelt and sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Floyd. There is no place in this great American country of ours for such blatant injustice by those to whom we look to protect and serve.

What understandably began as peaceful, organized and non-violent protests has evolved into the looting of our communities in a manner that does not uphold the values of a country united. The images we have witnessed strike our hearts and cripple our senses. No matter how many times we see it, feel it and experience it, the ugly scourge of racism in our lives is much like the pandemic we've also been fighting. It's everywhere and still here.

As an educator, it hurts me to know there are inequalities in our systems that mirror what we know exists in our society. Yet, it is our moral duty as teachers to recognize the issue, name it for what it is, and be unafraid to have the difficult conversations with our students and families about fighting implicit racism, injustice and inequality. I join with countless educators and citizens across every occupation in every state of our country in being morally outraged for the actions that caused the death of Mr. Floyd. As the greatest country in the world, we need to do better by all our people.

As citizens and for our children, we need to let in the light on issues of racism and inequality. We need to model for our students the values of unity and equity. We need to stay together and promote love, tolerance, justice and equality. We must stand up and let our voices be heard—in a responsible fashion. As a people,

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Newsroom Spotlights

Watch County Superintendent Ted Alejandro's Weekly COVID-19 Update



In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, County Superintendent Ted Alejandro provides weekly updates regarding collective inter-agency COVID-19 response efforts.

View the [video message](#) regarding these important updates.

Read the latest [weekly newsletter update](#).

Messages for Our Community



During this unprecedented time

Celebrating the Class Of 2020



Chino Valley Unified School District hosts a drive through graduation ceremony for Chino Hills High School graduates.

This is the middle of graduation season for students and families across San Bernardino County. This year, more than 25,000 county high school seniors will earn their diplomas and achieve one of life's great milestones.

This year's celebrations, however, look very different from the traditional graduation ceremony due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Our county, along with the rest of the nation, has had to dramatically rethink celebration ceremonies in light of the crisis.

Our offices, in coordination with schools districts throughout the county, have begun to think outside the box on the best ways we can honor our hard-working seniors.

It has been heart-warming to see so many come together to ensure our students are acknowledged for their achievements. We know that in spite of this national pandemic, our students are deserving of recognition. Some districts have organized drive-through celebrations, while some have opted for virtual graduation ceremonies. Many districts have pre-recorded video messages from district and school leadership and class valedictorians. I have personally seen the great work and attention to detail many of the districts have put into creating these memorable moments for students.

I also would like to applaud the tremendous dedication of our educators and school support staff, as well as the families of our students, for their ongoing commitment to students throughout their educational experience. In this transformed education landscape, we must reflect on gratitude as we unite to honor all our seniors.

We should take great pride in the accomplishments of this year's graduates, who have faced unprecedented obstacles in recent months. May their strength and resiliency help guide them as they continue to transform

in education. San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools has made significant strides in taking advantage of new technologies and partnerships in an effort to maintain strong communication with our community. Our "Message for our Community" audio-casts highlight ongoing efforts to support educators, students and their families.

[Listen here.](#)

San Bernardino, Yucaipa-Calimesa, Fontana Districts Place In Inaugural Countywide Vision Video Challenge



School districts in San Bernardino, Yucaipa-Calimesa and Fontana placed in the top three in the first-ever Countywide Vision Video Challenge. View the videos on the [SBCSS YouTube](#) channel.

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their lives through education.

Gov. Newsom Unveils May Revision To State Budget

In Gov. Gavin Newsom's May Revision to the state budget, he responds to the dramatic economic and revenue changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic since his initial budget projections in January.



These are unprecedented times for not only education, but also in the impacts felt to our federal, state and local economies. Gov. Newsom remains hopeful that federal legislation will be able to provide relief with additional funding that would also greatly benefit public education in our region and state.

According to the Department of Finance, over the next three years, the Proposition 98 guarantee is projected to shrink by \$19 billion. Despite budget allocations and deferrals, that size of a deficit will be difficult to absorb without financial cuts. The governor in his May Revision is calling for a 10-percent cut to the Local Control Funding Formula.

While the governor and state legislature will look to enact a balanced budget by the end of June, the state budget remains a very fluid situation. We remain hopeful of support from the federal government, which can offset some of the impact from the economic shortcomings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.