

# COMMUNITY CORNER

*Developing Responsible, Respectful and Prepared Students*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 16, 2025

### **Banning USD Honors January Students of the Month**

BANNING, CA — Banning Unified School District proudly celebrated two exceptional students as January’s Students of the Month during a special breakfast at Sizzlers in Banning. Honorees Adrian Casillas from Banning High School and Jennifer Gonzalez from New Horizons High School were recognized for their academic achievements, leadership qualities, and unwavering dedication to their schools and the broader community.

“Adrian and Jennifer represent the heart and spirit of our District,” said Superintendent Terrence Davis. “Their commitment to excellence, resilience, and service is truly inspiring and reflects the values we strive to instill in all our students.”

#### **Adrian Casillas: A Resilient Athlete Leaving a Lasting Legacy**

Adrian Casillas, a senior at Banning High School, is celebrated as a dedicated and talented soccer player on the varsity team. Known for his “magic” on the field, Adrian is a cornerstone of his team’s success. His teammates rely on his leadership, skill, and unwavering commitment, making him a trusted and inspiring figure both on and off the field.

Adrian’s dedication extends beyond athletics; he demonstrates an admirable balance between sports and academics. He is described as respectful, hardworking, and resilient qualities that have shaped him into a role model for his peers. “Adrian truly embodies what it means to be a Bronco Strong student,” said a school staff member.

Despite facing challenges early in his high school journey, Adrian realigned his priorities after his sophomore year, demonstrating the power of perseverance and growth. His positive outlook and commitment to excellence uplift those around him.

As Adrian prepares to graduate this year, he looks forward to attending college, where he hopes to continue playing soccer. His long-term goal is to become a firefighter or first responder in his local community, giving back to the place he calls home. “I’ve learned to take care of business

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and avoid excuses, whether it's in the classroom or on the field," Adrian shared, reflecting on his journey.

## **Jennifer Gonzalez: A Servant Leader with a Vision for Greatness**

Jennifer Gonzalez, a senior at New Horizons High School, exemplifies the school's Stallion Pride with her servant leadership and community-centered values. Jennifer is driven by a passion to serve and actively seeks opportunities to contribute to her school and local community. Whether organizing events, serving on the school site council, or helping classmates earn their community service hours, Jennifer is a dynamic and engaged student leader.

Described as a "winner" and a natural leader, Jennifer approaches each day with confidence and determination. "Her confidence is her superpower," shared a staff member. "Once she believes in herself, her magic begins to happen, and her impact on those around her is extraordinary."

Jennifer's belief that success begins with mentality fuels her determination. "Waking up with purpose and a goal helps you push to achieve your dreams," she stated. She recently organized a food drive to support those in need, demonstrating her ability to lead and inspire others in meaningful ways.

Her future plans include enlisting in the military, where she hopes to continue serving others with the goal of becoming a pediatric nurse. Having overcome many challenges, Jennifer remains steadfast in her belief that "everything happens for a reason," a philosophy that shapes her journey toward greatness.

## **Scholarship Opportunity for Students of the Month**

All Student of the Month recipients are invited to apply for the Student of the Year Scholarship in the spring. This scholarship evaluates students on their grades, community involvement, recommendations, and essays, with the final selection made by a panel of sponsors and community leaders.

Banning Unified School District is proud to honor Adrian Casillas and Jennifer Gonzalez, whose achievements, resilience, and leadership exemplify the District's values of excellence, service, and community commitment.

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**Banning**  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*Prepare, inspire and educate*

**CONGRATULATIONS**

*2025 January  
Student of the Month*

**HOME OF THE BRONCOS**

**ADRIAN CASILLAS**

**JENNIFER GONZALEZ**

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PHOTO CAPTION: Banning Unified School District students are honored at the January Student of the Month recognition breakfast, celebrating their dedication and outstanding achievements.



PHOTO CAPTION: Banning and Beaumont Unified School District students gather at the January Student of the Month recognition breakfast, celebrating their achievements and dedication.

(Left to Right: Angelo Chacon, Jasmin Craner, Jennifer Gonzalez, Adrian Casillas)

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PHOTO CAPTION: Banning High School student Adrian Casillas proudly stands for a photo at the Janaury Student of the Month recognition breakfast, honoring his hard work and accomplishments.

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PHOTO CAPTION: Jennifer Gonzalez, a dedicated student from New Horizon High School, proudly stands for a photo at the January Student of the Month recognition breakfast, celebrating her achievements and commitment to excellence.

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