



## For Immediate Release

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### FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT *Robert C. Fisler and Valencia Park Schools named Apple Distinguished Schools for 2019-2022*

**(Fullerton, CA)** – Fullerton School District is pleased to announce that Robert C. Fisler and Valencia Park Schools have been named Apple Distinguished Schools for 2019-2022. This honor is given to schools as nationwide recognition for an exemplary learning environment.

Valencia Park students are engaged learners who navigate their 1:1 iPad devices while app smashing. For example, students learn about the water system and create an animated short film using Notability to illustrate, iMotion to animate, iMovie to edit with audio, and post on Seesaw to explain how a system works using academic vocabulary. Our teachers use their iPad devices, MacBooks, and Apple TV devices to deliver lessons, model for students, and for gathering instructional resources. By integrating computer science with a literacy rich curriculum, students are able to deepen their understanding of Common Core standards. Through this practice, students become adept in intermixing apps and websites to showcase their thinking.

Robert C. Fisler School offers a wide range of unique educational opportunities, including a Computer Science Pathways program. Over the course of 15 years, cumulative practices helped build upon a vision that continues to thrive through the school's Computer Science Pathways program, with purposeful and personalized learning in each and every classroom. First and second grade students use 1:1 iPads, and third through eighth grades students have 1:1 laptops that serve as vehicles for optimizing powerful learning. The program offers progressive coding instruction and application of coding skills, with a focus on relevant career pathways such as robotics, web development, and app development. Coding skills are taught during the school day to all students, addressing coding concepts from block coding to language-based coding. The program highlights the greater purpose in utilizing tools and technology skills to discover pathways towards passion, accelerated academics, and/or future careers. Fisler School has received the Apple Distinguished School recognition for thirteen consecutive years for their innovative use of technology in the classroom.

Apple Distinguished Schools are centers of innovation, leadership, and educational excellence that use Apple technology to inspire creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. They showcase innovative uses of technology in learning, teaching, and the school environment and have documented results of academic accomplishment.

“We are honored to have two Apple Distinguished Schools in our District. The selection of these schools highlights the success of the collaborative work of administration and teachers in innovative and compelling learning environments that engage students and provides tangible evidence of academic accomplishment,” stated Dr. Bob Pletka, Superintendent.

The Fullerton School District is located in northern Orange County, California and serves just under 13,000 students in grades TK – 8<sup>th</sup>. The Fullerton School District includes 20 schools, 15 elementary schools, two K-8<sup>th</sup> grade schools, and three middle schools. The mission of the Fullerton School District is to work collaboratively with the community to provide an innovative, high-quality educational program for all students in a safe learning environment. The District motto, “*Great Schools - Successful Kids*” exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic excellence, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society. For more information, call 714/447-7400 or visit [www.fullertonsd.org](http://www.fullertonsd.org).

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*For more information, please feel free to contact Julienne Lee/Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services at 714/447-7708*