

Superintendent's Newsletter



Dear AESD Community,

Though the school year just began in August, it already feels like many months have passed because of how much we've accomplished together.

From new initiatives to community events, the pace is fast, the work is meaningful, and the results are inspiring. Let's make sure we continue delivering the plans under the banner of **Thrive2030** and keeping the focus on what matters most, **our students**.

Terry Walker, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools



IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- District Highlights
- Expanded Learning
- School Spotlight
- Staff Spotlight
- Student Achievements & Events
- Community Initiatives & Support

Mark Your Calendar: Important Dates to Remember

1. Districtwide Career Day Celebration: **3 October**
2. Saturday School Enrichment Session: **11 October**
3. Fall October Break: **13 October**
4. School Resumes: **20 October**

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



Stronger Together Through Collaboration

This month, we started our first Learner-Centered Collaborative meeting. It was inspiring to see familiar and new faces come together to share ideas and discuss how to carry out the Thrive2030 plans. The conversations were rich, thoughtful, and filled with energy, reminding us that progress happens when everyone works together.



Strive for 95 Attendance Campaign

September is Attendance Awareness Month, and we launched our Strive for 95 campaign, where schools are recognized and awarded prizes each week for their efforts to improve and maintain attendance. Melva Davis Academy of Excellence led the way with 95.95%, followed by George Magnet at 97.30%, Gus Franklin at 96.57%, and El Mirage School at 95.70%.



Framework for the Future

Officially approved last June 10, our comprehensive long-term roadmap and bold vision for reimagining AESD schools is now easily accessible on our website: www.aesd.net/thrive2030. Don't forget to get a copy!

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



PBIS Recognition Across Our Schools

All AESD schools have been recognized by the state for excellence in Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. Platinum awards: Bradach, Eagle Ranch, Morgan Kincaid, West Creek, Westside Park. Gold awards: Adelanto, Columbia, El Mirage, George Magnet, Gus Franklin, Melva Davis, Theodore Vick, Victoria Magathan. Mesa Linda earned Silver.



Special Education Engagement

Our Special Education Department is more active than ever, hosting parent engagement sessions on topics such as the role of school psychologists and the testing process for special education. The team has also conducted trainings in schools, strengthening partnerships with families and ensuring students receive the support they need to thrive.

EXPANDED LEARNING

Expanded Learning Keeps Students Engaged Year-Round

Students returned to school refreshed after a summer full of Expanded Learning activities, showing that support continues from the start to the end of the school year.

During summer, students enjoyed different camping activities with Adelanto Adventure Academy.

This year Millionaire Mind Kids programs are offered to more schools like Adelanto Elementary, Columbia Middle, Morgan Kincaid, West Creek, and Westside Park, while Saturday School gives students extra opportunities to grow academically, explore interests, and develop new skills.



SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

Growing Investments at Bradach Elementary

Investments highlight the growth we want for each of our students.

We thank Sprouts for their generous grant supporting the students' garden, providing hands-on experiences that inspire exploration and learning.

We also applaud the Bradach team for their hard work in securing the grant and managing the construction of the new community school, ensuring opportunities continue to grow.



Donald F. Bradach Elementary School

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

From Volunteer to Teacher

Janet's journey with AESD is a story of dedication and growth.

She started as a volunteer in 2017, eager to make a difference in students' lives. In 2021, she became a classified substitute, then a certificated substitute in 2022, and a full-time teacher in 2023. Most recently, Janet passed the edTPA exam to earn her preliminary teaching credential in 2025.

Her path reflects perseverance, passion, and a deep commitment to helping students thrive, inspiring everyone around her along the way.



Janet Latham

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & EVENTS



El Mirage Students Explore Lake Gregory

El Mirage students and staff had an amazing California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) incentive trip to Lake Gregory Outdoor Adventure Park, newly added to the approved study trip list.

Everyone enjoyed the exciting activities, beautiful scenery, and hands-on learning. It was a wonderful way to celebrate students' effort, dedication, and accomplishments while creating lasting memories.

This matters because it acknowledges achievement, fosters collaboration and curiosity, and provides meaningful opportunities beyond the classroom that inspire growth and confidence.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & EVENTS



Columbia AVID Students Go to the UCLA Game

Columbia Middle School 7th & 8th grade AVID students attended the UCLA Going to College Game. They experienced college spirit, learned more about higher education opportunities, and celebrated the value of planning for their futures.



AESD Students Enjoy Football Fun Day

On August 10, some of our students gathered to enjoy Football Fun as the Chargers faced the Saints. These kind of activities are important because they give students the chance to connect, build friendships, and celebrate school spirit.



Mesa Linda AVID Students Discover College Opportunities

Mesa Linda AVID students recently visited Victor Valley College to explore the wide range of programs offered and to envision their own educational paths. The visit gave them a firsthand look at college life, campus resources, and student experiences, inspiring them to consider the many exciting possibilities that lie ahead for them in the coming years.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES & SUPPORT



Back to School at Theodore Vick, Victoria Magathan, Morgan, and George

Shoutout to Theodore Vick, Victoria Magathan, Morgan Kincaid, and George Magnet for welcoming students and families, with each room prepared carefully to show the extra effort that ensures parents feel their children are safe, supported, and ready to learn.

PTA Projects at Eagle Ranch

Site leaders at Eagle Ranch express their appreciation for their PTA's dedication and support. Students are enjoying birthday grams sold by the PTA and delivered by the mascot, creating fun and memorable moments that celebrate each child.



Donuts for Dads at Bradach

The event was a great success. Students were joined by 53 dads (128 people in all) for meaningful conversations led by Juan Solis from SBC's Children's Network. The morning was filled with connection, camaraderie, and community spirit.

Adelanto Elementary Remembers

Patriot Day was honored with heartfelt performances from students and dedicated preparation from teachers. Families and community partners, including local government agencies, joined in, making the day a meaningful moment of reflection and unity.

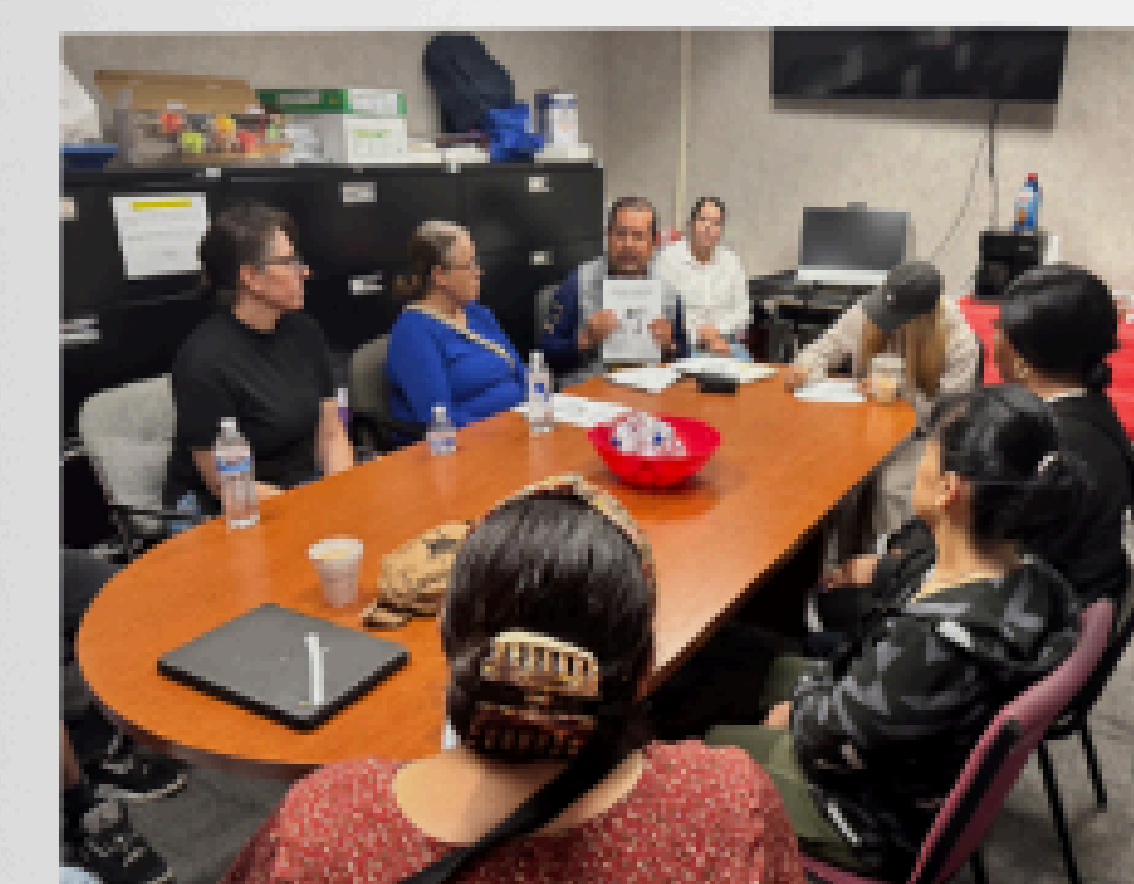


COMMUNITY INITIATIVES & SUPPORT



Apex Assembly at Gus

Through this fun and meaningful event, they learned about teamwork, leadership, and serving others while raising support for their school. The assembly inspired confidence, connection, and a sense of purpose.



Coffee with the Principal: Strengthening Home-School Connections

Coffee with the Principal events at West Creek, Columbia Middle, Mesa Linda, and Theodore Vick welcomed parents in strong numbers. These gatherings strengthen communication and partnerships between home and school, ensuring families feel connected and informed.

Upcoming Events & Celebrations

Stay tuned for exciting district events and activities. We encourage families and community members to stay engaged and continue supporting our students in their journey toward success.

Closing Message

As October Break approaches, we're proud of the energy and accomplishments of our students and staff so far. There's still so much ahead this fall—events, programs, and opportunities to learn and grow together. Thank you for being part of this journey, and let's keep the momentum going as we continue making Thrive2030 a reality.