MUSD's

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Recognizing employees for their years of service
and MUSD's 2026 Employees of the Year

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Years of Service

CERTIFICATED

Donna Whiteside

40 Years of Service

"Serving the same learning community for four decades is no easy task! Donna has spent a lifetime teaching with a genuine and relentless desire to change the world, one student and one class at a time."

-French Camp Elementary School Administration



MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Years of Service

CLASSIFIED

Leonor Anaya

40 Years of Service



“Nora Anaya’s 40 years of service as a bilingual aide reflects a remarkable tenure of dedication, compassion, and commitment to students. As an original Timberwolf, Nora has served Sierra High School since day one, helping shape school culture from the very beginning. Throughout her career, she has been a vital bridge between students, families, and staff, ensuring that language is never a barrier to belonging or success. We are deeply grateful for Nora’s legacy of exceptional service.”

-Sierra High School Administration

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

35 Years of Service

CERTIFICATED

Amy Rosendin

35 Years of Service



“Congratulations on reaching the remarkable milestone of 35 years of dedicated service. Your dedication, professionalism, and student-centered leadership make a meaningful difference for the SHS community. You approach your role with energy, compassion, and a steady commitment to excellence. Whether supporting students, partnering with staff, or helping guide the daily work of the school, your leadership is thoughtful and reliable, and it never goes unnoticed. You have helped create a positive, supportive environment where both students and staff can thrive. Thank you for your dedication to this community.”

-Frank Gonzales, Director of Secondary Education

Deanna Diggs

35 Years of Service



“Deanna Diggs is an educator who has consistently gone the extra mile for her students throughout an outstanding 35-year career with MUSD. Her dedication has left a lasting impression on countless students, colleagues, and families.
Deanna has embraced numerous leadership roles, including coaching, serving on site and district committees, and working as a department chair. Beyond academics, Deanna has generously given her time and heart to the school community as the longtime “Team Mom” for the MHS football team.”

-Manteca High School Administration

Donna Morais

35 Years of Service



“Donna Morais has dedicated an incredible 35 years of service to MUSD, leaving a lasting impact on countless students and families. Her passion for teaching and unwavering commitment to student success has made her a cornerstone of our school community. Donna’s wisdom and dedication have shaped generations of learners. As she retires, we celebrate her remarkable career and the legacy she leaves behind at Shasta.”

-Shasta Elementary School Administration

Richard Inderbitzin

35 Years of Service



“An East Union alumnus and a Lancer to his core, Mr. Inderbitzin has proudly served the East Union community throughout his career. During his tenure, he has taught science and, most recently, primarily Physical Education courses. He has also served as a department chair and led numerous athletic teams with dedication and professionalism. A true professional, Mr. Inderbitzin leads with integrity and strong character. Congratulations, Mr. Inderbitzin, on your outstanding service to East Union High School!”

-East Union High School Administration

Ronald Inderbitzin

35 Years of Service



"Ron Inderbitzin has devoted his career to education at both the junior high and high school levels, beginning with five years at Neil Hafley School before spending the past 30 years at Manteca High School. Over his 35 years in MUSD, Ron has made a lasting impact on students through his dedication, leadership, and commitment to the school community. Beyond the classroom, Ron has played an important role in athletics, coaching football, basketball, and cross country. He also served the MHS community in key leadership positions as Activities Director and Athletic Director, helping to shape a positive and engaging student experience on campus."

-Manteca High School Administration

Shelley Kulm

35 Years of Service



“Shelley’s 35 years of dedication as a school psychologist have left an extraordinary impact on countless students, families, and colleagues. Her compassion, expertise, and unwavering commitment to doing what is best for students have made her a trusted and respected leader across the district. Shelley’s legacy is one of integrity, mentorship, and heartfelt service—our schools are better because of her. We are profoundly grateful for her decades of exemplary support!”

-Dr. Jody Burriss, Senior Director of Special Education

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

30 Years of Service

CERTIFICATED

Andrea Wright

30 Years of Service

"Andrea excels at supporting teachers through her approachable nature, collaborative spirit, and willingness to offer guidance while learning alongside others. She is a deeply passionate educator who brings heart and purpose to her work. We are truly grateful for her dedication."

-Julie Hollander, Director of MTSS for Standards



Andrew Millard

30 Years of Service

"Scottie is a veteran Calla teacher who has the reputation of being a swiss army knife on our campus. He has taught various subjects, coached, and even served as admin designee on several occasions. Scottie is known on the staff to be the person to bring levity to many situations where it is needed, while being a skilled English teacher who develops great relationships with students."

-Calla High School Administration



Angela Schut

30 Years of Service

"Congratulations on 30 years of service, Angela! The Lathrop Elementary community is truly fortunate to have you. It is incredible to think about the multiple generations of families you have taught and impacted over the years. Your dedication and commitment have made a difference in so many lives. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for our school."

-Lathrop Elementary School Administration



Anna Coley

30 Years of Service



“Anna is a cherished member of Sequoia’s 2nd grade team, bringing joy and enthusiasm to her classroom each day. Her students absolutely love being in her class—especially for the chance to earn the ever-popular “Coley Cash”! One of Anna’s greatest joys is leading our annual Christmas concert, a highlight of the season that showcases her creativity, spirit, and dedication to making special memories for our school community.”

-Sequioa Elementary School Administration

Arnold Gavino

30 Years of Service

“Mr. Gavino has dedicated himself to our students and community, building lasting relationships with students, families, and staff. His commitment, kindness, and steady presence have made a meaningful impact on generations of learners."

-George Komure Elementary School Administration



Candace Espinola

30 Years of Service



“Candace has been a driving force in Manteca Unified, leaving a lasting impact through her leadership and unwavering commitment to students. As an elementary Principal and now Coordinator of Expanded Learning, she has not only built a thriving program from the ground up, but also established the systems and structures that ensure its continued success. Her work reflects a deep commitment to excellence and has a lasting impact on every student she serves.”

-Amanda Peters, Director of MTSS for Career, College, and Enrichment

Catherine Rusconi

30 Years of Service



“Mrs. Rusconi is a dedicated kindergarten teacher whose caring and understanding nature creates a safe and joyful learning environment for every child. Her passion for teaching shines through in everything she does, as she consistently brings warmth, patience, and positivity into her classroom. She always shows genuine happiness in doing what she loves, and her commitment to making a meaningful impact on her students’ lives is evident each day. Through her compassion and enthusiasm, she fosters a love for learning and leaves a lasting impression on the children and families she serves.”

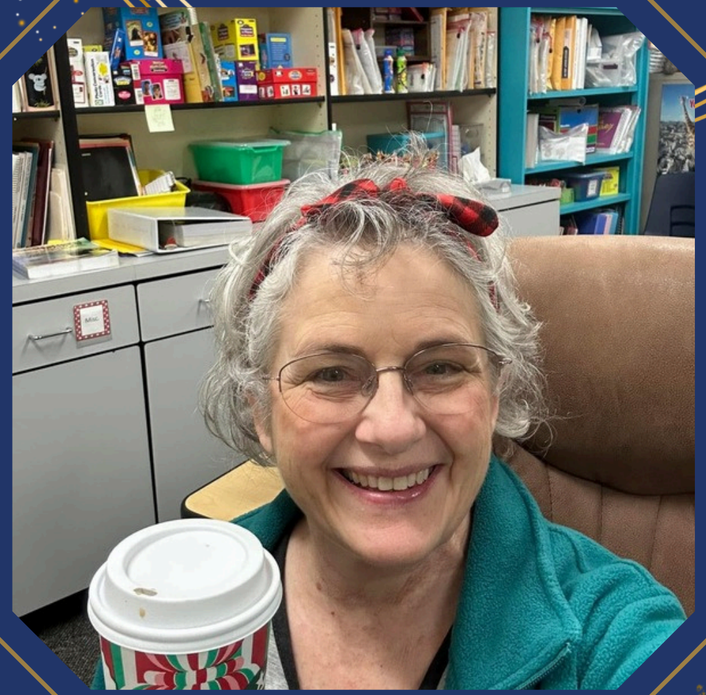
-Neil Hafley Elementary School Administration

Cynthia Vasconcellos Knauss

30 Years of Service

"Cindy has served the district for 30 years as a speech therapist. Throughout her time, she was known as a thoughtful and caring professional who consistently supported students. Her steady presence and quiet dedication were appreciated by colleagues and families alike. We thank her for her many years of service."

-Dr. Jody Burriss, Senior Director of Special Education



Denise Buske

30 Years of Service



“For 30 years, Denise has made a lasting and positive impact on students, teachers, administrators, and community members throughout Manteca Unified. She has dedicated her career to serving children with care, purpose, and unwavering commitment. Her leadership is grounded in compassion and integrity, and her influence can be seen in the many lives she has supported and inspired. Denise’s dedication to education and to her community truly exemplifies the very best of MUSD.”

-Melanie Greene, Assistant Superintendent

Ericka Meadows

30 Years of Service



“We’re thankful for Ericka’s 30 years of service in education. She has worked at 2 school sites with a majority of her time in kindergarten. Ericka likes structure and does a good job of keeping students on task and ready to learn. Thank you for all you do.”

-Walter Woodward Elementary School Administration

Holly Ney

30 Years of Service

"Holly has a true passion for teaching. She does an excellent job of looking at the data so that she can best meet her students' needs. Holly enjoys creating exciting learning experiences for her students. She is a key player on our instructional leadership team and always has thoughtful input tied to data and student need."

-Sequoia Elementary School Administration



Irene Ruiz

30 Years of Service

“Irene is a quiet yet mighty kindergarten teacher. She is very thoughtful and always has her students’ best interests at heart. Irene’s classroom environment is truly welcoming. She develops a strong rapport with her students, and they are excited to learn.”

-Sequoia Elementary School Administration



John Blankenship

30 Years of Service



“For 30 years, John Blankenship has exemplified excellence in education through his expertise in math, patient guidance, and dedication to every student’s success. John’s ability to deliver high-quality instruction for all learners, combined with his consistency, has made a lasting impact on countless students. He has earned the respect of students and staff alike through his professionalism, integrity, and commitment to quality teaching. His deep knowledge of mathematics and his thoughtful approach to instruction ensure all students are supported and challenged to grow.”

-George McParland Elementary School Administration

Kathryn Karnes

30 Years of Service

“Kathryn is so passionate about teaching and learning. Her excitement when she sees her students succeed is astounding. I enjoy that she often invites administration to her classroom to share in her students’ learning. Kathryn likes to keep the fun in learning and her students love it.”

-Sequoia Elementary School Administration



Kimberly Cope

30 Years of Service



"Kim Cope has dedicated her career to education within MUSD, serving students at multiple grade levels and in a variety of roles. She has made an enduring impact through athletics. She has coached volleyball, basketball, track and field, and softball, and currently serves as the Girls Golf Coach for the Buffs. Through her dedication, mentorship, and passion for education and athletics, Kim continues to inspire generations of student-athletes both on and off the course."

-Manteca High School Administration

Kimberly Driesen

30 Years of Service



“Kim Driesen is a dedicated and exceptional educator, and Lathrop Elementary is fortunate to have her. She consistently demonstrates genuine care for her students and thoughtfully plans instruction to meet their individual needs. Her commitment to strong instructional practices has made a lasting impact on student success and the school community. Congratulations on 30 years of service!”

-Lathrop Elementary School Administration

Lisa Berry

30 Years of Service



“Mrs. Berry is deeply committed to strengthening each student’s learning journey and guiding them toward becoming true scholars. Throughout her years at Neil Hafley, she has demonstrated unwavering dedication to every student who enters her classroom. She approaches teaching with purpose and care, making it her personal mission to positively impact her students’ educational paths. Through high expectations, encouragement, and genuine compassion, Mrs. Berry empowers her students to grow academically and believe in their potential.”

-Neil Hafley Elementary School Administration

Lisa Waterman

30 Years of Service

"Ms. Waterman has dedicated her 30 year teaching career to MUSD. We are thankful that she has been a Lincoln Raider since 2018! Lisa's commitment to her students is commendable. Thank you Lisa!"

-Lincoln Elementary School Administration



Lora Richter

30 Years of Service



“With 30 years of dedicated service, Mrs. Richter has made a lasting impact through her unwavering commitment to students and colleagues alike. A true Disney enthusiast, she brings joy, positivity, and a touch of magic into her classroom each day. She is known for building strong, meaningful relationships with her students and consistently goes the extra mile to ensure they feel supported and cared for. Her kindness and warmth extend to everyone she works with, making her an incredibly valued and cherished member of the school community.”

-Stella Brockman Elementary School Administration

Maria Ravelo

30 Years of Service

"It is a true privilege to celebrate Maria Ravelo for her remarkable 30 years of service as an educator, where she has not only been a dedicated 7th-grade teacher at Mossdale Elementary but also a constant advocate for her students and a mentor to her colleagues. Her career is marked by earning the San Joaquin County teacher of the year in 2024. Maria has mastered the art of teaching, inspiring, and stimulating learning in every student she encounters. She has a quiet yet powerful demeanor, unwavering passion for education, and lifelong commitment to service making her an extraordinary role model and an invaluable asset to our school community."

-Mossdale Elementary School Administration

Michael Pangburn

30 Years of Service

"Mike Pangburn brings experience and commitment to his work as a Social Science teacher and Academic Decathlon advisor. He supports students in engaging with rigorous academic challenges. Congratulations on 30 years of service, Mr. Pangburn!"

-Lathrop High School Administration



Michelle Cebreros

30 Years of Service

“Mrs. Cebreros’ 30 year career has been full of changed lives, inspired minds, and futures shaped. Your dedication and passion have left an imprint that will last for years. Thank you for serving the Lincoln community beyond the classroom walls.”

-Lincoln Elementary School Administration



Nina Holvik

30 Years of Service



“Nina is a valued and dedicated member of our 3rd grade team, and we are so fortunate that she has devoted her entire teaching career to the Sequoia Elementary community. She brings positivity and heart to everything she does, especially as a member of our Sunshine Club, where she goes above and beyond to make sure every staff member feels recognized and celebrated on their special occasions.”

-Sequoia Elementary School Administration

Paula Overbeck

30 Years of Service

"Paula has dedicated 30 years of service to MUSD. She is very energetic and brings her passion for running to the Woodward campus. Over the years Paula has been a steady figure in Woodward Running Club and track. Paula, thank you for your continued commitment to students."

-Walter Woodward Elementary School Administration



Randi Fowzer

30 Years of Service

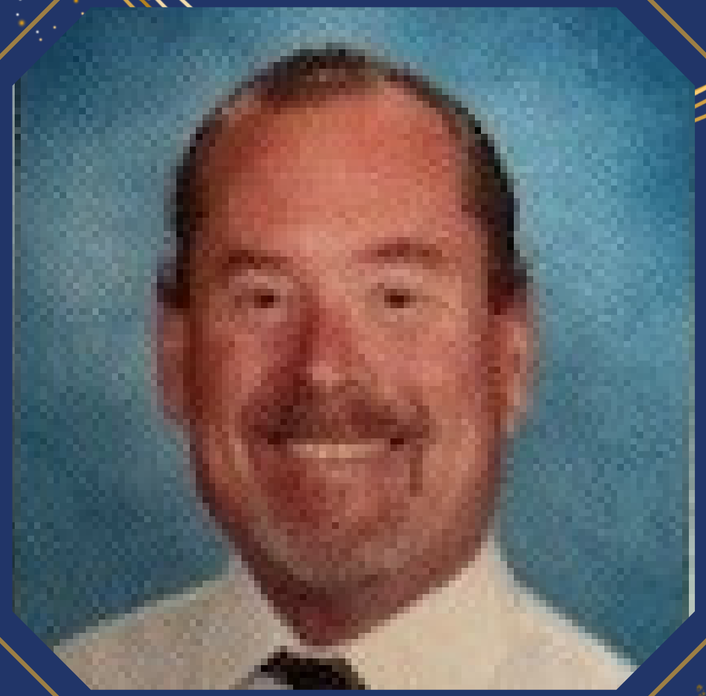


“Randi is celebrating 30 years of service to Manteca Unified, with most of those years rooted at Lincoln Elementary. She is a strong, steady leader who sets clear expectations, follows through, and always keeps students at the center of her decisions. She knows every student by name and builds trust with staff through consistency, fairness, and genuine care. Lincoln is stronger because of her leadership and her long-standing commitment to the school community.”

-Melanie Greene, Assistant Superintendent

Richard Mitchell

30 Years of Service



“Mr. Mitchell has proudly served the East Union community as a Physical Education teacher for 30 years. Throughout his career, he has gained many valuable insights, none more important than the philosophy displayed in the PE office: ‘Flexibility is the key to our program.’ His dedication, wisdom, and commitment to students have left a lasting impact. Thank you, Mr. Mitchell, for your years of service to East Union High School!”

-East Union High School Administration

Tanya Azevedo

30 Years of Service



“It is truly an honor to recognize Mrs. Tanya Azevedo for her 30 years of dedicated service in education with MUSD. Mrs. Azevedo is an exceptional kindergarten teacher whose love for children, commitment to learning, and steady presence have made a lasting difference in the lives of so many students and families. She is also a wonderful colleague—kind, dependable, and always willing to lend a helping hand whenever needed. We are deeply grateful for her years of service and for the care, heart, and professionalism she brings to our school community every day.”

-Veritas Elementary School Administration

Tonya DeSpain

30 Years of Service



“Tonya DeSpain has supported students across multiple grade levels, across multiple schools, both as a 2nd and 5th teacher and program coordinator—bringing care, dedication, and strong advocacy to all she does. She consistently CHAMPions not only her students, but also her colleagues and the broader school community. Her commitment to doing what is best for kids, truly has shown a lasting impact.”

-Brock Elliott Elementary School Administration

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

30 Years of Service

CLASSIFIED

Ronald Pagal

30 Years of Service



“For 30 years, Ron Pagal has been a steady, trusted presence on the Sierra High School campus. Ron is committed to student safety and well-being, always maintaining a calm, approachable, and respectful demeanor. Ron’s consistency, fairness, and genuine care have helped create a campus environment where students feel safe and supported every day. We are incredibly grateful for Ron’s three decades of loyal service and the lasting impact he has made on the Sierra community.”

-Sierra High School Administration

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

25 Years of Service

CERTIFICATED

Adam Russell

25 Years of Service

"Adam Russell has been a dedicated and highly valued member of the Sierra teaching staff for an impressive 25 years. As a longtime member of the English department, he has continually sought to grow as an educator by taking on Advanced Placement courses and by designing innovative offerings, including a film-as-literature course at Sierra. Adam is deeply respected and beloved by his students for his passion and commitment to learning. Thank you, Adam, for your many years of outstanding service and dedication."



-Sierra High School Administration

Alaine Catanio

25 Years of Service

“Mrs. Catanio has brought passion and dedication to her classroom, continuing to teach with the same fresh enthusiasm as her very first year. Her energy and love for teaching inspire both her students and colleagues every day."

-George Komure Elementary School Administration



Amy Modesto

25 Years of Service



“For 25 years, she has been an exceptional teacher whose commitment to Great Valley extends far beyond the classroom. In addition to her dedication to students, she has served as a member of the Leadership team and played an active role in MEA. Her leadership, professionalism, and unwavering passion for education have made her an invaluable part of our school community. We are proud to honor her years of service and the lasting contributions she continues to make.”

-Great Valley Elementary School Administration

Andrea Hiatt

25 Years of Service

"Andrea Hiatt is a proud former Buffalo and an exceptional educator who has dedicated her entire 25-year teaching career to Manteca High School Beyond teaching, Andrea has made a lasting impact through athletics, serving as the Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, Girls Varsity Golf Coach, Girls Varsity and JV Softball Coach, and Cross-Country Coach. Her dedication to student-athletes reflects her deep commitment to both academics and athletics, mentoring generations of Buffs with enthusiasm, leadership, and heart."



-Manteca High School Administration

Andrew Hildebrand

25 Years of Service

"Mr. Hildebrand has dedicated 25 years to enriching students' lives through music. He's taught everything from 4th to 12th grade across multiple schools in our district. He is deeply committed to his students' success and brings passion to every lesson. What he values most is seeing a student's face light up when they finally 'get it,' a reflection of the impact he makes each day. We are grateful for his dedication and the legacy he continues through music education."



-Manteca High School Administration

Anne Alustiza

25 Years of Service



“It is an honor to celebrate Anne Alustiza for her incredible 25 years of service in MUSD, where she has consistently shaped the minds of 6th-grade students with unwavering dedication and passion for teaching. Throughout her career, she has built a strong classroom community each year, connecting deeply with her students and their families, creating an environment where every child feels valued and supported. Her commitment to her students is evident every day, as she fosters a safe, nurturing space where they can thrive academically and personally, leaving a lasting impact on all who have had the privilege to learn from her.”

-Mossdale Elementary School Administration

Blaine Hipkins

25 Years of Service



“For 25 years, Blaine Hipkins has shown students that learning lives beyond textbooks—inside stories, laughter, and the welcoming walls of his classroom. In just one year at McParland, Blaine has made his classroom feel like home, where fourth graders are known, valued, and inspired.

His vast library reflects his belief that every child deserves the right book, the right story, and the joy of discovering both. Blaine's sense of humor reminds us that joy is one of the most powerful teaching tools and his students are lucky to experience it every day.”

-George McParland Elementary School Administration

Christie Wallace

25 Years of Service



"For 25 years, Christie has been an asset to the MUSD Special Education Department. Her knowledge, expertise, and strong understanding of legal requirements and district procedures have consistently supported high-quality services for students. Sites appreciate her student-centered approach and her willingness to ask the difficult questions that lead to clearer decisions and better outcomes. Thank you for your dedicated service!"

-Dr. Jody Burriss, Senior Director of Special Education

David Brown

25 Years of Service



“It is an honor to recognize Mr. Dave Brown for 25 years of service with MUSD. As a third-grade teacher, he has a special gift for building strong connections and positive relationships with his students, who genuinely adore him. Mr. Brown is always willing to lend a hand whenever needed and brings a warm, caring presence to our school each day. His dedication and commitment have made a meaningful difference in the lives of so many students and families.”

-Veritas Elementary School Administration

Holly Page

25 Years of Service



“With 25 years of dedicated service, Mrs. Page brings not only a strong depth of content knowledge but also a genuine compassion for the teaching profession. She deeply cares about her students and colleagues, which is evident in the way she collaborates openly and supports those around her. She thoughtfully uses data to guide her instruction, always with the goal of meeting students where they are and helping them grow. Her consistent meaningful feedback reflects her commitment to nurturing each student’s progress and success.”

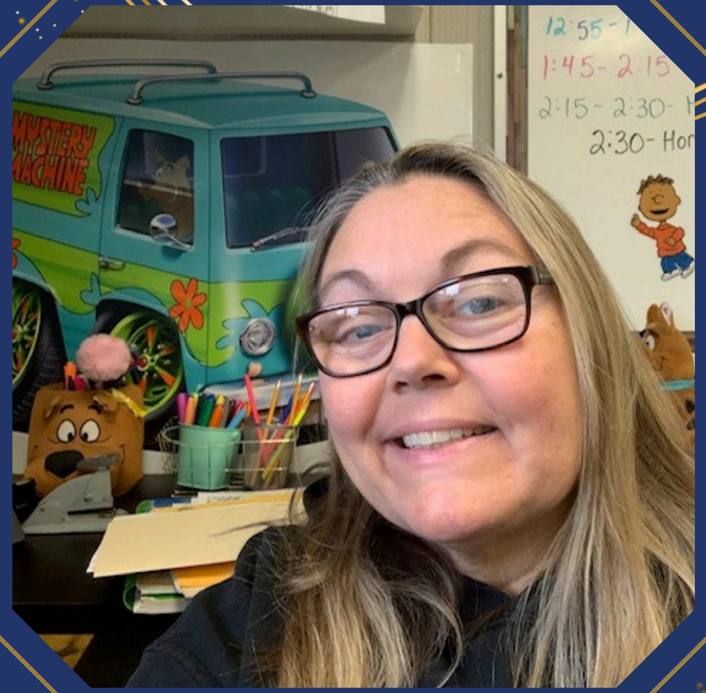
-Stella Brockman Elementary School Administration

Janet Cabezut

25 Years of Service

"Janet is a memorable, fun teacher and a friend to everyone on campus. Each year at promotion, there is a large group of 8th graders seeking one last visit with their favorite 4th grade teacher."

-August Knodt Elementary School Administration



Jasmine Mim

25 Years of Service



“Jasmine is a key player of Sequoia’s dynamic junior high team. She always has students’ best interests at the forefront of her mind. She makes her science classes fun-filled with a variety of interactive and hands on activities. Students enjoy that she uses her time after school to host volleyball clubs.”

-Sequoia Elementary School Administration

Jeanette Pacheco

25 Years of Service

"Ms. Pacheco is an energetic ball of creativity. All I have to do is utter an idea, and she will develop an implementation plan by the next morning! She brings pure joy to campus!"

-August Knodt Elementary School Administration



Julia Gibson

25 Years of Service



“With 25 years of dedicated service, Mrs. Gibson brings years of experience and commitment to her role. She consistently seeks out professional development opportunities, demonstrating a willingness to stay current in her practice. Her steady presence in the classroom provides students with a reliable learning environment. She is a veteran member of the staff, contributing her knowledge and experience to the school community.”

-Stella Brockman Elementary School Administration

Justin Coenenberg

25 Years of Service

"Justin celebrates 25 years of dedicated service to MUSD. He began his career at Lathrop Elementary teaching 7th/8th grade History and PE, and for the past 20+ years has been a cornerstone of the Social Science Department at Manteca High School. In addition to teaching, Justin has coached multiple sports, most notably soccer, earning recognition as the California State Girls Soccer Coach of the Year in 2021 and as a Sac-Joaquin Section Model Coach. Justin is an invaluable member of the MHS family whose impact extends well beyond the classroom."



-Manteca High School Administration

Karen Olsen

25 Years of Service



“For 25 years, Karen Olsen has dedicated her career to serving students across MUSD, supporting learners from Kindergarten through Adult School. As both a teacher and administrator, her commitment to education has positively impacted generations of students and families. Her passion for learning extends beyond her professional role, as her two daughters continue the legacy by serving as teachers themselves. Her influence and dedication truly exemplify a lifetime commitment to education.”

-Melanie Greene, Assistant Superintendent

Kay Vongphouthone

25 Years of Service

"As a member of Sierra High School's math department, Kay is a high energy, high impact teacher. She builds tier 1 supports and opportunities for collaboration into her daily lessons ensuring that students grasp difficult math concepts and have opportunities to build relationships with their peers. But most importantly, Kay makes herself available to her students and takes time to value them."

-Sierra High School Administration



Kimberly Gaston

25 Years of Service



“Kim Gaston has been a lifelong educator at Brock Elliott, consistently making a meaningful impact on our 8th grade students. She takes each student’s learning personally, going above and beyond to ensure their success. Her dedication, care, and commitment to helping students grow academically and individually truly embody what it means to be a CHAMPion for kids.”

-Brock Elliott Elementary School Administration

Kristopher Hensley

25 Years of Service



“Kris has served the district for 25 years as a school psychologist, providing steady and compassionate support to students with significant behavioral needs, including those in our nonpublic school programs. His commitment to understanding and advocating for some of our most challenged learners has made a meaningful difference for students, families, and teams alike. Known for his professionalism and calm approach, he has been a trusted resource across the district. We thank him for his dedication and many years of service.”

-Dr. Jody Burriss, Senior Director of Special Education

Laura Thomas

25 Years of Service



“For the past 25 years, she has been a dedicated and hardworking teacher whose genuine care for her students shines through everything she does. Her commitment to their growth has made a lasting impact. Throughout her years at Great Valley, she has been a steady source of guidance, inspiration, and compassion. We celebrate her remarkable service and the legacy of excellence she continues to build each day.”

-Great Valley Elementary School Administration

Manuel Perry

25 Years of Service



“We proudly celebrate Manuel Perry for 25 years of dedicated service as an educator and leader. Throughout his career as a teacher, he has remained deeply committed to students, colleagues, and the strength of public education. Most recently, his collaborative leadership as President of the Manteca Educators Association has exemplified professionalism, integrity, and a steadfast advocacy for educators and schools. His lasting impact continues to inspire our entire educational community.”

-Joshua Cowell Elementary School Administration

Marlies Liebelt

25 Years of Service



“Congratulations to Marlies for 25 years of dedicated service and lasting impact. She consistently reinforces strong reading skills and supports students in mastering essential math basics, laying a solid foundation for lifelong learning. Beyond the classroom, she has served on leadership teams, shows care and concern to all by bringing Sunshine to our entire staff, and fosters warm, positive, long-lasting relationships with parents, strengthening our entire school community.”

-Joshua Cowell Elementary School Administration

Mary Ann Johnston

25 Years of Service



“Mrs. Johnston has provided instruction in the World Languages Department by teaching all levels of French to students at East Union High School. She is a valued colleague, an impactful educator, and leads her work with a true servant’s heart. Congratulations to Mrs. Johnston on 25 years of dedicated service to the East Union community!”

-East Union High School Administration

Mary Smith

25 Years of Service

“Mary is a phenomenal fifth-grade teacher who brings energy, joy, and purpose to learning every day. She is highly collaborative, deeply skilled in her practice, and consistently works alongside her team to support student success. Walking into her classroom, it is always inspiring to see engaging lessons that make learning both meaningful and fun. She is a valued leader and an incredible asset to our New Haven team.”

-New Haven Elementary School Administration

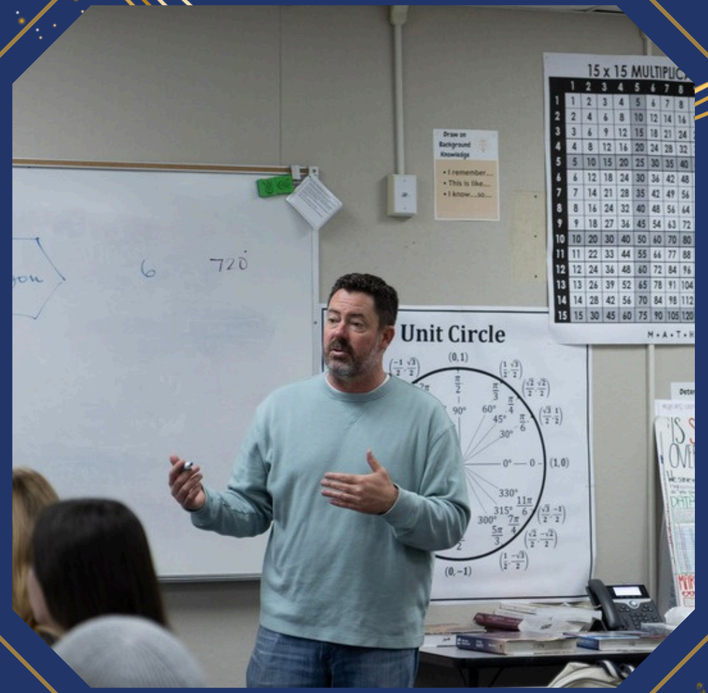


Matthew Anderson

25 Years of Service

“Matt Anderson is a truly exceptional educator who seamlessly combines intellectual rigor with a sharp and engaging sense of humor. He teaches some of the most challenging courses at Sierra yet does so in a way that empowers students and builds their confidence. Under Mr. Anderson’s guidance, students develop strong independent thinking skills while expanding their problem-solving and critical thinking abilities. He is widely admired by students, colleagues, and staff alike, and his presence has a way of leaving others feeling uplifted and encouraged. Thank you for your service, Matt—we deeply appreciate all you do.”

-Sierra High School Administration



Megan Peterson

25 Years of Service



“Congratulations on reaching the incredible milestone of 25 years of dedicated service to our district. Your career stands as a powerful example of what commitment, integrity, and a genuine love for students and staff can accomplish. Your leadership has consistently reflected high expectations paired with deep care. You lead with thoughtfulness, steadiness, and an unwavering focus on what is best for students. The positive culture you cultivate, the trust you build with staff and families, and the impact you have had on countless students will be felt for many years to come. Thank you for the decades of hard work, long hours, and heart you have poured into this community.”

-Frank Gonzales, Director of Secondary Education

Melanie Silva

25 Years of Service



“For 25 years, Melanie Silva has laid the foundation for countless students, helping young learners grow, thrive, and blossom in her animal adventure classroom. Her unwavering work ethic, passion for teaching, and commitment to student success make her a true cornerstone of the McParland community. Through creativity, dedication, and heart, Melanie has transformed foundational learning into joyful adventures that students will always remember. A lead learner in every sense, Melanie continually inspires students, colleagues, and the McParland community through her example and excellence.”

-George McParland Elementary School Administration

Melissa Snaer

25 Years of Service



“For 25 years, Melissa Snaer has exemplified what it means to lead with compassion—creating classrooms where students flourish and feel truly cared for. Her dedication to her fifth-grade students, her collaborative spirit, and her thoughtful contributions have made a lasting impact on McParland. She is an amazing educator and an even more amazing human being, Melissa brings heart, insight, and purpose to everything she does for students and staff.”

- George McParland Elementary School Administration

Michael Berchtold

25 Years of Service

"Mike has contributed 25 years of dedicated service to MUSD. He is open to feedback and works collaboratively with his grade-level team to support students and colleagues. Thank you, Mike, for your commitment and many years of service."

-Walter Woodward Elementary School Administration



Nancy Gonzalez

25 Years of Service

"Mrs. Gonzalez is a leader on our campus. She is a true professional in every detail. Students thrive in her classroom. Lincoln is so very proud to have Mrs. Gonzalez lead our 3rd grade team!"

-Lincoln Elementary School Administration



Shahean Hifai

25 Years of Service



“With a heart devoted to special education, she consistently meets each student where they are, ensuring their individual needs are understood and supported. Her compassion and patience create a safe, inclusive environment where every child can grow and succeed. Through strong relationships with families, she builds a true sense of community rooted in trust, connection, and care.”

-Joseph Widmer Elementary School Administration

Shannon Beattie

25 Years of Service

“For 25 years, Shannon Beattie has been a driving force behind the success and tradition of music education in MUSD. As Sierra High School’s Band Director, Shannon leads a program rooted in excellence, discipline, and pride, inspiring students to grow not only as musicians but as confident individuals. His passion for music is evidenced in his daily lessons and interactions with students. In addition to teaching his classes, Shannon serves as a trusted mentor to new instructors, sharing his knowledge, experience, and guidance. His willingness to support colleagues has strengthened programs and helped cultivate music education throughout MUSD.”



-Sierra High School Administration

Terry Niendorf

25 Years of Service



“A passionate educator and dedicated coach, he goes beyond the classroom to inspire, mentor, and uplift every student he encounters. Through his leadership on the field and in school, he builds confidence, character, and a lasting love for learning. His positive impact is felt not only in student achievement, but in the lives he helps shape every day.”

-Joseph Widmer Elementary School Administration

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

25 Years of Service

CLASSIFIED

Elizabeth Wong

25 Years of Service



“For 25 years, Liz has been the heart of the department. As our resident fashionista, she brings style and confidence to everything she does while keeping department operations running smoothly. She knows the transportation department inside and out, and her genuine care for students and coworkers alike make her an integral part of our department.”

-Julie Fannin, Director of Transportation

Everardo Martinez

25 Years of Service



“Everardo ‘Eddie’ Martinez is a dynamic head custodian. He not only cares so much about our Sequoia campus, he also takes the time to develop positive relationships with our staff and students. Eddie is known for his positive ‘Good Morning, Good Morning’ that we hear on the radio each day. Sequoia is truly blessed with a custodian like Eddie.”

-Sequoia Elementary School Administration

Lorraine Lara

25 Years of Service



“There is no substitute for Lorraine! She works tirelessly to ensure our sites are staffed as needed, all while making the workplace feel a little like the Happiest Place on Earth. We are truly fortunate to have her as part of our work family! Congratulations, Lorraine, on your 25 years of dedication and service.”

-Sarah Morris, Classified Supervisor of Human Resources

Lynnette Kane

25 Years of Service



“Congratulations to Lynette Kane on 25 years of service in MUSD. Her tireless work as a custodian truly serves as the backbone of our school, ensuring a safe, clean, and welcoming environment every day. She is deeply appreciated and absolutely amazing. Spartan Nation is grateful for your service.”

-Lathrop High School Administration

Martha Villegas

25 Years of Service

"25 years of laughter, learning and a whole lot of unforgettable moments."

-Yosemite Community Day School Administration



MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

20 Years of Service

CERTIFICATED

Barry Keith

20 Years of Service

"Mr. Keith has served in the Math Department throughout his tenure, teaching a wide range of disciplines and courses. In addition to his classroom responsibilities, he has provided leadership as the Math Department Chair and has contributed to the school community as an athletic coach at East Union High School."

-East Union High School Administration



Brooke Robinson

20 Years of Service



“For 20 years, she has been a compassionate and dedicated Special Education teacher, with 18 of those years spent serving the students and families of Great Valley. Her unwavering commitment to meeting each student’s unique needs, along with her patience, expertise, and tireless advocacy, has made a profound difference in so many lives. We are proud to honor her years of service and the meaningful contributions she continues to make to our school community.”

-Great Valley Elementary School Administration

Catalina Papaioannou

20 Years of Service



"Catalina has proudly served the Manteca Unified School District for twenty years. After making meaningful contributions at the K–8 level, she has brought her talents to the high school setting, where she teaches and guides multilingual students with dedication and care. Thank you, Catalina, for your years of service and commitment to supporting student success."

-East Union High School Administration

Cheryl Behler

20 Years of Service



"During Cheryl's time in MUSD, she has worked as a Health Science teacher within the Health Science pathway and has taken on leadership responsibilities through HOSA, advising and guiding students in competitive events, conferences, and career readiness opportunities. She currently serves on the Cal-HOSA Board of Directors for Region 1 and helped establish the current Health Science pathway at Manteca High School, contributing to the development and growth of the program to better serve our students."

-Manteca High School Administration

Christopher Burr

20 Years of Service



“Chris has spent the last 20 years serving as a Spanish teacher at Manteca High. He has served as the Department Chair and is also the hiking club advisor. Chris says that what brings him the most joy as a teacher for MUSD is helping empower students to develop into good human beings, and the teamwork he experiences every day at Manteca High. He is committed, consistent, and an excellent classroom teacher.”

-Manteca High School Administration

Denise Runyan

20 Years of Service



“Denise Runyan has served as a Physical Education teacher while also leading East Union High School’s Link Crew, a student organization integral to welcoming and connecting incoming 8th-grade students to the East Union family. Her dedication and efforts have done a fantastic job of building and strengthening a positive student culture across the East Union campus.”

-East Union High School Administration

Edna Ealey

20 Years of Service



“For 20 years, Edna Ealey has been a dedicated and impactful math educator within Manteca Unified School District. Throughout her career, Edna has demonstrated a deep commitment to student learning, creating a classroom environment where perseverance, confidence, and critical thinking are valued and nurtured. She consistently strives to make math accessible and engaging, helping students build both skills and self-belief as learners.”

-Sierra High School Administration

Elizabeth Van Eerde

20 Years of Service

"Elizabeth's dedication as our choir teacher has built an extraordinary program where students truly grow and thrive. Her passion for music and commitment to excellence have created lasting opportunities for students to find their voice, confidence, and community. Her legacy will continue to resonate long after her well-earned retirement. Congratulations!"

-Lathrop High School Administration



Erin Williams

20 Years of Service



“Erin has a gift for welcoming and supporting new teachers, ensuring they feel not only prepared but truly valued. She understands that strong teams are built on relationships, and she excels at fostering meaningful connections. Through her mentorship, new teachers are empowered to grow with confidence and shine in their practice.”

-Julie Hollander, Director of MTSS for Standards

Ernest Williams

20 Years of Service



“Ernie has served the district for 20 years as an Adapted Physical Education specialist. He has been a valued team player who works collaboratively with colleagues and provides steady leadership. Known for his calm and thoughtful approach, he contributes positively to the programs and sites he serves, consistently keeping student needs at the forefront. We thank him for his dedication and many years of service to the district.”

-Dr. Jody Burriss, Senior Director of Special Education

Eryn Bowers

20 Years of Service



"Mrs. Bowers has served East Union High School as a Business teacher, facilitating instruction across multiple disciplines within the department. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she has served as an athletic coach and has been an effective, positive culture-builder among both students and faculty."

-East Union High School Administration

Grace Baldeon

20 Years of Service

"Teaching relentlessly from bell to bell, Grace Baldeon brings this profession to a whole different level. Grace is intelligent, capable, and strategic. Her commitment to her students is unparalleled."

-French Camp Elementary School Administration



Heriberto Carrillo

20 Years of Service

"We are proud to recognize Eddie Carrillo for his outstanding 20 years of service in MUSD. Eddie has a calm and steady presence in the classroom that has helped countless students develop a love for math and the confidence to tackle challenges both in and out of the classroom. His dedication to his 8th grade students and his ability to inspire them as they prepare for the journey to high school speaks volumes about his passion for education. Above all, his genuine care for his students and his commitment to their success has made a lasting impact on everyone fortunate enough to work with him."



-Mossdale Elementary School Administration

Janet Gomes

20 Years of Service



“Janet Gomes has devoted her career to supporting students who face academic challenges, consistently demonstrating a deep commitment to their growth and success. She has an exceptional ability to meet students where they are, provide individualized support, and celebrate every milestone along the way. Janet approaches her work with dedication, consistency, and a true student-centered focus. Her unwavering commitment to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to succeed reflects the core values of MUSD.”

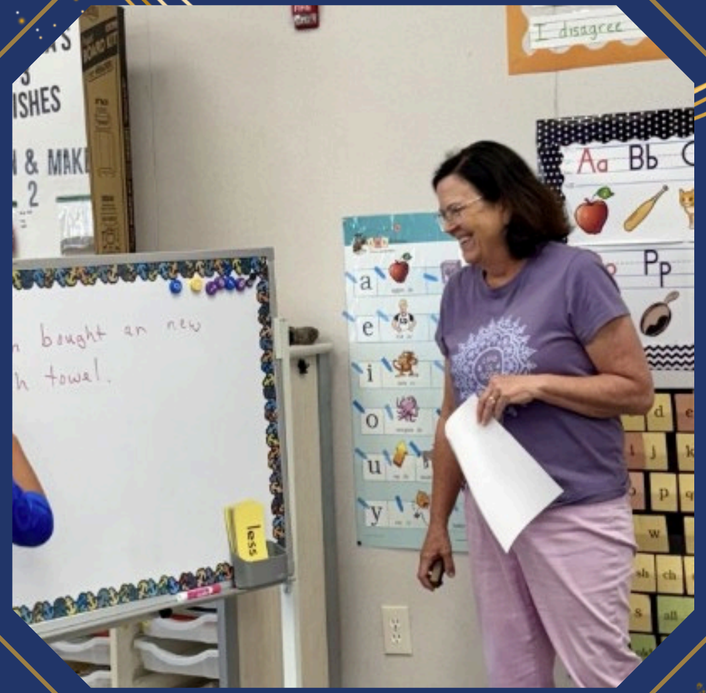
-Manteca High School Administration

Janice Mohler

20 Years of Service

“We’re grateful to Jan for her 20 years of service in education. She brings a calm presence and a genuine appreciation for the things she enjoys. Her steady presence and willingness to share her talents make a difference every day.”

-Walter Woodward Elementary School Administration



Jennifer Myers

20 Years of Service



“As a Careers with Children teacher, Jennifer Myers has made a lasting impact that extends far beyond graduation. Her guidance and inspiration have led students to return as paraprofessionals in our district and pursue careers in education. Her influence is clearly reflected in the lives and paths of those she has mentored during her 20 years of service.”

-Lathrop High School Administration

Jennifer Spears

20 Years of Service

"Jenni Spears brings great passion to student learning. She celebrates students' achievements and works hard to understand each child's individual needs. As a member of our instructional leadership team, she continually looks for new and engaging ways to support students. Thank you, Jenni, for 20 years of dedicated service."

-Walter Woodward Elementary School Administration



Kathrine Francis

20 Years of Service



“Katie is a strong leader at Shasta who sets a high bar for excellence in everything she does. She is consistently present and engaged, jumping into dress-up days and school events right alongside her students and staff. Her commitment to building a positive, connected school culture shows in the way she creates meaningful opportunities for families and the broader community. Shasta thrives because of her energy, visibility, and unwavering dedication to the school.”

-Melanie Greene, Assistant Superintendent

Kelly Rockey

20 Years of Service



"Kelly came to MUSD to build our adult transition program. Over the last twenty years, first as a special education teacher and more recently as a program specialist, she helped establish and grow a program that has supported students and families during an important stage of transition. Her work has reflected a deep commitment to student success and thoughtful collaboration with colleagues not only in the adult transition program but across special education programs in the district. We thank her for her lasting contributions and many years of service to the district."

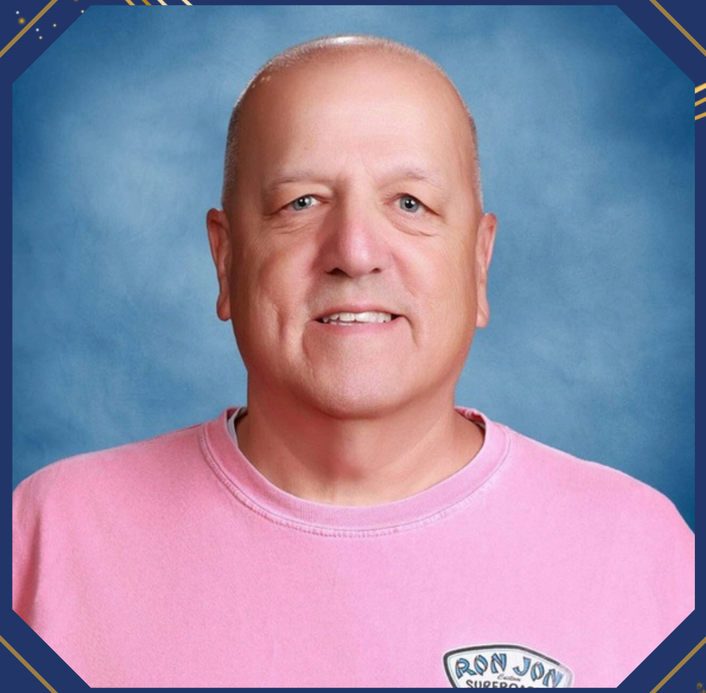
- Dr. Jody Burriss, Senior Director of Special Education

Kevin Bolding

20 Years of Service

"Kevin has dedicated 20 years of outstanding service to Manteca Unified School District, making a lasting impact on both academic and extracurricular programs. Throughout his career, he has taught Special Education and ROP courses, with most of his work focused in the Business department. Beyond the classroom, Kevin has led a highly successful volleyball program, positively influencing countless student-athletes, including coaching our inaugural boys volleyball team. He also continues to support our campus through his work with the student store, demonstrating his ongoing commitment to student success and school pride."

-Manteca High School Administration

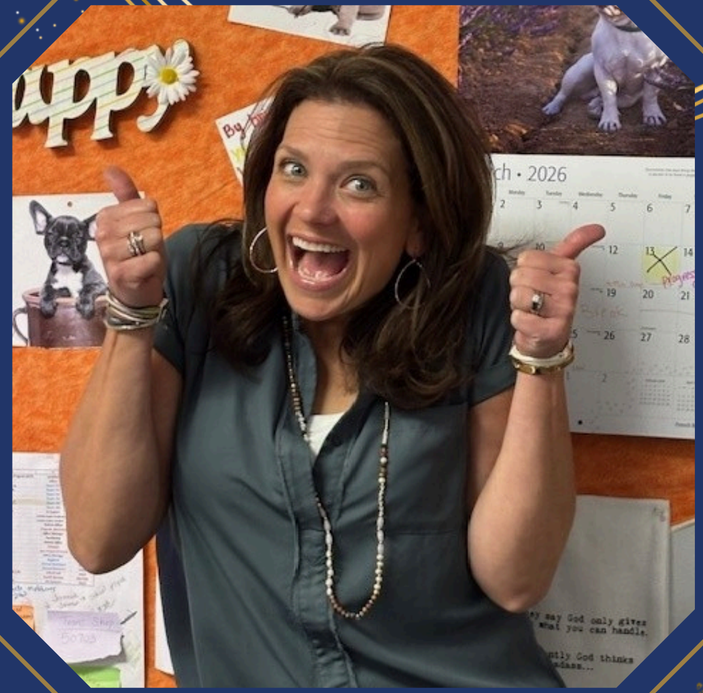


Kimberly French

20 Years of Service

“Celebrating twenty years of service, Kim has dedicated her career to supporting special education students within Manteca Unified, most recently with the Young Adult Program. Her dedication and heart for students are truly appreciated.”

-Manteca Adult School Administration



Kristen Buck

20 Years of Service

"Kristen Buck has made a lasting impact by working extensively with agriculture students, serving as Department Chair, and dedicating herself to preparing and inspiring future farmers. East Union High School sincerely appreciates her commitment, dedication, and years of service."

-East Union High School Administration



Lucia Aguilar

20 Years of Service



“Lucia easily creates a classroom of eager learners. She develops strong rapport with her students that allows them to feel confident and take chances with their learning. She is a strong member of her grade level team and our instructional leadership team. One thing we appreciate about Lucia is the fact that she can focus on the positive and will often give shout-outs to her peers.”

-Sequoia Elementary School Administration

Mahlon Lott

20 Years of Service

"Mr. Lott has committed 20 years to Manteca Unified and will be retiring at the end of the year. Lincoln Elementary is thankful for Mr. Lott's commitment to junior high students. We are grateful for all you have given to the Lincoln community, in the classroom and on the basketball court."

-Lincoln Elementary School Administration



Maria Franco

20 Years of Service

“Maria Franco brings joy, passion, commitment, and focus into her classroom, every day, every moment. Maria is an extraordinary educator with a zest for life, her students, and our learning community.”

-French Camp Elementary School Administration



Marlene Chadinha

20 Years of Service



“Marlene has served the district for 20 years as a speech therapist at McParland. During this time, she has worked steadily to support student needs. Her contributions have been appreciated within the school community. We thank her for her many years of service to the district.”

-Dr. Jody Burriss, Senior Director of Special Education

Megan O'Connor

20 Years of Service



"We are truly grateful to Megan O'Connor for her incredible 20 years of service in MUSD, where her caring nature has touched the hearts of countless students and colleagues alike. As a Kindergarten teacher at Mossdale Elementary School, her passion for shaping young minds shines through in everything she does, creating a nurturing and loving environment where her students thrive. Her dedication to her students, her leadership on campus, and her love for teaching make her an invaluable part of our Mossdale family, and we are so thankful for her continued commitment to excellence."

-Mossdale Elementary School Administration

Melissa Ballard

20 Years of Service



“Mrs. Ballard consistently goes far above and beyond to support the students of Neil Hafley, putting her heart into everything she does. Her deep care for her students is evident in the way she works tirelessly to understand their individual needs and celebrate their unique strengths. She is intentional and thoughtful in her instruction, continually adapting her strategies to personalize learning and ensure every student feels supported, valued, and capable of success. Mrs. Ballard’s dedication, compassion, and commitment make a lasting difference in the lives of her students and our school community.”

-Neil Hafley Elementary School Administration

Miguel Valencia

20 Years of Service

"Miguel Valencia has made a positive impact as a member of the World Languages Department by teaching a variety of Spanish courses and inspiring students through opportunities to celebrate and showcase their talents. East Union High School appreciates his dedication and the meaningful contributions he has made to student engagement and campus culture."

-East Union High School Administration

Mitzi Catuncan

20 Years of Service

"Mitzi Catuncan is a dedicated science teacher who supports student learning and curiosity in the classroom. Her commitment to her subject and students contributes positively to our school community. We appreciate her work and professionalism and congratulate her on her 20 years of service."

-Lathrop High School Administration



Nancy Kessinger

20 Years of Service



“We celebrate Nancy Kessinger for her 20 years of dedicated service in the district, where her passion for teaching and her love for her students shine through every day in her 3rd-grade classroom. With her calm demeanor and caring nature, she fosters an environment where students feel supported and encouraged to grow, always putting their success at the heart of her work. Her ability to build strong relationships with both students and parents speaks to her commitment to their academic and personal growth, making her an invaluable part of our school community.”

-Mossdale Elementary School Administration

Patricia Gonzales

20 Years of Service



“Patty is an exceptional teacher, mentor, department chair, and trusted friend to so many here at Weston Ranch. She pours her heart into supporting colleagues and serving students, always leading with sincerity and compassion. Patty’s genuine care, steady presence, and unwavering dedication make our campus and our community a better place each day. We are incredibly grateful for the impact she continues to make.”

-Weston Ranch High School Administration

Randy Baltazar

20 Years of Service

"Randy Baltazar brings energy, encouragement, and dedication to his role as a PE teacher. He fosters teamwork, perseverance, and healthy habits in students each day. Congratulations on 20 years of service, Randy."

-Lathrop High School Administration



Sarah Hilson

20 Years of Service

"It is an honor to celebrate Sarah Hilson for her remarkable 20 years of service. Throughout her time at Mossdale, she has been a dedicated educator, a trusted member of the ILT team, and a strong leader both in the classroom and across campus. She has an unwavering commitment to her students, staff, and school community. We are deeply grateful for all the contributions she has made in shaping the future of Mossdale."



-Mossdale Elementary School Administration

Scott Thornton

20 Years of Service

"Congratulations to Scott on twenty successful years of service with Manteca Unified School District. Throughout his career, Scott has shown dedication to special education students, most recently serving with the MUSD Young Adult Program."

-Manteca Adult School Administration



Scotti Pope

20 Years of Service

“Scott Pope has served in both high school and junior high settings, teaching in general education and special education roles. He contributes widely to our school community through the instructional leadership team, PBIS team, and by advising our student leadership. Scott is a strong advocate for helping every student reach their full potential. Thank you, Scott, for 20 years of dedicated leadership in education.”



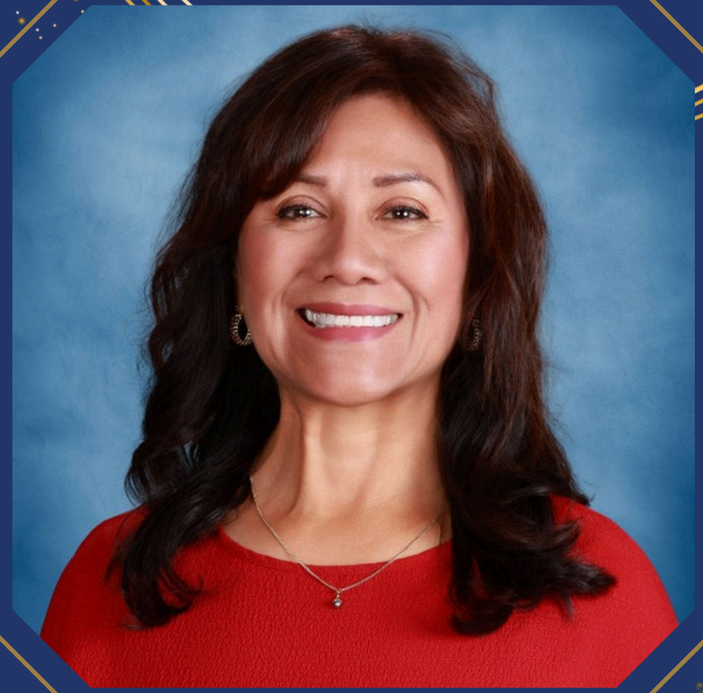
-Walter Woodward Elementary School Administration

Sonia Ciccarelli

20 Years of Service

"Mrs. Ciccarelli has made a meaningful impact as a member of the World Languages Department by teaching a range of Spanish courses and serving as Department Chair. She is highly professional and consistently strives to grow as an educator while providing exceptional service and support to her students."

-East Union High School Administration



Tammy Telles

20 Years of Service



“Tammy has taught a variety of English courses throughout the majority of her career. Most recently, she has expanded her impact by teaching CTE courses focused on fashion and design, allowing her to showcase her creativity and expertise. Her efforts are greatly appreciated by students, families, and staff alike.”

-East Union High School Administration

Tanya Sosa

20 Years of Service

"We proudly honor Tanya Sosa for 20 years of dedicated service to our school community. She has an extraordinary ability to connect with even the most challenging learners, skillfully differentiates instruction, and maintains high levels of student engagement through creative, thoughtfully designed lessons. She has strengthened teaching and learning across our campus by serving on various teams, and her commitment continues beyond the school day through after-school enrichment that inspires students to grow and explore new interests."



-Joshua Cowell Elementary School Administration

Tara Maruyama

20 Years of Service



“Tara is an outstanding math teacher and valued member of our staff at Calla. She has a fire and spirit that guides her teaching daily and that energy also extends to coaching volleyball and guiding our leadership program. Tara has been an active leader in our district with math curriculum and teaching for the majority of her career. The Calla Community is fortunate to have a staff member like Tara who is so dedicated to her craft and cares so deeply about her students.”

-Calla High School Administration

Tony Whitesel

20 Years of Service



“Mr. Whitesel is an outstanding educator who skillfully brings language arts instruction to life. His classroom reflects strong student engagement, meaningful discussion, and a genuine love of learning. Known and loved by students across the entire campus, from TK through eighth grade, he has built lasting relationships with all who know him. Mr. Whitesel is a tremendous asset to our team, and we are grateful to have him as a member of the New Haven family.”

-New Haven Elementary School Administration

Tracy Green

20 Years of Service

"Tracy has served the district for 20 years as a speech therapist, working with students across a range of settings and needs. Over the course of her career, she supported speech and language services at her sites and contributed to the work of special education teams. Her long-term service is valued by colleagues."

-Dr. Jody Burriss, Senior Director of Special Education

Vannaesia Ley

20 Years of Service



"We are proud to honor Vannaesia Ley for her 20 years of service in the district, where her passion for teaching and learning has inspired countless students and colleagues alike. As an 8th-grade teacher, mentor, and admin designee, she consistently leads by example, offering a helping hand whenever needed and utilizing creative, innovative methods to help students achieve their best. Her dedication to her students, leadership on campus, and unwavering commitment to excellence make her an incredible asset to both our school and the broader community."

-Mossdale Elementary School Administration

Willie Herrera

20 Years of Service



“Mr. Herrera has worn many hats during his service at East Union High School, each playing an important role and leaving a positive and lasting impact on the school community. His contributions include serving as a SPED Teacher, Life Skills Teacher, LEAD Teacher—a pivotal program supporting the development of student leaders—and as an athletic coach. East Union High School sincerely thanks him for his hard work, dedication, and consistently positive outlook on life.”

-East Union High School Administration

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

20 Years of Service

CLASSIFIED

Angie Pollard

20 Years of Service



“Over the past 20 years, Angie has consistently demonstrated dedication, professionalism, and a true passion for her work. Her ability to uplift those around her and represent the Nutrition Education department with excellence has made a lasting impact, all while supporting the growth and well-being of MUSD students. Angie’s contributions over the years have been invaluable, and it has truly been a pleasure to have her as part of our department. Congratulations, Angie, on 20 incredible years of service—we are so grateful for all that you do!”

-Annastacia Yager, Nutrition Education Supervisor

Deneen Cook

20 Years of Service



“Deneen Cook has proudly served the district for twenty years, most recently as the Attendance Clerk at East Union High School. Throughout her tenure, she has been a consistently positive presence on campus and has demonstrated remarkable perseverance and resilience. East Union High School congratulates Deneen and sincerely thanks her for her years of dedicated service.”

-East Union High School Administration

Ileana De Nuno

20 Years of Service



“Ileana has supported our students with care and dedication. This year, working with our transitional kindergarten students, she keeps up with their energy and curiosity, creating a nurturing and engaging environment where our youngest learners thrive."

-George Komure Elementary School Administration

Jose Gaspar

20 Years of Service

"Carlos is one of those employees that not only laughs while completing his duties, but makes it fun for everyone at MUSD. He is a true joy to work with."

-Jeff McLarty, Supervisor of Operations



Mierya Gonzales

20 Years of Service



“Mierya has spent the last 20 years in MUSD in a variety of roles – she started as a bus driver, moved to an account clerk in transportation, and has spent the last seven years as the Office Manager at Manteca High School. Mierya’s favorite part of working for MUSD are all the connections she has made throughout the years. She is dependable, a team player, and is always willing to help and put her best foot forward.”

-Manteca High School Administration

Samantha Hein

20 Years of Service



“As Sierra’s Library Media Technician, Samantha Hein has worked diligently to become a true asset to staff and students alike. Her knowledge of curriculum, materials, and research resources keeps the academic programs at Sierra up to date and ensures that the library serves as a learning center for students. But, best of all, her ability to stay abreast of what students want to read keep them pouring through the doors to check out books.”

-Sierra High School Administration

Tiffany Nascimento

20 Years of Service



“Tiffany Nascimento helps bring MUSD’s goals to life every day through her dedication to students. Her high standards and attention to detail create a safe, welcoming cafeteria where students can focus on learning.
By making sure every student is fed, cared for, and supported, she helps remove barriers to success. Tiffany’s work helps students feel safe, stay ready to learn, and achieve their individual goals.”

-Laura Howe, Nutrition Education Supervisor

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR

Sandra Brasil

'26 Educator of the Year



Sandra skillfully implements research-based instructional strategies to ensure she meets the needs of all students. She builds strong relationships with her students by learning about their backgrounds, language needs and strengths, allowing her to connect instruction to meaningful, real-life contexts.

Julieta Salcedo

'26 Educator of the Year



Julieta designs engaging, student-centered math lessons with clearly defined targets, individualized support, and rigor. She demonstrates mastery of multi-tiered interventions, thoughtful questioning, and ongoing formative feedback to support student learning. She exemplifies a lifelong learner who is constantly curious and reflective, and she passes those same qualities on to her students.

Jodi Beaty

'26 Educator of the Year



Jodi is highly skilled at training adult learners! Her ability to relate to others and build trust empowers new teachers while inspiring veteran educators. She provides individualized coaching for teachers, modeling effective classroom practices and instructional concepts to help students achieve.

MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Elsa Forrest

'26
Classified Employee of the Year

Elsa's positive attitude, commitment to nutrition, and strong work ethic make her one of the hardest-working people we know. She consistently gives 100%, ensuring every product served to students meets the highest quality standards while supporting those around her. Her interactions with students and staff are warm and genuine, creating an environment where everyone feels welcome!



Frances Lopez

'26
Classified Employee of the Year

Frances approaches every task with empathy, adaptability, and a deep commitment to student success! She emphasizes the importance of individualized support that paraprofessionals offer in the classroom. She encourages a balanced and structured learning environment that keeps students focused in the classroom; showing that learning can be joyful, inclusive and meaningful for growth.



Josh Gosnell

'26
Classified Employee of the Year

Josh's work reminds everyone that a well-maintained school is essential for learning. Whether being asked to turn a wrench or strategize creative solutions to solve a problem, he consistently goes above and beyond expectations. His pride in his work is evident in his determination to keep school facilities both functional and welcoming.



Kim Lewis

'26
Classified Employee of the Year

Kim is more than a bus operator, she is a role model, mentor, and community champion! Beyond merely completing her route, Kim mentors new drivers and fosters teamwork and excellence within the Transportation Department. Kim's unwavering dedication to safety, love for students, and generous spirit create a safe space where students feel comfortable and supported.



Yurica Avila

'26
Classified Employee of the Year

Yurica models respect, care, and composure with every interaction. Yurica is often the steady force behind the scenes, supporting those on the front lines with care and precision. She wholeheartedly understands that everything we do is in service to students, and she lives that mission every day. Yurica is that person — the one who quietly ensures everything runs seamlessly, all while making those around her feel supported and seen.



MANTECA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR

Lisa Wilson

'26 Educator of the Year



Lisa demonstrates a deep sense of responsibility and a genuine desire to serve every student. She leads with vision and integrity, mentoring staff and creating structures that ensure equitable access to support services. Lisa embodies what it means to be a school counselor: she is a leader, an educator, and an advocate for students.

THANK YOU FOR YEARS OF SERVICE AND MAKING US #PROUDTOBEMUSD