Monterey County Office of Education

Leadership, Support, and Service to Prepare All Students for Success

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Monterey County School Boards Association Honors Salinas Valley Health Mobile Clinic with "Excellence in Education" Award

SALINAS, CA – The Monterey County School Boards Association (MCSBA) will honor the Salinas Valley Health Mobile Clinic, dedicated to expanding access to high-quality, no-cost healthcare services for students and families in underserved communities, with the prestigious "Excellence in Education" Award at its annual dinner and organizational meeting on Friday, March 27 at Hartnell Community College in Salinas.

Working in close partnership with school districts and local schools throughout Monterey County, the Salinas Valley Health Mobile Clinic brings essential healthcare services directly to campuses and nearby communities, ensuring students have access to the care they need to succeed both in and out of the classroom. The clinic, in operation since January 2020, provides a wide range of preventative and primary care services, including health screenings, immunizations, sports physicals, and health education resources to support the management of chronic conditions. The clinic also offers COVID-19 and flu testing and vaccinations, along with simple urgent care services, all free of charge.

This state-of-the-art mobile unit features two fully equipped exam rooms, Wi-Fi connectivity, and laboratory capabilities, allowing for comprehensive, on-site care. The clinic is staffed by a dedicated team that includes a Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant, Medical Assistant, and Community Health Advocate, ensuring students and families receive both medical care and critical support services.
Selected from a competitive pool of 37 nominees submitted by school districts across Monterey County, the Salinas Valley Health Mobile Clinic was chosen for its transformative impact on the health, well-being, and academic success of children and youth. By partnering directly with schools and removing barriers to care, the clinic plays a vital role in supporting student attendance, engagement, and readiness to learn.

"The MCSBA was deeply impressed by the Salinas Valley Health Mobile Clinic's strong collaboration with our school communities and its commitment to serving students where they are," said County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Deneen Guss. "Our school leaders are incredibly grateful for the breadth of services provided to meet the evolving needs of students and families."

School governance team members from throughout Monterey County will attend the event, with Mobile Clinic Director Dr. Rodriguez accepting the award on behalf of the organization. "We are honored to receive this recognition from the Monterey County School Boards Association," said Dr. Rodriguez. "This award reflects the power of partnership with our schools and the shared commitment to supporting the health and success of every child."

"We are extremely grateful for the strong partnership and collaborative spirit of the Salinas Valley Health Mobile Clinic in supporting the whole child," said MCSBA President Irma Lopez. "Their work exemplifies the critical connection between health and education, and we are proud to recognize them with this year's Excellence in Education Award."

About the Monterey County School Boards Association: The Monterey County School Boards Association (MCSBA) helps governance teams fulfill their school district's educational missions by providing resources and training on governance standards and current issues. MCSBA consists of one representative from each of the 24 school districts, two community colleges, and the county board of education.

Excellence in Education Award Criteria: A program that is available and accessible to students countywide, has a transformative and significant impact on students' quality of life, and demonstrates a commitment to exceeding expectations in pursuit of addressing significant, unmet student needs.