



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 30, 2025

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Nicolet Middle School Promotes Over 200 Students in a Heartfelt Ceremony

BANNING, CA — On Friday, May 30, 2025, the field at Nicolet Middle School transformed into a vibrant celebration space as over 200 eighth-grade students were promoted to high school during a ceremony that brought together students, families, school staff, and District leadership. The stands were filled with loved ones proudly cheering on students, making the morning a meaningful and heartfelt event.

The program began with the Processional to “Pomp and Circumstance” by Edward Elgar, followed by a warm Welcome from Principal Dr. Cami Thomas. The Presentation of Colors was carried out by the Nicolet Middle School Cadet Corps, and the Flag Salute was led by ASB Vice President Jayleen Duarte. Dr. Thomas then delivered her Principal’s Address, commending students for living out the school’s values of Integrity, Responsibility, and Pride.

ASB President Caitlynn Yang offered a thoughtful ASB Address, reflecting on shared experiences and inspiring her classmates to embrace the future with confidence. The Advance Band, led by Christine M. Richardson, followed with a performance of “Procession of the Prince.”

The emotional highlight of the event was the Roll Call, presented by 8th Grade Counselor Nancy Almada-Hernandez, 7th Grade Counselor Daniel Cobb, and 6th Grade Counselor Consuelo Klonecz, as each student’s name was read and recognized. Families cheered, snapped photos, and celebrated their students’ achievements.

Dr. Thomas officially presented the Class of 2025, affirming their readiness for high school. The ceremony concluded with closing remarks from Dr. Thomas and a joyful Recessional to “Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)” by Green Day.

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PR: 2425-025



In a powerful show of support, all members of the Banning Unified School District Board of Trustees—President Shelly Ruiz, Clerk Mayra Anguiano, Trustees Leslie Novalis, Lucy Martinez-Lara, and Laura Troutman—were in attendance, congratulating students and honoring the hard work that brought them to this moment.

Superintendent Terrence Davis shared, “This ceremony reflects the promise and potential in each of you,” he said. “As you move into high school, remember that your voice matters, your dreams are valid, and we are here to support you every step of the way.”

The success of the event was a team effort, not only from the Nicolet school site but also through collaboration across several departments districtwide. Special thanks go to Student Services, Educational Services, Innovation and Technology, Maintenance & Operations, School Safety, Communications, and the dedicated team at Nicolet Middle School, all of whom contributed behind the scenes to make the morning both seamless and memorable.

View photos from the event: bit.ly/3GMguKe

Access the full electronic program: bit.ly/4k9XymX

Congratulations to the Nicolet Middle School 5th Graders. You will always be Palominos, and the entire Banning Unified School District community is cheering you on for what’s ahead!

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About Banning Unified School District:

Banning Unified School District serves nearly 4,300 students across its schools and is one of the largest employers in the city of Banning, with over 500 dedicated staff members. The district’s mission is to collaborate as a diverse community to develop responsible, respectful, and prepared students who achieve their full potential. Guided by its vision to prepare, inspire, and educate, Banning USD is committed to fostering a supportive environment where students can thrive academically and personally.

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(Photos have been attached)

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PHOTO CAPTION: Students patiently wait as there names are being called for “Roll Call.”

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PHOTO CAPTION: Students walk down Nicolet Middle School Football Field cheering for the crowd to witness their excitement.

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PHOTO CAPTION: From left to right - Lucy Martinez-Lara, Board Member, Mayra Anguiano, Board Clerk, Shelly Ruiz, Board President, Dr. Cami Thomas, Principal of Nicolet Middle School, Laura Laura Troutman, Board Member, Leslie Novalis, Board Member, and Terrence Davis, Superintendent.

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