

# Pleasanton Unified School District



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **Hart Middle School Designated 2015 California Golden Ribbon School**

**Pleasanton, California**—State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced the secondary schools have been honored under the state's new Gold Ribbon Schools Awards Program, which is temporarily taking the place of the California Distinguished Schools Program. Among the list of winners is Pleasanton Unified's own Thomas S. Hart Middle School.

"These schools are academically successful, vibrant, and innovative centers of learning and teaching," Torlakson said. "They provide great examples of the things educators are doing right—embracing rigorous academic standards, providing excellence and creativity in teaching, and creating a positive school climate."

The California Gold Ribbon Schools Award was created to honor schools in place of the California Distinguished Schools Program, which is on hiatus while California creates new assessment and accountability systems.

Schools applied for the award based on a model program their school has adopted that includes standards-based activities, projects, strategies, and practices that can be replicated by other local educational agencies. The new award is recognizing middle and high schools this year and elementary schools in 2016.

The Gold Ribbon awards recognize California schools that have made gains in implementing the academic content and performance standards adopted by the State Board of Education. These include, the California Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics, California English Language Development Standards, and Next Generation Science Standards.

The Gold Ribbon schools will be recognized later this month during regional ceremonies held in Sacramento, San Diego, Visalia, and San Francisco.

The news release identifying all the 2015 Distinguished Middle and High Schools is posted online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr15/yr15rel37.asp>.

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