

Pleasanton Unified School District



PRESS RELEASE
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Five PUSD Elementary Schools Designated 2014 California Distinguished School

Pleasanton, California—State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced the 2014 California Distinguished Schools. Among them were five of PUSD's elementary schools, recognized for their innovative education programs that encourage students to learn and help close the achievement gap.

Donlon, Hearst, Mohr, Walnut Grove & Vintage Hills Elementary Schools all received the 2014 California Distinguished Schools award.

"We are extremely proud of our students, staff and parent communities who work together to make our schools such extraordinary places," said Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi. "Students come to school every day excited and ready to learn, knowing there are caring adults to nurture them. These schools are indeed very deserving of the Distinguished School Awards."

The 2014 California Distinguished Schools Program focuses on California's students and their entitlement to an equitable and rigorous education. The program identifies and honors those schools that have demonstrated educational excellence for all students and progress in narrowing the achievement gap.

To be invited to apply for Distinguished School honors, schools must meet a variety of eligibility criteria including designated federal and state accountability measures based on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and the Academic Performance Index requirements.

Elementary and secondary schools (middle and high schools) are recognized in alternate years. This year focuses on elementary schools. Last year Harvest Park Middle School won when the focus was secondary schools.

Schools selected for recognition will be honored as Distinguished Schools at award ceremony in June where each school will be presented with a 2014 Distinguished School plaque and flag.

The news release identifying all the 2014 Distinguished Middle and High Schools is posted online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr14/yr14rel45.asp>.

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