



Murrieta Valley Unified School District

41870 McAlby Court
Murrieta, CA 92562
(951) 696-1600 ext. 1022

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Media & Communications Specialist Karen Parris, 951.696-1600 ext. 1022

Seven Schools in Murrieta Valley Unified School District Recognized by California Business Community

California Business for Education Excellence recognizes schools for high student academic achievement and closing achievement gaps

Murrieta: Murrieta Valley Unified School District announced today that Alta Murrieta Elementary, Cole Canyon Elementary, Lisa J. Mails Elementary, Rail Ranch Elementary, Thompson Middle School, Murrieta Valley High School and Vista Murrieta High School were all selected by California Business for Education Excellence (CBEE) California to receive the title of 2013 Honor Roll school.

Schools receiving this distinction from the California business community have demonstrated consistently high levels of student academic achievement, improvement in achievement levels over time and reduction in achievement gaps among student populations. For high schools, the Honor Roll recognition also includes measures of college readiness.

The CBEE Honor Roll is comprised of "Star Schools" Award which included Alta Murrieta and Rail Ranch; and "Scholar Schools" Award which went to Cole Canyon, Lisa J. Mails, Thompson, Murrieta Valley and Vista Murrieta High. CBEE Star Schools are those with significant populations of socio-economically disadvantaged students that have shown a significant increase in grade-level proficiency over time. CBEE Scholar Schools are schools that are showing significant levels of academic achievement, but do not have a significant socio-economically disadvantaged student population.

"We are proud to be recognized by California's business community for having Honor Roll schools," said District Superintendent Pat Kelley. "Our teachers and administrators work tirelessly to keep the focus on high expectations and student academic achievement. Their hard work and dedication is paying off for all of our students."

CBEE has identified a common set of success factors in higher performing Honor Roll schools and districts. These include high expectations for all students; ongoing collaboration among teachers to improve practice; targeted use of data to pinpoint challenges and monitor

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progress; continual intervention for struggling students; and mastery of content knowledge and pedagogical practices.

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“Having high standards, effective school leadership, and staying focused on student academic achievement has paid off for these Honor Roll Schools,” said Lee Blitch, CBEE Chairman and past CEO, San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. “These schools are an inspiration.”

The annual Honor Roll award is made possible with support from numerous businesses and organizations including State Farm, Edison International, Wells Fargo, Southern California Auto Club, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, the California Business Roundtable, and several private foundations. Chevron Corporation provided specific support in the creation of the STEM Honor Roll. A full list of the Honor Roll schools can be found at: www.cbee.org

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California Business for Education Excellence

The mission of California Business for Education Excellence (www.cbee.org) is to use the power of data to improve public education and close the achievement gap. Since 1998, CBEE has worked to focus businesses around a common agenda for high performing public schools leading to increased baccalaureate degrees and economic productivity. CBEE serves as the business community’s leading voice in education in California.