

2003-2004 PUSD State of the District Report

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

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Thank you to all PUSD staff who contributed to this report. Special thanks to Ray Wilson and Karen Eccles and the Assessment & Accountability team, whose expertise made this report possible and useful to the public, parents, and staff in our work to enhance student learning. Special thanks to Sharon Raffer and Marlene Cowell.

Dear Community,

This is the second annual State of the District report. We are very fortunate to live in a community that historically places a high value on education. Over the years, Poway Unified has been an innovative leader in education and has a strong local, state, and national reputation for the quality of its educational program.

We remain committed to moving Poway Unified to the next level of excellence. The School Board has adopted a strategic plan that builds on our tradition of excellence while raising expectations for all students. We are committed to providing opportunities for all students to reach their potential. In particular, we are striving to significantly increase the number of students who are well prepared for college. To help guide our efforts, we have set measurable targets for our graduates, including:

- A 100% pass rate for the new and rigorous California High School Exit Exam
- Increased completion of the University of California and California State University "a-g" entry requirements
- Expanded participation in advanced placement classes

In addition, we have established additional key indicators throughout the grade levels to help you better understand how your child is progressing and to inform systematic improvement efforts.

We appreciate and value the importance of helping each and every child succeed, and we understand that by having an accountability system where we share data and hold ourselves accountable, we can do an even better job than what we have done historically.

We recognize that in order to realize our vision of educational excellence for all students, we need to attract and retain the very best teachers, support staff, and administrative leaders. We also recognize the importance that parents play in the education of their children and the need for an active partnership between home and school. In addition, a cooperative relationship with city offices, businesses, nonprofit groups, citizenry, and local higher education institutions supports our efforts in the continued pursuit of excellence.

We believe that through shared commitment and thoughtful planning, coupled with a strong accountability system, we can build an even better educational program that will challenge all of our students to do their very best. We already see evidence that the annual State of the District report helps us realize this commitment. We look forward to working together with our community to continue to move our system forward.

Sincerely,



Donald A. Phillips, Ed.D.
Superintendent

