



# PRESS RELEASE

**Poway Unified School District**

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## Three Poway Unified Elementary Schools Named “National Blue Ribbon Schools” for 2020

(Washington, D.C.) – Poway Unified School District is proud to announce that today three PUSD elementary schools were honored as 2020 “National Blue Ribbon Schools” by U.S. Department of Education:



**Adobe Bluffs Elementary School** (Torrey Highlands): Exemplary High Performing School

*“Adobe Bluffs, the ‘small school with the big heart,’ is a place where everyone feels welcome and accepted. We embody the belief that every person is worth of acceptance and can be successful, no matter what challenges we face. Our internationally recognized foreign language program enhances our school community, providing Mandarin Chinese language and culture instruction for students and parents. Teachers collaborate within and across grade levels to provide differentiated instruction through blended learning.”* (Excerpt from Principal Eddie Park)



Adobe Bluffs Annual School Photo

**Monterey Ridge Elementary School** (4S Ranch): Exemplary High Performing School

*“Diversity flourishes and our Monarchs truly take flight at Monterey Ridge Elementary School. Monterey Ridge teachers and staff are on the forefront of inclusivity, creating and implementing change for special education students through a Specialized Academic Instruction (SAI) model. Balanced instruction and targeted interventions through differentiation are provided by teachers whether face-to-face or virtually. Close partnerships...with our families, local businesses and other community partners create unique opportunities and meaningful learning experiences inspiring our Monarchs to soar.”* (Excerpt from Principal Sal Embry)



Monterey Ridge Holiday Toy Donation

**Park Village Elementary School** (Rancho Peñasquitos): Exemplary High Performing School

*“Park Village is committed to providing a nurturing and inspiring educational program for all of our students in order to empower them to become world-class learners. Our school provides specialized instruction for second language learners,*



Park Village Science Lab

*as well as four Autism Spectrum Disorder classrooms ranging from Preschool to fifth grade. Our programs not only include an emphasis on academics, but also the development of a strong self-esteem, appreciation of the fine arts, an interest in science, and an understanding of technology.”* (Excerpt from Principal Mike Mosgrove)

The Education Department recognizes all schools in one of two performance categories, based on all student scores, student subgroup scores and graduation rate:

- Exemplary High Performing Schools – Among the state’s highest performing schools, as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.
- Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools – Among the state’s highest performing in closing achievement gaps between a school’s student groups and all students.

The 2020 National Blue Ribbon Schools Awards Ceremony will be held virtually November 12 and 13.

### **About the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program**

The National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms the hard work of educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content, according to the Education Department. The prestigious program has awarded nearly 9,000 schools with this honor in its 38 years of history.

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