



PRESS RELEASE

Poway Unified School District

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For Immediate Release

March 2, 2020

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Poway Unified Leads the Way in Ed Tech, Named “District of Distinction” Honoree for Blended Learning Practices

(SAN DIEGO, CA) – District Administration (DA) Magazine featured Poway Unified School District as a “2020 District of Distinction” in its February 2020 issue. SA honors ten school districts each year in this nationwide program.

PUSD was selected in the category of educational technology for its districtwide Voyager program. Launched in the 2017-18 school year, the program combines rigorous in-class professional development training for teachers with revolutionary techniques for students to learn and engage with technology.



Flexible seating, as seen in this Twin Peaks Middle School classroom, is an important facet of Poway USD's Voyager program.

“We developed a system of support for teachers to learn how to integrate and use the latest technology in the classroom. Ed tech allows our students to connect with the world and engage with ideas that help them ask more organic questions,” Superintendent Marian Kim Phelps said.

The Voyager program focuses on blended learning practices in the classroom to increase engagement and interest. Teachers who participate in Voyager learn best Ed Tech practices from District technology and innovation coaches, and begin to integrate these concepts into their lessons. This way, students can decide how and what they learn.

“We eliminated the top-down model where district leaders tell teachers what to do, so educators are encouraged to share ideas that they’re excited about,” Superintendent Phelps said. “Teachers feel more supported this way, and when you feel supported, you’re more inclined to try an untested, innovative approach.” To read more about PUSD’s Voyager program go [here](#).

About the Districts of Distinction Program

DA Magazine’s annual “Districts of Distinction Program” aims to highlight “home-grown innovations in K12 education,” according to the website. These may include successful projects developed by visionary educators to meet the needs of their individual school districts that have the potential to impact student success in communities nationwide.

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