



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Highest Recommendation for Accreditation Received for Poway's Beginning Teachers Support & Assessments Induction Program**

The Poway Unified School District BTSA/Induction (Beginning Teachers Support and Assessment) program is the required and approved route to a Clear Credential in Multiple or Single subjects through the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). BTSA/Induction is an intensive two-year program based upon the California Standards for The Teaching Profession (CSTP). It incorporates a purposeful structure of extended preparation and professional development that prepares participating teachers to meet the academic needs of all K-12 students as well as serving to retain highly qualified teachers in California public schools.

In Poway, BTSA/Induction falls under the responsibility of the Poway Professional Assistance Program (PPAP). New teachers are assigned a full-time released Teacher Consultant to support them in BTSA/Induction. The current program is a result of a long history of support of teachers that began with PPAP in the late 1980's, and has been refined to meet the newly developed state Program and Common Standards as well as the high expectations of teacher performance in our District.

On March 26-28, The Poway BTSA/Induction Program participated in its first formal state accreditation visit. The intensive review was conducted by an Accreditation Team of four educators assigned by CTC. The review focused on the Commons Standards for BTSA Induction: Educational Leadership, Unit and Program Assessment and Evaluation, Resources, Faculty and Instructional Personnel, Admission, Advice and Assistance, Field Experiences and Clinical Practice, Assessment of Candidate Competence. The findings of the team were based on review of evidence, site visit documentation, and over 50 interviews with representative constituents.

On the basis of the findings of the Accreditation Team, the PUSD BTSA/Induction Program unanimously received the highest recommendation of Accreditation. Because of this full accreditation, teachers newly hired in Poway Unified may complete their professional credential requirements with a job-embedded program, rather than paying for additional course work at a college or university.

This recommendation will be posted on the CTC website as part of the May 30, 2012, Commission on Accreditation agenda.