

NEWS

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Rowland Unified Named as One of 10 Visionary School Districts in the Nation by the International Center for Leadership in Education for its Future-Focused Approach to Teaching and Learning

**Superintendent Dr. Julie Mitchell to Present at 26th Annual Model Schools Conference
June 24-27 in Orlando, Florida**

ROWLAND HEIGHTS, CA — JUNE 14, 2018 — The International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE), whose mission is to challenge, inspire and equip today's educators to prepare students for lifelong success, has named the Rowland Unified School District as a visionary District for 2018.

Rowland Unified is being recognized for scaling innovation and its future-focused approach and the implementation of a rigorous and relevant curriculum that challenges students to think beyond the classroom to solve real-world problems. Rowland Unified is one of 10 innovative Districts that will share best practices at ICLE's 26th Annual Model Schools Conference, June 24-27 in Orlando. The Model Schools Conference is the nation's largest event for rapidly improving K-12 schools and districts.

"We applaud these inspiring districts for persevering on a path to rapid improvement by creating a positive systemwide culture of high expectations and strong, positive relationships," said Dr. Willard R. Daggett, Founder and Chairman of the International Center for Leadership in Education.

"I am immensely proud to represent the Rowland Unified School District at the Model Schools Conference and share our work that is engaging our students and providing them with the knowledge and skills to succeed in the globally connected world," said Dr. Julie Mitchell, Superintendent of Rowland Unified. "As a District we are working collectively to scale innovation for the benefit of student learning and achievement."

At the conference, Dr. Mitchell will be sharing how Rowland is "Scaling Innovation" as the implementation of the district vision of "Innovative Learning for ALL" continues to grow rapidly among all schools. Leaders from across the nation will hear how Rowland has successfully scaled innovation across multiple sites with tight alignment to their shared vision. The emphasis will be on the strengths based leadership model, aligning for sustainable growth, and thinking systems rooted in innovation.

Visionary Districts are selected annually based on a number of criteria including substantive, data-validated growth year over year; evidence of a strong culture that puts students at the center of learning; and dedication to transforming instruction to meet the needs and demands of the future.

“This year’s Innovative Districts come from all pockets of the country, but are united in working toward a vision of high achievement and equitable opportunities for all students,” said Dr. Daggett. “The Model Schools Conference will provide the Rowland Unified School District the unique opportunity to engage in dialogue around real challenges and solutions, discover best practices for personalizing learning and fostering a growth mindset, and build their own personal network,” said Dr. Daggett.

The ICLE, a division of global learning company Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, has observed, studied and supported the transformation of the nation’s most rapidly improving schools and districts over the past two decades. The Model Schools Conference has attracted thousands of educators who come to learn about and share best practices for developing the classrooms of the future.

The International Center for Leadership in Education, established in 1991 and located in Rexford, N.Y., is one of the most influential education consulting companies in America. It is best known for identifying and disseminating successful practices to assist all students in achieving higher standards. Dr. Daggett and his team of consultants have assisted numerous state education agencies and hundreds of schools and districts in their improvement initiatives. For more information, please visit www.LeaderEd.com.

The Rowland Unified School District has garnered numerous state and national awards and is proud of its 19 schools with approximately 14,000 students in the communities of Rowland Heights, Walnut, La Puente, City of Industry, and West Covina. More than 5,000 adults (18+) are also served by the Rowland Adult and Community Education School. For more information about Rowland Unified, the community can call (626) 965-2541 or download the free Rowland USD Mobile App for iOS and Android phones/devices that has news, school calendars, a safety Tip Line, and helpful parent and District resources. The public can also follow Rowland schools on Facebook.com/RowlandUSD Twitter @RowlandSchools or visit www.RowlandSchools.org.