

Dear Mendota Elementary Community,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Mendota Unified School District Board of Trustees, Dr. Paul Lopez, Superintendent, District Office Personnel and of course our dedicated staff at Mendota Elementary School for the wonderful support and work that they put in every day to make the lives of our students much richer and fuller through the everyday experiences that we provide at our school. I would also like to thank our families, the community of Mendota and our Police Department for ensuring that our students come to school ready to learn in a cooperative atmosphere.

Mendota Elementary is a “Gold Banner” PBIS School. We strive to keep our school safe and utilize the Positive Behavioral model with our students. They know that as good citizens we need to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe.

It is a privilege and honor to say that I will be starting my fourth year as Principal and throughout this time, we have continued to strive to live up to our district motto of building scholars, leaders and champions each day through extensive planning, work and dedication from our staff. We have worked together to make Mendota Elementary a school environment where every child matters and we will do everything in our power to ensure a wonderful experience for each child each and every day.

This scholastic year brings new challenges but it also brings new opportunities for the school to continue to grow. In 2018/19 Mendota saw our school attain some positive accomplishments. These accomplishments are as follows:

1. First Place at Fresno County Superintend of Schools Young Authors' Faire
2. We increased our ELA overall school scores by 4.8 percent
3. We increased our Math overall school scores by 3.2 percent
4. We have over 52 percent of our English Learners in the top two tiers

This year, we would like to focus on ensuring that our students are at school each and every day ready to learn. In 2018/19, 6.8 percent of our students were considered chronically absent and therefore we will need to work together to ensure that we get that number down. Our dedicated staff is ready to teach your children each and every day but unless they are here at school that isn't or won't be possible. Attendance at school is critically important to ensure that your child receives each lesson personally and they don't fall behind in their education.

In addition, I encourage our parents to come to all our SSC and LCAP meetings and advocate for our school and our children. The SSC allows you, as a parent of our students, to give us your personal feedback in terms of what you would like our school to improve upon, based on the funding that the district receives. Your voice matters in this process in order for us to offer the best educational experience to your child. This means that if you feel that a certain program or activity would be beneficial to your child and or our school; The SSC and LCAP meetings are where you voice your recommendations. We will send you information throughout the year to ensure that you have all the information in order for you to attend.

In conclusion, as the leader of this amazing school, I will continue to ensure that the needs of our students, parents and community are at the forefront of all our educational initiatives. Please contact me at your convenience should your ever have any questions, concerns or recommendations as to how to make our school a much richer and inviting place to attend. I wish all of our students, staff and parents the very best as we travel this journey together...

Respectfully,

*Juanita Villar,*

Proud Principal, Mendota Elementary School

