



For Immediate Release

1401 W. Valencia Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92833
714-447-7465

October 31, 2018

FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Two FSD Programs Recognized with Top Statewide Educational Honor

(Fullerton, CA) – Two programs in Fullerton School District are 2018 Golden Bell Award Winners. The Pyramid of Success – Response to Intervention (RtI) and STAGE (Shared Theater Arts Grand Experience) are the recipients of this prestigious award for an outstanding program that highlights best practices in education. The FSD programs are two of 51 recipients of the State’s leading educational honor. The Golden Bell Awards, now in their 39th year are sponsored by the California School Boards Association to recognize outstanding public school programs for innovation, sustainability and best practices that facilitate positive student outcomes. FSD will receive these awards at a recognition reception and ceremony on Thursday, November 29, 2018 at CSBA’s Annual Education Conference and Trade Show in San Francisco.

FSD’s Pyramid of Success-Response to Intervention (RtI) program is a systematic, data-driven approach to instruction that benefits every student. Students are identified for interventions based on the analysis of student achievement data and a rigorous universal screening process. Instruction is targeted to meet the individual needs of students and integrates resources through a comprehensive system of core instruction and tiered levels of support. This district wide, innovative approach to RtI supports the vision of the district and schools where we strive to implement best practices, reflect on our programs, and make instructional changes.

STAGE is a free, after-school theater arts program that culminates into a full-scale musical production. STAGE provides directors, scripts, costumes, props, and sets for each production. It is a ten-week program, meeting two hours a day, two days a week. STAGE was designed to inspire, cultivate passion, and provide countless opportunities for students to have fun. In the first two years, STAGE has resulted in a full-scale musical production to 20 schools and sparked a passion for theater in over 2,000 students. This program is part of our districts commitment to foster passion in our students.

“It is a great honor for the hard work of FSD staff to be recognized state-wide for two very different programs that are both designed to meet the individual needs of students. FSD is committed to personalizing learning for our students and our dedicated staff bring this vision to fruition,” stated Fullerton School District Superintendent, Dr. Robert Pletka.

A 17-member judging panel made up of experts from school districts and county offices of education reviewed the written entries and made the initial recommendations for the awards. On-site validators assessed the programs in action. This year's awards are presented to school districts and county offices of education helping students achieve through after-school programs, mentoring, instructional interventions, use of data and other innovations.

“The Golden Bell recipients exemplify the spirit of innovation and excellence for which all of California’s public schools strive,” said CSBA CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy. “The Golden Bell Awards reflect the depth and breadth of outstanding education offerings in our state, and demonstrate the tenacity, vision and dedication of school leaders across California.” To learn more about the Golden Bell awards, visit the California School Boards Association’s Golden Bell website at <https://gb.csba.org/>.

The Fullerton School District is located in northern Orange County, California and serves over 13,500 students in grades TK – 8th. The Fullerton School District includes 20 schools, 15 elementary schools, two K-8th grade schools, and three middle schools. The mission of the Fullerton School District is to work collaboratively with the community to provide an innovative, high-quality educational program for all students in a safe learning environment. The District motto, “*Great Schools - Successful Kids*” exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic excellence, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society. For more information, call 714/447-7400 or visit www.fullertonsd.org.

###

For more information, please feel free to contact Dr. Emy Flores/Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services at 714/447-7709