



## Brightwood School Wins 2019 Scholar Dollar Prize

**One of three schools to win \$25K, they will use their prize to expand technology use in all curricular areas**

*April 9, 2019, Monterey Park, CA — California's official college savings plan, Scholar Share 529, announced 20 winning public schools in its 2019 Scholar Dollar program. Schools won by garnering the most votes and receive awards ranging from \$5K to \$30K for programs aimed at enriching student lives both in and out of the classroom.*

Brightwood School was one of three schools in Category D (901-1500 students), which each receive \$25K. Brightwood will use the prize to expand its use of technology in all curricular areas, recognizing the significant impact technology has on students' learning.

### **Principal Natalie Tee-Gaither explains how Brightwood will use the Award:**

*By embracing and integrating technology in the classroom, we are setting our students up for success outside of school. Educational Technology in the classroom prepares students for their future in this increasingly digital world.*

*Over the last few years, we have increased the use of technology at Brightwood School through site and district funds, along with generous donations from our parents and PTA. But our students want and need even more!*

*Benefits we have seen through the increased use of technology:*

- Improved student engagement as teachers deliver instruction in new and enjoyable ways*
- More active participation and knowledge retention*
- Opportunities for making learning more effective for students with different needs/abilities*

- *Increased student collaboration as they work on various projects with their peers through shared documents and Google Classroom.*
- *Development of 21st century skills, including collaborating with others, solving complex problems, critical thinking, developing different forms of communication and leadership skills, and improving motivation and productivity*
- *Enhanced practical skills, including creating presentations, learning to differentiate reliable from unreliable sources on the Internet, maintaining proper online etiquette, and writing emails*
- *Access to a world of resources and virtual learning environments*
- *Development of responsible digital citizenship skills*
- *Increased student responsibility as they improve decision making skills and take ownership of a valuable device*

It took the concerted efforts of the whole community to win the Scholar Dollar Award. Alhambra Unified and Brightwood School thank all those who helped to improve learning opportunities for Brightwood students by participating and thank Scholar Share 529 for their generosity.

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Brightwood School in Monterey Park, CA, is one of 13 elementary K-8 schools in



Alhambra Unified