

SUPE'S ON...



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

By Grant Bennett



February 2018 – Winter Edition

The Perris Union High School District, through a collaborative group of stakeholders, revised the Vision and Mission Statements for the District to better reflect what we expect from our students and ourselves.

Vision Statement

The Perris Union High School District will be a caring, diverse, and supportive learning environment in which all are committed towards working in relationships to foster innovative and creative learning opportunities.

This vision statement gives us the direction we are heading now and in future years. We must continue to provide every student what they need individually to be successful. By creating innovative and creative learning opportunities for our students we will offer them the skills they need as they progress into college or a career.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Perris Union High School District is to create high quality relevant learning opportunities for all in a safe and caring environment. We will develop a high quality, caring staff who will be dedicated to learning, and connect students to their education and potential goals. We will care for all students while developing a growth mindset through collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking.

This mission statement describes what we are going to do in order for every student to reach their potential and be successful. All of us need to work together to make the words in this mission statement a reality. One person working alone cannot make it happen, but

everyone pulling together can make for a magical and fulfilling experience for students and staff alike.

The Perris Union High School District is committed to college and career readiness. We have continued to expand our offerings of Dual Enrollment college credit courses and Advanced Placement courses. The District is committed to its large AVID program and promotes AVID teaching and learning strategies. Career Technical Education provides a viable alternative to some District students including pathways in Engineering, Bio-Medical, Computer Programming, Automotive, Agriculture, Allied Health and Culinary. We continue to look for ways to engage our students in challenging, but interesting programs.

As we continue to add programs for our students to experience, we must understand that we have to continue to improve our facilities. We need to continue on with the improvements that have been started at Perris High School. We also need to build High School #4 in Menifee. The number of new homes being built in Menifee and the huge student population at Paloma Valley make this a necessity. As the student population at Paloma Valley keeps growing, opportunities for students shrink. There is only one Valedictorian, one ASB President, so many spots on the basketball team, so many spots on the robotics team. That is why High School #4 is so important for us to build, as school populations get very large there are less opportunities for students and more opportunities for problems. We continue to expand what we have to offer our students and we

make our campuses a safe place to attend, but we are approaching a time where Paloma Valley will be an impacted campus.

As our vision statement says, "*Perris Union High School District will be a caring, diverse, and supportive learning environment in which all are committed towards working in relationships to foster innovative and creative learning opportunities.*"



Please see the fact sheet included with this newsletter, or access www.puhdsd.org/KeepingPace for additional information about the local school bond currently being considered by the Board of Trustees.

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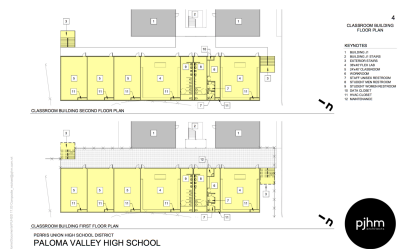


Facilities Improvement Projects

PALOMA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Classroom Addition and Stadium Improvement Project

The classroom addition project includes planning for an approximate 15,000 square foot building to include six new classrooms; four flex labs, student and staff restrooms, and a staff workroom area. This new building will be located on the western edge of the J building and will be built to connect to the J buildings at the 2nd floor level for efficient circulation and utilization of the existing elevator.



Concurrently, improvements in front of the gym building at the staff parking lot are being planned. These improvements will result in an expanded courtyard to more effectively accommodate student circulation as well as create additional seating for students during lunch and other portions of the school day.

Additionally, planning is in progress for improvements to the stadium. Included is a new building that will have both home and visitor restroom facilities as well as a concession and ticket booth area to service a variety of events in the stadium. Adjacent to this building will be a new drop-off/pick-up area with additional parking. While this project is currently in the design stage, construction is anticipated to begin during the summer/fall of 2019.

Auto Shop



During the summer and into the fall of 2017, the existing auto shop classroom at Paloma was reconfigured and expanded. New commercial grade auto shop equipment has been added to this program and includes a wheel balancer, a tire changer, and a brake lathe as well as two vehicle lifts. This expanded auto shop facility provides students with real world

opportunities to learn and develop their automotive repair skills.

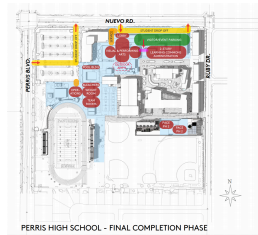
CTE Building



Currently under construction is a 2,400 square foot multi-use career technical education building. This building is located on the east side of the C building, across from the B building auto shop. This building is a multi-use, flexible facility that is being designed to easily adapt to program changes over time. The CTE building is an open design and consists of classroom and lab areas. A partition wall is included to separate the spaces if needed.

PERRIS HIGH SCHOOL

Final Completion Phase



The District has retained an architect to design the final phase of facility improvements at Perris High School. District staff are working closely with the architect to gather input from site staff. Included in this final phase are new Administrative facilities, a Learning Commons/Library, a Visual and Performing Arts Theater Building, and additional improvements for PE/athletic programs (team rooms, a weight room and a campus operations center) as well as the agriculture facility. Plans for this project will be completed in fall of 2018 with construction to commence as soon as funds for the project are secured.

Phase 2B

The Perris High School campus has been undergoing an exciting transformation over the past several years through a phased construction approach. The Phase 2B project is currently under construction and includes a shop that will reintroduce the Perris High School Auto Shop Program. Phase 2B will also create a new home for the Perris High School Culinary Arts Program/Panther Den within the new Student Union as well as relocating the TerraBites Cafe. The Student Union will also accommodate a wide variety of academic and social activities for the school, as well as provide an additional indoor dining area for students, a new staff lounge, and provide a highly attractive venue for other small and large group gatherings. The



Phase 2B Project will open in August for the 2018-19 school year.

PACE Phase 2



The Perris Agricultural Center for Excellence (PACE) is nearing the completion of construction and will open for students in August of the 2018-19 school year. PACE is a two-story classroom building to be used for a variety of Ag-related programs. This building will also include a large second floor terrace that has outdoor planters for student horticulture projects.

CALIFORNIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

Planning is under-way for the addition of a new Gym at the California Military Institute. CMI staff have been involved in working closely with the architect and District staff in the development of the preliminary design for this facility. The new Gym at CMI will include a CIF regulation sized basketball court, with 2 smaller cross courts, retractable bleacher seating, boys and girls locker rooms, a training room, a flexible/adaptable exercise room as well as an ASB/Flex classroom. The new gym facility will be constructed on the north side of the campus where the parking lot is currently located. Parking and onsite circulation will also be designed and constructed along with the new gym facility. Plans for this project will be completed in fall of 2018 with construction to commence as soon as funds for the project are secured.



PATHWAYS FOR ADULT LIFE SKILLS (PALS)

The PALS project consists of interior modifications to the former Academy site which will house 18-22 year old special education students beginning next school year. The modifications include reconfiguring the office layout, converting multi-stall restrooms into single stall gender-neutral restrooms with adult changing tables, converting one restroom area into a laundry room, and creating a life skills kitchen area. A new electrical sub panel, data upgrades and new flooring and painting are also included in the project.



PERRIS UNION

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



Keeping Pace in the 21st Century

Perris Union High School District strives to provide a caring, diverse and supportive learning environment for local students in the communities of Menifee, Perris, Romoland and Nuevo. We aim to prepare our students for success in college and future careers, ensuring that they are skilled in the use of today's technologies and have a solid background in science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Our students make us proud and we are committed to ensuring that each child has an equal opportunity for success.

KEEPING UP WITH RAPID ENROLLMENT GROWTH

Our area is growing fast. For example, Paloma Valley High School – which was built for 2,200 students – currently has 3,200 students, and is expected to reach almost 4,000 students within five years. Crowded schools reduce the amount of time teachers get to spend with students, making it more difficult to teach and learn effectively. We need to build additional schools to keep up with this sustained growth and relieve overcrowding at our existing schools.

SEEKING A LOCAL SOLUTION TO RELIEVE OVERCROWDING

We cannot rely on the State to provide the level of funding needed to relieve overcrowding in our schools. Thus, the PUHSD Board of Trustees is closely working with community members to examine local solutions. One option currently being considered is a \$148 million bond measure, which would provide locally controlled funding entirely dedicated to building and improving local high schools. The cost would be limited to no more than \$30 per \$100,000 of assessed value (not market value) annually.

While some school improvements have been made recently, enrollment growth continues to impact our schools. Funding from a bond measure could support identified priority needs in our District, including:

- ✶ Building a new high school in Menifee to relieve overcrowding at existing schools
- ✶ Completing the final phase of construction at Perris High School, which includes additional career technical education classrooms, a performing arts center and a single point of entry for student safety
- ✶ Expanding physical education and athletic facilities needed to support student health, fitness and safety
- ✶ Upgrading career training facilities that prepare students for careers in healthcare, biomedical science, computer science, agriculture and skilled trades
- ✶ Providing modern classrooms, facilities and technology needed to support instruction in science, technology, engineering, arts, math and skilled trades

LOCAL CONTROL AND FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Bond measures are subject to mandatory fiscal accountability provisions to ensure that all funds stay local. A project list outlining the exact use of all funds, independent audits and a Citizens' Oversight Committee are all required. Bond funding cannot be used for administrators' salaries or benefits and legally, it cannot be taken away by the state government.

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT

Community input will be invaluable as we consider various solutions. We hope that you will make your voice heard and let us know what you think. Please visit www.PUSHD.org/KeepingPace or contact the office of Superintendent Grant Bennett at (951) 943-6369 x80102 with feedback or any questions.



Great Things Are Happening!

The Perris Union High School District is the only district in the county to receive a "Blue" Status on the Fall 2017 California Dashboard English Learner Progress Indicator. All schools in the District received a status of blue. Thank you to the dedicated teachers, counselors, and support staff who continue to work diligently to support our English Learners.

The District just this week completed our compliance review with the California Department of Education for Federal Program Monitoring of the Title III English Learner Program required of all districts. We passed all compliance items with no findings. Thanks again for all you do to support the English Learners in our District.

		Suspension Rate Indicator (2016-2017)	English Learner Progress Indicator* (2016-2017)	Graduation Rate Indicator (2015-2016)
Alondra Unified	L	2.3	H	98.8
Antelope Valley Unified	M	0.1	L	1.8
Banning Unified	M	1.9	M	88.7
Beaumont Unified	M	-0.2	L	1.8
Coachella Valley Unified	M	0.4	M	91.1
Corona-Norco Unified	M	1.8	M	97.4
Desert Sands Unified	M	0.1	M	95.5
Hemet Unified	M	1.9	M	92.4
Jurupa Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Lake Elsinore Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Monterey Union Elementary	M	-0.1	L	2.2
Moreno Valley Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Murietta Valley Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Novato Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Palo Verde Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Perris Elementary	M	0.1	M	95.9
Perris Union High	M	0.1	M	95.9
Riverside Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Romoland Elementary	M	0.1	M	95.9
San Jacinto Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Tamala Valley Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9
Val Verde Unified	M	0.1	M	95.9

CONNECT LEARN GROW

www.puhsd.org @puhsd PerrisUnionHSD

Special Education

The Special Education Department is excited to announce our new ERMHS therapist, Karna Humbert. Karna comes to us from a private school where she was instrumental in creating and implementing the ERMHS program for the school. We are happy to have her join our team!



The Special Education team is eagerly looking forward to the construction at the Pathways for Adult Life Skills (PALS) Program. The Pathways for Adult Life Skills (PALS) Program is operated through the Perris Union High School District. The program is designed to provide services to students 18-22 years old who have a Certificate of Completion and an IEP. The PALS Program was developed to promote student's independence as well as job skills as they transition from high school to their next stage in life.

Meeting the needs of students...

The Pupil Services department continues to provide quality customer service to all members of the community including students, staff, and parents. We work hard to ensure that staff is equipped with the information and support necessary for each team member to complete his/her job as successfully as possible. We assist students and parents in selecting educational placement options that match student services with individual needs. Regardless of how a student is referred to Pupil Services, the goal is always the

same; to provide a safe, positive and successful experience for each student and parent and to create a Path to Success that will result in graduation for every student.

The hardest fun you'll ever have. A day with robots...

The District has been actively involved with FIRST Tech Challenge, an organization of LEGO Education for the past 6 years. Over 150 students across the district have been participating in the robotics after-school program and competing every year against teams across California. It's way more than building robots. *FIRST* Tech Challenge



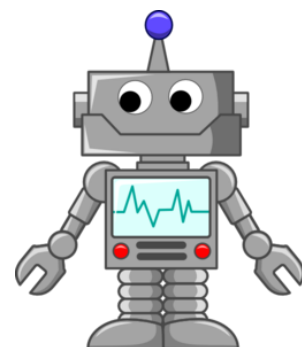
teams are challenged to design, build, program, and operate robots to compete in a head-to-head challenge in an alliance format. Participants call it "the hardest fun you'll ever have!" Guided by adult Coaches and Mentors, students develop STEM skills and practice engineering principles (like keeping an engineering notebook), while realizing the value of hard work, innovation, and sharing ideas. The robot kit is reusable from year-to-year and can be programmed using a variety of languages, including Java. Teams also must raise funds, design and market their team brand, and do community outreach for which they can win awards. Participants have access to tens of millions of dollars in college scholarships. Each season concludes with a Regional Championship in Monrovia, winners



advancing to Super-Regional Championships in Washington and culminating with an exciting *FIRST* World's Championship. We are pleased to announce the following teams have advanced to the Regional Championship



and will be heading to Monrovia on February 24th and you are cordially invited to witness the FUN! Congratulations to: Team Nemesis from Perris HS; Team's Gear Gurus, Patriotic Robotics, Blood Sweat and Gears from Heritage High School and Victrix Aedifex from California Military Institute.



TECHNOLOGY by Joseph Williams, Executive Director



The District continues to provide a high level of support for our educational programs. Our success at providing this high level of support depends on the District staying in front by using forecasting resources that inform our decisions. On the teaching and learning side of the house, we use reports from Future Ready Schools, the Horizon Report, the Office of Educational Technology, and ISTE National Education Technology Standards, to name a few. On the tech side, we rely on research and publications from The State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA), California Educational Technology Professionals Association, and the Consortium for School Networking (COSN). Long story short, we do our best to make our district future ready.

As connection speeds grew, so did network usage. We anticipated that several points in the network would strain under the load of our one-to-many environment and our tech-rich classrooms so we planned updates. The first and most important update was changing out a security device that combines firewall, antivirus, and intrusion prevention that would limit us to around four to five gigabytes. In our multi-year plan, we used E-rate funding to install a brand new Palo Alto firewall so we can realize the full ten gigabytes. The web filter also required an upgrade which brought it from two gigabytes to ten gigabytes as well. These incremental and substantial upgrades have positioned technology to tackle our future projects and bring more services at faster speeds to our students and staff.

The tech department is happy to serve the staff and students at PUHSD. Much of the work goes unnoticed as we engineer, reengineer, program, reprogram, upgrade, tweak, and maintain the resources everyone depends on. Our updates and improvements might seem like "automagic" but behind the scenes, your reliable tech crew is here to serve.



HUMAN RESOURCES by Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent



Meaningful Work. Caring Staff. Innovative Technology.

Recruiting and retaining high quality, caring staff is a fundamental responsibility of the Human Resources Department. We know that the people make our organization great. As Jim Collins wrote, "If you begin with the 'who', rather than the 'what', you can more easily adapt to a changing world." HR is responsible for the "who" and we want the "who" to be awesome.

The Human Resources department has developed several specific goals and strategies to increase interest in applications among potential candidates. One of our main strategies was to create an identifiable image that attracts prospective applicants. To do this, we conducted primary research regarding the district's current branding and marketing practices. This research consisted of surveying all certificated employees hired within the past five years. In an effort to better understand what attracted these employees to our district, we asked numerous questions with the intent of utilizing these qualities to attract future employees. The results were exciting and insightful.

We learned that "Meaningful Work" was the most important reason our teachers selected our district. It can be argued that there is no nobler calling than to make a positive impact on the lives of others. The staff in the Perris High School District make differences in the lives of our students every day. Our employees know that our work has profound meaning and impact. One respondent noted, "There is no more important work than making a positive impact on the lives of our students. The impact of the educators within the Perris Union High School District is transforming our community."

Our respondents emphasized the importance of a "Caring Staff" and identified this quality as a determining factor in selecting our district. Most teachers care about imparting knowledge to students. But the best teachers also care about the relational aspect of teaching. They take time to establish a trusting and caring connection with their students, who in turn become more receptive to what's being taught. They get to know their students' interests, talents, and needs, which helps them prepare lessons and helps students feel the partnership of the learning experience. The importance of caring is the foundation of our District's mission and vision.

"Innovative Technology" was also a determining factor. The Perris Union High School District has been and remains a leader in instructional technology. In fact, our technology program has been nationally recognized. All employees are provided state-of-the-art technology. Teachers are provided with district issued MacBooks and iPads to provide flexibility and help facilitate the delivery of instruction. Classrooms are equipped with the technology tools, infrastructure, Wi-Fi, and support needed to provide seamless integration of technology into the instructional environment. More importantly, we have regular and ongoing professional development related to technology integration.

"Meaningful Work", "Caring Staff", and "Innovative Technology" will be the foundation of our branding and marketing as we move forward. We have redesigned the Human Resources image to reflect these qualities. Our new image (pictured) includes a graduation cap to represent "Meaningful Work", a heart and hand to represent "Caring Staff", and a circuit board, similar to our District's logo, to represent "Innovative Technology". The final puzzle piece is a person, which represents the "who" in everything we do.

As the 2018-19 recruitment season begins, we plan on aggressively recruiting candidates who embrace these qualities. We are scheduled to attend fifteen different recruitment fairs over the next few months and our recruitment materials, along with our presence on social media, will reflect "Meaningful Work", "Caring Staff", and "Innovative Technology". We are focused on high quality, caring staff. If you know someone who is attracted to these qualities and wants to #BeAwesome, please have them contact call me directly.



PERRIS UNION
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
HUMAN RESOURCES