



# News Release

April 25, 2006  
#05/06-187

## **LAUSD SCHOOLS REAP 32 DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL AWARDS**

An unprecedented 32 schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools by the California Department of Education, an honor that recognizes exemplary educational programs and academic excellence. This represents 7 percent of the District's 450 elementary schools, a truly remarkable feat. This is the largest number of schools honored since the State's recognition program was implemented in 1985.

Twenty-five of the 32 schools have student enrollments with populations that live below the poverty levels. These schools are considered Title 1 schools, which receive federal assistance.

Each year, the CDE alternates between recognizing elementary and secondary level schools. The LAUSD elementary schools honored as 2006 California Distinguished Schools are:

Bryson Avenue Elementary  
Cahuenga Elementary  
Calabash Street Elementary  
Cantara Street Elementary  
Carson Street Elementary  
Castlebay Lane Elementary  
Chapman Elementary  
Colfax Avenue Elementary  
El Oro Way Elementary  
Garden Grove Elementary  
Garvanza Elementary  
Granada Elementary  
John B. Monlux Elementary/Monlux MST Magnet  
Knollwood Elementary  
Lockhurst Drive Elementary  
Lokrantz School  
Lorne Street Elementary/Lorne Math-Science Magnet  
Montague Charter Academy

Mountain View Elementary  
Multnomah Street Elementary  
Nestle Avenue Elementary  
Nueva Vista Elementary / VIP Magnet  
Palisades Elementary Charter  
Pomelo Drive Elementary  
Reseda Elementary  
Robert Hill Lane Elementary  
Seventh Street School  
Solano Avenue School  
Sophia T. Salvin Special Education Center  
Vanalden Avenue Elementary  
Vintage Math, Science, and Technology Magnet School  
Wilton Place Elementary

“These 32 outstanding elementary schools give us a clear view of the many things that are going right in this District,” said LAUSD Board of Education President Marlene Canter. “Students, teachers, staff and parents at these campuses should be very proud of this award and the academic excellence it recognizes.”

An example of academic success is Multnomah Elementary School in El Sereno. The school’s success has been remarkable. Its Academic Performance Index (API) test scores have risen 129 points in six years, now at 747 points. This is just shy of the state’s goal of 800.

“This is yet one more example of the fine work taking place in our schools,” said Superintendent Roy Romer. “This is the result of rigorous instruction, dedicated teachers and hard work on the part of the students. It once again displays the momentum of this school district upon which we must continue our work.”

The California Distinguished school award is a highly sought after, prestigious honor that has been in place for 21 years. This award allows the State of California to recognize schools across the state for their educational programs that include high expectations for all its students, implementation of state-adopted standards and collaborative leadership.

The fact that 25 of these schools are Title 1 schools exemplifies the LAUSD principle that all students can learn to the same standard, regardless of their socio-economic status, said Romer.

-more-

Following is the list of California School Recognition Program Honorable Mention Award honorees:

156<sup>th</sup> Street School

Ambler Avenue Elementary and Gifted Magnet

Danube Avenue Elementary

Darby Avenue Elementary

Dolores Street Elementary

Gledhill Elementary/MST Magnet

Halldale Avenue Elementary

Hancock Park Elementary

Marquez Charter Elementary

Taper Avenue Elementary

Welby Way Elementary and Gifted/High Ability Magnet

Woodlake Avenue Elementary

###