"Inspiring and empowering every student to thrive every day."

DR. CHRISTINE WALKER Superintendent

HELEN COSGROVE Associate Superintendent DR. CARLOS DOMINGUEZ Deputy Superintendent

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DAVID RAGSDALE Associate Superintendent

August 1, 2022

Friends and Colleagues.

I hope this letter finds you enjoying your summer and that you were able to find some time for rest and relaxation. It has been a busy summer here in the district. Over 1200 students attended summer school at Blackstock, Williams and Haycox Schools. This year's summer program was a nine-hour day with students doing engaging academic and enrichment activities. The maintenance and custodial crews have been preparing all of our campuses for the start of school and the HVAC and fire alarm projects have continued at Sunkist, Hueneme and Green.

In preparation for the 2022-23 school year, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) released new *COVID-19 Health Guidance for K-12 Schools*. The guidance is intended to support safe, in-person learning in K-12 schools and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

- Vaccinations: The state strongly recommends all eligible people get vaccinated and remain up to date with their vaccinations to reduce virus transmission.
- Ventilation: The district uses the highest-grade filters compatible with our HVAC systems.
- Masking: Masks will continue to be recommended at our schools and we will provide masks for staff and students who request to use them.
- COVID Testing: CDPH's schools testing framework for the 2022-23 school year recommends that antigen tests, both the on-site professional tests and over the counter (OTC) at-home tests, be the primary option for detecting COVID-19 in schools, compared to molecular-based lab tests. Throughout the 2021-22 school year, the district provided free on-site PCR testing through services provided by CDPH. CDPH will no longer be offering PCR testing for schools but will be offering distributions of COVID-19 OTC tests for schools. We will provide these state distributed OTC tests for staff and students as needed.

The 2022-23 Enacted State Budget provided some good news for schools. As a result of new one time funds in the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant, we are able to eliminate most of the general education combination classes for the 2022-23 school year. The HR department and site principals are currently working to make the staffing changes and reconfigure classes.

This year's back to school event, SHINE, will be held outdoors at **Blackstock JHS** in the back area near the large shade structure. Parking will be available in the two Blackstock parking lots, as well as out on the blacktop near the event site. This year we'll be kicking off HESD's Sesquicentennial, 150 years of educating students! The social and breakfast time will be from 8:30 - 9:30am, followed by a short program which will include presenting longevity awards and announcing the Employees of the Year.

Please join me on:

Monday, August 22, 2022 Blackstock Junior High School 701 E. Bard Road, Oxnard, CA

8:30 - 9:30am - Breakfast and Social 9:30am - Program begins

We look forward to seeing you in a few weeks. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely.

Christine Walker Dr. Christine Walker Superintendent

2022 Service Award Recipients:

35 Years Leila Faber

Peter Frank Earla Griggs Karen Pettek Crista Thompson Theresa Vasquez

30 Years Yolanda Hernandez

Angelita Morales-Apodaca

Francisco Ramos Conrad Saturnino

Jose Valdez Javier Muniz

25 Years Sara Brown

Rafael Calderon Susan Camarena Rosa Carbajal Ortencia Casillas Sandra Cervantes Norma L. Cortez Nanci Cueva Maureen Daley Salvador Frias Luis Gonzalez Heidi Haines

Rose Marie Felix

Miguel Heredia
Rocio Hernandez
Nancy Mock
Kathrine Riley
Katherine Russell
David Satterberg
Aileen Vizena
Deborah Ward
Karen Whitmer
Catherine Womack
Flor Chacon
Robert Estrada
David Jimenez

20 Years

Mirta Alcantar Alisa Antonioli Owen Arthur Rebecca Briggs Sara Dinges Karen Dorsey-Jennings

Jill Ekman Noemi Gill

Missey Hernandez Stacy Hunter Kelly Marsh Laura Melgoza Veronica Mojica-Smith

Emeralda Preciado Chrystall Sahlman Roberto Uribe Josie Vazquez Ofelia Hernandez Cristina Ortega