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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF AVILA BEACH, LOS OSOS, MORRO BAY, AND SAN LUIS OBISPO
COMMUNITY UPDATE - AUGUST 2017
LETTER FROM DR. ERIC PRATER, SUPERINTENDENT

We are proud of our schools in San Luis Coastal! We have amazing students who inspire our dedicated teams of educators and support staff.

Living in America today is a thrill ride of sorts. Social media and access to the world’s knowledge at the touch of a button have changed the way in which information is shared and how people learn in our society. Schools have not been insulated from these changes. Rather, we have had to adapt in innovative, thoughtful ways. Former President Barack Obama said, “A good public education is no longer a pathway to opportunity - it is a prerequisite.” He is right! In order for students to thrive in the world today, we have designed engaging, relevant experiences within our classrooms.

We expect something deeper, more profound will evolve within our hallways in San Luis Coastal in the coming years. We are guided by the fundamental principle that all students deserve to feel safe and respected for who they are - regardless of religion, culture, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. Developing cultural competence, awareness, and understanding among staff and students is a priority in our district. To this end, we have created a “Common Ground Advisory Task Force” whose primary objective is to provide the superintendent with ideas, suggestions, and action steps to achieve this important goal. Our collective wisdom will be required to make this happen. I look forward to your support along this important journey.

We have much work in front of us with the announced closure of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, future increases of pension and health care costs, and the continued threat of losing our Basic Aid funding status. I have appointed a Blue Ribbon Committee composed of local business leaders, SLCUSD parents, and community members to provide suggestions and ideas to best prepare for this eventual challenge. I will seek additional feedback from our valued employees, union leadership, and parent community.

In the coming months, San Luis Coastal will establish an Education Foundation supported by the successful negotiations with Pacific Gas and Electric last year. This foundation will assist San Luis Coastal in its efforts to maintain and create programs that are truly inspirational - allowing students to reach their fullest potential.

I hope you find this Report to the Community informative. I look forward to seeing you in the classrooms, hallways, and at the many events we have planned in the coming year.

Dr. Eric Prater
Superintendent
Letter from the Board President:
In 2003, I moved to this area with my fifth-grader, Max, and kindergartener, Sam. I believed they would develop better childhood competencies and a broader world view in a public school setting rather than in the private schools they were attending in Los Angeles. I didn’t know then that, in 2015, nerdwallet.com would name San Luis Coastal one of the “Best School Districts for Your Buck.” But it’s not about the price tag, it’s about the experience.

Children in San Luis Coastal have teachers, administrators, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, groundskeepers, and support staff who model daily the district’s mantra that “all means all.” Whether you’re an English Learner, a homeless youth, a foster child, a special needs student, socioeconomically disadvantaged, going into the trades or college bound—all really does mean all. What I didn’t know in 2003 was how important that lesson would be in 2017. It is an honor and a privilege to serve on the Board of Trustees of a district driven by the energy and inspired by the leadership of our superintendent. When we hired Dr. Eric Prater six years ago, he set our district on a trajectory of going from good to great. We’re on track, but we would not be where we are today without the support of this community in passing Measure D to transform our high schools, the settlement agreement with PG&E, and the engagement of our parents whether it’s at home or in their student’s classroom. We also value our community leaders and look forward to their input through the Common Ground Advisory Task Force, the Blue Ribbon Committee, or Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) outreach.

After all, it takes a village.
PARTNERSHIPS

SLCUSD maintains critical partnerships with private and public entities to ensure the diverse and unique needs of our students and staff are met. These are just a sample of those partnerships.

2017-2018 District Priorities

EMBRACE
LCAP Success Indicators
Accountability for Achievement
Common Ground Task Force

INNOVATE
High Quality Instruction and Support
Technology Access and Innovation

GOVERN
Transition from DCNPP Closure
Measure D Projects
Establish Education Foundation
Programmatic Alignment Pre K-12
After two years of careful planning and design development, we are starting to see Measure D construction projects under way. Getting projects approved by the Department of the State Architect is a lengthy process, but progress and momentum are building up; and in some cases (when the extensive approval process was not required), projects are even complete! The tennis courts at both high schools look amazing and are already being used by the schools and communities. At Morro Bay High School, we renovated the auto shop, wrestling room, dance room, and fitness room. At San Luis Obispo High School, two of our model classrooms are completed which will allow us to test out the interior features and furniture. We also added several temporary classrooms, a kitchen, and restrooms to assist us during construction.

**Morro Bay High School Auto Shop**

**2017-18 Project List**

**Morro Bay High School**

- J Wing Classrooms and Restrooms: Art, Ceramics, Robotics, Industrial Technology, Computer Repair
- Old Gym: Interior and Exterior Remodel
- New Pool Complex
- Student Support Center: Counseling Center, Attendance, Activities, Athletics, Nurse, Administration, Staff Room

**San Luis Obispo High School**

- Annex Classroom Building: 12 new classrooms and restrooms
- Old Gym: Interior and Exterior Remodel
- Student Support Center and Performance Space: Stage and performance space, Counseling Center, Attendance, Activities, Athletics, Nurse, Administration, Staff Room
- 500 Wing Classrooms: Model Classroom, completion of building and restroom renovations

**Tennis Courts**
We are determined to ensure students develop essential life skills giving them an advantage in the workplace such as confident reading, writing, and speaking skills; the ability to work in collaborative teams; analytical and quantitative reasoning skills; information technology expertise; an understanding of ethics and cultural competencies; capacity for flexibility and change; and strong interpersonal communication skills. 

Dr. Prater
SLCUSD – A LOCALLY FUNDED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Unlike most school districts, SLCUSD revenues are tied directly to local property taxes, providing more financial support for students than the State provides through the Local Control Funding Formula. With the closure of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, the district stands to lose close to $8 million dollars in annual revenue. Along with the increases in costs associated with rising pension and health care costs, the district has taken proactive measures to ensure we remain fiscally solvent.

Over 85% of our expenditures are invested in people, so future reductions will need to come mainly in personnel reductions. During the 2016-17 school year, the Board of Education began to address this by reducing nearly $2 million in staffing, mostly in the district office. Through a measured and proactive approach, we hope to make the budgetary reductions needed with as few impacts on our students and employees as possible.

STAFF NUMBERS

EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES

Where Our Students Live

REVENUE SOURCES
Pacific Beach High School

Pacific Beach High School is a small alternative secondary education program for students 16 years or older in grades 10 through 12 enrolled in the San Luis Coastal Unified School District. The program allows students to attend high school in a flexible environment with small class sizes, individualized curriculum, frequent and consistent academic guidance, and personal post-secondary planning. The staff are well trained and experienced in working with students from a wide range of backgrounds to promote the academic and personal growth of every student.

Pacific Beach High School was reviewed by the Western Association of School and Colleges (WASC), receiving a six-year accreditation and has also been recognized by the California Department of Education as a Model Continuation High School. Additionally, Pacific Beach helps expose students to a broad array of extracurricular courses such as farming, art, yearbook, skateboard design and production, student leadership, sewing, and robotics. Before each student graduates they complete a project which includes signing up for Cuesta courses, fulfilling a career exploration and job shadowing component, community service, as well as applying to at least three scholarship funds. In 2017, 27 scholarships were given to Pacific Beach graduates totaling over $23,000 ranging from $500 to $1,600. While small in size, the opportunities for success and personal accomplishments students realize during their enrollment is remarkable.

San Luis Coastal Unified School District offers Career Readiness for all students through our CTE Pathways

Contact your high school counselor to sign up for classes in:

- Ag & Natural Resources
- Arts, Media & Entertainment
- Building & Construction
- Ed. Child Dev. & Family Serv.
- Engineering & Architecture
- Fashion & Interior Design
- Health Science & Medical Technology
- Hospitality, Tourism & Rec
- Info. Comm. & Technology
- Man. & Product Development
- Public Service
- Transportation

Career Technical Education provides work based learning by partnering with Business in these areas:

- Curriculum development
- Guest speakers
- Job Demos
- Industry tours
- Job Site training
- Panel Judges
- Project Partners
- Internships
- Teachers with direct industry experience and more...

To become a Business Partner in Education, contact lmoore@slicusd.org
**MORRO BAY HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS**

At Morro Bay High School, the Wrestling, Girls Volleyball, Boys Basketball, and Boys Volleyball teams went to CIF playoffs. Individual students from Cross Country, Track and Field, Wrestling, and Girls Swimming sent student athletes to individual CIF playoffs. All 22 Varsity teams were competitive in the Los Padres Athletic League.

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**SLOHS FFA**

The SLO High School FFA State Winning Agriscience Research project teams are National FFA Finalists and will compete with their projects at Nationals.

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**SLO HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS**

Nearly 1,000 SLO High student-athletes last year won five PAC 8 League Championships in Girls Golf, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Softball, and Girls Swim & Dive.

SLO High sent the majority of their Varsity teams to CIF Playoffs, and Callum Bolger was a State Champion in Cross Country & Track & Field.

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**COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

Fiona Lloyd-Moffett, Baywood Elementary School, was selected as the San Luis Obispo County Teacher of the Year. Fiona serves underprivileged preschool students and is truly an amazing example of why early childhood education matters. During the year Fiona gets to know not only her students but their families as well. She consistently goes above and beyond to find resources that help and support her students and their families with monthly parent nights to provide parents with insights into learning. Fiona’s name will now move forward for consideration as State Teacher of the Year and we believe she will be a contender in recognition of her many quality attributes.

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**TED KNOWS HOW**

Ted Rapley, Lead Mechanic and SLCUSD Classified Employee of the Year, was recently recognized in School Transportation News magazine. You can read the article about Ted [here](#). Ted has thirty years of experience in school bus maintenance. The District has benefitted from his experience and knowledge when securing $1.5 million in grant funding.
STUDENT TESTING PROGRAM

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System includes many measurements of student progress and achievement. The Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments in English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics are aligned with State Standards and measure progress toward college and career readiness.

All students in grades three through eight and grade eleven take these assessments, with the exception of those students who have an individualized education program that designates the use of an alternate assessment.

Results of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for San Luis Coastal Unified School District demonstrate high performance and growth of our students.

COUNSELING AND THERAPIST SUPPORT

Mental health is increasingly acknowledged as a vital component of effective learning and academic success for all students. In recognition of that, SLCUSD employs counselors at all of our school sites who partner with teachers and staff to support students and families. We are committed to serving the whole child—academically, socially, and behaviorally.

Our school counselors are vital members of the education team, helping students in the areas of academic achievement, personal/social development, and career development. They are an amazing resource for our families, while also working with local agencies to support the diverse needs of our students, including contracting with Marriage and Family Therapists from local agencies to support the mental health needs of many of our students. These partnerships help staff to identify the struggles our students may be experiencing, and provide necessary support during difficult times.

SUCCESS FOR ALL PRESCHOOL

SLCUSD offers Success For All Preschool and parent education programs for low and moderate income families. It is free for qualified families and located at four of our sites: Baywood, Hawthorne, Pacheco, and C.L. Smith Elementary. The research is clear that, by the time a child enters kindergarten, children who attend preschool are already ahead in early math and reading skills. Our goal is to provide this opportunity for students who would otherwise not be able to access a quality preschool program.
Adult School

San Luis Coastal Unified School District provides a wide variety of classes throughout the year to help adults in our community achieve their professional, personal, and family goals. For further information, call 805-549-1222 or go to www.ae.slcusd.org.

High School Diploma/Equivalency Program

The Adult High School Diploma/High School Equivalency Program allows adults, 18 and older, the opportunity to complete their high school diploma or earn their equivalency certificate by taking the GED or HISET. Last year we helped 73 community members receive their diploma or equivalency certificate.

Parent Participation

In the Parent Participation Program, parents or caregivers attend class with their children aged 0-5 yrs. Children engage in indoor and outdoor play full of sensory experiences, language, art, music, and movement. Parents connect with other parents of children the same age in parent education discussion groups. Classes are held in Los Osos, Morro Bay, and SLO. Cooperative Preschools, offered in Morro Bay and SLO, are designed to create an academic, social, and physical environment that inspires growth for both parents and children. Parents take an active role in their child’s preschool education by working one day per week in the classroom. (parentparticipation.org)

Community Classes

The Community Education Program offers an array of classes designed to enhance one’s lifelong learning experience. Offerings include art, cooking, dance, fitness, languages, music, sewing, and special interests.
Science and Engineering for the 21st Century

California’s new science standards, the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), enable our teachers to offer inquiry-based science instruction that equips students to use scientific and engineering practices and concepts similar to those used by professionals in the field. Students are actively engaged in critical thinking, analyzing information, and solving complex problems. The standards are arranged so students have multiple opportunities to build on the knowledge and skills gained during each grade by revisiting important concepts and expanding their understanding of connections across scientific disciplines. These science standards also complement California’s Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics, enabling classroom instruction to reflect a clearer picture of the real world, where solving problems often requires skills and knowledge from multiple disciplines. Each year, students should be able to demonstrate greater capacity for connecting knowledge across, and between, the physical sciences, life sciences, earth and space sciences, and engineering design.

Highlights:
- All Kindergarten - 5th grade classrooms are teaching newly adopted NGSS science curriculum.
- 6th-8th grade science concepts and learning expectations have been realigned to match the new standards.
- New high school science courses are being developed including Freshman Biology (2017-18) and Sophomore Chemistry (coming in 2018-19).

Baywood 3rd grade students demonstrate how learning can be personalized with the opportunity to collaborate on shared documents using their Chromebooks.
Earlier this year, the District applied for and was accepted to the new Zero Net Energy Pilot Program and Grant for Los Osos Middle School. PG&E and the Gas Company are sponsoring this program in concert with the State’s Zero Net Energy goal in order to establish proof of demonstration projects statewide. Los Osos Middle School was one of about a dozen sites selected for this program statewide. Staff worked with PG&E to come up with a calculated Zero Net Energy status on the campus, which includes a combination of our solar energy panels, lighting retrofits, HVAC retrofits and controls, as well as some daylighting strategies. Zero Net Energy is accomplished when the net amount of energy produced by on-site renewable resources is equal to the value of the energy consumed annually by the building. PG&E's grant of $200,000 along with our Proposition 39 energy funds will pay for the retrofits on the campus.

Conserving Water at San Luis Coastal

By utilizing new irrigation technology, SLCUSD has saved 14,200,000 gallons of water. That’s enough to fill FOURTEEN football field-sized swimming pools ten feet deep!

Thanks to the hard work of Joe Carrera, the District’s Irrigation Water Specialist, this system has saved the District $236,000 over the past three years.

Did you know?

Our water is “green” at SLCUSD! In an effort to reduce the use of plastic bottles, water bottle refilling stations are being installed at our sites. Students and staff appreciate this convenient—and environmentally friendly—feature.

FRESH AND LOCAL LUNCHES

The SLCUSD Food Services Department has worked hard to connect with local farmers, ranchers, and fishermen to make our schools California Fresh. From fish tacos to grass-fed beef meatballs, our team is showcasing local foods and educating students about the amazing variety available in our own backyard.
# SLCUSD SCHOOLS

## Elementary Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Principal</th>
<th>Built in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baywood</td>
<td>Jennifer Dinielli</td>
<td>1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop’s Peak</td>
<td>Dan Block</td>
<td>1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Del Mar</td>
<td>Janet Gould</td>
<td>1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorne</td>
<td>James McMillen</td>
<td>1961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Ranchos</td>
<td>Marlie Schmidt</td>
<td>1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monarch Grove</td>
<td>Lara Storm</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacheco</td>
<td>Rick Mayfield</td>
<td>1953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinsheimer</td>
<td>Jeff Martin</td>
<td>1953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL Smith</td>
<td>Joyce Hansen</td>
<td>1962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teach</td>
<td>Darla Batistic</td>
<td>1948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Middle Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Principal</th>
<th>Asst. Principal</th>
<th>Built in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laguna Middle School</td>
<td>John Calandro</td>
<td>Scott Schalde</td>
<td>1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Osos Middle School</td>
<td>Andre Illig</td>
<td>Karl Blum</td>
<td>1975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## High Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Principal</th>
<th>Asst. Principal</th>
<th>Asst. Principal</th>
<th>Asst. Principal</th>
<th>Built in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morro Bay High School</td>
<td>Dr. Kyle Pruitt</td>
<td>Sean Allstot</td>
<td>Chris Jones</td>
<td>Julie Mamo</td>
<td>1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Luis Obispo High School</td>
<td>Leslie O’Connor</td>
<td>Aaron Black</td>
<td>Nick Frost</td>
<td>Julie Mamo</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Beach High School</td>
<td>Chris Dowler</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1938</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Executive Cabinet

- Eric Prater, Ed.D., Superintendent
- Ryan Pinkerton, Asst. Supt./Business Services
- Kimberly McGrath, Asst. Supt./Educational Services
- Diane Frost, Executive Dir., Student Support Services
- Christin Newlon, Director of Personnel Services
- Amy Shields, Elem. Director - Learning & Achievement

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**Bellevue-Santa Fe Charter School**

Holly Warrick, Principal

*San Luis Coastal is the chartering agency for Bellevue-Santa Fe.*