



## FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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Greetings MJUSD Community,

We have had a wonderful start to the school year. Thanks to our teachers, every class has a certificated teacher to ensure our students have access to a quality educational experience everyday.

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, and while suicide prevention is important to address year-round, Suicide Prevention Awareness Month provides a dedicated time to come together with compassion and strength to discuss a difficult topic. We are continuing to expand access to mental health resources at all of our school sites, which includes adding new wellness centers, counselors and outreach consultants, as well as facilitating access to 24/7 support through a partnership with Care Solace.

During last night's Board of Trustees meeting, I shared a few updates with the community that I would like to share with you as well. I started my comments with a big shout out to the Lindhurst High School Broadcast Studio students for their new production, **Sunday Scoop**. These very dynamic students will be producing a quick weekly update so students and families can learn important news and hear a preview of upcoming events for the week. I am so proud of Mr. Troy Spangler and his students.

Last week, we met as a large management and labor partner think-tank group to start discussing all options related to the shift in high school start time that goes into effect in 2023-24. Unfortunately, this is a very bad idea for K-12 districts as moving high schools back can lead to busing issues and impact elementary schools. I am confident, however, that this group will work out a solution to this issue.

Lastly, the California PBIS Coalition is a statewide organization that acknowledges schools that successfully implement the core features of the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports framework. We're thrilled to announce that on September 9, 2022, the California PBIS Commission released its list of award recipients for the 2021-2022 school year, and seven schools in the Marysville Joint Unified School District earned the Silver distinction and one earned the bronze. Here they are:

- Arboga Elementary (bronze)
- Browns Valley Elementary (silver)
- Cordua Elementary (silver)
- Cedar Lane Elementary (silver)
- Johnson Park Elementary (silver)
- Marysville High School (silver)
- McKenney Intermediate School (silver)
- Yuba Feather Elementary (silver)

Congratulations to our schools! Now, I would like to share the following highlights from the September 13, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting:

- Administrators from Edgewater and Covillaud elementary schools presented their School Plan for Student Achievement.
- The Board approved a contract to provide cellular service on 30 of our school buses so that students who are riding the bus in areas with limited cell towers will be able to use their phones during the ride to and from school. The services will offer coverage for Verizon and AT&T customers. This service will be especially beneficial for students whose families live in our foothill and mountain communities.
- The Board postponed a public hearing and discussion on proposed Board Policy for Independent Study to allow more time for conversations about the policy.
- The Board postponed the presentation about the Teacher Pathways Plan to the Sept. 27 Board Meeting. The detailed plan focuses on ongoing job-embedded training and support for new hires.
- The Board heard a presentation about a revision to the Educator Effectiveness Block Grant to align funding with needs identified in the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), which was adopted in July 2022. The changes include additional funding of \$823,000 for coaching and mentoring and \$600,000 to fund learning networks for educators. The reallocation of funds will be discussed further at the next Board meeting when the Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services, Dr. Gabe Simon, presents the Teacher Pathways Plan. The Board will vote on the proposed revisions at the Sept. 27 Board meeting.
- The Board approved and adopted the draft 2022-2023 governance handbook.
- Buildings and Grounds Director Doug Trower provided an update of completed projects for the 2021-2022 school year. Highlights include safe and durable rubber playground surfaces and roofing repairs at several sites as well as a playfield renovation at Linda. Mr. Trower also highlighted the expansion of the Yuba Gardens Band & Choir room, which involved combining three classrooms to create one large space for the ever-growing music program. Lastly, he expressed pride in the Arboga Expansion project, which features a new multipurpose room, 10 new classrooms, a science lab, a track and an outdoor stage.

As always, thank you for reading and thank you for continuing to stay engaged with our school communities. We are all in this together!

Sincerely,



Fal Asrani, Ed.D.  
Superintendent