



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Aug. 17, 2020

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14 Lynwood Unified Schools Receive PBIS Award for Positive Impact During COVID-19

Lynwood – Fourteen Lynwood Unified schools were awarded the 2020 California PBIS Community Cares recognition for their positive impact on their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Elementary, middle, and secondary schools of the District were recognized for providing support to families and educators during exceptionally challenging times. When schools were forced to close in March due to the pandemic, Lynwood Unified, led by the efforts of its schools, staff, and the Lynwood Partners Educational Foundation, raised more than \$100,000 for families in need, served well over 200,000 meals, and distributed more than 5,300 laptops.

Just as importantly, the District created positive experiences by championing the achievements of students and teachers while keeping the focus on educational goals.

“Our schools strategically engaged with our community to serve them, but also to remind them that we share in these challenges together,” Maribel Martinez, Student Services Coordinator, said. “Through social media, virtual recognitions, and campaigns, we tried to lift the spirits of our families and strengthen the bond we have with the community.”

Each of the District’s 20 schools operates its own social media accounts where they provide parents with consistent updates and galvanize with Virtual Spirit Week challenges and other activities. Educators sent motivating messages to students, expressed affection through signs and photos, and held weekly reading sessions. Students who regularly logged on for lessons were recognized with awards from teachers.

Beyond technology, the schools also recognized parent volunteers and student graduates with drive-through events, which saw staff parade through neighborhoods with signs of solidarity and show up to households with balloons, gift cards, and notes.

The District operates a food pantry that serves produce and goods to families, and schools often deliver consumables to homes as well as school supplies.

“We are determined to stand with our community during difficult times just as they stand with us,” LUSD Superintendent Gudiel R. Crosthwaite said.

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The **Lynwood Unified School District** is dedicated to offering students a world-class education to prepare them for success in college and career in the 21st century. Under its Achieving Greatness Initiative, the district is realigning all aspects of its organization to strengthen and expand instructional programs, enrichment and extracurricular activities, and support system for students and staff. For more information, visit www.lynwood.k12.ca.us.

Follow us on  Twitter @LynwoodSchools, or “like” us on  Facebook at www.facebook.com/LynwoodUSD



"I'm proud of the way our schools have banded together, with the help of community partners, to serve as a source of strength in Lynwood."

PBIS developed the one-year-only "California PBIS Community Cares" acknowledgment for these unprecedented times. Each school will have its name displayed on the California PBIS Coalition webpage.

"We are honored to have so many of our schools recognized for the positive work in the community during these times," Board President Gary Hardie Jr. said. "We will continue to provide tools, resources, and spread love throughout Lynwood as we overcome all challenges together."

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

081720_LUSD_PBIS1: PBIS developed a one-year-only "California PBIS Community Cares" honor for schools that made a positive impact on their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

081720_LUSD_PBIS2: Lynwood Unified schools celebrate student achievement through a variety of distance learning programs that keep educators connected to young learners.

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The mission of **Lynwood Unified School District**, the cultivator of innovative thinkers, is to ensure each student fearlessly achieves his or her highest academic and personal aspirations while contributing to the greater society through a unique system distinguished by:

- ★ People of great character who inspire and lead by example
- ★ The instilling of courage to be creative
- ★ The transformative uses of technology
- ★ Safe and clean environments
- ★ The honoring of all voices of our community