



WHITTIER UNION

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

To Achieve and Maintain Excellence...

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Jan. 21, 2025 **CONTACT:** Andrea Garcia **PHONE:** 909-447-2403

Whittier Union Senior Honored with Award of Merit for Leadership, Wellness Support

WHITTIER – La Serna High School senior Felipe Galvan is a natural leader known for building strong relationships with both students and staff alike while continually looking for ways to improve outcomes for his classmates, either as a member of La Serna’s Puente Program, as an English language development (ELD) and Link Crew mentor, or as president of the school’s Wellness Club.

Galvan has a passion for promoting social-emotional well-being for his classmates and has brought awareness to mental health by serving as an organizer and fundraiser for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life.

Galvan, who boasts a 4.26 GPA and has completed 11 Advanced Placement and eight Honors classes, was recently recognized by the Whittier Union Board of Trustees with an Award of Merit, during the Jan. 14 Board meeting.

“I’d like to thank my family and friends, as they have always pushed me to be the best,” Galvan said. “I’d like to also thank the amazing teachers, counselors, and staff who have guided me throughout high school and allowed me to achieve so much, especially Mrs. Kim Magdaleno for inspiring me to pursue a career in chemistry and biochemistry.”

As an active and integral part of the Puente Program for four years, Galvan has capitalized on opportunities for academic and personal growth. He plays a key role in organizing fundraisers and events to support the program as a Puente cabinet member.

Galvan has served as an ELD mentor during summer break and during the regular school year in a biology-guided study class, where he successfully involved students in campus activities and advocated for their inclusivity in all campus functions. He has also made a mark in the arts, acting in two La Serna theater productions and enrolling in an advanced choir music class.

Galvan said his goal is to major in biochemistry on his way to a career as an analytical chemist. He has been accepted to San Francisco State University and is waiting to hear from the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom and UC Santa Cruz.

“Felipe has been described by his teachers and peers as genuine, inclusive, respectful, and compassionate,” La Serna Principal Griselda Castro said. “These qualities have made Felipe a standout leader and advocate for the community.”

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PHOTO CAPTION:

WUHSD_AWARD OF MERIT: La Serna High School senior Felipe Galvan was recognized by the Whittier Union Board of Trustees with an Award of Merit during the Jan. 14 Board meeting.

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OUR MISSION

The Whittier Union High School District provides all students with an engaging, quality standards-based instructional program delivered by a well-trained staff resulting in improved student achievement. Whittier Union High School District works to achieve and maintain excellence in providing a comprehensive education for all students.

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