

NSD TODAY

Empowering Every Child Every Day

25375 Orchard Village Road, Valencia, CA 91355

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WITH PRIDE AND GRATITUDE: CLOSING THE SCHOOL YEAR TOGETHER!

Dear NSD Community,

As we come to the end of another remarkable school year, we reflect with great pride and joy upon the journey we have shared. It is hard to believe that the school year has almost come to a close. Looking back at the year, I am proud of what we have achieved since last August. Not only was everyone focused on continuing to ensure that we provided all our students with engaging and rigorous learning experiences, but students, staff, and the District also received numerous recognitions. Our staff has worked tirelessly to ensure that students receive a well-rounded education while supporting their social-emotional well-being.

For us, it is bittersweet to see our sixth-grade students end their elementary experience in June. We hope they take with them the love of learning since it has been an honor to be part of their educational experience. We are also very grateful to our parent groups and community partners for making extraordinary contributions to the lives of our students. I wish you all a restful and peaceful summer. See you in August 2025!

Dr. Leticia Hernandez, Superintendent

DISTRICT MUSIC & CHORUS CONCERTS



The Newhall School District recently showcased the musical talents of its 4th through 6th grade students from all school sites in a series of spring orchestra concerts. Hosted at Wiley Canyon Elementary on May 5, 7, and 8, 2025, the events featured performances by the Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Orchestra ensembles, highlighting the District's commitment to fostering musical education among its youngest musicians. School sites also featured individual choral performances by students.

These concerts were part of a broader initiative to provide students with comprehensive music education. Newhall's instrumental music program offers instruction in various instruments, including strings, winds, and percussion, allowing students to explore and develop their musical abilities.

The spring concerts not only showcased the students' progress and dedication but also served as a testament to the importance of music education in developing discipline, teamwork, and creativity among young learners. The performances were well-received by families and community members, underscoring the positive impact of the District's music programs on students' personal and academic growth. Director of Instruction, Assessment and Accountability Chad Rose shares, "The district spring concerts showcase the hard work and dedication of students and teachers. It is a privilege to see students grow with their musical talents from their beginning of year concerts to the end of year concerts."

Looking ahead, the District plans to continue supporting its music education goal by ensuring students physically engage with the art form, explore academic content using the art form, discover new knowledge, inquire, innovate, create, and show what they have learned.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to Susan Necessary, Office Manager at Pico Canyon Elementary School, on being named the Classified Employee of the Month for March 2025!

Susan was nominated by her peers in recognition of her outstanding dedication and contributions. She began her career with the district in 2018 as a Science Lab Technician at Meadows Elementary, later advancing to the role of School Office Assistant II. In August 2022, Susan was promoted to her current position as School Office Manager at Pico Canyon Elementary.

Congratulations to Eddi McGarry, Safety Supervisor at Stevenson Ranch Elementary School, on being named the Classified Employee of the Month for April 2025!

Eddi was nominated by her peers in recognition of her dedication and commitment to student safety. She has served as a Safety Supervisor at Stevenson Ranch Elementary since August 2017 and currently supports the school with the same passion and professionalism. Way to go, Eddi!

Congratulations to Melissa Downes, Safety Supervisor at Valencia Valley School, on being named the Classified Employee of the Month for May 2025!

Melissa was nominated by her peers in recognition of her dedication and commitment to student safety. She has served as a Safety Supervisor at Valencia Valley Elementary since February 2018 and currently supports the school with the same passion and professionalism. Way to go, Eddi!



Susan Necessary
School Office Manager



Eddi McGarry
Safety Supervisor



Melissa Downes
Safety Supervisor

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEADOWS, OLD ORCHARD, AND PICO CANYON ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FOR THEIR RECOGNITIONS AMONG THE TOP SCHOOLS IN CALIFORNIA!



Since its inception in 1985, the California Distinguished Schools Award remains one of the state's most important ways to celebrate exceptional schools, districts, teachers, and classified employees for their innovation, talent, and success in supporting students.

The exceptional elementary schools recognized are illustrative of the persistence and promise of California's students, educators, and schools. To select California Distinguished Schools, the California Department of Education (CDE) analyzed data reported through the 2024 Dashboard, with a focus on demonstrating excellence and growth in academic achievement and ensuring a positive school climate.

PERFORMING ARTS IN THE NEWHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Newhall Elementary's "Jack(ie) and the Beanstalk" Play

Performing arts programs in elementary schools are more than just extracurricular activities—they are powerful tools for child development. Integrating music, theater, and dance into early education nurtures creativity, confidence, and collaboration skills in young learners. Participation in performing arts gives children the chance to express themselves in a supportive environment. Whether they're speaking lines in a play or performing a song, students learn to overcome stage fright, use their voices clearly, and present themselves with confidence. These are vital skills that extend far beyond the stage, benefiting students in social and academic settings.

At Newhall Elementary, second-grade students perform a play based on the well-known story "Jack and the Beanstalk." Second grade teacher Mr. Shelton shares, "Jack(ie) and the Beanstalk has become a Newhall second grade tradition! All second graders participate in this musical production held in the beautiful Newhall Family Theater. This year, the student who best fit the lead role was Jenny Lemus, so the title became "Jackie and the Beanstalk." Adrian Barragan played our giant, and Ariana Martinez played Jackie's mother."

Stevenson Ranch Elementary's "The Wizard of Oz" Play

On March 12 and 13, second graders at Stevenson Ranch Elementary took the stage to perform *The Wizard of Oz*. The production featured talented students from Mrs. Willen's, Mrs. Smith's, and Ms. Eley's classes. After months of after-school rehearsals, the young performers brought the classic story to life with energy, creativity, and heart.

This year marked an exciting evolution in the school's theater program, as students were immersed in a full theatrical experience. Each young performer took on multiple roles, appearing as different characters in both acts of the show. This challenged students to develop versatility as actors while mastering costume changes, varied choreography, and distinct character personalities.

What made this production particularly special was watching students discover a love for theater. Many had never stepped on stage before, yet embraced the challenge of learning dance numbers, managing costume changes, and bringing characters to life.

Thank you to the parent volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. Their effort in managing everything from set design and costume creation to backstage coordination and rehearsal supervision created a supportive environment where young performers could thrive.

The young actors rose to the occasion and put their hearts into creating a truly memorable performance.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Governing Board Meeting

Join us! Visit the District's website at www.newhallschooldistrict.com for more information on how to join.

June
10



6th Grade Promotions

Congratulations to all our 6th grade students who will be promoting and moving onto the next chapter of their educational career!

June
12



Last Day of School

Have a wonderful summer break!

June
13



Juneteenth Holiday

All District schools and buildings closed.

June
19



Governing Board Meeting

Join us! Visit the District's website at www.newhallschooldistrict.com for more information on how to join.

June
24



All Schools Closed for the Summer

Families can contact the District Office during the month of July at (661) 291-4000.

July
1 - 31