

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWS RELEASE

9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Elk Grove, CA 95624
Office (916) 686-7732 | Fax (916) 686-7787



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Contact: Xanthi Soriano
Mobile +1 (916) 261-6219
xpinkert@egusd.net

**ELK GROVE UNIFIED COMPLIMENTS PLEASANT GROVE HIGH SCHOOL FOR BEING
RECOGNIZED AS A 2021 DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL**

Staff and Families Elated About Outstanding Educational Programs and Practices Award

ELK GROVE, Calif. – May 19, 2021 – The Elk Grove Unified School District is thrilled to share that the California Department of Education (CDE) selected Pleasant Grove High School as a [2021 California Distinguished School](#). School principal Taigan Keplinger expressed her joy about the distinction saying, “Our staff, students and families take great honor in this recognition of hard work and dedication toward the academic success of our students. Motivated by this award, our faculty continues to provide all Eagles with the best educational experience possible. Thank you to our students, staff and families for working together to attain this outstanding achievement.”

Pleasant Grove High School was previously recognized as a California Distinguished School in 2019.

The California Distinguished School Program recognizes elementary, middle and high schools in alternate years and allows eligible schools to apply for the California Distinguished School Award once every two years. For 2021, California is recognizing outstanding education programs and practices in middle and high schools and used a multiple measures accountability system to identify eligible schools based on their performance and progress on the state indicators as specified on the [California School Dashboard](#).

Schools recognized as a California Distinguished School Awardee hold the title for two years. This year, eligible schools in both the middle school and high school cycles were selected within the following two categories:

Category 1: Closing the Achievement Gap

High School Criteria (Includes K–12, 9–12 designation, or any other high school designation.)

- All of the Middle School Criteria (Except the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator)
- The ALL student group must be Blue/Green/Yellow for the College/Career Indicator on the 2019 Dashboard.
- The ALL student group must be Blue/Green/Yellow for the Graduation Rate Indicator on the 2019 Dashboard.

Category 2: Exceptional Student Performance

High School Criteria (Includes K–12, 9–12 designation, or any other high school designation.)

- All of the Middle School Criteria (Except the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator)
- The ALL student group must be Blue/Green for the College/Career Indicator on the 2019 Dashboard.
- The ALL student group must be Blue/Green for the Graduation Rate Indicator on the 2019 Dashboard.

Pleasant Grove High School will join 121 other 2021 California Distinguished middle and high schools as well as exemplary districts at the California School Recognition Program Virtual Awards Ceremony on May 26, 2021 from 4 - 5 p.m.

Related Link:

- [State Superintendent Tony Thurmond Announces 2021 California Distinguished Schools and Exemplary Districts](#)

About the Elk Grove Unified School District

The [Elk Grove Unified School District](#) (EGUSD) is the fifth-largest school district in California located in southern Sacramento County. EGUSD covers 320 square miles and includes 67 schools: 42 elementary schools, nine middle schools, nine high schools, five alternative education schools, an adult school, one charter school and a virtual academy. Offering a multitude of educational programs, including over 70 career-themed academies and pathways within 15 industry sectors, we prepare our students for college and career by supporting them with the means to be creative problem solvers; self-aware, self-reliant and self-disciplined; technically literate; effective communicators and collaborators; and engaged in the community as individuals with integrity. We integrate rigorous academics with career-based learning and real world workplace experiences and ensure that *Every Student is Learning, in Every Classroom, in Every Subject, Every Day to Prepare College, Career and Life Ready Graduates.*

For more information about the Elk Grove Unified School District, please visit www.egusd.net and follow us @ElkGroveUnified on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) and [Eventbrite](#).

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