



NEWS RELEASE

Lake Elsinore Unified School District

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Save the date! LEUSD's annual appreciation and awards reception is on Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Announcing Teacher of the Year and Employee of the Year Awards for 2018

LAKE ELSINORE—Seven district *Employee of the Year* honorees, three district/county *Teacher of the Year* nominees, plus honorees from 23 schools, and district departments, will be recognized during LEUSD's annual *Employee Appreciation Reception* on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, 3 p.m., at Pins and Pockets, in Lake Elsinore. Retirees in 2018 will also be recognized. The employee appreciation reception is free.

"*Employee of the Year* and *Teacher of the Year* recipients exemplify the district's professionalism and commitment to a 21st Century education," said Superintendent Dr. Doug Kimberly. "Their connection with students and support to classrooms is a strong catalyst for college and career success."

Seven honorees have been selected overall from the district to be recognized by the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) at the annual *Celebrating Educators* luncheon in May, 2018. The district's three *Teacher of the Year* nominees denoted with an asterisk (*) were selected one year in advance because of the timing of county and state *Teacher of the Year* awards; therefore, will be honored by RCOE on a future date in 2019.

LEUSD EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR / TEACHER OF THE YEAR HONOREES

- ULYSSES FLORES,*** *Machado Elementary School*Teacher of the Year-Elementary
- MELISSA SMITH,*** *Canyon Lake Middle School*.....Teacher of the Year-Middle School
- DONNA ROMO,*** *Elsinore High School*.....Teacher of the Year-High School
- COREY CROW,** *Program Specialist, Mental Health*Certificated Administrator
- J.R. REA,** *Director, IT Services*Classified Administrator
- LAURI DOLL,** *Bookkeeper, Terra Cotta Middle School*.....Classified Employee
- MARY GRIGGS,** *Superintendent's Secretary*Confidential Employee
- TINA MONGER,** *Psychologist, Ronald Reagan Elementary*.....Site Support Employee
- EDWARD SURMAN,** *Canyon Lake Middle School*.....Counselor of the Year
- DR. WHITNEY D'AMICO,** *Temescal Canyon High School*.....Principal of the Year

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School and site *Employee of the Year* and *Teacher of the Year* honorees were nominated by a vote of their peers, or, in some cases, by administrators. School and site honorees are listed in the table below.

SCHOOL OR DISTRICT SITE	LEUSD EMPLOYEES & TEACHERS OF THE YEAR (COUNTY E.O.Y., T.O.Y.)	CATEGORIES
Cottonwood Canyon Elementary	Cynthia Sawyers , Elementary Jessica Badillo , Clerk I: Assignment Lorraine Assumma , Nurse	Teacher Classified Site Support
Donald Graham Elementary	Shaneen Foster , Elementary Christina Johnson , Clerk III: Assignment Irene Killiany , Occupational Therapist	Teacher Classified Site Support
Elsinore Elementary	Sarah Murillo , Elementary Tania Rios , Paraeducator II/Special Ed.	Teacher Classified
Earl Warren Elementary	Britni Reese , Elementary	Teacher
Machado Elementary	Ulysses Flores ,* Elementary Anacani Bruno , Community Liaison Janet Calva , Psychologist	Teacher/T.O.Y. Classified Site Support
Rice Canyon Elementary	Nicole Porec , Elementary Stephanie Carter , Paraeducator II/Special Ed.	Teacher Classified
Railroad Canyon Elementary	Heather Tobler , Elementary Dinorah Gutierrez , Paraeducator II/Bilingual	Teacher Classified
Ronald Reagan Elementary	Silvana Macri , Elementary Barbara Smyth , Food Service Asst. Tina Monger , Psychologist	Teacher Classified Site Support/E.O.Y.
Tuscany Hills Elementary	Kelly Daniel , Elementary Devon Newkirk-Stone , Paraeducator II/Special Ed.	Teacher Classified
William Collier Elementary	Deirdre Emmerling , Elementary Stephanie Baca , Senior Food Service Assistant	Teacher Classified
Wildomar Elementary	Lorraine Antonopoulos , Paraeducator I	Classified
Withrow Elementary	Tina Garrard , Paraeducator I Govardhanachary Vadla , Speech/Language Pathologist	Classified Site Support
Lakeland Village School K-8	Cathy Moshos , ASB, Computers Shauntsie, Ramirez , Paraeducator I Mireya Torres , Psychologist	Teacher Classified Site Support
Luisseño School K-8	Elizabeth Chavez , 1 st Grade Crystal Sullivan , Secretary III	Teacher Classified
Canyon Lake Middle School	Melissa Smith ,* Science 8 th	Teacher/T.O.Y.

SCHOOL OR DISTRICT SITE	LEUSD EMPLOYEES & TEACHERS OF THE YEAR (COUNTY E.O.Y., T.O.Y.)	CATEGORIES
(Continued) Canyon Lake Middle School	Pamela Mugica , <i>Counseling Secretary</i> Lorraine Assumma , <i>Nurse</i> Edward Surman , <i>Counselor</i>	<i>Classified</i> <i>Site Support</i> <i>Counselor/E.O.Y.</i>
David Brown Middle School	Carolyn Berry , <i>Academic Essentials, ELD</i> Christine McCoy , <i>Secretary III</i> Robert Suttan , <i>Counselor</i>	<i>Teacher</i> <i>Classified</i> <i>Counselor</i>
Elsinore Middle School	Jeannine Adams , <i>Music</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Terra Cotta Middle School	Holly Carson , <i>AVID, Language Arts 8th grade</i> Lauri Doll , <i>Bookkeeper</i> Alisha Roberts , <i>Speech/Language Pathologist</i> Maria Finazzo-Labahn , <i>Counselor</i>	<i>Teacher</i> <i>Classified/E.O.Y.</i> <i>Site Support</i> <i>Counselor</i>
Elsinore High School	Donna Romo ,* <i>AVID, Spanish</i> Theresa Isaacs , <i>Campus & Study Hall Supervisor</i> Constance Siegel , <i>Speech/ Language Pathologist</i> Vickie George , <i>Counselor</i>	<i>Teacher/T.O.Y.</i> <i>Classified</i> <i>Site Support</i> <i>Counselor</i>
Lakeside High School	Lisa Ogden , <i>AVID 12, World History</i> Courtney Mazzotti , <i>Registrar</i> Robert Steinbock , <i>Psychologist</i> Aaron Nessman , <i>Counselor</i>	<i>Teacher</i> <i>Classified</i> <i>Site Support</i> <i>Counselor</i>
Temescal Canyon High School	Cari Strange , <i>Health, Leadership</i> Joseph Balli , <i>Custodian II</i> Amy Blickhahn , <i>Nurse</i> Brittany Driesler , <i>Counselor</i>	<i>Teacher</i> <i>Classified</i> <i>Site Support</i> <i>Counselor</i>
Ortega High School	Steve Clark , <i>RSP-Mild/Moderate</i> Penelope Berry , <i>Registrar</i>	<i>Teacher</i> <i>Classified</i>
Keith McCarthy Academy	Durene Southward , <i>Paraeducator II/Assignment</i> Paige Sautner , <i>Psychologist</i> Larissa Allen-Jefferson , <i>Counselor</i>	<i>Classified</i> <i>Support</i> <i>Counselor</i>
DEPARTMENTAL RECOGNITIONS (FROM PARTICIPATING OFFICES)		
Administrative & Information Technology Support Services	Mariaelena Garcia , <i>Secretary III</i>	<i>Classified</i>
Child Welfare and Attendance	Cece Maggio , <i>Secretary III</i>	<i>Classified</i>
Maintenance & Operations	Joshua Mativa , <i>Senior Maintenance Worker</i>	<i>Classified</i>
Purchasing	Deborah Albamonte , <i>Clerk II: Assignment</i>	<i>Classified</i>
Student Support Services	Monica Davis , <i>Clerk I: Receptionist</i>	<i>Classified</i>
Transportation	Jody Richards , <i>Bus Driver</i>	<i>Classified</i>

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The Lake Elsinore Unified School District covers more than 144 square miles and serves TK-12 students from the cities of Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake and Wildomar, plus several unincorporated Riverside County communities, including Lakeland Village, Horsethief Canyon, and The Farm. The district serves over 21,300 students and operates 23 schools, along with alternative education and blended learning programs. LEUSD offers a Dual Immersion program at the elementary level, and the rigorous International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at Temescal Canyon High School, a fully certified IB World School. The district's mission of preparing students for college and career success is evident every day at every school.