



PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Francisco Mata

PHONE: (619) 750-6720

Ocean View Hills Elementary Named a California Purple Star School by State Superintendent Tony Thurmond

SAN YSIDRO – Ocean View Hills Elementary School has been designated as a California Purple Star School for meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and families. State Superintendent Tony Thurmond made the announcement last week for the newly created California Purple Star School Designation Program (Purple Star Program) which “publicly recognizes schools that are committed and equipped to meet the unique needs of military-connected students and families” as noted in the California Department of Education news release.

“Congratulations to the educators, staff, administrators, parents, and students at these schools,” said Thurmond. “These schools are crucial to supporting our military-connected students and ensuring that they maintain their academic, college, and career aspirations while their parents serve our country.”

California has about 10,500 K-12 schools and Ocean View Hills Elementary was one of only 31 schools chosen in the state to receive an inaugural California Purple Star. The schools who received this award were recognized for helping reduce the stress and burdens on military-connected students and families by creating transition programs and providing staff training programs that help provide support.

“I am incredibly proud of Ocean View Hills Elementary for earning this prestigious award,” said Dr. Gina Potter, San Ysidro School District Superintendent. “A special thank you to Veronica Medina, District Student & Family Services Manager, who works with our military families, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. David Farkas, Ocean View Hills School Administrators, Manuela Colom and Erika Meza, and our Ocean View Hills teachers and staff for everything you do to support our military students and their families. Also, a special thank you to Mindy Hayes, School Liaison Officer, Naval Base Coronado, for providing the wonderful programs and resources designed to support our military families and students.”

There are currently more than two million active-duty service members and individuals in the United States serving in the National Guard and Reserves. California had 184,540 active-duty service members and 56,167 individuals in the National Guard & Reserves, according to a 2017 report.

For more information, contact SYSD Public Relations and Community Services Coordinator Francisco Mata at francisco.mata@sysdschools.org, cell (619) 750-6720.