



# THE GARDEN GROVE WAY

## 2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Each year, the Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD) publishes an annual report, “The Garden Grove Way,” to provide our community with a snapshot of the progress we are making with our strategic plan. Our district continues to make great strides to advance our three strategic goals of equipping all students with the academic skills and personal skills needed for lifelong success.

The 2017-2018 Annual Report compiles tangible academic data along with personal feedback from 45,715 staff, parents, and students who participated in our annual survey. Our comprehensive report highlights the statistics and stories of our successes and provides a vision for the work that lies ahead.

When compared to other districts in Orange County and across California, GGUSD continues to soar as a leader in college and career readiness. We are committed to preparing our more than 43,000 students for lifelong success in the 21st century.



### OUR VISION

We are committed to preparing all students to be successful and responsible citizens who contribute and thrive in a diverse society.

### OUR MISSION

To ensure student success, we will provide a rigorous and supportive academic experience that motivates all learners to meet high expectations.





# GOAL

# 1

## ACADEMIC SKILLS

All learners will develop the academic skills necessary for continual individual growth towards mastery of standards.

**ACADEMIC CONTENT · ACADEMIC ENGLISH · SCHOLARLY HABITS**

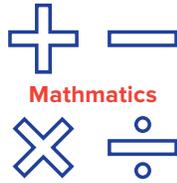
## Academic Excellence



GGUSD students continue to outperform the state average on standardized tests and rank number one among larger urban districts across California in most grade levels.

The percentage of students who met or exceeded standards on the California SBAC test.

California School Dashboard



California 38%  
GGUSD 47%



California 49%  
GGUSD 57%



Our performance levels earned us a positive rating on the California School Dashboard.

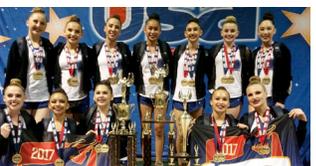


in the nation to launch a Vietnamese Dual Language program

## A Leader in Language Development

Research shows that students who develop more than one language experience greater academic achievements and possess higher levels of self-confidence. This year, GGUSD continued its expansion of language instruction offerings, including:

- Successful 2016-2017 launch of Spanish Dual Immersion Program at Monroe Elementary Language Academy with close to 300 students enrolled for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Expansion of 9-12 Heritage and World language offerings to ensure Spanish and Vietnamese is offered at all high schools and that all intermediate schools offer heritage language programs based on their school's demographics.
- 2nd in the county and 4th in the nation to launch a dual-immersion program in Vietnamese for transitional kindergarten students at Murdy Elementary School.
- 632 students in the graduating Class of 2017 earned the state's Seal of Biliteracy proving they are fluent in two or more languages.



42 awards in 2016-17



## Award Winning Schools & Academic Programs

GGUSD consistently earns state and national recognition for its top-notch academic programs. During the 2016-2017 school year, 29 GGUSD schools were named to the California Honor Roll, 4 GGUSD high schools ranked as America's Best High Schools by U.S. News and World Report, Cook Elementary School was named a national Blue Ribbon School, 4 intermediate schools were named California Gold Ribbon Schools, two GGUSD schools were named AVID National Demonstration Schools, and Pacifica High School was named a Democracy School and earned California's top award for civic education. Visual and Performing Arts programs are offered at all of GGUSD's K-12 schools and students earn numerous awards each year for their musical and artistic talent.



# GOAL 2

## PERSONAL SKILLS

All learners will develop the personal skills necessary to achieve academic and social goals.

MOTIVATION · SOCIO-EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING · CLIMATE & CULTURE

### Helping Students to Go FAR

Our annual student survey data revealed that students want additional help building skills around scholarly habits and motivation. Too many students admit to not knowing how to study or feel they cannot learn a certain subject when it doesn't come easy. To address the needs of our students, GGUSD put together a working group of instructional leaders from across the district to develop the FAR model (shown below). It is a conceptual framework that helps teachers improve instructional strategies that teach students to Focus, Act, and Reflect. These strategies around growth mindset and motivation will help students develop the personal skills needed for success.



### Survey Says...



of students say that their teachers believe students can do well in school and feel that adults at school are encouraging.



of staff are proud to work in GGUSD.



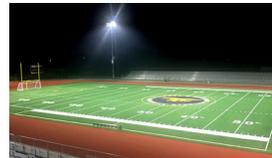
of parents say the school offers opportunities for parents to be involved at school.

### Facility Improvements

The district passed its second bond measure with 76.3% approval from GGUSD voters. Measure P will fund air-conditioning for the remaining schools without air-conditioning, seismic, and safety improvements and two new athletic stadiums. The Michael A. Monsoor Memorial Stadium opened at Garden Grove High School in September with a spectacular tribute that honored the life, service, and sacrifice of an American hero.



76.3% voter approval for Measure P to fund modernizing schools



### Social and Emotional Well-Being

GGUSD cares about the social and emotional well-being of all students. That's why, in August, we launched the new Family Resource Center to connect parents and students with resources from the district's trusted partners in areas like healthcare, immigration assistance, legal advocacy, mental health, and more. The district also expanded its mental health services for students and implemented an anonymous bullying reporting hotline in every school.





# GOAL **LIFELONG SUCCESS**

# 3

All learners will be prepared for lifelong success in their intended career paths.

**COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS · COLLEGE & CAREER SUCCESS**

**College & Career Ready**

GGUSD is a leader in college readiness and consistently beats the county and state average for high schools seniors completing rigorous college entrance (a-g) requirements.



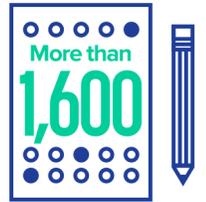
of Class of 2017 seniors met rigorous a-g requirements qualifying them to attend UC and CSU schools.



students in the Class of 2017 have chose to attend a UC or CSU school.



of seniors completed 1 or more AP courses. Most of those students began school with college credits already under their belt.



seniors took more than 4,000 AP courses last year.



students completed Career Pathways



students took at least one Career and Technical Education course



students completed 10 credits in work-based learning

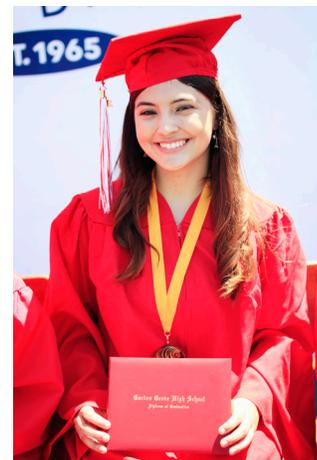


internship hours earned



## Equipping Students for Lifelong Success

Garden Grove High School valedictorian Marissa Garcia (left), salutatorian Tricia Viveros (right), and Rancho Alamitos High School valedictorian Cynthia vu (top) have begun their college careers at Ivy League institutions. Marissa is majoring in Integrative Biology and English at Harvard University and hopes to become a marine biology professor. Tricia is attending Yale University and studying English Literature with plans of pursuing a career as a writer or journalist. Cynthia is attending Princeton University as an English major.



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