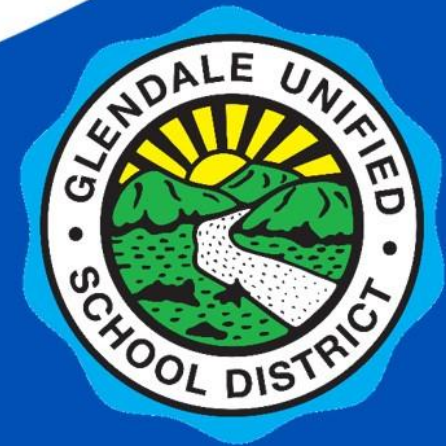


Superintendent's Update

April 4, 2023





Board of Education Priorities

Commitment to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Maximize Student Achievement

- Close the digital and equity gap.
- Offer robust in-person and independent study learning programs.
- Accelerate learning and improve attendance and engagement.

Ensure the Health and Safety of Students and Employees

- Strengthen mental health support and programs.
- Ensure best practices for safe and healthy learning environments.
- Support physical, social, and emotional wellbeing.

Foster a Positive Culture of Learning

- Ensure equitable teaching and learning opportunities led by excellence.
- Support culturally relevant curriculum that emphasizes inclusion.
- Increase school connectedness for students, parents, and families.

Maintain District Financial Responsibility

- Ensure the fiscal health of the District.
- Implement a fiscal plan to preserve the District resources.
- Plan for the District's future educational and facility needs.

Reflections from Student Voice Panel

- Strong relationships with teachers and staff are integral to student success.
- We still have work to do to make sure every child feels welcome and included in our school communities.
 - Educate younger students about hurtful language and behavior.
 - Teach the greatness of different groups to build respect and appreciation.
- Understand that not all students come from positions of “academic affluence.”
- Students need flexibility to balance school work, activities, home life, jobs, and self care.
- Advisory periods are very helpful to share important information.
- Making space in curriculum for life management skills (financial literacy, college savings, building credit, etc.) would be beneficial for navigating the postsecondary world.





Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Start with “Why?”

- Create safe, welcoming environments for every child.
- Promote sense of belonging on our campuses.
- Bring resources to historically marginalized students.
- Improve mental and physical health for all.



Diverse Student Population

Race & Ethnicity

White (includes Armenian)	59.3%
Hispanic or Latino	20.1%
Asian	11.1%
Filipino	4.4%
Two or more races	3.8%
Black or African American	1.1%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.1%
Pacific Islander	0.1%

[Source: CA Department of Education DataQuest](#)

Other Demographics

Socioeconomically disadvantaged	45.2%
English learners (35 languages)	21.5%
Students with special needs	9.9%
Foster/homeless youth	4.8%

Top Languages Spoken

Armenian	61.5%
Spanish	21.6%
Korean	5.0%
Russian	3.5%
Filipino (Pilipino or Tagalog)	2.0%



Current and Future Initiatives

- Expanding interest groups on our campuses and creating districtwide interest groups to support smaller student populations.
- Completing expansion of transitional kindergarten for all 4-year-olds and implementing full-day kindergarten for all 5-year-olds by the 2024-25 school year.



Why Full-day Kindergarten?

- Nearly 80% of school districts in California offer full-day kindergarten.
- Additional peer interaction, instruction, and practice leads to:
 - Increased opportunities for early literacy and numeracy
 - Improved social and emotional development
 - Better preparation for first grade and beyond
- More time for early intervention, developmental play, fine and gross-motor activities, arts, and hands-on science.
- Increased support for working families.



Full-Day Kinder Implementation Timeline

- March-April 2023 - Communicate plan to Board, district leadership, and **labor partners/associations (CSEA, GTA, GSMA)**
- May-June 2023 - Facilities assessment and budget development
- August 2023 - Recruit implementation committee consisting of kindergarten teachers, principals, district staff, and labor partners
- September 2023 - First implementation committee meeting
- September-October 2023 - Communicate to families and community in advance of 2024-25 enrollment season
- March-July 2024 - Professional development for kindergarten teachers
- **August 2024 - Launch full-day kindergarten**
- November-December 2024 - Committee check-in
- May-June 2025 - Evaluation survey and needs assessment



Health, Wellness & School Safety



COVID-19 Updates

- Students and staff with COVID-19 may end isolation after Day 5 if they are not experiencing fever or symptoms.
- When schools are notified of a confirmed COVID-19 case, it is ***strongly recommended*** that they notify students, parent/guardians.
- Schools are ***required*** to notify employees if they have been exposed to a known case of COVID-19 in the workplace per Cal/OSHA regulations.
- It is ***recommended*** that close contacts do the following:
 - Wear a mask indoors for 10 days
 - Monitor for symptoms
 - Test between days 3-5

Balancing Campus Safety and Welcoming Environment

Friendly campus environment

- Access for families
- Community access to facilities



Safety and security

- Fewer access points
- Additional fencing
- More restricted visitor access



Current School Safety Measures

- School Safety Plans
- RAPTOR
- Cameras on every campus
- School Resource Officers (SROs) on 3 high school campuses
- Security guards at all middle and high schools
- Threat assessment protocol
- Emergency communication protocols using ParentSquare
- GUSD tip line
- ALICE training
- PBIS/Restorative Practices
- Panorama and CA Healthy Kids surveys
- Safety consultations with community partners

Raptor Technologies

Visitor Management

- Monitors visitors:
 - When entering campus
 - Duration and purpose of visit
- Flags unsafe visitors
- Printed visitor badges



Emergency Reporting

- Activation of emergency
- Communication among administrators and staff
 - Accounting for self and students
 - Location sharing
 - Managing missing persons
 - Identifying injured persons
 - Reunification of students

Raptor Training

- Roosevelt MS – April 2022
- Mountain Avenue, R.D. White ES – September 2022
- Balboa, La Crescenta ES – October 2022
- Muir ES – November 2022
- Cerritos, Keppel ES – December 2022
- Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, Marshall, Monte Vista ES; Toll, Wilson MS; Crescenta Valley, Glendale HS; District PTA presidents – January 2023
- Cloud Preschool; Cerritos, Dunsmore, Fremont, Verdugo Woodlands ES; Hoover HS; District Facilities Department – February 2023
- Edison, Glenoaks, Valley View ES; Rosemont MS; Clark Magnet HS; District Administration Building – March 2023
- Upcoming trainings: Mann ES, Daily HS





Next Steps

- Expansion of student wellness rooms and counseling support.
- Board approving 2023-24 school safety plans.
- Additional Raptor training.
- New privacy fence at La Crescenta Elementary.
- Crescenta Valley High School safety conversations - closed campus.



Capacity Building Grants

Funded:

- Community Schools Planning
- Anti-Bias Education
- Capturing Kids Hearts
- School Health Demonstration Project

Submitted:

- Safe Supportive Schools Learning Collaborative
- Community Schools Implementation

In Process:

- Trauma-Informed Programs and Practices



Questions?