

El Dorado County Students Excel



DR. ED MANANSALA

EL DORADO
COUNTY OFFICE
OF EDUCATION
SUPERINTENDENT



BY DR. ED MANANSALA

In El Dorado County, our students excel. Recently, I had the privilege of presenting the annual State of Education in El Dorado County to the Board of Supervisors. This report highlighted the strength and performance of the El Dorado County educational system. The presentation allowed me to recognize our extraordinary educators and schools as well as the impressive academic achievement that surpasses the State of California.

For example, the El Dorado County high school graduation rates consistently outperform the state by almost 10% (2013-14 school year: CA=81%, El Dorado County=89%; 2014-15 school year: CA=82%, El Dorado County=92%; 2015-16 school year: CA=83%, El Dorado County=91%). Additionally, over the last three years, nine of our schools received the prestigious Gold Ribbon Award.

Our high school students plan for the future! In the 2015-16 SAT test report, 42% of California students scored higher than 1,500, while 68% of El Dorado County's students scored higher than 1,500. In 2017, 65% of these graduates took at least one advanced placement exam during high school. This positive momentum carries beyond high school when we send our best and brightest individuals to first-class institutions across the country.

Elements of a world-class education system are evident throughout El Dorado County schools. These elements, outlined by the National Conference

of State Legislatures titled "How to Build a World-Class Education System State by State," include a strong early education system, a re-imagined and professionalized workforce, robust career and technical education programs, and a comprehensive, aligned system of education. We are ahead of the curve in strengthening these mechanisms for success.

The strong partnerships forged among our educational programs, First 5 El Dorado, County Libraries, and other community organizations have cultivated a robust early education system of services for children ages 0-5, a crucial age when 90 percent of a child's brain develops. Our Career Technical Education programs provide numerous pathways to students, including robotics, information technology, food services, hospitality, dentistry, manufacturing, transportation, sports medicine and more. Oak Ridge High School offers an Information and Communications Technology (ICT) pathway which develops students' computational and critical thinking skills by showing them how to create, not simply use, new technologies.

These examples are a sample and testament to our extraordinary educational environment. I am humbled and honored to serve as County Superintendent of Schools and look forward to supporting the great work and momentum that our educators and schools advance year after year for our children.