LVJUSD School Attendance Review Board Earns State Honor

May 16, 2019 - Livermore, CA - Attendance at the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) is the most important factor in a student’s academic success. Being present for class each day ensures students have the opportunity to acquire skills and knowledge, develop social relationships, and to receive support from staff when needed. When students show the need for extra support to maintain regular attendance, the LVJUSD School Attendance Review Board (SARB) provides the resources to keep students on track to succeed.

On April 19, 2019, LVJUSD was recognized for winning a 2019 Model SARB Award by the CA Department of Education. The program was celebrated for its outstanding strategies to reduce chronic absenteeism and increase student attendance. LVJUSD’s SARB was one of only 23 to be recognized in the State for its exemplary attention to students’ educational success, as well as its potential to improve attendance strategies for other districts statewide.

The Model SARB application called for LVJUSD to indicate where it found successes and challenges in maintaining its overall attendance rate across all school sites while minimizing its chronic absenteeism, suspension, expulsion, and dropout rates. LVJUSD detailed its SARB membership, demonstrating the diversity of its members – in age, gender, ethnicity, culture, and primary language – as well as their representation in the community, from child welfare specialists to police officers to counselors.

LVJUSD’s SARB is committed to pursuing resources and partnerships that provide early intervention for students with attendance issues, and focuses on chronic absenteeism across the board – whether absences are contributing toward truancy violations or academic decline. Led by SARB Chair and LVJUSD Director of Student Services Scott Vernoy, the members of SARB are dedicated to ensuring all students are supported in overcoming barriers to their attendance.

“We are both honored and humbled to be recognized as a Model SARB Program,” said Vernoy. “It is a testament to the wonderful collaboration between the District, Livermore school sites, and community partners for our outstanding and innovative results-based school attendance and behavior improvement programs. We look forward to sharing our expertise, and serving as a model and mentor for other SARBs in the State that are committed to reducing chronic absenteeism, suspensions, and expulsion rates, as well as improving graduation rates.”

This statewide distinction recognizes the work of the District’s dedicated SARB, for its commitment to recognizing trends across its sites, developing important relationships with students and their families, using every resource at
its disposal to improve the academic opportunities to all students, and for positively encouraging good attendance habits by its students and strategies at its school sites. In recognizing districts with Model SARB programs, the CA Department of Education ensures students throughout the State stand to benefit from the successes of districts such as LVJUSD.

Read the CA Department of Education’s news release on the 2019 Model SARB Winners.

Photos of Model SARB Award Ceremony courtesy of LVJUSD

Photo 1: Scott Vernoy, Trustee Chris Wenzel, Reily Gibbs, Jorge DePaz, Terri Saenz, Marissa Martin, Steven Pangelinan
Photo 2: SARB Chair and Director of Student Services Scott Vernoy and LVJUSD Trustee Chris Wenzel

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ABOUT LIVERMORE VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
LVJUSD is an award-winning district that serves more than 13,900 students in transitional kindergarten through 12th grade at nine elementary campuses, two K-8 schools, three middle schools, two comprehensive high schools, and two alternative schools. The LVJUSD features International Baccalaureate Programmes and a STEM pathway, TK-12. The mission of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District is to ensure each student will graduate with the skills needed to contribute and thrive in a changing world. For more information about the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, please visit www.livermoreschools.org

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