

# the pursuit



## A Message From Our Superintendent

Dear DMUSD Families,

*Our children grow into the intellectual and social life around them.*

We are very proud of the impressive evolution in our district to provide our students experiences to learn, grow, and thrive in our dynamic and robust world of change and innovation. Our students are not just experiencing school as “work,” but rather active participants engaged in their learning. We are intentional as we change the role of the student, the role of the teacher, and the opportunities provided. “This important shift is from the focus on control and obedience toward empowerment and supporting students in seeing and thinking for themselves.” (Ron Ritchhart, *Cultures of Thinking in Action*, 2023)

Our work as a district articulates our aspirations for every student and our unwavering determination to provide the conditions for them to thrive. Our strategic plan **Destination 2028!** is our roadmap and our Portrait of a Learner is alive in our schools!



We have made a commitment to ensuring that every child receives access to a strong academic core and high quality instruction based on rich, meaningful learning and a compelling curriculum. Learning spaces and the environments we create in our schools support collaboration and engagement, and it is clear that the *process of learning* is of great importance. Thinking and learning are as much a collective enterprise as they are an individual endeavor. Our children are inspired

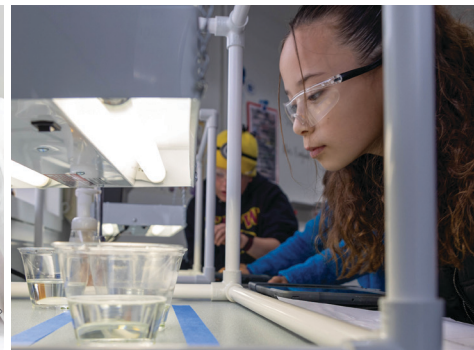
to be continuously curious, inquisitive, and reflective. Our students are a part of learning communities where they think and learn across disciplines, connect multiple ideas, create new knowledge, and engage in break-through thinking. Each student’s thinking is visible and valued!

DMUSD schools have been recognized both nationally and at the state level for excellence in education in large part because we value and invest in our high-quality instructional program. Simply put, in DMUSD we know the business of teaching and learning, we partner with some of the finest researchers and experts worldwide, and we are unwavering in our unrelenting dedication to provide a premier education in the nation.

Thank you for entrusting us with the privilege of shaping your child’s educational journey. Together, we can foster a love for learning and enrich a community where every student thrives.

Sincerely,

Holly McClurg, PhD  
Superintendent

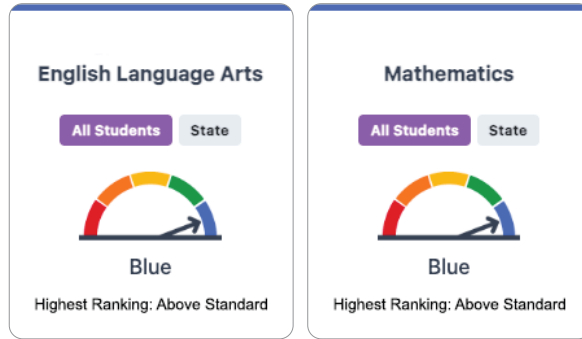


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# Off the Charts Again: State Test Results Indicate Continued Academic Excellence in DMUSD

We are thrilled to share that both our English Language Arts and Mathematics academic indicators have achieved the 'Blue' level, signifying the highest tier of performance. This outstanding achievement reflects our commitment to academic excellence, the hard work of our students and educators, and the support of our parents.



Results above provided by California School Dashboard.

## Portrait of a Learner Our Plan in Action

Part of our new Strategic Plan, *Destination 2028!*, is our Portrait of a Learner, which articulates our community's aspirations for all students. It identifies the skills, mindsets, and competencies our students need to succeed in our rapidly changing world.

Why these skill sets and mindsets? With our Portrait as our North Star, our children further develop the aptitudes and learn the content that will position them ready to take on what comes their way, giving them a world of options for career and life choices as they move into their future.



# 2023-2024 By The Numbers

(school year to date)

**36** classroom modernizations (119 in total)

**174** classrooms with new History/Social Science Curriculum

**3** Learning Commons modernized

**1,412** new Chromebooks

**162** professional learning sessions

**2** new Spanish Immersion classes (now K-3)

**all 9** schools designated as No Place For Hate

**1** new district dietician

**over 31 million dollars** in Measure MM projects



Students engage in rich and meaningful learning beyond mere memorization and routine, encouraging them to think critically, produce new ideas, work collaboratively, and effectively communicate their thinking with others.

