

the pursuit



A Message From Our Superintendent

Dear DMUSD Families,

Imagine stepping into a classroom where you immediately have the sense that students are both engaged and empowered as learners. In such a classroom, the role of the student is noticeably different. Students are not just passive recipients of information, but active, engaged learners. This is the learning space in our DMUSD schools.

In a learning studio such as this, the role of the student has evolved into something more dynamic and meaningful. Students have the opportunity to develop as independent, self-regulating learners, capable of decision-making, critical thinking, and creativity.

To support today's students, we must listen to them and see school from their perspective. *What excites our students about school? What are we doing to capture their attention and inspire their desire to stay engaged with learning and with life? What is a "good student" by today's standards?*

For this generation, school is not simply having the right answer and completing the work. It's about expressing curiosity, asking "What if?" questions, and exploring ideas in ways that might once have been discouraged.

As the role of the student changes, so too does the role of the teacher. Teachers are no longer simply providers of knowledge; they are guides, mentors, and facilitators of learning. Our teachers create environments where students can explore their interests, take ownership of their learning, and apply their knowledge in innovative ways.

At its core, education is more than just gaining knowledge—it's about developing our students as thinkers. And life isn't about checking boxes; it's about forming connections with others and embracing both the successes and challenges that come our way. This approach not only prepares our students for the future, but also empowers them to shape it.

Sincerely,

Holly McClurg

Holly McClurg, PhD
Superintendent



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FAST FACTS

DMUSD is a district of thinking, inspiration, and impact. Our students experience a high quality instructional core defined by strong academics and superb instructional practice.

Ranked as

**A TOP
PERFORMING
DISTRICT**



in the state
of California

K-6 elementary district with
9 SCHOOLS



Ashley Falls School
Carmel Del Mar School
Del Mar Heights School
Del Mar Hills Academy
Ocean Air School

Pacific Sky School
Sage Canyon School
Sycamore Ridge School
Torrey Hills School

2024-2025

number of students:
3,539

number of staff:
622

Average teacher longevity:
17.9 years



Recognized for fiscal responsibility
and 1 of 18 school districts in
California with this highest rating

**Aaa MOODY'S
RATING**



3 Golden Bell Awards
4 National Blue Ribbon Schools
7 California Distinguished Schools

All 9 schools
designated as



We deliver:

- ★ An outstanding academic program
- ★ A culture that creates a sense of belonging for everyone
- ★ High quality professional learning for every staff member
- ★ State-of-the-art facilities
- ★ An exceptional STEAM+ program for every child
- ★ Opportunities for student agency and ownership in their educational experience



IGNITING GENIUS, EMPOWERING STUDENTS



An extraordinary school experience includes:

- A **culture of thinking** full of rich and meaningful learning experiences.
- A robust and engaging **STEAM+ program** with specialized instruction in the arts, science, physical education, and interdisciplinary learning.
- 205 **modernized classrooms/learning spaces** (so far!).
- A full continuum of **high quality special education** services and programs.
- Support of students' social and emotional growth with **dedicated teachers** and **school counselors**.
- Outstanding **preschool**, **after school care**, and **camp program** options.

VISION

The unrelenting pursuit of the extraordinary school experience.

MISSION

To ignite genius and empower students to advance the world.

Del Mar

• UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT •

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