



Amador County Unified School District

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# *2018 – 2019 Accomplishments*

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Kodee Smith, Class of 2019  
Argonaut High School Student  
Original photo by: Jonathan Knittel/Ledger Dispatch

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**I. Introduction**

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Dear Staff and Community:

Congratulations to Amador County Unified School District for a productive and learning-focused school year! As we continue to make progress to attain our mission and meet our goals, it is clear there is a deep commitment on the part of our teachers, principals, central office administrators, support staff, classified staff, families, students and Amador County citizens to the success of each of our students and schools. Thank you for being there and for supporting our students every step of the way!

Indeed, each time I visit a school, I clearly see our community fully accepting the challenge of promoting students' social-emotional well-being and increasing student achievement with creativity, innovation and passion. These are our two Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) goals and we are determined to move forward to attain these goals as we prepare, support and inspire each student.

I want to express my appreciation to the Board of Trustees and to the Amador County community for your continued focus on all students and your demonstration of hope and willingness to move forward with the important work of educating our students. With your help and support, great progress is being made. Together, we've set a firm foundation for even more student success in 2019-20.

This Accomplishments Report provides a sampling of the countless efforts of teachers, staff, principals, parents, administrators and community volunteers to make extraordinary things happen for our students. As you read the report, I hope you will join me in communicating your appreciation to everyone who has worked so hard to make these accomplishments possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Amy L. Slavensky  
Superintendent

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Board of Trustees

Mrs. Susan Ross, Board President  
Mrs. Kandi Thompson, Board Clerk  
Mrs. Deborah Pulskamp, Board Member  
Mr. James Marzano, Board Member  
Mrs. Janet White, Board Member  
Ms. Chanelle Carney, Student Board Member  
Ms. Hailey Dacier, Student Board Member

Administrative Cabinet

Amy L. Slavensky, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Jared Critchfield, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
Mitzi Faulkner, Assistant Superintendent, Special Education/SELPA  
Sean Snider, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
David Vicari, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources & Employee Relations

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## II. Overall Highlights

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- Implemented the second year of the joint ACOE/ACUSD three-year Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), aligned with the Strategic Plan, with a high implementation level of actions and services
- Facilitated a broad-based, collaborative process throughout the community to gather data and feedback in order to revise and strengthen the three-year LCAP, aligned with the Strategic Plan
- Responded to students' social-emotional learning needs through a variety of school-wide programs (i.e., school counseling services, Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports, supplemental curriculum, professional development, Link Crew, Where Everyone Belongs, etc.)
- Deepened and focused the work of quality, standards-aligned professional learning opportunities through site-based work, collaborative cohorts and instructional coaching to support TK-12 reading and writing across all content areas, mathematics, science, and history-social science teaching and learning
- Facilitated numerous collaborative planning groups including the Elementary Standards Aligned Report Card Committee, the Career & College Readiness Committee, the TK-12 Wellness Committee, the TK-12 Next Generation Science Standards Cohort, the Career Technical Education Planning Team, and the TK-12 Multi-tiered Systems of Support Team
- Implemented the new Elementary Standards Aligned Report Card in all elementary schools.
- Collaboratively developed and recommended updated high school graduation requirements to the Board of Trustees
- Implemented and supported year two of Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) at Jackson and Ione Junior High Schools, significantly increasing the success of students
- Facilitated an Ione Community Meeting and follow-up survey to increase two-way communication and gather feedback about ways to address growth in the Ione community
- Collaborated with local law enforcement and many local community partners to proactively make plans to meet students' needs and to responsively address a variety of school safety issues
- Completed numerous facilities improvement projects including the Argonaut High School track, the Argonaut High School culinary arts facility, and new playground structures at Pioneer VAPA Elementary School
- Planned and facilitated a collaborative facilities needs assessment process and a general obligation bond measure that was ultimately defeated by the voters, but which taught us a great deal about our facilities needs and our community

### III. School Highlights

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Of the many great accomplishments at our schools this year, when asked to tell us about highlights, this is what our principals said:

#### **Ione Elementary School ~ Principal Jeni DeWalt**

Ione Elementary has a lot to be proud of this year. We are always focused on providing great learning opportunities for students and the best strategy is creating inquisitive lifelong learners. Each grade level put on a family night or activity to encourage parents to learn alongside their children. They experienced new opportunities to read with their child, stargazed with the Amador Astrological Society, and participated in PE night which included parents versus kids kickball under the lights. Mrs. Howe's 4th grade class, all student driven, built an entire escape room for Open House and parents worked through the puzzles and tasks their children had dreamed up and built. Mr. and Mrs. Ohm hatched baby chickens in an incubator. The students were fascinated by the process and I was truly amazed at how 2nd graders could explain what they learned.

Building lifelong citizenship and leadership skills is a focus at Ione Elementary and we use many strategies and avenues to help including a school wide implementation of "The 7 Habits of Happy Kids" by Sean Covey. We celebrate students by earning Bulldog bucks they can spend at our student store and give character awards. Our Safety Patrol is amazing and they provide daily support for our school including helping morning drop off and greeting students. Amelia Wilder was named an Honorable Mention as Safety Patroller of the Year by AAA and Mr. Huss was named Safety Patrol Advisor of the year by AAA. Our Student Council continues to find ways to be true leaders at our school. Our student body President, Amelia Wilder, led the school-wide morning announcements every day. Good job to all of the efforts of all of our students this year.

The Ione Police Department is always working to help keep us safe and build relationships with our students. They put on a Bike Rodeo and demonstrated general safety when out playing and every student got a free new bike helmet. A special thank you to our PFC who raised money to help provide wonderful opportunities for our students in music, art, field trips, and our student store. Their work is endless and greatly appreciated.

#### **Jackson Elementary School ~ Principal Barbara Magpusao**

JES School Site Council, Site Leadership Team, and JUSTAP parent group supported Math and Language Arts Professional Development, Math Conferences for teachers, time to collaborate to develop grade level agreements, manipulatives for classrooms for Language Arts and Math, Phase I of the Library Expansion and the purchase of additional chrome-books. JUSTAP provided art lessons and classroom music opportunities for all grade levels, campus beautification projects, assemblies, and activities for our families. Our JUSTAP fundraisers also support our school-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Support programs such as Paw Store, Jamba Juice certificates for monthly Cougar Pride Award recipients and "Pawsitivity" awards. Our students participated in a pilot music program in which 4th-5th graders were provided music instruction by our District Band teacher twice weekly. Our intermediate students learned how to read music and how to play the recorder. We were so proud to highlight them at assemblies! Our students participated in extra-curricular activities such as Kindness Club, Reading Buddies, and school sports. Through LCAP funds, we also provided social/emotional classroom lessons and counseling support through our school counselor. At Jackson Elementary, we believe, "Jackson Elementary School is a nurturing learning community committed

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to preparing students, academically and socially to be college and career ready. We believe: all belong, all learn, all lead to succeed.”

**Plymouth Elementary School ~ Principal Joseph Horacek**

Our school shined this year! Teachers continued their previous work and professional development with Balanced Literacy and Math Frameworks alignment. We expanded our Writing Workshop implementation with collaboration and calibration of rubrics and student work samples. Families enjoyed evenings with Sami Circuit and a Math Festival organized by the California Mathematics Council. We expanded our connection to our community with our Second Annual Cinco de Mayo celebration and our First Annual Dia de los Muertos fiesta. Our students presented a Christmas Pageant, an educational play called “Earthworms make America Great!”, and a spring talent show. Our school counselor and teachers implemented social/emotional class meetings and activities after their training with Sanford Harmony. First, third, and sixth grade classrooms experienced hatching, brooding, and releasing salmon and trout in conjunction with the Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery.

**Pine Grove STEM Elementary School ~ Principal Amanda Avila**

Pine Grove STEM School showed great growth in science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) and other curricular areas. We showed an increase in English Language Arts and Math state test scores. This year we kicked off Year I of our Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) System. We modeled the PBIS system after *The Leader in Me* and centered our focus around *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids*. Our students worked hard on goal setting and living up to our new acronym ROAR. With ROAR, students learn that leaders are Respectful, Own it, and are Accepting and Responsible. Student earned ROAR Rewards and were able to shop in our new ROAR Store. We also began a ROAR Rotation where students participated in enrichment classes or skills workshops consisting of robotics, magic, origami, yoga, and more. Also this year, our Nature Bowl team won the regional competition and went to compete at the state level at CSU Sacramento. Our grades 3-4 team won state and our grades 5-6 team took 5<sup>th</sup> place. Teachers and students engaged in hands-on projects and problem-based teaching and learning with our unique Project Lead the Way Curriculum. Pine Grove staff also offered several community and family engagement events to showcase our continued curricular growth and community involvement including Family Art Night, Fall Festival, Literacy Night, Jog-a-Thon, Community Yard Sale, Clothing Swap and Soup Night, Science Saturday and more. Pine Grove staff and families with the support of the community hosted the first annual Blue and Gold Gala raising funds to send 6<sup>th</sup> graders to science camp! Pine Grove STEM School is proud to have made great strides all around in the 2018-19 school year!

**Pioneer VAPA Elementary School ~ Acting Principal John Hawley**

Our visual and performing arts (VAPA) school recognizes the importance of parent and community involvement. Our school hosted a Soup Dinner and Clothes Swap, a student talent show, and the annual jog-a-thon which was Rock ‘n’ Roll themed. The events helped make our school a hub for family activities. Pioneer VAPA Elementary School has continued to teach mindfulness training to more students through two certified staff members. We also continued to dedicate some Title I funds to extend the intervention teacher's hours for social-emotional learning groups. We are looking forward to continuing our social-emotional support, visual and performing arts focus and outstanding academic achievements.

**Sutter Creek Elementary/Primary School ~ Principal Tia Peters**

It was a wonderful year at Sutter Creek Elementary and Sutter Creek Primary School. Our students and staff shared in some wonderful learning and fun. The year started with a new principal, a new

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board for our parent teacher organization (SCEPTOR), and an enthusiastic staff. We had two well attended family engagement nights in 2018-2019. School culture and morale was a big focus this year and we are pleased with the results. We have a fabulous school family! We had many successful fundraisers this year, including our annual Savor Amador event which raised over \$35,000! These funds will allow us to continue with art and music for all students. We had amazing art and music teachers for our TK-6th grade students, and our 5th and 6th graders enjoyed band with Mr. Fellman. Our students raised over \$2,000 for Pennies for Patients, and we collected over 100 pairs of shoes to send to Africa through Kindness Matters. Our teachers participated in several professional development opportunities for math and English language arts. We were part of the Amador Rural Professional Learning Network for math in collaboration with the El Dorado County Office of Education and Pivot Learning which included top notch learning with other rural school districts and visits at other schools. In addition, through the help of many volunteers, we continue to do beautification projects, including school gardens at both campuses. Kiwanis of Amador County ran a Kindness Club and also helped organize a Safety Day at our school. Our back to school night was a big success with a large percentage of families attending, and the annual 5th grade BBQ at back to school night sold out, with the funds raised going to Science Camp! It was quite a year at Sutter Creek Elementary and Sutter Creek Primary, and 2019-2020 should be even better!

**Ione Junior High School ~ Principal Richard Modesti**

Ione Junior High School has made strong progress on several of our school-wide priorities during the 2018-2019 school year. We officially certified as an AVID school, we continued our development and implementation of interventions intended to prepare students for high school, and we completed a site mission statement to focus our future growth and development. We are excited to welcome more than 100 students, over 25% of our student population, into our AVID elective for the 2019-2020 school year, in addition to our 6th grade AVID Lite enrichment program for all 6th grade students. Finally, student achievement, as measured by our initial results on state standardized testing, shows improvement in all categories, a testament to the hard work of staff and students to make progress toward furthering high school and college readiness for all students. Go Colts!

**Jackson Junior High School ~ Principal Janet DeLeo**

Through professional collaboration, shared learning, and thanks to our Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) coordinator, Ted Knittel, our school successfully implemented our second year of AVID. Over 115 awesome students were enrolled in our AVID career and college readiness courses. The exciting news is we continue to have JJHS staff trained in AVID!! Staff also collaborated to create integrated classrooms and we are excited to be the first school in ACUSD to implement a co-teaching model. We are piloting this program, looking for wonderful results in student learning and connectedness. Go Jackson Jaguars!

**Shenandoah Valley Charter School ~ Principal Joseph Horacek**

Shenandoah Valley Charter School teachers and students had many amazing Project Based Learning experiences this year. In collaboration with the Amador Farms Bureau, SVCS students traveled monthly to Abodanza Organic Farms to learn about sustainable farming. Students engaged in Watershed education, visiting Mokulumne Fishery twice during the year and raising salmonids in the classroom. Working with the CA Native Plant Society, students created habitats for native species and added many native plants to the school garden. They crossed over with this study and visited Chaw'se Indian Grinding Rock with the same docent who helped them plant at school. Students created documentary videos, engaged in civics and civil rights studies, and documented the oral

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histories of several Kit Carson resident citizens. Students brainstormed, agreed on, and led one another in electives like coding, debate, art, multimedia, and robotics.

**Amador High School ~ Principal Jessica Dorris**

The staff at Amador High worked diligently throughout the 2018-2019 school year on the accreditation renewal process, which included conducting a full self-study of the school and developing a multi-year action plan that will continue to enhance the educational experience for all students. As a result, Amador was granted a six year accreditation with a mid-cycle review from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Teachers and administration began the process of addressing identified needs related to school culture using a collaborative planning process. We continued to strengthen our robust elective programs with the refinement of our Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways, additional course offerings in high-demand areas such as photography and ceramics, and the development of new courses that will launch in the 2019-2020 school year. Additionally, Amador High School was awarded the prestigious Civic Learning Award of Merit for the outstanding work accomplished in our 12<sup>th</sup> grade Government course. This year, students have been honored for their accomplishments in the Arts, FFA, and athletics. Many graduating seniors were awarded scholarships that awarded their educational, extra-curricular, and service-learning achievements.

**Argonaut High School ~ Principal Troy Gassaway**

It was a great year to be a Mustang! During 2018-19, Argonaut High School received a 6-year WASC accreditation. We had just over 100 resilient graduates in the Class of 2019. Together, they contributed to a significant increase in CAASPP test scores for both English Language Arts and Mathematics. We supported our student diversity through initiating an English Learner support class and our LatinX cultural club. With the support of the Board of Trustees, the District completed construction on new gym bleachers, a state-of-the-art culinary arts facility and new track. FFA was awarded California state champion in Equine Placement and had a regional officer elected. FCCLA earned state recognition and had multiple regional officers elected. Our Athletic Program continued the tradition of success by winning a section title in Girls Basketball, a sixth place finish in the CIF state wrestling meet, a CIF state qualification in Cross Country and made deep runs into the SJS playoffs in Boys Baseball, Boys Basketball, Football, Softball and Tennis. A community funded video scoreboard was installed in our stadium and became fully operational offering a live screening of graduation for our guests while the ceremony was in progress. Finally, with the support of Ag Mechanics and the Materials Joining Pathway, a custom front gate to the school was created by one of our students and will welcome our students for many years to come.

**Independence High School ~ Principal Butch Wagner**

At Independence High, our new teachers collaborated and worked hard, including a successful 3-year WASC accreditation review. All staff took advantage of the professional development opportunities with positive social-emotional learning strategies. We continued our career oriented project-based learning classes and started the 4H program of “Teens as Teachers” working with our elementary schools. A majority of students experienced great success, even though we had a small senior class it had one of the highest percentages of graduates in several years, including a fast-tracked Junior!

**North Star Independent Study School ~ Principal Kelly Hunkins**

North Star continues on a path toward blended learning. This year 9 of 60 students blended their learning by participating in classes on one of the two comprehensive high school sites. Students

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were able to take advantage of advanced courses, electives, CTE courses, athletics, and other extracurricular opportunities. At the same time, students who needed a focused, independent study experience for most or all of their instruction received this as well. North Star also reinstated an A-G pathway of courses for the college-bound student. Additionally, we worked diligently on the accreditation renewal process, which included conducting a full self-study of the school and developing a multi-year action plan that will continue to enhance the educational experience for all North Star students. We are proud to announce that North Star was granted a six year accreditation with a mid-cycle review from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Moving forward with an updated mission and a focus on the high school experience in grades 9-12, North Star is well on its way to meeting the needs of our diverse and unique 21<sup>st</sup> century learners.

**Community Court School ~ Principal Butch Wagner**

The district had another low number of expulsions this year due to the continual development of Restorative Practices and Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) at the comprehensive sites. We are happy to report that a majority of the students who attended successfully completed their rehabilitation plans and transitioned back to their comprehensive campuses.

**Adult Education School ~ Principal Kelly Hunkins**

This year, in the Amador Adult Education School we assisted 204 students, 111 students in the High School Diploma program with 68 staying with us for 12 instructional hours or more and 10 who completed their high school diploma or GED/HiSET certificate. 11 students earned workforce readiness skills certificates; 40 were enrolled as ESL students and improved their language skills, 35 earned a Certified Nursing Assistant Certificate and were awarded a State Certificate in CNA and they gained employment. In addition to services for adult learners, we worked to reduce barriers by providing “Playcare” for children of our adult learners. This proved to be a highly successful program. Finally, we partnered with ACUSD to provide professional learning for classified staff in the areas of Google and Excel.

#### **IV. Board Governance and Policy**

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The Board of Trustees and the Superintendent comprise the governance team for Amador County Public Schools, which includes the Amador County Office of Education (ACOE) and the Amador County Unified School District (ACUSD).

The Board of Trustees engaged in a variety of professional development, governance team-building, and collaborative activities including the following:

- A one-day summer professional development session on building positive school cultures and shared leadership, attended by the Board of Trustees, all school and central office administrators, and teacher leaders
- Orientation, coaching support, and participation of two new student Board members as sworn-in members of the governance team
- A fall Board Workshop on student achievement including the California Schools Dashboard and California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) information
- A fall Board candidate briefing and orientation session
- A winter Board Retreat for teambuilding, developing the Board's Unity of Purpose, and reviewing the Board Goals
- A spring Board Workshop on the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Annual Budget development processes to build the Board's understanding and engage them in the process
- Participation in the Annual Board Self-evaluation and reflection process
- Professional learning and Brown Act training provided by the California School Boards Association (CSBA) attended by Board President Susan Ross, two new Board Members James Marzano and Deborah Pulskamp, and Superintendent Amy Slavensky
- Near completion of the 5-part CSBA's Masters in Governance training by Board President Susan Ross, Board Clerk Kandi Thompson and Superintendent Amy Slavensky, with the final sessions scheduled for the 2019-20 school year
- Board member participation on hiring panels for all administrative positions
- Board member participation on various Amador County community-based committees and boards such as the Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency (ATCAA), the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee, and the Amador County Recreational Association
- Board subcommittees to review and make recommendations for revision on various Board bylaws and policies

## V. Superintendent

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Superintendent Dr. Amy Slavensky developed goals based on priorities set by the Board of Trustees. The goals are SMART goals with each letter of the acronym standing for sustainable, measurable, attainable, results-driven, and time-bound. For each SMART goal, some highlights of various action steps and/or outcomes are indicated below:

- ✚ By June 30, 2019, growth related to use of feedback loops and two-way communication strategies will be demonstrated as measured by various surveys.
  - Monthly site visits to schools
  - Monthly leadership meetings
  - Monthly Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) meetings
  - Respect for work/life balance
  - Collaborative committees for shared decision making
  - Quarterly APAC meetings
  - Quarterly SALT meetings
  - Public webpage information
  - Facebook/Twitter/Instagram messaging
  - A professional development interest survey developed with CSEA leaders, administered to all classified staff, with the data used to plan the 2018-19 workshops
  - A Winter 2019 Ione Community Survey with outcomes posted and shared
  - A Spring 2019 Staff Support and Satisfaction Survey with outcomes posted and shared
  
- ✚ By October 1, 2019, the Board and Superintendent will work together to improve and support an effective two-way communication system and process evidenced by: (a) consistent, positive levels of communication among the Board and the Superintendent and (b) the outcomes of the annual Board self-evaluation. (Board Goal #4)
  - Monthly individual meetings with board members
  - Weekly written Board updates
  - Regular written Board communications on projects and issues
  - Regular phone calls to Board members to share informational updates
  - Regular Board meetings with informational reports and discussion/action items
  - Board workshops on various topics
  
- ✚ By June 30, 2019, staff morale will improve evidenced by increased recognition, wellness, and collaboration opportunities, measured by employee survey data.
  - Aforementioned responsive and proactive actions in goal 1, intended to support all schools, all staff, and all students
  - Regular visibility and support at all schools
  - Increased site budgets and resources at all schools to support site-based decision making
  - A variety of informal and formal recognitions including district and school level appreciation events and a birthday card sent to each employee by the Superintendent
  - A new Employee Recognition and Wellness Plan developed and launched including service awards, wellness challenges, and a wellness newsletter

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- ✚ By June 30, 2019, all students in grades 3-8, and 11 will show a 3 percentage point increase in meeting/exceeding **English language arts** on the CAASPP from 44.78% to 47.78%.
  - 45% of all students in grades 3-8, and 11 met or exceeded the standards.
  - Argonaut High School showed an increase of 20 percentage points, from 46% to 66% of all students in grade 11 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Ione Elementary School showed an increase of 6 percentage points, from 37% to 43% of all students in grades 3-5 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Pine Grove STEM Elementary School showed an increase of 1 percentage point, from 47% to 48% of all students in grades 3-6 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Pioneer VAPA Elementary School showed an increase of 16 percentage points, from 27% to 43% of all students in grades 3-6 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Plymouth Elementary School showed an increase of 3 percentage points, from 52% to 55% of all students in grades 3-6 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Sutter Creek Elementary School showed an increase of 3 percentage points, from 46% to 49% of all students in grades 3-6 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  
- ✚ By June 30, 2019, all students in grades 3-8 and 11 will show a 3 percentage point increase in meeting/exceeding **mathematics** standards on the CAASPP from 29% to 32%.
  - 31% of all students in grades 3-8 and 11 met or exceeded the standards.
  - Argonaut High School showed an increase of 13 percentage points, from 22% to 35% of all students in grade 11 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Ione Junior High School showed an increase of 4 percentage points, from 14% to 18% of all students in grades 6-8 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Jackson Junior High School showed an increase of 5 percentage points, from 29% to 34% of all students in grades 6-8 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Ione Elementary School showed an increase of 1 percentage point, from 31% to 32% of all students in grades 3-5 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Jackson Elementary School showed an increase of 3 percentage points, from 42% to 45% of all students in grades 3-5 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Pine Grove STEM Elementary School showed an increase of 2 percentage point, from 35% to 37% of all students in grades 3-6 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Pioneer VAPA Elementary School showed an increase of 5 percentage points, from 25% to 30% of all students in grades 3-6 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  - Plymouth Elementary School showed an increase of 5 percentage points, from 34% to 39% of all students in grades 3-6 meeting or exceeding the standards.
  
- ✚ By June 30, 2019, the CA Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) will be administered in grades 5, 8 and 11 to compare growth from 2018 to 2019, measured by CHKS data.
  - Our spring 2018 CHKS data showed the following areas were opportunities for more support and growth.
  - Our 2019 data is indicated in the right hand column. All areas show improvement except for the starred (\*) item. We will continue to make this a priority through LCAP goal 2 and our School Plans for Student Achievement (SPSA).
  - In early fall, each school will analyze their individual school CHKS outcomes and address the needs through their SPSA and site funds.

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<b>CHKS KEY INDICATORS</b>	<b>Spring 2018</b>	<b>Spring 2019</b>
<b>High School (Grades 9 &amp; 11)</b>		
<i>Meaningful Participation</i>	<i>12% of our students</i>	<i>27% of our students</i>
<i>Experienced Chronic Sadness/Hopelessness*</i>	<i>38.5% of our students</i>	<i>42% of our students</i>
<b>Middle School (Grade 7)</b>		
<i>School Connectedness</i>	<i>52% of our students</i>	<i>54% of our students</i>
<b>Elementary School (Grade 5)</b>		
<i>Meaningful Participation</i>	<i>16% of our students</i>	<i>41% of our students</i>
<i>High Levels of Caring Adult Relationships</i>	<i>49% of our students</i>	<i>71% of our students</i>

- + During the school year and by June 30, 2019, communication and budget planning with stakeholders and the Board of Trustees will increase to ensure transparency and build fiscal health.
  - Stakeholder input meetings
  - Monthly financial updates to the Board of Trustees
  - Reduced spending and filling staff vacancies only as needed
  - Defined LCFF base and supplemental funds for increased cost savings
  - Explored more revenue opportunities (i.e., grants)
  - Staffing/enrollment at negotiated ratios
  - Aligned LCAP implementation
  - External support/coaching for Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
  - Collaboration with Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT)
  - Collaboration with and two cost savings plans submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE)
  - A 3<sup>rd</sup> Interim Budget Report presented to the Board of Trustees in June 2019 which demonstrated excellent progress towards achieving greater fiscal health
  
- + By June 30, 2019, the construction calendar will be updated with progress made, measured by completed projects.
  - Strong oversight by the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
  - Development of a construction projects calendar
  - Related information shared with the Board of Trustees in a timely manner
  - Many projects completed including new playground equipment at Pioneer VAPA Elementary School and a newly renovated track and culinary arts facility at Argonaut High School

## VI. Educational Services

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### Overall Highlights

- High school graduation requirements researched, updated, and Board approved through the work of a highly professional, collaborative committee
- TK/K and grades 1-6 assessment committees researched and collaborated at a high level to agree upon draft common assessment plans for the 2019-2020 school year
- Continued our work with our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) planning and many action steps taken
- Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) expansion to 8th grade, supporting our career and college-going work
- Strengthened and clarified our career technical education (CTE) pathways, supporting our career and college-going work
- The TK-12 Local School Wellness Policy planned and rolled out through the work of a highly professional, collaborative committee
- Continued actions, services and opportunities for supporting social-emotional learning
- A deepened focus on standards-aligned teacher collaboration at many levels and across content areas
- Collaborated with Columbia College to reach an agreement to bring dual enrollment opportunities (earn college and high school credit at the same time) to our students for the first time starting in the 2019-2020 school year
- Summer school at the high school level for credit recovery
- A standards-aligned elementary report card rolled out through the work of a highly professional, collaborative committee

### Professional Development

- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) summer institute to provide professional learning for all teachers interested
- Professional learning and support for implementation of new standards-aligned “Benchmark Steps to Advance” intervention materials through collaboration among elementary Special Education and General Education teachers
- Grade level professional development and collaboration in the California Mathematics Framework and Balanced Literacy/Benchmark English language arts (ELA) adoption for all elementary teachers
- First ever professional development series geared specifically toward our classified employees

### Instructional Leadership Team (ILT)

Revitalized the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) and engaged this important team in shared decision-making including:

- Training on and then collaboratively agreed upon a district-wide plan for all teachers to give one Interim Assessment Block (IAB) in ELA and one Math IAB to all students as formative assessments
- One of a handful of districts statewide to collaborate with the California Department of Education (CDE) on the “HumRRO case study” due to our volume of teachers using the Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) last year
- Reviewed and approved a new English Learner (EL) Master Plan

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- Created plan for use of one-time restricted Low Performing Students Block Grant Funds for elementary and secondary schools
- Reviewed the College and Career Readiness (CCR) Committee's new high school graduation requirement recommendations and provided feedback

**Principal Leadership Team**

- Single Plans for Student Achievement (SPSA) aligned to LCAP
- Using Data to Develop SPSA Goals
- Collaborative development of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)
- Coaching: Monthly Principal Coaching Sessions

**Parent and Community Outreach**

- Monthly Amador Parent Advisory Committee (APAC) meetings
- LCAP Parent and Community Outreach meetings
- Addition of Spanish interpretation on the Amador County Public Schools website
- Addition of a Spanish Facebook page

**Student Services**

- Trained 30 elementary teachers with Sanford Harmony social emotional learning curriculum with free materials provided to all elementary teachers.
- 50 TK-8th grade teachers were trained in arts integration for Special Education students with each teacher receiving a stipend for \$200 and \$1,000 worth of materials (free training and materials through Stanislaus Office of Education).
- Trained 25 teachers using the Lucy Calkin's Writing Program.
- Provided information about vaping including a restorative justice approach for students caught vaping and a program for students to educate them about vaping, such as how advertisers are targeting them and how vaping is hazardous to their health.
- Helped develop the elementary report cards and assessment schedule.

**Extended Learning Program (ELP)**

After starting a fingerprint-based security system pilot in 2017/2018, we are happy to report that all ELP sites are "up and running" online. Only authorized individuals whose fingerprints have been entered in the system are able to pick up a student from ELP. Not only does this diminish paperwork for staff and administration but, most importantly, this system adds a new layer of security for parents and caregivers. Standardized ELP curriculum was established this year. By doing this, staff shares lesson plans of the same topic, theme, or curriculum as well as align and improve curriculum to reach common positive results. Standardization has provided more time to develop and tailor curriculum to students' learning styles.

**California State Preschool Program (CSPP)**

Our program received a sizeable state grant to update and upgrade our programs, especially in the areas of social-emotional support, literacy skills, STEM, and multi-cultural awareness. We are working with the TK staff to bridge learning and teaching for all pre-kindergarten students. Our staff will be involved in additional assessments and evaluations to continue improving our programming and instruction. Many of our preschool teachers and instructional aides furthered their education by participating in staff development opportunities.

Amador County Unified School District  
2018-19 Accomplishments

**Child Care Council**

The Child Care Council held its 21<sup>st</sup> Celebrate our Children event which included over 40 displays and vendors and drew over 400 people attending. We will continue to explore opportunities for licensed childcare and preschool spaces for our growing communities. The Council is participating in a regional support and assessment program that will provide increased opportunities for professional development, assessment, and support to our existing licensed care centers.

Amador County Unified School District  
2018-19 Accomplishments

**VII. Special Education**

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- Supported collaboration opportunities between Special Education teachers, General Education teachers and para-educators
- Collaborated with Educational Services to implement professional development and collaboration with elementary Special Education and intervention teachers to increase access to the core curriculum and time in the General Education setting for all students
- Continued to build increased collaboration between Amador County agencies to support foster youth
- Continued the Foster Focus program to allow Amador County Public Schools to more efficiently share important foster youth information between county agencies
- Continued to build employee and community capacity to become Trauma Informed Schools
- Continued providing training in mental health supports
- Provided Professional Assault Crisis Training (Pro-ACT) for various staff members
- Continued providing para-educator professional development
- Created a Special Education Cohort to work on best practices in special education
- Continued successful implementation of an Intensive Intervention Class at the junior high level

Amador County Unified School District  
2018-19 Accomplishments

**VIII. Human Resources and Labor Relations**

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- Processed and updated 905 classroom volunteers
- Recruited, processed and hired 38 new substitute teachers and 26 substitute classified employees
- Created/edited 6 new job descriptions for Board of Trustees approval
- Queried and downloaded personnel data from the QCC Personnel Database for approximately 65 data driven employee reports and spreadsheets for government agencies, auditors, collective bargaining units, and administrators
- Amended 7 salary schedules
- Processed 242 Requests for Personnel for employee new hires, transfers, promotions and FTE changes
- Recruited for and coordinated 133 interviews
- Hired 19 new certificated employees and 17 new classified employees for ACUSD
- Hired 14 new certificated employees and 16 new classified employees for ACOE
- Issued 250 Changes of Status (COS) to payroll to document employee changes
- Updated and “rolled over” the backbone database for the Personnel and Business office, the QCC database, to the 2019-20school year
- Coordinated, assembled and presented Personnel Consent Agendas and additional Personnel agenda items for the Board of Trustees
- Generated 215 annual teacher contracts and credential/status verification letters
- Recruited, processed and hired coaches for three athletic seasons
- Developed and implemented Employee Wellness and Recognition efforts

Amador County Unified School District  
2018-19 Accomplishments

**IX. Business Services**

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- Collaborated with Educational Services and Human Resources to ensure reduced spending and fiscal health
- Provided principal training and ongoing support for budget monitoring and fiscal health
- Collaborated with FCMAT and the California Department of Education to ensure fiscal health
- Provided support and oversight of new construction and upgrades to existing facilities
- Provided site support for attendance, ASB training, Health and Welfare information and purchases for student learning
- The Business Office:
  - Issued 4,591 accounts payable checks
  - Processed approximately 4,952 Reports of Absences
  - Issued 1,189 Purchase Orders
  - Managed health and welfare for 444 employees
  - Processed 284 employee conferences
  - Processed end of month and supplemental payroll for 1,059 permanent and substitute employees

**X. Technology Services**

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- Completely reset/refreshed all Chromebooks in the district during the summer
- Handled over 2,000 technology support requests
- In the process of setting up and distributing over 700 Chromebooks for refresh, funded by the Low Performing Students Grant
- Certified Fall 2 CalPADS report
- Trained site secretaries on master schedule
- Implemented a new, user-friendly website for the District, contracting with a local business

**XI. Food Services**

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- Introduced Community Eligibility Program, a free breakfast and lunch for all Jackson Elementary, Pioneer Elementary, Independence/Community School students

Amador County Unified School District  
2018-19 Accomplishments

- Successfully continued the Elementary Second Chance Breakfast Program
- Increased the total number of meals served annually by 23,232 meals
- Continued the Seamless Summer Feeding Option and served 8,743 meals during summer
- Served 197,047 breakfast meals
- Served 316,364 lunch meals

## **XII. Maintenance and Operations**

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### Maintenance and Operations

- Installed new concrete ADA ramps at Pine Grove STEM Elementary School
- Renovated the Argonaut High School chemistry lab by removing a wall and creating a more effective classroom environment
- Replaced and repaired exterior columns and fascia boards at Independence High School
- Removed deteriorating swing pad and replaced with wood chips at Jackson Elementary School
- Repaired and reconstructed the sprinkler system at Ione Elementary School main field
- Built a new storage shed at Sutter Creek Primary School
- Created new office space at Amador High School for counseling and support services

### Facilities / Construction

- Completed the Argonaut High School all-weather track renovation
- Replaced roofs at 3 schools
  - Amador High School “S” Building
  - 2 large sections of the Jackson Junior High School gymnasium
  - Pioneer VAPA Elementary School multi-purpose room
- Received state money for 3 Special Education facilities with construction coming in the next 12-18 months
  - Argonaut High School: 2 classrooms, a therapy room and a restroom
  - Jackson Junior High School: 2 classrooms, a therapy room and a restroom
  - Plymouth Elementary School: 2 classrooms and a restroom

