



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

EDWIN GOMEZ, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools

**20TH
ANNUAL**

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
STUDENT
Academic Awards

Celebrating Student Achievement and Exceptional Graduates

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

6:00 P.M.

Dinner and Program

RIVERSIDE CONVENTION CENTER

3637 Fifth Street
Riverside, CA 92501

Our Pledge

Every student in Riverside County
will graduate from high school academically
and socially prepared for college, the workforce,
and civic responsibility.

Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

Edwin Gomez, Ed.D.

Riverside County Board of Education

Kim Joseph Cousins, President
Ben Johnson II, Vice President
Jamie Azpeitia-Sachs, Member
Bruce N. Dennis, Member
Ray “Coach” Curtis, Member
Elizabeth F. Romero, Member
Jennifer Mejares-Pham, Member

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
STUDENT
Academic Awards

Celebrating Student Achievement and Exceptional Graduates

Welcome and Introductions

Dominique Samario

*Chief Strategic Partnerships and Communications Officer
Office of the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools*

Presentation of Colors

Canyon Springs Air Force JROTC Color Guard Team

Canyon Springs High School

Moreno Valley USD

National Anthem

Waleska Lopez

Norte Vista High School

Alvord USD

Remarks

Amanda Corridan

Chief Academic Officer

Division of Educational Services

Dinner

**Presentation of Student Honorees and
Exceptional Graduate Awards**

Kathy King

Assistant Superintendent

Division of Early Education Services

Concluding Remarks

AWARD RECIPIENTS

ALVORD USD

*Dr. Reginald Thompkins,
Superintendent*

ALVORD HIGH SCHOOL
Luis Medina, Principal
Arzo Jahani

HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL
Kristen Moorhouse, Principal
Savina La Grass
Darian Noghani

MISSION VIEW HIGH SCHOOL
Christopher Prescott, Principal
Antonio Tafolla Boyzo

NORTE VISTA HIGH SCHOOL
Jason Marquez, Principal
Leslie Hernandez
Aimee Villegas

BANNING USD

Terrence Davis, Superintendent

BANNING HIGH SCHOOL
Arturo Paz, Principal
Mary Britto
Luke Yang

BANNING INDEPENDENT STUDY
SCHOOL
Dr. Melissa Lee, Principal
Paloma Martinez

NEW HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Melissa Lee, Principal
Jasmine Verduzco

BEAUMONT USD

Mays Kakish, Superintendent

21ST CENTURY LEARNING
INSTITUTE
Dr. Benisha Carr, Principal
Liliana Perez

BEAUMONT HIGH SCHOOL
Drew Scherrer, Principal
Prandon Arrogante
Maya Barber
Allison Chase

BEAUMONT MIDDLE COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Benisha Carr, Principal
Christopher Valero

GLEN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Benisha Carr, Principal
Dylan Smith

COACHELLA VALLEY USD

Dr. Frances Esparza, Superintendent

COACHELLA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Anna Santa Maria, Ed. D., Principal
Ariadna Gonzalez Arias
Jovanny Lopez-Ramirez
Matthew Sanchez

DESERT MIRAGE HIGH SCHOOL
Alicia Zamorano-Nunez, Principal
Erik Huerta
Kenia Reynoso-Ibarra

WEST SHORES HIGH SCHOOL
Olivia Mejorado, Principal
Larry Pozar-Basilio

CORONA-NORCO USD

Dalia Gadelmawla, Superintendent

CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Henry Romero, Principal
Nimmer Kaur
Clara Nguyen
Aria Panjabi

CORONA HIGH SCHOOL
Ben Sanchez, Principal
Thomas Bandy
Sarah Farahmand
Lara Randhawa

EASTVALE STEM ACADEMY
Kelly Howell, Director
Nichole Sun

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL
Jennifer Montgomery, Principal
Dheeksha Reddy Parkuru
Jason Sun
Ruiqi Zhang

JOHN F. KENNEDY MIDDLE COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL
Andrew Roberts, Principal
Peyton Zimmerman

LEE V. POLLARD HIGH SCHOOL
Deena Rodriguez, Principal
Joseph Barrios

NORCO HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Catherine Wallace, Principal
Maci Heath
Lauren Woodcock

SANTIAGO HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Kenny Torres, Principal
Ellie Byun
Hannah Gbondo
Shravya Reddivari

DESERT SANDS USD

Dr. Kelly May-Vollmar, Superintendent

AMISTAD HIGH SCHOOL
Richard Pimentel, Principal
Jolina Munoz

INDIO HIGH SCHOOL
Monica Rodriguez, Principal
Lorena Magaña
Flor Perez-Mendoza

LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL
Gregg O'Mara, Principal
Leslie Grimaldo
Gabriella Reyes
Camila Tafoya

PALM DESERT HIGH SCHOOL
Sarit Saig, Principal
Nadia Frutkin
Rushil Ladhawala
Ariel Sanford

SHADOW HILLS HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. David Dunn, Principal
Emma Aguilar
Lorenzo Uriarte

HEMET USD

Dr. Christi Barrett, Superintendent

ACADEMY OF INNOVATION
John Bradshaw, Principal
Heidi Nguyen

ALESSANDRO HIGH SCHOOL
Matthew Centofranchi, Principal
Daisy Campa

HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL
Kari Sanchez, Principal
Sky Volla

HEMET HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Jeff Franks, Principal
Raef Johnson
Cailyn Lopez
Natalie Lovett-Jensen

TAHQUITZ HIGH SCHOOL
Andrew Holmes, Principal
Ellie Ballard
Johnson Banh

WEST VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Cynthia Leon, Principal
Lilly Hanley
Lyndon Mendoza

WESTERN CENTER ACADEMY
Paul Bailey, Principal
Tenzing Carvalho

AWARD RECIPIENTS

JURUPA USD

Dr. Trenton Hansen, Superintendent

JURUPA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Nancy Reyna, Principal
Maya Isabel Alba-Velazquez
Denisse Muñoz

NUEVA VISTA HIGH SCHOOL
James Wandrie, Principal
Midyely Mora Rodriguez

PATRIOT HIGH SCHOOL
Naomi Brush, Principal
Kimberly Le
Nels Lyman
Viviana Marroquin

RUBIDOUX HIGH SCHOOL
Kevin Corridan, Principal
Vivian Aceves-Cervantez
Jaelyne Romero

LAKE ELSINORE USD

Dr. Ryan Lewis, Superintendent

EL SINORE HIGH SCHOOL
Pauline Leavitt, Principal
Kimberly Garcia
Autumn Williams

KEITH MCCARTHY ACADEMY
Dr. Peter Hopping, Principal
Jimena Obregon Fuentes

LAKESIDE HIGH SCHOOL
Jason Eldridge, Principal
Darius Fields
Giselle Zapot

ORTEGA HIGH SCHOOL
Lee Alfred, Principal
Alyssa Day

TEMESCAL CANYON HIGH SCHOOL
Joshua Hill, Principal
Cassandra Caluag
Anthony Carmona
Lucas Pearce

MORENO VALLEY USD

Dr. Alejandro Ruvalcaba, Superintendent

BAYSIDE COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL
W. Mark Hasson, Principal
Pricilla Cervantes

CANYON SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL
Sean Roberson, Principal
Celeste De Lucia
Nina Echevarria
Diego Ruiz

MARCH MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Anthony Rice, Principal
Leslie Valdapenas-Velis

MORENO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Steve Quintero, Principal
Yaniah Gamboa
Greysi Gonzalez
Janessa Paz

MORENO VALLEY ONLINE ACADEMY
W. Mark Hasson, Principal
Sarai Palomino

VALLEY VIEW HIGH SCHOOL
Christopher Gilliatt, Principal
Shawn Jones
Shayla Luong
David Zaragoza-Quezada

VISTA DEL LAGO HIGH SCHOOL
Matthew McCain, Principal
Jayden Miguel Najera
Sophia Torres

MURRIETA VALLEY USD

Dr. Ward Andrus, Superintendent

MURRIETA MESA HIGH SCHOOL
Scott Richards Jr., Principal
Christina Fayad
Abigail Hughes
Orley Weaver

MURRIETA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Stephen Diephouse, Principal
Noah Agrelius
Isabella Heredia
Ellias Nozawa

VISTA MURRIETA HIGH SCHOOL
Celeste Scallion, Principal
Ava Arreola
Christopher Lee
Justin Potter

PALM SPRINGS USD

Dr. Marcus Funchess, Superintendent

CATHEDRAL CITY HIGH SCHOOL
Julia Bartsch, Principal
Sofia Hernandez
Yuridia Jimenez

DESERT HOT SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL
Omar Tinoco, Principal
Alonso Castaneda
Joel Ruiz

MT. SAN JACINTO HIGH SCHOOL
Sue Drummond, Principal
Desman Garcia

PALM SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL
Michael Ventura, Principal
Phoebe Goehring
Zoe Gray

RANCHO MIRAGE HIGH SCHOOL
Brian Hendra, Principal
Malachi Davis
Carlos Garcia

PALO VERDE USD

April Smith, Superintendent

PALO VERDE HIGH SCHOOL
Jack Reed, Principal
Ariel Moreno

AWARD RECIPIENTS

PERRIS UNION HIGH SD

Dr. Luis Araux, Superintendent

CALIFORNIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

Dr. Michael Dodson, Principal
Rose Chavez
Ernesto Mejia Jr.

HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL

Jose Topete, Principal
Micah Alviola
Aileen Osio
Jun Shuo Yang

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL

Erika Rojas, Principal
Arienna Ama
Jayden Torres
Ceren Yilmaz

PALOMA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Thomas LaRochelle, Principal
Dang Khoa Dao
Miley Lundstrom
Kaliah Salazar Cataluna

PERRIS HIGH SCHOOL

Ricardo Garcia-Felix, Principal
Daisy Casas Chavez
Salvador Ramirez

RIVERSIDE USD

Dr. Sonia Llamas, Superintendent

ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Steven Ybarra, Principal
Basem Benyamin
Helen Yasey

JOHN W. NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

Jodi Gonzales, Principal
Caitlyn Cohen
David Santiago

MARTIN LUTHER KING HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Leann Iacuone, Principal
Ubaid Awan
Marc Gonzalez
Kaden Ren

RAMONA HIGH SCHOOL

Kristian Sorensen, Principal
Emanuel Garcia
Elsa Mendoza
Ashley Rodriguez Maldonado

RIVERSIDE POLYTECHNIC HIGH SCHOOL

Darel Hansen, Principal
Anna Beran
Caleb Vera
Finn Vierra-Redden

RIVERSIDE STEM ACADEMY

Dr. Mark Colwell, Principal
Zoe Martinez

RIVERSIDE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Michael Gull, Principal
Juan Rivera

SAN JACINTO USD

Dr. David Pyle, Superintendent

MOUNTAIN HEIGHTS ACADEMY

Ken Swanson, Principal
Karen Alvarenga Quiroz

MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

Ken Swanson, Principal
Isabelle Millan

SAN JACINTO HIGH SCHOOL

Lloyd Sheppard, Principal
Erik Diaz
Raven Volrie

SAN JACINTO LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Michael Luna, Principal
Turner Daudert

SAN JACINTO MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Steve Simpson, Principal
Kayla Nealey Bojorquez

TEMECULA VALLEY USD

Dr. Kimberly Velez, Superintendent

CHAPARRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Tina Miller, Principal
Christopher Persechini
Justin Tran
Tony Yang

GREAT OAK HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Amber Lane, Principal
Divyamsu Nallamothu
Chloe Tan
Charles Zhang

RANCHO VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

David Schlottman, Principal
Gena Amanonce

SUSAN NELSON HIGH SCHOOL

David Schlottman, Principal
Lucie Hoang

TEMECULA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Donna Lione, Principal
Lila Deinhammer
Jordan Marlborough
Rocco Sheridan

VAL VERDE USD

Dr. Gordon Amerson, Superintendent

CITRUS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Sarah Allen, Principal
Dalia Benitez
Bayann Jadallah

ORANGE VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

LaKrecia Graham, Principal
Armando Alfaro
Dayanara Basurto
Andrew Sanchez

RANCHO VERDE HIGH SCHOOL

Brunel Merilus, Principal
Adam Padua
Johnathan Rodgers
Vianca Villena

VAL VERDE ACADEMY

Stacy Dedeaux, Principal
Jasmine Noriega

VAL VERDE HIGH SCHOOL

Stacy Dedeaux, Principal
Hayden Hanson

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Exceptional Graduate
AWARD RECIPIENTS

ALVORD USD

HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL
Darian Noghani

BANNING USD

NEW HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL
Jasmine Verduzco

BEAUMONT USD

BEAUMONT MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL
Christopher Valero

COACHELLA VALLEY USD

WEST SHORES HIGH SCHOOL
Larry Pozar Basilio

CORONA-NORCO USD

SANTIAGO HIGH SCHOOL
Hannah Gbondo

DESERT SANDS USD

PALM DESERT HIGH SCHOOL
Rushil Ladhawala

HEMET USD

HEMET HIGH SCHOOL
Raef Johnson

JURUPA USD

JURUPA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Denisse Muñoz

LAKE ELSINORE USD

TEMESCAL CANYON HIGH SCHOOL
Cassandra Caluag

MORENO VALLEY USD

MORENO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Yaniah Gamboa

MURRIETA VALLEY USD

MURRIETA MESA HIGH SCHOOL
Christina Fayad

PALM SPRINGS USD

DESERT HOT SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL
Joel Ruiz

PALO VERDE USD

PALO VERDE HIGH SCHOOL
Ariel Moreno

PERRIS UNION HIGH SD

PERRIS HIGH SCHOOL
Daisy Casas Chavez

RIVERSIDE USD

RAMONA HIGH SCHOOL
Emanuel Garcia

SAN JACINTO USD

SAN JACINTO LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
Turner Daudert

TEMECULA VALLEY USD

TEMECULA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Lila Deinhammer

VAL VERDE USD

CITRUS HILL HIGH SCHOOL
Bayann Jadallah

The Exceptional Graduate Award recipients
will be receiving a \$1,000 scholarship.