End of the School Year Message from the Superintendent

June 6, 2013

Dear EUSD Teammates:

As our students head home for a well-deserved summer break, I want to publicly commend our teachers, clerical and custodial staff, administrators, maintenance workers, instructional assistants, and other support staff for your efforts this year. While the budget situation has created some challenging times for us this year, our schools closed the year in smooth fashion. In life, too often we don’t take the opportunity to “smell the roses.” What follows are a few examples of positive culminating events in the district that I want to stop and take a few minutes to share:

- Yesterday, I attended the Promotion Ceremony at Tierra Bonita; the event was conducted outdoors. It was very well organized and ran very smoothly; several families informed me how pleased they were. The staff members who organized the event are commended for a job well done.

- Similarly, I attended the promotional events at Cole Middle; the school tried a new process of allowing all of the 8th grade students to participate in the ceremony if they are slated to go to high school next year. Both ceremonies occurred without incident; I am pleased to report that the staff members at Cole are developing ways to augment the new framework!

- The Eastside Elementary Annual Disaster Drill continues to be a source of pride for the district, garnering positive press for us throughout the state.

- The Eastside Academy presented me with a Computer Fan that they designed with several key messages (New York Yankees #1, Go Team EUSD, and Miami Heat NBA Champions!)

- Finally, I had the pleasure of being invited to Columbia Elementary to recognize Mrs. Roediger’s class for their efforts with our United Way Drive this year.

Next, as we begin the summer recess, I want to share some of the exciting plans that we have for the 2013-2014 school year and beyond:

- **Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID).** We will continue to enhance our AVID programs across all the district sites.
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- **Capital Improvement Projects.** This summer we will be occupying our Transitional Learning Center (Eastside Academy). Next year, we will continue the planning process for the new Elementary School.

- **Eastside Educational Foundation:** Through my membership in the Lancaster-Antelope Valley Kiwanis Club, we have identified several individuals to assist us with this project. Subsequently, you should see major movement in this area next year.

- **Instructional Quality Teams.** This work was piloted at Columbia and Tierra Bonita Elementary this year. This teacher led work will hopefully expand to all of our sites next year.

- **Instructional Rounds.** Instructional Rounds will continue. Our district received State Recognition for this initiative.

- **School Climate Surveys.** We started this process this year. Schools will use the data from this year’s survey to enhance the quality of the entire school program. The survey will be given again next year to assess the effectiveness of the improvements made.

In closing, please stay tuned for updates (via e-mail) regarding the Budget and Negotiations. As events occur and/or we receive updated information, we will share it with you. **It is our hope that we can retain all of our employees and continue to provide the quality educational programs that we presently afford to our EUSD students.** Finally, to start the 2013/2014 school year, the district will be hosting a **Welcome Back Breakfast for all employees on Monday, August 12th.** Stay tuned for more details about this. Finally, as I often say, the goal is to transform the Eastside Union School District into a model for educational excellence! The journey is an ongoing work in progress. **I hope you have a wonderful, enjoyable, sunny summer and I hope to see ALL of you in August!**

Yours in Education,

Mark E. Marshall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools