

EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## THREE HIGH SCHOOLS RECEIVE CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL AWARD

As part of the California School Recognition Program, the California Department of Education provides a well-deserved honor to those schools which meet the state's highest expectations. Three of the El Dorado Union High School District schools are among the recipients of the *2007 California Distinguished School Award*. A fourth high school received the award in 2003.

El Dorado High School in Placerville, Ponderosa High School in Shingle Springs, and Oak Ridge High School in El Dorado Hills all met the stringent requirements of the state's eligibility criteria. Schools not only were expected to perform at a high academic level, but were required to meet a number of other multi-dimensional criteria whose scope includes teaching strategies, library media services, academically competent and caring teachers, strong professional development, comprehensive guidance and counseling programs, support for student learning through family involvement and partnerships, and a host of other criteria. The district's three schools each received the highest score of 8.0.

Superintendent Sherry Smith stated that, "The caring of our family of educators for our students is reflected in every facet of our educational process. Our students benefit greatly from the level of professionalism and excellence of our leaders, teachers, and support staff. Specifically, we pride ourselves for the multi-learning support services provided to our students and the overall rigorous learning environment. We are fortunate to have all of what we do on a daily basis for our students culminate with such a deserving distinction."

The schools received their distinctions at an Award Ceremony held on May 18 at the Disneyland Convention Center in Anaheim.

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