

EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
PRESS RELEASE

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
4675 MISSOURI FLAT ROAD
PLACERVILLE CA 95667

CONTACT
DON BUCHHEIT
530.622-7090, EXT. 130

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDEPENDENCE HIGH SCHOOL RECEIVES RECOGNITION

The El Dorado Union High School District is pleased to announce that the California Department of Education has awarded Independence High School with a 3-year distinction as a Model Continuation High School. This recognition is based on the school's ability to demonstrate exemplary educational opportunities for continuation high school students.

Continuation high school is a program geared to career technical education of students aged 16 years or older who are at-risk of not graduating. By working with a student's individual challenges, the continuation program provides a pathway for students to complete their high school education. Independence High School's innovative program demonstrates the school's commitment to providing not only educational options to its students, but also to providing a school climate that is safe, challenging, and supportive of student efforts to be successful, to graduate from high school, transition to higher education, or enter the work force.

According to principal Don Buchheit, "Our staff at Independence High School believe that all students will learn and achieve their dreams and aspirations. The driving emotional force behind our programs is confidence and optimism. We accomplish this through an educational program that focuses on academic achievement, career and vocational planning, and character education. Our students acquire a clear understanding of the connection between their education, community and their futures."

The school's culture is built on Forward Thinking, Learning, and Living. Independence is one of 12 continuation high schools in California to receive this distinction. Currently, more than 71,000 students in the state attended 519 continuation high schools in 2006-07.