

District Newsletter

from Superintendent Stephen Wehr

August 2017 | EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (EDUHSD)

Dear EDUHSD Community:

Welcome to the 2017–18 school year! Thanks to everyone for helping to create a smooth start as teaching and learning is back underway for EDUHSD.

As you look around the District you will notice a handful of new folks who have joined our learning community. We have hired 12 teachers, 13 classified staff, and 1 administrator. Our new hires bring talent and skill that will help us continue to build an environment of quality teaching and learning. *Welcome to all – EDUHSD is fortunate to have you.*

A Moment of Celebration

One benchmark we look at in our LCAP is our students’ participation and success in Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Advanced Placement helps students develop better study habits, improve their writing and sharpen their problem-solving skills, all of which will be put to great use in their college careers. The graph below represents the continued academic achievement of our students in this area.

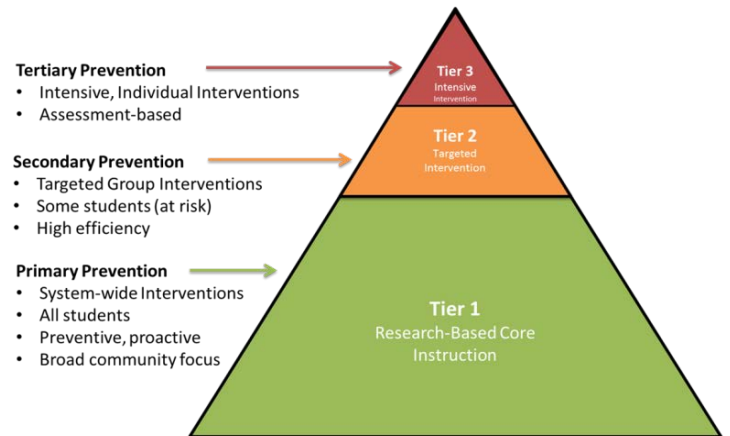
2007-2017 AP EXAM RESULTS

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Exams Taken	1,591	1,661	1,888	1,973	2,062	2,357	2,495	2,747	2,646	2,878	2,854
Total Exams Passed	1116	1,174	1,376	1,536	1,507	1,789	1,910	2,108	2,054	2,307	2,275
% of Exams Passed	71%	71%	73%	78%	73%	76%	77%	77%	78%	80%	80%

This year, EDUHSD will continue to implement Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) as a framework for delivering a quality teaching and learning experience for our students. The MTSS framework is designed to ensure successful education outcomes for all students by using a data-based problem solving process to provide, and evaluate the effectiveness of multiple tiers of integrated academic, behavior, and social emotional instruction/intervention supports matched to student need in alignment with educational standards.

As shared during our District-wide opening gathering, our Academic Supports are outlined below.

EDUHSD MTSS Academic Supports



Tier I Academic Supports (Available to all students)

- Students have access to standards based curriculum.
- Students have access to digital and online educational content and resources.
- Course content, activities, and products are varied to support mastery of learning targets.

- Students are provided with formative assessments that inform their progress towards the learning target and afford students who fail to meet the learning target with support that may include the opportunity for an assessment retake or resubmission of an assignment.
- Students are provided with an online gradebook that informs them about academic progress between report cards.
- Students are taught by credentialed teachers in the subjects they teach.
- Students are taught by teachers who have access to professional development opportunities focused on improving student outcomes.

Tier 2 Academic Supports (Available to some students)

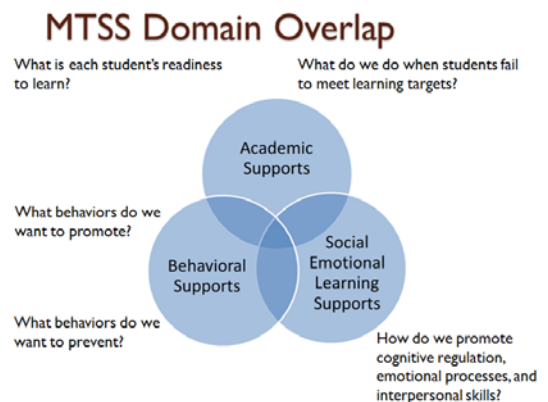
- Each comprehensive high school offers a four-year Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program to assist unduplicated count students and students whose parents did not attend college with support to meet UC/CSU entrance requirements upon graduation.
- Each comprehensive high school offers an after school Academic Recovery program for the four academic content areas (English, mathematics, science, and social science).
- Each comprehensive high school offers a January and June Intersession Credit Recovery Program for the four academic content areas (English, mathematics, science, and social science).
- Students struggling in mathematics have access to remedial software programs designed to help students with skill development.
- Students with two or more F marks at a progress report are counseled regarding supports and services (For example, SST, IEP/504 case manager, EL Coordinator or Connections Coordinator).
- Students entering ninth grade below grade level in mathematics are eligible for Algebra Foundations.

(This is listed as a Tier 2 Intervention due to the high number of students entering high school with lower mathematics skills).

Tier 3 Academic Supports (Available for students who are identified as needing targeted support to meet graduation requirements)

- Students with IEPs are eligible for Special Education Learning Centers support and IEP directed accommodations and modifications.
- English learners are eligible for an English Language Development course and classroom accommodations and modifications.
- Students with 504 Plans are eligible for classroom based accommodations and modifications as outlined in the plan.
- Students entering high school reading below grade level are eligible for a Reading Improvement course.
- A cohort of students entering 9th grade who did not successfully complete 8th grade are assigned to a Connections Coordinator.
- 11th and 12th grade students, who are failing to earn a minimum of 60 academic credits per year, are eligible for Independence Continuation High School.

Although we have many effective behavioral and social emotional interventions at Tier 1 of our MTSS Model, we will continue our work this year coming to consensus on our Tier 1, 2 and 3 District-wide behavioral and social emotional initiatives, interventions and supports. The venn diagram below provides a visual of the work to come.



MTSS success will be sustained over time through the use of data informed decision making, and targeted professional development focused on our implementation of evidence based practices for academic, behavioral, and social-emotional supports.

Facilities Update

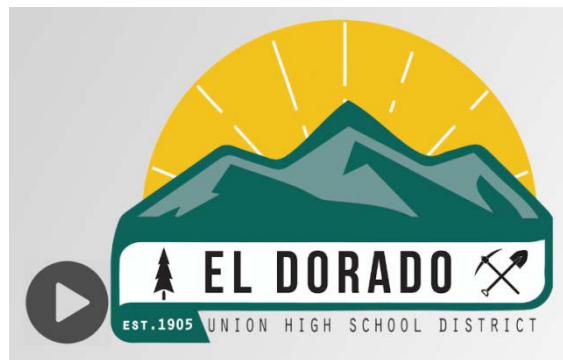
This summer proved to be a busy time with several construction projects. The list below contains many of these that were completed over the summer, as well as a few that will carry over into the fall and spring. Thanks to all involved for your dedication to our students and staff.

- Sanding and refinishing of hardwood floor surfaces at all sites
- Repainting of track lines at all sites (to be completed by spring)
- Installation of new toilet paper dispensers and paper towel dispensers at all sites
- PROP 39 lighting upgrades at all sites
- Classrooms were cleaned at all sites (floors, carpets, windows washed, etc.)
- Installation of new field turf at El Dorado High School, Ponderosa High School and Union Mine High School (Oak Ridge High School to be completed next spring)
- Replacement of Building E's roof and repair of Building C and V's roofs at El Dorado High School
- Replacement of Building C's windows and concrete caulking at El Dorado High School
- Remodeling of Vista High School into an art classroom at El Dorado High School
- Replacement of backboards in the small gyms at El Dorado High School and Ponderosa High School
- Replacement of the stadium sound system at El Dorado High School
- Repairs of the gym floor at Oak Ridge High School (to be completed by September)
- Construction of new staff rooms at Oak Ridge High School
- Modernization of Building J (science and foods labs/ADA compliance) at Ponderosa High School

- Modernization of food lab at Union Mine High School
- Replacement of clocks, bells and PA system at Union Mine High School
- Construction of the new Ag Farm at Union Mine High School (to be completed by August)

The beginning of the school year is always busy with establishing academic and social expectations, scheduling, back-to-school nights, the start of the fall sports season, welcome back dances, the first rally and many other activities. Thank you for the passion, conviction and talent you bring to our learning community. Our collective opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our students is beyond measure.

In closing, I want to share with you the video that was shown at our Welcome Back Breakfast. The video focuses on recent graduates who are thankful for each and every one of their teachers and staff members for helping them on their path to reaching full potential and achieving their goals.



Wishing you a wonderful year!

Sincerely,

Stephen Wehr, Superintendent