

## PRESS RELEASE

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## The State of the District: Supporting Students on their Unique Journey

(Los Alamitos, CA) – Over 200 people joined Los Alamitos Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Andrew Pulver and the Los Alamitos Education Foundation (LAEF) for the State of the District breakfast on Thursday, October 5, 2023. "Delivering the State of the District address to our community is an immense honor and I extend my sincere appreciation to our Los Al USD village that steadfastly supports our students and staff. It is a privilege to showcase the remarkable achievements of our District and emphasize our unwavering dedication to supporting students on their individual educational paths," stated Dr. Pulver. Guests were entertained before the presentation by a quartet made up of students from the Los Alamitos High School String Orchestra and LAHS senior Jake Dingillo who beautifully performed the National Anthem.

Dr. Pulver reviewed the District Priority Goals for 2023-24, which are to passionately pursue academic excellence, cultivate a thriving and safe culture, foster collaborative relationships, provide high-quality facilities, and manage and strategically manage financial resources.

Dr. Pulver also celebrated numerous district achievements. All nine Los Al USD schools have received the honors of California Distinguished School and Gold Ribbon School. Los Alamitos High School achieved a 100% graduation rate for the Class of 2023 with 91% of graduates completing an AP (Advanced Placement), CTE (Career and Technical Education), or dual-enrollment community college course, and 92% of graduates enrolled in post-secondary education.

The presentation focused on the district's commitment to honoring each student's individual path and supporting them on their journey to becoming happy, independent adults. Dr. Pulver showed the ripple effect of the district's many programs that not only help students with their educational achievements but also focus on their mental health and well-being.

Dr. Pulver gave an update on district enhancement projects which include new playgrounds for all elementary schools, the continuing of LAHS classroom renovations, LAHS turf replacement, improvements to the Performing Arts Center, and construction of a second gymnasium, which has a completion date set for Fall 2025.

Dr. Pulver concluded the morning with a powerful video highlighting one student's journey at Los Alamitos High School after attending three other high schools within one year's time. The video focused on the importance of meeting students where they are in their journey and helping to connect them with teachers, classrooms and peers that inspire them and make them feel safe. This student's connection with Mr. Brown, the film and video production teacher at LAHS, and the film classes ultimately changed his trajectory and helped him earn a high school diploma with the graduating Class of 2023, something he did not think was possible when he arrived at Los Al.

The event was attended by parents, PTA groups, district staff and administration, school board members, LAEF's board of directors and local city and elected officials. The breakfast took place at On The Greens at Navy Golf Course and all net proceeds supported LAEF. The presentation was video-recorded and will be made available on the District's YouTube channel and the LAEF website.

"We are always happy to work with Dr. Pulver to provide the opportunity to come together and celebrate our district's accomplishments. LAEF is very grateful to Legacy Sponsor Alamitos Eye Care and Valedictorian Sponsors Epson, Simon Law Group, Clean Wave Express Carwash, PacificWest and Erickson-Hall for their generosity, which ensured the success of the event," said LAEF Executive Director Carrie Logue.

LAEF is the non-profit partner of Los Alamitos Unified School District. LAEF enhances educational excellence by providing after-school and summer enrichment programs to children in grades Pre-K to 12. LAEF provides significant funding for mental health/wellness and STEAM education, as well as igniting new programs and providing valuable resources, to impact all students. For additional information on LAEF, please call (562) 799-4700 Extension 80424 or visit www.LAEF4Kids.org.



From left to right: LAEF Executive Director Carrie Logue, LAEF Board Chair Felicia Gonzalez, Los Al USD Superintendent Dr. Andrew Pulver, School Board Vice President Meg Cutuli, School Board President Chris Forehan.



Guests listening to Dr. Pulver's presentation during the State of the District.