



Ocean View School District

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VISTA VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL RECEIVES CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL RECOGNITION

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA – Ocean View School District (OVSD) is proud to announce that Vista View Middle School has received the state’s most prestigious designation for public schools, the California Distinguished School Award. Sponsored by the California Department of Education, the California School Recognition Program, now in its 24th year, recognizes elementary and secondary campuses in alternating years. This year, 261 middle and high schools were selected after each submitted a lengthy narrative application and took part in an extensive site visit. Winning schools must meet all federal No Child Left Behind testing targets, have at least a 720 Academic Performance Index and show progress closing the achievement gap. This year, the Distinguished Schools program not only identified schools that are leaders in academic achievement, but now also recognizes schools that are leaders in helping all students succeed, and highlights the best practices that are effective in closing the gap.

State Superintendent of Schools Jack O’Connell called each school’s principal to personally share the good news. “Each principal I spoke to was excited and overjoyed at their recognition for this prestigious award. All of our Distinguished Schools awardees are incredible schools with dedicated teachers, hard-working principals, and successful students.”

Vista View Principal Robert Miller received the news from O’Connell on Thursday. “We are extremely proud to be recognized as a California Distinguished School. The award is validation of the hard work and dedication of our staff and students, as well as the incredible support of our parents and community.”

Ocean View schools have now earned the label of California Distinguished School 31 times since 1996, and all four of OVSD’s middle schools have been recognized at least once. Vista View Middle School will remain a California Distinguished School through 2013, when it will be eligible to reapply. Schools can win the award only once every four years.

The 2009 recipients will be honored in May at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim. For more information on California Distinguished Schools or the California School Recognition Program, go to www.cde.ca.gov.

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