



December 1, 2019

December is already here and the hustle of the holiday season is certainly upon us. There is so much to celebrate in WCSD. The celebrations begin with the recent release of the first indicator on the California School Dashboard. Last year, we launched an attendance campaign, *Every Student Every Day*. I am pleased to share that **our 2018 Chronic Absenteeism Rate has decreased by 1.2%**. These results only happen when communities work together. Thank you for making school a priority.

In addition, our academic growth continues to increase as evidenced by our most recent benchmark data. Our local assessments are demonstrating that students are gaining a deeper understanding of grade level content standards. Our efforts in making teaching and learning a priority by adopting new instructional materials and providing powerful professional learning and coaching for staff is making an impact on student achievement.

As I shared in the previous two months, we are also continuing to make social emotional learning a priority as we know that these academic achievements only happen when students, staff, and families feel connected to their school and district. This [video](#) provides a great overview for why this work is so important. Our Positive District Climate Committee met in November to begin researching additional resources to expand our multi-tiered system of support (MTSS). Our committee work will focus on the following three areas:

- Engagement- student participation in school; strong relationships between students, teachers, families & schools; and strong connections between schools & the broader community
- Safety- students, their families, and staff being free of violence, bullying, harassment, and controlled substance use, and schools being prepared in the event of an emergency
- Environment- appropriate learning settings, well-managed classrooms, available school-based physical and mental health supports, and clear, fair, disciplinary policies and practices

I am excited to work alongside our stakeholders and will continue to share outcomes from our committee as it evolves throughout the year.

Thank you for your partnership as we continue our path to educational excellence.

May your holidays be safe and filled with love and laughter.

Warmly,

Marie Morgan
Superintendent