



Castro Valley Unified School District

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Parvin Ahmadi

P.O. BOX 2146 • CASTRO VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 94546 • (510) 537-3000 • Fax (510) 886-8962

Dear Families,

We welcome you and our students to the 2017-2018 school year with a renewed commitment to support our students' academic, social and emotional wellbeing. Our dedicated teachers, staff and administrators believe in excellence and work extremely hard to support students.

We have witnessed major shifts in academic standards, instructional practices and the assessment system the last few years. We begin this school year with a new accountability system, the [California School Dashboard](#). The CA School Dashboard replacing the Academic Performance Indicator (API) allows for more transparency and focuses on continuous improvement. I encourage you to visit the Accountability tab on our district website to learn more about the Dashboard.

Construction projects and modernizations funded by [Measure G](#) are in progress. Modernization projects include upgrades to electrical, heating, air conditioning and security systems, roofing, technology infrastructures as well as replacement of several play structures and installation of shade structures. In addition, construction on a new Career Technical Education Engineering building as well as a Wellness Center at Castro Valley High School will begin this year. We are working closely with the Hayward Area Recreation Department (HARD) to upgrade and replace the Canyon and Creekside Middle School sports fields. These are major improvements that will benefit not only our students but also provide additional, appropriate spaces for sports in the community. We sincerely appreciate your patience and flexibility as our schools go through modernization.

Lack of funding for education continues to be a huge concern in California. We applaud the Governor in spearheading the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) to provide supplemental funding for school districts based on the percentage of students in poverty and English Learners; however the challenge remains lack of adequate "base" funding for all school districts. California continues to lag behind almost every state in America when it comes to funding public education; therefore, it's important to work with legislators to advocate for better funding. In order to maintain fiscal solvency, we will be examining programs, identifying potential reductions, and exploring ways to increase funding.

Castro Valley Unified School District is committed to educating all students and ensuring that everyone feels welcomed and respected. Toward the end of the last school year, racist graffiti at Castro Valley High School and other similar incidents outside of school in Castro Valley reminded us that we still have work to do as a community, and it is incumbent upon every one of us to make it abundantly clear that racism, hate, and marginalizing any group is not acceptable and has no place in our schools and community. The newly formed [Community Alliance](#) which includes staff, students, various local organizations, Alameda County officials will be meeting on a regular basis to plan activities and events throughout the year to show that we, as a community, welcome and support everyone. This is aligned with our District's Strategic Plan, our core value of "ALL means ALL", and our Governing Board's commitment to equity and excellence. If you are interested in finding more information about the Community Alliance, please feel free to contact our office.

Thank you for your continued support. We are grateful for the trust you have placed in our ability to serve your children and consider a privilege to do so.

Cordially,

Parvin Ahmadi
Superintendent