### PAJARO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District is to educate and to support learners in reaching their highest potential. We prepare students to pursue successful futures and to make positive **contributions to the community and global society.** 



# Press Release

Date: August 14, 2019

## Pajaro Valley Unified School District Accepted into National Network of Innovative School Districts

### PVUSD joins Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, will partner with other leading educators, entrepreneurs, and researchers from across the country

Watsonville, CA, August 14, 2019 – Pajaro Valley Unified School District was accepted today into the League of Innovative Schools, a national coalition of forward-thinking K-12 school districts organized by Digital Promise, a nonprofit organization with the mission to accelerate innovation in education and improve the opportunity to learn for all through technology and research.

PVUSD was selected from a competitive national pool of applicants based on its leadership, evidence of results, innovative vision for learning, and commitment to equity and excellence.

Dr. Rodriguez, PVUSD Superintendent of Schools, states, "As a Superintendent, I engage in inclusive and thoughtful listening with all stakeholders to inform and guide our journey of reimagining the educational experience for our 20,106 students. PVUSD is taking intentional and strategic steps through a pilot to scale framework that will accelerate the learning of our students and positively impact their futures and our community."

The League of Innovative Schools, launched in late 2011, accepts new members through an open application process once per year. With their new members, the League now includes 114 school districts in 34 states. The full list of members can be found at <u>digitalpromise.org/districts</u>.

"The League of Innovative Schools works to advance equitable opportunities and outcomes for students, and solve challenges facing schools through powerful use of learning technologies and research," said Kim Smith, executive

\* Pacific Coast Charter \* Watsonville Charter School of the Arts \* Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education

director of the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools. "We welcome our new League members and look forward to working with them to further catalyze positive change in public education."

League members are represented by their superintendent, who commits to:

- Attend biannual League meetings, which feature classroom visits, collaborative problem-solving, and relationship-building with peers and partners;
- Participate in League challenge collaboratives on a broad range of topics relevant to the changing needs of school districts;
- Support Digital Promise research and provide feedback so it translates easily into classroom experiences and expands what we know about teaching and learning;
- Engage with entrepreneurs to advance edtech product development steeped in the latest learning science and meets district needs; and
- Participate in the League's professional learning community by connecting with other members online, in person, and at each other's school districts.

In addition to superintendents' participation, there are also opportunities for other school administrators, principals, and teachers from member districts to participate in League and Digital Promise-related initiatives.

The League will officially welcome new members at its fall 2019 meeting on October 16 in Loudoun County, Virginia, where more than 250 superintendents, district leaders, partners, and researchers from across the country will convene.

For more information on the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, visit: <u>digitalpromise.org/league</u>.

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### About Pajaro Valley Unified School District:

Pajaro Valley Unified School District is dedicated to creating educational equity for students, families and communities we serve. PVUSD serves 20,106 students: 82% are Latino, 16% are White, 68% are English Language learners, and 78% qualify for free or reduced lunch programs. The district has sixteen elementary schools, six middle/junior high schools, three comprehensive high schools and eight charter/alternative schools. Administration, Classified and Certificated Staff are dedicated to ensuring that all of our students can reach their greatness. At the center of our Target for Student Success is the belief that our students must leave our schools college and career ready. Follow us on Social Media @PajaroValleyUSD and stay informed.

#### **About Digital Promise**

Digital Promise is a nonprofit organization that builds powerful networks and takes on grand challenges by working at the intersection of researchers, entrepreneurs, and educators. Our vision is that all people, at every stage of their lives, have access to learning experiences that help them acquire the knowledge and skills they need to thrive and continuously learn in an ever-changing world. For more information, visit the <u>Digital Promise website</u> and follow <u>@digitalpromise</u> for updates.