**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.

### Pajaro Valley Education Foundation Honors Pajaro Valley Unified School District Staff's Innovation at Special Event

Watsonville, CA – June 4, 2019 – on Monday, June 3, Pajaro Valley Unified School District staff and administration gathered to honor staffs' innovation and creativity at the first Innovator of the Year Awards event sponsored by Pajaro Valley Education Foundation (PVEF). "PVUSD students are better prepared to become agile and reflexive learners because our staff are poised to support their academic and socio-emotional growth. As we recognize students' progress, it is important to acknowledge the impact staffs' innovation plays in their success because they create rigorous and safe environments where students can truly thrive," commented Dr. Michelle Rodriguez, Superintendent of Schools.

PVEF Directors asked school sites and departments to select one classified and one certificated individual who is making a significant contribution by virtue of innovative and creative strategies to receive the Innovator of the Year award. Last night, over 200 peers and family members brightened Watsonville High School Mello Center to celebrate about 70 honorees in the first annual event.

Dr. Rodriguez, Board President Karen Osmundson, Board Vice President Daniel Dodge Jr., and PVUSD Trustee and PVEF Foundation's President Maria Orozco commented briefly on the critical role employees play in fulfilling the District's Vision and ensure all students are college and career ready.

In addition to the site-level Innovator of the Year, PVEF Board of Directors selected eight individuals, one certificated and one classified from the elementary school level, middle school level, high school level and department, to receive the District Innovator of the Year award. Lupe Medrano of EA Hall, Brenda Guzman of English Learners Programs, Jessica Macias of Lakeview, Yolanda Danna of MacQuiddy, Melanie Larsen of Mar Vista, Maria Gutierrez of Pajaro Valley High, Miranda Felton of Technology Services, and Claudia Zuñiga of Watsonville High each received a $250 monetary award.

PVUSD and the PVEF congratulate all Innovator of the Year honorees.

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The Pajaro Valley Education Foundation (PVEF), established in November 2017, support Pajaro Valley Unified School District's (PVUSD) efforts to increase learning opportunities for all students in our community. PVEF partners with the public and private sectors to financially support creative and innovative programs in the areas of PK-12 academics, the arts, and extra-curricular activities/programs exclusively for PVUSD students.

Amesti * Ann Soldo * Bradley * Calabasas * Diamond Technology Institute * Duncan Holbert * Freedom * H.A. Hyde * Hall District * Landmark * MacQuiddy * Mar Vista * Mintie White Ohlone * Radcliff * Rio Del Mar * Starlight * Valencia * Aptos Jr. High * Cesar E. Chavez * E.A. Hall * Lakeview * Pajaro Middle * Rolling Hills * Aptos High * Pajaro Valley High * Watsonville High * Renaissance High * New School * Alianza Charter * Pacific Coast Charter * Watsonville Charter School of the Arts * Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL HONOREES AND THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

# HONOREES

| Name | School/Dept | Status |
|---|---|---|
| Annette Nartates | Adult Education | Clsfd |
| Jose Luis Palacios | Adult Education | Crtfd |
| Ana Bocanegra | Alianza Charter | Crtfd |
| Katryn Bermudez | Amesti | Crtfd |
| Norma Ortiz | Amesti | Clsfd |
| Ivana Cordova | Ann Soldo | Clsfd |
| Marina Maldonado | Ann Soldo | Crtfd |
| Maureen Brandi | Aptos High | Crtfd |
| Doug DeMuth | Aptos High | Crtfd |
| Jonathan Flores | Aptos High | Crtfd |
| Zach Hewett | Aptos High | Crtfd |
| Alyssa Mendoza | Aptos High | Crtfd |
| Joe Smith | Aptos High | Crtfd |
| Anne Olson | Aptos High | Crtfd |
| Ryane Ortiz | Aptos High | Crtfd |
| Monica Nowlin | Aptos High | Clsfd |
| Rafael Arce | Aptos Jr. High | Clsfd |
| Karen Elerick | Aptos Jr. High | Crtfd |
| Barbara Knapp | Bradley | Crtfd |
| Raquel Pulido | Bradley | Clsfd |
| Jessica Fernandez | Calabasas | Clsfd |
| Joaquin Perez | Calabasas | Crtfd |
| Luci Basor | Cesar Chavez Middle | Crtfd |
| Randall Braun | EA Hall Middle | Crtfd |
| Lupe Medrano | EA Hall Middle | Clsfd |
| Mercedes Berg | Early Childhood Ed | Clsfd |
| Nellie Brown | Early Childhood Ed | Crtfd |
| Jose Anaya | Ed Services | Clsfd |
| Jessica Soukoulis | Ed Services | Crtfd |
| Ariel Benson | EL Programs | Crtfd |
| Brenda Guzman | EL Programs | Clsfd |
| Maria Ramirez | Food & Nutrition | Clsfd |
| Karina Escobedo | Freedom | Clsfd |
| Janet Jeffries | Freedom | Crtfd |
| Zack Cook | HA Hyde | Clsfd |
| Jenny Wickett | HA Hyde | Crtfd |
| Symona Siqueiros | Hall District | Crtfd |
| Tomas Valenzuela | Hall District | Clsfd |
| Jessica Macias | Lakeview Middle | Crtfd |
| Veronica Miranda | Lakeview Middle | Clsfd |
| Maya Campbell | Landmark | Crtfd |
| Stephanie Simms | Landmark | Clsfd |
| Heidi Chappell | MacQuiddy | Crtfd |
| Yolanda Danna | MacQuiddy | Clsfd |
| Melanie Larsen | Mar Vista | Crtfd |
| Tiffany Ventura | Mar Vista | Clsfd |
| Patricia Unruhe | Migrant Ed | Crtfd |
| Margie Brasil Botahis | Mintie White | Crtfd |
| Leticia Molina | Mintie White | Clsfd |
| Olga Cornejo | New School | Clsfd |
| Russell Love | New School | Crtfd |
| Juanita Rocha | Ohlone | Clsfd |
| Crystal Martin | Ohlone | Crtfd |
| Angelica Galvan | Pajaro Middle | Clsfd |
| Paula Toledo | Pajaro Middle | Crtfd |
| Andrew Buckman | Pajaro Valley High | Clsfd |
| Maria Gutierrez | Pajaro Valley High | Crtfd |
| Carrie Marquez | Purchasing | Clsfd |
| Robert Ehrlich | Renaissance | Clsfd |
| Rachel Glass | Rio Del Mar | Crtfd |
| Kellie Lowe | Rio Del Mar | Clsfd |
| Sahar Katie Aldrich | Rolling Hills | Crtfd |
| Rebecca Peña | Rolling Hills | Clsfd |
| Alejandra Jara | SELPA | Clsfd |
| Nichole Salles-Cunha | SELPA | Crtfd |
| Denee Calvillo | Starlight | Clsfd |
| Marisa Rodriguez | Starlight | Crtfd |
| Miranda Felton | Technology | Crtfd |
| Veronica Moran | Technology | Clsfd |
| Erin Farrar | Valencia | Crtfd |
| David Fernandez | Valencia | Clsfd |
| Jennifer Gill | WCSA | Crtfd |
| Ryan Jones | WHS | Crtfd |
| Claudia Zuñiga | WHS | Clsfd |

IMPACTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY