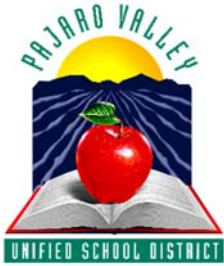


**PAJARO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MISSION STATEMENT**

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: January 29, 2019
Contact: Alicia G. Jiménez
Public Information Officer
Email: alicia_jimenez@pvusd.net
(831) 786-2114

Pajaro Valley Unified School District Shares Paso a Paso, Step by Step, Data for January 2019

Watsonville, CA – January 29, 2018. On January 2018, Dr. Michelle Rodriguez, Pajaro Valley Unified School District Superintendent, was pleased to announce that the District successfully read almost 10 million words using Paso, Creciendo Juntos, Step by Step, Growing Together, an app promoting early literacy in English and Spanish. Today, we are so excited to present January 2019 numbers and note that the PVUSD community remains engaged and is using this valuable bilingual app. As of January 18, 2019, our community has increased 75% in words read and currently stands at over 50 million words read, which translates into over 21,000 hours of extra exposure to literacy!



“Paso a Paso, Creciendo Juntos, Step by Step, Growing together is a strategy to accomplish our PVUSD Target for Student Success, and is integral to helping every child read on grade level by 3rd grade. We are pleased to support our students and future students in becoming successful readers through Paso a Paso. Early access to literacy is key to fostering a love for reading,” Superintendent Rodriguez said.



PVUSD has been promoting this app as a supplemental literacy tool that can be used after school and during weekends. Congratulations to the following schools for being leaders in inspiring their students to use Paso a Paso, Step by Step: Hall District (5.34 million words), Amesti Elementary (5 million words), and HA Hyde Elementary (4.34 words).



Attached is PVUSD’s results sheet of Paso a Paso, Step by Step through January 18, 2019. It is a pleasure to announce that our students continue to read every day, and continue their exposure to early literacy at home and during free time at school using this valuable program.

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Amesti * Ann Soldo * Bradley * Calabasas * Diamond Technology Institute * 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 * Ceiba Charter * Linscott Charter * Pacific Coast Charter * Watsonville Charter School of the Arts * Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education



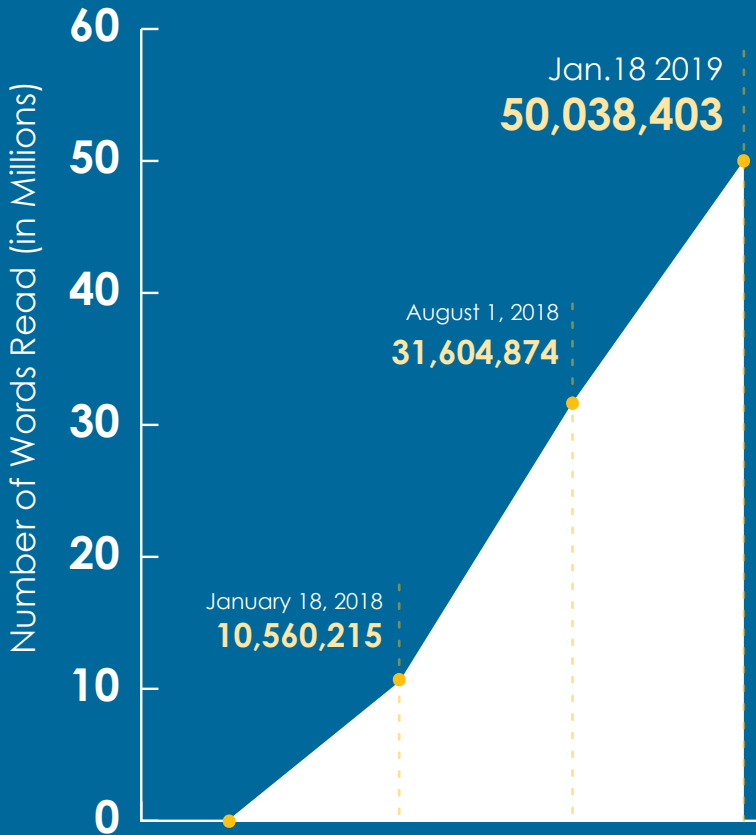
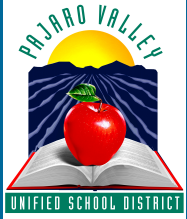
PAJARO VALLEY UNIFIED CELEBRATES OVER 50 MILLION WORDS READ



January 18, 2019

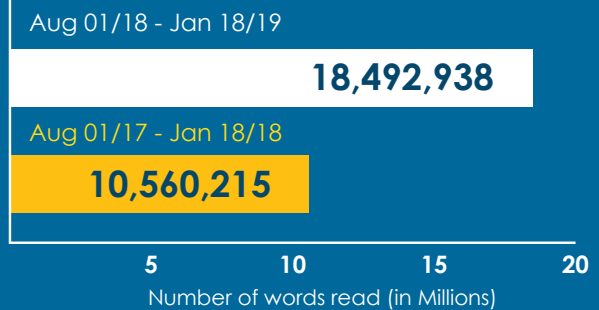
RESULTS OF PASO A PASO/STEP BY STEP EARLY LITERACY INITIATIVE

The transformative **Step by Step Growing Together early literacy initiative** has achieved a **75% increase** in words read and a **40% increase** in time spent on literacy over last year at this time. This pioneering movement brings together parents, schools, and community to increase access and development of bilingual early literacy skills in children birth – 3rd grade to help every child succeed in school.

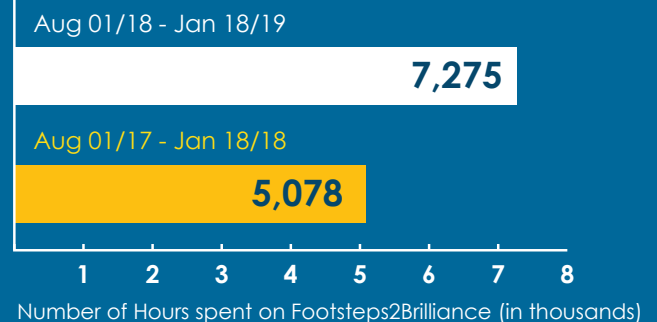


SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN USE OVER SIMILAR TIME PERIOD LAST YEAR

75% INCREASE IN WORDS READ



40% INCREASE IN TIME SPENT



WHY INVEST IN EARLY LITERACY?

Babies born today have only **2000 days** before Kindergarten.

90% of critical brain development will occur during this period.



By age 3, children in poverty hear **30 MILLION** fewer words than their affluent peers.



5/6 ●●●●●○ children who read well by 3rd grade will graduate from high school on time.

OVERALL WORDS READ LEADERBOARD

August 1, 2017 – January 18, 2019

HALL DISTRICT	5,344,892
AMESTI ELEMENTARY	5,000,178
H.A. HYDE ELEMENTARY	4,344,179
ANN SOLDO	4,293,432
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDU	4,100,300