



For Immediate Release

1401 W. Valencia Drive
Fullerton, CA 92833
714-447-7480

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FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Robert C. Fisler School Celebrates Recognition as a School to Watch

(Fullerton, CA) – Robert C. Fisler School has been named as one of California’s 2023 Schools to Watch-Taking Center Stage model middle schools. The school will also be recognized in March in Monterey, California by the California League of Schools and in Washington, D.C. in June by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform.

“We are so honored to be recognized as a 2023 Schools to Watch. Our Fisler community strives to provide a nurturing environment, where all students can thrive academically as well as socially. It is through the dedication of our staff and all of their hard work, that we are able to provide our students with excellent learning opportunities,” stated Dr. Kimberly Benaraw, Principal at Robert C. Fisler School.

These high-performing model schools demonstrate academic excellence, social equity, and responsiveness to the needs of young adolescents. Fisler School was recognized in part for its programs including targeted intervention, diverse electives, strong performing arts, support for students’ social-emotional needs, and wide range of extra-curricular activities.

Schools to Watch recognizes middle grade schools for their capacity to promote academic achievement in a safe and caring learning environment where each and every student is positioned to succeed in high school and beyond. Fisler School serves Kinder to 8th grade students in the Fullerton School District with School to Watch recognizing the middle school grades. California’s Schools to Watch-Taking Center Stage program uses a competitive, rigorous review process to identify high performing, high impact middle schools so that all middle schools may have models of real-world success.

The Schools to Watch program is sponsored by the California Department of Education, California League of Educators, and the California Middle Grades Alliance, in association with the [National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform](#). To earn this designation, schools must complete an extensive application and host a site visit by middle grades experts. In order to retain the designation, each school is re-evaluated every three years. The National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform seeks to make every middle-grades school academically excellent, responsive to the developmental need and interests of young adolescents, and socially equitable. Schools to Watch begin in 1999 as an alliance of educators,

researchers, national associations, and officers of professional organizations and foundations committed to promoting the academic performance and healthy development of children. For more information about the program, please visit the [CLMS High Performing Middle School Models](#)

The Fullerton School District is located in northern Orange County, California and serves over 11,600 students in grades TK – 8th. The Fullerton School District includes 21 schools, 15 elementary schools, two K-8th grade schools, three middle schools, and a distance learning and home school model. The mission of the Fullerton School District is to work collaboratively with the community to provide an innovative, high-quality educational program for all students in a safe learning environment. The District motto, “*Great Schools - Successful Kids*” exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic excellence, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society. For more information, call 714/447-7400 or visit www.fullertonsd.org.

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For more information, please feel free to contact Dr. Robert Pletka/Superintendent at 714/447-7410