



# SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To inspire,  
engage,  
challenge, and  
support all  
students to  
reach their  
highest level of  
learning and  
personal  
development.

Dear Sierra Unified Families,

I hope this message finds you and your family safe and well. The start of the school year always brings a sense of excitement and renewal, and it has been wonderful to see our students settling into their classrooms, reconnecting with friends, and engaging in new learning opportunities.

This past week, our community was once again reminded of the challenges that wildfires bring. With smoke and poor air quality shifting throughout the day, we often needed to move activities quickly from outdoors to indoors. I want to sincerely thank our staff for their quick thinking, flexibility, and commitment to making sure students remained safe while still engaged in learning. I am equally grateful to our families for their patience and understanding as schedules shifted—your support allows us to focus fully on caring for students during these unpredictable conditions.

I want to extend sincere gratitude to Michele Cantwell-Copher, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, for visiting Sierra Unified and offering support and resources should they be needed. She has a deep understanding of the unique needs of small districts in our county, and her partnership reinforces the strength of our broader educational community.

To further reassure families, our classrooms are equipped with MERV-13 filters, which are designed for commercial settings and remove harmful particulates from the air. In addition, outside air is not drawn into our HVAC units during these smoky days, helping to ensure the air in our classrooms is as clean and safe as possible for students and staff.

Together, we are building a stronger Sierra Unified—one where every student is supported, engaged, and prepared for what lies ahead. Thank you for your continued partnership in this important work.

### Measure U Update

Our architect and general contractor recently met with district leadership to review schematic designs and confirm the scope of our projects.

We are establishing standards for classrooms and exterior finishes while carefully balancing the available funds.

The next Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9, at 5:30 p.m.

With gratitude,

Dr. Lori Grace  
Superintendent