



West Sonoma County Union High School District

462 Johnson Street, Sebastopol, California 95472
(707) 824-6403 (707) 823-2629 Fax

ANALY HIGH SCHOOL ♦ EL MOLINO HIGH SCHOOL ♦ LAGUNA HIGH SCHOOL

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NAMES

ANALY HIGH SCHOOL and EL MOLINO HIGH SCHOOL

2009 CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS!

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell has announced that both El Molino High School and Analy High School have been named 2009 California Distinguished Schools! It is the fourth time that both West Sonoma County high schools have been named California Distinguished Schools since the award program began.

Only 125 high schools across the state (less than 8% of all California high schools) were selected as 2009 California Distinguished Schools. High schools are eligible for this prestigious award every four years.

Keller McDonald, West Sonoma County Union High School District Superintendent, explained what it takes to be recognized as one of the top schools in the state. "Distinguished High Schools must show that they provide all students with a rigorous education that is relevant to their lives. They must prepare students for success in postsecondary education or the workforce. They must also prepare students to be resilient and able to adapt in a highly competitive, quickly-evolving global environment."

Each 2009 California Distinguished School met challenging goals for measurable academic achievement of all students and provided evidence that they are closing the achievement gaps between student groups. Each Distinguished School was asked to identify and describe school-wide programs or practices that set their school apart as a leader in academic achievement. These effective practices will be highlighted on the California Department of Education website so that schools across the state can learn from the success of the Distinguished Schools.

An awards ceremony honoring the 2009 California Distinguished Schools will be held Friday, May 29 at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim. For a complete list of 2009 Distinguished Schools, plus information about the California School Recognition Program and a list of corporations, foundations, and associations whose generous contributions help support the awards program, please visit: www.cde.ca.gov/ta/st/cs/.

"The mission of the West Sonoma County Union High School District is to provide high quality instruction as student achievement is our top priority."