



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Cardiff School District Selected as a 2022 California Pivotal Practice Award Program Winner**

**Cardiff by the Sea, CA** (May 4, 2022) – [Cardiff School District](#) is pleased to announce that the District has been selected as a 2022 California Pivotal Practice (CAPP) Award Program Winner by the California Department of Education (CDE.) The California Pivotal Practice Award Program recognizes significant achievements and innovative practices that were implemented by districts or schools during the 2020–21 school year when California required schools to offer distance learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While school districts throughout California pivoted many times during the 2020-2021 school year, Cardiff School District is specifically being recognized for exceptional methods of maintaining student engagement, distribution and use of technology implemented, and AM/PM hybrid, in-person learning model employed during distance learning.

“This award is a direct reflection of the advanced thinking and intentional tools that our teaching professionals in the Cardiff School District have implemented over the past decade,” said Rhea Stewart, Cardiff School District Board of Trustees President. “The administration, teachers, staff, students, parents, and community pivoted with more ease and success because each of them had a strong foundation upon which innovation and outside-the-box learning could be developed. This is just another example of why we should continue to push our forward-thinking and capabilities.”

The winners of the 2022 California Pivotal Practice (CAPP) Award received thanks for their “outstanding efforts on behalf of students in exceptionally challenging times,” said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond in an email to the District.

Well before Cardiff School District had to pivot teaching methods, the District and its partnership with students, parents, staff and the community focused on its vision; “Lifelong Learners, Contributing Citizens, Educational Excellence.” Engaging with the students in a variety of educational methods and classes, prior to distance learning, set the groundwork to continue virtual engagement with their primary teachers as well as in weekly specialty classes in the areas of science, PE, gardening, music and/or Spanish. Additionally, the future-focused thinking of the Cardiff School District led to the building of a technology infrastructure well before COVID-19. At the onset of the pandemic when schools needed to pivot to *virtual* distance learning, Cardiff schools were able to persevere and provide learning experiences to its students right away through its established (2011) 1:1 iPad program. As school guidance changed, Cardiff School District’s AM/PM hybrid model allowed teachers to re-engage by providing students with consistent, small-group, in-person learning half of the day and continued learning asynchronously the other half of the day using technology.

During the pandemic, the District learned many things about engaging and strengthening student learning through the use of technology. Teachers continue to implement new strategies and tools to enhance blended learning environments in their classrooms and extend student learning into the entire world. Video conferencing continues to create opportunities for efficient parent/teacher, special education and administrative meetings when needed. After years of successful technology integration, the District is currently upgrading its network infrastructure to maintain a modern teaching and learning environment for all students.

A component of the California Department of Education (CDE) [California School Recognition Program \(CSR\)](#), the California Pivotal Practice (CAPP) Program is being utilized by California in 2022 in place of the [California Distinguished Schools \(DS\) Program](#).

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