



**Rosemead
School District**
Established in 1859

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Press Release

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Rosemead School District Welcomes Dr. Jacqueline Duncan, as the New Principal of Encinita Elementary School

Rosemead, California – The Rosemead School District is proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Jacqueline Duncan as the new principal of Encinita Elementary School. Dr. Duncan will officially join the Encinita Eagles family in July of 2025. Dr. Duncan’s appointment was officially approved by the Board of Trustees at its April 17, 2025, regularly scheduled meeting.

Dr. Duncan brings over two decades of experience in public education, including roles as a teacher, assistant principal, district director, and most recently, principal of Bay Laurel Elementary School. Her leadership has consistently focused on improving student outcomes, expanding equity and access, and creating supportive, inclusive school communities.

At Bay Laurel, Dr. Duncan implemented a CAASPP improvement plan that led to measurable gains in student achievement, including a 5% increase in Math CAASPP scores and a reduction in chronic absenteeism from 12% to 4% within a year. She also successfully led the school in achievement RAMP (Recognized ASCA Model Program) status, making it one of only 30 elementary schools in California with this distinction.



“On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am delighted to welcome Dr. Jacqueline Duncan to the Rosemead School District family,” said Board President Mrs. Diane Benitez. “We look forward to working with her and seeing all the great things she will bring to Encinita.”

“We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Duncan to the Rosemead School District family,” said Dr. Philip D’Agostino, Superintendent of Schools. “Her proven track record in instructional leadership, data-driven decision-making, and deep commitment to student well-being make her an outstanding fit for Encinita. Dr. Duncan’s extensive experience, her passion for student success, and her commitment to equity and excellence align perfectly with our district’s values. We are confident that under her leadership, Encinita Elementary School Eagles will continue to soar, flourish, and provide an exceptional learning environment for all students.”

Dr. Duncan holds a Doctor of Education in Organizational Change and Leadership from the University of Southern California, a master’s degree in Applied School Leadership, and a bachelor’s degree in History with honors from UC Berkeley. She is also a recognized leader in the field, recently named the 2025 ACSA Region 13 Elementary Principal of the Year and CAAPLE Principal of the Year.

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“I am truly humbled by joining school and community with such heart dedication and positive spirit. Before all else, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the profound loss of Principal Joo. I understand what a tremendous void his absence leaves behind and I come into this role with deep respect for his memory. My hope is to continue the incredible work he began, and honor his legacy by leading with passion, integrity, and purpose,” expressed Dr. Jacqueline Duncan, the next Principal of Encinita.

The Board of Trustees and administration welcome Dr. Jacqueline Duncan to the Rosemead School District family and look forward to working with her.

ABOUT ENCINITA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

Encinita Elementary School is a public school serving students in Pre-School through 6th grade located at 4515 North Encinita Avenue in Rosemead, California. Established in 1980, Encinita is a part of the Rosemead Elementary School District. It is led by part-time interim principals Mrs. Ginny Ford and Mrs. Jan Brydle and serve a diverse student population.

Encinita is home to the District’s Mandarin Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program currently in its 5th year. Encinita offers a variety of programs aimed at fostering academic excellence and personal growth. Notably, the school implements the “Leader in Me” program, which focuses on developing leadership skills in students by promoting personal responsibility, goal setting, and teamwork. Additionally, Encinita employs and has been recognized with a Platinum Level Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Award, reflecting its strong focus on positive student behavior and a positive school climate learning environment.

To learn more about the program offerings at Encinita Elementary School, please visit the school main office, call (626) 286-3155, or visit the school website at www.rosemead.k12.ca.us/encinita.

ABOUT THE ROSEMEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Rosemead School District (RSD) serves students who reside in Rosemead, as well as portions of El Monte, San Gabriel, and Temple City. RSD serves 2,431 students in four PK-6 elementary schools (Encinita, Mildred B. Janson, Savannah, and Emma W. Shuey Elementary Schools) and one 7-8 middle school (Muscatel Middle School). We are proud partners with the City of Rosemead and deeply value our responsibility to serve our community and its children.

For more information about the Rosemead School District, please visit www.rosemead.k12.ca.us. For more information about school educational programs, please contact the Educational Services Department at (626) 312-2900, extension 213. To learn more about the Mandarin Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program at Encinita Elementary School, visit <https://www.rosemead.k12.ca.us/domain/321>. We encourage everyone to follow the Rosemead School District through the free Rosemead Mobile App and download it today (for instructions, visit <https://www.rosemead.k12.ca.us>). Stay informed about the great things happening at the Rosemead School District via Twitter [@CommunicateRSD](https://twitter.com/CommunicateRSD).

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