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## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear El Monte Union Community,

On behalf of the District and Board of Trustees, I want to welcome you all to an excit ng year at El Monte Union. We have so much to be proud of and so many successes to build on.

The beginning of a new year is always a special t me for me. My greatest joy is seeing freshmen take their f rst steps on a high school campus, facing new horizons as they cont nue their journey toward college and career with conf dence and opt mism. Our newest college-bound students are greeted by Link Crew leaders, a volunteer group of upperclassmen who are mot vated to be posit ve

role models and mentors, commit ed to providing leadership throughout the school year.

Many El Monte Union students are the f rst in their



## MENSAJE DEL SUPERINTENDENTE

FALL 2018/OTO O DE 2018

Teacher Recognized for Support ng Special Educat on Students

El Monte High School special educat on teacher Raelene Felix has been recognized with the Except onal Special Educat on Teacher Award by the West San Gabriel Valley Special Educat on Local Plan Area (SELPA) consort um for her t reless advocacy on behalf of special educat on and for her dedicat on to her students' academic and socioemot onal success.

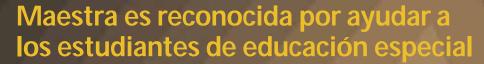
"Every day, I am mot vated by our students who face tremendous obstacles, but cont nue to come to school ready to challenge themselves and persevere," Felix said. "It is an honor to accept the award and a privilege to prepare our students for future success."

Felix works with students in the Career Skills Prep Academy (CSPA), established in 2014 at El Monte High School to assist students with mild to moderate disabilit es who are not on track to earn a diploma and are not meet ng core standards.

The program serves 11th-and 12th-grade students from across the District and provides students with work experience and community service opportunities.

Af er complet on of the CSPA program, students are able to continue their education at the Adult Transit on Center.

"The CSPA program has helped improve my life by helping me be more responsible, become a bet er reader and listener and be more act ve and communicat ve with people I may not know," former student Cody Turcato said. "It's helped me to keep moving forward and never give up."



La maestra de educación especial de El Monte High School, Raelene Felix, ha sido reconocida con el Premio a la Maestra Excepcional de Educación Especial por el consorcio del Plan Local de Educación Especial del área oeste del Valle de San Gabriel (SELPA) por su incansable defensa en nombre de la educación especial y por su dedicación al éxito académico y socioemocional de sus estudiantes.

"Cada día me inspiro en nuestros estudiantes, quienes, a pesar de enfrentar grandes obstáculos, cont núan asist endo a las escuelas listos para desaf arse a sí mismos y perseverar", dijo Felix. "Es un honor aceptar este premio y un privilegio preparar a nuestros estudiantes para un futuro exitoso".

Felix trabaja con los estudiantes en la Academia de Preparación para Habilidades Profesionales (CSPA), establecida el 2014 en El Monte High School para ayudar a los



estudiantes con discapacidades menores a moderadas que no están en camino de obtener un diploma y no cumplen con los estándares básico.

El programa está al servicio de los estudiantes de los grados onceavo y doceavo de todo el Distrito y les brinda experiencia de trabajo y oportunidades de servicio comunitario.

Después de completar el programa CSPA, los estudiantes serán capaces de cont nuar su educación en el Centro de Transición de Adultos.

"El programa CSPA me ha ayudado a mejorar mi vida, ayudándome a ser más responsable, a convert rme en un mejor lector y saber escuchar, y ser más act vo y comunicat vo con personas que quizás no conozca", se expresó el exalumno Cody Turcato. "Me ayudó a seguir adelante y nunca rendirme".

South El Monte High School bustled as hundreds of students and their parents spoke with representat ves from more than 30 colleges and universit es during El Monte Union's annual College Night and Resource Fair in September.

Students received informat on on programs, act vit es, entrance requirements and degrees of ered by part cipat ng two- and four-year universit es, including UC Berkeley, UCLA, Cal State Los Angeles and Rio Hondo College. Representat ves from the armed forces were also present.

For Mountain View High School junior Angel Jimenez, who is undecided about which colleges to apply to, College Night enabled him to acquire enough informat on about higher educat on to make an informed choice.

"I'm here to look at UC schools," he said. "Everybody talks about them, but I want to see if they are as good as everyone says."

The resource fair featured student support services such as Cal-SOAP, Foothill Family Services, El Monte/Rosemead Adult School and the El Monte Promise Foundat on. Students and parents part cipated in the college-preparedness workshops FAFSA 101, Dream ACT 101, Systems of Higher Ed and Senior Timeline.

"On College Night, you can feel the excitement in the air as students really begin to see the possibilit es of their future in higher educat on," Superintendent Dr. Edward Zuniga said. "Talking to the reps and f lling out registrat on cards is a huge step forward in their lives."

South El Monte High School se llenó de visitantes en sept embre, cuando cientos de estudiantes se reunieron, junto a sus padres, con los representantes de más de 30 universidades y otras inst tuciones de educación superior, durante la Noche Universitaria y Feria de Recursos Anual de El Monte Union.

Los estudiantes recibieron la información sobre los programas, act vidades, requerimientos para ser aceptados y diplomas ofrecidos por parte de las universidades (de dos y cuatro años de estudio) part cipantes, entre las que estuvieron: UC Berkeley, UCLA, Cal State Los Angeles y Rio Hondo College. Los representantes de las fuerzas armadas también estuvieron presentes en el establecimiento.

Para el estudiante de penúlt mo grado de Mountain View High School, Angel Jimenez, que se encuentra



Para asegurar que los estudiantes de primer año