Distinguished Schools Presentation

Continuous innovation in learning, teaching, and the school environment.

Our Kids Deserve the Best!

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Our Kids Deserve the Best!

Downey Unified

All students graduate with a 21st Century education that ensures they are college and career ready, globally competitive, and citizens of strong character.

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Innovative Schools

Apple states:

We believe Apple Distinguished Schools are some of the most innovative schools in the world. They're centers of leadership and educational excellence that demonstrate our vision of exemplary learning with Apple technology. Leaders in our recognized schools cultivate environments that use Apple products to connect students to the world, fuel creativity, deepen collaboration, and make learning personal.

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Distinguished School

Congratulations!

GAULDIN ELEMENTARY

IMPERIAL ELEMENTARY

LEWIS ELEMENTARY

LEWIS ALL STARS

OLD RIVER ELEMENTARY

RIO SAN GABRIEL ELEMENTARY

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DUSD

The Journey

History of the 21 CLC Initiative

- 2015/16 - Formal implementation of 21st Century Learning Communities (21CLC) Cohort 1
- Professional development and Professional Learning Communities (PLC) became the foundation for the development and growth of the 21 CLC model
- Each school had one grade level apply to join Cohort 1
- Each school site was assigned an Instructional Technology Coach (ITC)
- Each year additional cohorts were added
- Annually, each grade level and school hosted a Technology Showcase for the community

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Invitation to Apply

How are you invited to apply for ADS?

- Established 1:1 program
- Innovative use of the Apple platform
- Staff proficient with iPad or Mac (Educators are Apple Certified Teachers)
- Documented success with a variety of data

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Distinguished Schools Encompass

Communication

The effective use of oral, written and nonverbal cues to convey thoughts and ideas in a variety of formats, for a range of purposes.

Collaboration

Individuals working in a coordinated, synchronous effort towards a common goal or to solve a problem.

Critical Thinking

The cognitive ability to effectively analyze, interpret, evaluate, and synthesize information to draw conclusions or produce outcomes.

Creativity

The ability of a group or individual find new ways to accomplish tasks or create connections between concepts and ideas. Using their imagination and resourcefulness, students can think outside the box and see the world around them in different ways.

CC!

DUSD uses the six pillars of character as a foundation for all we do.

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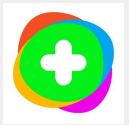
Integration Tools

Communication



Collaboration

Critical Thinking

Creativity

CC!

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Vision in Action

The Vision

- Inspire others to be leaders, innovative, creative, think critically, and explore
- Student voice and choice
- Learning is limitless
- Creative freedom and thinking
- Celebrations of learning
- Connect
- Growth mindset
- Celebrate learning

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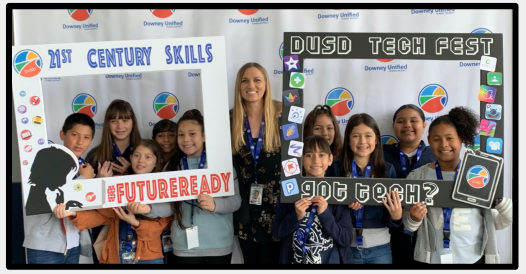
Learning in Action

Learning

- Interactive
- Collaborative
- Deep understanding of content
- Student leadership (Technology Squads, Character Council, Robotics, etc.)
- Opportunities to communicate thinking
- Student centered
- Developing risk takers and perseverance
- Student reflection
- Voice and choice



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Designers of Learning Experiences

Teachers and Staff

- Continuously seek opportunities to learn and grow in their craft
- Influence and inspire students and each other
- Empowered to share innovative practices with each other across their site and District
- Create engaging lessons and opportunities that push students to be critical thinkers and spark curiosity and inspire students to take initiative in their own learning
- All teachers and administrators are Apple certified
- Teachers are on constant quest to stay current, connected, and innovative
- Teachers provide differentiated learning

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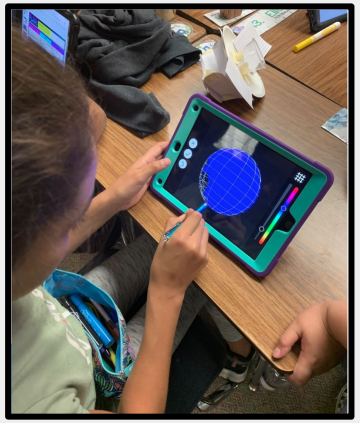
Success in Action

Success

- Positive attitude toward learning
- Student engagement
- Increase in family engagement
- Student leadership
- Culture of continuous innovation
- Partnerships
- Innovation Labs/Broadcasting studios
- Developing skills for future jobs
- Staff feels prepared to teach using technology



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Design for the Future

Next Steps...

- Continuing to build collaborative learning environments where students inspire innovation and creativity
- Expansion of Student Tech Squads, Robotics, and coding programs
- Student created podcasts
- App design challenges
- Continued professional learning
- Augmented reality
- Additional eight elementary schools will begin ADS process over next two years

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ADS School Applications

Congratulations!

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