



CABE 2026 SEAL OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL AWARD

CENTRAL LANGUAGE ACADEMY

James Valadez, Principal

Ontario-Montclair School District

James Q. Hammond, Superintendent

<https://www.omsd.net/>



Central Language Academy (CLA) in the **Ontario-Montclair School District** exemplifies the vision and promise of high-quality dual language education, making it a deserving recipient of the **CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award**. Serving students in grades kindergarten through eight, CLA is a vibrant, language-rich learning community, grounded in rigorous academics, biliteracy development, and culturally responsive practices.

At the core of CLA's success is its well-implemented **90/10 dual language immersion model**, which begins with 90% instruction in Spanish and gradually balances to a 50/50 English–Spanish model by fifth grade. Classrooms intentionally integrate English- and Spanish-dominant students to promote authentic language interaction and equitable access to grade-level content, supported by high-quality instructional materials such as *Maravillas*. Once students demonstrate proficiency in English and Spanish, they may pursue Mandarin Chinese as a third language, further expanding their multilingual capacity. CLA is also a leader in biliteracy pathways. The school pioneered the **Pathway to Biliteracy Awards** at grades 3, 6, and 8—an innovative model now adopted by more than 30 schools across the district that is successfully preparing students for the State Seal of Biliteracy. Sociocultural competence is intentionally fostered through monthly global themes, multicultural assemblies, and a diverse library collection that affirms identity and builds empathy.

The strength of CLA lies in its people. Dedicated educators, deeply engaged families, and enthusiastic students work together to create a close-knit, inclusive community. Through sustained professional learning, strong family partnerships, and meaningful student engagement, Central Language Academy prepares confident, compassionate, and multilingual learners ready to thrive as global citizens. CABE is proud to honor **Central Language Academy** with the **CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award**.

CABE is honored to recognize Central Language Academy as a recipient of the CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award!



CABE 2026 SEAL OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL AWARD

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

John J. Jimenez, Principal
Salinas City Elementary School District
Dr. Rebeca Andrade, Superintendent
<https://www.salinascityesd.org/>



Lincoln Elementary School stands as a powerful symbol of resilience, community commitment, and educational excellence in the **Salinas City Elementary School District**, making it a deserving recipient of the **CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award**. Serving the community since 1870, Lincoln has evolved alongside the city it serves. After facing closure in 2005 due to declining enrollment, the school experienced a remarkable revitalization beginning in 2007, driven by visionary leadership, dedicated staff, and strong family advocacy. Reopening in 2008 as a Neighborhood/Choice school with just 56 students, Lincoln's journey reflects the strength of collective belief in the power of education.

A cornerstone of Lincoln's success is its **Dual Immersion Program**, established in response to community demand and grounded in the research-based 90/10 model. By 2022, Lincoln became a full dual immersion school, graduating its final cohort of Sheltered English Immersion students and fully embracing bilingual education. Today, Lincoln serves approximately 670 students in preschool through sixth grade, including 128 English learners, and proudly celebrates students' biliteracy with recognition toward the Seal of Biliteracy at sixth-grade promotion. Lincoln is also a leader in Monterey County, hosting school visits to share effective dual language instructional practices.

Academic rigor at Lincoln is paired with intentional social-emotional learning. Guided by the "Three R's"—Respectful, Responsible, and Ready to Learn—the school fosters a supportive, inclusive culture through PBIS and schoolwide community-building events. Strong family engagement through ELAC, DELAC, School Site Council, and cultural celebrations further strengthens this foundation. Lincoln Elementary School's unwavering commitment to biliteracy, cultural pride, and high expectations exemplifies the values of the **CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award**, preparing students to thrive academically, socially, and as globally competent learners.

CABE is honored to recognize Lincoln Elementary School as a recipient of the CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award!



CABE 2026 SEAL OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL AWARD

RORIMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Heidi West, Principal
Rowland Unified School District
Alex Flores, Superintendent

<https://www.rowlandschools.org/>



Rorimer Elementary School, in the **Rowland Unified School District**, is a shining example of how bilingualism, biliteracy, and multicultural appreciation can be authentically embedded across an entire school community. Built in 1980, Rorimer serves approximately 440 students in grades TK–6 in La Puente, California, with plans to expand to seventh and eighth grade. Its modernized classrooms, thoughtfully landscaped campus, and scenic views of the San Gabriel Mountains create a welcoming and inspiring environment for learning.

At Rorimer, bilingualism and multicultural appreciation extend beyond the dual language classrooms and are woven into the culture and daily practices of the entire school. Instruction integrates English and Spanish to promote biliteracy and multiliteracy, with explicit goals for high levels of proficiency in both languages. The program builds pride in students' heritage languages while fostering an inclusive environment that recognizes linguistic and cultural diversity as assets. This work is especially meaningful in a community where 94% of students identify as Hispanic/Latino, 5% as Asian, 94% are socioeconomically disadvantaged, and 47% are English learners.

A point of pride for Rorimer is its expanding **Dual Immersion Program**, serving TK–6 and continuing into middle and high school. Guided by three core goals—bilingualism, biliteracy, and multicultural competence—the program is supported by a collaborative school culture and strong family partnerships. Together, educators and families inspire students to become confident, lifelong learners who contribute positively to society.

Rorimer's intentional, schoolwide commitment to equity, excellence, and multilingual education exemplifies the values of the **CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award**.

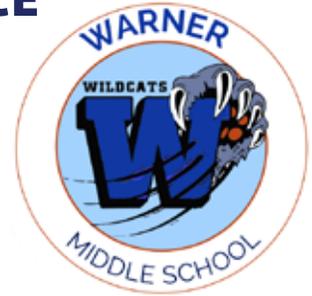
CABE is honored to recognize Rorimer Elementary School as a recipient of the CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award!



CABE 2026 SEAL OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL AWARD

WARNER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dr. Kenneth Lopour, Principal
Westminster School District
Gunn Marie Hansen, Superintendent
<https://www.wsdk8.us/>



Willis Warner Middle School stands as a beacon of educational excellence in the **Westminster School District**, serving its community with pride since 1961. As a Title I school educating approximately 860 students in grades 6–8, Warner Middle School is deeply committed to academic achievement, personal growth, and the emotional well-being of every learner.

The school's demographics reflect the rich cultural fabric of Westminster, home to one of the largest Vietnamese-American communities in the United States. Warner's student population is approximately 48% Vietnamese, 48% Hispanic/Latino, and includes students from many other backgrounds, with more than a dozen languages spoken in students' homes. This linguistic and cultural diversity is embraced as a powerful asset, shaping an inclusive learning environment where students and staff learn from one another and celebrate multicultural identities.

A cornerstone of Warner's success is its **Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion (VDLI) program**, which promotes bilingualism and biliteracy while honoring students' cultural heritage. Using a 50/50 instructional model, students receive Social Studies instruction in Vietnamese alongside advanced language and culture courses, while continuing rigorous coursework in English, taught classes such as Math, Science, and ELA. Warner proudly celebrated the promotion of the **first middle school VDLI cohort in the state**, marking a significant milestone in dual language education.

Strong community partnerships further support student success. Collaborations with organizations such as the Westminster Family Resource Center, OCAPICA, and Western Youth Services provide vital social and mental health services for students and families. Through its commitment to academic excellence, cultural pride, and community engagement, Willis Warner Middle School exemplifies the values of the **CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award**, preparing students to thrive in school, career, and an interconnected global society.

CABE is honored to recognize Warner Middle School as a recipient of the CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award!