



## Superintendent's Message 2014-15



**Dr. Aaron Haughton**

I would like to share some important developments as we are in the midst of significant change and reform in education.

In 2014-15, as required by the state, we will be moving forward with implementation of our recently adopted Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). The LCAP was written with the input of staff, parents, and community members and is designed to produce specific outcomes. The LCAP will guide our decision-making and enhance budget planning. Further, the LCAP will support and build upon our implementation of such practices as Response to Intervention (RtI), Explicit Direct Instruction (EDI), Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

The LCAP has eight key state priorities that will drive our efforts. These are: Student Engagement; Student Achievement; Basic Services; Other Student Outcomes; Implementation of Common Core State Standards; Parental Involvement; School Climate; and Course Access. The LCAP requires greater focus and accountability in meeting goals and outcomes.

Although all eight areas of the LCAP are of importance, in 2014-15 added focus will be given to the area of "School Climate." To assist in this, two days of additional planning time have been added for this purpose. The importance of enhancing safety and school connectedness or "School Climate" is a strong theme that emerged during the development of the LCAP. Addressing School climate will require a high level of collaboration and 100% support and participation to ensure successful implementation. Research-based and proven programs such as Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) and Restorative Justice will be given consideration along with allocating needed resources. Improving School Climate, will also require continued implementation of CCSS as we provide greater rigor and relevance in instruction, and work to enhance relationships.

In developing the District's budget for 2014-15, program priorities as outlined in the LCAP are the focus of our spending. The new state budgeting process includes a radical overhaul to how public schools receive funding. This is called the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). The LCFF is designed to gradually restore schools to pre-recession funding levels, but not until 2020-21. This has resulted in some restoration of programs and positions after years of spending cuts (see "What's New for MUSD 2014-15 at [www.mojave.k12.ca.us/](http://www.mojave.k12.ca.us/)).

We have a lot to do and a lot to look forward to in 2014-15.

Wishing us much success!