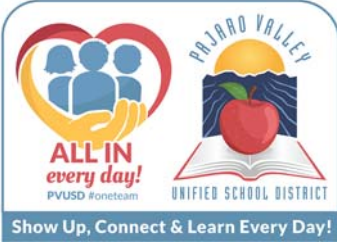


PAJARO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District is to educate and to support learners in reaching their highest potential. We prepare students to pursue successful futures and to make positive **contributions to the community and global society.**



Press Release

Date: October 14, 2019

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Public Information Officer

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UC Santa Cruz chancellor highlights postsecondary pathways, inspires PVUSD students to pursue postsecondary education FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

Watsonville, CA. October 14, 2019 – Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD) will welcome UC Santa Cruz Chancellor Cynthia K. Larive who will address hundreds of students at Watsonville High School to deliver the message that an education at the University of California is attainable as part of an annual Achieve UC outreach effort.

“As a first-generation college student, I experienced firsthand the capacity of higher education institutions – and that of UC in particular – to level the playing field for all students, regardless of their socioeconomic backgrounds, and to positively transform their lives and their futures,” Larive said.

This is a collaborative event involving the UC Santa Cruz Educational Partnership Center, the Early Academic Outreach Program, Watsonville High School, and PVUSD. Larive will speak to approximately 500 Watsonville High School students and some parents on Monday, Oct. 28. Achieve UC will feature a welcome reception, assembly and college fair. College representatives will be on hand to talk to students about applying to college, the availability of scholarships, and financial aid.

"We believe at Pajaro Valley Unified School District that all students should graduate from our schools prepared for college or career," Pajaro Valley Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Michelle Rodriguez said. "We are making significant progress towards that goal. Achieve UC is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about the University of California system. PVUSD students will hear from experts about acceptance requirements, financial aid options and the benefits of attending a UC." Dr. Rodriguez will be giving welcoming remarks at this event.

The University of California has one of the most comprehensive financial aid programs in the nation with 58 percent of California students receiving enough aid to completely cover their tuition and fees, and 75 percent paying less than the standard sticker price.

Students often are unaware of the range of resources available to make college affordable for all Californians. UC's [Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan](#), for instance, covers the full cost of tuition for students whose families earn \$80,000 a year or less. More than half of UC undergraduates who are California residents pay no tuition thanks to the Blue and Gold Plan and other grants and scholarships.

Students are often surprised to learn how many from their school who apply to UC get in--2 out of every 3 California students that apply to UC are admitted.

Initiatives like Achieve UC are helping to broadcast this message statewide, with the aim of encouraging more students to pursue their postsecondary dreams, goals, and aspirations.

When: Monday, Oct. 28, 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

- 12:30 p.m.-1 pm - Welcome Reception
- 1:15 p.m.-2:10 p.m. - Assembly: Chancellor's Keynote Address
- 1 p.m.-3 p.m. - College Fair

Where: Watsonville High School, 250 East Beach St., Watsonville, CA 95076

Who: UC Santa Cruz Chancellor Cynthia Larive

What: Larive's visit is part of Achieve UC, an annual effort that brings University of California leaders to underserved high schools with information to help students prepare for college.

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Note to reporters:

More information is available from Yesenia Cervantes, Director, South Zone Direct Services, Educational Partnership Center, UC Santa Cruz, [831-459-1831](tel:831-459-1831)

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