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Our History




- MCOE launches Literacy Coalition of Merced County in February 2018 to mobilize a community engagement initiative promoting county-wide literacy.
- In April, more than 80 community stake holders convened to formulate ideas.
- In June, more than 90 organizations and individuals signed as charter members of the Literacy Coalition of Merced County.

Literacy Compact



- The Literacy Coalition of Merced County has been organized for the specific charge of elevating literacy levels in our area.
- Literacy rates in a given community correlate directly to the well-being of that community.
- Working together to raise literacy rates, we will raise the quality of life for us, our families, and our neighbors.


WE PLEDGE TO BUILD SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS TO CREATE A PATH TO PROSPERITY THROUGH IMPROVED LITERACY



It is a fact: Literacy rates in a given community correlate directly to the well-being of that community. The ability to read and write is essential. Written words, numbers, and symbols are gateways to knowledge and opportunity that are only accessible to those with the ability to decipher them. The Literacy Coalition of Merced County has been organized for the specific charge of elevating literacy levels in our area. No one agency can do this alone. Working together to raise literacy rates, we will raise the quality of life for us, our families, and our neighbors.

KEY OBJECTIVES TO IMPROVE LITERACY IN OUR COMMUNITY:

- 1 FAMILY / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
Parents are the first primary educators of their own children. Community partners enhance and support this process by making literacy a priority in the home and in society. Everyone is a teacher and we are all learners.
- 2 ACCESS TO RESOURCES**
Books, digital materials, art, music, after-school and after-work learning experiences, tutoring, reading programs and enriching opportunities must be available to every child and every adult in every community.
- 3 SCHOOL READINESS**
Our children must be ready for the start of school in kindergarten and ready for each grade thereafter. Young children's earliest experiences and environments set the stage for future development and success in school and life. We must create opportunities for children to engage in structured early learning activities. Our children must take advantage of learning opportunities available in the community every summer to keep their skills and enthusiasm for learning active.
- 4 WORKPLACE PREPARATION / ADULT LITERACY**
When we increase literacy, we increase access to current jobs and we create new jobs where they were not possible before. When young people are ready for work and when adults are literate in current workplace written and oral communication and technology, the economy improves.
- 5 LIFETIME LITERACY, TECHNOLOGY, HEALTH, AND CULTURE**
Literacy is a part of all aspects of our life. It is the key to understanding the rapidly changing world around us and to moving confidently through that world. Literacy happens everywhere we go: in the grocery store, in the doctor's office, at the mall, in the auto shop, at the park, in city hall and in our places of worship. Literacy is a life-long commitment to learning.



Family/Community Engagement



- Parents are the first primary educators of their own children.
- Community partners enhance and support this process by making literacy a priority in the home and in society.
- Everyone is a teacher and we are all learners.

Access to Resources



- Books, digital materials, art, music, after-school and after-work learning experiences, tutoring, reading programs and enriching opportunities must be available to every child and every adult in every community.
- Literacy Coalition will identify Literacy Leaders across Merced County.

School Readiness



- Our children must be ready for the start of school in kindergarten and each grade thereafter.
- We must create opportunities for children to engage in structured early learning activities.
- Our children must take advantage of learning opportunities available in the community every summer to keep their skills and enthusiasm for learning active.

Workplace Preparation & Adult Literacy



- When we increase literacy, we increase access to current jobs and we create new jobs where they were not possible before.
- When young people are ready for work and when adults are literate in current workplace written and oral communication and technology, the economy improves.

Lifetime Literacy: Technology, Health, Culture



- Literacy is key to understanding the rapidly changing world around us and to moving confidently through that world.
- Literacy happens everywhere we go: in the grocery store, in the doctor's office, at the mall, in the auto shop, at the park, in city hall and in our places of worship.
- Literacy is a life-long commitment to learning.

Become a Member and Advocate for Literacy



- Join other community leaders and sign the compact to become a member of the Literacy Coalition of Merced County.
- If you are interested in a presentation about the Literacy Coalition to a group or service club, contact Dr. Steve Tietjen at the Merced County Office of Education at (209) 381-6603.



Questions?

