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Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

Holiday cheer surrounds us and during this very busy season, with every campus visit, I see students engaged, learning, collaborating and socializing. Our students and staff are busy wrapping up the fall semester and countless celebrations and performances are scheduled. Traditionally in the fall, many of our students and staff engage in volunteer and charity work and this year is no exception. One example is our support for the students, families and schools affected by the horrible fires in Butte County through a sister school program. In coordination with the Butte and Sacramento County Offices of Education and several other local districts we joined to provide support, encouragement and resources to those affected and this work will continue throughout the upcoming year.

While celebrations bring joy and laughter, the recent fires remind us that the holiday season can also be a time of great anxiety for students and parents who may be struggling through family dynamics, financial stressors or loss. Knowing this, every year at this time, I ask staff to keep an eye and ear out for students, families and colleagues who may need some extra support. If you are aware of an individual or family that needs support, please let us know. Caring for each other during times of need is important to me and vital for building a strong community.

I will keep this winter letter relatively brief and offer you some highlights with links to more in-depth information below. Of the many important issues we will be addressing in the upcoming months, we will be focused on student performance, the budget and facility improvements across the District. Student performance always tops our priority list and progress continues to be made. We saw overall improvement on state level tests including the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) in English Language Arts and mathematics and significant improvements in the lower grades where we have focused additional resources to support On Grade Level reading for the past few years. As you review the achievement data, you will see that while significant progress has been made across many measures, we still have a great deal of work to do to ensure all students are learning in every classroom in every subject every day. This is our primary responsibility and we are committed to making it a reality everywhere in our District.

As you review our fiscal information, please keep our budget criteria in mind: Fiscal solvency, evaluating and maintaining current programs and resources, staying competitive in attracting and retaining the best and brightest employees to support our students, building upon current programs and services and finally, considering new programs and services. By pairing these principles with our approach to financial and programmatic decision making, our District and schools are better positioned to prioritize needs, find savings and improve practices. The new governor will provide his first budget proposal in January and we will keep all informed as we learn more.

To conclude, significant work continues on the facility side of the house as well. The coordination of Measure M, Prop 39, Mello Roos and state matching funds for Career and Technical Education projects continues districtwide. We are in the process of selling the second round of Measure M bonds to support the next set of projects and we are developing a financing plan that will allow us to start construction on the new Franklin Elementary School this spring. The Measure M Citizens' Oversight Committee recently presented its annual report to the Board of Trustees confirming that the Board and District staff are meeting all legal requirements and holding true to the commitments outlined in the original ballot language. The efforts of the entire team are greatly appreciated.

I wish each of you a wonderful holiday season filled with great joy and celebration and I look forward to the New Year. I am proud to be part of the Elk Grove Unified School District communities.

Sincerely,



Christopher R. Hoffman
Superintendent
Elk Grove Unified School District

Budget and School Funding

- [District Financial Outlook \(4:41:40\) | Board Presentation \(C.XVI.1.\)](#)
- [Local Control Accountability Plan \(LCAP\) at-a Glance](#)
- [LCAP Parent Survey Video](#)

Performance

- [California Dashboard](#)
- [CAASPP Press Release](#)

Facilities

- [Measure M Progress](#)