

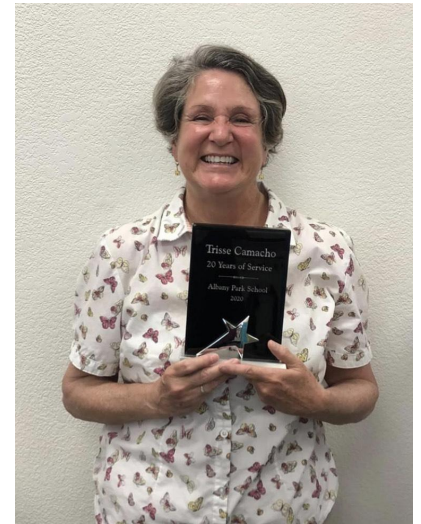
# **DELANO UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**2020 RETIREES**

# ALBANY PARK SCHOOL

Trisse Lozano Camacho  
2000 - 2020

Congrats to Trisse Camacho! She is retiring from DUSD after 20 years of service. Ms. Camacho majored in engineering at UC Berkeley. Trisse then obtained her teaching credential from Chapman and became a teacher. Trisse worked at Terrace School and then at Albany Park School. We thank her for working with our little Panthers! Ms. Camacho is moving to Stockton after retiring in order to live closer to her family. She is planning to tutor 2nd grade students in reading and plans to volunteer at the local museum. We will miss you, Trisse!



# ALBANY PARK SCHOOL

Earlene Summers  
1999 - 2020

Congrats to Earlene Summers! She is retiring from the Delano Union School District after 21 years of service. Earlene majored in Business Administration at the University of La Verne. She then completed her credential and became a teacher. Earlene worked at Terrace School and Albany Park School. We thank her for working with our little Panthers! She is looking forward to traveling. Unfortunately, she had to cancel her trip to Africa this year. However, her plan is to go to Africa in 2021. Furthermore, she wants to spend a lot of time with her friends, family, and especially her granddaughter Bella. We will miss you, Earny!



# ALMOND TREE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Maria Y. Carrillo  
1999 - 2020

Almond Tree would like to recognize and congratulate Mrs. Maria Y. Carrillo on her well-deserved retirement. Over the years Mrs. Carrillo has been a very calm and welcoming presence in our front office. Maria always came to work with a smile on her face and was prepared to give her best effort each day. Mrs. Carrillo would make sure to greet any person that entered our office and made sure to address any and all of their needs. One thing I will miss about Maria being in our office is we could always count on her for one good laugh each and every day. Congratulations Maria on your well-deserved retirement and get ready to enjoy your grandchildren.



# ALMOND TREE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Margaret “Margie” Felix  
2005 - 2020

Almond Tree Middle School Classified Employee of the Year and retiree is Mrs. Margaret Felix. Mrs. Felix is our school librarian and is tasked with keeping our library in efficient working order. Mrs. Felix is always trying to find ways to challenge our students to become better readers and locate books at the appropriate reading level in order for our students to have success. Mrs. Felix was able to open up the library early enough so that our students had that one last opportunity to complete their work or to just provide a safe environment to interact with friends. Known throughout our office as “Margie”, we could always count on her to give us a good laugh or an honest opinion. Congratulations Margie on being recognize as the ATMS Classified Employee of the year for 2019-2020 and get ready to enjoy your retirement.



# CECIL AVENUE MATH & SCIENCE ACADEMY

Thomas Clowers  
1993 - 1998  
2001 - 2020



Tom Clowers began his career in the Delano Union School District at what was then Cecil Avenue Jr. High in September of 1993 as a Social Studies Teacher. He left the District briefly, but returned in 2001. In 2016-17, Mr. Clowers returned to Cecil Avenue to finish out his career. He has served as a Social Studies Department Chair and has also demonstrated a passion for the guitar, serving as the advisor for the school Guitar Club. Staff and students alike will miss his split-fingered “Spock” greeting and friendly demeanor. Mr. Clowers, you will be missed.

# CECIL AVENUE MATH & SCIENCE ACADEMY

Nancy Marquez  
2006 - 2020

Nancy Marquez has been working for the Delano Union School District since September 2006. Nancy has spent her entire 14 years working at one school site, Cecil Avenue. She started in the resource room and is retiring as the librarian for the school. Nancy is a hard worker and well beloved by all. She is known for her amazing desserts, especially her strawberry cake, and her ability to decorate the library to make the students and staff feel welcome during various occasions. Nancy will be missed by all and we wish her the best in retirement.



# DEL VISTA MATH & SCIENCE ACADEMY

Stella Quinonez  
1997 - 2020



Stella Quiñonez has been a child care aide in the district for many years. She was hired as a child care aide at Fremont Child Care in 1998, working with site supervisor Sylvia Guron. She worked at Fremont for 16 years before moving to Nueva Vista Family Literacy Preschool, where she worked for three years. For the past three years, she has continued as a child care aide at two locations -- with Karen Prather and staff at Del Vista Preschool when school is in session, and then with Lorena Valenzuela and staff back at Fremont Child Care during summers and other school breaks. Stella said that she will miss the children and parents, and has been thankful that she has had the opportunity during our current closure to call a group of children and parents once a week. The parents thanked her for all the help she gave to their children. Stella plans to keep busy during retirement with activities around the house, working with her church family, and shopping.



# DEL VISTA MATH & SCIENCE ACADEMY

Karen Prather  
1993 - 2020



It is bittersweet to see Teacher Karen retiring after providing the children of Delano with so many years of love and support. She began teaching preschool as site supervisor at Del Vista in 1992 and remained teaching there until now. Before teaching preschool, she began substituting in the district's Superstar Program. Karen has joyfully taught many generations of families. She has 41 years total working with children and families, which includes the private sector. She has been a mentor to many child care aides, teachers, and site supervisors during her 28 years with the district. Thank you, teacher Karen, for creating wonderful memories with your students. We wish her the best in her new endeavors. She will be missed.

# FREMONT SCHOOL

Debra Speck  
1996 - 2020



Debra Speck, Site Resource Teacher at Fremont School is retiring this year after 24 years working for the Delano Union School District. Debra began her career teaching at East High School in the Kern High School District but quickly moved to Fremont where she remained for the duration of her career. Debra taught as a second grade teacher for four years then spent the next three years as site literacy teacher before moving into the site resource teacher role. An interesting fact is that Debra's father taught at Fremont for forty years, retiring the month before Debra was hired. Debra shared that the highlights of her career were developing the site's Genius Hour program, tutoring students and working with the Newcomer intervention students. When asked for a quote for the 5th grade end of the year celebration, Debra quoted Mrs. Barbara Bush: "Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people." Debra, you epitomize those words with your kind and gentle nature. Enjoy your much deserved retirement with your husband, Steve, children and grandchildren. Don't forget to write and tell us about your many adventures along the way. Remember, Once a Warrior, Always a Warrior!

# HARVEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

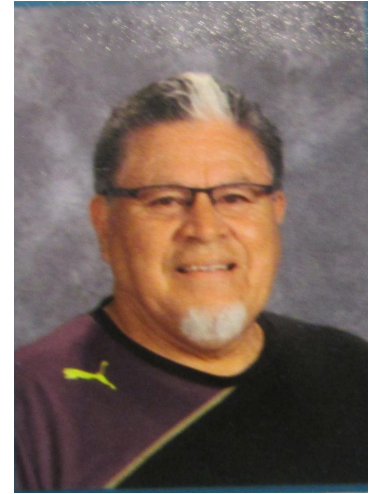
Stephanie Lucas  
1989 - 2020

Mrs. Lucas has been very dedicated to our community in Delano. We are thankful for her leadership and talents that she has given teachers, students and colleagues. She is passionate about teaching and loves teaching ELA and Math. You can witness her ability to bring literature to life in her classroom and engage her students in a good story. She loves to use real world problems to bring math alive. We are thankful for her service to Delano!



# HARVEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

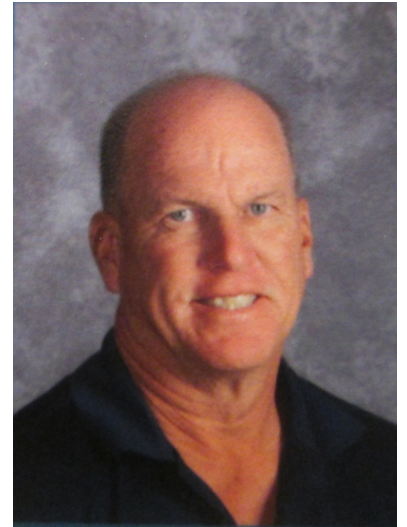
Javier Rodriguez  
1996 - 2020



Mr. Rodriguez loves his students. He makes learning fun. He continues to push his students every day to read and to become independent learners. He has helped with GATE and has helped his second grade team to have an excellent year. He cares about his colleagues and will go the extra mile to help out his team. He has been a great asset to Harvest and he will be missed!

# HARVEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Robert “Bob” Williams  
2001 - 2020



Mr. Williams is passionate about reading. He loves to teach and inspire students during his reading group time. His love for our community empowers him to give each student the extra time they need. That extra time might be witnessed through tutoring, home visits, extra Zoom classes, extra reading groups and so on. He makes every student and every teacher feel valued and appreciated. Mr. Williams builds confidence in the young and old. Bob, you make a difference!

# LA VIÑA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Diane Cloud  
1992 - 2020



Diane Cloud first began her career with the Delano Union School District as an elementary teacher in 1992. She later moved on to work as a Resource Teacher at Almond Tree Middle School. Diane was instrumental in helping to open Harvest/La Viña. Her strong knowledge of teaching students to read was often utilized to support struggling students of all ages. The staff and students at La Viña Middle School will certainly miss Diane after her retirement as our SRT. Her caring demeanor and willingness to help are appreciated by all. Thank you, Diane, for 28 years of service to the students, parents, and staff of the Delano Union School District. May your retirement days be filled with family, friends, and laughter.

# LA VIÑA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sadie Farzan  
2001 - 2020



Sadie Farzan is an accomplished Math teacher whose Math teams would earn numerous victories every year at the County Math Field Day. Sadie began teaching for the DUSD in 2001, and anyone who entered Sadie's room throughout her tenure quickly recognized her passion for teaching. Sadie also served as the Math Department Chair for many years, and her leadership and knowledge will be greatly missed by her peers. La Viña Middle School students, parents, and staff appreciate your service and wish you many years filled with your favorite people and doing what you love!

# LA VIÑA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Nora Navarro  
2005 - 2020

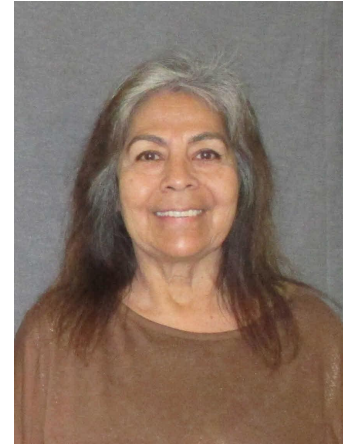


Nora Navarro began as a Science Teacher with the Delano Union School District in 2005. Nora's background in education extends years beyond her time in Delano. Before moving to the United States, Nora began her teaching career in the Philippines. The students, parents, and staff of La Viña Middle School will miss you, Mrs. Navarro! May your retirement years bring you lots of love and laughter as you spend them with your precious family!



# PIONEER SCHOOL

Peggy Moreno  
2003 - 2020



Peggy Moreno, a longtime resident of Delano, has been a classified employee of the Delano Union School District since 2003. Peggy started her career as a noon duty aide and soon became an instructional aide serving special needs students throughout the District. Leading up to her retirement, Peggy worked as a health care living skills aide at Pioneer School. She will always be remembered for her polite and caring demeanor. Over the course of her employment in the District, she served hundreds of children and worked with so many individuals which makes her retirement so special. She will be missed in the District while she enters the next chapter of her life here in Delano. Congratulations to Mrs. Peggy Moreno.

# PIONEER SCHOOL

Shelly Taylor  
1997 - 2020

Mrs. Taylor has been a teacher in the Delano Union School District for 23 years. She has taught 5<sup>th</sup> grade during her career at Albany Park and Pioneer School. Over the course of her career, she has educated hundreds of students and served on numerous site committees. She has served for many years as a coach for Math Field Day, Oral Language, and Battle of the Books. Congratulations Mrs. Taylor and enjoy your well deserved retirement.



# PRINCETON STREET SCHOOL

Donald Asbridge  
2006 - 2020



Don Asbridge has been with the Delano Union School District as a psychologist for 14 years. Princeton Street has had the pleasure of working with Don for 10 of those years, and during that time Don has helped numerous students. Don is often referred to by the students he serves as “Mr. A” or the guy “that makes buttons for kids!” We are grateful for all the work that Don has done with our students, some of whom have had to overcome significant obstacles. He is trusted and respected by the students he works with because of his skill and ability to connect with them. The knowledge and insight Don has shared with our staff has also helped teachers better support those students that may be having a difficult time. Thank you, Don, for all of the great work you’ve provided our students and staff, and we wish you the best during your retirement!

# PRINCETON STREET SCHOOL

Alicia Marquez  
1985 - 2020



Alicia Marquez has been teaching for the Delano Union School District for 35 years, having taught at Terrace and Valle Vista Elementary Schools before coming to Princeton Street school in 1999, where she has taught for the last 21 years. Mrs. Marquez taught 1st grade at Princeton before settling into 3rd grade. She is dedicated to her students, committed to their success, and is both highly effective and nurturing. She has a genuine concern for her students on an academic and personal level, and her students respond by doing their very best for her. She is a true professional and model teacher and is respected by our entire staff and school community. Alicia is always researching best practices and keeps up with her own professional development to ensure that she is always ready to support each and every one of her students. She is a true class act, and someone that all teachers can aspire to be like. We are all going to miss her dedication, commitment, professionalism, and warm heart. Thank you Alicia for all of your service to our kids, and for the lives you've impacted!

# PRINCETON STREET SCHOOL

Delilah Mascarinas  
1990 - 2020



Delilah “Dee” Mascarinas has worked for the Delano Union School District for 30 years. She has worked as a clerk at Valle Vista Elementary School and in the Maintenance and Operations Department, and as an administrative assistant in the Business Office before finding her permanent home at Princeton Street School in 2000 as the school secretary. Dee has played an important role at Princeton as the school secretary for 20 years, but she is much more than the school secretary. Dee is well liked and respected by our parents because of her genuine concern for our students and families, and our parents appreciate that. She is also the school’s biggest cheerleader! She volunteers for all school events and helps to motivate our entire staff to continue to do their very best for our school. Dee also has no problem letting staff know when they aren’t “cheering” loud enough for our school because she has that kind of clout! The Princeton Street School staff has always been a family, and we’ve always considered Dee the matriarch. She will be greatly missed by our entire school community, and we wish her the best during her well-deserved retirement. Thank you Dee!

# PRINCETON STREET SCHOOL

Danell Nichols  
1994 - 2020



Danell Nichols has been teaching for the Delano Union School District for 26 years, all at Princeton Street School. During that time, she has been involved with the GATE program, BTSA, ASB, Leadership team, and has received Teacher of the Year honors. Danell has also spearheaded our Christmas and Spring programs, and has had numerous student teachers come through her classroom. Danell loves Princeton Street School, and we can always count on her to participate in all of our after school activities. She loves the students she works with and is always happy and smiling throughout the day. Her lessons are always fun, and her students enjoy being in her class. Danell is the type of teacher that leads by example. She quietly spends hours developing effective and interesting lessons for her students, and she is usually the first one to complete or submit anything needed from administration or the front office. Danell is true professional, and we are all proud of the works she's done with our students. Thank you, Danell, for 26 years of unwavering dedication to our kids, and we wish you the best during your well-deserved retirement!

# PRINCETON STREET SCHOOL

Arleen Villaruz-Gonzales

1984 - 2020



Arleen Villaruz-Gonzales has been a teacher for the Delano Union School District for 34 years, having taught at Del Vista, Fremont, and Terrace school before coming to Princeton Street School for its opening in 1993, where she has helped shape the lives of students for 27 years. At Princeton School, there has not been a committee or extracurricular activity that Arleen has NOT spearheaded or participated in including Oral Language, Math Field Day, and ASB advisor just to name a few. She has even championed Princeton's first soccer club as well as their first in-line hockey team! Mrs. Gonzales has been part of many "firsts" at Princeton Street school, including the first Teacher of the Year, but it's her dedication and commitment to student excellence that we can always count on year in and year out. She believes that all students can achieve greatness but that it doesn't come for free. She challenges students to be their very best every day, and is there supporting them every step of the way. She is well respected by her students and former students who have become doctors, educators, professionals, and people with sound work ethics who are grateful to her and still stay connected with her to this day. We are going to miss her leadership, dedication, and commitment to our students at Princeton Street School, and we wish her well during her well-earned retirement. Thank you Arleen!

# PRINCETON STREET SCHOOL

Esther (Candace) Yost  
2000 - 2020



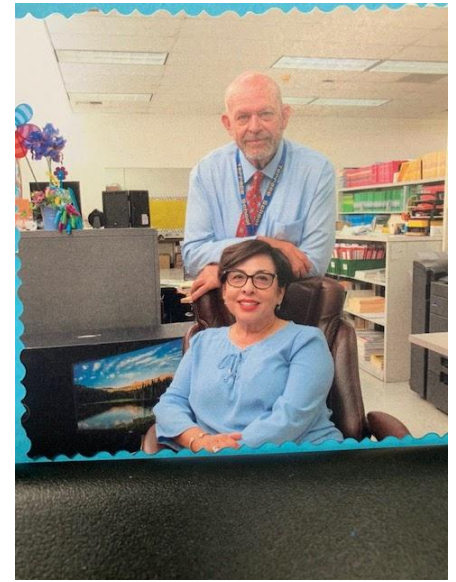
Candace Yost has been a teacher for the Delano Union School District for 20 years, teaching at Valle Vista and Harvest Elementary School before coming to Princeton street school in 2013 as a Kindergarten teacher. Candace is loved by the students she serves because she is kind, nurturing, and always has a smile on her face. Our kinder parents know that when they drop their children off in Ms. Yost's class, the kids will be safe, cared for, and receive quality instruction. Managing 25 kinder students can be quite a task, but Candace does it with class and grace, and her students respond well to her nurturing approach. Candace's commitment to her students also extends beyond the classroom. She will often communicate with parents to make sure her students are doing well at home and will try her best to get services provided to parents. We can always count on Candace to volunteer for any extracurricular activities and support our school in any way she can. We are proud of all the work Candace has provided to her students and families, and we will miss seeing her smiling face with her kids here at Princeton Street School. Thank you, Candace, and we wish you the best during your retirement!



# TERRACE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ALVIN “DARRELL” HENNESSEE  
1995 - 2020

Mr. Hennessee, a native to Delano, came to the Delano Union School District in 2005 to serve as the vice principal of Fremont Elementary School. After a vice principal stint at LaVina Middle School, Darrell accepted the principal position at Cecil Avenue Math and Science Academy and finished out his educational career as principal of Terrace Elementary School. Darrell is a proud former Marine, however, don't let that influence your perception of him. He is also an advocate for his students. Mr. Hennessee was always willing to take students under his guidance and mentor them during their time with him. He truly wanted students to succeed! Darrell Hennessee came back to his roots to serve the district proudly for the past 15 years. Congratulations Darrell on your retirement!



# DISTRICT OFFICE

Elizabeth “Liz” Morris

1997 - 2020



Coming up on her second retirement, Liz Morris has been with the Delano Union School District since Spring 1987. She came to the district as a clerk sub upon retiring after 32 years from Pacific Bell's (now AT&T) office in Bakersfield. When a full-time clerk position opened, she was urged by then-coordinator of child development Mary Margaret King to join her staff. She has been in the Child Development department since September 1987, currently working with her fourth coordinator or director. Liz is very civic minded, which includes serving on the boards of Delano Harvest Holidays and Delano Cinco de Mayo Fiesta. She is currently in the middle of a four-year term as a member of the Delano City Council, and is serving as mayor this year. She will retire from the district in September. Her always cheerful personality will be missed, along with the creative displays seen in the Student Support Services building and her excellent cooking and baking skills (including her tasty brownies and Texas sheet cake).

# DISTRICT OFFICE

Lupe Ramirez

1994 - 2020



Lupe Ramirez has been a member of the DUSD family for over 26 years. She began her career working as a Clerk III at Fremont School and Food Services before transitioning to the Business Office, where she has been ever since. Having served as a Clerk, Administrative Assistant and Executive Secretary, Lupe has been instrumental in the daily operations of Business Services. Whether she is preparing the board packet, reconciling the bank cards, or enrolling a new employee in benefits, we always know that we can count on Lupe to give her absolute best. She exemplifies professionalism in all that she does and approaches her work with a positive attitude and a genuine desire to help others. Lupe's commitment and dedication to the District are unparalleled. We are grateful for the opportunity to have worked by her side and wish Lupe much happiness as she embarks upon a new chapter in her life. Thank you for 26 years of service. Congratulations Lupe! You will be missed!