



CHOWCHILLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mailing Address for all Departments
355 N. 5th St. / P.O. Box 910
Chowchilla, CA 93610
(559) 665-8000 / fax: (559) 665-3036

Douglas J. Collins
Superintendent

Michelle Worrell
Assistant Superintendent

Trustees
Stacy Burns Jan Crader Conrad Gaunt
Kenneth Lasiter Leslie Rogers

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To Commission on Teacher Credentialing:

The Chowchilla Elementary School District enthusiastically supports the **University of California Merced Extension's Application for Stage III: Initial Preconditions**. Our District currently works collaboratively with the UC Merced Extension. We are a Preschool-8 school district with over one hundred certificated employees. Last year, we hired 18 teachers with Multiple Subject Credentials or Single Subject Credentials or individuals working towards those credentials. There is always the possibility that we will require a similar number of new hires next year. During this statewide shortage, we are working closely with all Universities where we have influence to ensure we can fill our teaching positions.

The Chowchilla Elementary School District (CESD) has participated each year in the CalTeach Program. The CalTeach Multiple Subject and Single Subject Internship Programs have been invaluable in supporting our staffing and credentialing efforts. In addition to CalTeach, CESD has developed a strong partnership with the UC Merced Extension Program. The collaborative work with Dr. Lynn Reimer has successfully helped our District design professional development opportunities in the area of Science. Our Science/Technology Team has worked hand in hand with Dr. Reimer to develop a series of powerful model lessons. These modeled lessons help convey effective instructional practices tied to real-world experiences. The greatest benefit to the lesson design is that the lessons can be used with both current and future certificated staff members. In short, Dr. Reimer's practical approach and quality lesson design will help support current and future teachers in all curricular areas. The UC Merced Extension Program truly supports the ideals of developing life-long learners in both students and staff. The partnership with UC Merced is a much needed, positive partnership in Chowchilla. Additionally, CESD is looking forward to the addition of the TK extension program that is being developed.

If I can be of any help to the Extension Program and their efforts to receive continued CTC approvals, please don't hesitate to contact me. Included with this letter is the agreement CESD currently have with CalTeach. This contract verifies our collaborative efforts to provide fieldwork placements for their students in our District.

Sincerely,

Michelle Worrell
Assistant Superintendent Educational Services