

Salinas Adult School Celebrates 100 Years of Service to the Community

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Changing Lives, Building Community

Salinas, California, March 7, 2018: The Salinas Adult School is celebrating its 100th year of providing quality education to the adults in Salinas. The celebration will take place on Thursday, April 12th from 6:00 to 8:00 at the Salinas Education Center, 20 Sherwood Place in Salinas, CA.

The centennial celebration will include presentations of music, dancing and artwork from students, a display of the history of the school, testimonies of current and former students, and addresses from community leaders.

For 100 years the Salinas Adult School has supported the community by playing a prominent role in promoting education for adults in the Salinas area. In 1918, the Salinas Adult Evening School was born. During the first year, 186 students were served in classes such as typing, bookkeeping and physical education. During World War II classes were conducted around the clock in welding and machine shop. Agricultural classes of the early 40's helped to increase farm production in the Salinas Valley. The Salinas Adult School became a leader in California with a mobile bus program entitled "English on Wheels." The growth of the program was evident by the enrollment of 15,000 students in 28 different locations throughout the Salinas area in 1979-1980. In April of 1989, the district broke ground for a permanent adult school facility on Sherwood Place that continues to serve the adults in our community.

"My high school diploma is everything to me," said Winson Herrera, a 2017 Salinas Adult School graduate. "At the adult school I was able to work at my own pace and set my own schedule. After I graduated from the Adult School, I completed a Certified Nursing Assistant Program. I am now looking forward to starting at Hartnell College in the Licensed Vocational Nursing program this spring. The Salinas Adult School opened the door for me to get the job that I want to have."

The 100th anniversary event coincides with Adult Education Week, which is held annually to spotlight the contribution of California adult education. It is free and open to the public.

The Salinas Adult School serves over 3,000 students annually through its main campus at the Salinas Education Center and in satellite locations throughout Salinas. The mission of the Salinas Adult School is to provide 21st-century skills and support to our adult students as they transition into new phases of their lives in education, workforce, and parenting. It provides classes for high school diploma, high school equivalency preparation, English as a Second Language, college and career preparation, parenting and Spanish for Professionals. The Salinas Adult School is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and is a member of the Salinas Valley Adult Education Consortium. For more information about the Salinas Adult School visit <https://www.salinasuhsd.org/sas>