



## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### ROD KELLEY NAMED TOP BAY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR UNDERSERVED STUDENTS

**GILROY, CA** – Rod Kelley Elementary School was named one of the top Bay Area public schools for underserved students in a report released this month by Innovate Public Schools.

While the report finds that the Bay Area lags behind the state in test scores for low-income Latino and African American students, a significant group of schools are bucking this trend.

Rod Kelley was one of 52 Bay Area public schools that achieved strong results for underserved students, specifically in the area of math, demonstrating what students can achieve and setting an example for how all schools can better support underserved students. At Rod Kelley, 49 percent of low-income Latino students are proficient in English and 51% of low-income Latino students are proficient in Math.

The 2016-2017 statewide California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) test results released in September revealed a large gap in student achievement, specifically with low-income African American and Latino students performing far worse than other students. Innovate Public Schools' analysis used this data and the California School Dashboard accountability system to rate those schools whose underserved students earned higher proficiency rates in English and math than the state average for all students.

"Rod Kelley has been modeling best practices in math and ELA for a number of years," said Superintendent Dr. Deborah Flores. "While the strategies they have implemented benefit all students, they have been particularly impactful for disadvantaged students and English Language Learners. This recognition is well deserved and is the result of the commitment of staff at each site to providing the best educational opportunities for all students."

Each of the 52 public schools highlighted in the report were celebrated on April 28 at the third annual Top Bay Area Public Schools for Underserved Students in Burlingame. The keynote speaker was [Anne Charity Hudley](#), a linguistics professor at the University of California at Santa Barbara. The full [report](#) and [article](#) on Rod Kelley's methodology can be found on the Innovate Public Schools website.

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