

2010–2011 GOAL Award Runners Up

The California Advisory Commission on Special Education created the GOAL Award in 2005–06 through a generous contribution from film producer Brian Grazer, who has donated \$100,000 over a ten year period to recognize programs with exemplary practices in special education. GOAL—Grazer

Outstanding Achievement in Learning—celebrates both the programs that serve California youth with disabilities and the professionals who serve them. This year many exemplary programs applied for the award, and ACSE is pleased to note the excellence of the following three GOAL runners-up.

The Walton Special Center

The Walton Special Center operates as a publicly funded school within the Stockton Unified School District, serving students with profound disabilities from the ages of birth to 22 years. Walton has served as a hub of resources for children with special needs for the last forty years. This is a “center” of support and success for special education students. For more information, please go to

http://www.stockton.k12.ca.us/schools/walton/Home_Page.htm

Vallejo Transition Program

Vallejo Transition is part of the Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD) Special Education services and is the first school district program to implement a Project SEARCH program with Kaiser Permanente. The goal of Vallejo Transition is to help students who receive special education services to transition successfully from school to work and a life of greater independence, self-determination, and self-sufficiency. This is accomplished by providing seamless wrap-around support services to address the multiple needs of youth with disabilities and the barriers they face to achieving their hopes and dreams. For more information, contact Joyce A. Montgomery, Supervisor II, Transition Program Coordinator, at

Jmontgomery@vallejo.k12.ca.us

Launch Preschool Torrance

LAUNCH Preschool is funded by the Torrance Unified School District and is dedicated to preparing students of all ability levels for kindergarten. LAUNCH has been named a “California Demonstration Site for Exemplary Programs” by the California Department of Education SEEDS program (Supporting Early Education Delivery Systems). As a SEEDS demonstration site, LAUNCH provides training and technical assistance to preschool staff throughout the state of California. LAUNCH serves over 295 students with disabilities and 102 typically developing peer models. For more information, go to <http://launch.tusd.org/>