

Each year, the Los Gatos Union School District (LGUSD) produces a video that is a Thanksgiving message to the community. The reason is simply to showcase the thoughts of our students. It also highlights the quality of an LGUSD education and the development of the Student Success Profile. The profile is made up of six traits: critical thinking, empathy, collaboration, communication, learners mindset, and adaptability. We strive to instill these traits in ALL our students to prepare them to be socially and globally responsible, and academically successful. LGUSD Thanksgiving 2024 - Expressing Thanks focused on having students reflect on what they are thankful for. Seventeen students in kindergarten through eighth grade were selected by our principals. Every student who was interviewed was included in the message. Filming them at their respective school sites reinforces the idea that these are emerging leaders. Having students share a few words in another language reminds the community of the diversity in our schools. The impact? The video was shared the week before Thanksgiving via a ParentSquare message and posted on our Facebook page. As of today, it is one of the most viewed videos of the 2024-2025 school year with over 433 views on YouTube and 877 views on Facebook. The view rates only showcase one side of the story. The comments and feedback LGUSD Communications staff received highlight the impact of having students share their thoughts. The community is witnessing LGUSDs commitment to developing future leaders. Here are a few examples. I love watching the kids. They are too sweet! The thank yous in different languages were a perfect touch. - Parent leader. I just wanted to say Happy Thanksgiving and your video was great. It absolutely puts a smile on my face. - Staff member. This project delivers significant benefits to our students, fostering critical thinking, communication, and adaptabilitykey components of our Student Success Profile. It also showcases the positive attributes of our young people, highlighting their thoughtfulness, reflective nature, and heartwarming spirit. Their genuine engagement is captivating and reinforces the value of their contribution.