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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **El Modena High School Named in Newsweek's America's Best High Schools**

ORANGE, Calif., July 19, 2010—Each year, Newsweek picks the best high schools in the country based on how hard school staffs work to challenge students with advanced placement college-level courses and tests. This year, three Orange Unified School District high schools made the list. Recently, El Modena High School was added to Newsweek's updated list in addition to Villa Park High School and Canyon High School. El Modena was ranked 1,269 out of 1,600 schools. Only six percent of all the public schools in the U.S. made the list.

El Modena High School principal John Briquet said, "El Modena has consistently scored an overall AP pass rate of better than 70% every year since 1999, making us the top scoring high school in OUSD. Perhaps even more impressive, El Modena students took only 390 AP exams in 1999; by comparison, our students took 643 exams in 2009-10! This year's Newsweek ranking places El Modena in the top 4% of all high schools in the nation, a standing of which we are very proud."

El Modena has made Newsweek's list four of the past five years.

*The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA*

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