



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 27, 2026

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ASTRONAUT CAPT. VICTOR J. GLOVER JR. INSPIRES SIERRA SANDS STUDENTS DURING SPECIAL DISTRICTWIDE EVENT

Ridgecrest, CA – Sierra Sands Unified School District students had a unique opportunity to hear firsthand from NASA astronaut Capt. Victor J. Glover Jr. during a special presentation held at the Burroughs High School Parker Performing Arts Center, bringing together students from Burroughs High School, China Lake Junior High School, High Desert School, and Vieweg STEM Academy.

During the event, Capt. Glover shared his personal journey from student to astronaut, emphasizing the importance of resilience, education, and pursuing a goal. As the first person in his family to graduate from college, he spoke candidly about the challenges and opportunities that helped shape his path to success.

Capt. Glover highlighted the lasting impact that educators can have on students' lives, noting the importance of teachers and mentors who genuinely care about their students while maintaining high expectations that encourage growth and achievement.

Students also had the opportunity to watch a video compilation showcasing the Artemis II mission and to participate in a moderated question-and-answer session, where Capt. Glover answered thoughtful questions about his experiences, career, and the purpose of space exploration.

“This was an extraordinary opportunity for our students to learn from someone whose story demonstrates the power of education, resilience, and teamwork,” said Superintendent Dr. April

Moore. "Capt. Glover's story brought our Portrait of a Graduate to life for our students. As students listened to him describe overcoming challenges, pursuing ambitious goals, and relying on the support of educators who believed in him, they saw the qualities we strive to develop in every Sierra Sands graduate: being a strong communicator, a collaborator, an innovative problem solver, a community contributor, and a purpose-driven navigator. His visit helped our students see that these skills and mindsets are not just aspirations for school, they are the foundation for achieving extraordinary opportunities in life."

To ensure broad access across the district, the event was livestreamed, allowing students from schools throughout Sierra Sands Unified School District, as well as members of the community, to participate virtually. The full recording is available for viewing on the [Sierra Sands Unified School District YouTube channel](#).

The event reflected Sierra Sands Unified School District's commitment to providing meaningful experiences that connect classroom learning to real-world opportunities and inspire students to envision ambitious futures for themselves.

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