

LUIS ORTIZ

Luis Ortiz has been involved in elementary education since 1984 and has been the assistant principal at Cole Canyon Elementary School in Murrieta, California, since 2002. He's currently a doctoral candidate in Educational Leadership at La Sierra University in Riverside, California. His dissertation will reveal the relationships between character education and academic achievement.

An advocate for character education in public schools, Ortiz coordinated the pilot of CHARACTER COUNTS! at his school and has served on the Murrieta Valley Unified School District's CC! team since 2003. He coordinated and wrote the application for the California Distinguished School Award (theme: CHARACTER COUNTS! at Cole Canyon) for which his school was honored in 2005.

A native of San Diego, Ortiz attended Grossmont College, Christian Heritage College, National University, and Point Loma Nazarene, receiving an A.S., B.S., and M.S. respectively. He's a pianist, violinist, published wildlife artist, and avid birder.