

Edgar Ortega Flores

STUDENT OF THE YEAR (Month)

Alta Vista High School

March 3, 2025



Alta Vista High School is proud to honor Edgar Ortega Flores as our March Student of the Year (as this is our annual student presentation before the board). Alta Vista presents one exemplary student for the entire 2024-25 school year before our MVLA board of representatives. Every week at Alta Vista, we recognize one Aztec Achievement Award recipient. Our entire staff presents Edgar to you tonight, as he represents exemplary academic and character growth over the past two years.

Edgar began his high school career with Mountain View High School in the 9th grade, first in person and then in remote classes, and then returned to in-person classes at MVHS as a 10th grader. While he could have continued on at MVHS, Edgar joined Alta Vista in the fall of his junior year and truly began a transformative journey. Edgar began to take himself seriously as a learner, and to even be selected for incentive field trips for excellent attendance. Towards the end of 11th grade, Edgar began to plan for his future beyond high school, setting his sights on career training through our MVLA collaboration with SVCTE. As his history teacher, Ms. Estrada, said, "Juggling his regular coursework and Metro Ed classes is no easy task and he does so with much grace and tenacity."

This last fall, as a 12th grader at Alta Vista, Edgar arrived early daily no matter the challenge, working through graduation requirements until noon, attending SVCTE HVAC career training program until 4:30pm, and then continuing on to his job late into most evenings. As his English teacher, Mr. Phillips, said, "Edgar is driven and doesn't play around. When he decides something is important to him, he goes after it and achieves it." This also applied to his goal to rejoin Mountain View High School this spring semester, transferring from AVHS with a cumulative GPA of 2.8, and nearly 230 credits already completed by end of Fall Semester. Edgar's dream to graduate with close friends that he has been in school with since kindergarten, will come true this June as an MVHS Spartan!

Edgar noted that the individual help he got at AVHS is what really helped him and stands out as his most positive high school experience, as well as one-on-one time with teachers. Mr. Vinicio, who assisted.

Edgar in English, explained that Edgar always "works hard every day, asks questions, and pushes himself to be more thoughtful with all the work he turns in. He has truly created a path of success for himself moving forward." Now returned to MVHS, Edgar has been challenged to "focus on the main things and tasks, time management and be more responsible...I had to take that chance to do better."

After graduating, Edgar wants to continue working to save money, either in his current job, or possibly in HVAC through professional connections he made this year. He has also already applied to Foothill, De Anza Colleges & SJ City Colleges, and completed his FAFSA application! Edgar would like to thank his family, he said “for always being there for me, and always helping me out, and just pushing me through life to be a good person and a good brother and good son.”

We are all proud of you, Edgar, and we will collectively continue to support you in your senior year as you continue to pursue your college and career dreams! You balance so many responsibilities, and we applaud each time you speak up to share your ideas, or take initiative in class (and in life). We know it isn't easy to fight for what you want in life, but believe in yourself half as much as we all do, and you are sure to be a success!