



Harold J. Ballard Parent Center

The District Advisory Council for Compensatory Education (DAC) founded the Parent Center in September 1995. In 1996, it was renamed in honor of Harold J. Ballard, who served over 30 years on School Site Councils and who was instrumental in establishing the Center during his tenure as DAC Chairperson. The Ballard Parent Center is a program of the Student Services Division and is funded by Title I dollars. The Ballard Parent Center is currently located in Old Town.

The Ballard Parent Center provides a variety of services and resources to parents of students from Title I eligible schools, to district staff and to community members and organizations. The Center serves as a meeting place for district organizations such as the DAC and for parent support groups including the Down Syndrome Parent Support Group of the Exceptional Family Resource Center. Staff trainings in parent involvement, district trainings for new teachers, counselors, School Site Council (SSC), District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) and DAC leadership trainings are also held at The Parent Center.

The Ballard Parent Center is also the home for the district's **San Diego Parent University**. Parent University is designed to help parents become involved in their children's education as academic coaches, to strengthen parenting skills, and improve child-parent relationships. Parent classes are held Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Parents can select academic classes to help support homework, reading, writing, study skills and math. In parenting classes, parents learn to support their children's social, emotional and physical development with an emphasis on good parent-child communication. Transportation is provided to selected Title 1 schools in the district.

In addition, Parent University's **Make-it/Take-it Lab** provides parents with a hands-on experience making reading and math games, and study aids to help them support their children's learning at home. The Lab offers drop-in hours for parents and teachers to visit during hours more convenient to their schedules. Classroom teachers can schedule grade level or multi grade level group tours for 20 or more parents. Transportation is available for groups from Title 1 schools.

Free childcare is provided for children (birth to age 5) while their parents are in classes. The *School Readiness Center* provides pre-school children a curriculum rich environment that prepares them for a successful Kindergarten experience.

The Parent Center in collaboration with the San Diego Community College District provides "Parents and Children Learning Together," a parent and child class where parents and their children (2 to 5 years of age) learn together in a pre-school setting.

The class schedule includes sessions for English language learners development of English fluency and increased parenting skills. The Center also partners with other community groups to bring a variety of resources and classes for parents to increase their ability to support their children's learning, such as READ/ San Diego.

The Parent Center has an extensive parent lending library with parenting books, children's books, and videos, and has computers available so parents can access the Internet.

SUMMARY

Ballard Parent Center

- ❖ Hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
- ❖ 2375 Congress Street, San Diego, 92110, in Old Town, formerly Fremont Elementary School
- Contact: (619) 293-4431

San Diego Parent University

- ❖ Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- ❖ 9:30 am to 11:30 am
- Contact: (619) 293-4410

Make-it/Take-it Lab

- ❖ Call (619) 293-4431 for schedule

Families & Children Learning Together (3 sessions)

- ❖ Classes: 9:00 am to 12 noon
- ❖ Open enrollment
- ❖ Monday/Wednesday for English Learners
- ❖ Tuesday/Thursdays, English only
- ❖ Friday for English Learners
- Contact: (619) 388-4950 or the Parent Center at (619) 293-4431

Read/San Diego

- ❖ One-on-one adult English tutoring
- ❖ Small literacy instruction
- ❖ Morning session, schedule varies

Parent Library and Computer Use

- ❖ Call (619) 293-4431 to reserve computers and for Library hours

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Contact Information: Harold J. Ballard Parent Center: (619) 293-4431
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www.sandi.net

Serving nearly 138,000 students, San Diego City Schools is the second largest school district in California, with approximately 200 educational facilities and more than 14,500 full-time equivalent positions (representing more than 15,800 employees). SDCS is improving student achievement by focusing on challenging instruction in reading, writing and mathematics in preschool (Pre-K) through Grade 12. The district is committed to supporting schools and enhancing the classroom learning environment through modernized facilities and resources and through parent, teacher and community involvement in the educational process.