



SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Full-Scale Crisis Response Exercise

First-ever full-scale drill will test effectiveness of school emergency plan and public safety response

What: Full-Scale Crisis Response Exercise

When: Thursday, July 27, 2006
12:30 – 3 p.m.

Where: Crawford High School Educational Complex
4191 Colts Way, San Diego

Background: In October 2005 the district was awarded a federal emergency response and disaster preparedness grant. As a requirement of the grant, a Full-Scale Crisis Response Exercise will take place involving the district's School Police Department, Crisis Response team, and the City of San Diego's police and fire departments. It will be the first time the district has conducted a crisis response exercise to this degree.

The purpose of the exercise is to test the effectiveness of a school's emergency plan and the public safety response, and to provide all school and administrative staff and students a chance to practice their emergency roles and responsibilities while responding to a series of crisis events.

A safe zone will be available in the complex library for district guests, community VIPs and the media to observe the exercise at a distance and hear participant interaction over the police radio.

Participating agencies include:

- San Diego Unified School Police Services
- San Diego Unified Crisis Response Team
- San Diego Unified Communications Department
- San Diego Police Department (including Air Support Unit)
- San Diego Fire Department

(more)

Program:

- 12:30 p.m. – Briefing and Safety Orientation
 - 1 – 3 p.m. - Full-Scale Exercise
- (Event check-in will be outside auditorium off Colt's Way)

**Visuals/Media
Availability**

Media may view exercise from library, where police radio audio will be available. A secondary staging area will be available adjacent to the baseball field where a simulated reunification of students with family members will take place. All students have parental consent to participate. Media who are interested in supporting the exercise as a participant rather than a viewer may contact Ursula Kroemer at (619) 725-5579 or (619) 806-1287.

All media will be subject to safety screenings prior to being escorted to the viewing area.

The following participants are available for interviews:

Chief Don Braun, San Diego Unified School Police
Carolyn Harshman, Emergency Planning Consultants
Monique Robertson, Principal, Crawford High Educational Complex

Copies of the grant are available upon request.

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