



SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

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MEDIA ADVISORY

July 20, 2005

Community will break ground on new school in City Heights

Family of Florence Griffith Joyner will attend celebration

- What:** Groundbreaking Ceremony for Florence Griffith Joyner Elementary School
- When:** **Thursday, July 21, 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**
- Where:** 4271 Myrtle Avenue, San Diego, CA
*From University Avenue, go south on 43rd Street, east on Myrtle, south on 42nd.
Enter construction site at Thorn and 42nd.*
- Program:** Special Guests/Speakers:
- **Florence Griffith, mother, and Elizabeth Tate, sister, of Florence Griffith Joyner**
 - Members of the City Heights-based Florence Griffith Joyner Youth Foundation
 - Leslie Fausset, Interim Superintendent, San Diego City Schools
 - Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee
 - Shelia Jackson, Member, Board of Education
 - Lori Saldana, State Assemblymember
 - Denise Moreno Ducheny, State Senator
- Background:** Florence Griffith Joyner Elementary is scheduled to open in Fall 2006 and is being built to serve 700 students (K-5). It will help ease classroom overcrowding at nearby Rosa Parks Elementary, Edison Elementary and Hamilton Elementary.
- The project is funded by Proposition MM, the \$1.51 billion bond measure passed by San Diego voters in 1998. Proposition MM is funding the modernization of 161 existing schools and construction of 12 new and three rebuilt schools.
- Design Details:** The new school, situated on 6.3 acres in City Heights, will include 32 classrooms, a library, multipurpose room, state of the art technology, energy efficient design features and a grass playfield. The buildings' steel columns and roof lines express the spirit of Florence Griffith Joyner, the athlete, in their dynamic swiftness and strength.
- The new school is also the anchor of a larger urban village project. As envisioned, the San Diego Model School Development project will include replacement housing, community services and open space.
- Visuals/
Media
Availability**
- Family of Florence Griffith Joyner
 - Board members, district leaders, community members and students
 - Breaking of the Ground and Photos