



SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

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MEDIA ADVISORY

May 3, 2004

District will break ground on school named for San Diego's first Latino principal

Ceremony will honor Herbert Ibarra

- What:** Groundbreaking Ceremony for Herbert Ibarra Elementary School
- When:** Tuesday, May 4, 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- Where:** City Heights. Corner of 49th Street and Orange. From El Cajon Boulevard, turn south on 49th Street. Go two blocks to Orange. Parking available on 49th Street.
- Program:**
- Welcome by Bob Kiesling, Interim Chief Facilities Officer, SDCS
 - Reading by the students of Euclid Elementary
 - Remarks:
 - Ed Lopez, Member, Board of Education, District E
 - Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee
 - Frank Thornton, best friend of Herbert Ibarra
 - David Ibarra, son of Herbert Ibarra
 - Breaking of the Ground and Photos
- Background:** Herbert Ibarra, who attended San Diego City Schools as a student, was the first Latino principal in the district. When he was first appointed in 1971 at Memorial Junior High, only 11% of the district's student population was of Hispanic/Latino origin. When Herbert Ibarra Elementary opens in September 2005, it is expected that 77% of the 630 students will be of Hispanic/Latino origin. Herbert Ibarra passed away in 1993 and continues to be highly regarded in educational circles for his leadership role. His wife, children and family friends will be attending the groundbreaking ceremony.
- Herbert Ibarra Elementary in City Heights will relieve severe overcrowding at nearby schools, especially Euclid Elementary which is only three blocks away.
- The project is funded by Proposition MM, the \$1.51 billion bond measure passed by San Diego voters in 1998. It funds modernization of 165 existing schools and construction of 16 new or rebuilt schools.
- Visuals/
Media
Availability**
- Students from nearby Euclid Elementary and Ibarra family participating in first "dig"
 - Community members, students and Ibarra family signing the design renderings
 - Design renderings are at www.sandi.net/propmm/HerbertIbarraElem.htm
- Fact Sheet** Attached