



SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

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MEDIA ADVISORY

July 8, 2004

District will break ground on new Proposition MM elementary school

Building on district-owned property will save \$10 million

- What:** Groundbreaking Ceremony for Mead Elementary School
- When:** Friday, July 9, 10:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Where:** 545 45th Street (adjacent to Chollas Elementary School)
- Program:**
- Welcome by Bob Kiesling, Chief Facilities Officer, SDCS
 - Readings by the students of Chollas/Mead Elementary
 - Remarks:
 - Carolanne Buguey, Principal of Mead Elementary and Chollas Elementary
 - Ed Lopez, Trustee, Board of Education
 - Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee
 - Derryl Williams, Chair, Encanto Community Planning Committee
 - Mshinda Nyofu, representing City Councilmember Charles Lewis
 - Breaking of the Ground and Photos

Background: San Diego City Schools will begin construction this month on a brand-new Mead Elementary School. Opening day is September 6, 2005. The school will serve 450 students (K-5) in the Chollas View neighborhood.

Under Proposition MM, the old Mead Elementary was to be demolished, rebuilt and expanded due to deterioration and overcrowding. Because expansion would have required the demolition of 18 homes and relocation of residents, the new Mead Elementary will instead be built on seven acres of district property adjacent to Chollas Elementary. This action saved \$10 million, preserved affordable housing and avoided displacement of students during construction. The old Mead site will possibly be leased or sold.

The two-story, 47,000-square-foot facility will include 22 permanent classrooms as well as joint-use fields, library and Child Development Center. Other features include a curved metal roof, colorful exterior and interior painting, and energy efficient design.

The \$21 million project is funded by Proposition MM, the \$1.51 billion bond measure passed by San Diego voters in 1998.

- Visuals**
- 250 students, many of whom will attend the new Mead Elementary
 - Students participating in first "dig"
 - Visuals of the old Mead Elementary (two blocks north of construction site)
 - Designs are at www.sandi.net/propmm/MeadElem.htm

Fact Sheet Attached