



# SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

January 26, 2005

### **Students will break ground on Walter J. Porter Elementary**

*Prop. MM school will serve students in southeast San Diego*

- What:** Groundbreaking Ceremony for Walter J. Porter Elementary School
- When:** **Thursday, January 27, 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.**
- Where:** Behind Kennedy Elementary School  
*805 to Imperial Avenue. Take 47<sup>th</sup> Street south, T Street east, Gloria Street north, then Ocean View Boulevard west where it dead-ends behind Kennedy Elementary.*
- Program:**
- Welcome by Bob Kiesling, Chief Facilities Officer, SDCS
  - Drum Corps, Singing and Poetry Reading by students of Kennedy Elementary
  - Remarks:
    - Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee
    - Yvette Porter Moore, Daughter of Walter J. Porter
    - Shelia Jackson, Member, Board of Education
  - Breaking of the Ground and Photos
- Background:** The new Walter J. Porter Elementary School will help ease classroom overcrowding at nearby Kennedy and Knox elementary schools. The school is scheduled to open in September 2005 and will serve 450-500 students.
- The new school will include 26 classrooms, 44,345 square feet of facilities, a library, counseling center, auditorium, kitchen, cafeteria, lunch court, state-of-the-art technology, 67 new trees and hundreds of shrubs, and a joint-use playfield.
- In addition, the school will be all modular, or factory-built, which will shave time off of the construction schedule and save money. The modular supplier is Modtech. The architect is R.J. Maus, and the general contractor is Soltek Pacific.
- No homes had to be demolished or residents relocated for this project, because the school is being built on district-owned property.
- 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.
- Visuals/  
Media  
Availability**
- Students from nearby Kennedy Elementary performing in drum corps, singing, and participating in first "dig"
  - Family members of Walter J. Porter, the school's namesake
  - Board members, community members and students