



SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

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NEWS RELEASE

November 18, 2003

Community chooses names for new schools

*Mary Lanyon Fay Elementary and Normal Heights Elementary
will open in Fall 2006*

SAN DIEGO – Two new elementary schools in Mid-City are one step closer to reality now that the Board of Education has approved names for the facilities.

Mary Lanyon Fay Elementary

A new elementary school in City Heights has been named in honor of Mary Lanyon Fay, a well-known civic leader and education activist. Fay was appointed to the Board of Education in 1937 and served for 18 years as president and vice president. She promoted a program for teaching mentally disabled children and facilitated the hiring of the first African-American teachers in San Diego City Schools. In 1954, the San Diego Teacher's Association and San Diego Chamber of Commerce named Fay "Citizen of the Year." Fay also organized the San Diego League of Women Voters and was co-founder of Barn Players, which later became the San Diego Community Players of the Old Globe Theater.

Mary Fay Elementary will be located between 52nd and Altadena south of Orange Street. It will relieve crowding at Jackson and Marshall elementary schools. It is scheduled to open in Fall 2006.

Normal Heights Elementary

A new elementary school has been named Normal Heights Elementary School for the surrounding neighborhood. Normal Heights, one of the oldest neighborhoods in San Diego, is named for the former San Diego Normal School, a teacher's training college that was the forerunner to San Diego State University.

Normal Heights Elementary will be located at East Mountain View Drive and Edna Place near the 39th Street Park. It will relieve crowding at Adams and Franklin elementary schools. It is scheduled to open in Fall 2006.

The new schools are being built under Proposition MM, the \$1.51 billion bond measure that funds modernization of 165 existing schools and construction of 13 new and three rebuilt schools to alleviate overcrowding.

Both names were suggested by numerous community groups and individuals and reviewed by the School Names Committee, then approved by the Board of Education on November 18, 2003.

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