



San Diego Unified School District

Newsline

January 16, 2007

Enrollment Options New Deadline is January 31

The 2007-08 Enrollment Options priority application deadline is now January 31, a change from the March 15 deadline in previous years. All Enrollment Options Choice, VEEP, Magnet and Program Improvement School Choice applications received during the priority period will be placed on the first wait list to be released to schools in mid-March. Parents can submit an application at any district location. Enrollment Options posters are available in English at <http://sandi.net/enrollmentoptions/January31/EngPriorityAppFlyer.pdf> and in Spanish at <http://sandi.net/enrollmentoptions/January31/SPPriorityAppFlyer.pdf> for display. You can also order posters through the Enrollment Options Office at eoptions@sandi.net or (619) 725-7153.

New Lincoln High School Job Opportunities

Lincoln High School is opening for the 2007-08 school year, providing an opportunity for enthusiastic and innovative candidates to be part of a new community of learners. The first posting of certificated positions is available online through Wednesday, January 17. To apply for a position, go to the Employment website at <http://www.sandi.net/personnel/hr/>. If you need assistance, call the Help Desk at (619) 725-7500.

Changes in SDCOE Dial-Up Internet Service

The San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) is considering discontinuing its dial-up internet service from home. Dial-up renewals and new accounts are not available at this time. Current calendar year 2006 accounts will remain active through June 30, 2007, at no additional cost. If the service is discontinued, it will be cut off July 1, 2007. Beginning January 16, technical support will be limited to Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Look for updates in the "Newsflash" section of the Educational Technology Department website at <http://edtech.sandi.net>.

Mandatory Campus Security Assistant Training Scheduled

All SDUSD campus security assistants, regardless of hours assigned, must attend a mandated training as a condition of employment. The March training sessions will be held on March 19, 20 and 21, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the San Diego County Office of Education. Submit registration form (LINK) by Wednesday, March 7. Do not include payment with registration. The district will pay all necessary fees for tuition and materials related to the training. For information, contact Gloria Rangel at grangel@sandi.net or (619) 725-8172.

Protecting Students with Peanut Allergies

In response to an increasing number of students with peanut allergies, the Food Services Department now serves sunbutter (sunflower seed butter) and jelly sandwiches in all field trip lunches. Sunbutter is produced in a nut-free facility. The sandwiches were tested by students with a 100% acceptance rate. No peanuts or peanut products are served in elementary schools.

Free Japanese Cultural Classes for K-12 Students

The Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park provides free cultural classes and demonstrations about Japanese culture to K-12 students. Classes include origami making, how to use chopsticks, how to wear kimonos, and learning about a typical Japanese dinner setting or tea ceremony. Presentations are available in Balboa Park or at the school site. For information or to schedule presentation, contact Miho Ishida at mihoi@niwa.org or (619) 232-2721.

CalHFA Offers Help to First Time Homebuyers in High Priority Schools

The California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) offers low interest rate financing and down payment assistance to eligible teachers, administrators, staff members and classified employees who serve in high priority schools (API ranks 1-5) and who are purchasing a first home in California. Visit the CalHFA website at www.calhfa.ca.gov for more information and a list of qualified lenders.

Professional Development

- **SDSU Dept. of Educational Leadership Schedules Info Meetings**

The San Diego State University Department of Educational Leadership will be holding six informational meetings in January for those interested in obtaining their Master's degree in Educational Leadership PreK-12 and/or Preliminary Administrative Services Credential. Applications will be accepted through April 21 for the fall 2007 term. For information, visit <http://edweb.sdsu.edu/edleader/> or call (619) 594-4063.

Student Opportunities

- **\$10,000 Art Scholarship for Grades 9- 12**

Students in grades 9-12 are eligible to participate in The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Awards Program sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States. The first place winner will receive \$10,000. Entries must be submitted to the local VFW Auxiliary Patriotic Arts Chairman by Saturday, March 31. For information and the name of the local VFW Auxiliary, contact Dorothy Fisher at dotfish@aol.com.

Nominations for Teacher Recognitions

- **Science Teaching Excellence Award**

Nominations are being accepted for the Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence. The company will recognize 30 science educators nationwide. Each award recipient will receive a \$5,000 unrestricted cash award; each award recipient's school will receive a \$5,000 cash grant. The deadline for nominations is Wednesday, January 31. For information and nomination applications, go to www.amgen.com/citizenship/aaste.html.

- **U.S. Dept. of Ed Seeks Nominations for American Stars of Teaching**

The U.S. Department of Education is seeking nominations for its fourth annual American Stars of Teaching project, which recognizes exemplary K-12 teachers who raise student achievement, use innovative classroom strategies and make a difference in their students' lives. Nominations will be accepted through Sunday, April 1. For information and nomination forms, visit <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/01/01092007a.html>.

- **Nominate Your School Site's Teacher of the Year**

Recognize excellence. Nominations are now being accepted for school site 2007-08 Teacher of the Year candidates. The deadline to submit a nomination form is Friday, January 26. Information and nomination forms are available at http://www.sandi.net/staff/circulars/0607/ac052_1.doc. All nominated teachers will be recognized at the May 8 Board of Education meeting. Nominees also have the opportunity to apply to the district-level competition. For information, contact Linda Zintz at lzintz@sandi.net or (619) 725-5568.

Upcoming Events

- **National African American Read-In**

Schools, libraries, community and professional organizations, and interested citizens are urged to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month by hosting and coordinating Read-Ins on Sunday, February 4, or Monday, February 5, for schools. This annual event is sponsored by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and

by NCTE. Visit the NCTE website at <http://www.ncte.org/prog/readin/107901.htm> to download an African American Read-In packet.

- **PVSD Parent Forum**

Parent Voices for Education San Diego (PVSD) presents a Parent Forum, *Continuing our Conversation with Superintendent Carl Cohn and Interacting with the Area Superintendents*, on Wednesday, February 7, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Harold J. Ballard Parent. The forum will include a discussion on the new district leadership structure and how it affects all of us. Child Care will be provided and Spanish translation will be offered. For information, visit www.parentvoicesforeducatiosd.org. RSVP by Friday, February 2, at parentvoicessd@sbcglobal.net or (619) 688-0054.

- **Area 2 Parent Forum**

Superintendent Cohn, Area 2 Superintendent Chelsea Smith and Assistant Superintendent for High Schools Nellie Meyer will host a Parent Forum on Tuesday, February 20, from 6:15 to 8:30 p.m., at Wangenheim Middle School. Although the meeting is being held in Area 2, parents from throughout the district are welcome to attend. For information, call (858) 578-1400.

New on the Web

The 2006-2007 SIS Annual Calendar is now available at <http://www.sandi.net/depts/it/SISAnnualCalendar.pdf> or on the For District Staff page in the Calendar section.

In the News

The release of the film "Freedom Writers" has put Superintendent Cohn in a different type of spotlight. The film is based on inspiring school teacher, Erin Gruwell, who taught in Long Beach Unified School District when Dr. Cohn was that district's superintendent. Dr. Cohn was recently interviewed by Fox 6 News and appeared in Diane Bell's column in the *San Diego Union-Tribune*. To watch the interview, go to http://www.fox6.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=F0D8C7E9-AAF1-4698-A02F-33D77530BD11. To read Diane Bell's column, go to http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20070111/news_7m11bell.html.

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