



# San Diego Unified School District

## Newsline

February 5, 2007

### Upcoming Holiday Closures

Schools and district offices will be closed Monday, February 12, in observance of Abraham Lincoln's Birthday, and Monday, February 19, in observance of George Washington's birthday.

### February is Black History Month

Black History is celebrated during the month of February. Information and teaching resources regarding black history are available on the district website at <http://www.sandi.net/events/blackhistorymonth/index.html>.

### National School Counseling Week

February 5 – 9, 2007 is National School Counseling Week. This year's theme is "School Counselors: Helping Students Reach New Heights." Learn more about the district's Counseling and Guidance Department and all the services it provides by visiting <http://www.sandi.net/depts/counseling/index.html>.

### Baker Elementary Opens Daycare Center

Baker Elementary in partnership with Harmonium has opened the Baker Children's Center, the first onsite daycare for teachers and administrators in the district. The center is currently licensed for children 6-weeks to 3-years old. The center is open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and follows the single track year round calendar. Cost is \$36 a day based on full-time enrollment. Part-time care is also available. Applications are now being accepted. For information or an application, call (619) 264-3139, ext. 4006.

### Nominate Your Site Classified Employee of the Year

School sites and district offices are encouraged to nominate a deserving candidate for the 2007 Classified Employee of the Year awards. For details about the process, go to <http://www.sandi.net/staff/circulars/0607/ac059.pdf>. A nominee must be a classified employee with at least three years of service in a monthly position. The deadline to submit a nomination petition is Friday, March 2, by 5 p.m. Completed petitions should be sent or hand-delivered to Gloria Rangel at the Education Center, Room 1241. For information, contact Gloria at [grangel@sandi.net](mailto:grangel@sandi.net) or (619) 725-8172.

### District Trainings

- **CSET Prep Courses**

The district's Teacher Preparation and Student Support Division will offer California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET) Prep Courses to prepare teachers for the March 17, 2007 exam. Classes begin Thursday, February 22. Courses are available in Single Subject English, Single Subject Science, Single Subject Mathematics, and Multiple Subjects. Courses are free for district employees; \$60 for others. The deadline to register is Thursday, February 15, by 5 p.m. For information or to register, contact Gail Butler at [gbutler@sandi.net](mailto:gbutler@sandi.net) or (858) 539-5330.

- **Procurement Card Training**

Accounts Payable will conduct a procurement card training in the Ed Center auditorium on Thursday, February 15, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Attendance at this training is required to obtain a district procurement card. Any employee interested in applying for a district procurement card, is a new approving official or who plans to become an approving official

(or cardholder) at a later date should attend. Principals, site administrators, financial clerks and secretaries are also encouraged to attend. For information or to RSVP, contact Julie Nguyen at [jnguyen1@sandi.net](mailto:jnguyen1@sandi.net) or (619) 725-7669.

### **San Diego Parent University Classes Start February 13**

The second quarter of classes for parents of students attending Title 1 schools will begin Tuesday, February 13. The free classes offer helpful information on parenting issues along with tools and techniques to help children achieve academically. Classes are held Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Harold J. Ballard Parent Center. Free childcare is provided and transportation may also be provided. For information, contact Elneda Shannon or Bea Fernandez at (619) 293-4431.

### **Funding Alerts**

- **Recognizing Outstanding Library Humanities Programs**

The Sara Jaffarian School Library Award recognizes an elementary or middle school library that has conducted an exemplary program in the humanities during the prior school year. The award consists of a \$4,000 cash prize, a plaque, and promotion of the winner as a model program at a training opportunity for other school libraries. The deadline to submit a nomination form is Tuesday, February 27. For information, go to [www.ala.org/ala/ppo/jaffarianaward.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/jaffarianaward.htm).

- **Rewarding Unsung Heroes**

The ING Unsung Heroes awards are given to K-12 educators pioneering new teaching methods and techniques that improve learning. Every year, 100 finalists are selected to receive a \$2,000 award, payable to both the winning teacher and his or her school. Of the 100 finalists, three are selected for additional awards: \$25,000 for first place; \$10,000 for second place; and \$5,000 for third place. The application deadline is Monday, April 30. For information, go to [www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/communityconnections/ineducation/unsungheroes/index.htm](http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/communityconnections/ineducation/unsungheroes/index.htm).

- **Grants for the Inventive**

Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams grants foster inventiveness among high school students who work in teams. The InvenTeams experience is intended to generate excitement about the rewarding process of identifying a problem or need, brainstorming solutions, and working hands-on to develop a prototype. Grants of up to \$10,000 support each team's efforts. The application deadline is Friday, April 27. To learn more, go to <http://web.mit.edu/inventeams/>.

### **Professional Development**

- **Community Service/Service-Learning Training for Educators**

The SDUSD Community Relations Department and Volunteer San Diego are offering two separate community service/service-learning trainings on Thursday, February 22, from 9 to 11:30 a.m., and from 4 to 6:30 p.m., at the United Way Building. Principals, teachers, staff and parents are welcome to attend. This "hands-on" training will explore the elements of creating effective projects that integrate community service with academic learning. The \$25 registration fee will be waived for all San Diego Unified employees. For information or to register, go to [www.volunteersandiego.org](http://www.volunteersandiego.org) or contact Jessica End at [jend@volunteersandiego.org](mailto:jend@volunteersandiego.org) or (858) 636-4124.

- **Podcasting Class**

Podcasts are popping up everywhere and changing the way we think about news and information. Learn how to broadcast your school bulletin, lectures, student reports and parent communication in a hands-on class being offered by the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) Technology Center. No ipods required. For information and to

register, go to the SDCOE website at <http://www.sdcoe.net/hrt2/?loc=edtechcal&m=4> or contact Becki Goehl at [bgoehl@sdcoe.net](mailto:bgoehl@sdcoe.net) or (858) 292-3832.

### **Free Red Cross CPR Training is Set for March 10**

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Red Cross CPR Saturday is set for Saturday, March 10. Hundreds of instructors and volunteers will teach CPR to the public at this free, three-hour training. The training will be held at the San Diego Concourse, 202 C Street, Downtown. Classes begin at 7 a.m. All participants who successfully complete the course will receive certification at no cost. Children ages 5-11 can participate in Basic Aid Training and Whales Tales water safety training. For information or to register, visit [www.sdarc.org](http://www.sdarc.org) or call (858) 309-1275.

### **Student Opportunities**

- **Mingei Museum Offers Free Admission/Transportation to Title 1 Schools**  
Bring your students to Mingei International Museum in Balboa Park. Thanks to generous support from QUALCOMM, Inc. and the McGraw-Hill Companies, admission and transportation to the museum are free for students from Title 1 schools. Students and teachers will also receive a free family pass. For information or to schedule a visit, contact [education@mingei.org](mailto:education@mingei.org) or (619) 239-0003, ext. 107.
- **Mystery Writing Contest for Grades 2-5, 6-10**  
*MWA: Reads*, a Mystery Writers of America (MWA) literacy program, is holding its second annual Joan Lowery Nixon Award mystery writing contest for grades 2-5 and grades 6-10. The winner of each category will receive a \$250 cash prize. Submissions for the contest will be accepted until Wednesday, February 28. To learn more, go to <http://www.mysterywriters.org/pages/news/NixonRules.pdf>.
- **NIAF College Scholarships**  
The National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) is offering scholarships for the 2007-08 academic year. High school seniors of Italian descent, with at least one ancestor who emigrated from Italy, or any students majoring or minoring in Italian language, Italian studies, Italian-American Studies, or a related field can apply. Scholarships range from \$2,000 to \$15,000. The application deadline is Thursday, March 1. For information, go to [www.niaf.org/scholarships](http://www.niaf.org/scholarships).
- **Harvard Offers Free/Reduced Tuition to Low-Income Families**  
Harvard University is offering undergraduate students from families making less than \$60,000 the opportunity to attend the university for free. In addition, Harvard also has reduced fees for students from families with incomes between \$60,000 and \$80,000. For information about Harvard's free or reduced tuition plan, visit the university's financial aid website at <http://www.fao.fas.harvard.edu/>.

### **Upcoming Events**

- **Parent Forum in Area 2**  
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.
- **Innovation in Education and Learning 2.0**  
The Point Loma Cluster is hosting the first "Innovation in Education and Learning 2.0" event on Thursday, February 8, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Correia Middle School. The event features Alan November, an internationally recognized leader in education technology, and is open to the public, free of charge. For information and

to RSVP, go to [www.correiamiddle.com](http://www.correiamiddle.com).

- **Cookies with Carl**

The next Cookies with Carl will be held Monday, February 26, from 4 to 6 p.m., at Walker Elementary School. Employees are invited to come by and speak with Superintendent Cohn and hear what other employees have to say.

- **Annual County Superintendents' Dinner**

Superintendent Carl Cohn will be the guest speaker at the Annual County Superintendents' Dinner/Reception on Wednesday, March 14, at Tom Ham's Lighthouse. Social hour begins at 5 p.m. \$30 per person. RSVP by Friday, March 2. For information, contact Jeannie Steeg at [jeannie@asdc.org](mailto:jeannie@asdc.org) or (619) 295-2118.

### **In the News**

- The State Senate hearing on post-secondary career education held Wednesday, January 31, at Stanley Foster Construction Tech Academy at the Kearny Complex, was covered by KPBS-FM radio and KBNT-TV Channel 17. To listen to the KPBS report, go to <http://www.kpbs.org/news/local?id=7234>.
- The grand re-opening of Serra High School's auto shop – now part of the School-to-Career program – got an early start today when Fox in the Morning's Ruben Galvan did his live, morning segments from the facility. A formal grand opening is scheduled later in the day.

For more details on these stories, check out the News section on the district's home page at [www.sandi.net](http://www.sandi.net).

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