



Staff Bulletin

San Diego Unified School District

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*Getting
to Know...*

Gabe Delgado

Warehouse Distribution &
Mail Supervisor

Every day, Mail Services distributes mail to 267 school and central office sites. Every week, Distribution Services makes deliveries of all shapes and sizes to 240 locations throughout the district. Orchestrating every stocked item, truck route and delivery is Warehouse Distribution and Mail Supervisor Gabe Delgado. New school openings, textbook adoptions and K-8 expansions are just a few district initiatives that require a mass distribution of purchases. That task falls to Gabe and his behind-the-scenes department.

Gabe recently shared the rewards and challenges of his job with

see **Getting to Know** pg 2

Thousands of Budget Ideas Submitted Board of Education Reviews Staff, Parent, Community Input

Throughout California, school districts continue to grapple with how to respond to Governor Schwarzenegger's proposed budget. For San Diego Unified, it means preparing a 2008-09 budget based on \$78-80 million in cuts. During a series of three separate budget workshops, the Board of Education has been presented multiple scenarios to consider before it meets March 11 to take action.

"We've started by asking the central offices and centrally-funded programs to cut their budgets by at least 15%, and in some cases more," said Bill Kowba, Interim Superintendent.

"We've run a number of scenarios that provide the Board with close to \$100 million in options. These are not easy changes to consider. Every department is affected. No one is hidden, and no one is insulated."

With the Board now considering these scenarios, school workbooks are on their way to the school sites. A budget workbook workshop

is planned for all principals on Monday, March 3. Another budget workshop for the Board of Education will be held Friday, March 7. Additional key dates regarding budget development are available on the district website.

Ideas for budget cutting and revenue generation are still welcome and encouraged. More than 2,000 suggestions for budget reductions and revenue generation have been received online from staff, parents and community members. Several of the suggestions have led to scenarios presented to the Board at earlier workshops, and which will be subject to vote at the March 11 meeting. These include cell-phone initiatives, selected bell times to save transportation costs, restructuring scenarios for OCILE and class size changes.

To see how other districts in San Diego County and throughout California are responding to the budget crisis, visit the Newsroom on the Budgeting for 2008-09 website on www.sandi.net.

Becoming **AMERICA'S BEST**

Adequate Yearly Progress Results (AYP) Best in the Nation

When it comes to meeting Adequate Yearly Progress targets, San Diego Unified is America's Best large urban school district. Revised AYP test results released February 20 showed San Diego Unified School District has met Adequate Yearly Progress targets for the 2006-07 school year, according to the state Department of Education.

San Diego Unified is the only district among the top 10 largest urban school districts in the U.S. to meet the standard, one of the measures under the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

Since the AYP results were first released last fall, two additional district-operated schools, Pershing Middle and Lindbergh-Schweitzer Elementary, and two additional district charter schools, Explorer Elementary and King/Chavez Preparatory Academy, made AYP for 2007.

Overall, 71 percent of district schools made AYP in 2007 (99 elementary, 6 middle, 20 high, and 27 charter schools). "This is great, great news for us," said Board President Katherine Nakamura. "We got an A-plus on our report card. We're really happy. It reflects very well

on our teachers, our kids who come to school every day ready to learn, on everyone."

Detailed results are available on the state Department of Education's web site at www.cde.ca.gov/apr.



**No Child
LEFT BEHIND**

Test Strategies for Schools Helping Students Do Their Best

It's time to plan for test season and a little positive reinforcement goes a long way to motivate and encourage students at test time. Administrators share these best practices:



Pre-Test	During & Post-Test
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve parents early. Use Connect-ED or written notification about upcoming tests. Give tips on what they can do to help their child succeed. • Remind teachers to be enthusiastic about test time – students will feed off their energy. • Post motivational messages on campus and the school marquee. • Plan an ASB campaign with assemblies, pep rallies, posters, etc. • Hold a Test-Taking Tips workshop for students, including anxiety control, physical readiness, etc. • Highlight food and beverage lunch items as “brain power” for studying. • Offer practice questions during Advisory period or after school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On test day, have staff wear “Ask Me” buttons to answer questions about testing procedures, offer words of encouragement to students and alleviate anxieties. • Set targets for advancing to the next performance level and reward students for reaching and/or exceeding targets (field trips, student events, etc.). • Start a VIP program with special privileges for students who raise their performance level over two years. <p>If you have additional test strategies for schools, contact Jennie Breister at jbreister@sandi.net. <i>Published with support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation Grant.</i></p>

YOU CAN USE	<h2>PRIME TIME Replaces “6 to 6” Name</h2>
NEWS	<p>On January 1, 2007, San Diego Unified School District assumed full responsibility for administration of San Diego’s “6 to 6” Extended School Day Program (“6 to 6” Program) from the City of San Diego. To reflect this change, the Extended Learning Opportunities Department sponsored a contest to rename our “6 to 6” Program.</p> <p>More than 500 entries were received from students, parents, community-based organizations and employees. A panel of judges made up of principals, parents, central office and school site staff, and a representative from the San Diego County Office of Education narrowed the field to six names. Student focus groups at both elementary and middle schools provided feedback in selecting the winning name: PrimeTime Extended Day Program.</p> <p>The winning entries were submitted by a teacher at PB Middle School and a central office employee. As a result, PB Middle School and Birney Elementary School PrimeTime Extended Day Programs will receive a Purple COW (Curriculum on Wheels) and pizza party. The COW enhances classroom education with pre-developed math, science, and social studies curriculum.</p> <p>PrimeTime provides academic support and enrichment activities before and/or after school for students at the middle and elementary level at 132 school sites. These services are available at no cost to participating families through the After School Education and Safety (ASES) state grant funds.</p> <p>PrimeTime Applications for the 2008-2009 school year will be available at school sites and at www.sandi.net on March 5, 2008.</p>



Gettign to Know from Pg 1

Staff Bulletin, pointing out that teamwork and a “Just do it, just get it done” philosophy is the key to a successful operation.

How did you get started with the district?

I’ve been with San Diego Unified for 29 years. I started as a temporary stock clerk and worked through various positions in warehousing, maintenance and physical plant operations before landing in my current role.

What challenges have you and your team experienced?

By far, one of our biggest challenges was the beginning of this school year with the opening of five new schools: Lincoln High, Marshall Middle and Burbank, Joyner and Rodriquez Elementary schools. The volume of equipment and supplies was massive. It wasn’t an easy time for our department. We’re proud that our hard work helped kick-off the new school year for so many students.

We’ve also been partnering with Risk Management on a couple of cost-saving measures. We streamlined the permitting process for the sharps container program used by Nursing and Wellness. We also centralized the disposal of hazardous and toxic materials with the

see **Getting to Know** pg 4



Gabe Delgado - Warehouse Distribution & Mail Supervisor

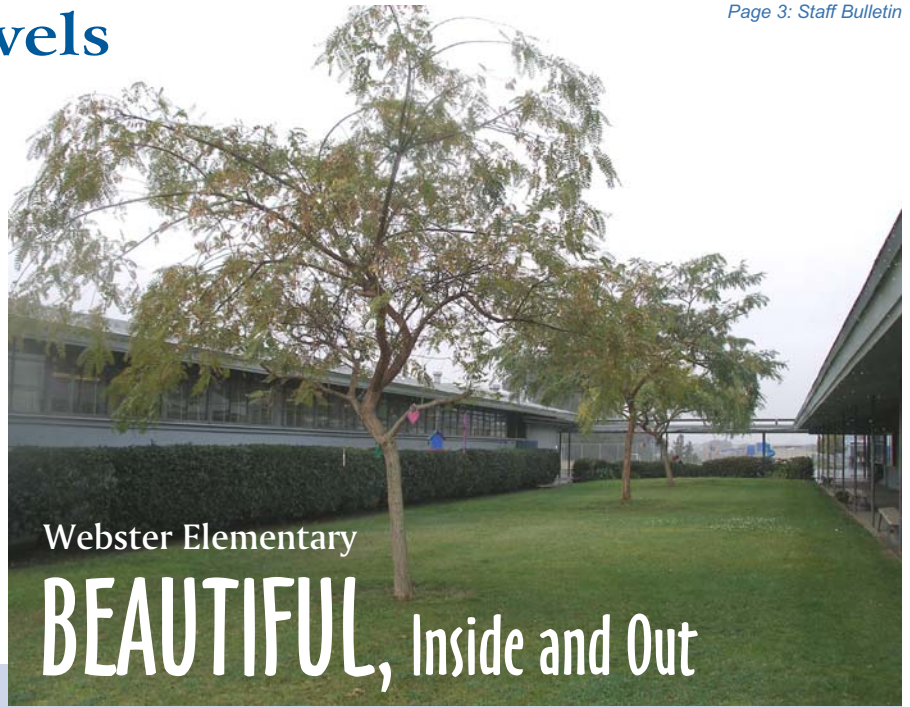
Our Schools as Jewels

Thanks to district landscape crews, Webster Elementary School is shining brighter. As with many schools, Webster was in need of some landscape TLC (tender loving care), which was delivered in the form of a major cleanup by Charlie Arrendo, Tom Volker and Scott Reed.

Principal Jennifer White said the crew cleaned, trimmed trees, pulled weeds and spruced everything up.

"Some of the weeds were as tall as me. It had been a couple of years since we'd had any significant work done," she said. "Now, it's beautiful!"

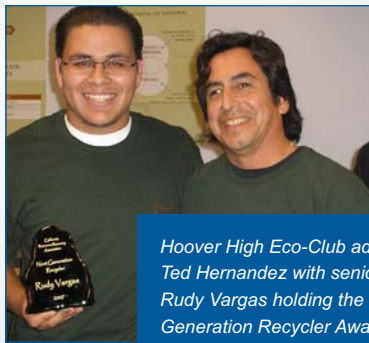
Besides the lawn and pine trees in front of the school, young Tipuana trees are now flourishing in the grassy areas between classroom buildings. Trees and shrubs are also thriving in the areas surrounding the new classroom building and library.



After a much-needed dose of TLC from the district landscapers, Webster Elementary is once again a beautiful and safe place of learning.

"The outside says a lot about the inside," White said. "It's important to have an attractive, clean, and well-kept environment that honors children and learning. Children deserve a beautiful place to learn."

In addition to the plant life that beautifies the school, White said that the students will soon have their own garden to tend.



Hoover High Eco-Club advisor Ted Hernandez with senior Rudy Vargas holding the Next Generation Recycler Award.

RUDY VARGAS, Hoover High School senior and president of the school's Eco-Club, recently received the

tainers, batteries, cell phones, and ink cartridges. It conducts community and campus clean-up days and nature tours through local canyons. The club produced a public service announcement to show at the school and a video about campus

HOOVER HIGH SENIOR RECEIVES STATE HONOR FOR RECYCLING EFFORTS

conservation efforts that they submitted to MTV's Break the Addiction contest. Their submission was voted the MTV winner for the area. As a result, each student and staff member at Hoover was presented with an Eco-Kit.

Rudy and several other concerned students formed Hoover's Eco-Club in an effort to clean up their school and neighborhood and increase awareness among students, staff and City Heights community members.

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HALL OF FAME



In Memoriam

William Bulley, former Unemployment Insurance Specialist, January 13, 2008.

John Caffee, former Principal at Barnard Elementary, February 4, 2008.

Nancy Fazio, Resource Teacher with Special Educational Business Office, January 20, 2008.

Daniel McPhetres, former Electrician with Maintenance and Operations, January 18, 2008.

Dan Shannon, former Teacher at Kearny High School, January 9, 2008.

Timothy Short, former Teacher at Kearny High School, November 15, 2007.

Dates to Remember

March 3:

Read Across America Day

March 9:

Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 14 - April 9:

Year Round Calendar Spring Break

March 17-21:

Traditional Calendar Spring Break

March 31:

Cesar Chavez Day

Classifieds

For Sale

1997 Ford Ranger. \$2,500. 4.OL,V6, extra cab, AC, CD. 110,000 miles. Runs well. Call (760) 294-2548

Wanted

Anyone interested in joining a group traveling to Europe this summer from July 24 - August 6. Contact Gage Elementary teacher Milanne Tolson at (619) 427-6613, (619) 997-6613 (cell), or milannetolson@hotmail.com.

Staff Bulletin accepts classified ads from district employees only. Submit ads by e-mail to communications@sandi.net or send to Communications Office, Room 2145, Education Center. Limit to 15 words (not including phone number). Include work location and phone number (for ID purposes only).

Out and About Out and About Out and About

Staff members at **EB Scripps Elementary** took the stage at the Second Annual "EBS Idol," a talent show that featured more than 60 students (far right). Is their next stop Hollywood?

Barnard Elementary students showed their accomplishments in the Mandarin Chinese Magnet Program through drama, dance and musical performances at their Chinese New Year celebration (below right).

Interim Superintendent Bill Kowba got an up close and personal look at learning in action on a recent visit to a sixth grade science class at **Webster Elementary School** (above).



Getting to Know from Pg 2

universal waste program. Over the last two years, these combined efforts amount to an estimated \$100,000 savings to the district and that feels good.

What are the most rewarding aspects of your job?

I just love making people smile. It's very rewarding to have developed so much camaraderie over the years. When people recognize me in the hallway and are thankful for what our team does day in and day out, that's very satisfying. I also love that every day is different and I'm fortunate to work with good people.

Staff Bulletin extends congratulations to Gabe and Rose Gustafson, materiel control

manager, who were recently married. "I can easily say that meeting Rose has been the most rewarding thing about my job," said Gabe. "It's funny that we've known each other and worked together for more than 23 years and now we're partners in everything we do." ■

Staff Bulletin

The Staff Bulletin is published by the Communications Department from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, San Diego Unified School District. To receive this publication electronically, visit www.sandi.net.

Send all news items and classified ads to communications@sandi.net, Education Center, Room 2145, 4100 Normal Street, San Diego, CA 92103 or fax to (619) 725-5576.

William Kowba
Interim Superintendent of Schools

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