

San Diego City Schools

Staff Bulletin – March 3, 2004

SDCS Impact Aid Funding Secured by Congresswoman Susan Davis

San Diego City Schools (SDCS) will receive an additional \$652,238 after an inquiry to the Department of Defense by Congresswoman Susan Davis. On behalf of the school district, Davis questioned the distribution of funds by the Department of Defense to districts impacted by a large military presence. The funding, known as Impact Aid, was originally to be allocated more than a year ago. In this case, the money is designated for military children with severe disabilities.

“It is always a struggle to get all the Impact Aid dollars that a district deserves. The vigilance of district officials brought the shortfall to my attention, and I was able to follow up,” said Rep. Davis. “These funds will be a welcome sight when the school district is already strapped with shrinking income.”

A misinterpretation of the law governing the Impact Aid for Severely Disabled Children program resulted in the funds for the district being reduced for fiscal year 2002. District officials notified Davis of the shortfall in September 2002. In a letter to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, Davis noted that federal law requires school districts “to provide the services for these children (with disabilities).”

The Department of Defense promised a review of the distribution process. After 15 months, Davis and the school district received notification of the additional funds.

Davis’ congressional district has the largest number of Navy and Marine bases in the nation. Because the military does not pay property taxes for its land, buildings and homes, the schools in the district have huge losses in tax revenue. Congress created the Impact Aid program to make up for these losses.

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Getting To Know Leslie Fausset – Chief of Staff

By Ursula Kroemer

Tell us about your background and what brought you to San Diego City Schools.

My teaching career began in San Diego City Schools when I student taught at Birney Elementary in a first grade and then a 4-5-6 combination class at Carson Elementary. My earliest remembrances were the extensive amounts of planning needed. The students were truly wonderful, and I still have things they made and gave me.

Where did you go after Carson?

Poway was hiring at the time, and I was assigned to a classroom where the teacher was about to go on maternity leave. I taught first grade there for six years, while earning my Masters degree in Reading and Language Arts. I went from classroom teacher to reading specialist positions in two schools. One was a middle-class, suburban school. The other was more heavily impacted with more categorical funding and more significant numbers of English language learners. During that assignment, I was asked to assume the role of Project Coordinator, working with state and federally funded programs. I spent two years in that role and then became assistant principal at Black Mountain Middle School. I loved middle school and thoroughly enjoyed working with students that age.

What do you remember about that first day?

I remember thinking how BIG the school was compared to an elementary school and how big the students looked. I also remember thinking how impressive it was that there were so many parents on campus – all these young mothers all dressed up. Turns out, they were 8th grade girls dressed up in high heels, fancy clothes, and lots of make-up! That was only the first couple of days of school, by Friday, they looked like 8th grade girls again!

You said you just loved middle school. What made it so special for you?

Middle school can certainly be challenging. Once you understand that the students just want to fit in and find their place, working with them can become lots of fun. Middle schools are truly “caught in the middle” and trying so hard to grow up. They need structure, boundaries, support, guidance, friendship and understanding.

Where did you go from there?

In my second year as an assistant principal I was assigned as principal of our most impacted elementary school. It had the highest poverty level and highest population of English language learners in the district. It was one of the most rewarding jobs of my career.

After moving to a middle school principal position, I became director of Communication, Evaluation and Staff Development for the district, followed by service as an assistant and area superintendent, where I worked with schools and also coordinated communications, curriculum, pre-K programs, and before and after school programs for the district. It’s been the greatest preparation for *this* position, in that I have some background reference for most aspects of this job.

In early 1998, Delaine Eastin, the Superintendent of Public Instruction for California, asked me to serve as her chief deputy superintendent. I worked for Delaine for almost five years and continued to support transition for two months with newly elected State Superintendent Jack O’Connell.

What was that like for you?

It is a position with enormous responsibility and intensity. Each day was filled with unexpected and unanticipated challenges. It was a great opportunity to learn the political process firsthand. Learning about how laws are written, how they get changed, how compromises are made, and how ultimately they get passed or not was an amazing learning opportunity.

Because I never relocated to Sacramento, I rented an apartment downtown and walked to work. I loved walking to work. It was seven blocks to the capitol and I walked through Capitol Park on the way. I really had a chance to experience the change in seasons, which is fabulous.

How do you think people perceive you? How do you show that you are a do-er?

I believe you have to communicate openly, honestly and respectfully. It is important to take the time to listen to both sides and always make the decisions in the best interest of children.

Our students always have to be our barometer at all times. We have to be focused like a laser on students and use their best interests to guide our decisions at all times.

How do you see San Diego City Schools right now?

San Diego City Schools is in an exciting and dynamic position. There certainly are challenges but there is much to celebrate. The biggest challenge for educational institutions is to find a way to build on our strengths and make incremental, continuous improvement changes. I don’t think the sweeping, extreme changes have been helpful or productive. Additionally, San Diego represents many successes in the urban environment. We need to be honest about our weaknesses and find ways to build on successes to design and develop approaches and systems to better meet the needs of all students.

How do you see yourself facing this new role?

There are two things that brought me here. First I have met, gotten to know, and worked with a number of incredible folks who are doing amazing work. I watched how hard people are working to make a difference for students here and decided that I wanted to be a member of the team.

Secondly, as educators we face a huge challenge in urban education. It’s not like rural; it’s not like suburban. It has its own, unique challenges and gifts. And during the next few years it will take all of our dedication, perseverance and patience to improve the systems to increase student achievement.

I think I am very fortunate in that I never left a position because I didn’t like the job. I have loved every job I have ever had in education. I don’t know how many people can say, after a 30-year career, that they’ve

loved every minute of their work. I am very fortunate and feel that it is a privilege to be working in City Schools.

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Change in Pay Dates for Visiting Teachers and Hourly Employees

In the past, hourly employees and visiting teachers have been paid on the 10th of the month while monthly employees have been paid on the last workday of the month. Because the new payroll system will perform better if all hourly employees are paid twice a month, hourly employees and visiting teachers will now be paid on both the 10th and at month-end, beginning February 27.

The first check will be paid at the end of the month and will include all reported hours through the 15th of the month. This check is subject to voluntary deductions elected by employees such as a tax-sheltered annuity. A second check will be issued on the 10th of the following month for any hours earned after the 15th. Because the monthly hours earned will now be split across two checks and the month-end check will be subject to voluntary deductions, the net pay on the first check may be limited. Hopefully, receiving partial payment earlier will help you meet your financial challenges, but please do not expect more than half of your gross pay to appear on the first check and consider your deductions when estimating your net pay.

If you are unsure how the monthly employees at your site receive their checks, please ask your site secretary. Checks and electronic deposit notices for visiting teachers and classified substitutes will be mailed to the employee's home address.

This change will not impact salaried employees.

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It's Time for Breakfast!

Did you know that nearly 30% of elementary age students from all socioeconomic levels do not eat breakfast? Breakfast is often overlooked in the morning crunch. Because they rush to school, many students arrive hungry. Consistently hungry children cannot learn, even in the best school with the best teacher. Studies show that students who eat breakfast do better on standardized tests, are absent less, exhibit less disruptive behavior and spend a greater amount of time on-task.

Junior Seau strongly supports the need for children to eat breakfast. He knows that the National School Breakfast Program offers to every child the opportunity to come to class adequately prepared for learning. Because of this he has agreed to lend his name and support to the "It's Time for Breakfast" program. Please join Junior Seau and the Food Services Department and encourage every student to eat breakfast at school!

Surprisingly, many parents do not know that breakfast is served at school. The "It's Time for Breakfast" program is intended to remedy this situation. Please support this program and the Food Services Department by posting the available bright and colorful banners outside of your elementary school. Banners will be sent to schools during National School Breakfast Week, March 8-12. Please also encourage all teachers and staff to support the breakfast program by being role models for healthy behavior through eating breakfast with students. School staff is also encouraged to invite parents to join their children at school for breakfast.

For more information on the "It's Time for Breakfast" program, contact Food Services at (858) 627-7301.

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News You Can Use

Classified Man and Woman of the Year Nominations

On May 18, the Board of Education will present the Classified Employee of the Year Awards to an outstanding man and woman and runners up. All classified employees with three or more years of service in a monthly position are eligible. Candidates will be selected based on demonstrated extraordinary service, involvement and accomplishments in the district and in the community. Nominations are due no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17. More information and the nomination form are available through Information Circular No. 512. (<http://www.sandi.net/staff/circulars/0304/ic512.pdf>) If you have any questions, please contact Gloria Rangel (grangel@sandi.net) at (619) 725-8172.

Teacher of the Year Applications Due March 12

School site nominees have until next week, Friday, March 12 to turn in their applications for the district's Teacher of the Year contest. Please contact Lisa Jaycox (ejaycox@sandi.net) in Communications at (619) 725-5598 if you need more information.

2004 Summer School Assignments Limited

State funding that normally provides for Summer School and Intersession has been reduced for school year 2004-05. As a result, there will be a limited number of opportunities for 10- and 11-month employees to work extended year assignments. This will initially be evident for the summer of 2004.

10- and 11-month employees who plan on working during a summer school program or an extended year assignment should be prepared in the event that limited availability does not allow for a district employment opportunity. Please keep in mind that employee bargaining agreements have provisions that the district is required to follow when staffing the summer school program.

Information should be available soon regarding the 2004 summer school program. Interested employees are encouraged to review their bargaining contracts and apply according to the provisions within their bargaining agreement. For more information, please contact the Labor Relations Department at (858) 496-8005.

Opportunity for Teacher Training in Visual Impairments

The Programs in Visual Disabilities at both California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA) and Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee have received training grants to prepare teachers of students with visual impairments, including low vision and blindness. There is a critical shortage of teachers who have this expertise. Many enter the program as a second career, including concerned parents who understand the need for teachers in this area. Others are educators who are seeking Master's degrees with this additional certification. The CSULA program includes a collaborative project for interns with area schools. Many of the CSULA classes are online and are offered on weekends. The Vanderbilt University program includes full tuition traineeships leading to a M.Ed. degree, admission for fall or spring semesters, part-time and full-time opportunities and stipends for full-time students. For additional information please contact Dr. Sharon Sacks (SZSacks@aol.com) (CSULA) or Dr. Anne Corn (Anne.Corn@Vanderbilt.edu) (Vanderbilt University) at (615) 322-2249.

Navy Speaker's Bureau

The Naval Air Forces has recently activated a speakers bureau program in an effort to foster and strengthen the Navy's community ties with San Diego and help students envision a positive future. Admirals and other navy officers are available to speak to any size group or classroom on a variety of topics. This program is provided free of charge by the Naval Air Forces. Please call Lynn Renee Híjar (lynn.hijar@navy.mil) at (619) 767-1621 if you would like to arrange for a Navy representative to speak to your class.

Study Exchange Trip to Ecuador

Rotary International is sponsoring a one-month study exchange trip to Ecuador for local educators to learn about another educational system in November 2004. This "Group Study Exchange" program provides a unique educational experience that connects teachers and other educators from two countries for concrete educational experiences and cross-cultural learning in Ecuador's school system. All major

travel costs are provided by Rotary. Interested educators are encouraged to apply for this once in a professional lifetime opportunity. Applications must be received by April 23. For more information or to download an application, please visit the Rotary International website (www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/gse) or contact Bill Stumbaugh (bstumbaugh@santee.k12.ca.us) at (619) 258-2363.

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Hall of Fame

Jefferson Elementary is First to Update Their Fact Sheet Template

In a recent Operations Update, principals were sent a *Getting Involved at My School* fact sheet template to customize for their school. The first school to complete their fact sheet is Jefferson Elementary School. They will receive 50 copies of their Fact Sheet in English and Spanish. Although they do not have a website yet, they have already included it in their monthly parent newsletter. Congratulations to Jefferson!

San Diego Science Alliance Administrator of the Year Award to be Presented to William Berggren

School-to-Career Resource Teacher William Berggren has been selected by the San Diego Science Alliance to receive an Administrator of the Year Award. On March 12, Mr. Berggren will be recognized for his Herculean efforts and inspirational leadership for the Project Lead the Way and Botball Robotics Programs. More information is available on the San Diego Science Alliance website. (<http://www.sdsa.org/awardsMarch/>)

Who's Who in the San Diego African American Community

Agin Shaheed, program manager of the Race/Human Relations and Advocacy Department, was featured in an exhibit at the Paradise Valley Hospital as one of "Who's Who in the San Diego African-American Community." Artist Larry Malone created this special exhibit in celebration of Black History Month to recognize African-American leaders in the San Diego community.

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Scenes from Schools

Construction Tech Academy Thanks M & O Staff

On the behalf of Construction Tech Academy (CTA) at Kearny High School, Director Glenn Hillegas and CTA student Elio Ruiz recently had the opportunity to thank Chief Operating Officer Lou Smith and other Maintenance and Operations (M & O) staff for their contributions to helping CTA get off the ground. The M & O Department was instrumental in developing partnerships between CTA and industries to help reduce costs and meet important deadlines for the Academy. M & O staff also assisted with planning, estimating, project management and some of the labor involved. Lou Smith was presented with a CTA Green Bay hard hat in appreciation.

CTA originally grew from the necessity for collaboration between industries and education to meet student and community needs, and it is the first developed small school within a larger high school. It opened in the fall of 2002 with an initial class of 120 9th graders. An additional 9th grade class will be added each year until the Academy reaches its full enrollment of approximately 400 students in grades 9-12. CTA combines a rigorous learning environment with technical and industry projects for students interested in architecture, engineering, or the construction trades. Upon graduation, students are prepared for college, apprenticeship programs or a job in the industry. (Please see CTA photo in folder)

Freese Elementary Opens New Library and Classrooms

Students at Freese Elementary held a dual ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of the new Proposition MM library and classroom building. The morning event was geared toward the younger grades, and the afternoon event was geared toward the older students, parents, community members

and district representatives. Students also dedicated three trees to Freese staff members who had passed away and sang "Love in Any Language" as a tribute. The new classroom building will accommodate 5th and 6th graders and will replace many bungalows. (Please see Freese photo in folder)

Mission Bay High School Holds First Science Fair in Over 20 Years

On January 23, Mission Bay High School hosted its first site-based science fair in more than 20 years. The best of nearly 400 projects, representing work from students in grades 9-12, were on display for judging and recognition in Mission Bay's new library. Thirteen selected projects advanced to the Jan. 27 district-level science fair, held at Challenger Middle School. The top three of these projects will advance to the county level in mid-March.

Commitment to the science fair program has grown substantially with the expansion of the school's science fair, and now includes teachers from the Math and English departments. Many of the teachers show their support by volunteering to work with students after school and on weekends to expand the science fair program.

"Everyone wants to work with a winner and we have loads of winners among our students, particularly when they are encouraged and given the opportunity to excel," says Dr. Weinshanker, Science Fair Coordinator. "We need to point proudly to our successes here at Mission Bay High School." (Please see MBHS Science Fair photo in folder.)

Food Services Celebrates Dr. Seuss' Birthday

The Seussentennial (Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday) and "Read Across America" were celebrated on March 2 by the Food Services Department with a "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish" menu of bright blue/green fish sticks in elementary cafeterias. Parents were invited to join their children for this Seussian fete, and Sea World's Shamu visited Kimbrough's kindergarten students. Shamu's assistant read the "One Fish, Two Fish..." book to students while the class and Shamu listened intently. In addition, Food Services is proud to donate over 400 Dr. Seuss books to elementary school libraries throughout the district in celebration of reading and Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday.

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Save the Date

SAVY Conference

The 13th Annual SAVY Youth Leadership Conference, will take place tomorrow, Thursday, March 4. SAVY (Students Actively Volunteering for You), is a youth leadership program of Volunteer San Diego comprised of middle and high school students. In collaboration with San Diego City Schools, SAVY offers many opportunities for students to become actively engaged in community service and service learning activities. This free conference will take place at the San Diego Concourse, and will include workshops on youth leadership, youth service, diversity and more! There will also be workshops for teachers describing how they can implement service projects in classrooms. Lunch will be provided. Please call Rachel Goplin at (858) 636-4124 if you are interested in attending.

Excellence in Teaching Conference

The California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD) is hosting this year's state conference, "Excellence in Teaching," on March 4-7 at the Pasadena Sheraton. For more information, please visit the website (http://www.cahperd.org/conference/conf_schedule.html) or contact CAHPERD at (916) 922-3596, 1-800-499-3596 or cahperd@cahperd.org.

AAAE Annual Conference on Teaching African-American Students

The Association of African-American Educators (AAAE) Conference is scheduled for March 5-6 at the Hanalei/Red Lion Hotel in Hotel Circle and is centered on the theme, Effectively Teaching African-American Students: 50 Years After Brown vs. Board. The annual conference brings educators, students and parents together to focus on strategies for improving the academic achievement of African-American students. Attendees will listen to researchers and motivational speakers and participate in discussions

and problem-solving sessions. The registration deadline is this Friday, March 5. Please contact Catherine Pope at (619) 668-8635 if you would like more information.

Mandatory Peer Enrichment Program (PEP) Training

Peer Enrichment Program (PEP) training will be offered to principals and San Diego Education Association (SDEA) representatives immediately following the Secondary Principals' Half-Day Conference and the Elementary Principals' Half-Day Conference on March 10 and 11. The sessions will provide an overview of PEP, the voluntary component of the district's Peer Review and Enrichment Program (PREP). PEP distributes funds to sites to be used for professional development and enrichment programs for classroom teachers. PEP funds cannot be provided until both the principal (or designee) and SDEA representative have attended training. This training is mandatory for principals (or their designees) and association representatives who have not previously attended. The training will be held on March 10 and 11 from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Marina Village Conference Center, Bayview Room (1936 Quivera Way) in San Diego. Registration is required. Please email Lucy del Valle (ldellvall@mail.sandi.net) by this Friday, March 5 to register. Include your name, location and choice of date (March 10 or 11). If you have any questions, please call (619) 725-7140.

Parent Congress Connects Parents and District Administration

The next Parent Congress meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, March 11 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Quality Inn, 875 Hotel Circle Drive in Mission Valley. Food Services will be hosting a food fair, "It's Cool to Eat at School," from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., so be sure to bring your appetite! Free childcare will be provided. For more information, please visit the website. (<http://www.sandi.net/parents/parentcongress/>)

S.H.A.P.E. San Diego Expo: Something for Everyone

The Safety, Health, Advocacy, Prosperity, Education (S.H.A.P.E.) Expo (www.shapesandiego.com) will be visiting San Diego on Saturday, March 13, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Students of all ages will have the opportunity to learn about financial aid, safety, internships, and more, and will be entertained by performers and a visitor from *Cartoon Network*. Teachers and parents will benefit from over 60 seminars. To get involved, please contact Deb Ingersoll (debi@joderegroup.com) at (858) 638-7782 or visit the website (www.shapesandiego.com).

Community Rummage Sale at Kate Sessions Elementary

The PTO at Kate Sessions Elementary School (2150 Beryl St., Pacific Beach 92109) is holding a rummage sale on Saturday, March 13. Thousands of like-new items will be for sale amidst food, games, contests, face painting and vendor booths. The PTO is raising funds to support the school's library, music program and physical education program and is aiming to collect \$9,000. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Dietz at (858) 273-6368.

Honor Concerts to Fill Brown Chapel at Point Loma Nazarene University

On Saturday, March 13 and Tuesday, March 16 at 7 p.m., Brown Chapel at Point Loma Nazarene University will be filled with the sound of music as SDCS students perform with their talented voices and instruments. The Honor Choir Concert, a display of songs from the Elementary, Middle and Secondary School Honor Choirs, will take place on Saturday, March 13. On Tuesday, March 16, the Elementary Honor Orchestra and Elementary Honor Band will perform. Questions should be directed to the VAPA Department at (858) 539-5349 or Ann Marie Haney at (858) 459-3637.

Soccers Game Tickets Available

Franklin Elementary School is hosting a fundraising trip to the Sunday, March 14 Soccers game at 5 p.m. at the San Diego Sports Arena. Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased by this Friday, March 5. For more information, please contact Karen at (619) 302-3470.

Superintendent Art Show Brightens Education Center

Student artwork from across the district is now on display at the Education Center (4100 Normal Street.) An Open House on March 17 from 5 to 7 p.m., featuring the talent-filled student exhibits, will give

students a chance to show their creative projects to family, friends and the general public. If you would like more information, please contact Marty Stegeman (mstegeman@mail.sandi.net) at (858) 539-5353.

Donate Blood Through the American Red Cross

The Builders Club, a service club sponsored by Kiwanis of Balboa Park, is organizing a blood drive through the American Red Cross at Memorial Academy Charter School (2850 Logan Ave., 92113) on Wednesday, March 17 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please call (619) 525-7400, ext. 238 to make an appointment if you are interested in donating blood on that day. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Standard Mail Seminar

The U.S. Postal Service is hosting seminars on "Sortation Instructions for Letters and Flats at Basic or 3/5 Rates" in room 117 at the MLS Processing and Distribution Center in Carmel Mountain (11251 Rancho Carmel Dr., 92128) from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- Wednesday, March 17
- Wednesday, April 21
- Wednesday, May 19
- Wednesday, June 16
- Tuesday, July 13

For more information or to register, please call (858) 674-0400, ext. 0.

Auction Time!

The next San Diego City Schools (SDCS) auction will be held on Thursday, March 18. Previewing begins at 9:30 a.m. and the auction starts at 10:30 a.m. It will be held at the Procurement and Distribution Department Supply Center Yard (2351 Cardinal Lane, 92123.) Questions regarding the auction may be addressed to Anstead's Auctioneers and Associates at (619) 233-3148 or Rose Gustafson at (858) 496-8020.

Week of the Administrator Conference

In honor of Week of the Administrator, the Administrators Association has planned a special professional growth opportunity for administrators, managers, supervisors, and teachers. The conference title is "Rediscovering Passion in your Work, Rest, and Play, Your Blueprint for Personal and Professional Empowerment," and will feature Oliver Rhodes, President of Corporate Health Dynamics, as the speaker. The conference will be held Thursday, March 18, at the Quality Resort from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$45.00 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Sign up now so you don't miss this valuable event! If you have any questions, please call Linda Crout-Hamel at (619) 295-2118.

Let the Groundbreaking Begin!

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new Cherokee Point Elementary School in City Heights has been set for Thursday, March 25, at 10 a.m. This is the first of five Proposition MM new school groundbreaking ceremonies to be held in 2004. Official invitations to the ceremony will be sent in early March to all appropriate officials, guests and community members. Surrounding neighborhoods will soon be properly notified of upcoming construction. If you have any questions, please contact Erika Wilgenburg, Proposition MM Communications, at (619) 725-5602.

Join the Fun of the Junior Olympics at Green Elementary

Mark your calendar for March 29 through April 2; it's Junior Olympics Week at Green Elementary School! Opening ceremonies will be at 9 a.m. on March 29. Everyone is invited to attend and cheer on the Green athletes. For more information, please contact Green Elementary at (619) 460-5755.

BOTBALL Robots to Take Over Poway High

On April 3, robots created by local students (grades 6-12) will be showcased at Poway High School during the regional BOTBALL robotics competition (<http://www.sdsa.org/Botball/index.html>) sponsored by the KISS Institute for Practical Robotics. (www.kipr.org) Teams from 7 San Diego City Schools will be participating, including Bell Junior High School, Montgomery Middle School, High Tech High School, Madison High School, San Diego High School, the Preuss School at UCSD and the MAST Academy.

Please contact Patricia Winter (pat.winter@gat.com) of San Diego Science Alliance or Paul Zorner, KIPR Director (paulzorner@msn.com) for more information. (See Botball photo in folder)

Annual Science and Engineering Day Conference at SDSU

The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, student chapter at San Diego State University (SDSU), is proud to announce their "21st Annual Science and Engineering Day Conference," taking place on Saturday, April 10, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This conference is designed to reach out to and motivate junior and senior high school students by providing a variety of workshops, speakers, fun-filled events and activities. Students will have the opportunity to interact with college students, to learn about college, engineering, and science through hands-on activities, and to hear about experiences from motivational professionals. For more information, please contact David Williams (SHPE_SDSU_David@hotmail.com) at (619) 957-2272.

Statewide Leadership Conference on Family, School and Community Partnerships

The California PARENT Center, in consultation with the California Department of Education, is sponsoring two conferences (Please link to Flyer.pdf in folder) on April 14-15 and April 21-22 at the San Diego Quality Resort in Hotel Circle. The conferences are designed to help districts and schools (K-12) strengthen school, family and community partnerships to support each school's plan for improved student achievement. One unit of university credit is available to attendees. To register please fill out a registration form, (Please link to Registration Form.pdf in folder) which is also available on the SDSU website. (<http://parent.sdsu.edu>) If you need more information, please contact the California PARENT Center at (619) 594-4756 or ckaufman@projects.sdsu.edu.

Family Volunteer Day

Volunteer San Diego's 3rd annual Family Volunteer Day, "Families and Youth Serving Together," will be held on Saturday, April 17. Each year, more than 1,000 volunteers of all ages work together to complete service projects around San Diego county. Volunteers are recruited through the media, corporation partnerships and the Volunteer San Diego website. Volunteer San Diego is looking for project sites that can accommodate 25-100 volunteers (ages 5+) and be completed within three hours. Projects should be fun, meaningful and help the participants understand needs in the community. *Volunteer San Diego* will provide:

- Funding for supplies, up to \$200, for each selected project site
- Staff to assist with organization and coordinating the event
- Recruitment and coordination of all volunteers
- Training for project coordinators
- Waiver forms
- Assistance with providing morning refreshments
- Free T-shirts
- PR and media promotion

If you would like to have your site considered as a project site, or if you have any questions about Family Volunteer Day, please call Linda Fisher at (858) 636-4130.

Race for Literacy with the Union-Tribune

The *Union-Tribune* Race for Literacy, the largest kid's run in California and the second largest 8k in the country, will be taking place on May 1-2. The "Kids' Magic Mile" on May 1 will give kids a chance to run, play, eat and listen to celebrity readers at Balboa Park. On Sunday, May 2, walkers and runners will have the unique opportunity to run down Highway 163 in the "Race for Literacy 8K." In prior years, the race has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to help fund local literacy programs through the San Diego Council on Literacy. It is a community favorite and a great cause. Show your support by registering yourself and/or your team online (www.utraceforliteracy.com). You can also download your team packet as easy as 1-2-3! If you have any questions please contact Michelle Potoff (michele@inmotionevents.com) at (760) 692-2900.

Professional Development Conference on Reading and Vocabulary

On Saturday, May 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., the California Reading Association Professional Development Institute will present, "Where There's a Will, There's a Way: Vocabulary Instruction," a

professional development opportunity for teachers. The featured speaker is CSU Dominguez Hills Assistant Professor and author, Danny Brassell. The conference will take place at the Town & Country Hotel (500 Hotel Circle) in San Diego. The cost is \$80 for members and \$110 for non-members and includes Danny Brassell's book, *Vocabulary Strategies Every Teacher Needs to Know*, as well as a box lunch. For more information, please contact Kathy Belanger (kathy.crareads@sbcglobal.net) at (714) 435-1983, ext. 19.

San Diego Civic Theatre to Host Honor Concert

On Sunday, May 9, the Middle School Honor Band, Secondary Honor Orchestra and High School Honor Band will perform at the San Diego Civic Theatre. For ticket information, please contact the Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Department at (858) 539-5349.

Informational Meeting for Resource Specialists

Resource specialists who are operating under an LH, SH, CH, VI or PH credential, or who have an expired emergency resource specialist certificate, are invited to attend a meeting on Thursday, May 27, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the San Diego County Office of Education, Room 306 (6401 Linda Vista Rd.) Attendees will find out about a simple, inexpensive process to obtain the certificate of competence by applying to an Assessor Panel. Please fax your RSVP to (858) 571-8531 by April 27 or call Judith Van Brocklin at (858) 292-3774 for more information.

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In Memoriam

Milburn Carter, whose service with the district began in June 1973, passed away on January 9, 2004. Mr. Carter was a teacher at Montgomery Middle School at the time of his retirement in June 1987. He is survived by his wife, Donna.

John Harris, whose service with the district began in September 1958, passed away on January 8, 2004. Mr. Harris was a teacher at Lewis Junior High School at the time of his retirement in June 1996. He is survived by his wife, Jane.

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Classified Ads

For Sale:

'94 **Honda Civic LX**, dark grey, 4dr, 5 spd, power everything, CD/radio, alarm, tint, 167k, reliable, \$3000/obo. 858-405-4586

'99 **Honda Accord LX**, dark blue, 5 spd, xInt condit, 82k, \$8300. 858-586-1414

'89 **Honda Prelude**, blue, standard, good shape, \$2500. 619-850-9602

Furniture, oak ent ctr, coffee tbl, 2 end tpls, uphol rocker-recliner, xInt condit, \$50/ea. 619-501-4488

Microwave, Sharp Carousel, like new, digital, black, don't need, \$50. 619-239-2317

Solid Pine Loft Bed, single w/ desk & dresser drawers from Haywood's, \$500/obo. 858-541-1084

For Rent:

Mira Mesa Condo, 1br/1ba, ac, heat, fireplace, pool, jacuzzi, wash/dry, pking, \$1135/mo + \$600 dep. 858-668-0986

Mission Valley East Apt, \$875/mo + dep, 1br/1ba, bright, quiet, covered pking, gated, golf course view, laundry, dishwasher, jacuzzi. 858-405-4522

Wanted:

Indian Arrowheads/Artifacts, must be ancient and authentic. 619-222-8562