

San Diego City Schools

Staff Bulletin – June 18, 2003

SDCS EARNS RECYCLER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Recycling program teaches good habits, saves money

As a result of the impressive recycling efforts of students and staff, San Diego City Schools recently received the "Recycler of the Year" award from Mayor Dick Murphy.

The district recycles landscape clippings, wood, paper, scrap metal, beverage containers, cardboard, concrete from construction, and even the houses and apartments being demolished to make way for our new schools. Plans are in place to save more than \$475,000 per year through our recycling programs.

"Our recycling program is here to stay. We're teaching students good habits about reducing, reusing and recycling," says Bill Dos Santos, director of Maintenance & Operations. "We're also saving or earning back money because of our efforts, which is important as we face an unprecedented budget crisis."

Recycling at our schools

With a grant from the Department of Conservation, the district has implemented a formal beverage container recycling program at 36 middle and high schools.

"Before this new program, only three of our 46 middle and high schools were recycling beverage containers," says J. Naish, energy/utility coordinator for San Diego City Schools. "Schools were throwing away 92 tons of plastic and aluminum beverage containers every year because we didn't have a consistent program in place."

Now, 36 middle and high schools each have four 96-gallon carts and 20 18-gallon bins for collecting beverage containers. Students participate by joining an Conservation Club and educating classmates about recycling. Students also collect and empty the 18-gallon bins into the 96-gallon bins. Money generated by recycling goes back to each school.

The program will eventually be expanded to all middle and high schools, as well as elementary schools.

A good deal

Sometimes the cost of implementing a recycling program can wipe out the savings. However, that's not the case at San Diego City Schools:

- The recycling containers at each school are paid for by Keep California Beautiful, a recycling advocacy group. Previously, schools had to find their own containers.
- The recycling containers are picked up and brought to a recycler by San Diego Urban Corps, a local community service program. Urban Corps also leads the monthly Conservation Club meetings at each school. Previously, teachers often made the trip to the recycling center themselves.
- The district is working with TetraTech, an environmental firm, to develop recycling programs in our schools. TetraTech's services will be more than offset by program grants and cost savings. The firm has already identified ways to reduce our waste and save \$475,000 each year at San Diego City Schools.

Not just soda cans

Here are just a few examples of other recycling activities at San Diego City Schools:

- Employees at schools and administration buildings recycle yard clippings, tin cans, paper, corrugated cardboard, glass bottles, and more.
- The SDCS Communications Department now posts *Staff Bulletin* online instead of printing it on paper.
- Maintenance & Operations recycles scrap metal, wood, concrete and other materials from small construction jobs.
- The contractors hired by Proposition MM to demolish houses and apartment buildings save windows, doors and other home components for resale. In many cases, entire homes are moved to other parts of San Diego County or Tijuana.

If you have questions or ideas about the district's recycling program, contact J. Naish at 858-627-7217.

SDCS RECEIVES GRANT TO STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP

In the continued effort to prioritize improving student achievement, San Diego City Schools (SDCS) has announced the Broad Foundation will grant the district an award of up to \$400,000 to recruit principal and vice principal candidates. The grant will support district efforts to attract leadership in the effort to meet individual school needs to improve student achievement.

While district outreach efforts to attract promising candidates from surrounding areas are ongoing, approximately half of school districts nationwide reported a shortage of qualified candidates for vacant principals' positions, according to a recent survey by Educational Research Service.

"In the face of budget crises, school districts nationwide are being challenged to be creative, innovative, and to improve outreach policies in identifying the leadership needed to help our students succeed," said Superintendent Alan D. Bersin. "The district must find new ways to attract the best site administrators that are committed to leading faculty, staff, and students to increasing overall achievement."

The recruitment proposal contains several strategies to be supported through Broad Foundation funding, including hiring a recruitment officer to work closely with staff to tap the district's teacher ranks for potential leaders and actively seek to identify and contact exemplary candidates from outside the district.

Another strategy to be implemented is rewarding district employees for referrals. Subject to consent of exclusive representatives of employee groups, a "finder's fee" of \$500.00 would be awarded to any district who refers successful candidates from outside the district for principal or vice principal positions.

Incentives will be offered to newly hired vice principals and principals from outside of the district through funding from the Board Foundation, which seeks to dramatically improve K-12 urban public education through better governance, management and labor relations. The district routinely opens site leadership to outside candidates through job announcements on its website and online applications and plans to increase these efforts to attract new hires.

In addition, the district will continue with innovative programs such as the Educational Leadership Development Academy (ELDA), a collaboration of the school system with several local institutions of higher education, to develop leadership within the organization. Through ELDA, the district has created innovative programs to "grow our own" leaders and to build scaffolding for administrative career ladders.

For more information on district recruitment efforts, visit www.sandi.net.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Patrick Haggerty
Contract Specialist

Tell us about Your Career at San Diego City Schools.

I've been with the district for ten years. I started my career at SDCS as an hourly employee working in the supply center warehouse. Several years later, I became a buyer for the district. Now I'm a contract specialist and a subject matter expert on the District Wide Application (DWA) project.

What does a Contract Specialist do?

A Contract Specialist negotiates and administers agreements the district has with vendors and suppliers like Office Depot. We ensure that the district gets the best prices and service that we can from our vendors. As part of the DWA project team, I'm a purchasing and requisition subject matter expert. I suggest ways to improve the requisitioning process and what information is needed to make better decisions.

What do you like best about your job?

I like being on the DWA project because I enjoy working as a team with the Empower Solutions employees. I also enjoy trying to improve the procurement process, because if we can improve the procurement process, we can save the district money. Through the process of eProcurement in PeopleSoft* (please see editor's note), we can streamline the procurement process and generate reports that will allow us to make better purchasing decisions. With automated processes, we can track and monitor what the district buys and receives. The accurate tracking and allocation of purchases will save the district considerable money.

So, we're going to see changes to our business practices?

Yes, and change is good. We can't keep doing things the way we always have. We can't afford to. We may have many of the same needs, but we have fewer resources. So we have to let go of the way we used to do things and come up with better solutions. The work the DWA team is doing will help us do that. And, as we come up with new and better business practices, the DWA team is committed to providing support and training to all district employees. I say, "Embrace the change."

NEWS YOU CAN USE!

- The **District Wide Applications (DWA)** team has announced a **status meeting** to be held in the Ed Center auditorium on Thursday June 26, 2003, from 3:00 - 4:30. There will be a presentation covering the status of the DWA project to date and what to expect for the next several months. There will also be a question and answer session after the presentation. For more information, visit the DWA website at www.sandi.net/dwa.

SCENES FROM SCHOOLS

- **Lincoln High School**, which is slated for demolition later this year before being rebuilt and expanded, held a Closing Celebration event June 7th. Activities included tours of the school, a video and awards ceremony, booths representing each decade in Lincoln's history and a

sock hop. Special guests included Assemblywoman Susan Davis; San Diego City Councilman Charles Lewis; Board of Education trustees John de Beck, Ed Lopez and Katherine Nakamura; and many former students and staff. School administrators estimate more than 1,000 people visited the campus that day. The expansion of Lincoln High School is expected to be finished in time for a fall 2006 opening. The project, totaling nearly \$90 million when all is said and done, will be the largest completed under the Proposition MM program. To learn more about the expansion, visit www.sandi.net/propmm. You can also read about the Lincoln legacy in the June 4 Staff Bulletin.

- **Lindbergh Schweitzer Elementary** recently held its **International Olympic Day**. Close to 80 Marines from the school's partner in education came to watch the opening ceremonies and help students participate in a variety of events. The ceremonies opened with the song "*Freedom*" performed in sign language by the entire school, as taught to them by principal **Laurie Hinzman**.
- **Rod Luck** interviewed students and staff from **CONNECTIONS** on Thursday, May 29th at St. Marks Church on University and Fairmount, one of three education clinics CONNECTIONS, the City Schools Dropout Recovery Program, operates. Rod spoke with students on how CONNECTIONS has helped to motivate them to get back to school and begin to think about their future. CONNECTIONS staff spoke with Rod about how classrooms are located around the city to make attendance convenient for students and discussed the rewards that come with helping students grow and change.

STUDENT SALUTES

- Congratulations to the 6,655 **senior high school students** who were **graduated** from district schools this June. Commencement and promotion activities, including the Serra High School ceremony, shown, were held at on June 13 and 14, 2003.
- **Rolando Park Elementary School student Suzanna Osuna** is one of only four students countywide to be awarded a scholarship for the **U.S. Space Camp** in Huntsville, Alabama. The award, sponsored by the law firm of Fish and Richardson, is part of a yearlong, countywide celebration of space and science by the San Diego Science Alliance. Suzanna's award includes full tuition for a six-day program in August, roundtrip airfare, \$250 cash for expenses and a commemorative U.S. Space Camp t-shirt.
- **Scripps Ranch High School's Academic League** won the Regional Tournament of the 21st annual National Academic Championship. The four-day tournament is a college bowl-type academic competition in which 27 teams are awarded points for correctly answering questions covering all academic fields, sports and pop culture. Scripps Ranch qualified for the National Academic Championship by winning both the city- and county-level championships. The Falcons posted an impressive 6-1 record during the tournament, recovering from an early-round stumble to win their final five matches, including a victory over top-seeded Brookwood (Georgia) High School in the championship match. The Scripps Ranch squad consisted of seniors **Cate McGuire** and **Josh Patashnik**; juniors **Devin Alavian**, **Sean Selphey** and **James Zou**; and coaches **Tom Ihlbrock** and **Tom Draganski**. Scripps Ranch becomes one of three finalists competing in the National Academic Championship Tournament.
- **Spreckels Elementary School** has lots of kid kudos to share! **Sage Hagstrom** was selected to be the delegate to represent California at the 2nd Annual Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Kids' Summit Essay Contest. He wrote (in less than 200 words) how to save the Pacific Pocket Mouse (it is believed that there are only 40 left in California). Sage also won, along with classmates **Emily Kurtz** and **Titiana Toronto**, an essay contest for the Friends of the

SD Public Library. They were invited to a celebration at Sea World. **Tammy Tran, Jennifer McConnell, Ilya Gaidarov** and **Or Weizman** represented Spreckels at the Elementary Math Field Day Competition and walked away with several medals.

- **Sunset View Elementary** students raked in the loose change during their annual **“Penny Round Up!”** Together, students, staff, friends and family donated 55,702 pennies. That, combined with \$764.98 in “stomp money” (all other loose change and idle bills), the Round Up brought in \$1,322.00. The money will go toward new bleacher risers for the auditorium.
- Eight students from across the district have been recognized as members of the **Padres Scholars** Class of 2003. **Sydney Tolan (Muirlands), Christina Khavarian (Preuss), Dina Ali (Pershing), Yusem Garcia (Wilson), Julica Evans (Standley), Charles Jock (O’Farrell), John Beck (Bell),** and **Ernesto Galvin (Monroe Clark)** were introduced on the field before the Padres-Twins game on June 7.
- **La Jolla High School** has several students recently honored for various reasons. They include **Marwa Kaisey**, who was named the 2003 recipient for the **John D. Isaacs Scholarship** for work in marine science with her project, *“Brittlestar Bioluminescence: An indicator of the toxicity of San Diego Bay,”* and members of the math team (**Eugene Fan, Marina Fisher, Jacob King, Thomas Lambert, Andrew Lee, Thomas Lee, Anand Subramani** and **Kate Wegrzyn**) which took second place at the recent Honors Mathematics Contest held at UCSD. Additionally, three students will receive youth “Billie” Awards at the 2nd annual San Diego Playbill Awards on June 23. They include **Christine Garver, Katie Reynolds** and **Jason Robertson**. **Paul Coover** qualified for the California State Track finals by running a mile in 4:20:96. **Christina Sloyer** has set a new LJHS record by reaching 11’ in the women’s pole vault event.

SAVE THE DATE

- You are cordially invited to attend **Zamorano Fine Arts Academy’s 17th Annual Celebration of Art**, Wednesday, July 2, 2003, from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Zamorano is located at 2655 Casey Street, San Diego. For additional information, call (619) 267-8007.
- A **LEAF Kick-Off and Multicultural Day and Health Fair** will be held at Memorial Academy on July 1. The district’s Linking Exercise Activity and Food (LEAF) Pilot Program is sponsored by a grant from the California Department of Education and the California Department of Food and Agriculture. For more information, contact Cindy Johnsen at (858) 627-7586.

RETIREMENTS

- **Emerson/Bandini Elementary** will host a retirement dinner for nine retirees, **Lupe Arriaga, Lucille Butler, Phyllis Dewey, Maria Garcia, Marilyn Iglesias, Lewis King, Mae McCloud, Donna Orozco** and **Lois Taylor**. A buffet dinner will be held at the Catamaran Resort Hotel on Friday, July 18th, 6:30-12:00 p.m. Cost is \$50.00 per adult, \$25.00 per child under 12. Please RSVP by Monday, June 30th, to Suzie Bagheri at (619) 525-7360. Checks may be made payable to Emerson/Bandini ASB.
- **Human Resource Services** will host a retirement picnic for eighteen retirees on Saturday, June 28. They are **Kathy Brockmire, Barbara Carpenter, Mary Castleberry, Debbie Fleck, Deberie Gomez, Carol Hinton, Hannah Hooper, Barbara Kellison, Roberta Krause, Judy Macander, Colleen McClain, Sharon Smith, Sylvia Sumption, Maryann Thomas, Janice Trantham, Stella Trojanowski, Kathy Walker** and **Sharon Whitehurst-**

Payne. Reservations are due by June 23. For additional information, please contact Jackie Bello at (619) 725-8022.

- **Kimbrough Elementary** will host a retirement celebration for **Ruben Ibañez, Larry Novell, Barbara Scott** and **Levanna Watkins** on Thursday, June 26, at 2:30 p.m. in the Kimbrough multi-purpose room. Refreshments will be provided. For additional information, call (619) 525-2010.
- **Paradise Hills Elementary** will host a retirement lunch for **Gene Dean, Yvonne Harper** and **Angie Morrissey** on Saturday, July 19, from 11:30 – 2:30 p.m. at the Admiral Kidd Club at MCRD. Cost is \$23 per person, including buffet and gratuity. Please RSVP by July 1 with checks payable to the Paradise Hills Social Committee. Names must be on guest list on order to enter the base and a picture ID is required. Mrs. Harper has requested books for the new library to be donated in her honor in lieu of gifts. For additional information, call Irene Morales at (619) 479-3145.
- **Police Services** will host a retirement celebration for **Lieutenants Bob Martin, Mike Parker and Bill Ritter, Detective Ray Hubbard, Campus Police Officers Chet Bruzy, Larry Chapman, Ed Roberts and John Walker, Patrol Officer James Snead, and Dispatched Jan Banales** on Friday, June 20, in the Pavilion Room of the Sheraton Four Points Hotel. The retirees have more than 194 years in law enforcement experience with San Diego School Police Services. No-host cocktails will be offered from 5:30-6:30 p.m., and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person to cover dinner and gifts. For more information, contact Doris Devowe at (619) 725-7010.
- A retirement dinner for **Doug Adams, Safety Coordinator**, will be Friday, July 18, at Casa Guadalajara in Old Town, from 6 – 9 p.m. Cost will be \$25 per person. For reservations and information, please call (858) 627-7345 or email cellis@sandi.net
- A retirement open house for **Sheryl Carlton**, from the **Community Relations Department**, will be Wednesday, July 30, in Room 2249, Eugene Brucker Education Center, from 2 – 4 p.m. Contributions toward the gift and celebration may be made payable by July 18 to Julie Hendershot, Community Relations Department, Education Center, Room 2121. For additional information, please call (619) 725-5592.
- A retirement party for **Carrie Peery, Hamilton Elementary principal**, will be Friday, July 25, at Tom Ham's Lighthouse on Harbor Island, from 5 – 9 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person. RSVP to Karen at Hamilton, (619) 262-2483.
- A retirement/going away party for **Jo Anne SawyerKnoll, General Counsel**, will be Thursday, July 24, 2003, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Gordon Biersch Brewery in Fashion Valley. Reception includes hors d'oeuvres, cake, various types of beer for the duration of the party and a no host bar. The cost is \$25.00 per person, payable to Vira Villarreal at 4100 Normal Street, Rm. 2148, San Diego, CA 92103. Please RSVP by July 17, 2003. For additional information please call (619) 725-5637 or email vvillarreal@mail.sandi.net.
- In lieu of a party and/or gift for **Cynthia Springall, Supervising Administrative Assistant II**, who will be retiring July 1, you're asked to send a note indicating how your paths have crossed with hers during her years in Payroll, Support Systems and the Instructional Leaders' office. Send your notes to Cynthia at the Eugene Brucker Education Center, Room 2038.
- A retirement party for **Dr. Jeannie Steeg, Zamorano Elementary principal**, will be held Friday, June 27, from 5 – 9 p.m. at the Quality Resort in Hotel Circle, Westwind Ballroom. Cost is \$20 per person. For more information, contact Jo Davis at (619) 267-8007.

- A retirement celebration for **Joanne Wall, Executive Director, Student Services**, will be Monday, June 30, from 4 – 7 p.m. at Casa Guadalajara, 4100 Taylor Street in Old Town. Cost is \$25 per person and includes buffet and gift. Please RSVP with check payable to JoAnne Mabe, Ed. Center, Room 2101. For additional information, call JoAnne at (619) 725-7297.
- **Hamilton Elementary** would like to honor its retirees. They include **Rosemary Aguirre, Andy Cortez, Chuck Drury, Donna Freeman, Sandy Gerrard, Diana Kelso, Cheryl Mullennix, Carrie Peery, Vera Romero** and **Joe Stevens**.
- **Dailard Elementary** recently honored seven retiring teachers who, collectively, have provided 236 years of service to San Diego City Schools. They include **Charlotte Adams** (38 years), **Julia Croom** (40 years), **Carol Cross** (38 years), **Angela Simpson** (35 years), **Wendy Twombly** (27 years), **Marilyn Wood** (22 years) and **Carole Young** (36 years). The teachers were honored at a special school assembly June 6th, where they received commemorative plaques, permanent tiles at Dailard, and rocking chairs which were donated and painted by parents.
- **Garfield Elementary** will host a retirement celebration for **Carole Outhouse** on Thursday, July 10, 2003, at 3:00 p.m. at old Town Rancho La Lena (2367 San Diego Avenue). Reservations are due by July 6. For additional information, please contact Rose Chavez at (69) 284-2076.

IN MEMORIAM

- **Jacqueline Cannon**, whose service with the district began August 1953, passed away May 4, 2003. Ms. Cannon was a school general secretary at Mission Bay High School at the time of her retirement September 1982.
- **Marie Cornelius**, whose service with the district began September 1958, passed away March 29, 2003. Ms. Cornelius was a teacher at Dewey Elementary at the time of her retirement January 1971.
- **Stephen W. Daum**, whose service with the district began August 1987, passed away March 26, 2003. Mr. Daum was a building services supervisor at Miramar Ranch Elementary at the time of his retirement December 2002.
- **Humbert Embertson**, whose service with the district began September 1961, passed away April 22, 2003. Mr. Embertson was a teacher at Patrick Henry High School at the time of his retirement June 1991.
- **Joyce Hanson**, whose service with the district began January 1961, passed away March 10, 2003. Mrs. Hanson was a teacher at Whitman Elementary at the time of her retirement June 1991.
- **Charles Page, Jr.**, whose service with the district began January 1956, passed away April 9, 2003. Mr. Page was a teacher at Tierrasanta Elementary at the time of his retirement June 1989.

- **Dennis Pierce**, whose service with the district began September 1991, passed away April 8, 2003. Mr. Pierce was a building services supervisor at Linda Vista Elementary at the time of his retirement November 2002.
- **Helen Razo**, whose service with the district began February 1995, passed away May 9, 2003. Mrs. Razo was a clerk typist in the Parent Involvement and Support Department at the time of her retirement April 2003.
- **Margaret Watt**, whose service with the district began August 1967, passed away April 11, 2003. Mrs. Watt was a school general secretary at Lindbergh Elementary at the time of her retirement May 1988.
- **Frederic J. Woeten**, whose service with the district began January 1967, passed away April 30, 2003. Mr. Woeten was a teacher at Twain Jr./Sr. High at the time of his retirement July 1987.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Moving, 10 mo. old refrigerator, \$500 new, selling for \$250/obo, 858-336-8242; New 17" Trinitron CRT monitor, flat tube, excl. buy at \$150, 619-584-7663, leave message; Jazz style tap shoes, never worn, black leather w/leather soles, sz. 5 ½ (fits 7 ½), \$45, 619-379-5265; '98 Nissan Altima, GXE, gold, \$5,000, 619-393-9497; '93 Jeep Grand Cherokee, 4x4, Limited, \$4,100, 619-393-9497; '84 Jeep Cherokee, 4x4, \$2,000, 619-393-9497; Desk, solid oak, \$140, Futon, single sz. \$50, Entertainment ctr., \$65, Dresser w/hutch, \$100, 619-461-6605;

The next Staff Bulletin will be posted July 16, 2003. Please submit all items by Wednesday, July 10, 2003, to the Communications Office, Room 2145, Eugene Brucker Education Center.