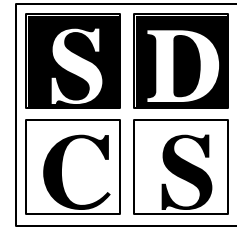


Staff Bulletin

For the employees of San Diego City Schools



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No. 17

First-Class Reception For The First Lady



Laura Bush Visits San Diego To Promote Troops To Teachers Program

Audubon Elementary teacher **Anthony Reese** and his fourth-grade student **Janeah Fangon** greeted First Lady Laura Bush on a short visit to San Diego to promote the Troops to Teachers program. Now in its seventh year, the program has lured 4,000 retired military into the classroom by helping them obtain credentials and offering job placement. Reese served 30 years with the U.S. Marine Corps, retiring as Sergeant Major. He is one of four retired military city schools teachers who attended a breakfast for the First Lady at the San Diego Naval Station. Fourth grader Fangon introduced Mrs. Bush, who praised military personnel as good role models. The other teachers present were: **Roy K. Jones** from Montgomery Middle, **Charles R. Hayden** from Clark Middle and **George P. Fiore** from Ocean Beach Elementary. (Official White House Photo by Paul Morse)

City Schools Students Take Top Science Fair Honors

City schools students took five of eight sweepstakes in the 47th Annual Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair.

La Jolla High junior **Francis Song** won the trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair competition in San Jose in the ISEF senior division sweepstakes. His teacher is **Martin Teachworth**. San Diego High sophomore **Rustin Pack** won a trip to Taiwan in the Taiwan Trip senior division sweepstakes. **Eric Burtson** is his instructor.

In the junior division life sciences sweepstakes, Muirlands Middle eighth grader **Gregory Bruich**—taught by **Michael Mertz**—tied for top honors with Pershing Middle seventh grader **Sean Myrick**. Myrick's teacher is **Holly Eaton**.

Kirsten Buono of Lewis Middle won the junior division physical sciences sweepstakes. She is taught by **William Miller**.

Each winner received a \$2,000 college scholarship.

Song also won a sweepstakes award in 2000 for a computer science project. His latest entry involved new ways to solve differential equations, which are mathematical statements commonly used in science and engineering.

Ruston of San Diego High tested methods for creating mathematical patterns similar to those of a honeycomb, where polygons fit together with no gaps or overlaps.

High schools with participants were: Clairemont, Gompers, La Jolla, Morse, Mt. Everest, Pt. Loma, San Diego and SCPA.

The middle schools with students were: Challenger, Correia, Keiller, Lewis, Mann, Marshall, Memorial, Muirlands, Pershing, Preuss, Standley, Wangenheim and Wilson.

Countywide, more than 950 students submitted entries.

Bonus Amount Set

The School Site Bonus Awards from the state have been set at \$591.32 per full-time employee at schools in 2000-2001 that met all their Academic Performance Index (API) goals for 2000. There are 97 schools in San Diego Unified which qualify—the same schools which received \$63 per student for school-wide use in February under the Governor's Performance Awards. The \$591.32 is for individual employee use as a one-time bonus. Each school will also receive a sum of money for school-wide use equal to the total amount paid to all full-time staff members as bonuses. The School Site Bonus Award is not an ongoing program. The Governor's Performance Award is continuing for 2001-2002.

A third, more limited state awards program, the 2000-2001 Certificated Staff Performance Incentive, is still being processed by the Department of Education.

District News

Challenger and Lewis middle schools are among 157 secondary schools statewide named California Distinguished Schools, the state's top honor for academic performance.

More news about district efforts to prevent school violence: Fifty special education support workers and staff from Del Sol Academy and METRO have been participating in a 30-hour training on positive behavioral support and intervention by the University of Oregon-based Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior is conducting the training. Also, Intervention Services is working on a proposal to mandate health instruction in high schools beginning in the 2001-02 school year. A proposal will be presented to trustees later this year.

The Board of Education has adopted the content and performance standards approved by the California State Board of Education for all subject areas. These standards are the foundation of the state accountability system, defining what textbooks should contain, what teachers should be teaching and what students should be learning as measured by state-mandated assessments. District content and performance standards previously adopted by the Board of Education are almost identical to the state standards.

Retiring Types

Rebecca Sirois at Green Elementary. A party will be held on Friday, May 4, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Clarion Hotel Bay View, 660 K Street, downtown. \$20 includes gift. Contact Carol Benesch at Green Elementary by May 1.

Allan Peck, Clairemont High principal. A party will be held on Tuesday, May 22, from 3:30 to 6 p.m., at the Hyatt Islandia Mission Ballrooms B and C. \$25 includes gift. Call Laurie Guido at Clairemont by May 15.

Beverly Vowinkel at Spreckels Elementary. A party will be held on Wednesday, May 30, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., in Room 8 and the office courtyard at Spreckels. Call Linda McDougall at (858) 453-5377 to RSVP.

Student Salutes

Lindbergh-Schweitzer Elementary fifth grader Alesha Thomas was recognized by the San Diego Fire Department at a ceremony for quick thinking in having her grandmother call 911 after Alesha observed a woman in distress. Her acuity saved the woman's life.

June 1999 Madison High graduate Jesse Hritz made his teachers in Employability Counseling Services at Special Education proud by receiving the "Employee of the Year" Award at Holiday Inn Suites in Old Town. Hritz, who works in the hotel's engineering department, completed the Student Apprenticeship Program in June 1999 at the Mission Valley Hilton. He was then recommended for a position at the Holiday Inn.

Point Loma High student filmmakers under teacher Larry Zeiger swept the awards at the BEST FEST 2001 competition for San Diego County students: **Andy Martin** won first place for best drama; **Erika Hawkins and Andrew Knox** tied for best animated film; **Jessica Berlat** won for best documentary and for audience favorite; **Michael Rodriguez and Torrey Bell-Edwards** won for best comedy; and **Gustavo Alcoser** won for best music video.

Nye Elementary students held a book drive to enable every student to receive a book. The school surpassed its goal of 2,001 books with a total of 2,488 tomes collected.

Henry High student Meghan Rickey won first place and \$100 for her logo design in the Lake Murray July 4 Music Fest art contest. **Bill Thomas** is her teacher.

Point Loma High senior Jaime Mondragon was selected as a Seymour Award Finalist by the California Scholarship Federation and will receive \$1,000. He will compete for Southern California regional honors and an additional \$500. CSF advisor and counselor **Nancy White** nominated Mondragon.

Sandburg Elementary fifth grader Carina Martinez was a winner in the creative writing contest, "Words, Words, Words," sponsored by the California Association of Teachers of English, the Greater San Diego Council of Teachers of English, and the San Diego Union-Tribune Newspaper in Education.

Mt. Everest Academy eighth grader Michael Shih placed second in the San Diego County Spelling Bee at the Scottish Rite Memorial Center. Michael is a member of the school's speech team and a touring concert pianist.

Wilson Middle students won three gold and six silver medals at the California State Junior Olympic Taekwondo Championships. Twenty students from Wilson competed, instructed by **Benjamin A. Kelso**, a San Diego Police Department sergeant.

The following seniors received \$2,500 Achievement Scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation program for outstanding African-American scholars: **Yadani J. Beyene and Jesse N. Prescod** at Gompers Secondary; **Jimmy A. Overton and Dylan L. Solomon** at University City High; **Nicole B. Carr** at Serra High; **Jamil C. Snead** at SCPA; and **Robin D. Waters** at Point Loma High.

Madison High junior Nader Tazbaz placed first in the Optimist International Organizations' "Communications Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing." He won a \$1,500 scholarship. His teacher is **Jason Stewart**.

The Madison High varsity rifle team swept honors at the Southern California State Regional Rifle Competition in Long Beach. The team won 21 of 23 medals awarded, including one for top JROTC Rifle Team. Team members are **Daniel Echaves, Hany El-Shaer, Cynthia Condon and Tim Swann**. They are coached by ISG **Robert Deatherage**. The team earlier won the 2001 San Diego League Championship.

Madison High senior Dominique Johnson was crowned Miss Clairemont in a pageant sponsored by The Women's Club.

Almost 400 Montgomery Middle students voted for their favorite books in four categories: picture, intermediate, middle and young adult, after qualifying for the election by having read all nominated books in a category. After voting, the students saw a performance by the C.A.T. Theater multicultural performance group, sponsored by Young Audiences of San Diego.

First-place winners in the essay, poetry and rap contest sponsored by Food Services were: Hearst Elementary second grader **Austin McCalley**; Edison Elementary third grader **Shane R. Mack**, Clark Middle seventh grader **Dana Faghieh-Nassiri**; and Mission Bay High eleventh grader **Luis Padilla**. The topic was: Why is it important to eat school meals?

Counselors Recognized For Crisis Assistance

The following district counselors assisted students at Santana High School when it reopened on March 7 following the tragic violence: **Mitzi Belknap, Leroy Dotson, Earlene Dunbar, Leah Edzant, Melissa Janak, Ernie Jimenez, Patti Kerr, Ethel Lapham, Fred Laskowski, Julie Leonard, Kay Liles, Anna Lundberg, Yoli Padilla, Regina Peck, Tawnya Pringle, Ann Rubenstein, Sinja Scheidnes, Ardelia Southern, Rebecca Spear, Betty Tetzke, Mary Thom, Kathy Vienna, Joanne Wall.**

IN MEMORIAM

John M. Bernard, senior custodian at Lincoln High School and a district employee since 1994, died March 2.

Helen Dillon Hiatt, principal at Hawthorne Elementary School and a district employee since 1965, died March 25. Donations are suggested to Kaiser Hospice.

Albert K. Mangrum, a school bus driver and a district employee since 1996, died March 9.

Barbara O'Neal, a food services worker at Pershing Middle School and a district employee since 1981, died February 17.

Jeffrey S. Stokes, a teacher at Holly Drive Leadership Academy and a district employee since 1996, died March 6.

Friends of David P. Hermanson, longtime GATE program director, may make donations in his memory to the David P. Hermanson Scholarship Program, GATEWAYS Summer School, PO Box 22105, San Diego, Ca. 92192.

Friends of Joseph Ippolito, longtime teacher and later vice principal at Chollas Elementary School, may make donations in his name to the San Diego Repertory Theater Education Program Project Discovery, at 79 Horton Plaza, San Diego, Ca. 92101.

People & Places

Madison High School auto shop teacher Greg Quirin and his students possess a "Vege-Volvo," having converted a Volvo 760 diesel to run on vegetable oil. His classes take cooking oil from local restaurants and process it—at a cost of about 50 cents per gallon—so that the residue will power the Volvo. The project is part of Quirin's emphasis on preparing students to handle alternative-fuel vehicles in the future.

Numerous science teachers spent the day talking with researchers about trends in bioscience research and application at the annual Scripps Research Institute 2001 symposium for secondary science instructors. Wilson Middle teacher **Summer Girgis** and Lincoln High teacher **Elizabeth Ann Straub** participated on panel discussions.

O'Farrell Community School received \$10,000 from Union Bank of California to purchase six servers—one each for the school's educational "families"—to better serve student technological needs.

Volunteers from the U.S. Naval Station, San Diego, are now working one-on-one as reading and math tutors for students at Memorial Middle School.

The U.S. Navy's Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit has presented units on insects—their diversity, benefits and drawbacks, and ways to prevent serious illness—to students at Burbank Elementary, its partner in education. Students were able to get "up close and personal" with a three-inch Madagascar hissing cockroach.

Virginia G. Flagg presented the Crawford High auto program with \$300 in recognition of the training that her son, Bruce, received in automotive repair. He maintains the family's '55 Chevy in mint condition.

Valencia Park Elementary fourth and fifth graders participated in a Who's Dancing Now seminar in conjunction with the National School Board Association convention in San Diego. Former New York City Ballet principal dancer **Jacques D'Amboise** conducted the workshop. Teachers **Gaylene Davis** and **Vanetta Diamond** attended.

Clark Middle collected 150 bags of donated clothes and other goods for Goodwill Industries of San Diego County in its February donation drive. Marshall Middle and Ocean Beach Elementary also participated.

The San Diego Padres saluted the district's service learning program, LEARN & SERVE San Diego, with a Community Heroes Award preceding the start of the April 11 game with San Francisco. The Padres provided 200 free tickets for teachers and their students to attend. **Nancy Hemmings** is the service learning coordinator in the Partnerships in Education Office.

The U.S. Navy guided missile cruiser USS Mobile Bay is now a partner with Barnard Elementary. Barnard students under the direction of music teacher **Janice Howes** presented a choral program at a ceremony.

Rolando Park Elementary students were treated by the U.S. Navy Air Squadron Vs-35 Blue Wolves to a tour of the squadron's Coronado facilities. The Blue Wolves volunteer to tutor at the school's extended day program as well as in the 6-to-6 program. Teachers **Ruthie Murray** and **Mariclaire Patton** accompanied the students.

San Diego City lifeguards visited Fulton Elementary by helicopter to kick off the 2001 Beach Safety Campaign. They demonstrated safe boating practices, practical rescue techniques, and ways of avoiding stingrays.

The California Lottery presented a \$1,000 check to Taft Middle School in recognition of its obligation to support state education and of Taft's location near the San Diego district office.

Mira Mesa Principal Rachel Flanagan was selected "Administrator of the Year" and teacher Angela Croce "Teacher of the Year" by the Greater San Diego Industry Education Council. Mira Mesa teacher **Dale Thomas** received a Hats Off To Teachers award from the San Diego County Office of Education.

Lafayette Elementary staff held a potluck luncheon to honor teachers. Adaptive Physical Education instructor **Harry Smith** arranged 46 donations from 19 area businesses that were given to teachers as gift certificates. The potluck was intended to boost teacher morale by showing appreciation and respect for their hard work.

CLASSIFIEDS

Ads run on a space-available basis. Send to Communications Office, Room 2145, Eugene Brucker Education Center. **Limit to 10 words (not including phone) or ad not accepted. Include work location and phone (for identification purposes only).**

FOR SALE: '98 Buick Regal, 10K, LoJack, ext. warranty, \$18,000/best, (858)270-4583; '73 Datson 240Z, ex. cond., \$4,250, (619) 579-9872; '99 Honda Civic EX, low miles, \$14,500, ex. cond., (619)224-9094; '94 Plymouth Voyager, 66K, \$6300; MAC computer, monitor, printer, \$300, (619)223-0627; '97 Ford Ranger XLT, ex. cond., low miles, \$12,000 OBO (619)291-3188; '93 Toyota truck extracab, white, V6, 75K, auto, ac, \$8300, (858) 715-6754; '93 Bruno Stairlift straight stairwell, gently used, will deliver, (619)298-7848; Lazy Boy recliner, \$300; Broyhill sleeper sofa & love seat, \$699, (858)675-0969; Sofa, brand new, \$1,200/OBO, (619)284-7540; Oak captain's bed w/3 drawers, \$100 (858)279-1022; Wood cart holder w/white board, fits 27"x33" nice, \$60, (619)501-1926; Youth loft bed, desk, drawers, storage, still in boxes \$375, (619)527-4774; Bunk beds, solid oak w/ladder, \$350/OBO, Girls' bicycles (2) good condition, \$20 ea./OBO, (619)857-5086; Whirlpool stove & refrigerator: \$500 for both/OBO, (619)441-3329; Cargo Carrier, \$50, (619)583-7923; Golf balls, gently used, brand name, 3/\$1, 12/\$3.50, (619) 463-5194; Sofa for sale, brand new slipcover design, tan color, \$1200/obo, (619) 284-7540; **FOR RENT:** Lake Tahoe condo 3bdr/2ba, pool, 1/2 blk from lake, (619) 435-4754; condo, 1 br/1ba, w/frpl, Mira Mesa Blvd. \$800, (858)549-3186; Large 1 br condo, off-street park, gated, pool, patio, \$795, (858) 560-0067; Pacific Beach 1 lrg bdr, near beach, pets OK, \$1200, (858) 274-5156; **WANTED:** 3 roommates, nonsmokers, to share, furnished 4 bdr/2ba, Chula Vista, (619) 227-6266; Roommate, Carmel Valley, master suite, garage parking, \$700, (858) 523-0877; **Cash Paid:** for old items in estates, garages, storage, attic, (619) 772-6903.

The next *Staff Bulletin* will appear May 10. **Deadline for submissions is April 30. Staff Bulletin is on the district web site: www.sandi.net/staff/staffbull/index.html.**

Staff Bulletin

Published for employees of San Diego City Schools twice monthly except during school holidays, and monthly in July.

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Looking Ahead

The San Diego Union-Tribune has an April 29 deadline for high schools to submit names for the Spring 2001 All-Academic Prep Team program co-sponsored by the San Diego County Office of Education. Contact Tom Shanahan at (619) 293-1341.

There are three music festivals upcoming: The Secondary Instrumental Honor Concert on Sunday, April 29, at 2 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall; the Middle Schools Honor Band Concert on Monday, May 21, at 7 p.m., in Crill Hall at Point Loma Nazarene University; and the Recorder Festival on Wednesday, May 30, at 10 a.m., in Crill Hall.

The deadline to submit applications for the annual "Annette Uehling" scholarship is April 30. Forms are available in counseling centers at all high schools. Completed applications should be sent to Donna Sawvelle, Room 1008A, Eugene Brucker Education Center.

An information meeting for teachers on how to join the National Board Certification process will be held on Tuesday, May 1, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., in the San Diego High library. Contact Velvet Wright at (858) 496-1882.

The Greater San Diego Industry-Education Council has a May 1 deadline for teachers to apply for mini-grants for funding new ideas to make education more meaningful for students. Forms are available through the Regional Occupational Program of the San Diego County Office of Education, (858) 292-3500.

Spreckels Elementary will celebrate Cinco de Mayo/Day of the Child with a carnival on Wednesday, May 2, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The school is at 9033 Stadium Street in the University City area of San Diego.

The Employability Counseling Service Department at the Dana Center will hold a workshop on May 2 on how to help teachers work with students on career options after they graduate. Call Linda Vought at (619) 225-3615 for information.

The performing arts department at University City High will present the comedy "You Can't Take It With You" from May 2 through May 4. The comedy is by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. Public performances are on May 2 and 4, both at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for students.

Teachers interested in the countywide Academic Decathlon for students can attend a workshop on May 4, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., at the San Diego County Office of Education, 6401 Linda Vista Road, Room 401. Contact Florine Belanger for information at (858) 292-3850.

The last Technology Challenge Grant Showcase will be held on May 5 by the Educational Technology department. Contact Laura Bellofatto at (858) 573-5798.

The annual Community Recognition Event by the Partnerships in Education office will be held at Sea World on May 10, from 4 to 6 p.m. Contact Julie Hendershot at (619) 725-5592.

Katherine Casey, a consultant for the Institute for Education, will speak on "How To Keep It All Together" to the Phi Delta Kappa meeting on May 15 at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. \$20 cost includes dinner. Call Jeanne Steeg at Zamorano Elementary, (619) 267-8007.

Classified employees will be recognized at a May 15 Board of Education meeting during Classified School Employees Week. Each site will be represented by an employee chosen by colleagues. The district's classified man and woman of the year, selected by the Advisory Council for Classified Employees, will be announced at the meeting.

Open Houses Scheduled for Fully-Credentialed Teachers

Open houses will be held for fully-credentialed visiting teachers at the Eugene Brucker Education Center on the following dates to allow them to update information in their files and to arrange for interviews:

Wednesday, May 2, 2001:
3-4 p.m.: last names beginning with A,B,C
4-5 p.m.: last names beginning with D,E,F
5-6 p.m.: last names beginning with G,H,I
6-7 p.m.: last names beginning with J,K,L

Thursday, May 3, 2001:
3-4 p.m.: last names beginning with M,N,O
4-5 p.m.: last names beginning with P,Q,R
5-6 p.m.: last names beginning with S,T,U
6-7 p.m.: last names beginning with V,W,X,
Y,Z