



# San Diego Unified School District

EUGENE BRUCKER EDUCATION CENTER  
4100 Normal Street, San Diego, CA 92103-2682

(619) 725-5506

---

Carl A. Cohn  
Superintendent of Schools

September 2007

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the 2007-08 school year. To our new and returning families, thank you for the privilege of serving your children.

The start of a new school year is the ideal time to recommit ourselves to our mission to:

- Accelerate gains in student performance
- Provide safe, orderly and well-maintained schools
- Strengthen parent, community, business and higher education support
- Boost employee morale and
- Secure adequate funding for our schools.

I am pleased to report that we are making progress in achieving these goals. San Diego students continue to do better than in most large urban districts in California. We're headed in the right direction but must work hard to accelerate these gains and narrow the achievement gap. To help with this, a new curriculum and instruction plan is being implemented this fall. The plan focuses on high expectations for all, challenging standards-based instruction, strategies for helping *every* student succeed, effective use of data, and ongoing professional learning for our teachers and principals.

We continue to listen to what parents want and need. A parent satisfaction survey was distributed in June to a random sampling of district families. Thanks to those of you who took the time to complete and return the survey. We are still studying the results, but are happy to see that more than 90% of parents describe their schools as safe or very safe, and tell us they feel welcome and respected at school.

Five new state-of-the art schools opened their doors for the first time to students on September 4. We have a balanced budget and remain fiscally solvent, despite a major economic miscalculation by the state and declining enrollment. In a recent employee satisfaction survey, a majority of employees reported their morale is good or excellent.

While these achievements are encouraging, our work is not done. With your continued support and involvement, we will build on our successes as we work towards becoming America's best large urban school district.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you. Best wishes for a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

Carl A. Cohn  
Superintendent of Schools