



San Diego Unified School District

EUGENE BRUCKER EDUCATION CENTER
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Carl A. Cohn
Superintendent of Schools

December 2007

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thanks to you, 2007 has been a very good year for the students of the San Diego Unified School District. In the aftermath of the wildfires and necessary school closures, I am deeply grateful to all who have assisted us in keeping our children safe and learning. I have been encouraged daily by the dedicated school staff, devoted families and generous community supporters who continue to put our students first, no matter what challenges our schools face.

Amid distressed home mortgages and an economic downturn, Governor Schwarzenegger recently announced that statewide budget cuts may be necessary in 2008. We want to make certain that the education of our students here in San Diego receives a high priority for limited state funds --especially since our schools were disrupted by the fires. As you may know, California spends less per student than most large industrialized states with which we must compete, but our children are no less deserving than students in any other state. That is why we must be strong advocates for them.

As you know, I plan to retire soon. It has been a great honor to serve you and your children. It has been a privilege to work with a school system that is clearly capable of becoming America's best large urban school district. During the past two years -- with your help -- our teachers and school staff have made significant progress toward that goal. We know all students can learn. Our public schools are committed to keeping that promise, and more parents and students know that our schools are on the way up.

There is no more important cause than the education and future of our students and the families we serve. Learning is so important. It changes lives. It opens doors. Among all the presents that we provide to our children this time of year, a good education is the one gift we can give our sons and daughters that no one can ever take away.

Sincerely,

Carl A. Cohn
Superintendent of Schools

P.S. If you are out shopping and aren't sure what to buy, remember that a good book makes a great gift for a child any time.