



# **District Highlights**

Superintendent - Gina Potter, Ed.D. Week of October 11, 2024

# SUPERINTENDENT

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

# 2024 CSBA GOLDEN BELL AWARD WINNER



Our Educational Services Department and district just won the most prestigious district award statewide from the California School Boards Association - a **GOLDEN BELL AWARD**!!!

A huge shout out goes to the dynamic team that worked many hours to author and submit the Golden Bell Application which recognizes our district's remarkable English language learner reclassification program, a process that determines if an English Learner student has become proficient in English. We would like to thank the Golden Bell Award nomination letter authors: Former Assistant Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services Russell Little, Coordinator of Federal and State Programs & Language Acquisition Maria "Connie" Rodriguez, and Communications Specialist Cristina Inzunza. A special thank you to our Data Aggregation Team: Director of Educational Services Luis Ramos, Data Support Specialist Jacob Rodriguez, and Assistant Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services Manuel Bojorquez.

We also thank our Principal and Assistant Principal leaders who have worked so hard to implement our reclassification program which a few years ago reached a 22% reclassification rate, far outpacing the state's rate of reclassification!

Finally, the tremendous support of our Governing Board Members over the last few decades for English learner success and dual language programs earned our district a very high score on the Board Support category of the application! We sincerely appreciate Board President Irene Lopez and Board Member Rudy Lopez for serving on the district's Validation Team who presented to the final validator.

Go Team SYSD & the Educational Services Team !!!

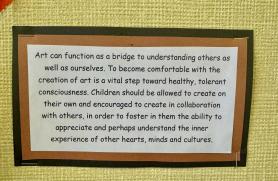
#### SUNSET TK STUDENT ART FROM MS. MEYERS CLASS

Our Sunset TK students from Ms. Meyers' class participated in a wonderful fall art project where they learned about collaborative art as a form to build a strong sense of community. Through art students learn how to connect and understand others cultures and perspectives better.











### **October is Filipino American History Month**

A time to celebrate the history, accomplishments, and rich cultural legacy of Filipinos in the United States.

It also serves to connect Filipino communities and provide a link between Filipinos in the U.S. and Filipinos in the Philippines by showing the world their shared culture and heritage.



#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Universal Design Professional Development:**

On Monday, October 7th, Superintendent Dr. Potter welcomed all of our teachers back from fall break for a day of professional development, presented by SELPA representative, Ms. Emily DesJardins, UDL Content Lead Program Specialist. A special thanks to our educational services department for planning the professional development day wherein San Diego State University shared their Bilingual Authorization program and training was provided regarding Universal Design Learning. UDL develops learner agency that is purposeful and reflective, strategic and action-oriented. It helps us to support our student's engagement in how they can make meaning of content and demonstrate their learning.

During the professional development session, Ms. Zoila Zambrano, SDSU Project Coordinator for PROJECT Teaching Bilingual Pathways, shared information about their program to obtain a Bilingual Authorization.

### **New Teachers Training**

On Wednesday, October 9th, the Educational Services Department and Special Education Department Resource Teachers provided a New Teachers Training which involved information on Instructional Design, Illuminate, Data Reflection Sessions (DRA), Core Curriculum, Synergy Gradebook, Educational Technology Programs, and Resources. A special thank you to presenters: Adriana Aguilar, Cynthia Mosqueda, Sandra Guzman, Carolina Hernandez, and Josefina Villegas.













## ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT RUSSELL LITTLE RETIRES

On Monday, September 30th, we said thank you and farewell to our Assistant Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services Rusell Little, who is now enjoying his well earned retirement.

We thank him for a remarkable career of 39 years devoted to educational excellence and for leaving an indelible mark on our educational community, particularly in the area of multilingual programs. He will be greatly missed.















#### ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (ACSA) LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY

On October 9th-10th, Superintendent Potter served as a state educational leader by chairing the ACSA Vice Presidents of Legislative Action team. This is her 4th and final year serving as ACSA's state leader for the Vice Presidents of Legislative Action. Superintendent Potter also serves as an ACSA State Executive Board Member for the Leadership Assembly.

During the second year of the 2023-24 legislative session, over 2,000 legislative proposals were reviewed by ACSA, with ACSA's Legislative Policy Committee approving active positions on more than 60 key bills. Through this, ACSA heavily influenced state budget and policy outcomes on behalf of students and school leaders. These legislative victories advance ACSA's One Voice for Students Legislative Platform. (Source: ACSA's Advocacy in Action)





#### SOUTHWEST ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION (SAA) SUPERINTENDENTS MEETING

The Southwest Administrators' Association and the Association of California School Administrators Region 18 (ACSA) presented the "Shaping the Future" Superintendent Meeting on Friday, October 11th. South Bay Superintendents Dr. Eduardo Reyes, Karl Mueller, Dr. Leighangela Brady, Dr. Gina Potter, Dr. Mark Sanchez, and Dr. Moises Aguirre all participated on a panel discussion about creating engaging communities and exceptional schools for our South Bay students and families as well as new legislation that impacts our schools.

Thank you to Executive Board President Dr. Leticia Segura, Vice President of Programs and Publicity Joseph Prosapio, Vice President of Membership Berenice Walker, Secretary Lisa Lines, Treasurer Erika Meza, Parliamentarian Manuel Bojorquez, Auditor Irene Herrera-Cevallos, and Committee Member Dr. Rebecca "Becky" Bravo for coordinating this great meeting of south county educational leaders.









## **UPCOMING DATES**

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Veteran's Day - Holiday	Monday, November 11, 2024	District Office and Schools Closed
Progress Report #1 (Elementary Schools)	Week of November 18, 2024 - November 22, 2024	
End of First Semester	December 20, 2024 (87 days middle schools)	
Thanksgiving Holiday	Week of November 25, 2024 - November 29, 2024	
Winter Break	December 23, 2024 - January 13, 2024	
Students Return from Winter Break	Tuesday, January 14, 2024	

#### SYSD SCHOOLS WEEKLY BULLETINS

Link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sKiLpBSZmxlqnhLTJTE1eF6k2kP2Rb7l

**DISTRICT JOB OPENINGS** 



Please click on the link to access our current district job openings: <a href="https://www.edjoin.org/Home/Jobs?countyID=37&districtID=650">https://www.edjoin.org/Home/Jobs?countyID=37&districtID=650</a>

