



# San Ysidro

## School District

EST - 1887

QUALITY EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

### District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina A. Potter, Ed.D.

Week of December 14, 2018

**NEW BOARD MEMBERS: INCUMBENT IRENE LOPEZ ,HUMBERTO GURMILAN, AND RUDY LOPEZ TAKING THE OATH OF OFFICE DELIVERED BY ASSEMBLYMEMBER TODD GLORIA**

San Ysidro School District welcomed **California State Assemblymember Todd Gloria** who represents the 78th Assembly District at our Governing Board Meeting this Thursday, December 13th as he helped deliver the Oath of Office to incumbent Irene Lopez and new Board Members Humberto Gurmilan and Rodolfo (Rudy) Lopez. Prior to being an Assemblymember, Mr. Gloria served as a San Diego City Council Member, San Diego Housing Commissioner and District Director for Congresswoman Susan Davis.

**Board Member Irene Lopez** has served on our Board since her election to a two year term in 2016. Last year she led our district as the Board Vice President and yesterday at our Board Meeting she was nominated as the new Board President. Last month, Board President Irene Lopez was elected to serve a full 4 year term on our Governing Board. Board President Irene Lopez retired from San Ysidro School District after 40 years of dedicated service. She grew up in San Ysidro and attended our schools.

Mrs. Lopez and her husband raised 2 children, Manny and Irene, who also attended San Ysidro School District. She is the proud grandmother of Natasha, who attends Smythe Child Development Center and Eduardo, who is a 7th grader at Vista Del Mar Middle School. Board President Irene Lopez is dedicated to making sure our children receive the best education possible and our teachers and employees have all the tools and respect necessary to help provide that education for our children. We are excited to have Board President Irene Lopez continue to lead our district because she always

believes in our schools, our students, our staff and our community and she is always proud of the many great things that we do for our children.



**Humberto Gurmilan** is an Emmy award winning journalist and producer who spent 14 years in the media. He is also the Founder and Director of The Gurmilan Foundation. His Foundation is dedicated to empowering and helping young people with disabilities to reach their full potential. Mr. Gurmilan is an advocate for creating awareness about disabilities and is frequently asked to speak in the community to spread his positive message of inclusion and hope.

Mr. Gurmilan was born in Chula Vista and grew up in Tijuana. He often visited his grandparents who lived in San Ysidro. He and his parents eventually moved to San Diego where he graduated from Montgomery High School. Mr. Gurmilan received his Associate of Arts degree in Journalism from Southwestern College and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from San Diego State University. He earned a Master's Degree in Communications and wrote a book entitled "From My Chair", also written in Spanish, "Desde Mi Silla". Mr. Gurmilan is a former Sports Anchor at Telemundo 33 and currently is a journalism professor at Southwestern College.

Mr. Gurmilan was nominated to serve our district as the new Board Vice President during the board meeting this week. Board Vice President Gurmilan was surrounded by family and close friends while Assemblymember Todd Gloria administered the oath of office.



**Rodolfo (Rudy) Lopez**, is a lifelong resident and businessman within our community of San Ysidro. He and his family have lived and worked in San Ysidro for generations. Through their family business, La Bodega Hermanos Lopez, he, along with his family, have helped support many San Ysidro families. He holds a degree in international business and served in the Coast Guard reserves and was sent to work with FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) during several hurricanes. Mr. Lopez has worked with former City Councilmember David Alvarez to address issues and concerns in San Ysidro.

He was involved in the selection of the current San Ysidro School District Superintendent, Gina Potter and the new Principal at Smythe Elementary, Russell Little. He served as the president of the Smythe Elementary PTA and sits on the Boards of San Ysidro Chamber of Commerce, Border View YMCA and Southwest Little League. Board Member Rudy Lopez also serves on the Sweetwater Union High School District Bond Oversight Committee.

Board Member Rudy Lopez was joined by his son and father as Assemblymember Todd Gloria administered his oath of office.



**RECOGNITION OF 2018 GOVERNING BOARD PRESIDENT - ROSALEAH PALLASIGUE:**

Board President Rosaleah Pallisigue was recognized for her steadfast, eloquently spoken and courageous leadership as President of the Board this past 2018 year. She has been a member of the Board since 2015. Board President Pallisigue was thanked for her leadership and dedication to our children, staff and community. Her guidance through good and challenging times has shown that her heart and soul are always focused on providing the best opportunities and education for our children. She'll continue to provide our district and community with her heart-felt, unwavering leadership and commitment to serve our children and staff.





**OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS: RODOLFO LINARES AND MARCOS DIAZ  
RECOGNIZED BY ASSEMBLYMEMBER TODD GLORIA**

California State Assemblymember Todd Gloria recognized outgoing Board Member Rodolfo Linares during the December 13th board meeting.

Board Member Linares, was given thanks for his steadfast commitment and dedication to our school district. His courageous efforts to improve the education of our children, especially, our students with special needs, and to ensure that our district remained fiscally responsible was appreciated. His promise to visit schools and listen to parents was very evident throughout his term. We know Board Member Linares will always hold a special place in his heart for San Ysidro School District, and especially for Sunset Elementary, where his son attended prior to attending San Ysidro Middle School. His son is now a sophomore at San Ysidro High School. Board Member Linares was thanked for his leadership and service to the San Ysidro School District and the thousands of students we serve throughout the community.



California State Assemblymember Todd Gloria also recognized outgoing Board Member Marcos Diaz during the December 13th board meeting.

Board Clerk Diaz, was sincerely thanked for his contributions to our school District these past 4 years. His dedication to helping provide the best education possible for our children is a reflection of the commitment and focus he demonstrated while serving on the Board. Board Clerk Diaz led our district as Board President in 2016 and this last 2018 year as our Board Clerk. As the father of a child who attends Ocean View Hills we know that Board Member Diaz will always have the best interest of our schools in mind. Our district extended to him our sincere gratitude for his leadership and service to the San Ysidro School District and the over 4,500 preschool to 8th grade students that we serve.



**FIRST OFFICIAL PHOTO OF THE NEW GOVERNING BOARD:**

The new Governing Board of San Ysidro School District prepares to call it's first meeting to order.





**DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD - BOARD MEETING ON DECEMBER 13TH:  
COCO PERFORMANCE BY SAN YSIDRO MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND  
JUAN PEDRAJA**

Our talented SYMS students perform a musical dance from their stage production of Coco. The Coco student performers also did an incredible job singing beautiful songs from their Coco performance!



**DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD - BOARD MEETING ON DECEMBER 13TH:  
DRAMA INSTRUCTOR & PRODUCER JUAN PEDRAJA AND ART DIRECTOR  
CLAUDIO ZUAZO**

Mr. Pedraja and Mr. Zuazo were recognized for their dedication and extraordinary job with the stage production of Coco.



**DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD - BOARD MEETING ON DECEMBER 13TH:  
PATHWAYS - TREBUCHET BY SAN YSIDRO MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND  
MICHELLE PATTERSON**

This team, led by Ms. Michelle Patterson, used STEAM based technology and principles to build a catapult that launched pumpkins for distance and with acute accuracy.



**DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD - BOARD MEETING ON DECEMBER 13TH:  
STUDENTS FROM SYMS, VISTA DEL MAR MIDDLE AND OCEAN VIEW HILLS  
SCHOOL RECOGNIZED FOR BEING RECLASSIFIED AS FLUENT ENGLISH  
PROFICIENT STUDENTS**

These students were recognized for their efforts and tenacity to become proficient and fluent in English.



**DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD - BOARD MEETING ON DECEMBER 13TH:  
PATHWAYS - OCEAN VIEW HILLS SCHOOL GLEE CLUB PERFORMING AND  
ALEXIS TAPIA BEING RECOGNIZED**

One of our Pathways After School Programs was showcase by this talented group of students who performed for our Board meeting.



**DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD - BOARD MEETING ON DECEMBER 13TH:  
ELAC PRESIDENTS & DELAC REPRESENTATIVES FROM SYMS, VISTA DEL MAR  
MIDDLE AND OCEAN VIEW HILLS SCHOOL BEING RECOGNIZED**

These parents were recognized for the dedication and hard work serving on our ELAC and DELAC parent groups.



## GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY: LIVING ROOMS AT THE BORDER (CASA FAMILIAR)

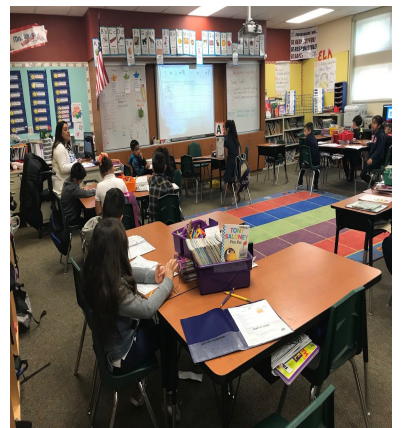
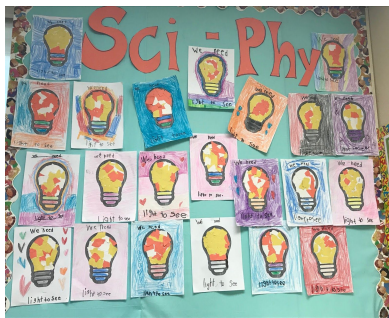
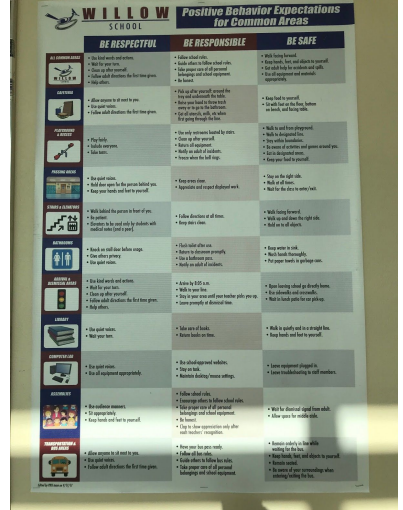
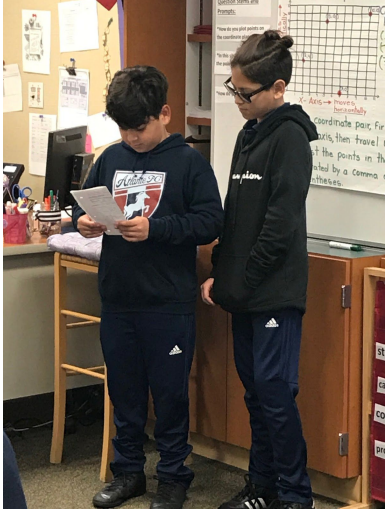
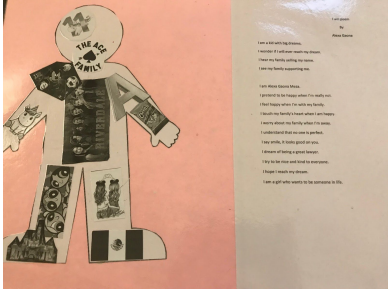
San Ysidro was well represented at the ground breaking ceremony for the Living Rooms at the Border, a long awaited project that Casa Familiar has been diligently working on for the last 17 years.

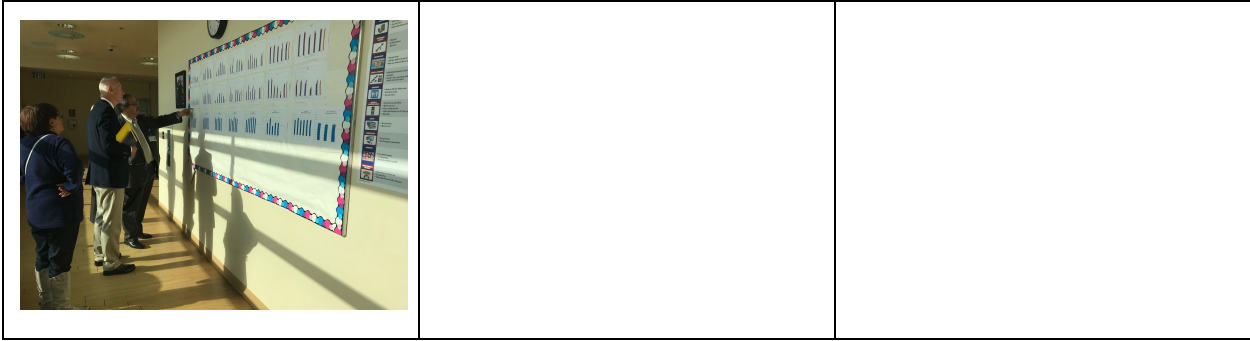


## SCHOOL VISIT BY SUPERINTENDENT, BOARD & ADMINISTRATION - WILLOW

### PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS







**SANTANA SINGER ANDY VARGAS INSPIRES VDM 7TH & 8TH GRADERS, & OVH 6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

The message of having a love for music and a love for learning was delivered by Andy Vargas, singer for Santana. The kids responded with loud cheering, applause and handshakes! Thanks to Love Thy Neighbor and Veronica Medina for bringing Mr. Vargas to our District.



## **SUPERINTENDENT POTTER AT SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Superintendent Potter with Sunset Principal Efrain Burciaga. Special thanks to 4th grade teachers Michael Direen for having parent volunteer Jennifer teach dance routine to our students for the Sunset Winter Holiday Program.



## **JANUARY BOARD WORKSHOP**

During the Jan Board Workshop the district's Chief Business Official, Marilyn Adrianzen will provide a district budget overview and training.

## **SUPERINTENDENT, BOARD & CABINET SCHOOL VISITS**

The next superintendent school visits are listed in the chart below.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Wed, Dec 19	8:45-10:30am	Sunset
Tues, Jan 15	8:45-10:30am	Smythe
Wed, Jan 16	8:45-10:30am	SYMS



Below is a chart of all school visits from Aug 2018 through January 2019:

<b><u>Superintendent School Visits</u></b>			
<b>School Name</b>	<b>Visit Date</b>	<b>Visit Time</b>	<b>Notes</b>
La Mirada School	1) August 21, 2018 2) October 16, 2018 3) December 4, 2018	8:45-10:30 a.m. 8:30-11:00 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m.	Learning Walk scheduled for 3/21/19
Ocean View Hills School	1) August 22, 2018 2) November 6, 2018 3) January 23, 2019 (Learning Walk)	8:45-10:30 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	
Smythe School	1) August 22, 2018 2) September 4, 2018 3) October 31, 2018 (Halloween Parade) 4) January 15, 2019	8:45-10:30 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m. 8:30-9:00 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m.	
Sunset School	1) October 17, 2018 2) October 31, 2018 (Halloween Visit) 3) December 19, 2018	8:45-10:30 a.m. 10:00-10:30 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m.	
San Ysidro Middle School	1) October 9, 2018 2) December 18, 2018 (Learning Walk) 3) January 16, 2019	8:45-10:30 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m.	
Vista Del Mar Middle School	1) October 23, 2018 2) November 27, 2018	8:45-10:30 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m.	Learning Walk scheduled for 4/11/19
Willow School	1) September 4, 2018 2) September 19, 2018 3) October 24, 2018 (Coffee with the Principal) 4) December 11, 2018	8:45-10:30 a.m. 9:30-11:00 a.m. 8:30-9:30 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m.	
Child Development Center (CDC)	1) October 10, 2018 2) October 31, 2018 (Halloween Parade) 3) December 5, 2018 (Sunset & OVHS)	8:45-10:30 a.m. 9:00-9:30 a.m. 8:45-10:30 a.m.	

## LOOKING AHEAD

Below is a chart of upcoming dates and events.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sat., Dec. 15	8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Willow School	Hearts & Hands Converse Shoes Event
Tues., Dec. 18	9:00 a.m.	Smythe	Coffee with Principal
Tues., Dec. 18	5:00 p.m.	Willow	Love Thy Neighbor Dinner
Tues., Dec. 18	8:30 a.m.	OVHS	Tea with Principal
Wed., Dec. 19	8:30 a.m.	Willow Computer Lab	Coffee with the Principal
Wed., Dec. 19	9:00 a.m.	SYMS	Coffee with Principal
Wed., Dec. 19	6:00 p.m.	SYMS MCC	Winter Concert
Thurs., Dec. 20	TK-2nd grade 8:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Willow	Winter Program
Thurs., Dec. 20	1:00 p.m.	Sunset	Winter Program
Thurs., Dec. 20	8:30 a.m. & 9:40 a.m.	La Mirada	Winter Program
Thurs., Dec. 20	<b>TK/K/1</b> 8:30- 9:30 a.m. <b>2nd/3rd</b> 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. <b>4th/5th/6th</b> 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Smythe	Winter Program
Thurs., Dec. 20	8:30 a.m.	VDM	Coffee with Principal
Fri., Dec. 21	<b>3rd-6th grades</b> 8:15 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.	Willow	Winter Program
Fri., Dec. 21	10:24 a.m.	VDM	Perfect Attendance Lunch
Fri., Dec. 21	8:30 a.m.	OVHS	Winter Program
<b>Dec. 24-Jan 14</b>		<b>All Schools Closed</b>	<b>Winter Break</b>
Wed., Jan. 16	8:30 a.m.	Sunset	Coffee with Principal
Wed., Jan. 167	9:15 a.m.	Sunset	ELAC

Wed., Jan. 30	9:00 a.m.	SYMS	Coffee with Principal
Thurs., Jan. 31	12:00-2:00 p.m.	VDM	Awards Assembly
Mon., Feb. 11, 2019	6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Sacramento	Legislative Advocacy Trip  Board Members & Superintendent