



## District Highlights

Week of February 3, 2023



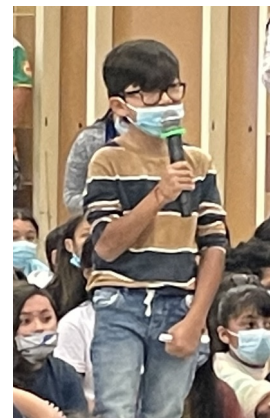
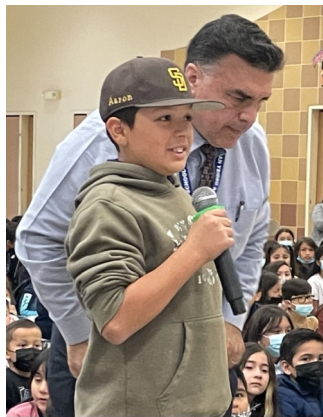
### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

### **SAN DIEGO PADRES PLAYERS MADE A SURPRISE VISIT TO SUNSET ELEMENTARY!!!**

On Friday, February 3rd, San Diego Padres 3rd baseman Manny Machado and San Diego Padres pitchers Nick Martinez, Roberto Suarez and Victor Lizarraga, a former student at Sunset Elementary School, made a surprise visit to Sunset Elementary School to visit with our students! Padres players answered questions from students and shared inspirational stories about their careers. Afterwards, all of the Sunset students took a group photo with the players. The Padres "Paw Squad" also made a surprise visit to the assembly with the players. A special thank you to Assistant Superintendent Dr. Iniguez for coordinating the event with the San Diego Padres organization. Many thanks to Principal Efrain Burciaga, Interim Principal Elva De Baca and Assistant Principal Richard Troia for hosting the assembly for our students.





## WILLOW SPELLING BEE

On Wednesday February 1st, 2023, Willow Elementary held their annual Spelling Bee. Students in grades 3rd through 6th grade held a classroom Spelling Bee in order to select their classroom Spelling Bee Winner and an alternate to represent their class in the school-wide spelling bee. The Spelling Bee competition was filled with excitement as students spelled words correctly round after round. The Spelling Bee winners were Yaretzy Sandoval, 3rd grade, Julia Arias, 4th grade, Tony Montano, 5th grade and Yazmin Bravo, 6th grade. Congratulations to all the participants. A big thank you to: Lourdes Quezada - Intervention Teacher - Organizer/Orator, Kathy Applegate - Retired Teacher - Judge and Adriana Aguilar - Resource Teacher - Judge.



## SUPERINTENDENT'S STUDENT LEADER COUNCIL

On Thursday, February 2nd, Superintendent, Dr. Gina Potter and Cabinet participated in their second meeting with student leaders from each school. Each student leader shared their decisions on the school projects they will be working on this school year such as the "No Place for Hate" program and assemblies to help students have more confidence in schools and attend school everyday. Our district is proud of this year's student leader team: Alyssa Munoz, Jessica Penunuri, La Mirada Elementary, Antonio Aviles, Sunset Elementary, Marie Valle, Smythe Elementary, Shaville Peckoo, Elliana Ruiz, Ocean View Hills Elementary, Jade Lechuga, Sofia Romera, Amanda Sanchez, Willow Elementary, Brianna C. Villegas, Maya A. Cortez, San Ysidro Middle School, Gildardo Dias, Vista Del Mar Middle School.



## SCIENCE OF TORTILLAS WORKSHOP

On Tuesday, January 31st, Board Clerk Zenaida Rosario and Sci-Phy Lead Teacher Elva De Baca attended the San Ysidro Public Library Science of Tortillas Workshop. The family workshop focused on the biology of corn, the chemistry of masa and the physics behind the iconic shape of tortillas. Each participant also made tortillas and ate them too. The workshop was led by UC San Diego's CREATE team in collaboration with the San Ysidro Education Collaborative STEM Committee.





**CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF FORMER SAN YSIDRO SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT GRACE KOJIMA**

On Friday, February 3rd, in collaboration with the San Ysidro Women’s Club the San Ysidro School District honored former Superintendent Grace Kojima for her dedication, commitment and passion for her beloved San Ysidro community. Federal, State, County and City government leaders and representatives including California Assemblymember David Alvarez, San Diego City Councilmember Vivian Moreno, Anzueth Barela representing U.S Representative Juan Vargas, and Andrew Harvey representing County Supervisor Chairwoman Nora Vargas recognized Mrs. Kojima with Proclamations and days named after her. A special thank you to our Board Clerk Zenaida Rosario and Board Member Rudy Lopez for attending the event. Mrs. Kojima’s family joined her during the event and almost 200 guests attended to honor her.



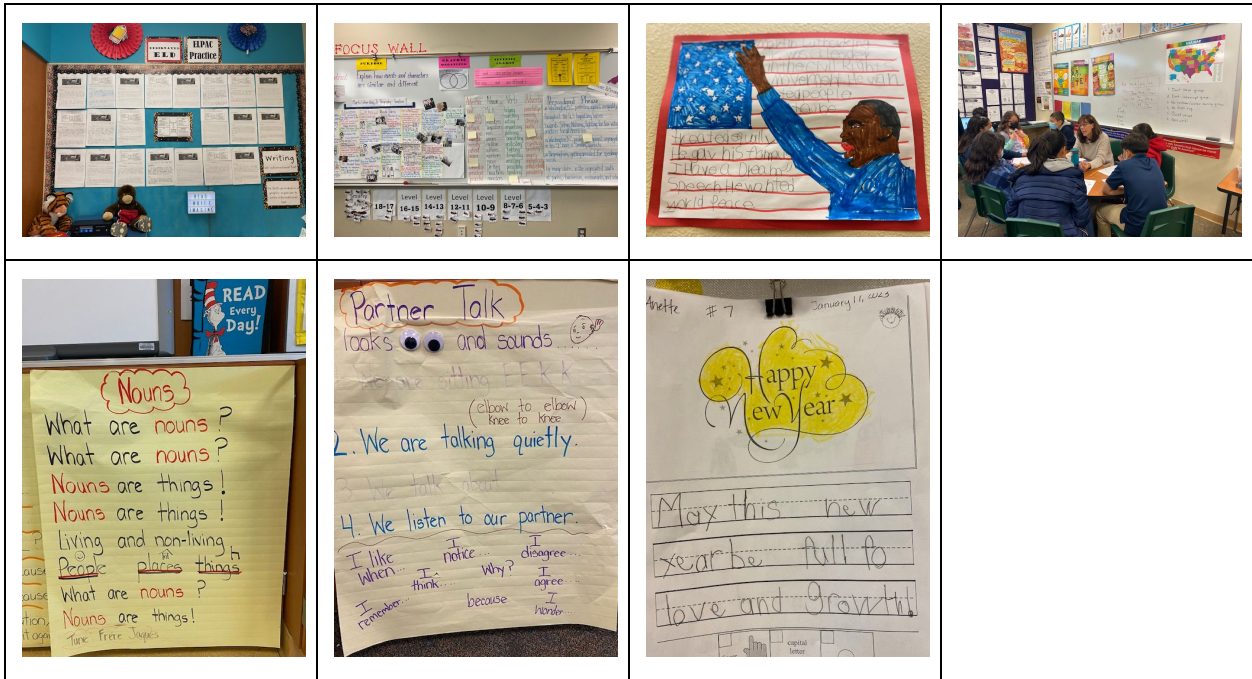




## WILLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - LEARNING WALK

On Tuesday, January 31st the Elementary School Cohort of the Instructional Leadership Team, met at La Mirada Elementary for the 4th Learning Walk of the year. Annually, the team attends Learning Walks at every school site. The purpose of the Learning Walks is to develop Educational and Instructional Leadership within our site administrative teams through coaching and support. These walks give the team focused time to discuss instructional practice, data, as well as observe every classroom at the school site.





## PARENT WORKSHOP AT VISTA DEL MAR MIDDLE AND OCEAN VIEW HILLS

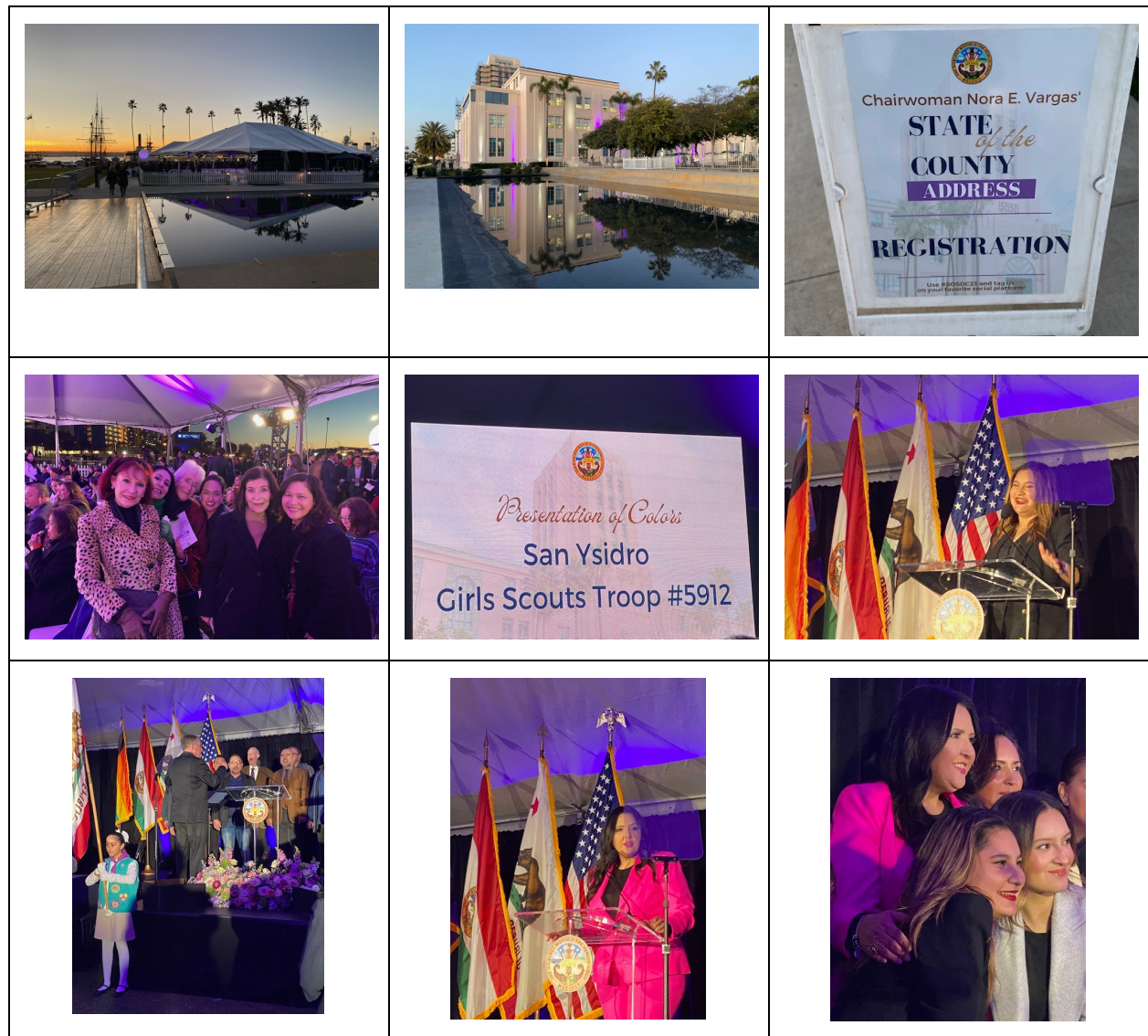
Vista del Mar Middle and Ocean View Hills Elementary schools sponsored a successful parent training titled: “Realidad que Incomoda--An Uncomfortable Reality”. The workshop was led by psychologist/therapist Norma Torres. The workshop addressed the topics of child/adolescent sexual abuse and the importance of dialogue and open communication. In addition, the workshop addressed some of the characteristics of predatory behavior on social media platforms. The workshop was well attended and each participant received a certificate of participation. Thank you to both school teams for hosting such a successful and informative event which touches upon essential safety topics.



## CHAIRWOMAN NORA VARGAS STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

On Wednesday, February 1st, Superintendent Potter attended Chairwoman Nora Vargas State of the County Address. Chairwoman Vargas focused her state of the county speech on improving life for families, combating homelessness, improving infrastructure, reducing food insecurity, strengthening public safety and creating eco-friendly jobs. Since assuming her leadership role with the County Board of Supervisors she has been an equity champion and hero for our school district and for our San Ysidro community.

County Supervisor Chairwoman Vargas represents San Diego County's First Supervisorial District. A first-generation immigrant, she is the first Latina, first binational, and first woman of color to serve as County Supervisor in the near 200 year history of the County of San Diego. County Supervisor Chairwoman Vargas served as Vice-Chair of the Board for her first two terms, and on January 10, 2023 was unanimously elected Chairwoman of the Board of Supervisors.





## UPCOMING DATES

EVENT	DATE/TIME	LOCATION
Smythe's Preschool & Child Development Center (CDC) Open House	Thursday, February 16th 3:30-5:00 p.m.	Smythe CDC Classrooms
Lincoln Holiday	Friday, February 17th	All Schools Closed & District Office Closed
Presidents' Day	Monday, February 20th	All Schools Closed & District Office Closed
La Mirada Elementary School Open House	Tuesday, February 21st 3:30-5:00 p.m.	La Mirada Classrooms
Vista Del Mar Middle School Open House	Thursday, February 23rd 4:00-5:30 p.m.	Vista Del Mar Middle School Classrooms
Sunset Preschool Open House	Tuesday, February 28th 3:30-5:00 p.m.	Sunset Preschool Classrooms
Sunset Elementary School Open House	Tuesday, February 28th 3:30-5:00 p.m.	Sunset Classrooms
Ocean View Hills Preschool Open House	Thursday, March 2nd 3:30-5:00 p.m.	Ocean View Hills Preschool Classrooms
Ocean View Hills Elementary School Open House	Thursday, March 2nd 3:30-5:00 p.m.	Ocean View Hills Classrooms
San Ysidro Middle School Open House	Thursday, March 2nd 4:30-7:00 p.m.	San Ysidro Middle School Classrooms