



# San Ysidro

## School District

EST - 1887

QUALITY EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

### District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina Potter, Ed.D.  
Week of March 8, 2024



### SUPERINTENDENT

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

#### **DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD: SMYTHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

On Tuesday, March 5th, the Governing Board, Superintendent Potter, and Principal Rebecca Bravo welcomed and recognized Smythe Elementary 6th grade students Mia Grimaldo and Alexa Hernandez for their outstanding achievement in the area of social emotional skills. They also did an amazing job at our pledge of allegiance. We are so proud of all of you for your student success and achievement!



#### **DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD: SMYTHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STAFF**

The Governing Board, Superintendent Potter, and Principal Rebecca Bravo also welcomed and recognized Smythe Elementary staff: Administrative Clerk I Thelma Valenzuela for outstanding service in the community of Smythe Elementary School in the area of parent engagement, Instructional Media Resource Aide Monica Perez, for outstanding service in the community of Smythe Elementary School in the area of student achievement, Health Clerk Leticia Fabian and Licensed Vocational Nurse Holly Breedlove, for outstanding service in the community of Smythe

Elementary School in the area of safety, climate and student engagement, and Temporary Intervention Support Teacher Krisvell Sanchez for outstanding service in the community of Smythe Elementary School in the area of English language proficiency. Congratulations for your achievement and for being an essential part of our Smythe education community.



### **SAN YSIDRO WOMEN'S CLUB RECOGNIZES BOARD PRESIDENT IRENE LOPEZ**

The San Ysidro Women's Club recognized Board President Irene Lopez during our regular board meeting on Tuesday, March 5th. They honored her for her continuous commitment and involvement in the community of San Ysidro, and for always supporting the hard work and resources, such as scholarships, that are made available to our students by the Women's Club.



### **SAN YSIDRO SCHOOL DISTRICT SPELLING BEE COMPETITION**

Our bees were buzzing with excitement for our 2024 District Spelling Bee Competition! After a decade without our annual district spelling bee competition, our District Spelling Bee is back and better than ever! Our goal is to ensure our students are given the opportunity to reach county level competitions.

Congratulations to our 2024 District Level Spelling Bee Winners:

- ❖ 3rd Grade: Valentyna Rangel-Sunset Elementary
- ❖ 4th Grade: Sebastian Alvarez- Smythe Elementary
- ❖ 5th Grade: Hailey Diaz Mariscal- Smythe Elementary
- ❖ 6th Grade: Maritza Rangel- Willow Elementary
- ❖ 7th Grade: Giselle Moreno Roque- San Ysidro Middle School



Shout out to all of our participating students:

McCartney Scott, Elias Oard, Mia Plascencia, Valentyna Rangel, Makenzie Hernandez, Natalia Perez, Eiji Nakao, Abygail Laguitan, Sebastian Alvarez, Dahiana Campa, Alan Vilches Enriquez, Edward Barraza Coates, Aisha Ali, Hailey Diaz Mariscal, Janelle Thomas, Nina Llamas Rios, Emma Blanco Hernandez, Axel Barriga, Samantha Meza, Maritza Rangel, Giselle Moreno Roque, and Daiana Thomas. Congratulations! You are all big winners of your schools and we are so proud of you and all of your hard work!

A special thank you to all the school spelling bee leads for their dedication in preparing the students for the School and District Spelling Bee Competitions: Viviana Collins-Smythe, Maria Kaai- Sunset, Lourdes Quezada-Willow, Veronica Schmitz- Ocean View Hills, Sarah Applegate- La Mirada, and Robin Worley- San Ysidro Middle School.







### **VISTA DEL MAR MIDDLE SCHOOL PIQE GRADUATION**

This week we proudly witnessed the graduation and culmination of the Parent Institute of Quality Education (PIQE) free workshop for parents at Vista Del Mar Middle School. Our parents learned about: GPA college requirements, student workload and expectations, common core state standards (CCSS,) working with the school counselor, tools and resources, and how to practice digital skills for today's technology through the PIQE APP. We are so proud of all of your hard work and dedication to a higher education. A special thank you to Board Vice President Zenaida Rosario and Principal Irene Herrera Cevallos for your support.





## **OCEAN VIEW HILLS ELEMENTARY AND SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN READ ACROSS AMERICA**

It was a celebration of diverse readers, books, authors, and teaching resources! Sunset Elementary and Ocean View Hills Elementary participated in this week's Read Across America event, where students had the opportunity to celebrate the power of literacy and take part in interactive volunteer reading sessions. Read Across America was created by the National Education Association in 1997.

The annual reading celebration is held on or near the birthday of the beloved children's author Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss. Read Across America Week is being celebrated March 2-6, beginning on the birthday of Geisel, which was March 2.

This week, our Governing Board Clerk Antonio Martinez visited Ocean View Hills Elementary School and read Dr. Seuss' *The Lorax*, to a group of students. Thank you to Board Clerk Antonio Martinez for the wonderful story time! Meanwhile, Board President Irene Lopez, Board Vice President Zenaida Rosario, Board member Rudy Lopez, Superintendent Potter, and Assistant Superintendent Russell Little, visited Sunset Elementary School and read to different classrooms. Thank you for your valued participation in Read Across America! Also, a very special shout out to our Instructional Media Resource Associates, Ana Guzman and Maria Del Rosario "Charo" Castro for bringing life to such an amazing labor of love, in the entire process of building beautiful setups for our students for this magnificent event.

### **Ocean View Hills Elementary School**





## Sunset Elementary School









**Read Across America Wall Project created by Smythe Elementary students**





### SEÑORA CURVY LATINA USA INTERNATIONAL

This week Latina USA International hosted its pageant Señora Curvy Latina at the Hotel Del Coronado, in which Olga Espinoza proudly represented our San Ysidro community. Olga is part of the San Ysidro Community Planning Group, San Ysidro Friends of the Library, International Border Community, and has been actively involved as a community member supporting our local businesses and neighborhoods. Olga was also voted mother of the year by our district. She attended our San Ysidro School District Schools and her children attended La Mirada and Smythe Elementary Schools.

Olga had a magnificent presentation where she raised awareness on bullying, discrimination, racism, and domestic violence. The pageant judges voted her most popular contestant. Congratulations Olga, we are so proud of you for all of your hard work and dedication in representing our south bay community in Señora Curvy Latina!





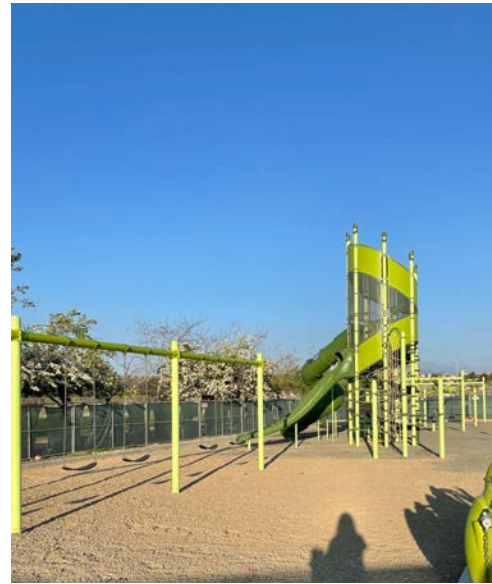
## UPCOMING DATES

EVENT	DATE/TIME	WHO
<b>Spring Break</b>	Monday, March 18th- Friday, March 29th, 2024.	All Schools Closed
<b>Cesar Chavez - Observed and Local Holidays</b>	Thursday, March 28th and Friday, March 29th	All Schools Closed
<b>Students Return</b>	Monday, April 1st, 2024	All students return to school
<b>Memorial Day</b>	Monday, May 27th, 2024	All Schools Closed

## LA MIRADA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND SMYTHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS OPEN

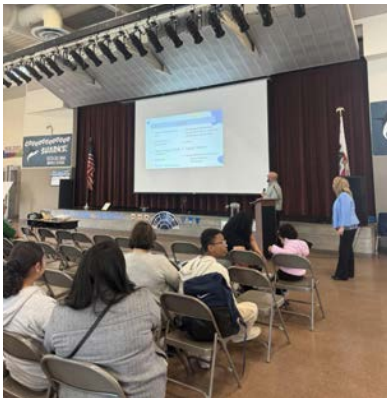
Our brand new playgrounds at La Mirada Elementary School and Smythe Elementary School will open after Spring Break on April 1st, all thanks to San Ysidro voters who approved general obligations bond Measures T and U. We are very proud and excited for our students to enjoy our new and top of the line playgrounds!

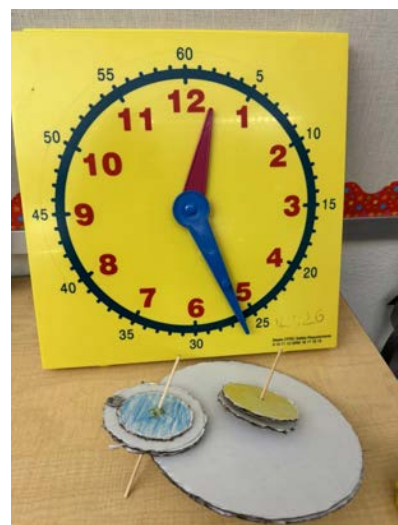


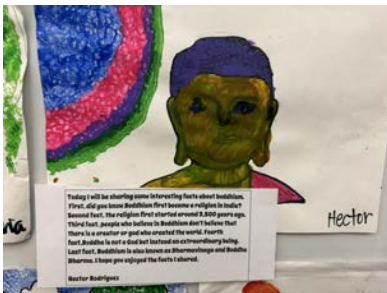
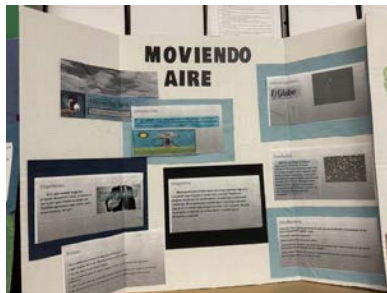


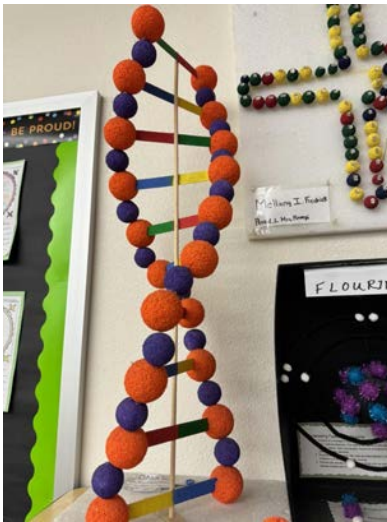
### **VISTA DEL MAR MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

On Thursday, March 7th, Vista Del Mar Middle School held their Open House Event. Vista Del Mar Middle School Principal Irene Herrera-Cevallos and Assistant Principal Matthew Bandy shared information with parents and students about their in person open house event. Afterwards, parents had an opportunity to meet with their child's teacher and learn all about their classroom curriculum and special projects. Thank you to Vista Del Mar Middle School and the team of incredible teachers and staff for a great Open House event!









## 6TH GRADE CAREER DAY PRESENTATIONS BEGIN AT VISTA DE MAR MIDDLE SCHOOL & SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - ¡SI SE PUEDE!

All 6th graders from our Elementary Schools La Mirada, Smythe, Willow, and Sunset, as well as our 6th graders from our Middle School Vista Del Mar, will have the opportunity to be a part of a series of interactive presentations offered by professionals from different sectors across San Diego County.

This week, 6th grade students from La Mirada Elementary School had the opportunity to listen to multi Emmy winning journalist, San Diego Magazine writer, and former NBC Universal/ Telemundo 20 Executive News Producer, Maria Jose Duran, who spoke about what it means to be a journalist and the different types of jobs available for this particular career. She showed our students a few of her awards, as well as newspapers and magazines featuring her articles. Our students have many great questions for Maria Jose, as they also learned about how technology is changing media, print, and broadcast, and how many reporters and writers are turning into freelance journalists due to our changing times. Thank you Maria Jose for your valuable presentation!



6th grade students from Sunset Elementary School also had the opportunity to listen to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Shea Prophet, who shared his personal journey in finding a career related to mental health. His passion and talent for helping others took him from correctional officer to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist at South Bay Community

Services and our San Ysidro School District, where he is able to help hundreds of families and students with their health and wellbeing. Thank you Shea Prophet for an insightful presentation!



### **SYSD SCHOOLS WEEKLY BULLETINS**

**Link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sKiLpBSZmxlqnhLTJTE1eF6k2kP2Rb7I>**

## DISTRICT JOB OPENINGS



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