



San Ysidro

School District

EST - 1887

QUALITY EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina Potter, Ed.D.
Week of April 25, 2025

SUPERINTENDENT

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

4TH ANNUAL SAN YSIDRO STEM FAIR

We extend our deepest gratitude to the San Ysidro Education Collaborative, led by the phenomenal Cynthia Nagura, for organizing this inspiring event celebrating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. A heartfelt thank you also goes out to our outstanding partners—the Balboa Park's Fleet Science Center and their dedicated Youth Engagement Manager, Sandy Valdivia—and to our very own powerhouse Sci Phy Team, guided by the amazing Liana Davis!

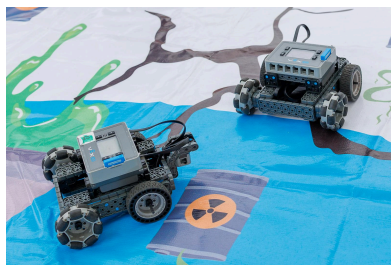
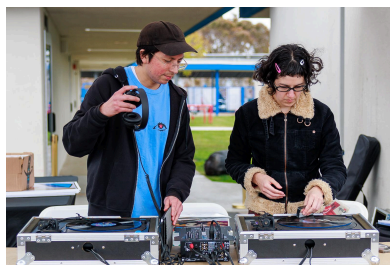
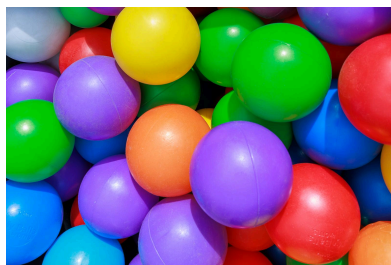
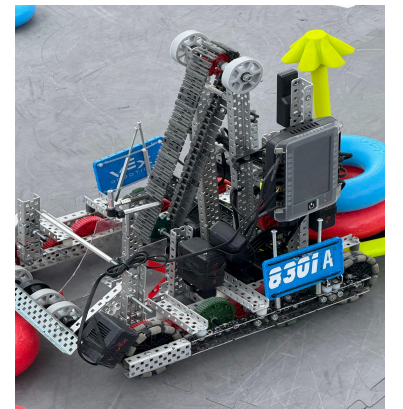
The day was about more than just fun experiments and hands-on activities, though there were plenty of those! It was about opening doors for our students.

STEM—science, technology, engineering, and math—forms the foundation of so many opportunities in the world our children are growing up in. It taught them to be curious, to problem-solve, to explore boldly, and to imagine a future filled with possibility.















GLOBAL GOALS EARTH DAY FORUM

On Tuesday, April 22, 2025, the Balboa Science Fleet Center hosted a remarkable gathering of young minds for the inaugural **Global Goals Forum**, an innovative event designed to empower sixth-grade students to think critically about global challenges and collaborate on meaningful solutions. This exciting initiative was first introduced at the **Classrooms of the Future Foundation Supe Tank 2024**, where Superintendents Dr. Brady (National School District), Dr. Potter (San Ysidro School District), Dr. McClurg (Del Mar Union School District), and Dr. Gray (Escondido Union School District) envisioned a student-led forum modeled after the United Nations. The goal was to provide students with a platform to explore global issues and participate in discussions that foster leadership, empathy, and global citizenship.

A very special thanks to our district's lead Sci-Phy teacher, Liana Davis, for helping lead the Global Goals Forum along with her two Sci-Phy teaching colleagues, Allyson Reik and Jannel Wright! A special thanks to the district chaperones for accompanying our students: Sarah Watson, Breeauna Futrell, David Perez, Vanessa Molina, Earl Kim, Sophia Railey, Alana Arciaga-Laurino, Natalie La Rosa, David Salazar, Iliana Cornejo, Anita Cstagnola, Maria Carriedo, Jocelyn Garcia De Alba, and Randy Hamilton.

Sponsored by generous local business owners across San Diego, the event brought together 200 sixth-grade students from four school districts: San Ysidro, National, Encinitas Union, and Del Mar Union. Students participated in breakout sessions and collaborative workshops, creating presentations and exchanging ideas on some of the most pressing global topics.

Each district focused on a specific United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), allowing students to dive deeply into a theme and bring their unique perspectives:

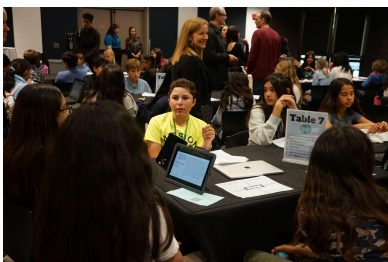
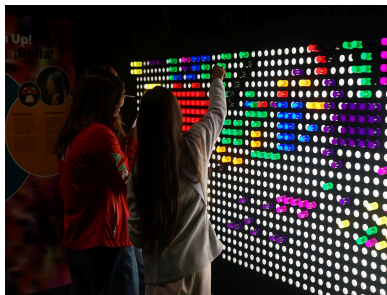
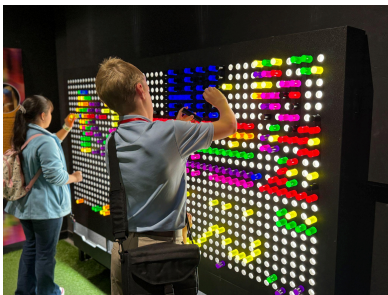
- **San Ysidro School District** explored **Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities**, learning about ways to make cities safe, clean, and inclusive.

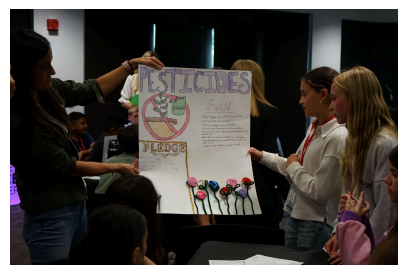
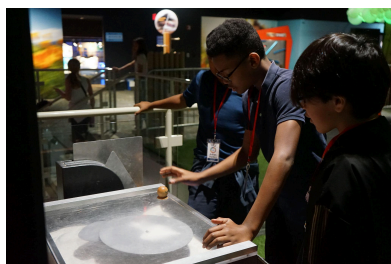
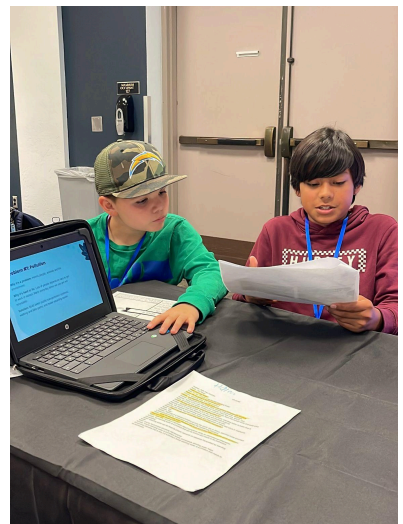
Students discussed how access to good housing, clean water, green spaces, and transportation options contributes to healthier urban living, now and for the future.

- **Encinitas Union School District** focused on **Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being**, promoting ideas around health, hygiene, mental wellness, and access to quality healthcare. Their discussions centered on how communities can support the physical and emotional well-being of people of all ages.
- **Del Mar Union School District** tackled **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**, encouraging students to think about how we use natural resources and the importance of recycling, reusing, and sustainable manufacturing. Their projects highlighted practical ways individuals and businesses can reduce waste and care for the planet.
- **National School District** led conversations on **Goal 13: Climate Action**, where students explored the impact of climate change and the importance of reducing pollution, using renewable energy, and preparing communities for environmental changes. Their ideas emphasized how everyone can help protect the Earth for future generations.

The Global Goals Forum proved to be an inspiring and empowering experience, demonstrating that even at a young age, students have the creativity, insight, and determination to address global challenges and drive meaningful change in their communities and beyond.









CALIFORNIA'S BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY

On Tuesday, we celebrated California's Bus Driver Appreciation Day, observed annually on the fourth Tuesday in April. We recognized our dedicated bus drivers with "cool" team t-shirts and small gestures to help them feel genuinely appreciated. Research consistently showed that all district employees make a meaningful, positive impact in the lives of children through caring, supportive relationships.



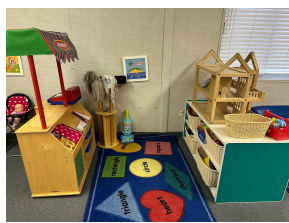
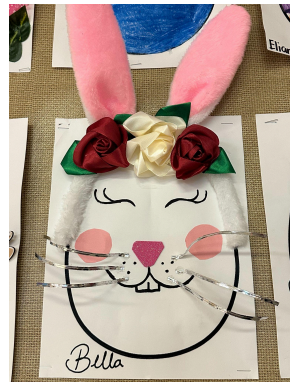
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER SCHOOL VISIT

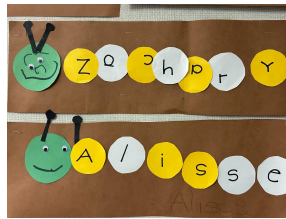
On Wednesday, April 23, 2025, the Child Development Center (CDC) had the honor of welcoming district leadership for a school visit centered on engagement and meaningful feedback. Board President Zenaida Rosario, Board Clerk Irene Lopez, Board Member Kenia Peraza, Superintendent Dr. Gina Potter, and Assistant Superintendent Manuel Bojorquez were warmly greeted by Julie Pretzer, the Director of Early Childhood Education.

The visit provided a valuable opportunity to discuss school initiatives, celebrate student achievements, and explore ways to further support staff. School leaders shared highlights of current programs and strategies, while district leadership expressed appreciation for the school's dedication to student success.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS









SUNSET ELEMENTARY STUDENT PERFECT ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION

On April 24, 2025, Sunset Elementary School had the pleasure of hosting a special breakfast to celebrate students who achieved perfect attendance during the second trimester. It was a meaningful event that recognized their commitment and dedication.

A heartfelt thank you went to Mrs. Manuela Colom, who inspired the students as the special guest speaker, and to Rosie from the local McDonald's for generously providing fun prizes that made the morning even more memorable. The school also sincerely appreciated its exceptional classified staff, whose hard work and dedication played a key role in making the event such a success.



1st grade



2nd grade



3rd grade



4th grade



5th grade



6th grade

PURPLE UP! DAY OF THE MILITARY CHILD

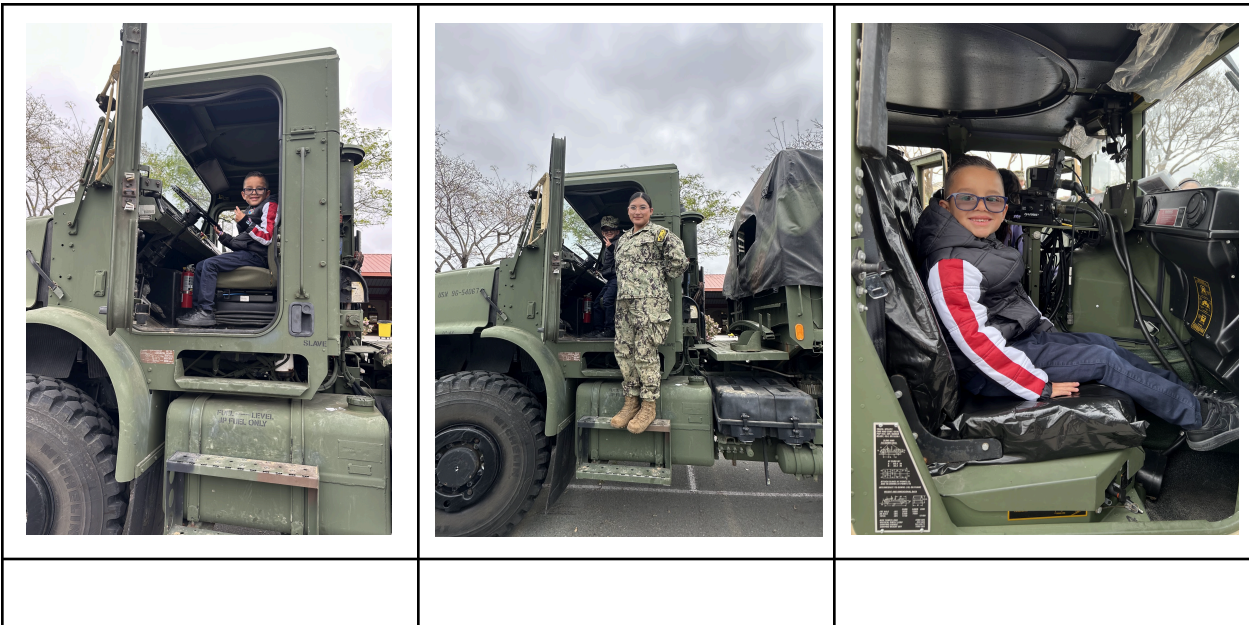
The month of April was designated as the Month of the Military Child, also known as "Purple Up for Military Kids!" The San Ysidro School District celebrated the important role military children played while their service member parents served our country by

hosting special events and wearing purple on April 23, 2025.

On April 23, 2025, special guests from Naval Base Coronado brought a Humvee and a Lark for students to explore at Ocean View Hills Elementary from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and at Vista Del Mar from 10:40 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Additionally, the district's Naval School Liaison, Mindy Hayes, handed out purple bracelets that read, "I Purple Up for Military Kids."

Together, the district community thanked its military children for their strength and sacrifice by supporting "Purple Up for Military Kids!"—they truly deserved recognition and support.









THE DISTRICT RECOGNIZES AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH BY WEARING BLUE ON APRIL 25TH

On April 25, 2025, San Ysidro School District staff and community members were invited to wear blue (or their favorite Autism shirt). The district deeply values the unique perspectives, talents, and contributions of individuals with autism and remains committed to fostering a supportive environment where everyone feels seen, heard, respected, and cared for.

One thing I would tell someone with autism is that they are special and deserve love.

- You are very Strong and Wonderful.
- Keep going you're so Powerful.
- Good job you're strong I'm proud of you.

One thing I would tell a person with autism is
you are doing amazing keep up the good work.
people care for you you really smart ♡







STUDENT ANTHOLOGY 2024-2025

The district would like to thank Mrs. Penny Cline and Mrs. Melanie Miller for participating in the student anthology selection session. These two incredible educators, both retired after many years of dedicated service to the San Ysidro School District, returned to help us celebrate and uplift our talented student writers and artists. A special thank you goes to our Assistant Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services, Manuel Bojorquez, Director of Educational Services, Luis Ramos, and District Translator & Interpreter, Pablo Saínz Ferretti, for taking the lead in planning this event for the district. The Student Anthology event is coming up this May.



CELEBRATION FOR DISTRICT NURSE ANITA GILLCHREST WHO IS RETIRING

After twenty-four years of dedicated service, District Nurse Anita Gillchrest retired from the San Ysidro Elementary School District. Her compassionate care and commitment to student wellness made a lasting impact. We thanked her sincerely and wished her a joyful retirement. We also extended our appreciation to the Health Clerks and LVNs who continued to support our students' health every day.



ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY

We celebrated all of our administrative professionals at our schools and the district office for their hard work, dedication, and behind-the-scenes magic that does not go unnoticed.

Their efforts were essential to the smooth operation of our schools, and we recognized the vital role they play in supporting both staff and students. We sincerely appreciate their commitment and the positive impact they have on our district.



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>

UPCOMING DATES

EVENT	DATE/TIME
Autism Awareness Month	Tuesday, April 1, 2025 Through Wednesday, April 30, 2025
Day of the Principal	Thursday, May 1, 2025
School Lunch Hero Day	Friday, May 2, 2025

Week of the Teacher	Monday, May 5, 2025 through Friday, May 9, 2025
Day of the Teacher	Wednesday, May 7, 2025
Classified/Confidential Employee Week	Sunday, May 18, 2025 through Saturday, May 24, 2025
Memorial Day	Monday, May 26, 2025
Last Day of School for Students	Wednesday, June 11, 2025
Last Day of School for Certificated/Teachers	Thursday, June 12, 2025

