



# San Ysidro

## School District

EST - 1887

QUALITY EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

### District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina Potter, Ed.D.  
Week of August 23, 2024



### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND PUPIL SERVICES  
ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT**



It is with admiration and profound gratitude that we announce the retirement of Russell Little, our Assistant Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services. After a remarkable career of 39 years devoted to enhancing educational excellence, Mr. Little has chosen to embrace a well-deserved retirement.

After having successfully served in principal roles for 22 years in a San Diego district, Mr. Little became a part of the San Ysidro School District family on July 30, 2018, when he assumed the role of Principal at Smythe Elementary School. His exemplary leadership and unwavering commitment quickly became evident, creating a nurturing and dynamic environment for both students and staff. His exceptional contributions led to the role of Assistant Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services on October 24, 2022.

A seasoned K-12 educator with a robust background in applied linguistics and second language pedagogy, and proficient in French, Swedish, German, Catalanian, Spanish, and English, Mr. Little's tenure has been marked by significant accomplishments. Among his many achievements, he notably increased the reclassification rates of English Language Learners and delivered continual improvements in student achievement and accountability. Additionally, Mr. Little successfully implemented several professional development initiatives focused on enhancing our multicultural student body's achievement, engagement, and social/emotional well-being.

Mr. Little's academic credentials further underscore his expertise and dedication. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, French, and Spanish from the University of New Mexico, followed by a Master's degree in Curriculum and Applied Linguistics from the same institution. He also holds an Administrative Services Credential from San Diego State University. His extensive academic background has greatly enriched his approach to educational leadership, reflecting his role as both an erudite and consummate professional.

As Mr. Little embarks on this new chapter of his life, we extend our deepest gratitude for his years of dedicated service and profound impact on our district. His contributions have left an indelible mark on our educational community, and his presence will be greatly missed.

Please join us in wishing Mr. Little the very best as he transitions into retirement. May he enjoy this new phase of life with the same passion and joy that he brought to our schools and district each day.

Mr. Little will be retiring on October 1st. The district is working on a transition plan which will be released mid September.

#### **A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR GARDENERS**

Our amazing gardeners Ernesto "Ernie" Marquez and Moises Camberos are doing a fantastic job at placing our brand new artificial turf at San Ysidro Middle School! We can't wait to see how great it will look. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication!





## SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S NEW TURF FIELD

Below are pictures of the new student soccer goals on the new turf field at Sunset Elementary.



## DISTRICT INNOVACION PROGRAM APPLICATION 2024-2025

It's so easy to enroll your students in our after-school program Innovación. Just open the QR code below to access the enrollment form. Our after school program supports academic success, enriches student experiences, and fosters essential life skills.

By combining the resources and expertise of local schools, nonprofits, and community organizations, we aim to create a safe and engaging environment where students can thrive after the school day ends.

*The word Innovación refers to a process where new ideas and services are introduced that have positive and significant value. Innovación is determined by curiosity, creativity, and desire to improve. Innovación can lead to social progress and provide new opportunities. From empowering academics to exhilarating sports, artistic expression to fostering social-emotional intelligence, every moment at Innovación is a journey of discovery. Rooted in inclusivity, we celebrate diversity and embrace every learner, ensuring a vibrant community where all can*

*thrive. Join us in shaping tomorrow's leaders, one transformative experience at a time.  
Welcome to Innovación, where every child's curiosity, creativity, and desire to improve will be  
nurtured and celebrated.*

**2024-2025 San Ysidro School  
District INNOVACIÓN PROGRAM  
APPLICATION**



**RECOMMITTING AND REIMAGINING WORKSHOP FOR DUAL LANGUAGE FAMILIES**

It's a new and exciting school year for our Dual Language families! The San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE), our Educational Services Department Resource Teachers, and the Dual Language Task Force shared valuable information to parents about our district's Dual Language Handbook, located on our district website, and our commitment to our bilingual students and their families.





Coordinator of Federal and State Programs and Language Acquisition Ms. Connie Rodriguez and staff from SDCOE, led the discussion around our SYSD Dual Language Program Model.

We also thank the Educational Services staff for coordinating a truly inspirational event! ¡¡Que vivan los maestros y los alumnos de San Ysidro!!













### **SOUTHWEST ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION (SAA)**

Elections were held to elect new officers for the The Southwest Administrators Association, as many that held previous positions either retired or had terms ending. The Southwest Administrators Association is a local professional network of school and district administrators from the South Bay area of San Diego. Congratulations to all new elected officers from our management team: Treasurer Mrs. Erika Meza, Auditor Mrs. Irene Herrera Cevallos, and Committee Member Dr. Rebecca “Becky” Bravo.

### **NEW SAN YSIDRO EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE FLYER**

We are excited to share the San Ysidro Education Collaborative’s new flyer! Thank you to Gaby Millan for contributing with her graphic artistic talents to put this together.

# SAN YSIDRO EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

Serving the San Ysidro Community Since 2013



## Our Vision

An empowered San Ysidro community through education.

## Our Mission

Collaborate as a partnership of business, community, and education to leverage resources and provide services to support San Ysidro children and families.



## Members



## Committees

### Education & Career Pathways

Expose students to various professional sectors while providing students with coaching and mentorship to guide career choices.

### Youth Services & Resources

Focus on connecting disengaged youth to education, career opportunities, mental health support, mentoring, and gang prevention.

### San Ysidro- STEM

Leaders united to support access to relevant, meaningful and lasting STEM opportunities

### Parent Engagement & Support

Create opportunities and encourage parents to connect, share needs, receive educational opportunities, training and access resources.

### Joy for Education

Acts of Appreciation for staff, teachers, and students to know how much they are valued.

### Inspirational Movie Night

Encourage the value of persistence towards reaching one's goals via movie presentations and related, inspirational speakers.

### Membership & Partnership

Engage current membership and lead expansion of business, education and community partnerships.



### Contact Information:

Gaby Millan – [gaby@teensrise.org](mailto:gaby@teensrise.org)

Find us on Facebook @SYsidroEDU



## [The Mission and Vision of the San Ysidro School District](#)

**Mission Statement:** Quality education and opportunity for all students to succeed.

**Vision Statement:** The San Ysidro School District, in partnership with our teachers and community, is committed to providing a high quality, multicultural learning environment that promotes academic excellence, social responsibility and physical and emotional well-being for all students.

### **Anti-bullying Guidelines**

Please review the following anti-bullying guidelines with your children. Thank you for helping in prioritizing the safety of our schools.

- [Parent Handbook Link](#)
- [Policy 5131.2: Bullying Link](#)
- [Regulation 5131.2: Bullying Link](#)

### **UPCOMING DATES**

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
<b>Labor Day - Holiday</b>	Monday, September 2, 2024	District Office and Schools Closed
Progress Report #1 (Middle Schools)	Friday, September 20, 2024	
Fall Break	Monday, September 23, 2024 - Monday, October 7, 2024	All Schools
Students Return from Fall Break	Tuesday, October 8, 2024	All Schools
<b>Veteran's Day - Holiday</b>	Monday, November 11, 2024	District Office and Schools Closed
Progress Report #1 (Elementary Schools)	Week of November 18, 2024 - November 22, 2024	

### **SYSD SCHOOLS WEEKLY BULLETINS**

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

# BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT SCHEDULE 2024

Day/Date	School	Start/End Time with Detailed Schedule Ex: 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. Principal Welcome and Presentation 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Classroom Visits
Friday, August 2, 2024	Ocean View Hills Preschool	3:30-5:00 p.m. Welcome combined with Classroom Visits
Friday, August 2, 2024	Ocean View Hills Elementary School	3:00-5:00 p.m. Principal Welcome / Presentation and Class Visits
Wednesday, August 14, 2024	Child Development Center	3:30-5:00 p.m. Welcome combined with Classroom Visits
Wednesday, August 14, 2024	Willow Elementary School	4:00-4:30 p.m. Principal Welcome/Presentation 4:30-5:30 PM Classroom Visits
Wednesday, August 28, 2024	Smythe Elementary School	400-430 p.m. Presentation and resource fair 430-530 class visits
Wednesday, August 28, 2024	Sunset Preschool	3:30-5:00 p.m. Welcome combined with Classroom Visits
Wednesday, August 28, 2024	Sunset Elementary School	3:30-5:00 p.m. Welcome combined with Classroom Visits
Thursday, August 29, 2024	Vista Del Mar Middle School	4:00-4:30 p.m. Principal Welcome / Presentation 4:30-6:00 pm Class Visits
Thursday, August 29, 2024	La Mirada Elementary School	3:00-4:00 p.m. Resource Fair/Principal Presentation 4:00-5:00 Classroom Visits
Thursday, August 29, 2024	San Ysidro Middle School	4:00-4:30 p.m. Principal Welcome / Presentation 4:30-6:00 pm Class Visit

**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>

