



San Ysidro

School District

EST - 1887

QUALITY EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina Potter, Ed.D.
Week of September 13, 2024



SUPERINTENDENT

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

STAR STUDENTS FROM THE LA MIRADA EAGLE NEWS

A dynamic group of La Mirada students, part of the Innovación Eagle News class, were recognized at La Mirada Elementary School by our Board President Irene Lopez, Board Vice President Zenaida Rosario, Board Clerk Antonio Martinez, Board Member Rosaleah Pallasigue, Board Member Rudy Lopez, Superintendent Dr. Gina Potter, and Principal Laura English.



We would like to congratulate the following students for being part of the La Mirada Innovación Program and we are celebrating them as **Star Students**: Gianna Orozco, Brianna Trejo, Lenah Cruz, Camila Morales, Dominick Hansen, Matteo Quevedo, Natasha Osuna, Jaziel Barron, and Emily Alvarado!

We also recognize and celebrate our amazing Campus Security and ELOP Teacher **Samantha Arellano** for her hard work and dedication in teaching this class. Ms. Samantha Arellano is also a star athlete and professional soccer player. She played Division I soccer at the University of California Riverside, was drafted by Club Tijuana Xolotzcuintles in 2017, and played with Club America from 2018 to 2021. We are so grateful and honored to have her as an important part of our team!

A very special thank you and shoutout to Innovación Program Lead Maria Elena Amezcua for heading the before and after schools Innovación program and school Social Worker Ms. Jedzida Herron for hosting the celebration at La Mirada Elementary School.





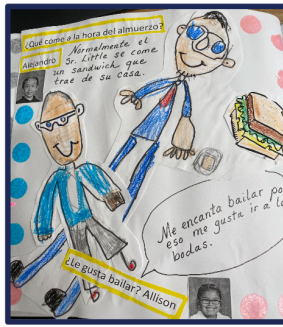
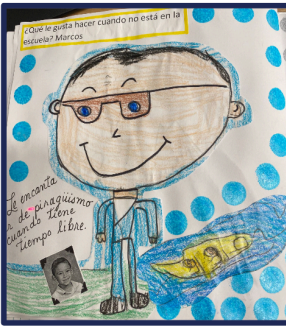
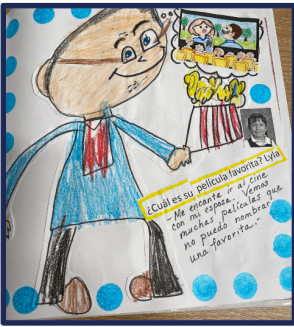
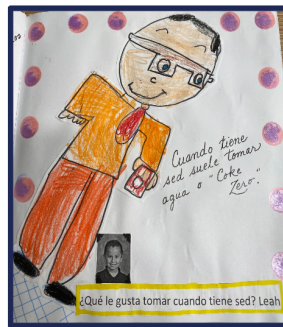
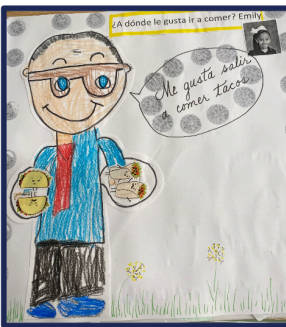
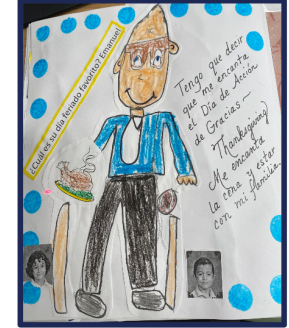
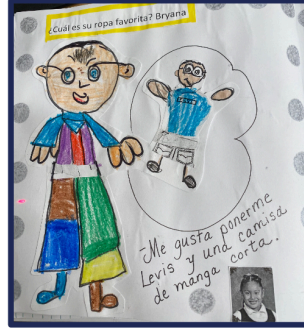
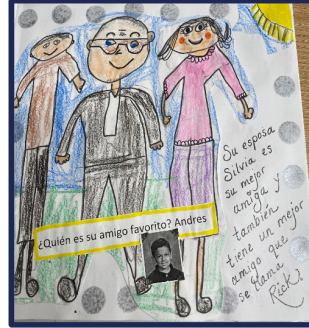
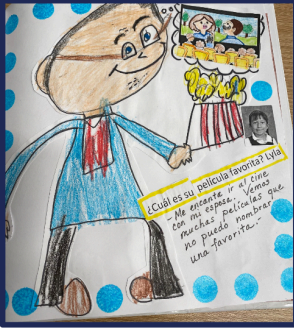
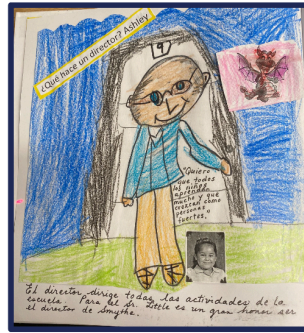
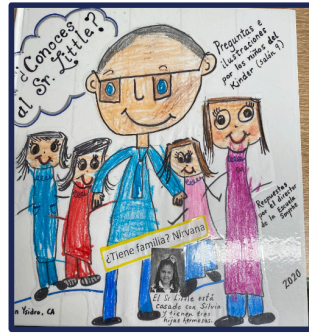
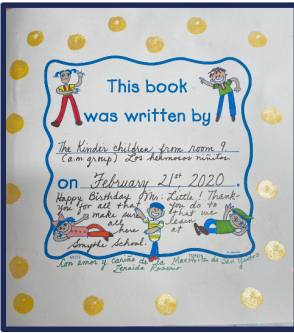


EDUCATION CHAMPION AWARD: ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND PUPIL SERVICES RUSSELL LITTLE

On Thursday, September 12th, the Governing Board and Superintendent Potter presented Assistant Superintendent of Leadership and Pupil Services Russell Little with the highest honor in our district: The Education Champion Award. He is only the second recipient of this award along with our Secretary of State of California, Shirley Weber. This prestigious recognition was presented to Russell Little for his remarkable career of 39 years devoted to enhancing educational excellence. Mr. Little also received a Proclamation from Assemblymember David Alvarez for his dedication to our education community.

Congratulations Mr. Little! We extend our deepest gratitude for your years of dedicated service and profound impact on our district, and wish you all the best in this well deserved new phase of life. Mr. Little will be retiring on October 1st.







DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD: VISTA DEL MAR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

On Thursday, September 12th, the Governing Board, Superintendent Potter, and Principal Irene Herrera-Cevallos recognized Vista Del Mar Middle School students for the exceptional achievement of their reclassification, for their hard work, perseverance, and dedication, which have led them to this significant milestone. We congratulate the following students for their well earned achievement and we commend their outstanding progress and success: Valeria Lagunas, Juan Sanchez Velez, Ximena Gonzalez, Aritza Martinez, and Brian Nguyen.



DISTINGUISHED CHAMPION AWARD: VISTA DEL MAR MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSIFIED STAFF, CERTIFICATED STAFF, AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

On Thursday, September 12th, the Governing Board, Superintendent Potter, and Principal Irene Herrera-Cevallos recognized Vista Del Mar Middle School Classified Staff members for their outstanding service and dedication to the community of Vista Del Mar Middle School, demonstrating unwavering support for our students and staff. We would like to congratulate the following staff members: Security Carlos Gomez Mendez, Outreach Consultant Nirvana Bustos, and Administrative Clerk I Thanisha Grijalva.

Also on Thursday, September 12th, the Governing Board, Superintendent Potter, and Principal Irene Herrera-Cevallos recognized Vista Del Mar Middle School Certificated Staff member and Coach Jose Herrera for his exceptional work as Vista Del Mar Middle School's Physical Education Teacher and Extended Learning Opportunities Coordinator. We thank and congratulate him for contributing to the successful implementation of our Clubs and Sports programs, and for his remarkable mentorship of students during Enrichment class.

Lastly, Vista Del Mar Middle School's Mental Health Support Team was recognized by the Governing Board, Superintendent Potter, and Principal Irene Herrera-Cevallos for their outstanding service to the community of Vista Del Mar Middle School in the area of safety, climate, student engagement and social emotional skills. A big thank you to Site Therapist Jessica Golden, Screen to Care Juan Hermosillo, and Program Director Shea Prophet from South Bay Community Services, as well as our Military and Family Counselor Nancy Martinez.



MANUEL BOJORQUEZ NAMED NEW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND PUPIL SERVICES

We are excited to announce that beginning September 23rd, 2024, Mr. Manuel Bojorquez will serve as Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services at our San Ysidro School District. Mr. Bojorquez is an experienced educational leader with over twenty seven years dedicated to serving the San Ysidro School District. He has dedicated many years of his knowledge and expertise to student achievement and success, education, bridging the digital divide, and English language learner mastery of English as a Principal, Assistant Principal, and Teacher.

Mr. Bojorquez earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering with Areas of Study in Chicano Studies and Urban Studies & Planning from the University of California San Diego and a Masters of Science in Educational Administration from National University. He has also earned a National Principal Supervisor Certificate for Equity and Excellence, National Center for Urban School Transformation, NCUST.

In addition to his knowledge, Mr. Bojorquez has demonstrated steadfast loyalty and dedication to our San Ysidro community. He has a profound understanding of the culture that makes San Ysidro special. He has been the proud recipient of multiple awards including Elementary Principal of the Year Award for 2019 ACSA Region 18. He will now continue to serve the SYSD under the capacity of Assistant Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services.

We congratulate Manuel Bojorquez for being named Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Pupil Services at our Board Meeting.



EFRAIN BURCIAGA NAMED NEW DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

When we think of educational leaders who leave a big imprint on students and families lives and entire communities, we think of Lion King leaders like Principal Burciaga.

Mr. Burciaga is an experienced educational leader with twenty nine years dedicated to serving the San Ysidro School District. He started teaching at Willow Elementary School in 1995 and at Sunset Elementary School in 1996. He later took on the position of Assistant Principal in 2010 and Principal of Sunset Elementary in 2011.

Burciaga earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology and first year of Teacher Education Program from the University of California, San Diego, and a Master of Arts degree in Education and California Single Subject Credential in Social Studies from Stanford University, CA. He has also earned the National Principal Supervisor Certificate for Equity and Excellence from NCUST in June 2022.

In addition to his outstanding academic achievements, Mr. Burciaga is known for his deep understanding of our multicultural communities and for compassionate leadership style. He is profoundly committed to his Sunset students, teachers and entire staff as well as the families of San Ysidro. Sunset Elementary is his FAMILIA!

We congratulate Principal Burciaga for being named as the new Director of Human resources yesterday at our Board Meeting and we thank him for taking such good care and for giving his heart to Sunset for over 20 years!



PEDRO FUENTEZ NAMED NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF SAN YSIDRO MIDDLE SCHOOL

We are also delighted to introduce Mr. Pedro Fuentz Jr., who will now serve our district as our new Assistant Principal at San Ysidro Middle School. With a passion for fostering educational excellence and a commitment to supporting both students and staff, Mr. Fuentez brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our school community.

Mr. Fuentez is not new to our community, he often stayed with his extended family in San Ysidro.

Mr. Fuentes comes to us with 18 years of experience in education, having previously served as a teacher at Sweetwater Union High School District for over 12 years; teaching Social Science, ELD, and Spanish, as well as serving three years as an attendance coordinator at Chula Vista High.

Mr. Fuentez has also served as Assistant Principal at San Lorenzo Unified School District, where he was the first Latino assigned to an Assistant Principal position, and most recently at Cajon Valley Unified School District.

Mr. Fuentes holds a degree in Spanish with an Emphasis on Bilingual Education from California State University Chico and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from San Diego State University. Mr. Fuentes has been the recipient of the Cesar Chavez Community Service Award, and the CABA Multicultural Leadership Award.

We are excited to have him on board and look forward to his contributions.



APPRECIATION/ FAREWELL TRIBUTE ASSEMBLY FOR PRINCIPAL EFRAIN BURCIAGA

FROM HIS SUNSET FAMILY

Principal Efrain Burciaga's promotion to Director of Human Resources couldn't go by without a beautiful and emotional farewell from his Sunset Elementary Family, to which he has dedicated over 20 years of service! Mari Del Rosario "Charo" Castro graciously and detailedly organized an amazing program for Mr. Burciaga that included elements of his years of dedication to our Sunset students, staff, and families.

We want to say thank you to our Governing Board Vice President Zenaid Rosario, Board Member Rudy Lopez, and Superintendent Dr. Potter, for all of your support during this event. We also appreciate our special guests Mr. Rito Arciaga and Mr. Marcus McNeill for bringing more of the excitement to our morning!

Mr. Burciaga received a Distinguished Champion Award from our district and a Proclamation from Assemblymember David Alvarez for his dedication to our education community.

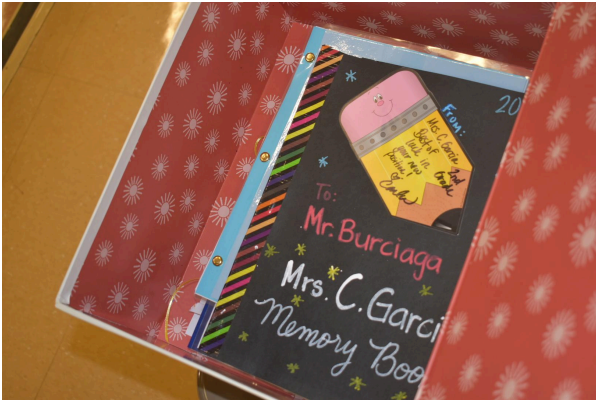
We were especially touched by our 1st graders tribute song: *Todo Fue Por Amor*, our 2nd graders video (Ms. Ruiz), the *Acrostic Poem* (Mrs. Carla Garcia), and the song: *ROAR* (Mrs. Magallanes), our 3rd graders: *A Farewell Poem*, our 6th graders: *A Tribute Poem*, and the class books from all Sunset teachers. WOW! What a creative and thoughtful way of saying thank you and farewell to Mr. Burciaga!

















HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

During September we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to honor our cultural heritage and all of the wonderful contributions, history, and experiences of Hispanic/ Latinos from different countries. It is also a celebration and appreciation of our lives and hard work as an essential part of our nation's history and culture.









A THANK YOU TO SDPD

A very special thank you to our law enforcement officers for always keeping our schools safe and making our students smile with their special SDPD stickers.





NEW DELICIOUS LASAGNA INCLUDED IN OUR MEAL OPTIONS

As part of our effort to increase the nutritious meal options for our students, our Child Nutrition Services Coordinator, Ana Bush, created a delicious lasagna recipe that meets the nutritional guidelines. Students have commented how much they enjoy this meal option and we now offer it at all schools! Thank you Ana for your commitment to providing our students both nutrition and flavor in their meals!



BEAUTIFUL NEW TURF AT FRONT OF SAN YSIDRO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Our wonderful grounds team finished the improved curbside beautification at San Ysidro Middle School and it looks wonderful! Thank you to our fantastic and hard working maintenance team Daniel Camberos (Lead), Moises Camberos, Ernie Marquez, Angel Alvarez, and Josue Cruz.





Save the date!



*San Ysidro Library's
100th year Anniversary
1924-2024*

October 12, 2024 12-4pm

*Join us in celebration with entertainment,
refreshments & community resources!*

4235 Beyer Blvd. San Diego, CA 92173
619-424-0475 * systaff@sanidiego.gov



UPCOMING DATES

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Fall Break	Monday, September 23, 2024 - Monday, October 7, 2024	All Schools
Students Return from Fall Break	Tuesday, October 8, 2024	All Schools
Veteran's Day - Holiday	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>

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>

