



San Ysidro

School District

EST - 1887

QUALITY EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

District Highlights

Weeks of September 3 - 17, 2021



SUPERINTENDENT

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

FALL BREAK

All Schools Closed September 20th - October 1st
District Office Closed September 27 - 30
Students Return on Monday, October 4th

FALL BREAK: Time to Rest, Relax & Rejuvenate!

Dear SYSD Family,

As we begin Fall Break I want to sincerely thank our staff, students, and parents for the remarkable job you have done to safely keep our schools open. I am proud of our schools for adhering to the safety guidelines which have allowed all schools to remain open for 8 weeks! Everyone has collectively worked hard to respond daily to the unprecedented challenges of the COVID pandemic. Our district's goal is to keep our schools safely open for the success and well being of our students.

When our schools reopen on Monday, October 4th there will be a few new COVID safety features. Beginning Monday, October 11th our schools and facilities will require outdoor masks for all students and adults **when regional COVID case rates are high**, and when 6 feet of physical distancing is not possible. The district will implement outdoor masks until the Delta variant surge drops and local case rates fall. All school

playgrounds will have a designated *Mask Free Zone* available for students who would like to sit 6 feet apart with their masks off. If students and adults are able to stay 6 feet apart anywhere outside they may also take their masks off.

In compliance with the California public health order for educators, the district has collected staff verification of vaccination. We will begin requiring unvaccinated staff to provide a weekly negative COVID test beginning the week of October 11th. COVID testing locations at various school sites and the district office will be provided. Also, unvaccinated staff may utilize the county's COVID testing locations.

Now it is time to rest, relax and rejuvenate over the 2 weeks of Fall Break!

Warmly,

Gina Potter, Ed.D.
Superintendent

SALUTE TO TEACHERS HONORS VISTA DEL MAR MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER JAIME ABARCA

On Friday September 10th, The San Diego County Office of Education and COX Communications recognized the "Teachers of the Year" from the county. Our very own Jaime Abarca from Vista Del Mar Middle School was honored. Mr. Abarca has been with SYSD for 23 years serving multiple school sites throughout his career. He is recognized as a dedicated and engaging middle school teacher. Joining Mr. Abarca at the celebration were Mrs. Abarca, Superintendent Dr. Gina Potter and Vista Del Mar Principal Irene Herrera-Cevallos. Due to the COVID pandemic each district was limited to only 4 vaccinated guests. The Salute to Teachers show will air on Sunday, October 17th at 9 p.m. on YurView Network (Cox Channel 4 and 1004). Visit this website for more information: www.SalutetoTeachersSD.com.



SDCOE: INNOVATION IN EDUCATION AWARDS HONORS SYSD SCI PHY PROGRAM

The Innovation in Education Awards is an awards program that honors programs that motivate K-12 grade students to learn and increase student achievement. This award is presented by the Classroom of the Future Foundation. This year, our Sci Phy program is being honored as an Honorable Mention for the Inspire Award, which is focused on programs that inspire or influences teachers to teach and students to learn through exceptional programs. We are so proud of this program and the hard work of our Sci Phy teachers whose work supports students with STEM, Physical Education, English Language Development, and Social Emotional Wellbeing. The 18th annual “Innovation in Education Awards” by the [Classroom of the Future Foundation](#) will take place on Thursday, Sept. 23 at SeaWorld San Diego. ”

FROM THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION NEWSROOM:

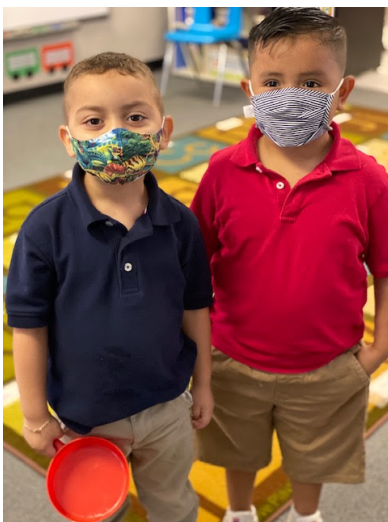
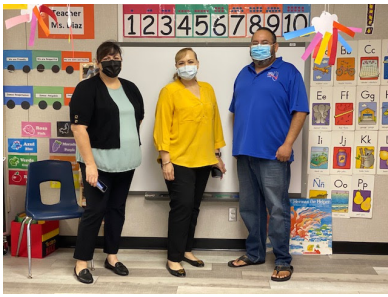
<https://www.sdcoe.net/news/Pages/2021-Classroom-of-the-Future-Award-Winners.aspx>

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER - SCHOOL VISIT AND DATA REVIEW

It was wonderful for district leaders to visit our state recognized Tier 5 preschool program on September 7th! Board Vice President Rudy Lopez, Superintendent Dr. Gina Potter, and Executive Director of Educational Services Cynthia Monreal-Gonzalez were honored to visit the preschool program and see the excitement and joy of the students who are now back full time at school. The team was able to observe and discuss the district wide focus areas implemented within the preschool program of academic progress, English learner development, attendance, social emotional support and parent engagement. The preschool team is commended for the excellent instructional program that they provide for our students.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



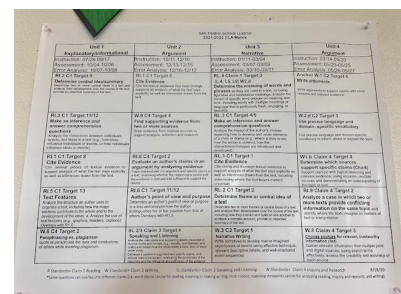
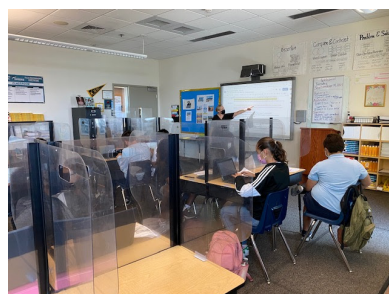
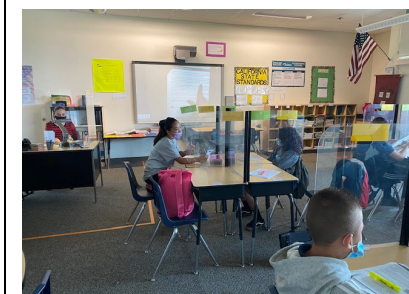
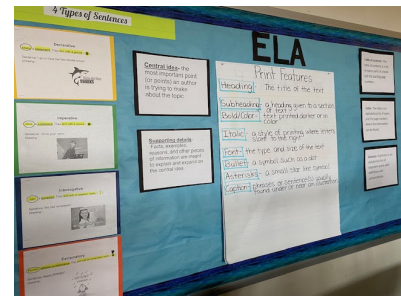
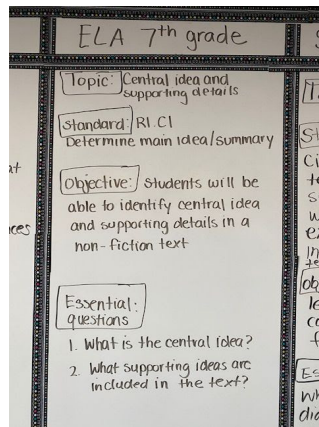


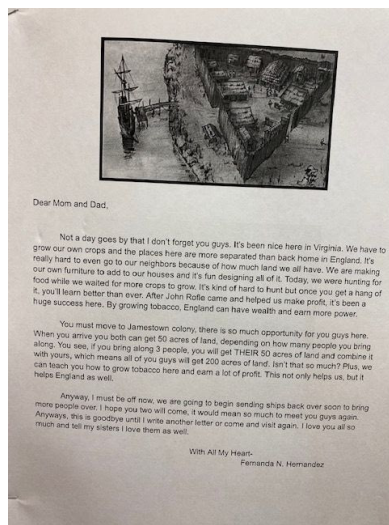
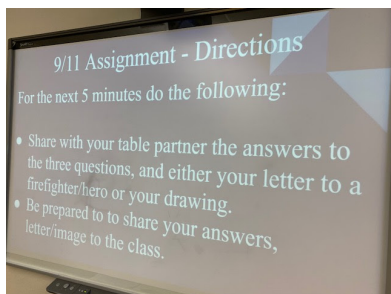
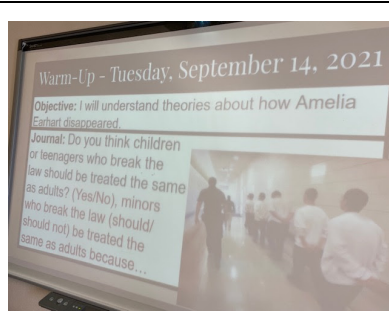
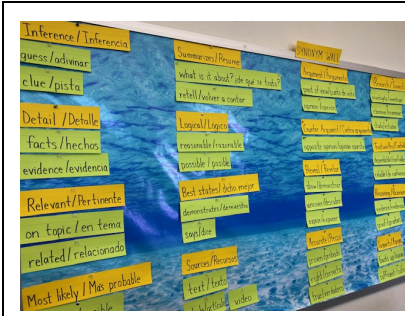


VISTA DEL MAR MIDDLE SCHOOL - SCHOOL VISIT AND DATA REVIEW

It was great for district leaders to visit Vista Del Mar Middle School! Board Vice President Rudy Lopez, Board Member Irene Lopez and Superintendent Dr. Gina Potter enjoyed seeing the excitement and joy of the students who are back full time at school. The team was able to observe and discuss the district wide focus areas implemented within Vista Del Mar Middle School of academic progress, English learner development, attendance, social emotional support and parent engagement. Vista Del Mar Middle is commended for high student engagement, teacher's positive reinforcement, encouragement and commitment to maximizing student learning and academic achievement.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS







INTERSECTION NAMED IN HONOR OF MRS. ELIZABETH “BETTY” CUEN

On Tuesday, September 7th, the intersection of Hollister Street and Monument Road was given the distinguished honorary name of Elizabeth “Betty” Cuen to forever commemorate her legacy in San Ysidro. She was a lifelong resident, longtime educator, community advocate and a proud member of the San Ysidro Women’s Club and the San Ysidro Friends of the Library. Mrs. Cuen retired from SYSD as an assistant principal after a long and distinguished career with the District. She loved her community and worked relentlessly to make sure all San Ysidro families and children were well taken care of. Mrs. Cuen was and always will be part of San Ysidro. A special thank you to Council Member Vivian Moreno and her team for making this happen. Also a big thank you to Vice Chair County Supervisor Nora Vargas for attending and presenting the County’s proclamation honoring Ms. Cuen. SYSD Board Vice President Rudy Lopez, Board Member Irene Lopez, and Superintendent Dr. Gina Potter attended.



LAUNCH OF CDPH CONCENTRIC POOLED COVID TESTING AT SCHOOLS

At San Ysidro School District, we seek to maintain a safe environment for employees, students, families, and the community. To support those goals, we have partnered with [Concentric by Ginkgo](#) to provide an optional and free pooled testing program. This week the district launched the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Concentric pooled COVID testing option at each of our schools. This CDPH COVID testing program is now being used at various schools throughout California. ***This program is only for those families interested in allowing their child to participate with parent consent.***

We ask each family to consider participating in this program to help safeguard the wellbeing of our entire school community. Please sign the consent request below and read the attached overview from Concentric to answer some questions you may have. To get started, please fill out the consent form with your permission to perform a

COVID-19 pooled test for your student. This process should take no more than 5 minutes to complete using a computer or a smartphone.

1. First, [click here](https://testcenter.concentricbyginkgo.com/minor-consent) (<https://testcenter.concentricbyginkgo.com/minor-consent>).
2. Then, enter the access code for your child's school:
San Ysidro Middle School: W3WUAM
Child Development Center: J0CH2F
La Mirada Elementary School: 3VUFS9
Ocean View Hills Elementary School: R34VN1
Smythe Elementary School: AGB7LX
Sunset Elementary School: ELVWQ7
Vista Del Mar Middle School: HHMU9B
Willow Elementary School: 7C800D
3. Finally, enter your child's information, and you're done!

Note: If you need to provide consent for more than one child, please complete the process once for each child.

What is pooled testing?

Please view the video: [See it in action here.](#)

Why pooled testing? Why should my student participate?

To learn more about pooled testing, watch this [video](#) from another school using this service.

EDSOURCE: 'POOL TESTING' TO COMBAT COVID ON CAMPUS GROWS POPULAR IN CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS

<https://edsource.org/2021/pool-testing-to-combat-covid-on-campus-grows-popular-in-california-schools/661144>

SAN YSIDRO SCHOOL DISTRICT COVID-19 DASHBOARD

This Dashboard is an effort for our district to be transparent regarding COVID cases. For the first eight weeks of school from July 26 through September 17, there have been a total of 79 cases of which 76 have been contact traced to outside community transmission and not from within our schools. Thus, of our total student and staff population of just over 5,000, only 1.58%, have reported a positive COVID case. The district's multi-layered safety measures are proving highly effective in curbing the transmission of COVID within our schools.

[San Ysidro School District COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM BEGINS

The district plan to spend the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant included prioritizing the learning acceleration to support all students attain competency with grade level learning objectives and Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The plan included the increase of instructional learning time for all students, and we have implemented a variety of options to support this goal.

The district began our extended learning day to support learning acceleration at our schools on Tuesday, September 7th. All of the district's teachers were given the opportunity to teach after or before school to provide tutoring and support for students in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA), English Language Development (ELD), and

Math. Additionally, all of the district's paraprofessionals were given the opportunity to work extra hours, to support students in class through small group instruction. These extra hours began the week of August 30th. We are excited to be able to offer our students these additional opportunities for instruction and support as we work together to accelerate student learning for all of our students.

**SAN DIEGO FOOD BANK AND FEEDING SAN DIEGO FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION:
DISTRIBUCIÓN DE ALIMENTOS GRATIS DE SAN DIEGO FOOD BANK Y FEEDING
SAN DIEGO:**

San Diego Food Bank: <https://sandiegofoodbank.org/gethelp/>

Feeding San Diego: <https://feedingsandiego.org/find-food/#locate>

COMMUNITY COVID RESOURCES

Please click on the link to access the COVID Community Resources:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vRHa3eSXww70KLcnAro21nIFBAdB1BPDL5cLTwBD5J3UYdUhY17DHNmazYRD7sgVmagg3IUAlM9oLF_c/pub