



San Ysidro

School District

EST - 1887

QUALITY EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina Potter, Ed.D.
Week of January 12, 2024



SUPERINTENDENT

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - On Monday, January 15th we honor the life, the legacy, and the achievements of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

- MLK



OCEAN VIEW HILLS ELEMENTARY WINS SCHOOL SAFETY PATROL OF THE YEAR

We are celebrating A big WIN for Our San Ysidro School District Student Safety Patrol! Our Ocean View Hills students scored 1st place in the southern division for the 4th year and for the first time we placed 3rd in all of San Diego County! Another major achievement and recognition goes to our Ocean View Hills 5th grade student and former Captain, Emilia Salcido, for being promoted to Major. Congratulations, we are so proud of all of you!



SMYTHE 6TH GRADE STUDENT CAMP IN CUYAMACA

42 sixth grade students attended camp and had the opportunity to take nature walks, learn archery, and participate in rock climbing and in various activities in a camp setting. The pupil services department and Veronica Medina assisted families by providing warm clothing items: jackets, hats, socks and rain ponchos. Principal Dr. Bravo had the opportunity to join the campers and teachers for lunch on Wednesday.





CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT HOLIDAY DINNER GIVEAWAY

We would like to thank the Chula Vista Police Department and Chief of Police Roxana Kennedy for coordinating a wonderful holiday dinner giveaway at Walmart on December 18th. Veronica Medina, Coordinator of Pupil Services greeted over 100 families from the San Ysidro School District that received a special invitation from our school's Outreach Consultants. Each family received a Holiday Turkey Dinner and Santa was handing out toys to all children in attendance; a few special students were selected by police officers to receive bicycles. We would also like to thank all the volunteers that were present that day, such as employees from the Chula Vista Walmart and Mr. Rito Arciaga who invited former NFL players Marcus McNeil, Corey Luiget, and Dereck Cox to participate in the giveaway.



“MAKING SAN DIEGO SMILE” INVITES SYSD STUDENTS TO SHOP WITH A SECRET SANTA AT WALMART

On December 11th, Mr. Tony Castro Founder of Making San Diego Smile invited 80 students from our seven schools to shop with a secret Santa at Walmart in Chula Vista. Students were

selected by the school's Outreach Consultant and each child received a \$100 gift card and went on a shopping spree with their secret Santa. Students wrote thank you letters to their Secret Santa for MAKING THEM SMILE! A big thank you to our Administrative Secretary, Irene E. Lopez, for stepping in and assisting in this event for Ms. Veronica Medina, Coordinator of Pupil Services.



“LOVE THY NEIGHBOR” HOSTS SMYTHE ELEMENTARY FAMILIES AT HOLIDAY DINNER TOY GIVEAWAY

On December 21st, Love Thy Neighbor hosted 17 families from Smythe Elementary School to attend a Holiday Dinner Toy Giveaway. Mr. Ruben Torres, founder of Love Thy Neighbor and his volunteers served everyone dinner and all children received a Toy from Mr. and Mrs. Claus. We had many special volunteers this year which included musical artist Sonny Sandoval, Radio DJ Star Beto Perez, MMA fighter Dominick Cruz, San Diego Police Department, Mrs. Sylvia Lugo Smythe's School Administrative Assistant and her daughter Yessenia Lugo, and last but not least Ms. Veronica Medina, Coordinator of Pupil Services.





SYSD FAMILIES RECEIVE HOLIDAY TURKEY DINNER BASKET FROM “LOS BOMBEROS DE SAN DIEGO”

On December 17th, "Los Bomberos de San Diego" invited 80 families from San Ysidro School District to receive a Holiday Turkey Dinner Basket. Families were invited to meet and greet our local firefighters from Station 29, students present were able to climb onto the fire truck to take pictures and they each received a firefighter hat. A big thank you to Mrs. Sylvia Lugo, Smythe's School Administrative Assistant for stepping in and assisting in this event for Ms. Veronica Medina, Coordinator of Pupil Services.



SAN YSIDRO SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT LITERARY ANTHOLOGY

San Ysidro School District students have begun to share their beautiful writings with us! The Student Literary Anthology is a book in the works that will feature our talented students' writing and art work. It is intended to highlight our students' creativity and love for storytelling. Another one of the goals of this project is to show students that their stories are valuable and important as individuals and in a society. A very special thank you to Pablo Sainz for leading this wonderful effort to reignite the publishing of student writing and art work in our district! The deadline for students to submit their work has been extended to January 31st.



Playing a Sport

By: Jonathan Beltran

Playing a sport; it can
Turn you into something
Great, it can make you feel
Relieved, Happy, Challenged.
It can make you daydream, about
The perfect all-star team.
it can make you cry tears of joy,
As you play hard and destroy.

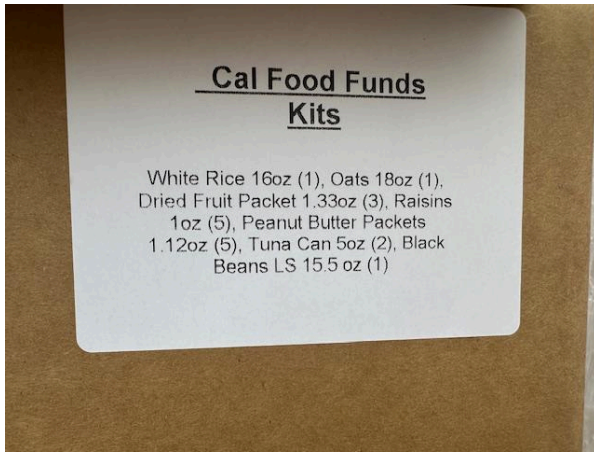
Playing a sport feels
Satisfying. It feels good to
run, play and be active. It can
Make you feel alive, playing a sport.

HEART AND HANDS FOOD DISTRIBUTION EVENT WITH SEWA INTERNATIONAL

On Wednesday January 3rd, hundreds of families received food assistance from the Hearts and Hands Organization along with Sewa International, which is a humanitarian, nonprofit service organization. It is part of a larger movement that started in India in 1989 and is active in twenty countries. Sewa serves humanity irrespective of race, color, religion, gender or nationality.

A special thank you to Governing Board Member Antonio Martinez for letting us know about this important community event. Also, thank you to our Governing Board President Irene Lopez for attending.





"FUTURE PATHWAYS: SUPERINTENDENTS UNPLUGGED PODCAST"

Our Superintendent Dr. Gina Potter made a triumphant return appearance representing our San Ysidro School District on the second edition of the "Future Pathways: Superintendents Unplugged" Podcast Series. The series is produced by the Classroom of the Future Foundation, Cloudcast Media and the Center for Educational Innovation. A special thanks to SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union for serving as the presenting sponsor of the series.

The focus of the podcast is to once again feature our county's superintendents as they talk about the myriad outstanding initiatives, programs, activities that impact great teaching, learning and innovation in their districts.

The interviews were co-hosted by Director of Business Development for the Center of Educational Innovation, CFF Advisory Board Member and longtime education leader and advocate, Thomas Davis and CEO of Cloudcast Media, Charles Parisi.

The goal is to interview 43 superintendents.



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT AT IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

San Ysidro School District is the proud recipient of the California Community Schools Grant. We are very grateful and excited to begin this journey as we create a vision for Community Schools in our district.

A community school is a “whole-child” school improvement strategy where the school district and schools work closely with teachers, students, and families. Community schools partner with community agencies and local governments to align community resources to improve student outcomes. These partnerships provide a major focus on academics, health, social services, youth and community development, and community engagement. Our Coordinator of Pupil Services, Veronica Medina welcomed our SDCOE support provider, Dr. Monica Loyce and our collaboration remains in the implementation phase.

UPCOMING DATES

EVENT	DATE/TIME	WHO
Lincoln Day - Legal Holiday	Friday, February 16th, 2024	All Schools Closed
Washington Day - Legal Holiday	Monday, February 19th, 2024	All Schools Closed
Spring Break	Monday, March 18th- Friday, March 29th, 2024.	All Schools Closed
Cesar Chavez - Observed and Local Holidays	Thursday, March 28th and Friday, March 29th	All Schools Closed

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT EMAIL REGARDING SCHOOL GUIDANCE TO MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (DATED 1-8-24)

ENGLISH

Dear Staff and Families,





Welcome back to school! We hope that you had a safe and restful holiday break. During this winter season, we would like to share our school guidance to mitigate the spread of communicable diseases such as COVID-19, influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and norovirus, and keep our students and families safe. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) maintains current communicable disease guidance for schools: [\(Link\)](#)

Please see the overview of COVID-19 guidelines below. For more information, contact Jose Iniguez, Assistant Superintendent, at jose.iniguez@sysdschool.org or (619)428-4476 x3065.

SPANISH

Queridas familias del distrito escolar de San Ysidro,
¡Bienvenidos de regreso a clase! Esperamos que hayan tenido unas vacaciones seguras y relajantes. Durante esta temporada invernal, quisiéramos compartirles nuestra guía escolar para el control de enfermedades transmisibles, tales como el COVID-19, la influenza, el virus sincicial respiratorio (RSV) y el norovirus, para de esta manera proteger a nuestros alumnos/as y familias.

Para más información, consulte el manual del Departamento de Salud Pública de California: [\(Link\)](#) o a Nuestro Asistente a la Superintendente, Jose Iniguez al correo electrónico jose.iniguez@sysdschool.org o bien, al teléfono (619) 428-4476 x3065.

	English	Espanol
 RETURN AND MEDICAL CLEARANCE	<p>Per the Decision Tree, students may return to school on or after day six (6) days of isolation without providing a negative COVID test result if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Their symptoms are resolving ✓ They have been free of fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. <p>For more details, see CDPH School Guidance.</p>	<p>Los estudiantes podrán regresar a clase para el sexto día o después del sexto día de su aislamiento, sin necesidad de mostrar un resultado negativo de una prueba de COVID solo si:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sus síntomas han aminorado • No ha presentado fiebre por un periodo de por lo menos 24 horas sin el uso de medicamentos para combatir la fiebre. <p>Para más información, consulte el manual: "CDPH School Guidance."</p>
 MASKING	<p>When returning to school, masks should be worn through day 10. However, students may remove their mask sooner than Day 10 if they have two sequential negative tests at least one day apart. For more details, see CDPH School Guidance.</p>	<p>Al regresar a clase, deberá utilizar el cubreboca hasta el décimo día. Cabe mencionar que los alumnos no necesitarán el cubreboca antes del décimo día, pero únicamente si obtienen al menos dos pruebas consecutivas con resultados negativos de COVID, con al menos un día entremedio.</p> <p>Para más información, consulte el manual: "CDPH School Guidance."</p>
 TESTING	<p>It is optional for school districts to use routine testing with students or for student activities. For more details, see CDPH School Guidance. Tests are available at the school health office upon request.</p>	<p>Es opcional para los distritos escolares realizar pruebas COVID rutinarias a su alumnado o para ciertas actividades estudiantiles.</p> <p>Para más información, consulte el manual: "CDPH School Guidance." Tenemos pruebas disponibles en nuestra oficina de salud ante su solicitud.</p>
 Flu/RSV	<p>Your child should stay home if she/he has a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher. For more details, see CDPH School Guidance.</p>	<p>Su hijo/a debe permanecer en casa si el/ella presenta una fiebre de 100.4 grados o mayor.</p> <p>Para más información, consulte el manual: "CDPH School Guidance."</p>

SDCOE UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDANCE

Please read the San Diego County Office of Education's updated COVID-19 Guidance. Please click on the link to access the information:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bmtDUs4bfwCL1QmDPs1B0tZ6fB2AZQhU/view?usp=sharing>

PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS AT SMYTHE AND LA MIRADA ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

We are scheduled to finish our playground construction projects at Smythe Elementary School and La Mirada Elementary School in March.





WELCOME BACK PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

A special thank you to our Educational Services Department for organizing and preparing professional learning sessions for all Transitional Kindergarten through eighth-grade teachers on Monday, January 8th.

Certificated Staff participated in various professional development sessions which focused mostly on developing writing in the content area as well as different writing genres. Writing is the most cognitively complex of the language domains, and it requires a great deal of scaffolding and guidance, particularly for English Language Learners.

MOTF and Information technology departments prepared all of the classrooms. Our district principals supported each professional development classroom. Thanks to all for a great team effort and a great day of learning.





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>