



PRESS RELEASE

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South County School District Boards Gather for a Special Collaborative Board Meeting

National City, CA - On Thursday, August 29, six South County school district boards and superintendents met at Rancho de la Nación Elementary to discuss how their districts could better serve the children and families in South County. The meeting was hosted by National School District and led by their Board President, Alma Sarmiento. School Districts represented included San Ysidro School District, Chula Vista Elementary School District, Sweetwater Union High School District, South Bay Union School District and Coronado Unified School District. Also in attendance was Dr. Kindred Murillo, Superintendent/ President of Southwestern Community College and its Governing Board.

Raquel Madden, Public Affairs and Community Engagement Representative for the California School Boards Association kicked off the meeting by discussing the many education-focused bills being considered by our California legislators and governor. She explained how the South County School Districts, together, could have a huge impact on seeking additional resources and funding for our schools and students. The Full and Fair Funding March 2020 ballot initiative was the primary focus.

Southwestern Community College (SWC) Board President, Roberto Alcantar and Nora Vargas, Vice President, gave an update on how SWC is expanding educational opportunities for its students. With the main campus and the extended campuses located throughout South County, SWC provides students the means to continue their education and reach their career goals.

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System Public Relations Manager, Mark Olson, gave a presentation on its new initiative, MTS Elevate SD 2020. He highlighted the upcoming changes to MTS services. A lively discussion ensued as to how MTS can better serve South County's students and families. Mr. Olson was open to the suggestions and collected names for a South County committee being organized to better understand the needs of the area.



The final item on the agenda was an Open Forum wherein Board Members from each district provided an update on the goals, focus areas and exciting activities for student learning and achievement happening in their respective districts.

The next South County Collaborative School Boards meeting will be hosted by San Ysidro School District. No date has been set for the meeting.

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This press release is being submitted on behalf of San Ysidro School District, Sweetwater Union High School District, National School District, Chula Vista Elementary School District, South Bay Union School District, Coronado School District and Southwest Community College.

Press release created by Francisco Mata, San Ysidro School District Coordinator, Public Relations & Community Services and Manny Rubio, Director of Grants & Communications for Sweetwater Union High School District.