



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 21, 2019

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San Ysidro School District Governance Board Advocates for Education at State Capitol

On February 11, 2019 San Ysidro School District Board Members and Superintendent traveled to Sacramento with a focused and specific agenda on education. The District's governance team included Board President, Irene Lopez, Board Vice President, Humberto Gurmilan, Board Member and Former Board President Rosaleah Pallasigue, Board Member Rudy Lopez and Superintendent, Dr. Gina Potter.

The goal of the legislative advocacy trip was for the school district to establish a strong partnership with Senate and Assembly representatives, and the Governor's office to ensure that the District has the resources needed to provide an outstanding education to our students. The District's governance team had the opportunity to share the positive steps the District has taken towards advancing the vision of providing a "Quality education and opportunity for all students to succeed." This was also an opportunity for our state's legislative representatives to meet the District's new Superintendent, Dr. Gina Potter, along with two new Board Members, Rudy Lopez and Board Vice President Humberto Gurmilan. Indeed, it is a new era in San Ysidro School District which holds a bright future for our students!

Additionally, the District's governance team advocated for legislative hot topics in education, which included:

- Pension Costs
- Full and Fair Education Funding
- Special Education
- School Facilities
- Early Childhood Education
- Social Emotional Health

With students' education in mind, the SYSD governance team collaborated with Capitol Advisors Governmental Relations Team members: Barrett Snider (Partner), Jack O'Connell (Former State Superintendent of Public Instruction & Legislative Advocate), Kevin Gordon (Partner), and Christina Marcellus (Legislative Advocate) who in turn coordinated meetings with the following Senate, Assembly and Governor's office representatives:



- Megan Baier, K-12 Policy Director, Senate Pro Tem, Toni Atkins
- Sophia Kwong Kim, Chief of Staff, Assembly Member, Patrick O'Donnell
- Jack O'Donnell – Former State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Assembly Member Lorena Gonzalez
- Jennifer Johnson, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor Gavin Newsom
- Senator Ben Hueso

The governance team also had the good fortune of brief hallway greetings with Assembly Members, Todd Gloria and Randy Voepel.

Our District sincerely appreciates the time, care and consideration that the state leaders and representatives above gave to us to hear our concerns about education, and to discuss how California can best serve our students and their educational needs.

