



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 25, 2019

CONTACT: Francisco Mata

PHONE: 619-428-4476, ext. 3033

### **San Ysidro School District Principal Recognized as “Elementary Principal of the Year”**

Manuel Bojorquez, Principal at Willow Elementary, is being recognized as Elementary Principal of the Year by the San Diego County School Boards Association (SDCSBA) and the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region 18. He will be presented with this prestigious award at the annual SDCSBA and ACSA “Honoring Our Own” event in May which honors School Board Members, Administrators, Staff, Parents, College Professors, and Community Members for their achievements and dedication to public education. Principal Bojorquez’ recognition names him Elementary Principal of the Year for both San Diego and Imperial Counties.

“As Superintendent of San Ysidro School District, it is a privilege to be able to work alongside Mr. Bojorquez given his incredible depth of instructional leadership experience” said Dr. Gina Potter. “He remains a humble individual with an unwavering commitment to multi-generational student success within his community.”

Willow Elementary School, where Mr. Bojorquez has been principal for 7 years, is located within a mile of the San Ysidro Port of Entry. Many of the 804 students who attend Willow are English language learners (77.3%) and socioeconomically disadvantaged (77.8%). Mr. Bojorquez and his staff have transformed the campus into a positive, goal-driven and nurturing educational environment. Within just three years at Willow Elementary, he quadrupled the rate of reclassifications of English Language Learner (ELA) students to Fluent English Proficient and California Assessment of Students Performance and Progress (CAASPP) scaled scores have increased by 45 points in a single year within the ELA student base.

Mr. Bojorquez immigrated from Mexico to the United States at the age of 10. He earned a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from U.C. San Diego with emphasize in Chicano Studies and Urban Studies & Planning. Mr. Bojorquez continued his education by earning a Master of Science Degree in Educational Administration. He has been an educational administrator for the past 16 years.



"I am honored and humbled to receive this award" said Mr. Bojorquez. "I accept and share this prestigious award with my dedicated and hard-working staff, administration and parent volunteers. It has been a complete Willow Roadrunners team effort."

Over his dedicated and distinguished career, Mr. Bojorquez has been honored with many awards including the Earl Warren College Leadership Award, Leadership in Biliteracy Award, Classroom of the Future Foundation Innovation in Education Award, California State Legislature Certificate of Recognition and California Association of Bilingual Education English Language Learner Significant Gain Award.

Our San Ysidro community is so very proud of Principal Bojorquez and we extend to him our sincere gratitude for the many students he has helped guide through an educational path of success.

##