

Press Release
February 22, 2008



San José Unified School District

"Inspiring and Preparing for Success"

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How Do You Spell Grateful?

San José, CA: On Monday, February 25th, the teaching force in San Jose Unified School District will look a little different! You'll find City Councilmembers Chirco, Liccardo, and Oliverio delivering dictionaries and teaching 3rd grade students to use the dictionary. Chief of Police, Rob Davis might have his 3rd graders looking up words on safety. SJUSD Board President Pam Foley with Trustees Garcia, Gonzalez, Lewis and Reynolds will now have a brief moment to experience their positions from the other side of the dais- the perspective of being a teacher!

The 95 volunteers from the non-profit, city government, and business communities will let their own personalities come in to play as they present 2900 dictionaries, provided by the California Dictionary Project, to 106 classrooms in 27 elementary schools' but everyone will ask the enthusiastic students to look up the word COLLEGE!

San José Unified's Assistant Superintendent Bill Erlendson, SJUSD Board Trustee Jorge Gonzalez, Adobe employees, and Barry Graynor and Elizabeth Rhein from the California Dictionary Project will distribute dictionaries and talk to students about the importance of reading, going to college and how to use their dictionary at Lowell Elementary School at 10:00 a.m. Lowell is located at 625 S. 7th Street, 95112.

The Dictionary Project supports the Vital Few Priorities of San José Unified-the areas we hold dear and know we must achieve to be successful in educating our students and thrive as a healthy organization. The California Dictionary Project supports 3 of those goals:

- Prepare all students to meet standards
- Establish a College Going Culture for all students
- Engage parents and community as an integral part of the education process.

The California Dictionary Project, www.californiadiictionaryproject.org, is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization, headquartered in San Francisco, Calif. Its mission is to donate and distribute dictionaries annually to third-graders in California public schools. Since its founding in 2002, California Dictionary Project has distributed more than 75,000 dictionaries to Bay Area students. The Dictionaries for this project have been funded by a grant from Cisco Systems Foundation.

WHAT: San José Dictionary Day is the distribution of 2,900 dictionaries to every third grader in San José Unified School District. The ceremonial event, which media are invited to attend, will be held at Lowell Elementary School.

WHO: California Dictionary Project and The San José Unified School District including over 95 volunteers – business and association listed below distributing at various schools throughout San Jose Unified School District.

WHEN: 10:00 a.m., Monday, February 25, 2008

WHERE: Lowell Elementary School 625 S. 7th Street/95112

San José Unified is very grateful to the support from our volunteers representing:

Adobe	National Hispanic University
Bill Gould Design	NBC 11
Cadence	Olinder Community Center
Cal Sports Center	San Jose City Council
Chevron	San Jose Convention & Visitors Bureau
Cisco	San Jose Mercury News
Community Leadership San Jose	San Jose Police Department
CommUniverCity	San Jose Sunrise Rotary
Deloitte Services LP	San Jose Teacher's Association
eBay	San Jose Unified Administrators
Financial Title	San Jose Unified Board of Education
Hoge, Fenton, Jones & Appel	Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Intel	The Evers Group
iPlanit Home Staging	The Housing Trust
Junior Achievement	The Mayor's Office, City of San Jose
KRON 4	The Role Model Program
KTVU 2	TransAccess
Lockheed Martin	Value Business Products
Manpower	