

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 21, 2018 CONTACT: William Diepenbrock PHONE: 909-206-5304

Baldwin Park Unified Elementary Students to Finish Last Leg of Rod Dixon Marathon Run

WHAT: More than 160 students in kindergarten through sixth grade at Baldwin Park Unified's Vineland and Tracy elementary schools will race to the finish line to complete the last mile of a 26.2-mile marathon that they have been running in weekly stages since October. The event will be attended by parents, Baldwin Park Unified board members and teachers.

WHEN: 3 to 6 p.m. Friday, March 23

WHERE: Baldwin Park High School, 3900 Puente Ave., Baldwin Park

DETAILS: Rod Dixon's Kids Marathon Run Club is an eight- to 10-week international program that teaches the benefits of regular exercise and nurtures a passion for running. Students learn about the importance of nutrition and complete in stages a marathon's 26.2 miles.

As part of an upcoming documentary on Dixon's life and campaign to inspire healthy living, a film crew interviewed Vineland students about their experiences in the program. His visit to Vineland inspired 44 students to join the school's marathon team, boosting the number to 89 runners. Tracy Elementary has more than 80 students on this year's team.

Dixon, winner of an Olympic bronze medal in the 1500 meters, is a two-time medalist in the World Cross Country Championship – the largest international cross country marathon in the world – and winner of the 1983 New York City Marathon.

Coverage and/or inclusion of this event in your calendar of events is greatly appreciated.

In a culture of high expectations and academic rigor and an environment of support, understanding, and emotional safety, all Baldwin Park Unified School District students will graduate with a valued and highly respected diploma, prepared with the relevant skills, knowledge, and personal attributes necessary for success in a university or other institution of higher education and/or any post-secondary options of their choice.