



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 30, 2017

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State Superintendent Tom Torlakson to Tour San Ysidro School

WHAT: State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson will visit the San Ysidro School District to discuss water quality issues facing California school districts and how the District successfully addressed the problem locally.

Torlakson, who will be joined by a representative of Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher's office, will tour La Mirada Elementary, where the District has replaced aging water fixtures to ensure high-quality, safe drinking water for students. Swift action by the SYSD garnered the attention of Assemblywoman Fletcher, who drafted Assembly Bill 746 which requires all California K-12 schools to test for lead contamination.

Board members and administrators also will share information about initiatives and programs that are improving student achievement at San Ysidro schools.

WHEN: Thursday, June 1, 3:30-5 p.m.

WHERE: **San Ysidro School District Office – 3:30-4:30 pm (Reception and Discussion)**
4350 Otay Mesa Road, San Ysidro, CA 92173

La Mirada Elementary School – 4:30-5 pm (School Tour)
222 Avenida De La Madrid, San Ysidro, CA 92173

DETAILS: Last year, San Ysidro School District discovered elevated levels of lead and bacteria in faucets at La Mirada Elementary. The District immediately shut off water to the school, began providing bottled water to students and staff and voluntarily developed a plan to test water at all District schools. Ultimately, San Ysidro replaced faucets and drinking fountains where test results detected water quality issues.

District officials will also share how San Ysidro School District is meeting the specific needs of students, including by implementing its full-service community schools program, which aims to bring social, mental health, health and academic support services on site at each school; embarking on its instructional design process, which seeks to ensure the District is delivering innovative, high-quality instruction, including



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hands-on STEM curriculum; and strengthening its budget. In 2016, the District earned its first positive budget certification in eight years.

CONTACT: For more information, contact SYSD Public Relations and Community Services Coordinator Francisco Mata at francisco.mata@systd.k12.ca.us, (619) 428-4476, ext. 3033, cell (619) 750-6720.

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