



News Release

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Baldwin Park Unified Students Receive School Supplies via Kaiser Permanente Partnership

Students at three schools select loaded backpacks the day before school begins for 2016-17

BALDWIN PARK – Excited Baldwin Park Unified elementary school students chose backpacks filled with supplies from an array of designs ranging from basic black to flying hamburgers, from Princess Elsa to Hello Kitty! during a start-of-the-year backpack distribution on Aug. 10.

Baldwin Park Unified teamed with Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center to hand out scores of backpacks to students who will attend Heath, Tracy and Vineland Elementary School.

In all, some 300 backpacks were donated – and dozens remain available for needy students as the school year begins Aug. 11.

“We are incredibly indebted to the generous medical personnel and staff of Kaiser Permanente for stepping up on behalf of our students,” Baldwin Park Unified Superintendent Froilan N. Mendoza said. “It’s also wonderful to see the excited faces of these children as they receive these much-needed supplies for the year.”

The giveaway is the seventh since the doctors, nurses and staff at the medical center began teaming with Baldwin Park Unified. About 90 percent of students at Baldwin Park Unified come from low-income households.

Each year, three new schools are chosen for the giveaway, to ensure students across the district benefit. The backpacks contain a host of grade-specific school supplies, including pens, pencils, paints, crayons, scissors rulers, dictionaries, staplers, index cards, binders and notebooks.

MORE

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.



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At Vineland Elementary School, students were greeted with applause, cheers and hugs as helpers from Kaiser Permanente announced their names and led them to tables overflowing with backpacks.

For many, part of the excitement was the chance to decide which backpack color combination or character designs to choose. Star Wars was popular among some, Disney princesses among others. One student even snagged a pack decked out in tie-dye colors and flying hamburgers.

At Tracy Elementary School, fifth-grader Abby Almandarez chose a light blue backpack with pink straps.

“It has two notebooks, pencils, erasers and scissors,” Abby said. “I like the colors.”

Abby was brought to the event by her brother, Michael, 19.

“It’s really great that they have an event like this for the kids,” Michael Almandarez said.

PHOTOS

BPUSD_BACKPACKS1: Students at Baldwin Park Unified’s Vineland Elementary School stand with their backpacks on Aug. 10. The packs, loaded with school supplies and including such designs as flying hamburgers, Star Wars and Disney princesses, are among 300 donated to students through a partnership between the District and Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center.

BPUSD_BACKPACKS2: Abby Almandarez, a fifth-grader at Tracy Elementary School, stands with Principal Erika Valenzuela to show off the backpack she chose on Aug. 10. The pack, loaded with school supplies, was among 300 provided free through a partnership between the District and Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center.

BPUSD_BACKPACKS3: A Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center volunteer helps a student select a backpack at Vineland Elementary School during a back-to-school event on Aug. 10. Some 300 packs loaded with school supplies and including such designs as flying hamburgers, Star Wars and Disney princesses were donated to students through a partnership between the District and Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center.

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