



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Whittier High School Alumnus Donates Additional \$100,000 to Enhance Student Learning

WHITTIER, CA – Following a donation of \$130,000 to fund new technology for Whittier High School's library, one of the school's most distinguished Cardinals has donated an additional \$100,000 to be used at the school's discretion.

Renowned attorney and author William C. Gordon's most recent gift comes less than three months after Whittier High celebrated the modernization of its 21st century library, named in honor of the Class of 1955 graduate and former student body president.

The school hopes to use the funds to purchase additional laptop carts for classrooms, as well as fund murals and banners that will celebrate and illustrate the school's core values and school spirit.

"Whittier High School has played such an important part of my life since I first set foot on campus more than six decades ago," Gordon said. "I value the education it once provided me, and I want to do everything I can to ensure that Whittier High continues to be an impactful learning environment for current and future leaders of this community."

Gordon said that it was during his years at Whittier High that he challenged himself to excel in both academics and extracurricular activities; he wants to instill that motivation into the students today.

"We are thrilled and extremely grateful that Mr. Gordon has kept Whittier High School so close to his heart, remembering the experiences he had at his alma mater and helping to enhance our students' experiences while here," Principal Lori Eshilian said. "We admire his remarkable generosity, kindness and commitment to educating our students and preparing them for successful careers."

Gordon's first donation helped the school buy a technology cart, tables and chairs, glass-enclosed display cases for books and to paint the interior and entrance. The funds also helped to enhance the Whittier High Alumni Hall of Fame with framed photos and display cases for historic artifacts. Gordon donated a trove of leather-bound literary classics and a collection of his own works.

The school celebrated in September with a ribbon-cutting.

"Willie is passionate about improving the learning experience for Whittier Union students and knows just how powerful technology and environment can be in improving a students' education," Whittier

Union Superintendent Sandra Thorstenson said. “His generous gifts generate tremendous opportunities for our students. He is a kind and special person who we cannot thank enough.”

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The Whittier Union High School District provides all students with an engaging, quality standards-based instructional program delivered by a well-trained staff resulting in improved student achievement.

Whittier Union High School District works to achieve and maintain excellence in providing a comprehensive education for all students.

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