



Carlsbad Unified School District

6225 El Camino Real • Carlsbad, CA 92009
(760) 331-5000 • (760) 431-6707

...a world class district

January 13, 2012; For Immediate Release
Contact: John A. Roach, Ed.D., District Superintendent
(760) 331-5001; jroach@carlsbadusd.net

CARLSBAD COMMUNITY CELEBRATES DEBUT OF SPARKLING NEW CARLSBAD HIGH CAMPUS AT JANUARY 12, 2012 RIBBON CUTTING

Carlsbad, CA ... From the afternoon sunshine reflecting off the five new classroom complexes to the sunny smiles on scores of attendees' faces, the January 12, 2012 ribbon-cutting ceremony at Carlsbad High School (CHS) was a sparkling affair. Themed "From Meetings to Mortar," the event unveiled the new campus to the community who made the renovation possible by overwhelmingly approving the \$198 million Proposition P bond measure in 2006. Proposition P has funded the CHS project, modernization of several elementary and middle schools, current construction of new Sage Creek High School and District-wide upgrades.

Speaking to a crowd of people who comprised a microcosm of Carlsbad – including past and present students, staff and families, City officials, Proposition P Oversight Committee (PPOC) members, representatives from the architects and builders as well as Gafcon construction management firm, community members and elementary and middle school kids eager to discover what opportunities await them – CHS Principal Matt Steitz, Ed.D., kicked off the event by proclaiming, "It's a great day to be a Lancer!"

Amid a sea of purple, Carlsbad Unified School District (CUSD) speakers briefly recounted the story that began in 2004 when the CUSD Board of Trustees initiated the planning process that resulted in this multifaceted undertaking, which vividly transformed a venerable but old and somewhat tattered campus into a 21st-century marvel designed to drive student achievement.

more ...

Carlsbad High Campus Renovation Will Drive Student Achievement

CHS teachers at the event said that after just a few days of school in the new environment, the positive difference in students was apparent. Photography teacher Cathryn Burroughs related, “My students and I love everything in our classroom, from the huge new smartboards and computers to the high ceilings and large windows. The sense of pride among the students is amazing and will pay off in academics, I know.”

Fashion teacher Doreen Sladavic concurred, declaring the transformation “nothing less than life-changing. We went from feeling cramped to enjoying this spacious, light-filled environment. The students’ behavior and enthusiasm levels are much improved. They have a great sense of pride in their school.”

That “sense of pride” was echoed in comments by many who spoke from the podium and in the crowd.

- Board President Kelli Moors thanked “the voters who believed in us.”
- Carlsbad Mayor Matt Hall praised the District’s high level of education that he said “comes up in almost every conversation I have with constituents.”
- PPOC Chair Bill Deering, whose committee has meticulously followed the progress of this and other Prop P projects to ensure that taxpayers’ money is being wisely spent, said, “This project has succeeded beyond our highest expectations.”
- Nutrition Services’ Elia Gomez and Wendy Villanueva, who served the crowd deliciously nutritious samples of food the students enjoy, smiled as they reported, “We love our new kitchen. It’s beautiful to work here.”
- CHS students Megan and Maggie joked, “With all the windows and sunlight and the new quad, we’re not in prison anymore!”
- Carlsbad Police Chief Gary Morrison said, “The entire campus looks awesome. I’m very proud of what the District and community accomplished together.”

CUSD Superintendent John A. Roach, Ed.D., captured the essence of a day that overflowed with inimitable Carlsbad spirit when he spoke to the assemblage, saying, “I am proud to share this day with so many members of the community, including a guy named Al who told me that he was a Carlsbad taxpayer and came to see what we did with his money.”

Dr. Roach continued, “It took eight years and \$87 million, but now I can say, ‘Mission Accomplished.’ I hope Al and everyone here agree that the community has gotten its money’s worth.”