



COTATI-ROHNERT PARK
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUPERINTENDENT

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COTATI-ROHNERT PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE LEADERS RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS

SACRAMENTO – Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified School District governance leaders in Sonoma County were recognized for their outstanding support for middle grades education at a celebratory luncheon sponsored by the California Middle Grades Alliance and hosted by the California League of Middle Schools. Framed recognition certificates were presented on behalf of Jack O’Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, to Superintendent Barbara Vrankovich and Board President Leffler Brown on behalf of the Board Trustees of the Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified School District for sustaining a middle grades vision for focused learning and continuous improvement.

The celebratory luncheon was held the day before the annual conference of the California League of Middle Schools at the Sacramento Convention Center. Attendees included district superintendents, school board members, site administrators, teachers, California legislators, and key representatives from the California Middle Grades Alliance.

Jim Rogers, a member of the California Teacher Association’s board of directors, served as the master of ceremonies. Anthony Monreal, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction of the California Department of Education, delivered the keynote address. Bob Lee, the president of the Association of California School Administrators; Dan Vaughn, a board member of the California Teachers Association; Tom Torlakson, a

member of the California State Senate; Kathy Kinley, the past president of the California School Boards Association, made additional remarks.

Each year, the California Middle Grades Alliance recognizes school boards and superintendents for their outstanding leadership and commitment to the state's middle grades. The honored district governance leadership team joined 19 others recognized for promoting student achievement in the middle grades. Each team was nominated by a middle grades principal and endorsed by a second administrator within the district. Six additional district governance teams were honored for their outstanding support of California's newly designated and re-designated 2008 Schools to Watch – Taking Center Stage model middle schools.

The California Middle Grades Alliance is comprised of organizations reflective of a broad spectrum of support to California's middle-level educators. All of the honorees participate in one or more of the following allied organizations:

- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Association of California School Administrators (ASCA), Middle Grades Council
- California Department of Education (CDE)
- California League of Middle Schools (CLMS)
- California Middle Grades Partnership Network (CMGPN)
- California School Boards Association (CSBA)
- California Schools to Watch – Taking Center Stage (STW-TCS) Program
- California State Parent Teacher Association (CAPTA)
- California Teachers Association (CTA)
- Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)
- Secondary Subcommittee of the Curriculum and Instructional Steering Committee (CISC) of the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA)
- United Way of Greater Los Angeles

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