



## ***SCHOOL'S OUT***

School may be out in a few short weeks, but our work doesn't stop when the last bell rings! The Natomas Schools Foundation looks forward to a busy summer season organizing events, enrichment programs and fundraisers. We are very excited about the programs we are developing for the 2008-2009 school year. These programs include "Donate 2 Educate" that allows district teachers to request donations for specific classroom projects; "Bring Music Back" that will kick off with a live symphony performance to help introduce music back to our elementary school students; "Hoop-It-Up For Education", a fun-filled basketball fundraiser; a district-wide Science Fair; and, of course, the HOSTS Learning Program.

## ***EVERY 15 MINUTES***

In addition, at the May 14<sup>th</sup> Natomas Unified School District board meeting, we announced that the Natomas Schools Foundation would be sponsoring the "Every 15 Minutes" program at our local high schools. This emotionally charged program is an event designed to dramatically instill teenagers with the potentially dangerous consequences of drinking, driving and alcohol-related accidents. In the past, Inderkum and Natomas High Schools have had to heavily fundraise to pay the \$20,000 program fee, so this takes a big burden off the high schools and provides an even BIGGER benefit to our students!

## ***HOSTS LEARNING PROGRAM***

The HOSTS Learning Program continues to grow and touch the lives of students and community members alike. Their one-on-one support of the students makes this program the success that it has become. As they wrap up the school year, several of our HOSTS Coordinators wanted to recognize the mentors who are the cornerstone of this program.

### **TWO RIVERS ELEMENTARY**

#### **HOSTS Coordinator - Ann Bruce**

Two Rivers is proud to recognize two senior citizens who have been faithful HOSTS mentors this year. Mr. Paul Clark is a retired engineer who has lived in the Middle East and Europe. He loves giving back to the community and says, "Anytime you help kids learn, it's rewarding." Clark mentors two mornings a week and seems to enjoy being around the third and fourth grade students he helps.

Ms. Jean Findlay is a retired electrologist who enjoys tennis, music and mentoring at Two Rivers. In her second year of mentoring, Jean came to Two Rivers because of the school's response to her grandson. She wanted to give back to the school community and she serves faithfully every week.

### **NATOMAS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

#### **HOSTS Coordinator – Susan Pokorny**

There are more than 90 Natomas Middle School students who are served by the HOSTS program and these kids *KNOW* their mentors are dedicated, caring people. They work with over 40 adult and student mentors each week to sharpen their reading and math skills, but along the way, they are also influenced by the strong character of these volunteers.

Several adult mentors have volunteered for two years in the Natomas Middle School HOSTS program. Their efforts were recently acknowledged when Natomas Middle School received the HOSTS Mentoring and Intervention Best Practices Exemplary Program Award for 2006-2007.

These outstanding role models include pastors, retired teachers, NMS parents, software developers, small business owners, city employees, counselors and principals, a foster grandparent, a high school senior, and many eighth grade graduates of the HOSTS program. Together they rejoice in the amazing results of the HOSTS program—improved reading and math skills, higher STAR scores, improved attendance, and better grades. More than anything, however, increased self-esteem results when caring mentors give their time to improve the lives of HOSTS students.

### **DISCOVERY HIGH SCHOOL**

#### ***HOSTS Coordinator – Marco Farias***

Discovery High School HOSTS mentor, Darryl McGuire is a marketing and advertising executive and a BoardMember of the Sacramento Opera. He has this to say about the program:

“Joining the HOSTS Program at Discovery High School was the perfect solution I had been seeking in order to help young folks succeed in life. Not only have I been able to bond with a couple of fine young people that I ordinarily would not have met, but I have had the great satisfaction of their sharing their own hopes and dreams for the future with me. I enthusiastically recommend the program. I plan to continue to participate for years to come.”

### ***YOU CAN HELP***

There are so many opportunities to help and support our growing Natomas students! For more information about our Foundation and the work that we do, please visit our website!



## **Natomas Schools Foundation**

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***[www.natomasfoundation.org](http://www.natomasfoundation.org)***