



HOSTS MENTOR BARBECUE A HUGE SUCCESS!

The Natomas Unified School District joined with the Natomas Schools Foundation and said "THANKS!" to its HOSTS mentors in a big way! On May 29th, we held our second annual Mentor Appreciation BBQ. The good food, great folks, nice weather and an infectious sense of camaraderie made this an event to remember. With mouths watering at the smell of grilled chicken wafting through the air, thanks to District Superintendent Dr. Steve Farrar and Assistant Superintendent

John Christ, the stories started to circulate.

Through the HOSTS Program, lives are changed forever for both students and mentors. We are doing more than just mentoring kids...we are building a sense of caring and sharing while building a more cohesive school district and a more cohesive community.

In attendance were school district personnel, HOSTS Coordinators, the Natomas Schools Foundation, Mayor Heather Fargo, local business supporters, teachers, students, mentors and their families. Mentors and Coordinators were honored with personal thanks, gifts and special certificates. What a great opportunity for all to celebrate the results of this program!

DISTRICT-WIDE SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR

The Sacramento River Cats has given our foundation a grant to fund this event and to purchase new science equipment for our students to explore with. This Science and Engineering Fair is being held to foster a spirit of innovation among students and educators and will hope to include a **Science Olympiad** program. We will be including grades 6-12, which includes all middle schools, high schools and our two secondary Charter schools. Students draw from established information to discover something exciting and new, and to identify and choose the tools that they need to conduct and finish their project. The science fair process yields mature, self-confident, skilled, and competitive young leaders who have career goals and the preparation, discipline, and drive to attain them. Every school can motivate students to apply creativity and critical thought to the solution of scientific, engineering and mathematical problems. They can encourage the exchange of knowledge, ideas, and career information and foster school community cooperation, and have fun doing it.

BRINGING MUSIC BACK

This is a new program where the foundation is providing standards-based, flute-like recorders to all 3rd grade students in every elementary school in our district. This will help students learn how to read music and inspire them to try a musical instrument in 4th and 5th grades, which the foundation hopes to provide. We also want to help finance our current music programs, with instrument repairs, new instruments, and music books. We are kicking off this program on September 28th, 2008, with a **FREE** full symphony concert, from the **Camellia Symphony Orchestra**, at Natomas High School. We will be encouraging all parents from our schools to attend this very special concert, and Musical Petting Zoo where students will get a hands-on introduction to a variety of musical instruments.

DONATE TO EDUCATE

Our new donation program is an easy, simple, and direct way to help our schools, teachers, and students. You donate directly to our CLASSROOMS, through our web site. This is so easy, because all you do is visit web site at

www.natomasfoundation.org and click on **DONATE TO EDUCATE**. Take a few minutes to read and review the letters from our schools. These are written requests

directly from our classrooms, schools, clubs, and school organizations. Small or large, we post them on our web site for the community to be able reach out and give a helping hand to these requests, needs, and wish list items. There will be a variety of needs and you pick those that appeal to you. These items will help enrich our students' classrooms. We all know with budget cuts and the lack of funds our schools are losing their resources. This was one of our ways to help connect YOU to our schools, and help our students become the best they can be in our community. ***This is EASY, SIMPLE and DIRECT!***



YOU CAN HELP

There are so many opportunities to help and support our growing Natomas students! We invite you to join us in transforming the community of Natomas into a premiere locale for educational excellence and innovation. For more information about our Foundation and the work that we do, please visit our website!



Natomas Schools Foundation

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