



## **Happy Holidays!**

We would like to wish everyone in the Natomas Community the happiest of holiday seasons. In particular, we thank our many supporters such as OPUS, The River Cats and Pardee Homes. We are also most thankful for the support of the Natomas School District. We truly thank the district for their collaboration to enable us to perform community outreach, opportunities for educational innovation and continued enrichment of Natomas students.

## **District-Wide Parent Symposium**

The Natomas Schools Foundation co-sponsored the first annual District-Wide Parent Symposium with the Natomas School District. This event evolved through the ongoing PTA Forums that are held with the involvement of all PTA and PTO organizations from all schools, both district and charter, within Natomas. The purpose of this event was to unite parents as they seek more knowledge about fostering educational success for their children from Cradle to Career. Over 500 parents came to take advantage of these classes and resources to make them better equipped to guide their children along their path.

As parents arrived, there were 30 different tables in the Inderkum High School Atrium hosted by local PTAs and PTOs, Girl and Boy Scouts, local dentists and doctors, with free food provided by local businesses like Straw Hat Pizza and Dinners My Way. There was an hour before the classes began so parents could peruse the tables, enjoy a bite and meet each other.

After an hour, everyone was called into the gym where Ruthie Bolton, an Olympic Gold Medalist and former Sacramento Monarch gave a motivational speech. Then everyone broke out into the classes of their choice. There were twenty different classes available for parents with subjects ranging from Working With Preschoolers to Dealing With Autism to How To Talk To Your Child's Teachers. These classes were led by teachers, counselors, doctors and other experts in their field. There were three 20 minute sessions, so each parent was given the opportunity to attend three different classes.

Due to the success of this event, we are already planning for next year. The Symposium will be held in early October 2009 and, by popular demand, we are changing the format to allow parents to attend even MORE classes that evening.

## **You Can Help**

If your business is interested in supporting the students of Natomas through a donation, please contact Lisa Rojas at [lrojas@natomasfoundation.org](mailto:lrojas@natomasfoundation.org).

These are tough times for everyone, but we want our children to continue to benefit from the work that we do. So please remember that donations of time and talent are welcomed as well! 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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