

# THE DISTRICT BRIDGE

Monthly Rialto Unified School District Communications Journal

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## 5TH ANNUAL PARENT SUMMIT, A SUCCESS!



At the delight of the RUSD Board of Education, during the Parent Summit rally, Rialto Mayor Pro-Tem **Edward Palmer** (standing) recognizes his dual-roles, as a city leader and RUSD active father. "This event is truly wonderful for us all," smiled the city leader.

When the Rialto Unified School first introduced the **Parent Summit** in 2009 to a community of parents/guardians, students, staff and local and regional community leaders, the mission was simple: *parents should take an active role in their child's education.*

At the 5th Annual Parent Summit, more than 2,500 parents joined forces with the Rialto education team to continue to stay active and aware. The Summit was held at Carter High School from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The much anticipated 9:00 a.m. rally at the CHS gymnasium, introducing all 29 RUSD schools, kicked-off an exciting day filled with informational school booths, **College Fair**, **KID ZONE**, and educational workshop taught by trained, professional experts in education.

Parents were eager to gain knowledge at a highlighted **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)** session which was taught by **Dolores Jones**, a national educator working in school reform.

The Parent Summit was founded by the vision of **Curtis T. Winton**, an active Rialto parent, who passed on May 2013.

Shortly after his death, the **RUSD Board of Education** named the Curtis T. Winton Parent Institute after him.

The Curtis T. Winton Parent Institute is located at the Cesar Chavez/Dolores Huerta Center for Education, 324 North Palm Avenue in Rialto.

"Curtis would have been so happy to see thousands of parents and children here," smiled **Corrine Curtis**, his widow.



Pictured on top right: **Rhonda McIver-Jackson** and **Monica Del Rio** were caught by surprise at the rally. The parent leaders have been coordinators of the Summit for five years.

Pictured above: **The Parent University graduates** and active parent volunteers worked hard but took a quick break for a picture.

## RUSD BOARD MEETINGS NOW ONLINE!

Rialto Unified School District Board of Education meetings can now be viewed on **ONLINE**.

Some RUSD parents are already excited about the news, which was announced by RUSD Board Vice President, **Edgar Montes** at the Oct. 9, 2013 school board meeting.

"It is a great idea for our board meetings to be shown online," said **Eisenhower High School parent, Sally Garcia**. "With the demands of work and family it is

sometimes difficult for parents to go to all the board meetings. Now, with them being online, parents can view the progress of our district from the comforts of their home."

RUSD Board meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the **Dr. John R Kazalunas Education Center**, located at 182 East Walnut Avenue in Rialto. Board meetings are televised live on

*Rialto Network Channel 3.*

"The RUSD Board of Education, in its quest to move forward with technology, has recognized the importance of providing information to our community of parents/guardians, students and those interested in Rialto education," said RUSD Board President **Joe Ayala**. "All board members, at one time or another, really wanted to extend this online service for our community, be-

cause it is deserved."

To view board meetings, please log onto: [www.rialto.k12.ca.us](http://www.rialto.k12.ca.us) click **VIEW BOARD MEETINGS** and select the specific date of the meeting (*the District has archived 2013 and will expand up to 2011 in the near future*).

For more information please call RUSD Communications Services and/or Information Technology at (909) 820-7700, ext. 2123, or 2601.



# DOLLAHAN EL. PROMOTING LITERACY



Dollahan Elementary School Teacher, Mrs. Keisha Harris selects student volunteers during the school's *Building Smart Readers* Program.

*Building Smart Readers* was the vision of Dollahan first grade teacher, Keisha Harris, who brought the event to life. "I wanted to provide an exciting environment that would allow children to begin to explore the amazing adventures inside of a book," remarked Harris. The

bracing the western, rustic theme of the day. Language and literacy skills were promoted through storytelling, songs and chants that centered around the farm theme, presented in the book. All activities were aligned with Common Core

"This event was... designed to help kids embrace and develop an early love for reading so that it stays with them at a young age."

*Dollahan Principal, Daniel Husbands*

Standards. "This event was important because

What's black and white and "read" all over?

**The Dollahan Dalmatians!** Rialto Unified School District's kindergarten and first grade students at Dollahan Elementary School practiced shouting their best "yee-haws," in honor of *Dollahan's Build-*

*ing Smart Readers* event in conjunction with Jumpstart's nationwide literacy campaign, *Read for the Record*. Approximately 231 students participated, as parent volunteers read books to the excited students who were eager to read and observe.

The event was co-sponsored by **First Five**, that donated seven copies of the book *Otis* by Loren Long, (the 'official' book read throughout the nation on that day) to Dollahan teachers. The book, *Otis* is about farm life, so many students donned cowboy hats, boots and big belts em-

it was designed to help kids embrace and develop an early love for reading so that it stays with them at a young age," replied Dollahan Elementary School Principal, Daniel Husbands. "This literacy program also helps students understand the importance of literature and gain a love for reading."

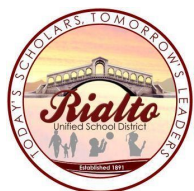
## New RUSD leaders!



**NEW HIRES...** Rialto Unified School District welcomes Derek Harris, director of Risk Management, Dr. Patricia Krizek, Director of Child Development and Daniel Distrola, Purchasing Manager. These veteran school employees are excited to work with the RUSD team, under the leadership of the Board of Education.



**Kolb Middle School Builders Club** student above, left to right: Historian, Emilee Wilson, President, Jenna McLaughlin, Secretary, Katelyn Robertson, Treasurer Joel Mariscal and members, Zamir Subero, Kylee Hill and Destiney Lomax. The Builders Club is sponsored by Rialto Kiwanis Club and has been in existence for five years. KMS English Teacher, Brandi Brunson, is the Builders Club advisor. The club, consisting of student-leaders, has donated countless hours in helping the community. KMS Principal Carolyn Eide said, "Kolb Middle School is a wonderful, caring school community of students, parents/guardians and staff. We are fortunate to have such a warm and caring school community. Mrs. Brunson's leadership is instrumental in the success of the Builders Club."



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The Rialto Bridge is published through the Office of Communications.

Rialto Unified School District Board of Education: President, Joe Ayala, Vice President, Edgar Montes, Clerk, Joseph W. Martinez and Members, Joanne T. Gilbert and Nancy G. O'Kelley. RUSD Student Member, Micah St. Andrew, RUSD Superintendent, Dr. Harold L. Cebrun