

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 24, 2016

SUBJECT: SAN DIEGUITO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Announces the 2016 Classified Employee of the Year & 2016 Teacher of the Year

ENCINITAS - The San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHSD) has named Donna Hughes as its 2016 Classified Employee of the Year.

Ms. Hughes is a School Plant Supervisor at Canyon Crest Academy (CCA). As such, she organizes, supervises, trains, and participates in the custodial activities of the school. She has been an employee of the district since 1992.



She was surprised at work by district employees and coworkers on March 9, 2016 when she learned of the honor at a school-wide staff meeting. Upon hearing the announcement, she received a standing ovation from the packed audience and was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a variety of campus "swag".

Ms. Hughes is a standout employee for a number of reasons. "All of her actions reflect her commitment to support a learning environment that is safe and clean, but also one that is conducive to interests and passions of our students," professes Principal Karl Mueller.

When discussing the role Ms. Hughes has taken in serving as an additional caretaker and guardian for the students of CCA, it was noted, "Compassion and empathy is inherent to Donna, and our school community is fortunate to have adults like Ms. Hughes who advocate for the well-being and safety of each child in our care."

The San Dieguito Union High School District has named Cheryl Yoshida as its 2016 Teacher of the Year.



Since 2013, Ms. Yoshida has been teaching at Earl Warren Middle School. Currently, Ms. Yoshida teaches 7th and 8th grade English, Drama, and Study Skills classes. Ms. Yoshida also serves as the Intervention Coordinator for Earl Warren Middle School, which she finds very rewarding. Previously, Ms. Yoshida was a teacher at Earl Warren Middle School from 1995-2005, and Canyon Crest Academy from 2006-2008.

Ms. Yoshida is inspired daily by her students. She is a beloved teacher whose gratitude for the opportunity to work with students manifests itself in her daily interaction

with students and coworkers. Ms. Yoshida's students describe her as a "patient, understanding, energetic, approachable, and last but not least, fun" teacher. She is passionate and enjoys connecting with her students both personally and academically, witnessing the positive results of these connections. Ms. Yoshida's colleagues state she is an extremely dedicated, inspirational, and compassionate educator.

As the district winners, Hughes and Yoshida will now advance to the San Diego County Employees of the Year Program administered by the San Diego County Office of Education and compete with other school district winners for the title of San Diego County Classified Employee of the Year and San Diego County Teacher of the Year.

Congratulations Ms. Donna Hughes and Ms. Cheryl Yoshida and thank you for your dedicated service to our students!

The San Dieguito Union High School District serves 7th through 12th grade students in the communities of Encinitas, Solana Beach, Del Mar, Cardiff, Rancho Santa Fe and surrounding areas. Covering 85 square miles, the district includes four high schools, five middle schools, a continuation high school, and adult education. More information can be found on the website at www.sduhsd.net.