

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE:** March 23, 2018

**SUBJECT:** SAN DIEGUITO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Announces the  
2018 Teacher of the Year & Classified Employee of the Year

**ENCINITAS – The San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHSD) has named George Stimson as its 2018 Teacher of the Year.**



Mr. George Stimson began teaching in 1983 at San Dieguito High School and was a member of the planning team that helped transform San Dieguito High School into San Dieguito H.S. Academy (SDA) in 1996. Mr. Stimson teaches Physics and AP Physics and previously taught Social Science classes such as AP European History. He is also one of the Robotics Team Paradox 2102 advisors and mentors. Ryan Cardenas, SDA teacher and Class of 2010 Alumni, says: "He's the reason I am a physicist. With undying enthusiasm and unparalleled love for his students, George has always been at the heart of what makes this place 'so SDA.'

So many lives have been changed for the better because of him and his dedication to this school. What a legacy!"

Mr. Stimson stands out with his trademark beret and bright smile, dressed in his red and gold robotics team colors. Senior Wayde Gilliam says, "I've never met someone more excited and passionate to see his students push themselves beyond what they thought they were capable of achieving, whether it's in AP Physics or in the final matches at the San Diego Robotics Competition, and to reach the impossible. I'm very fortunate to have worked alongside Mr. George Stimson." Sophomore Katharina Knorek says, "Mr. Stimson is an extremely dedicated mentor on Robotics who has helped the program grow into an amazing and fun experience." Mr. Stimson is grateful to have had the opportunity to be a small part of the tradition, experience and story that is San Dieguito. He has been called genuine, passionate, and dedicated. It is not an exaggeration to say that Mr. Stimson is the heart of San Dieguito High School Academy!

Mr. Stimson says, "Becoming a teacher was not an accident." His father was an engineer, a movie script writer, and a textbook writer. "I grew up in a household that was steeped in the oral tradition. It was a tradition of stories and storytelling. Education was embedded in the stories we heard and the pictures these stories painted." Mr. Stimson states, "Experience has

shown that students will willingly work above and beyond expectations when they believe that the teacher not only cares for them, but is also willing to show up for them.”

Principal Adam Camacho says, “Mr. Stimson is an amazing educator and represents to our learning community what SDA truly means. His love, dedication, and positive influence to SDA and its students over the years will be the legacy he will proudly leave behind.”

As the district winner, Stimson will now advance to the San Diego County Employee 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 Teacher of the Year.

**The San Dieguito Union High School District has named Roberta Blank as its 2018 Classified Employee of the Year.**



Ms. Roberta Blank, Administrative Assistant at Carmel Valley Middle School (CVMS), has been with the district since 2002. She is a true team player whose commitment and hard work has contributed to the success of the district. “Her dedication to being the absolute best she can be at her job is simply amazing and unparalleled. She works her heart out every day to make CVMS the absolute best it can be,” proclaims Cara Dolnik, principal of CVMS. Additionally, Ms. Blank is recognized for her positivity and energy. “She always has a smile on her face...her presence has enriched the entire school community in many positive ways,” states

Melanie Webb, a teacher at the site. Her supportive nature is regularly displayed whether it is through helping and encouraging other staff members or by attending student events on her own time.”

As Administrative Assistant, Ms. Blank maintains the efficiency of the day to day operations of the site by performing tasks such as: coordinating events on campus, communicating with parents, preparing reports, ordering supplies and monitoring the budget.

As the district recipient of this honor, Ms. Blank will advance to the County Classified Employee of the Year Program administered by the San Diego County Office of Education.

Congratulations Mr. George Stimson and Ms. Roberta Blank and thank you for your dedicated service to our students!

*The San Dieguito Union High School District serves 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 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, and a continuation high school. Website: [www.sduhsd.net](http://www.sduhsd.net).*