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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

El Modena High School Pilots Lanyard Program to Increase Safety

ORANGE, Calif., September 23, 2010—In an effort to increase campus safety, El Modena High School has instituted a pilot program this year to easily identify students and keep unauthorized people off of its campus. Students and staff members are required to wear lanyards with photo identification during school hours and at school dances.

“It’s important for the safety of our students to know who belongs on this campus,” said John Briquelet, El Modena Principal. He added, “Our students have bought into this program and that safety is important. It is also part of our district’s Strategic Plan under Safe, welcoming schools.”

The idea, which stemmed from a discussion of El Modena high School administration, was rolled out this year. Mr. Briquelet and his staff perform random “lanyard checks” and have found that most classes have 95% to 100% student participation. Rewards such as pizza have been given to classes with 100% of its students wearing ID lanyards.

Rebecca Martinez, El Modena Assistant Principal, stated, “The lanyards also provide a safety measure in the event of an emergency such as an earthquake. We have the ability to quickly identify which students belong here at El Modena.”

Mr. Briquelet has also seen added benefits from the program. “I believe it has a positive impact on the number of student truancies and tardiness along with a decrease in discipline issues. I also see students with an increased sense of school pride.”

Lanyards were provided free of charge to students and were donated by the local armed forces recruiting offices throughout the City of Orange. The United States Air Force alone donated over 1,100 lanyards to El Modena High School Students.

The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA

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