



PRESS RELEASE – ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

For immediate release

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TWO OUSD TEACHERS HONORED AT CELEBRATING SUCCESS FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS AWARDS

ORANGE, CA - May 15, 2014 – Teachers Michael Park and Amber Miller represented Orange Unified School District at the Orange County Department of Education's 2nd Annual *Celebrating Success for English Learners* awards celebration on May 1, 2014.

Park and Miller each received a Certificate of Award for significant contributions in promoting success for English Language Learners.

Michael Park, teacher and Academic Language Mentor at Orange High School, was chosen to represent Orange Unified's secondary schools. Park created the English Learners (EL) Mentor Club, where reclassified fluent English proficient students mentor a younger English Learner student. She also runs monthly EL Meetings with parents to give them tools to support their child's academic success, and meets with students one to two times per year to review their academic progress. Additionally, Park works with her fellow teachers to ensure they have the appropriate materials and support for their instructional programs.

Amber Miller, resource teacher at La Veta Elementary School, was chosen to represent Orange Unified's elementary schools. Miller works with English learners who are struggling academically and reaches out to parents through the school's English Learner Advisory Committee. She has encouraged La Veta's instructional team to focus on the academic, language, and cultural needs of EL students, which has been the driving force toward creating a school-wide environment that supports effective teaching and successful English Learner student outcomes.

Each district in Orange County had the opportunity to nominate two exceptional individuals who meet the criteria of excellence in promoting success for English Language Learners to be honored at Celebrating Success for English Learners.

The theme of this year's event was Pathways to the Future: Focus on 21st Century Skills.

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The Orange Unified School District educates approximately 30,000 students in the Cities of Orange, Villa Park, Anaheim, Garden Grove, Santa Ana and county areas. The school district, founded in 1953, encompasses 108 square miles. The District office is located at 1401 N. Handy Street, Orange, California.