

COMPACT for SUCCESS



SWEETWATER
UNION, HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter



A partnership between Sweetwater District and San Diego State University providing a guarantee of admission upon completion of the following benchmarks:

- *Maintain Residency in SUHSD Grades 9-12*
- *Achieve a 3.0 CSU GPA or Greater - Specifically During High school*
- *Complete College Entrance Requirements (a-g courses)*
- *Take SAT Reasoning or ACT College Admission Exam*
- *Satisfy CSU Placement Exams:*
ELM - Entry Level Math
EPT - English Placement Test

Dear Parents and Students,

It is our mission to prepare all students for college and the world of work. The younger the students are when we expect this of them the better. Through our partnership with San Diego State University, we have established many activities which inform, motivate and prepare students for college admission and life as adults. In this newsletter we hope you find useful information about the academic resources and related support available at your child's school. You will be the best "coach" your child can have as you become familiar with all the requirements of the middle school.

The partnership enables students to gain admission to San Diego State University upon completion of all benchmarks. We encourage parents and students to participate in **Compact** activities to carefully monitor a student's progress along the way. Strive to earn A's and B's in all academic subjects!

Middle school is an important stage of a student's academic development. It sets the foundation for success in high school. This is the time to foster academic habits such as organizational skills, time management, study skills, when to seek tutorial support and test taking skills. Focus on building your abilities, especially in math and English.

Mayra Gutierrez, SUHSD Director

Lou Murillo, SDSU Director



7th Grade Campus Visit Sat., October 23, 2010



Mark your calendar! This is the first Compact event for parents and students of the Class of 2016. It's an introduction to the program with informational workshops, motivational speakers, tour of SDSU and opportunities to speak with SDSU personnel about programs and majors. It's an event you do not want to miss. Permission slips are given to students early in the year--participation is limited to the first 150 students. Make sure your permission slip is turned in early to be included!

"I pledge to go to College" fieldtrip.

www.compactforsuccess.org

College Making It Happen



“College Making It Happen” is a special evening program geared to provide parents of 7th grade students with a first introduction into the college admission process. Topics covered include:

- Understanding College Systems
- Financial Aid
- Academic Preparation

It is an opportunity for parents and students to ask questions and meet representatives from local colleges and universities

Middle School	Date 6:30 p.m.
Bonita Vista	March 1
Castle Park	February 16
Chula Vista	March 22
Eastlake	February 24
Granger	February 15
Hilltop	March 15
Mar Vista	March 8
Montgomery	March 3
National City	February 23 6:00 p.m.
Rancho Del Rey	March 10
Southwest	March 16

SDSU Advisors



Special SDSU College Advisors serve as mentors for 7th and 8th grade students motivating and providing information regarding college requirements, tutorial support and college experiences. Advisors share similar backgrounds as our students--they help our students see that college can become a reality. We encourage you to get acquainted with your school's SDSU Advisor.

AVID - A system of Support

AVID targets students in the academic middle — B, C, and even D students — who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. These are typically students who are capable of completing rigorous curriculum but are falling short of their potential, are the first in their families to attend college, and may be under-represented students.

AVID places these students on the college track by providing them with acceleration instead of remediation. The elective AVID class is driven by the **WICR** method, which stands for **W**riting, **i**nquiry, **C**ollaboration, and **r**eading and provides students the opportunity to learn organizational and study skills, work on developing their critical thinking and ability to ask probing questions, get academic help from peers and college tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. Students self-images improve as they become academically successful leaders and role models for other students. Overall, the AVID program has a proven track record in bringing out the best in students.

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Post Secondary Initiatives - Compact for Success

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COMPACT for SUCCESS



BUILDING STUDY HABITS

- ✓ Learn to take notes in class. Listen for big ideas and write down key words. Ask your teacher to repeat things you do not understand.
- ✓ Select a special time to study. Review notes for upcoming tests. Create a special study place and keep all your supplies there. Your mind will automatically switch to “study” mode if you use the same place every day.
- ✓ Having 3-4 shorter study times a week is more effective than one long one. Repeating the material is key to building your memory.
- ✓ Study when you are awake! Pick a study time that suits your personality. Are you a morning or afternoon person?
- ✓ Set goals such as dates when you want to complete assignments. Reward yourself when you achieve.
- ✓ Study the “yuckiest stuff” first, your more alert at the beginning. Have a great attitude about learning because it makes remembering easier.

