



For Immediate Release
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Critical Fundraising Campaign Launch for Carlsbad Education: *Preserving Our World Class Schools Campaign*

Carlsbad Educational Foundation to match all contributions up to \$500,000

Carlsbad, CA – Due to shortages in state funding, the Carlsbad Unified School District (CUSD) is preparing to cut as much as \$4.5 million from its budget for the 2008-2009 school year.

Working closely with the school district's World Class Schools Committee, the Carlsbad Educational Foundation/Kids Are Worth A Million™, the District's non-profit fundraising partner, has launched an intensive, short-term fundraising effort to secure the support of the community in this time of crisis.

Carlsbad Educational Foundation CEO, Valin Brown says, "The impact of District cuts will be felt by all, but particularly by Carlsbad students. They may lose favorite teachers due to layoffs. They may lose access to enrichment opportunities in the arts, music and sports due to cuts in stipends. And they may lose access to essential school resources such as adequately staffed libraries."

Campaign contributions will be used to support the restoration of cuts in two primary areas. Campaign funds will support athletic and co-curricular teacher stipends in order to preserve opportunities for enrichment through the arts, music and sports at the middle school and high school levels. Campaign funds will also help protect school libraries including librarians and library media technicians (impacting all grade levels).

The CUSD Board of Trustees must approve a balanced budget by June 30th. As a result, only funds raised by June 15th can impact the 2008-2009 District budget.

CEF is issuing a challenge to the community: the Foundation will match every contribution – dollar for dollar – made between now and June 15th up to \$500,000. In addition, CEF has committed that every dollar contributed to the campaign will go directly to the District – with no reduction for administrative or fundraising costs.

Carlsbad Educational Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has contributed over \$3,000,000 to schools in the Carlsbad Unified School District for science, technology, arts and reading.

For more information and to make contributions to the campaign, call (760) 929-1555 or visit www.KidsAreWorthAMillion.com/preserve

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