

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CUSD SUPERINTENDENT TO MODERATE A PANEL DISCUSSION ON "HOMEWORK: BALANCING LIFE AND LEARNING" AT A CAPISTRANO UNIFIED COUNCIL OF PTSAs COMMUNITY PARENT EDUCATION NIGHT

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA, March 8, 2011 –– The Capistrano Unified Council of PTSAs (CUCPTSA), in collaboration with Capistrano Unified School District (CUSD), will host a community-wide panel discussion, "Homework: Balancing Life and Learning," to help parents of students in grades K-12 understand the importance of finding balance for their families on Thursday, March 24, at 6:45 p.m., at the CUSD Education Center, 33122 Valle Rd., (949) 234-9200.

During this session, parents will hear from an experienced group of panelists about how to master and balance homework in their daily lives and prepare their students for academic and future success. Panelists will cover several topics, including:

- -- What is meaningful homework?
- -- Managing the balance--Do extra-curricular activities revolve around homework?
- -- What is the purpose of homework?
- -- Parent pressure on homework--Are you a "helicopter" parent?
- -- Homework and college readiness
- -- Myth versus reality--Media's influence, GATE pressures, and AP classes
- -- Teaching your child the art of self-advocacy

Panelists who are educators, parents, and administrators, include:

- -- MODERATOR: Joseph Farley, Ed.D, Superintendent, CUSD
- -- Julie Hatchel, Assistant Superintendent of Education Services, CUSD
- -- Tim Reece, Principal, Niguel Hills Middle School
- -- Patrick Harris, Counselor, San Clemente High School
- -- Karin Foster, Instructional Services Coordinator, Orange County Dept. of Education

"We are all aware of the importance of homework, and that meaningful homework can help children do better in school," said Michele Langham, CUCPTSA president. "Maintaining a healthy balance of school work and extra-curricular activities is a constant challenge for today's busy families," she added.

Cost is \$5.00 payable at the door. Spanish translation will be provided. Event flyer can be downloaded at <u>http://www.cucptsa.com/uploads//CUCPTSA_Homework_Presentation_3-24-11.pdf</u>

Capistrano Unified Council of PTSAs is composed of PTA leaders from 52 CUSD schools. The Council meets monthly to provide training and support for our PTA units and to collaborate with other agencies. CUCPTSA's mission is to support and speak on behalf of all children and youth in the schools, in the community and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children; to assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children; and to encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation."