

**CONTACT:** Gayle Paride  
(949) 363-5492  
gparide@pacbell.net

**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 [http://www.cucptsa.com/uploads//CUCPTSA\\_Homework\\_Presentation\\_3-24-11.pdf](http://www.cucptsa.com/uploads//CUCPTSA_Homework_Presentation_3-24-11.pdf)