

Ontario-Montclair

School District

950 West D Street, Ontario, California 91762 • (909) 418-6445 FAX: (909) 459-2542

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August 17, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jana Dupree
909-418-6444
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USDA Praises Wellness in OMSD Schools as Students Head Back to School

Ontario, California -- On August 25, 2016, The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service Regional Administrator – Jesus Mendoza Jr. will join the California Department of Education (CDE) Nutrition Services Division Director - Sandip Kaur in presenting five [Healthier US School Challenge](#) awards to Ontario-Montclair School District (OMSD).

OMSD is extremely proud to boast that Euclid Elementary School will be accepting the GOLD SCHOOL award and Buena Vista Elementary, Haynes Elementary, Montera Elementary, and Monte Vista Elementary will proudly accept the SILVER SCHOOL award.

The USDA challenge is a voluntary initiative established in 2004 to recognize schools participating in the [National School Lunch Program](#) that have created healthier school environments through promotion of nutrition and physical activity.

"OMSD believes in educating the whole child - this includes health and wellness. Recently, the Board of Trustees unanimously passed a comprehensive Wellness Policy that promotes nutrition education, physical fitness, and access to nutritious meals," stated OMSD Board President Elvia M. Rivas, "more than 500 OMSD teachers participate in Harvest of the Month lessons each year, several schools maintain site gardens, and most schools implement weekly walking or running clubs. This acknowledgment from the USDA is affirmation of the fine work so many have provided at the schools, district, and our community."

This Back-to-School season, healthy eating and daily movement is part of Buena Vista, Euclid, Haynes, Montera, and Monte Vista elementary schools! Students are eating fruit for breakfast, enjoying a variety of nutritious options from their school salad bar and engaging in active play with their friends during walking club. Teachers, principals, and parents love how students have become risk-takers by taste testing fruits and vegetables in the classroom through the Harvest of the Month nutrition education program.

"Our Community, Our Children, Our Commitment, Our Future"

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The celebration will take place on *Thursday, August 25, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.* at Euclid Elementary School located at 1120 South Euclid Ave., Ontario, CA 91762.

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USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave.,
SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339
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