

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino **Josie Gonzales Fifth District**

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**JGFDS-PR-268 TOP SCHOOLS TO GET FUNDS FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY EQUIPMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL SCHOOLS' OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE EARN FUNDS FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY EQUIPMENT

SAN BERNARDINO – Outstanding participation in the 2011 Governor's Challenge Competition has earned four local schools cash awards, totaling \$12,000, which will be used to purchase needed physical activity equipment.

As she has done for the last five years, Supervisor Josie Gonzales allocated the award monies from discretionary fund dollars to encourage the schools in her supervisorial district to finish strong in the annual statewide competition.

“The challenge is much more than just a competition,” said Supervisor Gonzales. “It motivates our students to eat healthy foods and to be more physically active. As a result they miss less school, are more attentive in class, do better academically, and feel more positive about themselves and their capabilities.”

“By building healthy habits early in life we teach our children how to live longer, more productive, satisfying lives,” she added.

This year only four 5th District schools will share the award monies due to their extraordinary participation, which placed them all among the top 15 Desert Sierra Region finalists. They are:

- **Cesar E. Chavez Middle School** (San Bernardino) will receive \$5,000
- **Georgia Morris Elementary** (Rialto) earned second place and will get \$3,000
- **North Park Elementary** (San Bernardino) took third, winning \$2,000; and
- **SOAR Charter Academy** (San Bernardino) will receive \$2,000.

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According to the Governor's Challenge Competition website, the students at Cesar E. Chavez Middle, Georgia Morris Elementary, and North Park Elementary schools all achieved 100 percent completions. SOAR Charter Academy finished strongly with 99.6% completions.

Since a fifth place school was not identified based on the State's results, Supervisor Gonzales elected to give both the fourth and fifth place awards to SOAR for its outstanding participation.

"I am very proud of these young people and their supporters," said Gonzales. "I want them to know their extra efforts have not gone unnoticed."

In the coming months Supervisor Gonzales will be visiting each of the four winning schools to celebrate their students' accomplishments.

The Fifth District includes the unincorporated areas of Bloomington, Muscoy, North Norton, El Rancho Verde, and Arrowhead Farms, the City of Rialto, major portions of the cities of Colton and San Bernardino, and the eastern portion of the City of Fontana.

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