

Eagle & Times

Local News

Mar Vista High School Breaks Ground On Its \$11.6 Million Modernization Project

Mar Vista High School (MVH) broke ground on its \$11.6 million modernization project during a ceremony commemorating Phase I of Prop. O construction at the campus. California state senator Denise M. Ducheny and assemblywoman Mary Salas joined Imperial Beach mayor Jim Janney and Sweetwater Union High School District (SUHSD) superintendent Dr. Jesus M. Gandara to celebrate the momentous occasion with MVH Principal Glenda Golobay.

Parents, faculty, staff and students enjoyed an opening performance by the Mar Vista High School Jazz Ensemble, who brought the spirit of the MVH arts program alive. Immediately following, the MVH Navy Junior ROTC honored the ceremony with the presentation of colors. After Associated Student Body president Ivan Gutierrez and student commissioner to the school site council Bianca Hock led the pledge of allegiance, principal Glenda Golobay welcomed the crowd and introduced SUHSD board president Arlie Ricasa, Janney, Ducheny, Salas and San Diego County board of education trustee Jerry Rindone.

Ricasa, was overjoyed to be a part of the pivotal point in her own alma mater's history. "I grew up in Imperial Beach and attended Mar Vista High along with my nine brothers and sisters. The renovations coming to this 60-year-old campus are not only necessary for safety and campus health, but will provide better learning environments for our students."

Ducheny echoed the significance of this project as she addressed the audience, "Living just a few blocks from the Mar Vista Campus, I am happy to call Imperial Beach my home. These renovations will not only benefit Mar Vista students, but will have a direct impact on the entire city of Imperial Beach. As the only high school in the city, we are pleased to be breaking ground on such a significant project."

Gandara made promising closing remarks about the Prop. O projects at MVH before ground was officially broken. "The projects currently in construction and design reflect Prop. O's commitment to environmental responsibility," he said. "By building sustainable facilities at Mar Vista, we are building brighter futures for our children." The program concluded with a festive performance by Ballet Folklorico Nahuatlán.

The \$11.6 million project will include a new 4,452-square-foot student services area for food sales, lunch shelters and a meeting place for the Associated Student Body. Furthermore, the existing student services building will be upgraded into a 9,836-square-foot space. Mar Vista's annex classroom building will also be modernized. MVH's projects are designed and LEED-Gold certified following the district's commitment to building green.



Local leaders gathered to celebrate the kickoff of Prop. O construction at Mar Vista High School. From left: San Diego County Office of Education trustee Jerry Rindone, Imperial Beach mayor Jim Janney, SUHSD board member Pearl Quinones, SUHSD board president Arlie Ricasa, assemblywoman Mary Salas, MVH principal Glenda Golobay, California state senator Denise M. Ducheny and SUHSD superintendent Dr. Jesus M. Gandara. Submitted photo

About Prop. O

Prop. O is a school classroom safety and repair measure addressing the critical and urgent needs of the 32 campuses in the Sweetwater Union High School District. Prop. O will fund the repairs and improvements needed to ensure that the 43,000 middle and high school students and 27,000 adult learners attending our schools are in a safe, healthy and quality learning environment. Scopes of work include: upgrading classrooms, restrooms, science labs, libraries and technology, improving handicap accessibility, removing asbestos and lead paint and upgrading fire and life safety systems. For more information and more details scopes of work per school please visit www.buildingpropo.com or call (888) 680-PROP-O.