



June 13, 2008

from the office of Superintendent Robert Collins



Students, teachers and parents listen as individual Academic League teams in the Grossmont Union High School District are recognized



Vince Scimone, new Food Services Director and staff prepare a great dinner for the "Big Night"

## GROSSMONT DISTRICT'S BIG NIGHT Academic League Students and Coaches Recognized

Over 250 parents, teachers, administrators and students filled the Grossmont High School cafeteria to recognize the year-long efforts of the Academic League teams and coaches. After an incredible dinner that included the **Superintendent's Spaghetti Bolognese** and Tiramisu, **Board Members Priscilla Schreiber and Dick Hoy** welcomed everyone and expressed their appreciation to all on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Then, **Academic League Coordinator Dick Beach** recognized individual Junior Varsity and Varsity teams and their coaches for their efforts. A very special thank you goes to each coach. They include:

Grossmont	Tom Price	Helix	Amanda Van Buren – Varsity Tina Colera – Junior Varsity
El Cajon Valley	Mariah Freese – Varsity and Junior Varsity	Mount Miguel	Cindy Napoleon – Varsity and Junior Varsity
El Capitan	Pam Howard – Varsity Diana Aguayo – Junior Varsity	Granite Hills	Ronald Whitney – Varsity Rachel McCurry – Junior Varsity
Monte Vista	David Shrin – Varsity Sang Bai – Junior Varsity	Santana	Brooke Crocker – Varsity and Junior Varsity
Valhalla	Peggy Ormsby – Varsity and Junior Varsity	West Hills	Cheri Gabler and Jan Hedeline Varsity and Junior Varsity
Steele Canyon	Betty Jensen – Varsity and Junior Varsity		

What was also very special about **Grossmont's Big Night**, was that it brought our entire community together to recognize our Academic League stars and coaches. Like athletic coaches, they contribute so much to these teams. Dick Beach remarked, "There is no compensation sufficient for the time, effort and energy they put into this." **But on this night, each coach knew the gratitude our District and the entire community has for their efforts.**

The final portion of the evening program recognized our **Academic League Coordinators Dick Beach, Steve Haiman and Ruth Weiss** for their contributions in keeping the Academic League strong and vibrant. **Board Member Dick Hoy** was also recognized for his ongoing dedication to the Academic League and for his former role as a program coordinator. As the evening ended, **one could only reflect on the sense of community in our District. Teachers, administrators, students, parents, Board members, classified staff – all working together for a common purpose. It was a Big Night indeed!**

**Where did this idea of recognizing academic excellence come from?** It actually came from the Board of Trustees at my first Board meeting on November 8. At that meeting, Dick Beach made a presentation to the Board regarding Academic League. The Board discussion quickly turned to how we should recognize academic performance at the same level as athletic performance and the importance of doing so. From that Board meeting, this dinner and recognition event developed. Planning will begin next month for next year's Academic League recognition program. At the same time, we want to be able to look at additional events that recognize the work of our teachers, students and parents throughout the school year. That discussion will take place next month. **Grossmont is a great school District**, and the Big Night recognized just how great it is.