



June 17, 2008

from the office of Superintendent Robert Collins



Paul Dautremont, principal (left) and Wayne Weightman, teacher (right) cut the ribbon, opening a new era at ECVHS

## EL CAJON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL RE-OPENS MODERNIZED CLASSROOMS

**Proposition H Projects Move Forward Quickly at the "Home of the Braves"**

A visit to El Cajon Valley High School (ECVHS) on Friday, May 9, was marked by a ribbon-cutting celebration as another classroom building modernization was complete. The process of opening new classrooms here began in December at ECVHS with the opening of the first set of renovated buildings. Now another building is being completed and next door another building is being demolished down to the studs – getting ready for construction.

Teacher Wayne Weightman's yearbook class is ecstatic over the new classroom capabilities as students are already reaping the benefits of new technology made possible by the modernization. The Legend Publications classroom now has fourteen ports which will allow students to perform electronic changes on proof pages of their yearbook as well as complete page submissions. The new classroom technology is helping his students move The Legend annual into the digital world of the yearbook industry.

## HALL OF BRAVES CEREMONY DEFINES EL CAJON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Outstanding students inducted into the Hall of Braves at ECVHS



Visiting El Cajon High School (ECVHS) prior to Memorial Day weekend was an uplifting and enlightening experience. Once a month, ECVHS recognizes outstanding students who are nominated by the faculty.



ROP students get ready to serve at the Hall of Braves Ceremony



Paul Dautremont presents Certificate

The program takes place in the Wigwam Room, the ROP restaurant program where Todd Bull, the ROP teacher runs a tight, well-organized and exciting kitchen. Students prepare exceptional meals, serve and clean up. While the Hall of Braves ceremony may take an hour, the ROP students work for four hours to complete the job.

That morning, the librarian nominated a student for his tenacity in visiting the library and reading. One student was recognized by his art teacher, while another one was recognized by his mathematics teacher for outstanding achievement in Algebra II. The attendance office recognized a student for his outstanding work and perfect attendance, while a young lady was recognized by the counseling office for her service. A student excelling in German and another in English, were both recognized by Principal Paul Dautremont, to the applause of their parents.

What was evident was **the intense pride of the teachers who nominated these students**. They "knew" who their students were, they were not anonymous. **There was a "caring" that was evident on the part of each teacher and administrator**. The Hall of Braves ceremony is not an annual event, but a monthly program that reaches out to the ECVHS student body and community.

The message to the students at El Cajon Valley High School was very clear: they matter. Whenever I see a program like this, I pause and question what we are doing on a regular basis to ensure that students in the District are recognized and what is the culture that engages so many in making this District and our schools special for every student.