



# El Monte Union High School District

3537 Johnson Avenue • El Monte, California 91731

(626) 444-9005

August 2011

Dear El Monte Union High School District Parent:

#### Board of Trustees

Salvador Ramirez  
Carlos G. Salcedo  
Esthela Torres de Siegrist  
John Tran  
Theresa A. Velasco

#### District Administration

Nick J. Salerno  
Superintendent

Ryan Di Giulio  
Chief Business Official

Joel Kyne  
Asst. Superintendent-  
Educational Services

Julie Jennings  
Asst. Superintendent-  
Personnel

I'd like to remind you, as a valued stakeholder and parent of the El Monte Union High School District, that providing a quality education for your children in an environment that is clean, safe and conducive to excellence in learning is our one of our chief goals. Given that goal, this District requires the highest level of honesty and integrity from our employees, vendors and consultants.

In keeping with our commitment to excellence and service, we have made this requirement for honesty and integrity one of the hallmarks of this administration. It therefore disappoints me to report to you that some our employees may have acted in a manner that directly contradicts the District's requirement and value for honesty and integrity.

Over the summer, you may have followed news articles in the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune* and *Mid-Valley News* that address the fact that around a dozen of our employees have been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of an administrative review and investigation. Let me state now for the record that no teachers were involved in this apparent transgression.

A few months ago information was brought to my attention that involved possible illegal activity and the misuse of public funds and resources within the El Monte Union High School District. Following up on this information I authorized an investigation into this matter. This investigation has gone forward with the total and unanimous support of our school board members. The evidence gathered to date has pointed to potential illegal activity and inappropriate actions with regard to District funds and resources. These actions are a direct affront to the trust placed on us by the students, parents and taxpayers of this District.

It also appears these activities may have taken place over a number of years. The employees involved cannot be publicly identified at this time in order to protect the integrity of the investigation and preserve the employees' right to due process under District personnel policies and procedures. However, we are committed to pursuing each and every allegation until the cause or source of our concerns have been substantiated or dismissed.

As Superintendent, I can assure you that we will not tolerate the misuse of public funds intended for students and we intend to pursue and prosecute anyone involved in this betrayal of the public's trust to the full extent of the law.

I commit to keep you apprised as the matter develops.

Sincerely,

Nick Salerno  
Superintendent

*Every Student, Every Minute, Every Day*