



Communications Office
Media Advisory

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“Build it and they will Come”

New Resource Center Provides Much-Needed Services for North Sacramento Families

Sacramento, CA – Amidst overwhelming budget woes throughout the city and state, Harmon Johnson Elementary School is managing to pull off a bit of a miracle; opening a family resource center in the heart of one of the poorest neighborhoods in the region. Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg will be on hand to open the doors during a dedication event taking place February 4 at 2 p.m.

Johnson School operates with a guiding philosophy that students learn best when their physical and emotional needs are met and when parents’ concerns and needs are addressed. The campus has seen an increase in parent volunteerism by more than 500% in the past five years.

Parent involvement and leadership were an inspiration to Johnson’s Healthy Start grant application – selected for a combined seven year planning and operational grant of \$450,000.

“The parents and staff at Johnson truly believe that all adults must work together to improve the educational experience of a child,” said Terry Press-Dawson, Counselor and Healthy Start Program Director.

At a time when the safety net for low-income families is being shredded, the resource center will provide an increasing number of services in the space such as on-site emergency dental services, parent classes, and counseling.

Harmon Johnson Elementary School is located at 2591 Edgewater Road, Sacramento, CA 95815.

Schedule of Events:

- 1:00 p.m. VIP Reception
- 2:00 p.m. Dedication with guest speaker Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg
- 3:30 p.m. Open House for families and community

Harmon Johnson Elementary School is a culturally diverse school in North Sacramento, bordering Del Paso Heights. It is part of the newly-formed Twin Rivers Unified School District. With approximately 450 preschool through grade 6 students, over 60% of the families speak English as a second language, and well over 95% of our students qualify for free or reduced price breakfast and lunches. In the vast majority of homes at least one parent works, often holding down more than one job.

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