



PRESS RELEASE

15250 Avenue of Science ■ San Diego ■ California 92128-3406
Phone (858) 521-2707 ■ FAX (858) 485-1075

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Contact: Sharon Raffer,
Director of Communications

Morning Creek Elementary School
10925 Morning Creek Drive South
San Diego, CA 92128

Morning Creek Students to Receive Thank You Visit from Mayor of Yokohoma, Japan *Mayor Hayashi Plans to Visit School on April 10*

Morning Creek Elementary School will welcome Ms. Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of Yokohoma, Japan on Tuesday, April 10, with a special flag ceremony scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Mayor Hayashi will address the students, personally expressing her thanks to those who contributed to making an encouraging banner and a thousand origami cranes following the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. During the ceremony, students will be holding flags representing the United States and Japan.

Morning Creek was contacted by the Yves Gendron, Coordinator for International Relations, Office of International Policy, regarding the upcoming visit. He wrote, "Your gesture touched the hearts of the students, and they will forever remember the kindness with which you responded to the situation."

Mayor Fumiko Hayashi will be visiting San Diego because 2012 marks the 55th anniversary of sister-city relations between San Diego and Yokohoma. She will be meeting with San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders and has requested the opportunity to also visit Morning Creek Elementary. Morning Creek Elementary School is in the Poway Unified School District in the city of San Diego. The school is located at 10925 Morning Creek Drive South, San Diego, 92128.

Dr. John Collins, Poway Unified School District Superintendent said, "It is a pleasure for us to welcome Mayor Hayashi to Morning Creek Elementary School. We appreciate the honor she has bestowed on the students, staff, and parents of the Morning Creek community by requesting to address the students during her visit to San Diego. This event provides a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate to our students the importance of understanding the dynamics of a global community."

When the earthquake happened, Morning Creek students, teachers and parents organized a book sale to raise money for the families. The students also signed a banner with encouraging words and made a thousand origami paper cranes; which is a Japanese tradition.

Morning Creek Principal Carol Osborne said, "Mayor Hayashi's visit is a wonderful learning experience for our students. This is an opportunity for them to see the connection between their small acts of kindness and the impact on other's lives."

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