



PRESS RELEASE

Poway Unified School District - Office of the Superintendent
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For Immediate Release
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San Diego Sheriff's Investigation

This morning Deputy Sheriffs from the Poway Sheriff's department took three Poway Unified School District students into custody for sale of illegal drugs. Two of the arrests occurred on the campuses of Poway High School and Mt. Carmel High School and were made without incident. Several adults in the community were also taken into custody. These arrests were made as a part of an on-going North San Diego County undercover investigation by the Narcotics Task Force (NTF), the North County Regional Gang Task Force (NCRGTF) and Deputy Sheriffs from the Poway, San Marcos and Ramona stations.

Poway Unified Superintendent John Collins commended the efforts of law enforcement. "We have a strong and cooperative relationship with the Sheriff's Department and while it saddens me that the investigation led to the arrest of PUSD students, as a District we do not tolerate drugs on our campuses. Sheriff Bill Gore, Captain William Donahue, and their deputies share with us the responsibility for the safety, well-being and education of students in an environment free from drugs."

Poway Unified School District takes a comprehensive approach to addressing substance abuse and prevention. Ongoing District education and prevention programs include:

- After School Education and Safety (ASES)
- Too Good for Drugs
- Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD) Violence Prevention Curriculum
- Canine Detection at middle and high school
- Caring Connection Center
- Red Ribbon Activities
- Students and Families in Recovery (SAFIR)
- Support Groups

The District's web page provides parents and students with up-to-date information on drug and alcohol prevention and includes links to a wide range of community resources.

Last year, Superintendent Collins formed a Drug and Alcohol Task Force comprised of high school students, counselors, school and District administrators, and Student Support Services personnel. The Task Force presented its findings and recommendations to the Poway Unified School District Board of Education at their April 22, 2013, meeting.

Board President Marc Davis said, "Unfortunately, the findings of this District Task Force confirm that the arrests that took place today could happen in just about any community across the country. This is a nationwide societal problem and is not unique to one school or community. In Poway Unified, we will continue our efforts to protect our students from the dangers of illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco. "

In accordance with the rules of the Juvenile court system, the names of the students are not made available to the public. All questions and inquiries should be directed to the Sheriff's Media Relations department at (858) 974-2259.

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