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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ETIWANDA COLONY STUDENTS SHARE THEIR SUCCESS!**

Students from Etiwanda Colony Elementary School shared their success with Etiwanda School District's Board of Trustees during a presentation on November 18, 2010. The presentation began with Principal Darlene Carlmark explaining that the school's Academic Performance Index (API) is 894 – which greatly exceeds the goal of 800 set by the California Department of Education. Etiwanda Colony Elementary School received the Distinguished School Award during the 2009-2010 school year as a result of this high level of success and continued API growth.

Etiwanda Colony Teachers, Kim Pollock, Amber Ricco and Joyce Tavill shared information about the use of individual plans that are developed for students who need extra help to master the grade level standards. These plans are set into motion as Etiwanda Colony staff members create lessons that engage students in their learning through active participation. Teacher Kelly Smith demonstrated a brief lesson. Board members had the opportunity to take on the role of her students as they actively responded to questions related to fourth grade standards. Teachers also shared the importance of building relationships with students and teaching children the value of taking responsibility for their own learning.

The highlight of the presentation was when eight current and former Etiwanda Colony students shared their successes with board members. Students Nathan Curl, Jacob DeLaCruz, Ricardo Gomez and Chase Tyrell told the board that programs they attended before school and during lunchtime led to their increased understanding of math and language arts concepts which led to high test scores on the California Standards Tests that were administered last April. Students Aqura Campbell, Brittney Berglund Mariyah Halliburton and Jenna Jensen explained that the support and encouragement they received from parents and teachers helped them understand that trying hard and always doing your best is the way to excel in school and in life.

(Photo follows)

Featured in photo below:

Top Row: Board of Trustees: Brynna Cadman, Mark Murphy, David Long, Cathline Fort, Cecilia Solorio

Middle Row: Joyce Tavill, Kim Pollock, Darlene Carlmark, Jeannie Tavolazzi, Chase Tyrell, Kelly Smith, Amber Ricco

Bottom Row: Jacob DeLaCruz, Ricardo Gomez, Mariyah Halliburton, Jenna Jensen, Brittney Berglund, Nathan Curl, Aqura Campbell

