

Press Release
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San José Unified School District
"Inspiring and Preparing for Success"

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**San José Unified Announces Allen at Steinbeck will Transition to a
K-8 School beginning Fall '08**

SAN JOSE, CA- After two years of in-depth research and strong community involvement, San José Unified's Board of Education voted on December 13, 2007, to transition Allen at Steinbeck to a K-8 school. The transformation will begin this fall with a sixth grade class of approximately 62 students. The school, located at 820 Steinbeck Dr., San José, 95123, will add a grade each following year, culminating with a student population of approximately 180 students in grades 6-8. The Allen at Steinbeck K-8 will give our parents and students an opportunity to choose an alternative educational setting to the traditional middle school.

Students will receive a rigorous core curriculum and electives, in a familiar and nurturing environment. Teachers will work in interdisciplinary teams, teaching SJUSD's standards based, state-adopted middle school curriculum. Service learning will be integrated into their curriculum, a component that will help develop the student's leadership skills and knowledge of their community. Nico Flores is the current principal of Allen at Steinbeck. Having experience as both a high school and middle school administrator, Nico brings a strong background in secondary education to Allen at Steinbeck's K-8.

San José Unified is proud to be a "district of choice." Students, based on various criteria, have the opportunity to enroll in schools across the District. Enrollment in the new Allen at Steinbeck 6th grade class will follow the District's "Choices" process. Allen at Steinbeck's current 5th grade students will have the first priority in the choices process, with those students in the Allen at Steinbeck neighborhood attendance area receiving 2nd priority.

Superintendent Don Iglesias commented, *"We have great traditional middle schools in San José Unified but it is not necessarily the best educational setting for all students. It is also a fact that some parents aren't quite ready to place their 5th grade students in a middle school setting. Allen at Steinbeck will provide parents an excellent educational choice for their students."*

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