



For Immediate Release

San José Unified School District

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**San José Unified Receives
\$104,865
Migrant Education Even Start Grant**

San José, CA - Wednesday, November 8, 2006. San José Unified was among 23 grantees statewide to receive part of the \$5.4 million in Migrant Education Even Start (MEES) grants. The MEES program is a home-based and school-based family literacy education model.

San José Unified's Migrant Education Program supports 2100 students with year long Saturday classes and biweekly evening classes to support language and academic learning. Migrant parents also receive services to expand parenting skills and are also supported with English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) classes.

A child is considered a "migrant" if the parent or guardian has moved during the past three years mostly to follow seasonal work in the agricultural, dairy, lumber, or fishing industries. MEES is a federal grant authorized under the No Child Left Behind Act that was modeled after the William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy programs. In fiscal year 2004-05, the last year for which data is available, about 11,967 parents and 11,135 children were enrolled statewide in the program.

In this round of grants, local education agencies with established regional migrant education offices already funded through the California Department of Education were eligible to receive continued MEES funding. Allocations were based on the number of sites, parents, children served, and the number of identified migrant children, 3 to 7 years old. For more information on the Migrant Education Even Start grant, please visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/r2/mees06result.asp>.

For information on San Jose Unified's Migrant Programs
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