



PRESS RELEASE

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New San Leandro Education Foundation launches *Eat Out for Education*— Stimulate your taste buds and the local economy while supporting San Leandro Schools

[San Leandro, CA September 11, 2009] The new San Leandro Education Foundation (SLED), which is an independent, not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 dedicated to raising resources and improving the lives and education of children in the San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD), announced a new campaign today that will benefit students, local restaurants, and the community by feeding the body and mind while stimulating the San Leandro economy.

The *Eat Out for Education* campaign encourages individuals and families to designate the first Wednesday of every month as a night to dine together at a San Leandro restaurant in order to benefit public schools in the San Leandro Unified School District. The concept is simple: participating eateries will donate 10% of sales from the first Wednesday of the month to SLED. In return, the restaurant will be included in a new directory sent to San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD) families, the name and logo will be included on the foundation's website, sledfund.org and the restaurant will receive a window decal showing their support for SLED and identifying it as a strong supporter of public education.

"Times are tough," said SLED President Deborah Cox, "but people still have to eat. We also have a moral and civic obligation to provide quality education for our youth. Our schools are dealing with massive budget cuts. As a community, we must step up to the plate—in this case, the dinner plate—to support students and schools."

Still in its fledgling stages, SLED is building partnerships with the San Leandro Unified School District, the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce (Shop San Leandro First) and business community, the City of San Leandro and local non-profits to raise monies, and to identify and support educational projects and events for students that enhance and support the public school experience.

“We have a big vision for our schools and community,” added founding member Jill Raimondi, Treasurer. “It is our belief that the education of our children is the responsibility of the entire community. People can give of time and talent and money at varying levels—but these are all our children and we all have something to give.”

Cox and Raimondi added that the recently launched “Buck-A-Month Club” is a wonderful example of how people can give according to ability. “If families donate **only \$1 per month** for each student in the District, we would raise **over \$8,700** for our schools **each month**. That would be **\$104,400 per year!**”

Think about it. In a time of devastating cuts to education, health and welfare, this kind of money could provide important safety nets and enrichment programs to San Leandro youth. Investment in our children and schools are essential to San Leandro’s quality of life and future well-being.

Restaurants interested in participating in the Eat Out for Education program may call 510-618-4483, email info@sledfund.org or download information at sledfund.org. To enroll in the Buck-A-Month Club program, pick up a brochure at any school site or download from the website at sledfund.org. Online donations can also be made through the website.