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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Junior ROTC Celebrates Marine Corps Birthday and Observes Veteran's Day**

ORANGE, Calif., November 10, 2009—The Orange Unified School District announced today that early this morning Orange High School's Marine Corps JROTC performed a flag raising ceremony in honor of Veteran's Day. The Marine Corps 234<sup>th</sup> birthday was also honored with words from the Commandment of the Marine Corps.

Representing the District in attendance were Board of Education Trustee Mr. Mark D. Wayland, Marine Corps veteran, Renae Dreier, Ed.D., Orange Unified School District Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Aileen Sterling, Executive Director of Secondary Education and Mr. S.K. Johnson, Orange High School Principal. Also in attendance were students, parents and community members.

The ceremony included the raising of the American flag while the Orange High School Choir led in the singing of the National Anthem. In addition, a poignant moment during the celebration took place when Genevieve Brown, Marine Corps veteran, age 91, who is the oldest living local member of the Marine Corps, was symbolically given the first piece of celebratory cake and Cadet Private First Class Nicole Guerra, age 13, the youngest member of the JROTC, was given the second piece of cake in an act of passing the torch from one generation to another.

"This event was a true celebration of tradition and symbolism. It was an honor for our students to participate in such an important celebration," said Dreier.

Schools throughout OUSD are honoring veterans this week through celebrations and classroom instruction.

*The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA*

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