

CONTACT: Larry Hausner OUSD Office of Communications Tel. (714) 628-5577 Cell (949) 244-3881 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Running Springs Elementary Supports Our Troops

ORANGE, Calif., May 20, 2010– Running Springs Elementary School's Student Council recently conducted a school-wide effort to send care packages to the "Mighty" 188th Military Police Company (Airborne) out of Fort Bragg, N.C., currently stationed in Afghanistan.

Coordinating the outreach included teachers Lynn Okamura, Shannon Meehan and parent Susy Simons. Collectively, the school was able to send over thirty care packages to these soldiers.

Mrs. Okamura stated, "This year we created a mission statement that promotes providing students with leadership opportunities that support our school community. This was a chance to help others and help develop school spirit."

The students received a thank you email from one of the 118th MP Company's Sergeants which stated in part, "(We) want to thank the students of Running Springs Elementary School for the care packages. We greatly appreciate them."

Mrs. Simons, who oversees the PTA's Academic Enrichment program, added that these troops held a special place in the heart of their school community. "That unit was able to benefit from the generosity of our families because of the casualties they had just suffered. It was positive boost for them," she said.

Running Springs plans on sending more care packages next school year.

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