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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OUSD Board of Education Issues Proclamation Honoring Lorenzo and Josefina Ramirez and Their Children

ORANGE, Calif., March 21, 2011—The Orange Unified School District Board of Education issued a proclamation honoring Lorenzo and Josefina Ramirez and their children at the recent OUSD Board of Education Meeting.

In March 1945, Thomas Estrada, William Guzman, Gonzalo Mendez, Frank Palomino, and Lorenzo Ramirez, challenged the practice of school segregation. They claimed that their children were victims of unconstitutional discrimination by being forced to attend separate “schools for Mexicans” in the Westminster, Garden Grove, Santa Ana, and El Modena school districts. The ensuing case of *Mendez v. Westminster School District* was a crucial case in equity of education, ruling that the segregation of students into separate “Mexican schools” was unconstitutional. The courage of individual parents, like Lorenzo Ramirez, is part of a continuing national story in claiming educational equality for all of our nation’s children.

The Ramirez family was presented the proclamation by Board President Mr. Rick Ledesma.

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

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