



PRESS RELEASE – ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

For immediate release

Information: Superintendent's Office (714) 628-4487

Two OUSD Schools Surprise Students with Motivational Incentive Assembly

ORANGE, CA (February 10, 2012) – Major League Soccer team Chivas USA, in partnership with the Orange County District Attorney's Office, various law enforcement groups, and the Orange Unified School District hosted a motivational assembly program yesterday, encouraging students at two Orange County Gang Reduction and Intervention Partnership (GRIP) schools in Orange Unified to do well in school and stay out of trouble.

The presentation was given first at Yorba Middle School, then later in the morning at Handy Elementary. Students at each school who follow the rules and complete their classwork, homework and receive a passing grade on their second semester report card will receive tickets to Chivas USA's season opener home game at the Home Depot Center in Carson. As part of the program, eligible students also must not have any truancies, gang-related clothing, writing, behavior, or criminal activity.

Yorba Middle School Principal Kerrie Torres said, "This is a great way to get every student involved. Normally, the awards are only for students enrolled in the GRIP Program. This is the first time the entire student body has participated."

Speakers at each assembly included Orange County District Attorney Tony Rackauckas, Chivas USA co-owner Antonio Cue, and Chivas USA midfielders Ben Zamanski and Marvin Iraheta. Orange Chief of Police Bob Gustafson and other law enforcement officials were also on hand to speak and distribute Chivas USA towels, soccer balls and foam fingers to the excited students.

"The event went over very well. The kids were ecstatic when the team and cheerleaders came out. They are highly motivated to earn tickets for themselves and their families," continued Torres.

Handy Elementary Principal Sandy Schaffer said, "The kids were impressed with the players. Many of them dream of becoming a soccer player when they get older, and it was great that they could see that it really does happen. Some of our students want to be police officers when they grow up, so seeing all of the law enforcement officers was a treat as well."

"We've been working so hard...the kids really appreciated this as a motivator!" she added.

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

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