

Department of Family and Community Services

David Hernandez, Director

NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 18, 2015



Wishing You a Warm and Safe Holiday Season

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY

Hosted LA POSADA as a Family Cultural Event

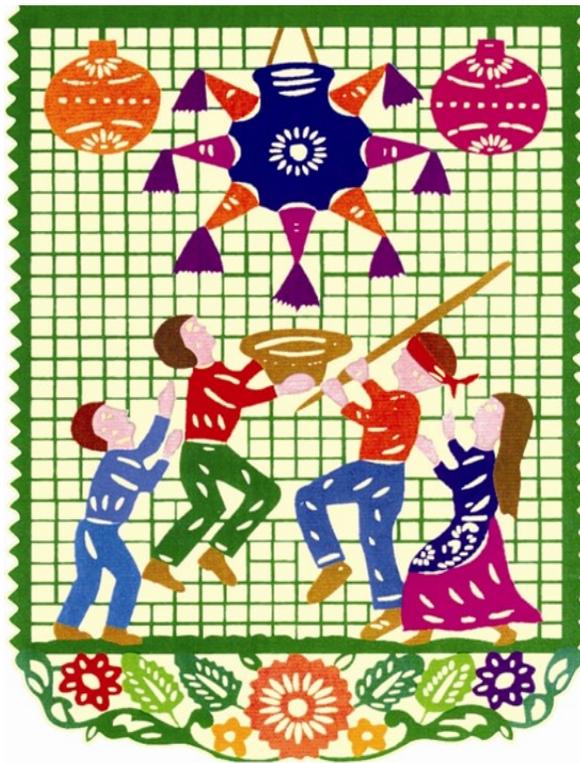
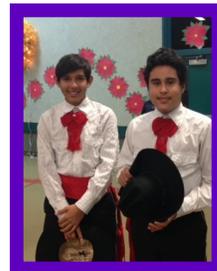
A Parent's Best Resource Connection
The PRCs bring together a host of diverse programs and services under one roof, creating unique and centrally located services and resources dedicated to helping families with children.

Parent Engagement Highlights

- Lincoln Posada, Cultural Celebration
- Parent Of The Week

New Parent Involvement Programs Coming 2016...

- Strengthening Families Program
- School Smarts Parent Academy
- Ready to Learn Program



Over 275 guests attended the "Posada Cultural" Event on Friday, December 11th at 6:00 pm. Posadas are a traditional Mexican celebration that engage families, neighborhoods and communities to promote positive interactions, which lead to building and maintaining strong school and community ties. This cultural activity helps maintain traditions and cultural experiences through the sharing of traditional food; such as tamales, posole, buñuelos, and champurado and folklore songs and dancing. The breaking of piñatas helps culminate the celebration and is the highlight for children and the young at heart.

New Parent Involvement Programs Coming 2016!

The Department of Family and Community Services will be introducing four new parent engagement programs in collaboration with the Department of Categorical Programs with emphasis on targeting parents of English Learners. Through our combined collaborative efforts, we will administer the following programs in early spring:



ValleyPBS Ready to Learn Program

Ready to Learn is a parent education program that provides parents the resources, skills and confidence, to step into the role of being their child's first teacher. The program operates through a series of six workshops that will provide parents with teaching techniques that they can implement immediately at home. Parents will learn how to use easily accessible teaching tools, including free educational PBS Kids television programming, story books and hands-on activities to teach their children fundamental academic, life and critical thinking skills that contribute to future success in school and life.



SCHOOL SMARTS Academy FOR PARENTS



School Smarts Academy is a parent engagement program with an operating principle of inclusion — reaching across all parent groups and bringing them together in support of their common interest in helping children succeed. The program includes a (7) seven-session parent academy with sessions on education, communication and leadership. Each session includes instructional art activities that reinforce key lessons, which help build a sense of community and underscore the importance of a complete education that includes the arts.

Strengthening Families:

Strengthening Families Program is an evidence-based family skills training program found to significantly reduce problem behaviors, delinquency, and to improve social competencies and school performance in children. The program is comprised of fourteen (14) 1.5 hour workshops. The Parenting Skills sessions are designed to help parents engage in structured family activities, practice therapeutic child play, conduct family meetings, learn communication skills, practice effective discipline, reinforce positive behaviors in each other, and plan family activities together.



Parent Of The Week

Jorge Sanches Farias is being recognized as the "Parent of the Week" for his motivation to learn and his goal of obtaining a High School Equivalency Certificate. Jorge is currently enrolled in a HiSet High School Equivalency Preparation Course in addition to an English as a Second Language Class. He currently holds a degree in Computer Science. Jorge is determined to learn English and is focused on providing a better future for his family.