

## **News Release**

*For Immediate Release: October 27, 2003*

# **Overfelt High School Opens New Community Service Facilities**

On Wednesday, October 29, 2003, at 9 a.m. at W. C. Overfelt High School, school, city and community officials will celebrate the grand opening of new facilities housing Healthy Start, School Health Clinic and Smart Start Center. This jointly funded project will provide support services to the Overfelt community. A major investment of \$2.1 million was made by a variety of donors to make these facilities a reality: City of San Jose, East Side Union High School District, Neighborhood Health Center, Cowell Foundation, Child Development Program and California Healthy Start Grants.

The Healthy Start Center allows the school to provide a wide range of health, social and academic services to students. These types of services support the learning process that will lead to increased student achievement. It also provides the opportunity for the school and its collaborating partners to develop new services, such as, opening the clinic in the evening and on weekends, for students, families and community members.

The School Health Clinic is fully staffed with professionals who can address student health needs. Acute care, chronic care, physical exams, and dental health are some of the services that are provided to students.

The Smart Start Program provides eligible children from six weeks to five years old an opportunity to participate in a program designed to support their academic growth. Children gain experiences in concepts related to science, time, space, numbers, language, music, art and sensory development. The curriculum is presented to the children in a way that fosters social, emotional, physical and intellectual skills and prepares them for school. Overfelt High School students observe and work with the licensed staff in the program. Overfelt students who are parents receive priority child placement.

Members of the East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees, Superintendent Esperanza Zendejas and Overfelt Principal Tim McDonough will join Mayor Ron Gonzales and Council member David Cortese as they cut the ribbon to open the new facilities. A reception and tour of the facilities will follow. The public is invited to attend. Overfelt is located at 1835 Cunningham Avenue, San Jose.

“We really appreciate the support we have received from the city and our community partners. They are enabling us to provide our students and their families with some very critical support services that will enhance their chances for success,” said **Overfelt Principal Tim McDonough**.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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