Twenty Schools Receive Awards
For Impact and Innovation

November 13, 2013 (San Francisco) – Last night, 20 schools were awarded cash prizes for demonstrating an impact on student achievement, or innovative strategies and practices, for serving historically underserved student populations. The awards are part of the Quality Teacher and Education Act (QTEA) approved by San Francisco voters in 2008.

Superintendent Richard A. Carranza encouraged winning schools to share the strategies and practices that are working for their students.

“First and foremost, the purpose of these awards is to share promising practices across all of our schools,” said Superintendent Richard A. Carranza. “We need look no further than our own backyard to find creative and effective approaches to achieving student success and cultivating safe and nurturing school communities.”

Impact strategies ranged from restructuring class time to focus on English learning to implementing school-wide technology platforms for Math. Applicants identified clear learning needs among students and articulated how the new strategies had “moved the needle” for student achievement.

Innovative strategies covered a wide range of practices as well, including partnering with external organizations to build community engagement, investing funds into physical education resources (one school created the first-ever schoolyard soccer field at SFUSD), and integrating students with special needs throughout the school day more effectively. Applicants explained in detail how these practices were achieved and described the impact they have had on students, staff and community members.

“We know the good work done every day in the schools. These awards let us proclaim and acknowledge the work for all to see and appreciate,” said Dennis Kelly, President of the United Educators of San Francisco.

The Quality Teacher and Education Act
The Quality Teacher and Education Act (QTEA) parcel tax makes San Francisco teacher salaries competitive with those in surrounding school districts; provides financial incentives for teachers to work at schools with historically high turnover and teach in hard-to-fill subject areas; increases teacher support while raising teacher accountability; improves academic innovation through research and development; and upgrades school technologies. QTEA also supports recognition of schools modeling effective strategies and showing the most growth in student achievement.

This fall the QTEA Award selection committee received 58 applications. The committee of 7 members, including representatives from the United Educators of San Francisco (UESF), the
United Administrators of San Francisco (UASF) and the QTEA Oversight Committee, participated in a blind review process. School names – as well as any references that would indicate which school the application represented – were removed during the selection process.

**Impact Award Winners**
The Impact Award recognizes the strategies happening daily that affect student achievement. Each Impact Award winner shared strategies that are “moving the needle” for students and aligned with SFUSD goals and priorities.

- Chinese Education Center
- Cleveland ES
- Daniel Webster ES
- Fairmount ES
- Francis Scott Key
- Herbert Hoover MS
- Marshall ES
- Paul Revere
- Sherman ES
- Sunnyside ES

**Innovation Award Winners**
The Innovation Award recognizes innovative practices that support SFUSD students, staff and community. Each Innovation Award winner shared unique, resourceful practices that help build stronger students, staff and community.

- Buena Vista Horace Mann
- Cleveland ES
- Grattan ES
- Hillcrest ES
- June Jordan
- Leonard R. Flynn ES
- Paul Revere
- Sherman ES
- Thurgood Marshall HS
- Yick Wo ES

**Future Awards**
This is the first year awards are being issued. Winning schools will receive $15,000 for demonstrating innovation and $15,000 for demonstrating impact. Next year, QTEA will provide double the funding for the awards program next year thereby increasing the level of resources and recognition provided to schools.

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