



# Press Release

## SOLANA BEACH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **Solana Beach School District Celebrates Wei Chen, SDCSBA Parent Volunteer of the Year**

**Solana Beach, CA – February 27, 2025** – The Solana Beach School District (SBSD) proudly announces that Wei Chen has been named the San Diego County School Boards Association (SDCSBA) Parent Volunteer of the Year for 2025.



For over a decade, Wei has been a constant, positive presence in SBSD, dedicating countless hours to supporting students, staff, and families. His leadership within the Solana Beach Schools Foundation (SBSF) has been instrumental in raising millions of dollars to fund enrichment learning opportunities for every student in the district.

Currently serving a two-year term as SBSF Vice President of Site Development, Wei provides thoughtful guidance to over two dozen volunteers, helping lead fundraising efforts that sustain the district's award-winning Discovery Lab classes. His impact extends beyond fundraising—he can frequently be found capturing special moments as a volunteer photographer, ensuring the yearbook reflects the joy and sense of community within SBSD.

“Wei embodies the true spirit of volunteerism,” said Valerie Charat, M.Ed., Executive Director of SBSF. “His countless hours of assistance have strongly contributed to our ability to help fund engaging educational experiences for SBSD students, and all this generous assistance is done with kindness, humor, and civic collaboration.”

From mentoring students in the Solana Pacific Yearbook Club to providing technology expertise that modernizes SBSF operations, Wei's dedication is felt at every level of the district.

“Wei’s contributions, collaborative efforts, and leadership continue to make a lasting impact on all SBSD schools,” said Dr. Jennifer Burks, SBSD Superintendent. “He doesn’t just support our schools—his efforts make a difference in the lives of students and staff districtwide. We are incredibly grateful for his contributions and excited to celebrate this well-deserved honor.”

SBSD congratulates Wei Chen on this outstanding recognition and thanks him for his tireless dedication to the success of every student.

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## **ABOUT THE SOLANA BEACH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Solana Beach School District, nestled on the north coast of San Diego County, serves approximately 2,800 students. Instruction is rich, varied, and innovative. Our emphasis is on core standards instruction provided through a continuous progressive curriculum. District schools consistently rank at or near the top in district, county, and state accountability measures. Our students and schools have received numerous awards and have been recognized at county, state, and national levels for a variety of accomplishments. Working together, our mission focuses on providing a safe space where learners find their voice, share their gifts, and advance the world.

## **ABOUT THE SOLANA BEACH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION**

The Solana Beach Schools Foundation (SBSF) is a non-profit organization that helps fund inquiry-based, engaging learning opportunities in the Solana Beach School District’s weekly Discovery Lab Classes, bridging the gap between vital school needs and state funding. The vision of the SBSF is to ensure optimal educational opportunities for every student in the district.