

Education Foundation Names Dan Harden Director of Education



*New Director of Education
Dan Harden*

The vision and mission of the Fairplex Education Foundation as The World's Largest Classroom® extend to learners from preschool to adult. One component of the educational continuum that is often overlooked is career and technical training for non-college bound students. The Education Foundation has firmed its commitment to serving this segment of the population by naming Dan Harden as director of education. A career educator from La Verne with nearly 30 years of experience, Harden is a former Bonita High School government and

economics teacher and La Verne City Council member. Harden, working in concert with the Fairplex Education Foundation, will design and develop a career education program for high school students here on the Fairplex campus. "Vocational education is disappearing from local school district programming," Harden explained. "We need to fill that educational gap."

Education Foundation and Foundations At Fairplex

Harden's vision for Fairplex career and technical education programs includes classes at Fairplex that supplement local students' regular school curriculum. He also will be responsible for raising awareness and funding for the program and engaging local legislative support for classes and instructors. "We need to refocus our efforts on non-college bound students," said Harden, "with curricula for vocational studies in the fields of carpentry, electrical installation and entry-level public utilities."



CDC Grows One Brick at a Time

The Child Development Center Capital Campaign continues just as construction begins on the expansion of the little school that could. Large concrete pipes currently line the lot where parents and staff used to park, in preparation for the two new classrooms on the southeast end of the campus. Since the public phase of the campaign began in January, another \$60,000 has been pledged for a total of \$1.46 million, edging closer to the \$2 million goal.

What an incredible gift to the community your donations are bringing through the Capital Campaign – reduced class sizes thanks to the two new classrooms (making the quality of education even better), extra adult learning space for teacher and parent education classes and support to the CDC's endowment fund, which will allow future generations of children and families to benefit from the Center's services.



Child Development Center and Education Foundation

Leave a Lasting Legacy

Would you like to see your donation to the CDC on a more concrete level? Buy a paver or tile and include your own special message. Tiles are \$50 each. Pavers start at \$250. Donors can also sponsor a tile, to be decorated by a CDC student. Contact Susan Dowler at dowler@fairplex.com for more information on how you can be a lasting part of the Center's history.

Fairplex Employees Give From the Heart

For Fairplex, the quote "charity begins at home" isn't just words; it's a call to action. And it's a call the employees of Fairplex answered over and over again. A new employee giving campaign for the Foundations at Fairplex drew nearly one hundred responses – to the tune of \$15,000 raised for the Big Yellow Bus Program, the Child Development Center and the Millard Sheets Center for the Arts. In an appreciative acknowledgement to its staff, the Los Angeles County Fair Association matched an additional \$5,000 to the employee campaign, bringing the grand total to \$20,000.

"When we started this, we knew our employees would be considerate, but this was overwhelming!" said Susan Dowler, director of development. "People gave what they could, and that is the bedrock of the support structure of all our foundations."

What also made the effort special was that contributions were received from employees in each department. The development department hosted a Foundations Open House specifically for employees in March, during Foundations Awareness Month, showcasing the educational programming supported 100-percent by donations.



Fairplex employees get active in the Foundations

Got Tickets? Fourth Annual Foundations and Pomona Rotary Classic Car Raffle

The Foundations at Fairplex and Pomona Rotary Club have again partnered to sponsor a classic car raffle to support the foundations and local charities. The grand prize is a beautiful 1965 Corvette Roadster. Tickets (\$20 each) are on sale now, with the winning ticket being pulled out of the barrel on Sunday, Sept. 28, the closing day of the L.A. County Fair. This is a great way to show support of local organizations, and maybe drive off into the sunset in a really sweet ride!

Area groups and service organizations can participate in the fundraiser, too, and receive \$5 of every \$20 raffle ticket they sell. For tickets or to participate as a selling organization, contact Pomona Rotarian Beth Brooks at (909) 229-5921. See you on the open road!

