



NEWS

Glendale Unified School District

223 North Jackson St., Glendale, CA 91206-4380 • 818-241-3111, ext. 1218 • FAX 818-548-9041

Contact: Public Information/Administrative Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Distribution Date: December 21, 2015

NEWS ADVISORY

Glendale Unified Prepares for *El Nino*

GLENDALE, CA - Glendale Unified School District has been hard at work in anticipation of an *El Nino* winter storm season. Action plans have been developed and implemented to properly protect the district's students, staff and facilities. Plans include immediate response with trained personnel to secure school facilities that may be impacted by heavy rain, wind, flooding and mud slides.

Kent Smith, the district's Director of Facilities and Support Operations summarized the preparations. "All district roofs and gutters have been inspected and cleaned. Trees throughout the district have been inspected and trimmed as needed. Distressed trees have been removed. Schools are being assessed for possible flooding. Storm water run-off systems have been inspected and cleaned. But beyond that, we have first responder trucks and our emergency response trailer has been updated with supplies."

The update to the trailer includes a satellite phone that will be able to provide emergency access data and voice communications should the regional cellular network fail. The emergency response trailer has also been equipped with a base station for the district's emergency radio network.

Emergency response supplies and material have been staged throughout the District, including approximately 400 pre-made sandbags that have been staged at various schools. Plastic sheeting, plywood have been stockpiled and these additional supplies are on hand for delivery where needed.

The district has also reconfirmed emergency contact with the Glendale police and fire departments, utility service providers and Los Angeles County agencies. Glendale Unified has taken the lead to create a collaborative group with other school organizations including South Pasadena USD, Pasadena USD, La Canada/ Flintridge USD, Burbank USD, Glendale City College, and Pasadena City College. This group will meet throughout the *El Nino* season to discuss mutual planning and response, possible joint-aide, and other topical issues.

####