

VISTA MAGNET

MIDDLE SCHOOLNEWS

151 Escondido, Vista, CA 92084 • (760) 726-5766

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 28, 2008

PRESS CONTACT:

José Manuel Villarreal
(760) 415-3468

VMMS 6th grade Science teacher's partner with local science experts
(California State University, San Marcos, University of California, San Diego, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego County Office of Education, Imperial County Office of Education and San Marcos Unified School District)

VISTA, Calif. – The **San Diego Cyber-TEAM** project will develop and implement a design for professional development and classroom learning experiences that incorporates access to visualization tools, collaboration tools over high speed networks, open source applications and resources through cyber infrastructure (CI) to enhance the learning of Earth systems in grade 6 science classrooms.

The proposed demonstration project will leverage resources of project partners including California State University San Marcos (CSUSM), Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) at the University of California San Diego, California State Parks, San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) including their Juvenile Court and Community Schools (JCCS), Imperial County Office of Education (ICOE), and middle schools in San Marcos and Vista Unified School Districts who serve high populations of underserved students.

Fifteen teachers, two from VMMS, from partnership schools will attend the Summer Cyber Academy focusing on the use and development of CI-enhanced tools addressing Earth Science content in Plate Tectonics at grade six and the development of a professional learning community. Collaborative Lesson Study experiences for teachers will occur in two 3-day cycles each year providing professional dialog that result in deeper understanding of pedagogy.

Classroom Instructional Support will deploy visitations and mentoring from project Leadership will be ongoing. Multi-point and desktop Videoconferencing will be used over the California Digital High Speed Network to connect experts from the California Parks System and scientists in the field with students and teachers in project classrooms. Customized units of study will be developed for the Parks Educational Program.

For more information or to visit our site please call José Manuel Villarreal, principal of Vista Magnet Middle School, at (760) 415-3468.

#