



Office of Community Relations

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — FEBRUARY 22, 2012

Dysart students raise drug and alcohol awareness with posters

DYSART SCHOOLS - Dysart Unified School District's *Safe Schools Healthy Students* and the Knights of Columbus Council #12851 partnered in the first DUSD/Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest. Students in grades 3-8 developed original poster and slogan ideas designed to discourage their peers from experimenting with drugs and alcohol.

Over 500 students submitted posters - 136 of them winning at their school level. The Knights of Columbus, the Surprise Police Department, and the Valley Vista Graphic Arts students narrowed the school level winners to 24 overall district winners who will advance to the Knights of Columbus national competition.

First and second place cash prizes for each grade level in two categories – Alcohol Abuse Awareness and Drug Abuse Awareness - were awarded by Grand Knight Tony Balowski and Dr. Quinn Kellis, Dysart Assistant Superintendent, during a reception on Monday, February 13th. Assisting with the reception were the Valley Vista High School Culinary Arts students and the Valley Vista High School choir. The West Valley Symphony provided musical entertainment.

Alcohol Awareness:

- 3rd grade, 1st place -- Katelynn Zuniga, Parkview
- 3rd grade, 2nd place -- Elizabeth Allen, Rancho Gabriela
- 4th grade, 1st place -- Valentina Trovato, Sonoran Heights
- 4th grade, 2nd place -- Anabelle Gregory, Rancho Gabriela
- 5th grade, 1st place -- Emma Gulczynski, Rancho Gabriela
- 5th grade, 2nd place -- Jenna Buttram, Cimarron Springs
- 6th grade, 1st place -- Katelyn Hoertig, Rancho Gabriela
- 6th grade, 2nd place -- Morgan Burner, West Point
- 7th grade, 1st place -- Elona Iljazi, Canyon Ridge
- 7th grade, 2nd place -- Breanna Hamper, West Point
- 8th grade, 1st place -- David Minasian, Countryside
- 8th grade, 2nd place -- Abigail Casalla, Western Peaks

Drug Awareness:

- 3rd grade, 1st place -- Sky Rose Monteverde, Parkview
- 3rd grade, 2nd place -- Joselyn Mercado, El Mirage
- 4th grade, 1st place -- Myles Brunt, Cimarron Springs
- 4th grade, 2nd place -- Liliana Mendoza, Surprise Elementary
- 5th grade, 1st place -- Elizabeth Gielen, Marley Park
- 5th grade, 2nd place -- Manuela Busby Campuzano, Riverview
- 6th grade, 1st place -- Michaela Bergstrom, Ashton Ranch
- 6th grade, 2nd place -- Cerena Groves, Mountain View
- 7th grade, 1st place -- Maria Peralta, Dysart Elementary
- 7th grade, 2nd place -- Zenia Martinez, Marley Park
- 8th grade, 1st place -- Emily Ledezma Chavira, Rancho Gabriela
- 8th grade, 2nd place -- Reve' Gomez, Marley Park