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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Serrano Elementary School Named California Distinguished School**

ORANGE, Calif., April 20, 2010– State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O’Connell yesterday announced 484 exemplary California public elementary schools were selected as 2010 California Distinguished Schools. The Orange Unified School District is celebrating Serrano Elementary School as a selection.

“It is an honor to recognize the schools, and the students, parents, teachers, and administrators who helped earn this most prestigious distinction,” said O’Connell. “The 2010 California Distinguished Schools have been selected because of their academic excellence and for narrowing achievement gaps. These schools have persevered despite state budget cutbacks that have cut deeply into the budgets of local school districts.”

Carol Saukkola, Serrano 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and Angie King, Serrano 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher, worked as members of the school’s application writing team. “We are a unified team here at Serrano. We work well together and share information about each child,” said Mrs. Saukkola. Mrs. King added, “It is nice to be recognized for the hard work of the teachers, staff and parents. This validates the energy, time and effort we put in.”

Serrano principal Dr. Bobbie Lansman stated, “At Serrano, we use our best practices to promote academic achievement and school wide cohesiveness.”

The list of schools may be viewed online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/sr/cs/disting2010.asp>.

*The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA*

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