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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **OUSD Celebrates School Bus Drivers' Day**

ORANGE, Calif., April 27, 2010– Today school bus drivers throughout the State of California are being recognized and celebrated and it is no different here in Orange Unified. The fourth Tuesday of April is designated as School Bus Drivers' Day to officially recognize school bus drivers for their service to our school children.

The OUSD Transportation Leadership team is hosting a special luncheon and awards ceremony honoring the bus drivers, mechanics and support staff today. Randy Ruppel will receive the Peer School Bus Driver of the Year and Ed Quezada Peer Mechanic of the Year. These awards are voted on by their peers. In addition, milestone pins of five, ten and fifteen years of service will be presented along with a Safe Driver pin.

"This is a special day for our drivers and mechanics. They feel appreciated by our district and the recognition shows this. This is a nice morale booster," said Pam McDonald, Director of Transportation.

OUSD bus drivers transport over 2,500 students daily from their neighborhood bus stops with an additional 900 special needs students transported door-to-door. In addition, OUSD school bus drivers provide over 3,500 field trip, sports and activity trips annually. Finally, OUSD bus drivers log more than 1,500,000 miles annually or the equivalent of sixty times around the globe or five hundred cross continental trips.

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

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