



CONTACT:

Larry Hausner
OUSD Office of Communications
Tel. (714) 628-5577
Cell (949) 244-3881

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OUSD Schools Participate in the Great California Shakeout

ORANGE, Calif., October 21, 2010– Today at 10:21 A.M. schools throughout the Orange Unified School District participated in the “Great Southern California ShakeOut,” the largest earthquake preparedness activity in U.S. history. More than 7 million Californians participated in the ShakeOut drill this morning. With earthquakes an inevitable part of southern California’s future, Californians must act quickly to ensure that disasters do not become catastrophes. With this in mind, the Earthquake Country Alliance has organized the Great Southern California ShakeOut. The purpose of the ShakeOut is to practice how to protect ourselves during earthquakes and how to get prepared at work, school and home.

OUSD principals met with their staffs and students to prepare them on how to perform the Drop, Cover and Hold Drill, a quake safe action designed to protect lives and prevent injuries from falling furniture and flying objects. Staff and students evacuated their buildings according to the schools’ disaster plan.

A major earthquake could cause an unprecedented catastrophe. The ShakeOut drill centers on the southern earthquake scenario, a realistic portrayal of what could happen in a major earthquake on the southern end of the San Andreas Fault. The drill outlines a hypothetical 7.8 magnitude earthquake which would potentially devastate the region.

For more information please visit the Great Southern California ShakeOut website at www.shakeout.org

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

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