



Venado Middle School

Irvine Unified School District

Keith Tuominen, Ed.D., Principal ♦ Robert Valdez, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Venado Middle School! As our vision statement reminds us, we continually strive to "lead each student to recognize their greatest gifts and to reach their highest potential." Our desire is that our students are excited to come to school and view learning as a challenging and engaging experience. We believe this experience is heightened through a partnership between home and school and look forward to a continued collaboration with our parents.

On **Thursday, April 30**, we will host a 6th grade Parent Night at Venado. We invite you to attend this orientation as it will help familiarize you with all aspects of our program. Staff will be explaining the programs available at middle school and the requirements for all incoming students. This meeting, which is for parents, will begin at 7:00 PM and will be held in the Venado Commons. Staff will be available to answer any questions you may have.

On the same evening, at 6:00 PM, there will be an informational meeting, held in the theater, for parents interested in our GATE language arts and social science classes for gifted students. At 6:30 PM, there will be a meeting for parents of students in the special education program. The general meeting will follow for everyone at 7:00 PM.

We also encourage you to attend our Open House on **Thursday, May 14, from 5:00 - 8:00 PM**. Beginning at 5:00 PM, we will hold our traditional El Pollo Loco dinner (See the enclosed flyer for the order form, which must be returned with payment in the enclosed envelope to your child's 6th grade teacher by May 1st. Meals are guaranteed only if purchased in advance. You will pick up your dinner tickets at Venado on the evening of Open House). During dinner, our student groups provide entertainment. This event gives you an opportunity to meet members of the Venado community and to enjoy the many talents of our students. The classrooms open, and tours begin, at 6:30 PM. Spending this evening with us will give you and your child the opportunity to meet the Venado staff, observe student activities, view class work and projects, and meet and exchange ideas with current Venado parents.

Please return all registration materials and Open House dinner money to your child's 6th grade teacher no later than May 1st.

The Venado staff is looking forward to working with you and your child. The middle school years provide a wonderful opportunity to help your child reach the academic goals you have established. As we begin this adventure, we thank you for being an active partner in your child's education. If you have any questions, please call us at 936-6800.

Sincerely,

Keith Tuominen
Principal