



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA ALERT

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES TO OPEN WITH A BANG *SCUSD's newest small high school holds "hand-on" summer bridge day camp*

WHAT: In preparation for the opening of Sacramento City Unified School District's newest small high school, the School of Engineering and Sciences (SES), the school will be holding a summer bridge day camp August 21-23. This "hands-on" experience will include building solar cell cars, "Mad Science Demonstrations," and visits to the Challenger Museum and the Aerospace Museum.

SES is a college prep school where each student, under the guidance of an advisor, will follow an academically rigorous individualized learning plan designed to increase student achievement through integrated, hands-on learning experiences that promise to make learning both fun and rewarding. The school will participate in the Sacramento Regional Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Consortium, which involves students in project and problem based curriculum, utilizing cutting-edge technology to prepare them for success in science, math, technology and engineering careers. The School of Engineering and Sciences is a grade 7-12 school with classes beginning September 4, 2007. The School is an open enrollment school, accepting students throughout the entire Sacramento City Unified School District, by enrolling 7th and 9th graders (125 each) the first year, with additional grades to be added in subsequent years until the 7th-12th configuration is met. SES, at maximum capacity, is expected to serve up to 500 students.

Many students will also be afforded the opportunity to earn early college credit for their efforts through college and university partners. Our educational, business, and community partners include: Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, San Diego State University, Sacramento State University, Los Rios Community College District Sacramento City College, Vandenberg Air Force Base, the CA Space Authority, Women in Engineering Minorities in Engineering, The National Society of Black Engineers, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and local political organizations.

WHEN:	<u>Tuesday, August 21st</u>	<u>Wednesday, August 22nd</u>	<u>Thursday, August 23rd</u>
	8am – 12pm	8am – 12pm	8am – 3pm

Recommendation - Wednesday, August 22nd will provide most visual opportunities

WHERE: 6620 Gloria Drive (Old Bear Flag Elementary School)
Sacramento, CA

WHO: 200 enrolled 7th and 9th grade students
Society of Women Engineers
Hiram Johnson High School Seniors

WHY: The need for graduating seniors with science and engineering skills, in the United States' workforce, is increasing at an approximate rate of 5% each year, according to Bureau of Labor statistics. But, according to the National Science Board, the percentage of those pursuing college in engineering or science degrees has decreased 36 % over the last 10 years. Meanwhile, individuals who entered this field during the years of the space race (1960s and 1970s) are retiring. These numbers are alarming when contrasted with the surge the Bureau of Labor anticipates in engineering and science jobs of more than 40 percent by 2010. There is a concern as to who will fill these jobs, and it is highly probable that students from the SCUSD local project will be amongst those that champion the cause. Thus, the School of Engineering and Sciences offers a focused curriculum that seeks to fill this critical future need.

VISUALS: There will be a number of opportunities which include:

- "Students Fueling Students" - students will build cars using solar cell kits (8/21 & 8/22 from 10am-noon)
- "Mad Science Demonstration Lessons" - highlighting the physical sciences (8/22 10am-noon)
- All 200 students will visit the Challenger Museum and the Aerospace Museum (8/23 8 am-3 pm)