Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians

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MEDIA ALERT

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RINCON TRIBE TO SIGN MONUMENTAL MOU WITH VALLEY CENTER-PAUMA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Only Tribe in Region to Partner to Improve Student Attendance & Academics

Valley Center, CA... The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians and the Valley Center-Pauma Unified School District will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to further expand their partnership to help improve school attendance and academics of tribal students.

The signing of the MOU will be held on <u>Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 1:00 pm the Rincon Government Center located at One Government Center Lane in North San Diego County.</u> The ceremony will include keynote remarks from California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, Valley Center-Pauma Unified Superintendent Ron McCowan and Rincon Tribal Chairman Bo Mazzetti.

"Our tribal students are our number one priority," stated Chairman Mazzetti of the Rincon Tribe. "It is our hope this MOU will strengthen our efforts to keep our students in school, improve academic grade point averages and overall boost their self-esteem and confidence. We want to make sure we take the necessary steps to provide our students with the appropriate resources and tools they need to be successful. I appreciate the commitment Superintendent McCowan has taken to work together to make this program successful."

"We are thrilled to announce this historic agreement between the Valley Center-Pauma Unified School District and the Rincon Tribe. This partnership shows our collective commitment to supporting students by working collaboratively with a sovereign tribal nation. Together, we will create enriching educational opportunities that honor and integrate the rich cultural heritage of the Rincon Tribe, ensuring a brighter future for all our students," expressed VC Superintendent McCowan "We look forward to seeing the positive impact this partnership will have on their academic achievement, social-emotional growth, and overall well-being."

The MOU will provide interventions and other support to Rincon students aimed at improving school attendance and academic performance ultimately reducing expulsion and suspension rates.

ABOUT THE TRIBE: The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians is a sovereign government recognized by the United States of America. The Tribe owns Harrah's Resort Southern California and uses profits from this and other commercial enterprises to provide government services including tribal security and environmental enforcement; economic development; healthcare and culture programs; and a tribal court. At no cost to taxpayers, Rincon's public safety operations respond to emergencies in the neighboring communities, with more than a majority of calls generating outside the Reservation. Rincon's tribal enterprises are significant contributors to the San Diego County economy through job creation, tax generation, purchase of local products and services and charitable donations. More information can be found at: **rincon-nsn.gov**.

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