CUSD PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE MARIAN BERGESON

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO—It was with much sadness that we heard of the passing of The Honorable Marian Bergeson this morning. Her work and her legacy continue to make an impact on Capistrano Unified students and the education they receive in our public schools.

Marian Bergeson was a schoolteacher, a School Board Member and a Newport Beach City Council Member. In 1978 she was elected to the California State Assembly’s 74th District. In 1984, she made history by winning the 37th District State Senate Seat—the first woman ever to serve in both the State Assembly and State Senate.

In 1985, she became Supervisor for Orange County’s 5th District and then spent three years as the Secretary of Education.

“Her dedicated advocacy for young people and high-quality education is such a gift for our children in public schools,” said Superintendent Kirsten Vital. “It was such an honor to celebrate her work and her 90th birthday at Marian Bergeson Elementary School last year. She is a great example of a truly dedicated public servant.”

CUSD Board President Amy Hanacek acknowledged, “Marian Bergeson’s passing is a huge loss to education. The loving tributes shared throughout the state today prove that her poise, her strong, joyful presence and her wisdom were a guiding light to many. She loved her work and serving children and we will truly miss her.”

“On behalf of the Board of Trustees and all of our CUSD personnel, we want Ms. Bergeson’s family and friends to know that they are in our thoughts and prayers,” stated President Hanacek. “The very Honorable Marian Bergeson left a lasting impact on our students and we are grateful for her leadership and life.”

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