



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

City College • Mesa College
Miramar College • Continuing Education



MEDIA ADVISORY

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“Topping Off” at Miramar College Arts & Humanities and Business & Math classroom buildings

Construction milestone marks placement of highest structural element

What: Topping-off ceremony for dual classroom building project

When: Friday, December 4, 2009, 11:30 a.m. - noon.

Where: 10440 Black Mountain Rd., San Diego, CA 92126 (*park in Staff Parking Lot #3*)

Background:

A ‘topping off’ marks the point when a structure’s highest element is hoisted into place, a practice that started in Scandinavia over 1,000 years ago. Upon reaching the highest point, workers traditionally put into place a small evergreen tree as a symbol of good faith and good luck.

In keeping with this longstanding construction tradition, a 35-40 foot beam, one of nearly 2200 pieces of structural steel of used for the future Arts & Humanities and Business & Mathematics buildings - will be painted white, and made available for construction workers, campus and district dignitaries, students and others to sign before it is lifted into place along with an evergreen tree and American flag.

Construction on the \$34.1 million [dual classroom building project](#) began in April 2009. Both buildings are expected to obtain a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification from the US Green Building Council (USGBC). The projects are expected to be completed September 2010. Both projects are winners of the [Project of Distinction in Education Design](#) for their sustainable features.

The two classroom buildings are among six projects under active construction as part of the San Diego Community College District’s \$1.555 billion Propositions S & N construction bond



program, providing for new teaching and learning facilities, major renovations and campus-wide infrastructure projects at City, Mesa and Miramar Colleges, and six Continuing Education campuses. Another 19 projects are currently in design and instructional programming. For more information, visit <http://www.sdccdprops-n.com>.

Visuals/

Media Availability

- Signing of the steel beam
- Lifting of the steel beam into place with evergreen tree and American flag
- Construction crew, district and campus faculty and staff, trustees, Citizens' Oversight Committee members, students
- Steel crane and other construction equipment
- Spanish speaker will be available

View past topping-off ceremonies:

[Allied Health Building](#) at San Diego Mesa College, September 9, 2008

[Career Technology Center](#) at San Diego City College, May 2, 2009

To obtain high-resolution renderings and/or construction photographs, please contact Ursula Kroemer at (760) 705-6919 or ukroemer@gafcon.com.