

**Laguna Niguel elementary school in Laguna Niguel, CA starts a new tradition ---
“Salute the Kids”**



Here is the latest:

News in our Schools

San Juan Capistrano school district voluntarily to begin requesting parents to self-identify military connected children.

Recently the California’s’ Orange County Department of Education (OCEDU) began requesting their school districts with 606 schools to modify their school forms to self-identify. Sharing how the schools can receive support for military connected children. They shared that Military Childrens Collaborative Group (MCCG) supports military connected children, Active Duty, non-active, Reserves, National Guard, and Veteran children. MCCG developed and received approval from OCEDU Salute the Kids Toolkit for schools to create an assembly acknowledging military connected students.

This past May, Principal Michelle Moore of Laguna Niguel elementary (located not near a military base) thought bringing awareness to military children was a great idea. Following the White House lead, having the support from OCEDU and MCCG to begin acknowledging the military children. Principal Michelle Moore took the leap having a school assembly and using MCCG’s “Salute the Kids” toolkit. Inviting Debbie Nichols, founder of Military Childrens Collaborative Group to speak to the families of 606 students and share what MCCG is trying to achieve.

Principal Moore’s school has routine assemblies acknowledging student’s birthdays and outstanding performances. Now the staff can acknowledge military children and thank them for also serving our Country.

Prior to the assembly, Principal Michelle Moore shared with Debbie Nichols she felt there were more military parents that have not self-identified to her, and now they will have a reason. She believes more parents will be willing to come forward.

Principal Michelle Moore introduced Debbie Nichols to the crowd, and Debbie shared her personal experience and how she founded a MCCG nonprofit to help support children in our schools. The crowd applauded! Principal Moore presented the Recognition for serving our Country to the military connected students.