

**For Immediate Release
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Sweetwater School Psychologist Honored by Statewide Association

Clarisa Gomez, a school psychologist with the Sweetwater Union High School District, received the Nadine M. Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist Award for her contributions to the profession by the California Association of School Psychologists (CASP) at its annual convention held March 13-15 in Burlingame.

Ms. Gomez was instrumental in creating a comprehensive district-wide training program and handbook for administrators, psychologists, counselors and other staff members. She is the lead of the district's Crisis Response Team and had a major role in the response to the recent San Diego County firestorm. She also works with neighboring school districts on crisis-related issues.

In the special education realm, Ms. Gomez is a site special education administrator, working in classrooms to ensure students are engaged and that teachers receive needed support. She also works on the district's compliance with state and federal mandates. She is also a member of the district superintendent's Strategic Planning Committee, and gives voice to issues of race, ethnicity and equity.

The Nadine M. Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist Award recognizes the contributions school psychologists have made to the schools, students and profession, and is awarded on a regional basis. Ms. Gomez was recognized as the Outstanding School Psychologist for the region that encompasses San Diego and Imperial counties. She is a resident of San Diego.

The California Association of School Psychologists, with about 3,000 members, is the largest state school psychologists association in the country. It provides continuing education, resource and referral and advocacy to school psychologists throughout the state. Formed in the early 1950s, the association works to ensure safe learning environments for all K-12 students.

For more information on CASP and on school psychology, please visit our web site at www.casponline.org. For a photo of Ms. Gomez, please contact Heidi Holmblad at 916/444-1595 or at communications@casponline.org.