



Thousand Oaks Auto Mall Helps Local Schools Survive Budget Cuts with \$1 million Gift

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Thousand Oaks, CA ([PRWEB](#)) November 2, 2004 -- While drastic budget cuts continue to affect schools throughout California, dealers at the Thousand Oaks Auto Mall are proud to announce that they have reached their goal of \$1 million donated to local schools and are throwing a party for the entire community to celebrate how well the schools have used this gift to improve educational standards. It's a free day of fun for all local families, Sunday, November 7, 11 am-3:00 pm at the Thousand Oaks Auto Mall.

"Half the schools we support have over 50% of their students on free and reduced lunches. Budget cuts have had a drastic effect on these schools. I believe that local businesses have a responsibility to share their wealth where it is most needed in the community. The principals and teachers at these schools do an outstanding job of educating their students, despite the challenges they face. Several of the schools have made huge improvements in their test scores recently and we are proud to be able to be a part of these improvements," said A.J. Patterson, Thousand Oaks Auto Mall President.

In January 1999, the Thousand Oaks Auto Mall began supporting six cash starved local elementary schools by pledging quarterly donations for extras such as books, computer-assisted reading programs and to furnish computers for each classroom. Employees are also paid their hourly wage to volunteer at local elementary schools on a variety of projects, from reading to students to assisting with homework. Dealers continue to pay regular visits to the schools and are proud to be able to contribute to such positive changes in the lives of local children. The stories include students helped by homework clubs that would not otherwise have existed, new computer labs and a talented young girl who was able to pursue her love of music.

"Some of our parents work two to three jobs to support their children and do not have the time or means to raise the tens and in some cases hundreds of thousands of dollars available to other PTAs. The funds from Thousand Oaks Auto Mall have enabled us to hire a computer teacher, teach kids how to use a computer, purchase additional computers and support our computer lab. Without them, these programs would not exist," said Beverly Eidmann, Manzanita Elementary School principal.

The Thousand Oaks Auto Mall currently supports six Title One elementary schools in the Conejo Valley: Walnut, Conejo, Park Oaks, Manzanita, Glenwood and Acacia.

To help celebrate the occasion, the Thousand Oaks Auto Mall and the schools are throwing a party to celebrate how well the schools have used this gift to improve educational standards.



Media will be interested in:

- * 70 kids will perform new rap song specially written for the event. The donations were used to sponsor music and drama programs at 2 schools.
- * 17 piece school band will perform 2 numbers.
- * Student to make a speech about how his life has been changed by one of the programs the school has been able to provide due to the donation.
- * PTA members and students available to discuss how this gift has positively affected their lives.
- * Booths from each school highlighting the success of a business/school partnership Â two schools were recently recognized as California Distinguished schools.

Additional Information:

Sunday, November 7th from 11am to 3pm. Performances begin at 11:30 am.
Thousand Oaks Auto Mall, between Marmon and Auburn. Take the Westlake exit of the 101 Freeway.

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