



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Katie Keach, 619-235-5268

Donations Needed for University Heights School Burned by Arson
Councilmember Gloria Urges Community to Help

SAN DIEGO, CA (January 17, 2012) – San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria today urged San Diegans to donate supplies to Alice Birney Elementary School, which was the target of arson late last night.

“I am devastated by the arson at Birney Elementary,” said Councilmember Gloria. “But the school, its students, and its faculty and staff will come back even better than before. The community can help make that happen by donating necessary items.”

Principal Amanda Hammond Williams indicates that all materials for the before-school and after-school programs were lost in the blaze. Please make a monetary donation online at www.friendsofalicebirney.org. Because of the ongoing investigation and clean up work at the school, please do not bring donations directly to the school.

The school, located on Campus Avenue in University Heights, is expected to reopen tomorrow. School closure information is available on its official website: <http://new.sandi.net/schools/birney/Pages/default.aspx>.

Councilmember Gloria toured the school site this morning and met with officials from the Metro Arson Strike Team. He’s also been in contact with the San Diego Police Department and called several University Heights leaders to share what he learned thus far. He will continue to keep the community updated as new information is available.

Further, Councilmember Gloria asks any neighbor who saw anything suspicious near the school late in the evening of January 16, to call San Diego County Crime Stoppers at 888-580-8477 or send an anonymous text or web tip at sdcrimestoppers.com. Tips may lead to a reward of up to \$10,000. The Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is offering additional reward of \$5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible.

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