

Agenda Date: March 17, 2016
Agenda Placement: Regular
Estimated Time: 5 minutes
Continued Item: No

Board Agenda Item

TO: Air Pollution Control District Board

FROM: Aeron Arlin Genet, Air Pollution Control Officer

CONTACT: Mary Byrd, Community Programs Supervisor (961-8833)

SUBJECT: District Representation at Santa Barbara County Education Office Education Celebration Event

RECOMMENDATION:

Designate one Board member (if desired) to attend the Santa Barbara County Education Office Education Celebration on May 26, 2016, at approximately 5:30 p.m. at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott in Buellton, to recognize teachers selected for Care for Our Earth grants. The District Air Pollution Control Officer will be attending the event.

DISCUSSION:

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District has partnered with the Santa Barbara County Education Office for more than twelve years, supporting environmental and science projects of teachers in Santa Barbara County. At the March 2014 meeting, your Board presented the Education Office with a Resolution of Appreciation for its partnership in these programs. Since 2009, the District has worked with the Education Office on the Care for Our Earth program providing mini-grants of up to \$300 to teachers performing environmental education and service projects. Utility companies and the County Water Agency have joined this effort. These grants support our clean-air mission and have helped thousands of students understand environmental, energy, alternative transportation, and science concepts. The projects have also provided benefits to schools, saving on energy and water costs, and reducing traffic.

In 2016, Care for Our Earth grants will be awarded to 38 teachers at 25 schools in the county. The District's contribution of \$4,300 to the program covers approximately 12 grants and the costs to the Education Office of administering the program. Teachers will be recognized at the May 26 event; the list of grant recipients is attached.