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BARONA EDUCATION GRANT WILL PROVIDE LAPTOPS FOR RAMONA LUTHERAN STUDENTS TO ENHANCE LEARNING

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\$5,000 Award Will Give Middle School Students Access to Laptop Computers



May 17, 2011 – Middle school students at Ramona Lutheran School are set to benefit from a \$5,000 education grant awarded today by the [Barona Band of Mission Indians](#). Assemblyman Brian Jones (R-Santee) joined Principal Donna Myers in accepting the grant that was presented to the school by Edwin "Thorpe" Romero, Chairman of the Barona Band of Mission Indians.

"Today's teaching and learning process is being transformed by technology," said Chairman Romero. "Barona is pleased to award this grant that will provide middle school students at Ramona Lutheran with access to computers. Our hope is to enrich their educational experience and help prepare them for high school."

Established in 1977, Ramona Lutheran School is an outreach of Ramona Lutheran Church, and is the only private Christian school in Ramona. According to school officials, the school lacks sufficient funding to purchase necessary educational resources for all of its students. The administrators will use Barona's grant to purchase 14 laptop computers for use by its students in grades six through eight.

"Barona is providing a great resource for our middle school students who need to be competitive in the 21st century," said Principal Myers. "At a time when we're moving away from textbooks and using more productive educational website programs, this award will help give all of our middle school students access to up-to-date curriculum, which will enhance their education experience."

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The Barona Band of Mission Indians has been sharing resources through its Barona Education Grant Program since 2006, awarding over \$1.3 million to more than 250 schools statewide. The Barona Education Grant Program, created and administered by a Tribal Government, is the first of its kind in California. The goal of the program is to create strong educational opportunities for the children of California by building upon the success of the Barona Indian Charter School, which operates under a continuous improvement model.

Schools throughout California can apply for educational grants from Barona to purchase much-needed supplies and materials that promote academic improvement. Each grant awarded by the Barona Education Grant Program is \$5,000. Applications can be downloaded at <http://www.barona-nsn.gov/index.php?q=education>.

About the Barona Band of Mission Indians

The Barona Band of Mission Indians, recognized by the United States government as a sovereign nation, has lived on the Barona Indian Reservation in rural eastern San Diego County since 1932. Prior to that, the Tribe lived on the Capitan Grande Reservation which was established by the federal government in 1875. Long before living on a reservation, the Tribe traveled across Southern California in tune with the seasons and what nature provided. Today, the sovereign nation, governed by an elected Tribal Council, is serving its Tribal members, their families, and sharing with the San Diego region. One of the most successful gaming Tribes in the country, Barona also owns and operates the Barona Resort & Casino, San Diego's leading gaming resort, casino and golf course. For more information, visit www.barona-nsn.gov.

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