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6th ANNUAL ABC FUN RUN GROWING WITH OVER 600 RUNNERS AND 58 SPONSORS

Cerritos, CA – April 23, 2018 – The 2018 ABC Fun Run moved its event to Saturday, May 5th this year to encourage more participation from students in ABCUSD schools. In the past, the event was held the day after school ended, which proved a challenge with families leaving on vacation. This move to May 5th is already showing a positive impact as over 600 runners/walkers have already registered. Most registrations come in the last two weeks before the event, so it's possible over 1,000 runners/walkers could show up this year.

Sponsored by the ABC Education Foundation, this ABC Fun Run is hosted again by Los Cerritos Center shopping mall and features a 5K run/walk starting at 7:30 am; a 2K run/walk at 8:15 am and a Kids Run starting at 9:00 am. Everyone who participates will receive medals. Trophies for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place finishers by age/gender categories and Best Team Perpetual trophies will be awarded. Fifty sponsors have already committed to support this event. This is the ABC Fun Run's 6th year.

New this year is the Fun Run 5K route.

"The beginning of the run will start at Los Cerritos Center as it has in the past," said Ken Kraus, Senior Property Manager at Los Cerritos Center, ABC Education Foundation board member, and

Title Sponsor of the event, “and runners will leave the Center onto 183rd street, turn right onto Studebaker to Artesia, then return to the Center for one lap around the Center to the finish line in front of the Food Court. Partial street closures around 183rd, Studebaker, and Artesia Blvd will offer participants new scenery before they return to the mall and complete one lap around the mall. Entertainment will be staged around the route from students in ABCUSD schools including bands and cheerleaders.”

Over 58 sponsors have already committed to supporting this year’s event. Major sponsors include: **Title Sponsor (\$10,000+)**: Los Cerritos Center; **Platinum Sponsor (\$7,500+)**: Los Cerritos Community News; **Gold Sponsors (\$5,000+)**: Browning Automotive Group and Gateway Guardian; **Silver Sponsors (\$2,500+)**: Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa, KHS&S Contractors, and LBS Financial Credit Union; **Bronze Sponsors (\$1,500+)**: ABC PTA Regional Council, ABC Federation of Teachers, CareMore Health, and PIH Health. **Friends of ABC Sponsors (\$1,000+)**: Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce, Desmond E. Thompson, Fleet Manager at Lexus of Cerritos, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Frida Mexican Cuisine, Northgate Markets, Renegade Race Series, Dr. Mark Chung Sleep & Lung MD, and The Giordano Family/UBS. **Community Sponsors (\$500+)**: Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud and Romo, Celia & Howard Spitzer, Cerritos Oral Surgery, Children’s Happy Teeth, Cindy Yen Chen, City of Artesia, City of Cerritos, Heather Summers, Nationwide Insurance, Sheraton Cerritos, Water Replenishment District, and Woman’s Club of Artesia-Cerritos.

Community Expo booths and Family level sponsors from the \$100-\$499 level have also committed to support the event.

The Fun Run proceeds ensure the Foundation’s annual grants for innovative teacher projects can happen each year. Over \$38,000 in grants were provided to ABCUSD schools at a January 2018 event from last year’s Fun Run proceeds and from the Foundation’s Enrichment Academy.

To register, visit the website abcfunrun.org and select Registration. You will be directed to the Racewire registration site. Creating a team is easy; just follow the online steps in the registration process. Schools are encouraged to come up with creative team names and costumes. Online registration is open through May 2nd. After May 2nd, registration is only available on-site at the event. The Community Expo includes free health, physical and dental screenings, wellness information and fun activities for kids including a bounce house and photo booth.

“The ABC Fun Run has become an important community event bringing together students, families, business leaders, and the entire community for a focus on health and wellness,” said Ms. Melinda Ortiz, Principal of Nixon Academy in ABC and co-chair of the event. “We appreciate all of the ongoing support from our local businesses and are excited to see our event continue to grow with more participation from our schools this year.”

The ABC Education Foundation is the fundraising arm for the ABC Unified School District. For more information on the ABC Education Foundation, contact Heather Summers at (714) 270-2570.

About the ABC Education Foundation

The ABC Education Foundation was founded in 2011 to support ABCUSD programs in jeopardy due to budget cuts. From inception through 2018, the Foundation has funded over \$300,000 in programs for ABC schools, the majority given to schools through an annual grant program as well as their annual school backpack initiative. One of the ABC Education Foundation’s largest fundraisers is the ABC Fun Run that is now in its sixth year. The ABC Education Foundation also provides educational opportunities for local students through their Enrichment Academy, where all funds raised also support ABCUSD schools. The Foundation also helped secure \$3.5 million in additional grants for the district over the last several years.