



For Immediate Release
May 3, 2010

Contact: Elena Castro
(760) 768-3888

**TEN CALEXICO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOLS AFFECTED
BY APRIL 4 EARTHQUAKE TO REOPEN WEDNESDAY, MAY 5**

CALEXICO – Ten of the 12 Calexico Unified School District schools affected by the magnitude 7.2 earthquake that struck the area on April 4 will reopen on Wednesday, CUSD Superintendent Dr. Christina Luna announced today.

“Work to ensure the safety of students and staff has been completed at all schools in the district except Calexico High School and Jefferson Elementary,” said Dr. Luna. “Because high winds have slowed the efforts of crews to abate the asbestos hazard the earthquake created at Calexico High and Jefferson Elementary, we are unable to open those schools at this time.

“We understand the frustration of students, parents and teachers over the length of time it has taken to resume classes,” Dr. Luna added. “Since the earthquake, the safety of students and staff and getting students back into the classroom have been our top priorities.”

Weather-permitting abatement crews will be working extended hours to remove any remaining hazards so that contractors can make repairs and students can resume classes.

“We hope to resume classes at Calexico High on May 10 and to finalize plans for Jefferson Elementary later this week,” said Dr. Luna.

The earthquake damaged all 12 schools in the district as well as the CUSD administration building. Additional repairs, including work on the pool and vocational classrooms at Calexico High and the replacement of damaged soffits at Calexico High, De Anza Jr. High, Jefferson Elementary and Mains Elementary, will be conducted this summer.

Dr. Luna also announced that food service will be provided for Calexico High School and Jefferson Elementary students at Calexico Community Center beginning Tuesday, April 4, and continuing there until school resumes for those students. She also said that Tuesday will be the final day food service will be offered to the community and available only at the Calexico Community Center.

Information is available by calling 760-768-3897.

###