

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Riverside Prep Elementary School Teacher Honored by Teachers R Heroes**

**Victorville, March 20, 2012...** Gather a bunch of grade school children in an outdoor assembly, don't tell them why they are there, surprise them with a Teachers R Heroes presentation and you have an instant charged atmosphere. This was the setting that surrounded the selection of Connie Rojas, third grade teacher at Riverside Preparatory Elementary School, as this month's honoree. Add to this mix: family members, fellow teachers, school and district officials and you have the ingredients for success and tears... lots of tears.

The nomination submitted on Mrs. Rojas' behalf had many good things to say about this veteran teacher's dedication to the profession, her students, and her school. The nominator wrote, "I have known Connie Rojas for several years, and I feel that she truly deserves to be recognized for the excellence she shows as a teacher. I met Connie 4 years ago, when she was my oldest daughter's teacher. This year a second daughter is blessed to have her. Every child at her school wants her for a teacher, (not to say the other teachers are bad teachers, because they are great.) Mrs. Rojas makes up songs to help the kids remember facts. (Even the kids that aren't in her class can be heard singing them at recess.) She expects a lot from the kids, and they rise to her expectations. She uses her own money and gets donations for frequent raffles to motivate the kids to do their best. At the end of every year she raffles off 2 bikes, and other great prizes. This year she spent 40 plus hours, of her break, editing a fabulous class video for a project that they were working on. Not to mention all of the other time she spends outside of class. The year, my daughter scored 100% on 8 out of 10 of the state tests. I know that is because of Mrs. Rojas' fact songs, and her wonderful way of getting the kids excited to learn and remember. Whenever I ask my daughter how her day is, she responds, "Of course it was great. I have Mrs. Rojas for a teacher!"

Connie Rojas exemplifies what teaching should be. These are a few of the many reasons Connie is a great teacher. I am grateful my girls have been lucky enough to have her as a teacher. All of the parents of her students both past and present agree that she deserves this honor.

The "Teachers are Heroes" program is sponsored by Victor Valley College, El Dorado Broadcasting, and the Daily Press. School participation is coordinated through San Bernardino County Schools. Participating businesses and agencies include Little Caesars Pizza, Red Robin Restaurants, Vitelli's Deli, Reed Foods, Victorville Speed Wash, Ultra Star Theaters, Horace Mann- Robert Stepanian, Edible Arrangements, and Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt.

Teacher nominations may be submitted in the form of 500 words-or-less essays to [www.KATCOUNTRY1007.com](http://www.KATCOUNTRY1007.com), [www.Y102FM.com](http://www.Y102FM.com), [www.TheFox106.com](http://www.TheFox106.com), [www.Talk960.com](http://www.Talk960.com), or [www.vvc.edu](http://www.vvc.edu). Nominations may also be sent by mail to Victor Valley College, Teachers are Heroes, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395, attention Dr. Lori Kildal.