



Academy of  
Arts & Sciences

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## **Academy of Arts & Sciences (AAS) Partners with TeamBonding to Provide Back to School Backpacks for Mountain Empire Unified School District**

*Thousand Oaks, CA* – AAS partnered with TeamBonding during their recent All-Staff Retreat to fill 30 backpacks with back to school supplies as part of a team building activity. Close to 100 staff participated in the activity and filled the backpacks for Mountain Empire USD. AAS selected Mountain Empire USD as the beneficiary because the retreat was in San Diego County, and they are the authorizer for San Diego County, in addition to being great partners in education.

“We truly value our partnership with the Academy of Arts and Sciences. We have already given out some of the backpacks to our students who need the school supplies and they were received with great enthusiasm and appreciation,” said Dr. Kathy Granger, Mountain Empire USD Superintendent.

The “Tools For Schools” program is part of the TeamBonding’s Corporate Social Responsibility Team Building series. This program is a fun, interactive, and productive way to bring teams together and unite them toward a common goal of helping the local community. School supplies can be expensive, especially for middle and high school scholars. “Tools For Schools” provided a great way for AAS to help make a difference in our community.

“This was a terrific and engaging team building activity for our entire staff,” said J.J. Lewis, AAS President & CEO. “And it was great for our AAS family to be able to give back to one of our great partners to help ensure their scholars have some resources as they start the 2016-17 school year.”

### **About the Academy of Arts & Sciences**

Academy of Arts & Sciences (AAS) is one of California’s leading WASC-accredited virtual public charter schools serving scholars throughout the state, with Learning Centers located in San Diego and Thousand Oaks. AAS offers a home study and online option for scholars in grades kindergarten through 12. AAS is committed to creating a collaborative virtual learning community, inspiring scholars to appreciate the ways in which arts and sciences nurture a curiosity for lifelong learning, and preparing scholars to take responsibility for their future successes.

For more information about AAS, visit [www.aascalifornia.org](http://www.aascalifornia.org).

### **About Mountain Empire Unified School District**

The Mountain Empire Unified School District is the Southeastern most school district in San Diego County, bordering the Mexican State of Baja California on the South and Imperial County on the East. Mountain Empire Unified School District encompasses over 660 square miles, and serves approximately 1,600 students per year. The District began educating students in 1923 and was composed of seven elementary schools and one union high school. Unification of the District took place in 1952. The District now consists of two (2) elementary schools, Pre-K through 8th grade; two (2) elementary schools, Pre-K through 5th grade; two (2) middle schools, 6th through 8th grade; one (1) high school; an Alternative Education Program and a Transition Program which serves Special Education students after high school, ages 18 to 22.

For more information about MEUSD, visit [meusd.schoolwires.net](http://meusd.schoolwires.net).