



Community Services Department

For Release: **Immediate**
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S.T.A.R.S. Shining Bright in Yucaipa

The City of Yucaipa's Community Services Department is pleased to once again invite your child to join the "S.T.A.R.S." (Science, Technology, Arts, Recreation for Success) Before and After School Program for the 2016/2017 academic year. The "S.T.A.R.S." Program provides a safe, affordable, quality before and after school program, which strives to assist students achieve higher grades and improve school attendance and behavior through supervised activities. Located on seven local school campuses, students in grades K-8 are engaged in a variety of educational activities throughout the school year.

The "S.T.A.R.S." Program saw a 14% increase in participation during the 2015/2016 academic year from the previous school year. Sarah Martinez, Community Services Coordinator, attributes the enrollment increase to *"the City's continuing effort to strive for a quality before and after school program that provides a holistic approach for all students. Education, social skills, and recreation are a passion for all "S.T.A.R.S." Program staff to share with all of Yucaipa's youth."*

In addition, parents felt that their children have benefitted from participating in the program for a second year. *"The "S.T.A.R.S." Program is a safe, fun, positive, and affordable option for parents seeking care for their children. Children experience a planned agenda, including time for homework, explore and engage in physical exercise, social interaction, and team building"* said Ms. Niki B. *"I*

have been pleased with the staff and the program, and will continue to send my daughter to the "S.T.A.R.S." Program for the remainder of her elementary years."

The "S.T.A.R.S." Program is a collaborative effort between the City and the Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District. The City is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2016/2017 school year. Parents interested in enrolling their child can contact their school site or the Yucaipa Community Center for an application and parent handbook. For more information about the Yucaipa "S.T.A.R.S." Program, please contact Sarah Martinez at (909)790-7460, extension 322, or visit our website at www.yucaipa.org.

Come and be one of the shining "S.T.A.R.S." in the City of Yucaipa's Before and After School Program this school year!