

## Helping sixth-grade boys embrace a new chapter in their lives

The Chino Rotary Club hosted “Stepping Up For Boys,” an event for sixth-grade boys transitioning into junior high school.

More than 200 people, including 80 boys and their parents, attended the April 30 event at the Chino Community Building. Topics covered were the dangers of the internet, bullying, how to be confident in the seventh grade, and what not to wear once they start junior high school in the fall.

Chris Little, News Director for KFI AM 640 news radio and I Heart Radio, emceed the program. Guest speakers included Chino Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) Superintendent Wayne M. Joseph, CVUSD School Board Member James Na, Ramona Junior High Principal Kathy Nash, Butterfield Ranch Elementary School Assistant Principal Renae Ramsey, City of Chino Human Services Counselor Maribel Gonzalez, Boys Republic Associate Director Lance Parks, and Chino Police Officer John Cervantes, who is assigned to Ramona and Magnolia junior high schools in Chino as a School Resource Officer. Chino Police Chief Karen C. Comstock made a guest appearance to offer her professional insight and inspire the youngsters. The Don Lugo Drama Club also made a special presentation on what to wear and what not to wear in junior high. The boys were also treated to a light breakfast, participated in games and drawings, and had a pizza lunch. They were given a Rotary Backpack and one participant, Aidan Torres from Cal Aero Preserve Academy, won the grand prize of a 26-inch Mongoose Mountain Bike.

“I am thankful for the opportunity to reach out to the boys of our community and provide them with tools that will prepare them for the transition into the next level of their academic careers,” Chino Rotary Club President Dale Bright said.

“We hope to make this an annual event for years to come,” President-Elect Melinda Robbins said.

Pictured:



Sixth-grade boys and their parents fill the Chino Community Building for the Stepping Up For Boys event on April 30 to help them transition to junior high school. The program was sponsored by the Chino Rotary Club.



Cal Aero Preserve Academy sixth-grader Aidan Torres wins the grand prize of a mountain bike at the event. With him is Chino Rotary Club President Dale Bright.



Chino Police Chief Karen Comstock, a graduate of Don Lugo High in Chino, offers some insight on junior high.



Chino Police Officer John Cervantes, a School Resource Officer assigned to Ramona and Magnolia junior high schools, talks to the sixth-graders.



Ramona Junior High Principal Kathy Nash describes the junior high experience at the Stepping Up For Boys event on April 30.