



The O'Farrell Charter Schools

The O'Farrell Elementary School
The O'Farrell Middle School

The O'Farrell High School
Ingenuity Charter School

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: The O'Farrell Charter Schools

San Diego - July 31, 2026 The O'Farrell Charter Schools is aware of a video circulating widely online depicting a young man attacking a sea lion in our area. Like everyone else who has viewed it, our school community is distressed by what the video shows. Cruelty toward animals has no place in the values we work to instill in our students, and we do not condone the behavior depicted.

We want to clarify the facts as they relate to our schools. The individuals depicted in the video have no current or prior affiliation with The O'Farrell Charter Schools. They are not students, former students, or employees. Contrary to what has been reported and shared online, the individual shown in the video is not, to the best of our knowledge, the son of an O'Farrell employee.

Because this is an active law enforcement investigation, we will not speculate about the identities of those involved or repeat unverified claims concerning possible personal or family relationships, and we ask members of the public and the news media to do the same. The O'Farrell Charter Schools has not been contacted by investigators from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration regarding this matter. We remain available and willing to assist in their investigation. Please refrain from spreading unverified information that incorrectly associates our schools, students, employees, or leadership with this incident.

Since this misinformation began circulating, multiple employees and our school offices have received upsetting and, in some cases, threatening messages. We respectfully ask that these messages stop, that concerns be directed to the appropriate authorities rather than to our staff, and that the public rely on verified information rather than speculation. As we work through this, our community's focus remains on preparing for a successful start to the 2026-27 school year.

The O'Farrell Charter Schools supports whatever appropriate criminal or civil accountability may result from the cruelty shown in the video. We unequivocally condemn animal cruelty in all forms, and our schools remain committed to developing students of exceptional character as we teach them to act with integrity, treat others with respect, demonstrate resilience, and take responsibility for their actions.

We appreciate the public's understanding as we work to correct this misinformation and support our school community during this time.

Media inquiries should be directed to: Superintendent Cindy Wagner's office at communications@ofarrellschool.org



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AVID National Demonstration School

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Superintendent: **Cindy Wagner**

Board of Directors: **Shar Dela Cruz, Talib Mahdi, Troy Owens, Dominic Cooper, Danielle Porter**