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October 30, 2010 – Mission Viejo – Over 700 people attended the first ever Taste of Capo held at Capistrano Valley High School on October 21, 2010.

The event was organized by the CVHS Foundation. Eighteen local restaurants donated samples of their food.

“We raised over \$10,000 for the school” said Foundation President, Sharon Campbell. “For our first event like this, we are thrilled with the result. And, we’re delighted at how the local restaurants and the community got behind the event,” she added.

Principal Deni Christensen shared this message with the school via an email to all parents and students. “I would like to thank those of you who were able to attend our First Annual Taste of Capo last night, where over 700 people joined us. It was an incredible evening of fabulous food, music, a silent auction and lots of fun! Hopefully this event will grow each year and become a cornerstone of our school’s Foundation’s fundraising efforts. A dedicated group of about 10 parent volunteers worked hundreds of hours over the past six months to pull this event together, and I want them to know how much our school community appreciates their efforts. As principal, I was so very proud of our Cougar community last night.”

In addition she asked the school’s parents and students to patronize the restaurant food vendors who supported the event noting that

they donated their food, paper goods and employees at no cost.

She added “I want them to know that their generosity was greatly appreciated by the Capo community. And when you visit their establishments (or perhaps consider them for any catering you might need) please make sure you tell them you saw them at the Taste of Capo. We hope to have them return next year and to add several more restaurants to the event.”

Food, always a great attraction for high school students, was a big draw card to the event. Junior, Gus Shafron was determined to taste every restaurant offering. "I went to every restaurant and sampled all the food - I couldn't believe how much delicious food there was. My favorite taste was the pesto salmon from Nirvana Grille."

Senior James Bennett also attended. "I didn't make it to all the restaurants - there were too many! My favorite taste was Jersey Mike's. It was great to see so many people raising money for our school. I wish they had had this event before my senior year."

Rave reviews were also shared by the supportive staff at CVHS.

“The atmosphere and vendor selections, the DJ and décor were all fabulous! All of my family members who attended could not stop raving about the event and hope to attend again next year,” said Erin Theisen, School Psychologist.

Sage Sprankle shared her experience. “My mom and I attended the event last night and had a fabulous time tasting foods such as pesto salmon, spicy ribs, and mint brownies. I also loved the social aspect of the event. It was great to see so many faces from our community.”

“My husband and I enjoyed everything about it, especially the

food. It was delicious and we look forward to coming again next year!” enthused Lynne Churchfield, Guidance Secretary and IB-CAS Coordinator.

2010 Taste of Capo Restaurant Food Donors:

Berkeley Dog, Booster's Sports Grill, Chick-fil-A - Laguna Niguel, Cosmo's Italian Kitchen, Donna B's, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Hanna's Restaurant • Bar, EJ's House of Chicken and Ribs, It's A Grind, Coffee House, Jersey Mike's, La Rana Authentic Mexican Food, Nirvana Grille, Paradise Bakery and Cafe, Piccolino Ristorante, Southern California Pizza, Ruby's Diner- Laguna Hills, Tortilla Flats, and Yama Sushi & Grill.