

# Ontario-Montclair School District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Congresswoman Norma J. Torres & NASA Connect Students with Astronauts Live from Space**

Congresswoman Norma J. Torres (CA-35) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) hosted *Reach for the Stars*, a student townhall on March 18, 2021, connecting Inland Empire students, including students from the Ontario-Montclair School District (OMSD) with NASA astronauts Victor J. Glover, Jr. (Commander, U.S. Navy) and Dr. Shannon Walker, live from the International Space Station.

Five OMSD students were selected by NASA to be featured in the virtual event and their questions were shared with the astronauts who responded live to the questions. An added surprise was a question from Mia Buis (Bon View Elementary School Library Resource Technician) who is the aunt to Commander Glover.

Hundreds of students from the Ontario-Montclair School District Classrooms tuned in to see Glover – who is originally from Pomona – and Walker answer their questions live as they orbited the Earth some 250 miles overhead.

“Astronauts Victor Glover and Shannon Walker are proof to kids across the Inland Empire that they too can make big dreams a reality,” *Rep. Norma J. Torres said.* “After a year of remote learning that has created new challenges for students and teachers alike, nothing could be more important than to encourage our youth to set their sights high. I thank Commander Glover, Dr. Walker and NASA for making this once-in-a-lifetime conversation a reality for our students, and I can’t wait to see all of the ways that students who join us today will leave their mark on the world in their own way.”

“The Ontario-Montclair School District (OMSD) is excited and honored to share our amazing students’ curious minds and questions with NASA astronauts Victor J. Glover, Jr and Dr. Shannon Walker. Knowing astronaut Glover grew up in our local area is an inspiration to our community, and most importantly to our students. Seeing him as a model, our students know they too can continue reaching for the stars.”

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“Our Community, Our Children, Our Commitment, Our Future”