

Congratulations to Howard Taras, MD - the 2019 AAP-CA3's Pediatrician of the Year!



Howard Taras, MD
School District Physician
Professor of Pediatrics
University of California, San Diego

American Academy of Pediatrics, CA Chapter 3 (AAP-CA3) is pleased to announce that our *2019 Bronwen Anders Pediatrician of the Year* is awarded to Howard Taras, MD, FAAP. Dr. Taras is a Professor of Pediatrics at UCSD and has been an active chapter member for over 21 years. He served as Chapter Secretary when the chapter became incorporated as a 501c3 in 1998. As the medical consultant to the San Diego school districts, he has provided guidance that has helped to shape policies that have benefited all of the children in our county. He was instrumental in working with the School Health and Infectious Disease committees in advocating for the new law (SB 276), which addressed the issue of inappropriate medical exemptions for school entry immunizations. He has been part of the leadership for our chapter's annual School Health Conference for 21 years, where he has provided educational updates to school nurses and pediatricians. We are so fortunate to have Howard as a member of our pediatric community. He continues to be an integral part of our local chapter. He has also been recognized by National AAP Council on School Health with the Milton J.E. Sean Award in 2019.

Dr. Howard Taras is a professor of pediatrics at the University of California, San Diego, where he specializes in *School Health* and in *Community Engagement* with academia. Dr. Howard Taras provides consultation services to San Diego Unified School District and multiple other school districts across California. He assists with decisions and processes leading to safe integration of students with special health care needs, helps to formulate school health policies, and educates pediatricians and trainees across the spectrum of medicine in school health.

Dr. Taras has been directing the Community Engagement Division of the *Clinical & Translational Research Institute* at UC San Diego which provides resources to clinical investigators and assists community members and practicing clinicians to influence academic research topics and methods.

Dr. Taras graduated from McMaster Medical School in Canada (1982) and completed his residency at the Hospital for Sick Children (University of Toronto) in Canada (1985). He completed a community pediatric fellowship at UC San Diego (1987).

Our Chapter and its leadership are proud to have Dr. Taras as a colleague and mentor. We are happy to present him with the AAP-CA3's 2019 Pediatrician of the Year Award.