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Covering the Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach Union High School, Ocean View, and Westminster School Districts

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Fountain Valley School District Spring Outreach Initiative

By Marc Ecker, Superintendent
Fountain Valley School District

For the better part of this year, the Fountain Valley School District has been working on its Local Control Accountability Plan. Like all school districts, we are addressing the requirements of the new education budget which links the funding to the services we intend to deliver to students. A very important factor in the completion of the LCAP is our stakeholder outreach. We have been meeting with our stakeholders, parents, business owners, community leaders, senior citizens and employees and asking them two basic questions. What services are we providing that they would like to see protected? What services do they feel we need to provide our students which we are not providing now? We gather the input from these sessions, hard data on student academic performance and surveys and begin building a community conversation about our school district.

FVSD PTA lends their input and support Local Control Accountability Plan.

However, in Fountain Valley there is another element that has become a big part of our stakeholder outreach program. Eighty six percent of the residents of our city and school district have no students today that attend our schools. Many of these are small business owners, long time residents with adult children that have moved out of the area and seniors who have remained in Fountain Valley for its quiet and suburban lifestyle. Many of these stakeholders hear of the outstanding reputation of the schools, but to a great extent do not feel connected or understand the critical link between excellent schools and the quality of life they enjoy in our city.

Research has clearly shown that schools that maintain a reputation of quality with high performing students significantly raise property values, lowers crime rates, attracts business and commerce and promotes a vibrant and affluent quality of life that attracts the young and older citizens to our community. Through the various outreach efforts this spring, our staff has been making this point with our stakeholders. Our educational foundation is going through a renaissance in which its governing board and mission are reflecting this new focus. As we move now to adopt our district's budget under a new school funding formula, our community will continue to see the school district building upon this very important link that we believe will assure that our students have the resources to perform at the highest levels and compete successfully against their peers in other school districts throughout our state, the nation and the world.

Peer Assistance Leadership

By Jay Adams, Principal and Jennifer Kajdasz, Assistant Principal
Kazuo Masuda Middle School, FVSD

The Masuda Peer Assistance Leadership group (PAL) is one of the school's most active clubs.

Co-advisors Janet Do, Sara Wadhwani and Hong Witkamp encourage our PAL's and their peers to make healthy life decisions, and create a safe and supportive school environment for them.

PAL students learn communication and decision-making skills, how to be a positive role model, refusal skills to counter negative influences, how to embrace social responsibility, conflict management, and how to plan and implement service learning projects.

Sixth-grader Kenny Almanza says that he joined PAL to help younger children get ready for middle school, and because it's "cool!" Kneesa Hougen, another sixth-grader, said that the best thing about PAL is that "we get to help others both inside and outside of school."

Masuda's motto is "Take a Second and Make a Difference," and our PAL students are doing just that! We are so grateful for the difference they make.

(Front) Madison Martell, Kneesa Hougen, Catalena Keener, Trevor Nguyen, Evy Pineda (2nd Row) Kenny Almanza, Huy Vu, Sana Belaluddin, Katherine Ngo (3rd Row) Nathan Pham, Margarita Diaz-Cortes, Antoinette Le, Marley Green, Haley Sepulveda, Ms. Wadhwani (Back) Mrs. Witkamp, Ms. Do, Nabiha Hasan, Dylan Lam.

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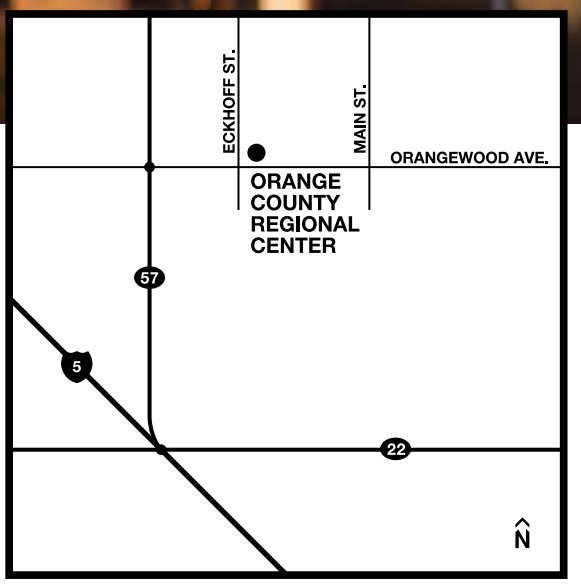

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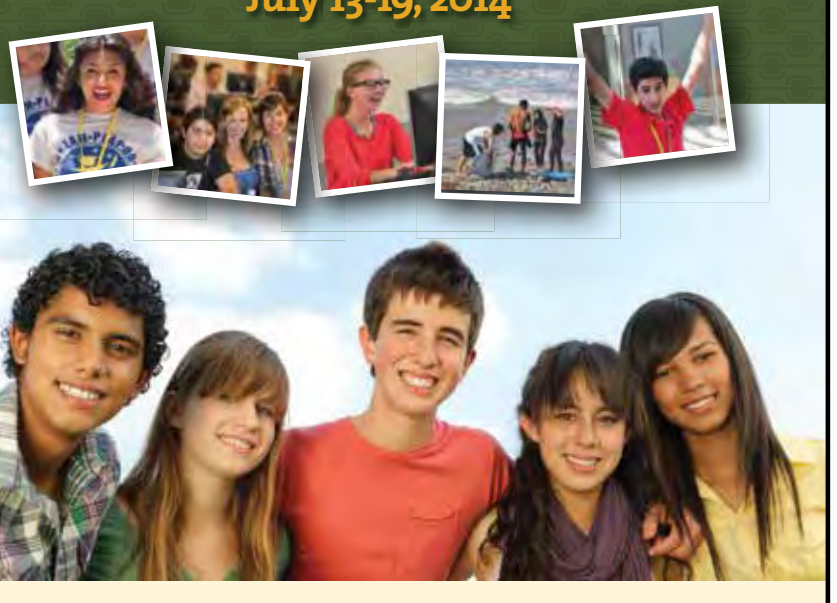

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher

Congratulations Class of 2014!

This is such a special time with seniors anticipating life after high school and parents realizing the years pass all too quickly. We can probably all remember when our children were babies and being told enjoy them while you can as they grow up fast...at that point we only wanted a full nights sleep.

Thank you to all of the teachers and staff for their commitment to educating our children. And a special thank you to the retiring teachers.

Our next issue is September 10. Have a wonderful summer!

School News Roll Call

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See You This Fall!

Matthew Harper
Mayor

Summer is here— no more tests, pop quizzes or homework! Endless summers at the beach, riding the waves, toes in the sand, meeting up with friends, beach bonfires and making memoires is what it's all about.

Huntington Beach has tons of summer events to keep you busy this summer. Have you seen the new Vans Skatepark yet? Located at 7471 Center Avenue next to Old World and Golden West College the free park will be filled with fun this summer. Also on tap – the city celebrates "100 Years of Surfing." Join us on Saturday, June 21 as we rededicate the pier (it's 100 too!), and attempt to break the Guinness Book of World Record for the most people on a 40-foot surfboard. The Fourth of July parade planning is well underway and this year will be bigger and better than ever before as we are finalizing plans to have KABC-TV Channel 7 televise the parade to all Southern California live. And of course, the U.S. Open of Surfing comes to our beach July 26 to August 3.

Along with the 100 Years of Surfing, check out the Rotary Club's "Surfboards on Parade" exhibit at the Huntington Beach Arts Center – more than 25 custom boards each uniquely designed by local artists. The boards will be auctioned this fall to benefit Hoag Hospital and raise awareness for skin cancer.

Again, I hope you end the school year with flying colors and wish you all a happy and sunny summer. See you at the beach!

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Disaster Preparedness

Michael Vo
Mayor

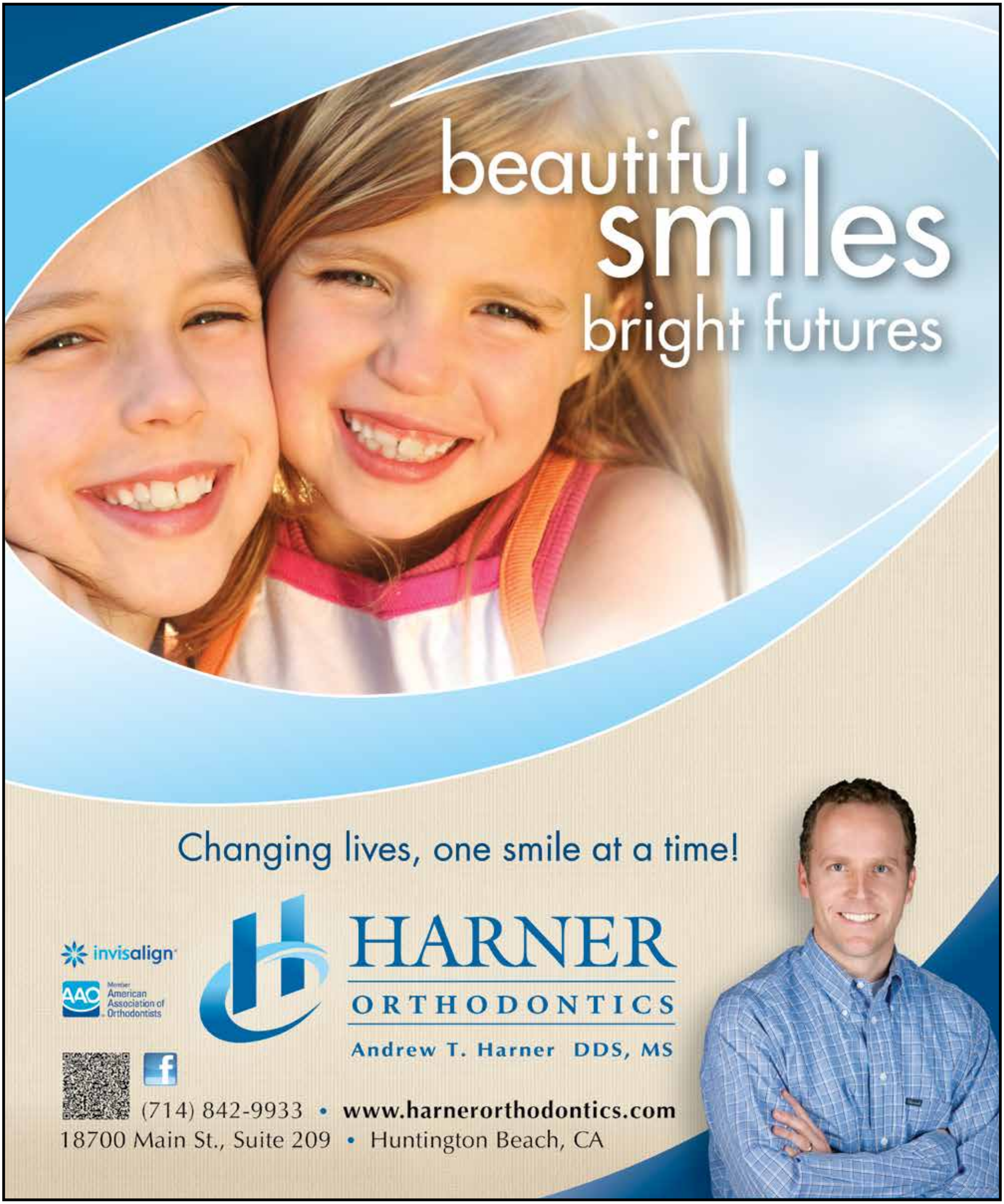
If in fact a disaster should strike, are you prepared? Are your home and family, your business and your children's school prepared? An important part of surviving a disaster is to be prepared for anything that may impact our community.

The City works with the county, state and federal government agencies to coordinate emergency preparedness and response. In an emergency, we utilize a comprehensive mutual aid system that includes Orange County Sheriff Department Emergency Management, State of California Office of Emergency Services (OES), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). We assure you that we know how to properly access State and Federal assistance.

The City has an emergency management program that includes all elements necessary to respond quickly and effectively to emergencies. These include: an Emergency Operations Plan, Hazard Mitigation Plan, Emergency Operations Center, Emergency Management Team, with trained and equipped public safety responders. Listen to official information from City, County, State and federal agencies like the National Weather Service. Most often officials will tell you where a shelter will be set up so you and your family can get help.

Each family and every school should have Survival Kits put together with at least 3-days of food, water, flashlights and batteries, a battery powered radio, medications, blankets, etc. You and your family should discuss how you will respond and if separated how you will communicate with each other.

Due to limited resources during an area wide disaster, you may be on your own for three days or more, so the actions you take will help ensure your family's survival. Be prepared



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SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Marc Ecker

A Year of Service

As my year as State President for the Association of California School Administrators draws to a close, I do want to thank my school district and especially my Board of Trustees for their encouragement and strong support. The position took me away from the school district often, and although ACSA reimbursed Fountain Valley for half of my salary, my absence put additional responsibilities onto the shoulders of my expert senior staff. I most certainly owe a debt of gratitude to Anne Silavs, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, Cathie Abdel, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel and Christine Fullerton, Assistant Superintendent, Business. Each of these school leaders assumed duties beyond their job description to make this year run smoothly. I applaud the Board for using the reimbursement to purchase laptops for over half of the teachers in the district that were in need of replacements.

My time away found me in almost every corner of our great state, visiting schools, meeting with school leaders, speaking at general sessions, and advocating for students in Sacramento. I traveled to Washington D.C. with an ACSA legislative action team to encourage our congressional leaders to fund school initiatives, relieve us of burdensome ESEA regulations, support school digital platforms and require the federal government to pay its statutory requirement for special education. The One Voice for Students Initiative in California became a reality, and we were able to provide strong support for the new Local Control Funding and Accountability Plans. More challenges lie on the horizon, and as my term ends, ACSA continues to advocate for 6.2 million students in California. I extend my gracious thanks to the Fountain Valley School District for allowing me this opportunity and to my Board for standing with me during this year of service.

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Kazuo Masuda *Middle School(6–8)*

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Principal

Jennifer Kajdasz
Assistant Principal

Peer Assistance Leadership

(Please see our story on the front page.)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Judy Edwards
President

The Renaissance of Our Educational Foundation

The Fountain Valley School District's Educational Foundation is celebrating its 32nd birthday. Since 1982, the Fountain Valley School District has benefitted from the funds raised by the Foundation in support of the arts, teacher grants, science and now technology. With a new statewide school funding formula in place providing additional dollars to school districts with large numbers of English Learners and Low Income students, Fountain Valley has much to gain from a vibrant fundraising organization such as the Educational Foundation.

In light of the fact that we have a low count of English Learners and Low Income students, our funding base is one of the lowest in Orange County. Therefore it is essential that we are able to turn to the successful efforts of a broad based community. The school board took the wise step of hiring a public information consultant to among other things rebuild the Educational Foundation to better represent the majority of our residents who do not have children in the schools. This renaissance started earlier this year and is now beginning to show results.

As we prepare for 2014-15, new leadership is coming to the Foundation Board. New ideas are being shared and a more effective and efficient government structure is being put into place. Along with the executive board, a strong committee structure, school liaison group, and an Advisory Council made up of representatives from major businesses, service organizations, and city government are becoming a part of the overall structure of this critical school support 501 3c organization. The mission to our residents is clear. A community that is vibrant, affluent, safe and desirable, and attracts the arts, and commerce must have exceptional public schools. The renaissance of our Foundation intends to make sure that this message is received.

Fountain Valley Educational Foundation

10055 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • www.fvef.org

A Year of Success!

Nicola Weiss
President

Our "Taste of Fountain Valley" experienced growing attendance and support. Visit our web site at fvef.org to see the list of fine restaurants. Thank you also to our Gold Sponsors: AALR&R, Michael Brunner Insurance, Saigon City Marketplace, Dr. Marc and Linda Ecker, Anne Silavs, and the Jimmy Templin family as well as to David Truong of Mimi's Jewelers for donating a fabulous gold and diamond necklace for our raffle!

We then co-sponsored a highly successful "Mr. Fountain Valley Pageant." Our candidate, John Etheridge, was crowned Mr. Fountain Valley! Other contestants helping kids and supporting education including Grady Kerr for Kiwanis, John Wood for the Talbert Middle School STEM program, and Kevin Tison for Fountain Valley High School vocal music.

Successful fundraising is providing support to new middle school STEM (Science, technology, engineering, math) initiatives, hands-on science for elementary schools, middle school instrumental music, and the FV Marching Band and FV Singers, which involve FVSD students.

Several new people join our ranks to build for the future in the Fountain Valley School District. Our ten schools in Fountain Valley and Huntington Beach are among the most successful in Orange County, with three new California Distinguished Schools, and all ten schools being named for the second year in a row to the California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll.

If you would like to help our growing and successful organization to assure continued excellence in local education, contact us today at info.fvef@gmail.com.

Roch Courreges *Elementary (K–5)*

18313 Santa Carlotta, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4280 • www.fvsd.k12.ca.us/courreges/courregs.html

Chris Christensen
Principal

Classified Employee of the Year:

Congratulations to Karen Jerulle for being selected as our 2014 Classified Employee of the Year. Karen has been a dedicated employee at Courreges and FVSD for 18 years.

Karen is a dependable, knowledgeable, caring, and integral member of the Courreges staff. Karen works as a kindergarten instructional aide in Tracy Belsito's classroom each day. According to Mrs. Belsito, "Karen is exceptional in every way! She is a role model for students as well as the entire Courreges staff. I could fill a book with all of Karen's admirable qualities and I am honored to nominate Karen for this award."

Karen Jerulle and Tracy Belsito.

Robert Gisler *Elementary (K–5)*

18720 Las Flores, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4211 • www.regs-fvsd-caschoolloop.com

Erin Bains
Principal

Collaboration and Independent Work

State Superintendent Tom Torlakson announced that Gisler Elementary School has earned the Distinguished School Award!

According to Mr. Torklakson, "This award is a direct reflection of the dedication, hard work, and vision of your school's educational community." Our students, teachers, staff, parents and community could not be any more proud or excited about this wonderful honor.

Gisler focused on two programs which we felt were reasons for our success. The first was Professional Development with an Emphasis on Reading. As educators, we know that being a strong reader is a necessary component to academic success. We have a school-wide leveling system that measures reading fluency as well as comprehension. With the support of our PTO, every teacher now has a classroom library that is "leveled" and in constant use by our students.

Our second program was Small Group Differentiated Instruction. Teachers divide up their ELA and math blocks of time between whole class, direct instruction, and small-group rotations to better meet the needs of their students. These rotations offer a variety of activities for students at their level, and allow for good collaboration and independent work.

All of this effort has truly paid off. Congratulations, Gisler!

Harry C. Fulton *Middle School (6–8)*

8778 El Lago St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-2816 • http://fultonms.fvsd.ca.schoolloop.com/

Jennifer Perkins
Principal

Matt Ploski
Assistant Principal

Helping Hands

By Beth Fockler
Helping Hands Advisor and Teacher

Helping Hands Club at Fulton Middle School is a service club that organizes, coordinates, and participates in projects to better our school and our community. The club is open to all students, sixth through eighth grade, and meets every Wednesday at lunch.

Helping Hands Club members select which activities the club will organize and conduct. This year, the group has been active. In September and October, Helping Hands, along with Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL), planned Red Ribbon Week activities. The annual Drug Awareness week was a success! The November activity was a canned food drive, coordinated with National Junior Honor Society. December brought our annual Toy Drive. Generous donations to both drives were due to the hard work of Helping Hands.

Helping Hands designed 200 valentines for the Fountain Valley Senior Center, which were given to the seniors at their annual luncheon. In March, the group wrote letters to U.S. Marines serving in Afghanistan. In April, Helping Hands joined PAL to collect formal and semi-formal dresses in the Dresses for the Dance donation to benefit the Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) program to provide dresses to girls battling difficult illnesses so they can attend a dance. The final activity was a collection of pop-tops from drink cans, which were donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

Overall, Helping Hands has had an exciting, action-packed year. The students have worked hard and made a difference in their community!

William T. Newland *Elementary (K–5)*

8787 Dolphin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4200 • www.wtnes-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com

Chris Mullin
Principal

Spring Fling Carnival

Newland recently held its Spring Fling Carnival and Food Truck Fiesta. This is the second year this community-building event has taken place, and it is becoming a tradition here.

The fun-filled afternoon features arcade-type games, inflatable rides, face painting, food trucks, vendor booths and more. It is a wonderful opportunity for school families and friends to enjoy the beautiful campus and spend time together. Additionally, our past students and local residents enjoy returning to the campus and seeing their former teachers as well as neighborhood friends. PTA and parent volunteers are responsible for coordinating the carnival, which not only brings our extended community together but also raises funds for our school.

We as a school were also able to celebrate our announcement of being once again named a California Distinguished School. Overall, it was a great day for Newland and our surrounding community!

James H. Cox *Elementary (K–5)*

17615 Los Jardines E., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4240 • www.jhces-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com

Patrick Ham
Principal

All-Around Excellence!

Cox School takes great pride in educating the "whole student." We want our students to be prepared for the diverse possibilities that their futures will present. Beyond reading, writing and mathematics, we want students to be well versed in technological skills as well as cultural and social awareness that will help them become leaders in their careers and their communities.

Activities beyond the classroom provide such opportunities for our students. Events such as Multicultural Day, web-based project-learning opportunities and student-collaborated Noon League sports tournaments are just a few examples that help our students learn the social and collaborative skills necessary to be successful in what4ever careers and paths they take.

As we close out another school year and prepare for the start of fall 2014, please take opportunities over the summer months to engage your children in such activities. They will promote social and collaborative skills necessary for students to be effective leaders. The Cox staff looks forward to hearing wonderful tales of such endeavors. Have a safe and amazing summer break!

Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K–5)*

9800 Yorktown Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4260 • www.ioes-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com

Erik Miller
Principal

Congratulations, Mr. Pate!

Oka Elementary School is proud to recognize Mr. David Pate as our Teacher of the Year. Mr. Pate has been part of the Oka staff for nearly a quarter of a century! During that time, he has taught multiple grades in both upper and primary. He currently is teaching second grade. Mr. Pate is greatly appreciated because of what he does that positively impacts students and their families. Often times after the dismissal bell, students who are struggling can be seen in Mr. Pate's room getting extra help. He is also willing to spend extra time with parents to address questions and provide ways they can better support their children at home. Each year, Oka has Family Science Night, and Mr. Pate's activity station is always the highlight of the evening, as his room is full wall to wall with engaged student and adult scientists.

Mr. Pate is extremely passionate about Oka and having students represent our school with pride. He is often referred to as Oka's "greatest cheerleader, minus the pom-poms." Building individual responsibility within every young learner is at the foundational core of Mr. Pate's classroom. Students are supported to reach very high expectations in his classroom. There is a rigorous level of accountability and expected effort, but when students put forth their best efforts to succeed, they are rewarded with a great sense of pride and accomplishment from their teacher.

Mr. Pate, we salute you with a "Wolfpack Howl of Congratulations."

Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K–5)*

17340 Santa Suzanne St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-6226 • www.htes-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com

Kathy Davis
Principal

Retiring Teachers

On June 17th, Tamura School will be losing two of its favorite teachers to the joys of retirement.

Patti.

Martha.

Martha Anderson (Transitional Kindergarten) and Patti Pitaccio (First Grade) will close their books and put away their crayons for the last time this year. But in order to give them a proper send off, Tamura is having an ice cream social on June 12th at 1:00 in the lunch area. All current and former students, district friends and the community are encouraged to attend to say a farewell and thank you for their years of dedication and commitment to the teaching profession.

Urbain H. Plavan *Elementary (K–5)*

9675 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4230 • www.uhpes-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com

Julie Ballesteros
Principal

Teacher of the Year: Kevin Yamabe

Mr. Kevin Yamabe is a lifelong learner who always seems to have a new adventure or experience for his students. He is constantly educating himself and challenges himself to be a better teacher. His focus is always on the future and how he can be best prepared for his students. Kevin has taken on the challenge of the new Common Core State Standards with a positive attitude and the drive to make this method work in his classroom. He has worked endless hours creating new lessons and implementing new classroom management routines. Kevin is extremely supportive of his grade-level team and is always willing to share his hard work. Mr. Yamabe classroom was also been chosen by the district to be a model for Differentiated Instruction.

This year Kevin is piloting one of Fountain Valley's first elementary co-teaching models with Special Day Class (SDC) teacher Jeanette Knutsen, combining their students in one classroom. Together they have built a beautiful relationship that has truly made a great impact on the students. Their extra effort and intense planning have a created an environment where all students have access to the curriculum at their levels. These teachers have incorporated differentiated instruction and intense interventions into their daily teaching. Through this co-teaching model, Kevin is also able to support other first-grade students who are not in his class.

Kevin cares about each and every student, and we are truly proud to have him as a friend and peer.

Samuel E. Talbert *Middle School (6–8)*

9101 Brabham Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • www.talbertms.fvsd.ca.schoolloop.com

Cara Robinson
Principal

Jennifer Morgan
Assistant Principal

The Reminiscences of Youth

When Mr. Fockler's eighth-grade homeroom was surveyed about their stay at Talbert Middle School, and what they will miss or remember the most, there were two overwhelming responses: all the friendships, and the teachers who have most influenced their lives.

Adolescence is such a challenging part of life, one that involves much social, emotional and physical change in a quick three years. Middle school students are very impressionable, and it's the friends, family and adult mentors who mold these adolescents into young adults.

Life is about the relationships that influence our lives. Several students commented about what they will miss at Talbert regarding the relationships they have built with the adults on campus. Talbert is a little campus of less than 700 students, so when you walk onto it there is an obvious feel of community along with a high visibility of adults interacting with students.

Some of the bonds the eighth-grade students shared with us really demonstrate the impact that Talbert's adults have had on their lives. Students report the Talbert teachers as being amazing, fun, intelligent, humorous, and, above all, good mentors. They also credit our office staff, custodian and lunch-time aides.

Eighth-graders really value the friendships they have made. Some express their concern about attending different high schools in the near future. As individuals mature into adults we often change friends, but the friendships in middle school mold who we become.

Talbert Middle School wishes the Class of 2014 much success and happiness as they transition into high school.

Have a fun summer!

Ocean View School District

17200 Pinehurst Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2551 • www.ovsd.org

SUPERINTENDENT

Gustavo Balderas

Thank You!

The Ocean View School District received some wonderful news! State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced the selection of six outstanding classified school employees who have received state recognition for their role in school operations and student success. Lisa Nowells, an instructional assistant at Sun View Elementary School, has been recognized as the State Classified Employee of the Year for 2014 under the category of Para-educator and Instructional Assistance.

Lisa is one of 584 classified employees that help the district meet its core mission, that of educating our students. Our classified employees have a variety of responsibilities in the district. These employees ensure that our students are fed, our school grounds are kept in good condition, and our students are transported to and from school safely, just to name a few of the job duties that our classified employees perform on a daily basis on our campuses and office sites. Alongside our fantastic teaching and administrative staff, they are the human element that makes the Ocean View School District the excellent district that it is for our students to learn and grow each and every day.

I personally applaud Lisa for this well-deserved state recognition, and I want to say a loud THANK YOU to all of our employees who create our positive learning environment each day!

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School News

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John Ortiz
President

The Tradition Continues…Award-Winning Schools!

Congratulations to Village View Elementary School for being honored as a 2014 California Distinguished School!

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson named 424 public elementary schools as California Distinguished Schools for their strong commitment and innovative approaches to improving student academic achievement. The Distinguished Schools Program focuses on equitable and rigorous education for all and recognizes those schools that have made progress in narrowing the academic achievement gap.

Once a school meets a variety of strict eligibility criteria, including accountability measures, they are eligible to apply for this recognition. The process consists of a written application that focuses on two of the school's signature practices. Then, a county-led site review team visits the school to validate the content of the application and specifically see the two featured programs in practice at the site.

Village View highlighted two of their many successful educational programs: Differentiated Instruction and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Through Differentiated Instruction, teachers adjust the curriculum and presentation of information to the individual student rather than a "one size fits all" approach. PBIS is a proactive systems approach to establish the social culture and behavioral supports needed for all students to achieve social, emotional, and academic success.

As a California Distinguished School, Village View will share these signature practices with other schools and become a mentor to those seeking to replicate their work.

I applaud the dedicated teachers and staff at Village View as they prepare students for continued success, and I congratulate them on this wonderful distinction!

Circle View *Elementary*

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5035 • www.ovsd.org

Carol Furman
Principal

Hands-On Learning

Thanks to the commitment and ingenuity of our teachers, the 4th and 5th grade GATE students at Circle View have the wonderful opportunity to participate in science and engineering activities that challenge and amaze them! FSEA (Future Scientists and Engineers of America) is a national program designed to motivate, inspire and challenge students through hands-on projects that relate the importance of education to exciting future career possibilities. Students build circuits, construct bridges, make catapults, and participate in a variety of other real-life science experiments. These projects are some of the students' favorite hands-on activities of the year! A BIG thank you to our wonderful GATE teaching staff for keeping science and hands-on learning alive for our students!

College View *Elementary*

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • www.ovsd.org

Kathy Smith
Principal

Parent Involvement On the Rise

On Thursday, April 10, College View held its first Science Night. There were over 350 students, parents and siblings in attendance.

Mrs. Richards and Mrs. Young, two amazing teachers and science advocates, were the inspiration behind the organization and execution of this fun and educational evening. A number of staff members and community volunteers also helped make the evening possible.

Attendees were able to experience 16 different science activities. This included building an electric circuit, balloon blast, Metric Olympics, extracting DNA from strawberries (thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Rajab), making fossils, and viewing constellations in a planetarium (thank you, Sandi Lewis). Thanks to Luis, our students even had an opportunity to view the sun through an antique telescope.

Janis Price from a Network for a Healthy California also joined us with a food physiology display. In addition, the fourth- and fifth-grade students proudly displayed their collaborative science experiments in the computer lab.

All in all, it was a fun and exciting family evening.

Hope View *Elementary*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • www.ovsd.org

Carrie Haskin
Principal

JA in a Day

Junior Achievement is a nonprofit organization that brings the real world to students through hands-on curriculum delivered by a trained classroom volunteer. JA Day provides a unique opportunity for volunteers from various careers and backgrounds to share their experiences through a curriculum delivered in a classroom setting.

We are thrilled to have the opportunity to partner with a utilities company, a membership retail warehouse and a search-engine corporation and be under the leadership of Jessica Chetsawang, program manager with Junior Achievement of Orange County. We are also extremely appreciative of our many Hope View family members for their contribution to the day. Thanks to all our volunteers—every class was able to have its own volunteer!

Our Jr. Achievement volunteers bring their varied experiences to our students. The day provides a great opportunity to partner with our business community and bring their experiences to a real-world classroom setting.

JA was well received both this year and last by our students, staff and volunteers. We are grateful we have the opportunity to continue to be a part of the Junior Achievement experience!

Golden View *Elementary*

17251 Golden View Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • www.ovsd.org

Elaine Burney
Principal

Lucas's Lunch With the Mayor

Each year, our amazing PTO sponsors a spectacular Jog-A-Thon. Students have a great time jogging laps to help raise money for Golden View. This year, lucky student Lucas Flynn won the prize of lunch with the mayor as part of the bonus prize drawing for students who brought in more than $50 in donations.

Huntington Beach Mayor Harper, Mr. and Mrs. Flynn, and Principal Burney picked up Lucas as well as his second-grade brother, Casey, from their class and escorted them to a special lunch donated by CPK at a local eatery. Lunch was filled with stimulating questions from the boys and learning about the history of Huntington Beach from Mayor Harper.

Special thanks go to Jorge Garcia, who donated his time to supply the group with photos from the day's event. Thank you to Wendy Luhm, Jodie Merkle and Jen Bledsoe for organizing this special event!

Lunch with the Mayor.

Harbour View *Elementary*

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-6602 • www.ovsd.org

Cindy Osterhout
Principal

Working Together for Our Children

It's always so hard to believe when spring rolls around, signaling that we are nearing the end of yet another school year… and here we are again! This has been an exceptional year, full of hard work, determination, and wonderful accomplishments. I want to thank the Harbour View Elementary School community for all you do to work as a team with your children's teachers to create a learning environment that is the foundation for success.

By now you have no doubt heard that as a nation we are transitioning to the Common Core State Standards. Until now, each state has had its own set of student learning standards. Instruction has varied greatly from district to district, and even from school to school. That's why California educators and the PTA support the concept of Common Core. The goal is to provide a clear, consistent "core" of standards so all children have access to an excellent education, regardless of zip code.

California is one of many states across the nation that has voluntarily adopted the new Common Core State Standards for English language arts/literacy and math. In the Ocean View School District, this transition is being addressed through the efforts of teacher committees and district administrators dedicated to providing the very best instructional program for our students.

The Harbour View staff and I look forward to the exciting adventure that awaits our students as we fully transition to the Common Core State Standards. Stay tuned…

Lake View *Elementary*

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • www.ovsd.org

Anna Dreifus
Principal

A Successful Partnership

As a NASA Explorer School, what better collaboration could we have at Lake View than to work with a foundation that was created by Sally Ride, the first American woman in space?

Sally Ride Science is an online program that is now available to our teachers and students. It offers engineering and science activities in the kindergarten through fifth-grades. The fourth- and fifth-grade students have access to a series of eBooks that can provide them with a new way to engage in a digital format they already know and enjoy.

Our students can now explore topics in greater depth, with links to up-to-date online information, images, simulations, and videos. They can also personalize their book with highlighting and journal notes, all of which permits easier collaboration with the teachers and students.

Enjoying our new eBooks!

This program is excellent preparation for both the Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. Cross-links to key math concepts are woven throughout the series. It also provides opportunities for our students to learn about the "big ideas" in science and engineering careers.

This new series is a wonderful addition to our successful STEM program. Lake View just gets better and better!

Mesa View *Middle School*

17601 Avilla Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • www.ovsd.org

Dr. Stephanie Henry
Principal

A Wonderful Year

The end of a school year provides us with time to reflect, celebrate, recognize and say goodbye to those who are moving on with their educational experiences. I would sincerely like to thank all of our students, parents and staff members for making this past year rewarding, productive and successful.

Our school and individual students have earned many honors this year, including the most recent one in which Samantha S. and Seth W. were recognized for making significant strides over the year. Another highlight was being named one of the top 18 middle schools in Orange County! Our success has also led to growth in the GATE magnet program, which we are expanding to accommodate the added interest from our community.

With the support of the PTSO and our "Twenty for Tech" fundraising, we have also maintained a focus on increasing student technology and implementing more 21st-century learning activities into our curriculum. This year we even added a second full computer lab, with a third lab ordered and on the way!

We have also started a pilot robotics program, with the hope of expanding it to an elective offering next year. A digital media arts course has been implemented, and we are working to modify our computer electives to include 21st-century skills and themes for next year.

There are so many wonderful things happening at Mesa View! Thank you again to our school community for your continued effort and commitment. As always, we work together to provide a strong educational foundation for our students.

Marine View *Middle School*

5682 Tilburg Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-0624 • www.ovsd.org

Shelley Morris
Principal

Thanks For a Successful Year!

It's so hard to believe that the school year is almost over! Marine View Mariners have accomplished so much this year in academics, artistry, attitude and athletics—I could not be more proud!

In mid-May, Mariner minds were put to the test as our students tackled the challenges of SBAC assessments head on! Our teachers have done a fabulous job the past two years to provide our students with the best learning experience possible as we transition to Common Core. I am continually impressed with their professionalism, dedication and genuine love of learning—they are the best!

I would also like to recognize the incredible support we have received all year from our parent community, business community, volunteers and, of course, PTSA. Each of these groups has provided time and essential funding for the growth of academic, performing arts and athletic programs. Last year, PTSA donations funded an entire upgrade of the wireless infrastructure at Marine View, and this year, they funded all three of our Chromebook mobile labs consisting of 108 devices. PTSA also generously supported our teachers with funding for instructional materials, all of our field trips and, much to our athletes' delight—brand-new uniforms for the volleyball and basketball teams!

Marine View and Ocean View School District form a much stronger educational community because of our parents and PTSA. Thank you to everyone for another successful year, and I look forward to even greater accomplishments in the future!

Oak View *Elementary*

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • www.ovsd.org

Laura Dale-Pash
Principal

A Great Summer in Store

This summer Sergio Rodriguez will be attending Camp Keewaydin Dunmore/Songadeewin on behalf of GOALS, our Oak View after-school program. This camp is in the state of Vermont. Along with helping children develop self-confidence, character and leadership skills, the trip also provides adventure, challenge and fun!

This opportunity is made possible by the Eisner Foundation. Michael Eisner is the former CEO of Disney, and his company was a great contributor to the establishment of the GOALS not-for-profit program back in 1994. Since then, Michael Eisner has awarded several GOALS participants the chance to attend for free the Keewaydin camps for boys and girls.

Sergio is in the fifth grade. He's been attending Oak View School since kindergarten, and has participated in the GOALS program during the fourth- and fifth-grades. He also plays soccer in the Oak View Soccer League.

This is an amazing opportunity. Oak View School is very proud of Sergio for his hard work and dedication.

Oak View *Preschool & Education Resource Center*

17131 Emerald Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/843-6938 • www.ovsd.org

Joyce Horowitz
Principal

Visit to the Huntington Beach Police Department Heliport

Oak View Preschool children and parents walked to the Huntington Beach Police Department (HBPD) Heliport on Gothard Street in Huntington Beach. Two hundred preschool children and over 100 family members walked for three miles. Some family members and friends pushed or pulled wagons and strollers.

When the children arrived HBPD Officer Mark Wersching explained why the helicopter is an important part of the community. He showed the children and families the flight suit he wears, including the underwater gear that helps him survive if he has to land in the water to save a drowning victim. The night viewing light was especially interesting, as it allows officers to observe the "bad guys" when they don't know they are being watched. Officer Mark flew the helicopter and showed all the different ways he can maneuver it.

You can see why this is one of the children's favorite field trips.

Pleasant View *Ocean View Preparatory Preschool*

located at Pleasant View School, 16692 Landau Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/845-5000

Paul James
Principal

Camp OVPP

Ocean View Preparatory Preschool (OVPP) is excited about this year's summer program, called Camp OVPP. Ocean View Preparatory Preschool is part of the award-winning Ocean View School District, which provides early literacy and knowledge to preschool-age children who are 3 to 5 years old. Our summer program is scheduled to begin on June 30 and will conclude on August 27.

Each week, our "little campers" will follow a theme, learn new concepts and have fun in a safe, nurturing environment. The camp schedule will consist of art projects, games, spirit activities, cooking, water-play days, special visitors, special events and much more.

In addition to our summer program, the 2014–15 school year will begin Wednesday, Sept. 3. OVPP offers a developmentally appropriate academic preschool experience that lays a strong foundation for K–12 education. The Ocean View Preparatory Preschool program is aligned with the California Preschool Learning Foundations and will provide children with the opportunity to develop their cognitive, social, emotional, physical, linguistic and creative abilities.

Spring View *Middle School*

16662 Trudy Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-2891 • www.ovsd.org

Jason Blade
Principal

Honoring Two Outstanding Students

Each year, the Huntington Beach Masonic Lodge honors students for their exemplary individual qualities, and two of our eighth-graders were included!

Liam Densmore has an extremely positive outlook and is known as being a dedicated helper. Mrs. Tith, Liam's math teacher, describes him as one of the most considerate students she has ever worked with. This school year, Liam stands out as a true scholar. Through hard work and determination, he earned his way onto the Honor Roll. Way to go, Liam!

Jordan Gustafson has a bright smile and a positive attitude. Teachers rave about her focus and dedication—she has maintained a 4.00 GPA and displays her talent with the Spring View Chorus. Jordan's patriotism is visible every day as she leads a group of students in taking down the American flag. Outside school, she's a devoted member of the Young Marines. How proud we are, Jordan!

Star View *Elementary*

8411 Worthy Dr., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • www.ovsd.org

Jamie Kinder
Principal

They Jogged and Jogged

Imagine 575 children all running, listening to music, and having a blast together. These are the memories that will last forever for the children of Star View. On April 23, 2014, the Parent-teacher Organization (PTO) held our annual Jog-a-thon to raise funds for our school programs. The committee organizers, Aliza Roman, Jessica Ruley, and Michelle Whitney, set up four tracks on our large grass area, which allowed all the students to enjoy this event together. The students gathered pledges and asked for donations to try to win prizes such as a backpack, a ticket to a DJ dance party, or a bike. In addition to monetary prizes, the PTO recognized all participants with a ribbon and popsicle. Thanks to all of our runners, volunteers, and donations, Star View now has over $6,000 to pay for our future adventures!

Sun View *Elementary*

7721 Juliette Low Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-9643 • www.ovsd.org

Kristi Hickman
Principal

Our Continued Commitment

Another wonderful year has come to a close. As we begin to reflect upon our accomplishments, we are reminded that it has once again been a year of strategic focus, fun, hard work and achievement. All of our efforts have been directed towards providing each of our students with a school environment that is safe, stimulating, academically powerful, and focused on success.

During the last few weeks Sun View has concluded state field testing, performed *The Little Red Hen*, traveled to the Discovery Science Center, participated in the annual Fishing Derby at Carr Park, and celebrated its wonderful staff, moms, and volunteers. Our students are also rehearsing for the end-of-year annual Talent Show, and are returning from an amazing fifth-grade field trip to the Tiger Woods Learning Center.

It is gratifying to work in a community where so many people give of their time, talents and energy to help serve our students. In this respect we want to congratulate our very own Sun View/OVSD Classified Employee of the Year, Lisa Nowels, who in May was selected as the state honoree in Sacramento!

Our continued commitment to student success is the result of both a united effort and open partnerships between our teachers, parents, students, community, board members, office staff and district personnel.

Willa Foster states the following: "Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, and skillful execution."

Thank you for your support of Sun View School. It is a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Westmont *Elementary*

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • www.ovsd.org

Karen Sandors
Principal

Honoring Our Teachers

Excitement filled the room as district personnel came to Westmont to announce to the staff the news that Shannon Mudry has been named Ocean View School District's Teacher of the Year. Everyone agrees that Mrs. Mudry represents what a stellar teacher looks like. Besides being an outstanding teacher, she is an incredible asset to our school. She is quick to share ideas, offer support and lend a helping hand to any of her colleagues. We are so proud of Mrs. Mudry!

Marsha Sipkovich and Shannon Mudry

Mrs. Mudry isn't the only Westmont teacher being honored. Marsha Sipkovich was selected for an Orange County Arts Educator Award. Mrs. Sipkovich received the Julianna McGrath Award, which recognizes a passionate elementary teacher who both provides rich art instruction to her students and is looked to by the staff as an art resource and a leader. As Mrs. Sipkovich says, "I believe the arts expand the creative capacity of all the students and enable them to be better problem solvers and innovative thinkers—exactly what is needed for the 21st century."

We are so fortunate to have these two remarkable teachers at Westmont Elementary!

Village View *Elementary*

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801• www.ovsd.org

Kathy Tryon
Principal

Community Support

Village View students and staff members have been working very hard this school year. We are not only working on academics, but also on ways to support our community as well.

Did you know that we have a recycling program? We recycle our paper, and our fifth-grade leadership students organize the recyclables each week for pick up. Our students are also part of community service organizations like the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, and they take an active role in representing these organizations at our Friday Flag Ceremonies.

While we are working with our students to support the community, our community is continuing to support us! We have a very active parent community that has been truly instrumental in providing exemplary programs for our students to experience each week. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated and hard-working parents.

Our staff also works extremely hard to support our students, and we appreciate all that the community does to enrich their efforts. We will continue to celebrate our community, and every effort that is made to support it.

Vista View *Middle School*

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • www.ovsd.org

Amy Kernan
Principal

Good Efforts and Good Deeds

Vista View Middle School students are gearing up for the end-of-the-year events as they finish up the new Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) testing. After a long day of computer-based performance tasks, students were invited to an incredibly entertaining talent show, with singers, dancers, musicians, and even a little drama. All of the acts were very talented, and some were absolutely hysterical. Our Falcons really know how to perform!

Even with all of our activities, students have still found time to collect an incredibly large donation for the Orangewood Children's Home. Students filled the library with cans of food, toiletries, and other items to help students in need. Our Peer Assistance Leadership class organized the drive because they wanted to help students who, for some reason, were not as lucky as they were and were not able to live at home with their families.

Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92628 • 714/966-4000 • www.ocde.us

21st Century Learning Environments

Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Tony Wagner, Expert in Residence at Harvard University's Innovation Lab, stated, "Knowledge is a commodity and having it is not enough. It is what you can do with it that matters to corporate America and the labor force." In other words, it is the application of knowledge that is most essential to the strength of our country in order to solve problems. Technology is a powerful driver to in the acquisition of information and its use. Furthermore, it spurs on innovation and today affects virtually every aspect of our lives. The current social, economic, and technological environment presents challenges for educators but also wonderful opportunities. Just as technology has revolutionized the world, it is also transforming the classroom.

Educational technology is now providing teachers with a framework known as TPACK (Technology, Pedagogy, and Content Knowledge) to identify the skills required to integrate technology in learning. These practices help classrooms to incorporate learning activities that engage students. For example, many schools have implemented blended learning, a formal education program in which a student learns at least in part, through online delivery of content and instruction while still receiving face-to-face classroom instruction. Another instance is a school that solicited student feedback to redesign an instructional learning environment, resulting in a classroom with no rows, tables, or straight back chairs.

The Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) is committed to supporting educators in preparing today's students for tomorrow.

The Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) is committed to supporting educators in preparing today's students for tomorrow. The OCDE Educational Technology Department, OC Innovate, maintains ongoing research and provides professional development to support the educational community in creating classrooms that continue to engage our learners. Schools need to foster global innovation while meeting the diverse needs of students. We recognize that teaching methods and environments must shift in order to keep students engaged in their education.

Our children are walking into classrooms with more significant technology experience than ever. Our duty is to provide them with the learning environments that will foster creativity and prepare them to apply knowledge to the workforce. I look forward to the challenges in education today, and have confidence that Orange County students will lead the nation in college and career readiness and success.

For more information, visit www.ocde.us/EdTech.

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(714) 960-5553

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Summer Reading, Summer Fun!

Barbara Richardson
Senior Librarian Programming and Youth Services

Just because school is out for the summer, it doesn't mean that children can't keep learning! Did you know that the library offers Brainfuse and Mango on its website? Go to our website and click on the Databases button. HelpNow, powered by Brainfuse, offers a diagnostic test center with customized study plans, lessons and live tutoring. It has a writing lab and educational games to reinforce learning. Mango offers courses to learn up to 62 different languages. Learn languages online with interactive audio and visual instruction. For younger children, there is Little Pim, online language learning geared for lower-elementary students. These learning sites and more can be accessed at home for those with Huntington Beach library cards or can be reached at the library for free.

Don't forget to register for the library's summer reading program, Paws to Read. Register online on our website or at any Huntington Beach library branch starting June 23. The program ends Aug. 1. Earn prizes by reading. There will be a special concert on Saturday, Aug. 2, at 10:30 a.m. at the Central Park Bandstand for our reading program participants and their families. This concert is sponsored by the Friends of the Children's Library.

Have you ever attended our Taste of Huntington Beach, Festival of Folktales or any of our monthly children's programs? Consider becoming a member of the group that makes these events possible. Join the Friends of the Children's Library. Become an active member, and help make a difference.

Visit www.fotcl.org for more information.

Fountain Valley Library

17635 Los Alamos St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/962-1324 • www.ocpl.org

What's Up for Summer!

Mary Ann Hutton
Branch Manager

Sign up for Summer Reading and join us for a flock of fun and great prizes! This summer's theme is "Paws to Read," and we've lined up a herd of activities that celebrate our animal friends. Registration begins June 23, and the program ends Aug. 2. Our first activity is Wednesday, June 25, with magician Abbit the Average at 7 p.m.; the others are on Tuesdays, July 1 through Aug. 12. All programs are at 7 p.m. except Fantastic Patrick Circus Juggling, in the park at 3:30 p.m.

Kids Movie Mondays will be every Monday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. during July and August. Summer Crafts Tuesdays and Thursdays are June 10 and 24, July 10 and Aug. 21, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Children 2 to 13 are invited to make quick crafts. Animal Origami, open to ages 8 to 18, creates a variety of origami animals Thursday July 17 and 24 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday Storytimes are at 10:30 a.m. from July 2 through Aug. 20, with stories, dance and song. Activities are tailored for children ages 2 to 4, but children of all ages are welcome.

Beach Animals Reading with Kids (BARK) encourages children to increase their reading skills and self-confidence by reading aloud to certified therapy dogs. Reservations can be made for the third Saturday of the month from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.; walk-ins are also welcome.

An SAT test preparation session will be held at the library on July 15, 2014 for interested students. Registration is required and limited to 16 students. Please contact the library for more information.There will also be a summer-reading program for teens. Drop in and see what fun things are in store!

Westminster School District

14121 Cedarwood Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7311 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Marian Kim-Phelps

Amazing Anderson Elementary Teacher

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Miki Okura-Schooley, a 5th grade teacher at Anderson Elementary School, has been named the Westminster School District Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Okura-Schooley has been a teacher in the District for nine years and has had an incredibly positive impact on the lives of hundreds of children. While she is known among her colleagues for her expertise in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), she is known among her students for making learning fun.

Mrs. Okura-Schooley's philosophy on teaching and commitment to her students is eloquently revealed in an excerpt from her application for Teacher of the Year. Here she describes the attributes of an outstanding teacher and, without a doubt, she is describing herself:

Learning is a process and each person has his or her own method and timeline, as well as strengths and weaknesses. That's what makes each student unique: not better or worse. My goals is to provide my students with the tools necessary for the path to becoming well-rounded, independent thinkers who are persistent in the pursuit of knowledge.

While many individual attributes contribute to an outstanding teacher, I believe the greatest attribute to be in possession of is a strong sense of balance to support the students in the classroom, develop and deliver curriculum, and create a safe and supportive learning environment. I strive every day to provide balance for my students.

In supporting students, the balance is between providing motivators, support, and scaffolding while at the same time, promoting independent and critical thinking through intrinsic motivation….like driving your students to be self-driven. For curriculum, that balance comes in not just ensuring students possess basic academic skills to support content acquisition, but also providing opportunities for students to develop a love of learning by letting them explore and question.

Lisa Courtemarche, WTA President; Dr. Marian Phelps, Superintendent, Mike Okura-Schooley, Teacher of the Year; James Jimenez, Asst. Superintendent of Human Resources; Linda Baxter, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services.

Mrs. Okura-Schooley exhibits all of the attributes she mentions that are necessary to be an outstanding teacher. She is highly respected by students, staff and parents who not only think of her as an exceptional teacher but as a role model, team player and mentor as well.

We are very proud to have Mrs. Okura-Schooley represent the Westminster School District in the Orange County competition for Teacher of the Year and we are also proud of our Teachers of the Year that represent each one of our school sites. Congratulations Mrs. Okura-Schooley and all of our exemplary Teachers of the Year!

Mike Okura-Schooley and her 5th grade class at Anderson Elementary School.

2014-2015 Site Teacher of the Year

Anderson	Miki Okura-Schooley	Finley	Yen Ta	Meairs	Lisa Ball	Stacey	Viktoria Ortega
Clegg	Nell Drees	Fryberger	Heidi Cordova	Schmitt	Chanda Nguyen	Warner	Rhonda Brownell
DeMille	Susan Edwards	Hayden	Rebecca Winn	Schroeder	Michelle Mulligan	Webber	Michelle Chamberlain
Eastwood	Annette Simrak	Johnson	Cynthia Heinle	Sequoia	Crystal Stocking	Willmore	Michelle Fellowes

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Community Liaisons

Mary Mangold
President

Our parents rave about our Community Liaison Workers! Every school site in our district employees Community Liaisons and parents find their services to be invaluable. What is a Community Liaison? These are staff members that are able to communicate with parents in their home language and supply them with a multitude of services or resources they might need. Community Liaisons provide an important communication bridge between parents and their child's school while actively promoting parent involvement and engagement.

The Community Liaisons are responsible for:

- Answering questions and phone calls from parents
- Providing translation at school functions – parent/teacher conferences, open houses, back-to-school nights
- Arranging parent/teacher conferences for non-English speaking parents
- Providing parents with school and community resources
- Calling parents regarding attendance issues
- Greeting parents in the front office
- Translating written material

The District provides monthly trainings for the community liaisons to ensure that they are fully prepared to deal with the vast array of questions and issues that they are asked to handle in their jobs. Recently, trainings for the community liaisons focused on support for special education. Special education staff trained the liaisons on assessments for speech and academics, parent health surveys, and other parent information forms. Generally, the trainings focus on "The Six Keys of Parent Involvement." These keys include:

Parenting

- Assisting families with parenting and child-rearing skills, understanding child and adolescent development, and setting home conditions that support children as students at each age and grade level.
- Assisting schools in understanding the needs and values of our families.

Communicating

- Informing families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications.

Volunteering

- Inviting parents to participate. Their efforts support their students and school programs.

Learning At Home

- Providing parents with strategies to help their children learn and successfully complete homework.

Decision Making

- Including families as participants in school decisions, governance, and advocacy through PTA, school councils, committees, action teams, and other parent organizations.

Collaborating With the Community

- Coordinating community resources and services for students and their families.

Community Liaison Workers have played an essential role in enhancing the customer service we provide to parents throughout the district. These employees have helped increase parent participation and are really a tremendous benefit to our community.

Westminster School District Board of Trustees

Mary Mangold
President

Dave Bridgewaters
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Jamison Power
Clerk

Penny Loomer
Member

Amy Walsh
Member

Anderson *Elementary (K–6)*

8902 Hewitt Pl., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/anderson.aspx

Lucille Tambara-*Interim Principal*

Teacher of the Year

Miki Okura-Schooley

Anderson Elementary School is proud of one of our teachers, Miki Okura-Schooley, who has been chosen as the Teacher of the Year to represent Westminster School District for the title of Orange County Teacher of the Year.

Due to Miki's expertise, she is one of six teachers representing Westminster School District as a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) specialist. Miki has been developing science lessons that align with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Miki will be training teachers from three Orange County school districts— Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, and Westminster—to introduce them to these science standards.

"We all love Mrs. Schooley, because she makes learning fun," shared one of her students. "She is a funny teacher and not boring," said another student. Another student added, "When she knows we are getting a little tired, she tries to make us laugh to get us working again. One time she had us write a funny story about a water droplet when we were learning about the water cycle."

Clegg School

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/clegg.aspx

John Staggs
Principal

A New Form of Test

Clegg Elementary was recently informed by the California Business for Educational Excellence (CBEE) that it was named a California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll School for 2013.

This award is given to schools that have made significant gains in raising student academic achievement. We were able to achieve this accomplishment because of our constant focus on achievement. Our teachers work hard every day, and we get much daily support from our parents. This is a very significant accomplishment that we should all be proud of here in the Clegg community. Congratulations!

As you all know, the California Standards Test (CST) will not be given any longer. The new form of testing is the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC). This test will only be given to students in grades three to five, and will officially begin next school year.

We are currently giving a trial test to students in those grades here in mathematics and language arts, as well as a performance task test which we started during the last week of April. It continued through mid-May.

Again, this year is just a trial year, and the results will not be shared with either the school or the parents. You can have your student practice sample test questions for the SBAC at the following Web site, at https://sat2.sbacpt.tds.airast.org/Student/Pages/LoginShell.aspx?client=SBAC_PT.

DeMille *Elementary (K-6)*

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/demille.aspx

Shannon Villanueva
Principal

'Arts Teach' Annual Artist Showcase

As Westminster School District arts advocates, DeMille Elementary transitional-kindergarten teacher Patty Petersen and Meairs fourth-grade teacher Susan Freleaux had the opportunity to attend the 2014 Artist Showcase at an Orange County performing arts center, an annual event. They were joined by DeMille's choir director—second-grade teacher Melody Murray, and Meairs's recently retired fourth-grade teacher, Eileen Rizzacasa.

Arts Teach has a longstanding history of being called on to provide performances and workshops that use the arts to address the needs of schools and community organizations. Efforts range from how to deal with bullying to training teachers to entertaining and inspiring those they serve. As well as being able to see numerous performances highlighting the diverse offering of arts programs available through this preeminent roster of teaching artists, the day's highlight for DeMille came when Ms. Petersen won a raffle prize of $500 toward an arts assembly for next year!

Finley *Elementary (K–5)*

13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/finley.aspx

Maria Gutiérrez-García
Principal

Preparing for Testing

Under the direction of the very capable team of testing coordinators including Valentina Mestroni (RSP Teacher), Jennifer Audet (Computer Technician) and Yen Ta (Transitional Kindergarten Teacher and Finley's Teacher of the Year) all of Finley School has been preparing for the new Smarter Balanced Assessments. Students in grades K-2 have been very conscientious following the 3A Eagle Way by acting respectfully and acting responsibly to maintain the campus quiet so that students in grades 3-5 can focus on doing their best. Student Council members created colorful posters with sentiments of encouragement. Twenty-eight English Language Advisory Committee members analyzed test items for the 4th grade practice tests in English Language Arts and Math in the Computer lab with support from Jennifer Audet, Computer Technician, Ruth López, Community Liaison, and the principal, María Gutiérrez-García.

ELAC Parent, Priscilla Sanchez, takes the 4th grade SBAC practice test as the other moms confer with each other.

Eastwood *Elementary (K-6)*

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/eastwood.aspx

Donna Brush
Principal

Eastwood Students Love to Perform!

Eastwood's Annual Variety Show, organized, produced and choreographed by parent volunteers, proved to be an evening filled with dance and music. Student talent was extraordinary, highly diverse, and enjoyable! Mrs. Klein's kindergarten class danced to "Kids in Action" and the Eastwood Choir performed the song "Safe and Sound" to a standing room only audience. Student participants played a variety of instruments, danced, sang and entertained throughout the evening. As a tribute to his elementary school years, sixth grader Nathan Melkerson played the guitar as the audience watched his personally created video highlighting his past seven years at Eastwood. As always, Eastwood staff members performed in a comedy skit, to the delight of all.

Fryberger *Elementary (K–5)*

6952 Hood Dr., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/fryberger.aspx

Dr. Hiacynth Martinez
Principal

Jog-A-Thon

The Jog-A-Thon this year was a huge success! We raised money to support our school programs, assemblies and field trips while getting healthy all at the same time. The weather was beautiful, there were tons of parents who participated and great music to listen to while running. The students, parents and the staff have a great time jogging for fitness and fun!

Dr. Martinez Helps students stay Cool and Refreshed.

Hayden *Elementary (K–5)*

14782 Eden St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7261 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/hayden.aspx

Mark Murphy
Principal

Congratulations!

It is with great honor and prestige that Hayden School recognizes Becky Winn as our 2014–2015 Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Winn began her teaching career at Hayden in 2000, and has been here ever since. Becky has taught every grade level at Hayden except the fourth. She offers a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience from working in so many different grade levels.

Becky Winn

Mrs. Winn is truly passionate about getting the best from her students, and is always looking for ways to improve on her already vast knowledge of instructional strategies. Becky is also very passionately involved with Royal Family Kids, an international organization that provides a week-long camp experience for abused and neglected children.

Mrs. Winn is supported by a terrific family at home: her husband Charlie and her two daughters Sarah and Katy. Congratulations again to Mrs. Winn for being Hayden's Teacher of the Year!

Land School

15151 Temple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us
714/894-7311 Student Services • 714/898-8389 Child Development

Beverlee Mathenia
Director Child Development Programs

Reagan Lopez
Administrator Student Services

New Quality Ratings

Our Land School general education preschool teachers have volunteered to participate in a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) being piloted by the Orange County Department of Education.

This pilot is funded through a federal "Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant," with the intent of improving the level of quality of early education programs. Each site will be rated by an outside expert and will earn points for various elements of quality, such as teacher-child ratios, interactions, and teacher qualifications. The total points will determine the overall rating, similar to ratings for hotels, movies and restaurants.

Another important element of this funding will be the support provided to these early education programs to improve their ratings. Teachers participating in the county's QRIS, known as "Quality Start OC," will receive personalized coaching and training to help increase their own ratings, plus $500 to improve the quality of their classroom learning environments for two years.

The pilot will culminate in a final rating to be published during the 2015-2016 school year. This will essentially allow families to choose an early childhood program based upon its quality rating.

Johnson *Middle School (6–8)*

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/johnson.aspx

Andre Illig
Principal

Warrior Spirit!

Johnson Middle School Warrior Spirit shines not only through our rigorous academic program, but also through the myriad of spirit team-building events during the school year.

Our Associated Student Body has orchestrated numerous dances and spirit assemblies. Students build character and team resilience through the various events during the spirit assemblies. The inter-homeroom competitions consist of a variety of challenges. One homeroom class ultimately is crowned the winner. Through the challenges, students quickly discover each other's strengths and build a strong sense of camaraderie.

The monthly student versus staff competition series has become a favorite spirit event for all. The series started with kickball, followed by dodge ball, basketball, and finally softball. Students enjoy competing against the teachers and also interacting in a positive way with staff outside of the classroom.

Through the team-building events, the school has developed a positive, high-energy climate. Both staff and students look forward being at school every day.

JMS Warrior Mascot.

Meairs *Elementarty (K–5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/meairs.aspx

Kathy Kane
Principal

Our Garden Is Blooming!

Things are blooming at Meairs Elementary School! Hidden on the campus is a little garden that has been left unattended for the last couple of years. This year Mrs. Carratello's second-grade class decided to bring it back to life.

With the help of two dedicated volunteers, Mrs. Risser and Mrs. Elliott (Nana), the garden is once again a beautiful place. The students planted tomatoes, kale, beans, pumpkins, flowers, and more. The Risser family built a bench, and it is a wonderful shady spot to rest when you visit the garden. When aphids became a problem, the students let over 1,000 ladybugs go to eat the aphids. Students recently harvested their kale and our volunteers took it home to bake. The students were able to taste kale chips that came from their garden. Almost everyone liked them! They can't wait to taste all the other vegetables growing in the garden.

Second grade gardeners.

Schmitt *Elementary (K–5)*

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/schmitt.aspx

Paul Andre White
Principal

Teacher of the Year

Schmitt Elementary School is proud to present Mrs. Chanda Nguyen as our 2014 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Nguyen has been teaching at Schmitt since 1997. Presently, she is teaching fourth grade, but during her tenure has also taught third grade and was a Student Achievement Teacher as well.

Mrs. Chanda Nguyen.

Mrs. Nguyen is truly admired by all for her ongoing commitment, dedication, and positive spirit. "She is awesome! Chanda works so hard every day to ensure that Schmitt is the best it can be. She genuinely cares about her students and it is reflected in how much they love her!" This is just one of many praises fellow colleagues have shared about her, and they all echo the same sentiment.

In the classroom, Mrs. Nguyen's enthusiasm and energy engage all students and encourage everyone to work to the fullest potential. In addition, she continually reflects and evaluates her own teaching, adjusting her style to accommodate all students' needs and progress.

We are thrilled to honor her and her dedication, as she is a shining example of the excellence and professionalism that exist here at Schmitt.

Contest!!

This girl is may be found in two places in this publication.
When you find her email the **page numbers** to:

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
(Please put FHOW in the subject line.)

Your entry must be received by July 15, 2014
From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a $20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

Schroeder *Elementary (K–6)*

15151 Columbia Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7268 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/schroeder.aspx

Kim Breckenridge
Principal

Beautify Our School

On Saturday, April 26, 2014 Schroeder Elementary School held its second annual Beautify Our School Day. In honor of Earth Day, over 70 volunteers spent three hours of their weekend at school making it look great. Staff, school families, Girl Scouts and By Scouts participated in a variety of projects. Some teams weeded, while others gardened, and still others cleaned in classrooms and around campus. It was a successful day, with our school grounds being beautified and students learning the value of volunteering.

Delaney Powell beautifies Schoreder.

Sequoia *Elementary (K–6)*

5900 Iroquois Rd., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7271 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/sequoia.aspx

Shay Reardon
Principal

Eagles Celebrate Cinco de Mayo

An amazing time was had by students, parents and staff who attended the Cinco de Mayo Performance held in Sequoia Elementary School's multipurpose room on May 2, 2014. The Extended School Program has been working extremely hard for the past few months for this fun filled and informative evening. The script for this performance was written by the ESP staff and students. Kindergarten through sixth grade students in the ESP program were all involved in creating the props, learning their lines for their scripts and performing traditional Mexican dances. After the performance families had a chance to enjoy authentic Mexican dishes that were brought in by all the families from ESP. The ESP staff and students did such an amazing job on this original performance. Way to go Sequoia ESP!

Stacey *Middle School*

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/stacey.aspx

Heidi DeBritton
Principal

Developing a Richer Education

By Jordan Woodruff, Band Director

Over the last two months our Stacey band students have been demonstrating their musical skills in a variety of performance settings. At their recent music festival in March, the Concert Band and Concert Winds both received superior ratings for their performance and sight-reading adjudication. The Stacey Wind Ensemble also received unanimous superior ratings in both of these adjudication criteria.

The music festival was sanctioned by the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association, and was held over a four-day period at Kennedy High School in La Palma. Out of 71 other schools at the festival, Stacey was the only one to have this many bands and attain this many superior ratings.

We also had all 230 of our instrumental band students perform in the multipurpose room at the end of February for their family and friends. This performance was to let our parents know what their children had been working on as they were developing their musical skills. About 600 members of the community came out to hear a concert that represented many different musical styles and genres.

Instrumental music is alive and well at Stacey. We believe that when set up properly, a good music program will help our students attain a richer, better-rounded education.

Willmore *Elementary (K–5)*

7122 Maple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-3765 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/willmore.aspx

Rob McKane
Principal

A Point of Pride

As we wind up the year, it is natural to reflect upon some of the changes we made at the beginning of it. One of the changes I am most proud of is our after-school program, or ASES PRIDE.

This year we moved the program from the Boys and Girls Club onto our campus. At first there were some pieces that needed to be worked out, and there will always be improvements that can be made. But as we wrap up the year it is clear that this move has benefitted our students, their families, and even the teachers.

In this program our students are involved in choosing and organizing the clubs that they participate in. Clubs such as Busy Builders, the STEAM Club and Computer Animation give our students many opportunities to learn about the things they are interested in.

After a healthy snack, our students move into Power Hour. This part of the program gives them a chance to do their homework and even obtain help if needed. This is a great benefit to our students and their families. Also, because the staff and program leader, Mr. Ray, communicate regularly with the teachers, any struggling students can be targeted for support in their greatest areas of need.

We are proud of the progress our students have made this year, but the ASES PRIDE program has really come a long way from years past. I am exceptionally proud that our partnership has grown the way it has.

Webber *Elementary (K–6)*

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/webber.aspx

Orchid Rocha
Principal

Be Healthy

The Webber PTA recently sponsored a Hula Hoop assembly that had everyone exercising and having fun to music!

Weighted hula-hoops can be a good addition to any exercise program, especially if you're able to hula-hoop for at least 10 minutes at a time. Some of the health related messages that our presenter from Kidtribe helped to promote were:

"Sweat. Smile. Play. Move your body for 60 minutes a day."

"H2O is the way to go! 10 sips an hour gives you all your power."

"Make friends with your food. Your BFFs should be veggies and fruit."

The music and fun was so inviting that after a few songs, we had guests from the District Office come out and join us for some fun exercise. The children really enjoyed seeing all the adults participate in this activity. I think that the biggest kid on our campus, Mr. Rich Hendrickson, our custodian, had the most fun.

Warner *Middle School (6–8)*

14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/warner.aspx

Matthew Skoll
Principal

Turning Points

By Vivian Dinh, Steven Nguyen, and Kurt Reisig, Editor-in-Chief, Warner Journalism

Warner is home to many great motivational speakers. On Wednesday, April 16th, former student Gizelle Marmolejo and former Olympian, Jennifer Kessy, spoke to READ180/System 44 students about overcoming obstacles of the many turning points students face. This event was graciously presented by the READ180/System 44 department. These speakers reflected on their lives.

Gizelle Marmolejo talked to the students about how her life completely changed when she changed her mindset. She had to deal with negative circumstances, including bullying. Fortunately, she overcame these obstacles to become a successful student in high school. At Westminster High School, she joined AVID, received awards for citizenship and academic success, and even played on the boys' tackle football team. She wants to start a company that provides fresh water for places that don't have access to pure water, like Africa. She is an inspiration!

Jennifer Kessy, a USC history graduate, won the silver medal for U.S.A. during the summer Olympics in London 2012. Her vast athletic history includes honors as a professional beach volleyball player at USC, and she was a successful MVP in FIVB World Championships in France and Thailand. She delivered empowering words to students regarding striving during college years to succeed. She credits her family with being her greatest motivation.

Along with other inspiring speakers, including Tyler Durman, Warner welcomes many opportunities for motivational enrichment that help to guide students during the turning points of middle school.

Huntington Beach Union High School District

5832 Bolsa Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/903-7000 • www.hbuhsd.edu

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Gregory S. Plutko

Success and Support…Smart and Healthy

Is that a graduation stage I see…oh my June is upon us! Another successful year has passed ever so quickly for so many of our amazing students and their supportive families. It is in that support of family and friends that I want to reflect…the family is a key component to the success of the students and our district.

Frequently in conversations with others, we find ourselves discussing our families and we are all too proud to do so. Most of us share that our families are more important to us than work and in fact report that families are our first priority. I actually have never had anyone tell me that work was his or her first priority in life. And yet, I think that for many – including me – we would have to admit that we spend an inordinate amount of time at work, or thinking about work or work-related things. When we look a little deeper at our families, we sometimes find that we have less time with them and that life at home can be reactive, frantic and unfocused. The digital pace of today's world excites us on one hand, and can exhaust us on the other…all the while challenging our value of "family-first."

Successful organizations, such as schools, are both smart and healthy. They are smart because they are focused, organized, financially prudent, and have a defined mission and core values. They are healthy because they have a minimal amount of confusion and politics, are productive and have high morale.

Successful families are also smart and healthy. They are smart because they focus on education and engage in well-rounded activities. They are healthy because they spend time together, and there is laughter and positive interaction that builds memories that last a lifetime. Home is a welcoming and safe place.

Most of our pain centers on the healthy side in both organizations and in families. In the movie "Parenthood" Steve Martin reminds us "life is messy." And in fact this is true.

I recently read a book by Patrick Lencioni titled *The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family.* In his book, Patrick outlines three questions every family should ask themselves as they go through life together.

#1 What makes our family unique? He reminds us that when we try to compare ourselves to others we usually fall short in our own mind's eye. He reminds us that every family is unique, and we will gain both perspective and peace when we know who we are as a family and what our core values are. As a strategy, he suggests that we identify what is true about our lives, the decisions we make and the way we live. As we do this, when decisions come up, families will begin to make decisions based on their values and uniqueness instead of other criteria.

#2 What is our top priority – rallying cry – right now? Patrick reminds us that we worry about too many things. We are easily distracted and sidetracked. When we identify our top priority, the area that is the most important, we are less likely to commit to activities that may be overwhelming or result in a crisis. Instead, we can be crystal clear about the decisions we make and remain committed to our goals. Again, the family fabric grows stronger.

#3 How will we talk about and use the answers to these questions? In question three, it is critical that a family keep the first two questions alive by using them in daily decision making. When do we discuss and decide things? Where and how often will we put our choices into action?

Sadly, it's often not until people actually face the possibility of challenges in their families, or even loss, that they finally come to realize the importance of being purposeful, strategic and proactive in their family life. This is obviously not a cure-all, but if we can achieve a little more sanity in the midst of our adventure in life, it's worth our efforts.

Thank you for your continued family and community efforts on behalf of our students. Our year has been overwhelmingly positive and productive. You do make a difference, and our students appreciate your investment in their futures!

Congrats and good luck to the Class of 2014!

Adopted with permission from *The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family* by Patrick Lencioni

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kathleen Iverson
President

Celebrating Our Work

Every year we celebrate the accomplishments and the work of our graduating seniors. It is a magical time for not only the graduate but also his or her entire family. Their school families also celebrate their accomplishments. This season is also a time to celebrate the work of the school community. The Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) school family has just finished celebrations of our classified employees, certificated employees, and Volunteers in Public Schools.

On May 1, we recognized classified employees who have reached 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, or 30 years of service to the district. This year our honorees included bus drivers, maintenance supervisors, secretaries, attendance clerks and information technology technicians. We honored 94 individuals accumulating 995 years of service.

On May 2, we said thank you to the community volunteers who are integral to our success. These wonderful people are often mistaken for paid employees because they spend so much time at school with our staff and students. They serve on focus group committees, booster groups, educational foundations, site councils, advisory groups, and much more. This year they provided 179,554 recorded hours of service to our district, which we calculate to be worth over $3 million in wages. More important are their contributions to educating our students.

On May 8, we recognized 70 teachers and administrators with a combined 670 years of experience who have reached 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years of service. On top of the other challenges we asked teachers to align lessons with Common Core Standards, prepare students for the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA), and master the use of new tablets and new software for instruction (Canvas) and attendance (Aeries).

But wait—there's more! We are also celebrating the successful completion of our district's accreditations by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Valley Vista, Fountain Valley, and Ocean View High Schools had full evaluations for the first time in six years, and their reports were glowing. Marina, Edison and Westminster High Schools had three-year revisits, and their progress toward meeting their six-year goals was praised. This process required that the entire school, community, and district office be involved. Focusing our vision, collecting data, producing reports, and welcoming the WASC committee are tasks we have completed before, but this year it was complicated by two new challenges. While getting ready for WASC, our schools had to plan for the SBA and the write a Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP).

The SBA is a new state test. Taking tests and dealing with something new makes everyone anxious, and this year was a greater challenge because it is not only new but also our first test done online. The good news is that our new electronic infrastructure and tablet format work well and that our students are helping us to identify what they think we can do better.

Our third challenge was to develop a plan for spending state funds to assure the community we are focusing on career and college readiness while providing supplemental programs for students who need extra help. This has been an intensive and time-sensitive process. School staff, parents, students, and community members have been a part of the planning. The district has made this process as transparent as possible, and you will find the LCAP on the Web site where you can study it and make comments and suggestions. As we complete the LCAP, we can celebrate our employees and our community for producing such a detailed and responsive plan.

We hope you will join the Huntington Beach Union High School District in celebrating the dedication and hard work all members of our school families have provided to our students.

Coast *High School*

17321 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • www.coasthighschool.com

Steve Curiel
Principal

Two Great Programs– Great Together, Too!

You might remember the original commercial for those peanut butter cup candies in which someone is walking along eating a bar of chocolate and accidently runs into a person with an open peanut butter jar. The result: one of the best candies every created, in my humble opinion. This is how we view what we have been working on for the past year that involves two great programs, Coast High School and Community Day School, coming together to create one innovative and flexible program that will better address the needs of our district's students who struggle to adapt to a large comprehensive high school setting. Quite frankly, the comprehensive high schools just aren't the right place for every student.

New mascot for the new Coast High School

Fortunately, we have various alternative-education options that include Coast High School, an independent study school, and Community Day School (CDS), which is a small school that focuses strongly on both the academic and the social-emotional side of each student. What we will be doing for next fall is combining and realigning these programs, which we believe will create an even more robust alternative education program that better addresses the needs of students who find the comprehensive schools lacking in flexibility and the appropriate support systems.

Sweet Combination!

In the design of the newly merged program, we will be looking closely at the instructional delivery methods: how we schedule students, how we use support staff, and how we use the classroom space and furniture. Both independent study and direct instruction will be offered in this program. Students will be able to choose which format works best for them based on which classes they are taking. Some students who struggle in math might choose to take a math course through a direct-instruction format and then take the rest of their courses through independent study. If they are passionate about literature, they might sign up to take a short class on British literature while they take their U.S. Government class online. Truly, each student will be able to have a customized schedule that works best for him or her.

Through special available funding, the school will also be able to take an innovative approach to the way the classrooms are furnished. We will be designing a classroom environment that allows for a seamless transformation of the learning environment and that will promote communication, collaboration and problem solving. In this way we can more effectively mimic the work and college environment our students will be entering.

In the picture, you can see an example of an active learning space that is flexible, comfortable, high tech and optimistic. Although this may not be the furniture we eventually use, the flexibility for room setup and innovative feel is what we are interested in. Students will be walking into a classroom environment that is interactive, dynamic and optimized for learning. Students will be enrolled in a school that is innovative, flexible and motivational. More news to come this summer about this great opportunity for students!

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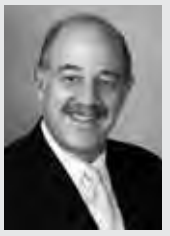

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The End to the Class of 2014

As the year is coming to an end, the seniors are preparing themselves for the life they have ahead of them, and all the other students are looking forward to advancing to the next grade level. Many of our seniors are attending out-of-state colleges, playing for collegiate teams, or staying close to home and transferring at a later time. One girl who attends Marina High School will be attending Harvard University in the fall! Our seniors have big plans ahead of them as they transition into the real world, leaving the high school campuses to the soon-to-be seniors to take over.

All year students prepared themselves mentally and emotionally for Advanced Placement (AP) testing in May. From AP Spanish to AP Calculus, a wide range of tests were offered at each school in the district. These tests evaluate each student's knowledge and progress through the chosen course. If the students do well, they can receive college credit and save money in the future! AP testing is a rough two weeks for students, but thankfully it has come to an end, and hopefully the Huntington Beach Unified High School District (HBUHSD) students did their best.

It has been a great year in the HBUHSD for sports, academics, and spirit. It's sad to see the year end! But summer is a much-needed break for many students and staff members. We greet all incoming freshman and say farewell to our seniors, who have created many memories in the past four years. We wish them success in life!

Edison *High School*

21400 Magnolia Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-1356 • www.edisonchargers.com

Dr. D'Liese Melendrez
Principal

What Distinguishes Us

Edison High School is recognized as a California Distinguished School. There are many reasons for this, including a strong academic program, a healthy athletic program, and a stimulating visual and performing-arts program. In addition, we are proud of both our student and parent organizations that contribute to a well-rounded and positive school image.

Our ASB (Associated Student Body) is a combination of both elected and appointed student members. This steering powerhouse of 35 young people is responsible in part for the enthusiasm generated at school assemblies, dances, athletic events, drama productions and band/vocal concerts. Meeting at 7 a.m. four days a week, this team strategizes ways to involve students in both on- and off-campus experiences.

The annual Battle for the Bell rivalry with Fountain Valley High School is an example of school pride demonstrated at the highest level. While the football game has not always lived up to expectations, although we have won the Bell nine years in a row, the enthusiasm generated the night before is a genuine "Charger." More than 300 ASB members, students, cheerleaders, parents, and booster organizations work around the clock putting up cleverly decorated posters on almost every square inch of brick. This bonding experience is not only enjoyable but also further deepens the loyalty and camaraderie we share as Chargers, whether that is as alumni, current students or friends of Edison High School.

Distinction Within the Community

Community service is another avenue by which ASB gives back to our community. Annually, two blood drives are organized and coordinated with the UC Irvine Blood Donor Center. ASB assists UCI personnel throughout the day of the drive and is also responsible for signing up potential donors. Our drives have netted approximately 80 pints of usable life-saving blood. ASB has volunteered time on weekends assisting many charities, including those dedicated to pediatric aides, autism, cancer and leukemia/lymphoma.

Edison has numerous booster clubs and parent organizations. The Academic Booster Club (ABC) benefits both teachers and students. This parent-led group is responsible for two annual student-recognition events. In October, ABC hosts a Pins and Letter ceremony. Students who have maintained a 4.0 grade-point average for three semesters are awarded an academic letter. Similar to an athletic letter, this symbol of achievement is highly regarded. Subsequent semesters of a 4.0 grade-point average garner an academic pin to place on the previously earned letter.

In April, ABC hosted a huge student recognition night. ABC provided our teaching staff with an opportunity to select five students from their entire case load to be singled out for special recognition. Criteria could include outstanding character, willingness to help others or positive academic progress. Eighty-eight teachers participated, and over 400 students were honored in front of their parents and teachers.

Our student and parent involvement continue to grow. Edison High School is proud of its past accomplishments and eager to create new ones.

Fountain Valley *High School*

17816 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/962-3301 • www.fvhs.com

Chris Herzfeld
Principal

Dance Team Shines

As one of the largest comprehensive high schools in Orange County, Fountain Valley High School offers a wide array of top notch co-curricular activities. Over the past few years our FVHS dance teams have become one of the most popular and competitive programs we offer.

Here's more from our dance team advisor, Jennifer Allen:

"When I started with the dance team eight years ago we were a small organization of about 20 students. Over the past several years the FVHS dance team has become a well-recognized, nationally competitive team. The team has increased to 60 members, including a male hip hop team.

"This past season at the USA National Competition, our character routine made it into finals and placed second at the CADTD State Competition. FVHS also won the sweepstakes in the hip hop category. Much of this success is due to the dedication and award-winning choreography of our coaches Tara Bearden, Stacy Conely and assistant Kelela Battinga, as well as the support of our parent booster organization."

FVHS Hip Hop team after winning the Hip Hop Sweepstakes trophy at CADTD State Competition .

An Amazing Day

"The FVHS dance team has become the team to beat. Year after year it places in the top three of almost every category, at every competition. We are invited to elite levels of summer camps and have become recognized as an ideal host school for competitions.

"Several years ago FVHS Dance was asked to host a regional USA competition on our campus. It was a huge success, and we have now hosted this event for five years. This past March we were also honored to host the CADTD State Competition, a two-day event with over 40 schools and 5,000 dancers and spectators. Throughout this day, many parents and dancers shared with me their compliments on the quality of the school grounds, and the welcoming behavior of the dancers. It was an amazing day for FVHS.

"The auditions for the new school year were held in May, and the new team has already started practice for the upcoming year. We again have a strong program, one which promises to continue the high standards that have come to be expected of the FVHS team."

Congratulations
Class
of
2014!

Huntington Beach *Adult School*

17321 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4227 • www.hbas.edu

Steve Curiel
Principal

An Additional Site for HBAS

I am excited to report that over the past year we have been working with the Simon Youth Foundation on a project to build out a new facility for our Adult School program.

This project will primarily help those students who earn their high school diploma or GED. Through an agreement with Simon Malls, the Simon Youth Foundation, and the Huntington Beach Union High School District, there will be a new Adult Education center that will be the main home for our high school diploma and GED program, along with an ESL classroom and a career technical education program.

Why the change? This move is part of a number of program realignments that will be occurring within our district. It will directly benefit the Huntington Beach Adult School with the addition of 5,000 sq. ft. of space.

The additional space will be critical as HBAS continues to grow, because we are now busting at the seams at the Gothard site! And we couldn't ask for a better location. Although you might not see the benefits right away, just think about being able to get some shopping done next door and then stopping off to take a computer or writing class.

We will also be located right off the freeway, and have major bus routes that stop, which makes this new center easier to get to than our current site.

A Casual Approach

Most exciting about the facility will be the design and layout of the interior of the school. The campus will be high-tech and have a 21st-century classroom design. It will have flexible scheduling and will provide excellent teaching and support services. We are aiming for a coffeehouse feel where students will want to come and "hang out" and read, do homework or chat with their teacher.

A room and furniture layout designed by the architect to show an example of the type of furniture that you will be in the center when it opens this fall.

The center will offer free Wifi, access to more than 150 computers, school counseling services, and will be open for a longer period of time than our current Gothard campus. Staff is currently reviewing the plans, deciding on the specific furniture, building an online curriculum, and working on the logistics of how the center will operate.

As you can imagine, there is a lot of work ahead of us, but we are confident that we'll be open for business in the fall, and that our students are going to love the new location, or what we might be calling the new Learning Lounge.

More information will come this summer. Please check our Web site at HBAS.edu for updates.

Huntington Beach *High School*

1905 Main St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-2514 • www.hboilers.com

Dr. Rocky Murray
Principal

Celebrations!

Every school year begins with optimism and anticipation, and this year the early metaphorical butterflies were rampant. The nerves are present because of the lofty expectations we all share for our school and district. With the start of a new school year or season, goals and objectives are created to ensure we have a measuring stick for self-assessment. Having that self-assessment tool is important as we reflect on success and also create our areas that will require a future focus. Fortunately, this year we have shared a lot of success. We have also generated a roadmap for where we want to go in the future.

Instructionally the Common Core State Standards are the centerpiece for many of our conversations. In the Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD), we are facing the shifts by focusing on best instructional practices that create depth, complexity, and rigor, which are essential aspects of the Common Core framework. This is an optimal plan, as we strive to expand our students' ability to think critically, which will certainly enhance their success in a global economy. We have a plan moving forward that will serve our students' best interest. We have a vast amount of teaching talent in our district, and we are using our people to lead professional development and training. We have unity in our district and school, which will unify our approach to these educational changes. That collaboration will be a guiding force for our future focus.

From the classroom to athletics, this year will end as one of the most successful years the school has ever experienced. We celebrated in Angel Stadium with the Oiler football team and a CIF championship. We rolled that into a winning winter season for some of our sports, and now we are finishing our spring sports. Some of our spring teams, namely volleyball, softball, and baseball, are at or near the top in their respective divisions. Our Oiler athletic programs are competing at the highest level and are outstanding representatives of our school.

Academy of Performing Arts (APA) continues to dominate the world of performing arts. The work the APA staff and students create is simply amazing. They are some of the hardest working individuals in our school, and their performances are indicators of pure dedication and, let's be honest, talent! This year they put on the performances of a lifetime with "Shrek the Musical," and "It Runs in the Family," and will end the year with additional performances. APA and MMET have also shared awesome concerts, such as Retrofest, and beautiful dance performances, including Fanfare. Frankly, they have put on a number of performances, more than can be listed here, and they are all worthy. The entire program of APA and MMET is off the charts and brings a considerable amount of esteem to Huntington Beach High School (HBHS). More importantly, they are connecting the students to the school and strengthening their college and career pathways.

The HBHS Oiler Band, Orchestra, and Color Guard also put on fantastic performances. The students and staff dedicate significant time and energy to ensure their performances are top-notch! Their success is obvious as the programs continue and emerge as some of the best in the county and state. Their dedication to their craft shows with each and every performance, and they continue to make us proud.

The majority of extra-curricular activity typically falls in the aforementioned groupings. But, they are not all! For example, we have students performing at the top in the nation in Model United Nations. We also have students poised to change the world through our Green Club. We could go on and on with a list of opportunities offered at HBHS. As the year comes to a close, it is a beautiful reminder of all the wonderful things we are doing at HBHS and in our district. Students have an opportunity to shine and flourish through HBHS, and we are committed to creating and growing those opportunities.

We have experienced an incredible year, and it is time to reflect! We know August will bring the butterflies, so for now we need to smile and celebrate!

Marina *High School*

15871 Springdale St., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/893-6571 • www.marinavikings.org

Dr. Paul Morrow
Principal

State of the School, 2014

As the 2013–14 school year at Marina High comes to a close, I'd like to share some of our accomplishments at "The Home of the Vikings." We take great pride in our accomplishments and are excited for the years to come.

Marina has added a number of Advanced Placement and Accelerated courses for students and has embraced the concept of open access this year. New courses include AP Computer Science, Accelerated Biology and Marine Biology. With these changes, over 150 more AP tests were taken by Marina students then in the previous year. We've continued to increase our number of courses meeting A-G requirements as well as the number of AP courses offered on campus—21 to date, an increase of three this year and two more opening next year.

ERWC, a new English Department course for all seniors who scored Conditionally Exempt on the EAP test, was offered this year. This class was designed by the CSU system.

We led the way this school year in learning about and practicing alternatives to suspension. We implemented practices such as individual contracts, school service, counseling sessions, tutoring, mentoring and courses focused on behavior.

Our ASB has invested in many programs focusing on building a sense of community at Marina. Practices such as Campus Cleanliness, What If Week and Be a Buddy, Not a Bully have made significant impacts on student behavior and their sense of security on campus.

A school Safety Committee was formed this year. It meets monthly to address on-site equipment needs, staff -development needs, drills and site issues

College-placement testing was offered for the first time to all students in the ninth, tenth and eleventh grades. The ACT Plan and Explore were provided during school hours, as was the PSAT. Also, 80 percent of Marina students scored a three or higher on their AP tests. During this time 1,194 tests were taken, which is an increase of 153 from the previous school year, and 16 of the 25 different AP subject exams had more than 40 students taking the exam, and 226 scored a 5, 355 students scored a 4, and 375 scored a 3.

College and career data from the EAP test in English language arts see the number of students "exempt" increase from 31 percent last year to 36 percent in 2013. More students have taken the exam in mathematics than previously.

AVID programs continue to expand the number of course offerings. Students in these courses experience focused instruction, college visits and college mentor assistants throughout the year.

Nine carts of Google Chrome books have been purchased and are being daily used in classrooms, resulting in many classes experiencing additional enriched and high-interest instruction

The administrative and teaching staffs have embraced the training and use of Canvas this school year. Our tech resource teacher is focused on assisting the staff to move forward with this new program in order to use it as a tool to communicate effectively and efficiently to parents and students.

There have been numerous campus infrastructure improvements, including new wireless hot-spot switches and other networked focused improvements. The result is a more dependable and fast tech experience as well as greater use and confidence in the use of technology as a legitimate and dependable instructional tool.

Yes, it's been a very busy and productive school year here at the Home of the Vikings as the Strategic Plan for this district becomes a reality. Marina High is on the move and is focused on assisting all students to be prepared to choose their path in their future, be it college or career. The state of the school is awesome and moving forward daily. Join us as we continue to provide an outstanding preparation for our students to find their way in this complex and ever-changing world. Have a great summer!

Ocean View *High School*

17071 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/848-0656 • www.ovhs.info

Dan Bryan
Principal

Adjusting To the Common Core

Today our ninth-graders took the Smarter Balanced practice assessment. What is this, you ask? Well, it's a different kind of test for sure! Here are some of the reasons why.

This test is taken completely online, and the students do it on our Chromebooks. They log in, and off they go! It's also a test that has some multiple choice questions. However, the bulk of it asks the students to answer questions and justify their answer in paragraph form.

The students perform what is called a "learning task" in which they are given a real-world situation, often involving a problem to solve. Then they must conduct online research from multiple sources, develop arguments to support a claim, build counter-arguments, and actually build a report/proposal/thesis as an answer to the situation or problem.

This test requires students to show their depth of knowledge on the written parts as well as the multiple choice portion. The multiple choice questions become more or less difficult depending on the students' answers, and the written responses will be judged on rubrics which measure the sophistication and depth of their responses.

There are some who might say that this is a brand new way to test. I believe part of that is true. We've never gone completely online for a school-wide assessment before. However, asking questions of students and requiring them to justify their answers with relevant data is as old as Socrates.

Justifying Answers

Likewise, asking students to delve deeply into a problem and figure out the possible counter-arguments to the claims has been around as long as humans have been thinking.

As a principal, I love that students have opinions. Yes, I want them to discriminate among ideas and choose the best one; but I never want them to do it without first performing solid research, using their critical powers, to cite supporting text, and knowing the counter-arguments first. Going through this process makes their ideas much more than mere opinions.

I am pleased that the new Smarter Balanced Assessments will ask students to show their work on the test, and for many questions, it is the work itself that will be evaluated. I recently asked several students about what was different about the test today. Some of them said, "Mr. Bryan, this was a critical thinking test." Hooray!

Ocean View is on the leading edge with Chromebooks, WiFi coverage, and bandwidth. We will continue to focus on teaching the timeless skills of argument, defense, deep inquiry, critical thinking, and literacy that are present in the Common Core.

Are you looking
for me
for the contest
on page 22?

Valley Vista *High School*

9600 Dolphin St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/964-7766 • www.vvhs.info

Kerry Clitheroe
Principal

Time for a New Dream

Each Valley Vista High School student is a special challenge. Every year, students bring their own unique styles and skills to Valley Vista High School. Our staff accepts each one with the confidence that our carefully crafted individualized approach to education of identified at-risk students will benefit them and that they can and will succeed. Success is measured in several ways: regular attendance; cooperation with teachers, staff and other students; earning credits; preparing for life after high school whether work, the armed services or higher education; expressing their creativity in constructive and wonderful ways; and most especially graduation—graduation on time, with their class.

Tyler Zenk.

Our graduates stand out for a number of reasons. Tyler Zenk is our most outstanding male graduate this year. Not only did Tyler make up all of the deficit credits he needed to graduate on time but also he was especially dedicated to helping other students make up credits, too. He wowed the visiting WASC review team with his presentation about how gamification could revolutionize our curriculum. Tyler contributed to local charities as a representative to our community- services projects. He plans to join the National Guard after graduation because of his commitment to serve others—he wants to do his part to keep our country safe and to ensure that all Americans can enjoy their freedoms.

Penelope Lopez.

Penelope Lopez is our most outstanding female graduate. Despite significant challenges at home, Penelope also made up the deficit credits and made the progress she needed to graduate with her class on time. Penelope served as the VVHS student representative to the HBUHSD Board of Trustees and in that role submitted a monthly report about the status of our campus from a student perspective. She also served as one of 10 student ambassadors who advised the principal and assisted with campuswide activities and events. She also impressed the visiting WASC review team with an incredible presentation about her boxing career that began as a response to being bullied—she's less than five feet tall!—helped her develop a healthy lifestyle and enhanced her confidence and self-esteem. Penelope plans to continue her education and become a social worker because she knows firsthand the positive impact this community role can have on the lives of struggling families.

Each of our graduates is an inspiring story. When they arrived at VVHS, they were behind their respective class in terms of academic progress and labeled as at risk of not finishing high school, let alone graduating. Through their own hard work, an educational environment that works for them, and teachers and staff who truly care about them and their futures, they have succeeded beyond their dreams. Now they have new dreams, more challenging goals, and we're confident they will accomplish them, too. So are they.

Have a FUN summer!

Westminster *High School*

14325 Goldenwest St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/893-1381 • www.whslions.net

Owen Crosby
Principal

A Time for Reflection

As the year draws to a close, it is natural to spend some time reflecting back on the accomplishments of our students and staff. In doing so, it's exciting to see the growth that has occurred in both our curricular and extracurricular programs, and to recognize the outstanding work of our staff and students.

There were many highlights. One of our AVID students was selected to be student speaker at the AVID Summer Institute. Only two students annually are given this high honor. AVID began in 1980 with one high school and 32 students. Today there are 1,321 schools with 157,940 students.

For the eighth straight year, our Academic Decathlon team qualified for the California Academic Decathlon Championships. Over the past eight years we have also won the Orange County Academic Decathlon tournament five times. At the state championships this year, Westminster High School's team placed second overall in their division, and tied for first place in the Super Quiz.

Our students won 16 gold metals, 10 silver medals, and two bronze medals. Additionally, one of our students scored the highest point total in our division.

This year we also increased our Advanced Placement offerings to include AP Art History, AP English Language, and AP Environmental Science. We currently offer 13 different AP courses. Each of the past three years has seen the number of students taking these AP courses increase, the number of AP exams increase, and the number of tests passed increase.

This year our athletic teams have won 6 league titles. Our football team made it to the CIF semifinals, our boys' basketball team won league for the first time since 1970, and our girls' basketball team won their third consecutive league title.

Our girls' basketball coach was also selected to be in the Orange County Basketball Hall of Fame, and both of our girls' and boys' basketball coaching staffs were selected to coach in their respective Orange County All-Star Games.

This year we also brought back our choir program, which had been dormant for over 20 years. Westminster High School was one of only 25 schools in the nation to be selected to host High School Nation, a student assembly focused on music and arts education.

We have increased our parent education opportunities on campus. We recently hosted a Freshmen Parent Orientation, Cash for College Nights, College and Career Readiness Nights, and parent education series like Grupo Crecer, The 10 Commandments of Education, Boys Town and the Latino Literacy Project.

Our Government S-Club, working with the Westminster chapter of Soroptimist International, hosted the first Healthy Girls and Families Conference. The purpose of the Conference was to inspire girls and their families to make healthy lifestyle choices.

I applaud the Westminster High School community for these accomplishments and the many others we have achieved this year. They are all indicators of a strong and healthy school culture, and a testament to the tremendous work and dedication of our WHS staff, students and community.

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Severe Morning Sickness

Michael Nageotte, MD
Associate Chief Medical Officer, Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

The majority of pregnant women suffer from some type of morning sickness, but nearly five of every 1,000 women develop severe nausea and vomiting. Also known as hyperemesis gravidarum, severe morning sickness can cause such extreme weight loss and dehydration that the health of the mother and the baby can be jeopardized.

Morning sickness usually begins around the sixth week of pregnancy, but disappears around weeks 16 to 18. While some morning sickness is considered normal, intense vomiting and nausea are not.

Signs of hyperemesis include:

- Nausea with severe vomiting
- Consistent nausea that makes it impossible to eat or drink
- Recurrent headaches
- Weight loss
- Decrease in urination
- Extreme fatigue
- Inability to keep any food down
- Fainting or dizziness
- Dehydration from vomiting

Risk factors for hyperemesis are carrying multiples, a history of motion sickness and migraines with nausea/vomiting. The intense vomiting results in a loss of nutrition for mom and baby and can be very harmful.

At Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach, the high-risk pregnancy care team works with women suffering from hyperemesis to provide an individualized treatment plan. Most patients feel better within hours of receiving therapy, stop vomiting after one day and are back home from the hospital after a second day.

If you are pregnant and suffering from severe morning sickness, don't ignore it. Call your doctor immediately to determine the next steps to take to keep you and your baby healthy and receiving the necessary nutrients.

Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach
MemorialCare Health System

Our specialists are the leaders in both mom and baby's health care.

Kristha's Type 1 diabetes made her pregnancy high-risk. She was monitored 24/7 in our Perinatal Special Care Unit for nearly 50 days. Three weeks later, Michael was born and taken to our level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit – just steps away from Kristha. Today, Kristha and Michael are healthy and enjoy their special bonding times.

From tip-top head to itty bitty toes, Miller Children's is the leader in getting moms and babies better.

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High-Risk Maternity & Neonatal Care

Their specialty:
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Kristha, *Type 1 Diabetic; High-Risk Pregnancy Patient, Mother of* **Michael, 3-months-old,** *Level III NICU Patient*

Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center

17100 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/966-7200 • www.fountainvalleyhospital.com

Swimming Safety for Children

Kenneth Kim, M.D.
Medical Director, Pediatric ICU

Children seem to be naturally drawn to water. They can splash in it, float on it and dive through it. Water can also be dangerous. Approximately 1,000 children drown each year, most often in the home swimming pool.

Parents can help keep their children safe around water by following these recommendations to avoid health risks while still having fun.

- Teach children how to swim. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends children begin swim lessons at age four.
- Supervise children at all times when they are in the water. Knowing how to swim does not mean children are safe in the water.
- Remove toys from the water so children are not tempted to retrieve a toy.
- Use waterproof diapers for babies and change them often. Babies can spread the parasite cryptosporidium through fecal matter.
- Surround your pool at home with a fence that is at least four feet tall and has a self-closing and self-latching gate (latches should be out of the reach of children).
- Empty blow-up pools after each use.
- Watch out for currents and tides at lakes or beaches. Check with local authorities to determine whether they have posted warnings for dangerous tides.
- Don't let children dive into a body of water without first checking the water depth.
- Don't allow children to swim with an open sore, cut or scrape.
- Don't allow children to run around a pool, roughhouse, or push others into the water.
- Don't allow children to play near or sit on a pool drain.

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Fountain Valley Regional HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

17100 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708

For more information about us, scan here:

We're equipped for kids, to give them the specialized care they need, when they need it.

Tutoring Club®

A Class Above.℠ Guaranteed.℠

Celebrating Our 10th Anniversary Serving the Community.

www.TutoringClub.com

Menion this ad for $20 Testing! Exp. 7/31/14

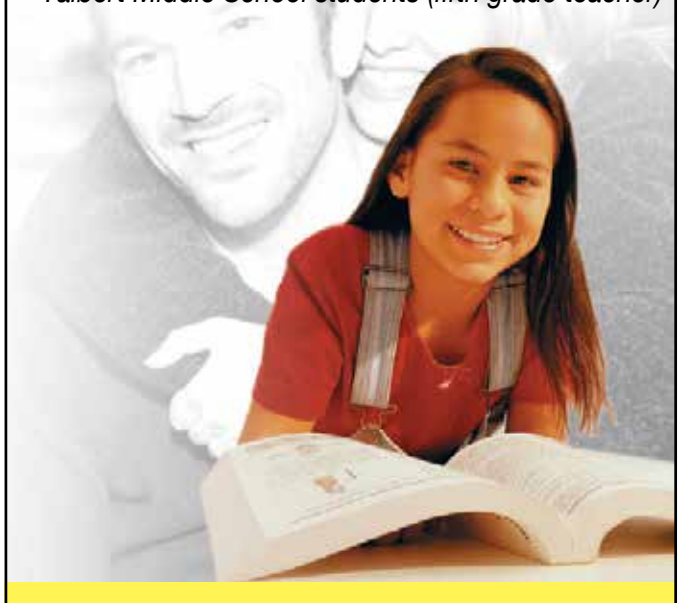
Enroll for Fall, Receive *FREE* Summer Tutoring.

Call for details.

GUARANTEED

to improve academic performance in **LESS TIME** and at a **LOWER COST** than any other program.

"Tutoring Club has been invaluable. The tutors are highly qualified and both of my sons relate to their enthusiastic help."
-Lucinda, Parent of Edison High School & Talbert Middle School students (fifth grade teacher)



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The Importance of Summer!

What Students Should Know Upon Entering Each Grade

Elementary School

Kindergarten – Students should be familiar with all letters and many basic sight words.

1st-3rd - Early elementary students need to become proficient readers and memorize all basic math facts. Any issues with comprehension and phonics can be worked on with our summer reading programs (If students are still counting on their fingers by the end of third grade they will be overwhelmed with the amount of math covered in later grades).

4th & 5th - Extremely important years for future academic success. Students should understand fractions and decimals, and be able to interpret word problems. Students need to draw conclusions when reading and be comfortable writing structured paragraphs.

Middle School

6th - Come October, we will have more 6th graders than any other age. The jump from the friendly confines of an elementary classroom to having more than one teacher leaves many preteens shell- shocked. Most of our sixth graders are overwhelmed with the amount of math covered, and lack the study skills for the transition to middle school. If your student has struggled with any area during elementary school, these deficiencies will become amplified in middle school.

7th & 8th - Writing and Algebra are the two areas 7th and 8th graders tend to struggle with the most. If your child passes into Algebra 1 for 8th grade, it is important to master all core math concepts, as there will be no time for review.

High School

9th & 10th - For some reason all high school students think summer means brain freeze. Maybe we should tell them summer break is three months because most children used to work on the farms for their parents. Now, we allow them to spend endless hours on the beach and hang out playing PS3 and Xbox. Our athletes spend countless hours practicing for the upcoming sports season, but do nothing to help themselves academically. Summer is a great time for course reviews and previews, especially in math and science courses.

11th - Junior year is the most stressful for students planning to go to a four year college. Unfortunately, many 11th graders try to cram for the numerous standardized tests at the end of the year when their classes are the most difficult. The Tutoring Club has individualized test prep for both the ACT and SAT standardized tests. Students who take our classes during the summer can devote all their attention to the tests, and not worry about sports and academic obligations.

12th - If students have not taken any of their standardized tests they have until November of their senior year to complete them. Students should use the summer to prepare for the exams so they can focus on college applications in the fall.

If Tutoring Club can be of assistance, give us a call today!

Fountain Valley/Huntington Beach (Brookhurst and Ellis)

(714) 965-8886

HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE • MATH • READING • WRITING • STUDY SKILLS • ACT/SAT PREP