

FREE

School News

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Covering the Orange Unified School District

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JUNE / JULY 2013

OC DEPT OF EDUCATION



Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

The mission of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) is to provide a consistent, clear understanding of the knowledge and skills that young people need to master

by the end of high school. Many stakeholders in 46 states worked on the standards in English language arts and mathematics to be certain that time spent in the classroom results in students who are ready for college and career.

In addition to academic content, the Common Core State Standards provide a description of 21st Century cognitive, interpersonal, and intrapersonal skills that work in tandem with the rigorous content standards. These skills focus on the "Habits of Mind" – mental competencies that students develop to be successful in a rapidly changing world. Attributes such as independence, valuing evidence, understanding other perspectives, perseverance, precision, and constructing viable arguments are developed as students learn the academic content.

Schools Begin by Fostering "Habits of Mind"

Educators throughout Orange County are designing learning environments that focus on building knowledge through content-rich text, writing, and text-based discussions grounded in research. As they acquire content knowledge, students will use critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, creativity, and innovation. In your child's classroom, you will see students who can demonstrate independence, value evidence, and are able to understand as well as critique complex material.

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VEX Robotics Competition



Crescent Elementary (please see page 6)

Students participated in the VEX Robotics Competition at the Anaheim Convention Center. The competition leveraged the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education and social skills gained in the classroom environment.



Handy Elementary (please see page 8)



Anaheim Hills Elementary (please see page 4)

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13790-13



Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher



Netragrednik
Neta Madison



562/493-3193

kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

Testing is over and the final days of the school year are counting down. Congratulations to the Class of 2013!

The cities offer lots of summer activities, the libraries offer programs for all ages and our camp/activities section beginning on page 10 is full of choices.

Traditions are important and Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. We are always mindful of the service men and women serving our country. Have a Happy 4th of July and a wonderful summer.

Our next issue is August 28.

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Covering the
ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

ADVERTISING SALES: Leslie Rawlings
714/856-9884 • Fax: 562/430-8063
leslie@schoolnewsrollcall.com

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny
COPY EDITORS:

Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST:

Netragrednik by Neta Madison

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Laura Brune



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SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC
P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193

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Tobacco Prevention and Cessation projects are made possible by Tobacco Settlement Revenue Funds administered by the County of Orange Health Care Agency/Tobacco Use Prevention Program.

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We hope you take the opportunity to learn more about our programs and what we have to offer, and we look forward to serving you in the near future.

Mark Tierney
President and CEO



Summer Swim Programs at El Modena H.S.

Swim Lessons

Session Dates:

June 17-28, July 8-19, July 22-Aug 2, Aug 5-16

Session Times:

1:00-1:25, 1:30-1:55, 2:00-2:25, 2:30-2:55, 3:00-3:25 PM

Session Cost (10 lessons):

\$40 (8:1 for level 3 and higher), \$80 (4:1) and \$200 private

Recreational Water Polo Team

Dates: June 17 - August 16 (no practice July 3rd or 4th)

Time: 2:30-3:30 PM

Cost: \$160 or \$250 for Polo & Swim Team Combo

Recreational Swim Team

Dates: June 17 - August 16 (no practice July 3rd or 4th)

Time: 3:30-4:30 PM

Cost: \$160 or \$250 for Polo & Swim Team Combo

714-648-2111 www.orca-aquatics.com

Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

6450 E. Serrano Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6169 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Sandra Miller
Principal

Robotics Competition

Anaheim Hills Elementary was lucky to participate for the first time in the World Championship Robotics Competition in Anaheim. The AHES Robotics team competed against 71 other teams from throughout the United States. The competition was sponsored by The Robotics Education & Competition Foundation and utilized the new VEX IQ robotics system, which allows students to construct custom-designed robots without the use of tools. The students worked before school, during lunch, and after school in preparation for the competition. They had a great time and would encourage other students to try it next year. We are very proud of our students who participated and we look forward to continuing the program next year.



California *Elementary*

1080 N. California St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6104 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Laurie Dieppa
Principal

Time Flies

Time flies when you're having fun—and being productive. We had a great year at California Elementary School.

Students and teachers worked hard in preparation for demonstrating student proficiency on the state standards. We've also had some memorable events, including: Family Science Night; Read Across America; Red Ribbon Week; Say No to Bullying Spirit Days; Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (GRIP) events, such as an Angels game, soccer camp, mentor lunches, and much more; Math Pentathlon; music assemblies; Morning Walk California; K–9 visitors; Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Celebration; City of Orange 125th Birthday Celebration; Jog-a-thon; McTeacher Nights; Oral Literacy Fair; Follow the Leader physical education; Disciplina Positive parenting classes; a variety of field trips throughout the grade levels; Principal for a Day; and our huge Reclassification Breakfast Celebration.

We also enjoyed our annual Open House, where students have the opportunity to show the community the culmination of their months of effort.



California ES celebrates the City of Orange's 125th Birthday!

Cambridge *Elementary*

425 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6103 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Jeremy Mortensen
Principal

And Wait 'Til Next Year!

Wow! What a wonderful year we've had! Though it was only my first year as principal, I feel as if I've been part of this school my whole career. I'm very fortunate to be the principal of a school with such wonderful students, parents, staff and community members. Everyone who's a part of Cambridge takes pride in our school and is always willing to put in extra effort to achieve student success!

This ideology has led our school to make some of the best gains in math and language arts on our district PSA assessments. This is a strong indication of the progress I anticipate for the California STAR testing. Our goal is to reach 800 on the API and make all of our subgroups on our AYP, and I feel confident that both will happen!

We've had an amazing year with many fun activities as well: our monthly Spirit Assemblies, Class Act assemblies and concerts, Science on the Go assemblies, Imagination Machine assemblies, Art Masters lessons, Winter Performance, Talent Show, Read Across America Day, Spring Carnival, Pep Rally for our kickoff to our CSTs, and our upcoming promotion ceremony for our sixth-graders. Some of our sixth-graders even participated in a worldwide VEX competition in robotics! We've had a lot of fun this year, and our students have shown that they can accomplish anything they put their minds to and can have a fun time doing so.

Our imaginations are our guides to the amazing programs and achievements we'll have here at Cambridge next year!

It takes us all! Go Crusaders!

Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6171 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Karen Hanson
Principal

Fostering Independence

This has been another wonderful year at Canyon Hills School. Our students have participated in a variety of activities, including outings in the community and seasonal celebrations on campus.

Being in the community is one of the most effective ways for our students to apply their social, vocational, and communication skills. Our students have enjoyed the zoo, movies, miniature golf, and bowling. They regularly visit the local library, park, and grocery store to expand their daily living skills. Some older students participate in a work program, where clean and set tables, wash countertops, and sweep floors at local restaurants, preparing them for life beyond school.



Our mission is unique among the schools in the district. Our efforts focus on expanding the independence of all of our students by developing their abilities to communicate, improving their personal and domestic skills, enhancing their physical coordination, increasing their technological competence, and generalizing their skills into the community.

Canyon High School

220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/532-8000 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Greg Bowden
Principal

'Every 15 Minutes...'

Recently, Canyon High School juniors and seniors experienced what we hope will be a life-changing event. Canyon High presented "Every 15 Minutes." This program is a powerful, emotional experience aimed at reducing teen deaths from drunk driving.

During this event, students participated in activities that included a staged drunk-driving accident involving their classmates. Students and parents were involved in a realistic dramatization that involved the arrest of the student drunk driver and the emergency evacuation of a critically injured student. The culminating activity was the dramatized funeral of the deceased student. Parents and students spoke of the emotional impact of this program with the hope that students will take the message to heart and not drink and drive.



Canyon High thanks the CHS PTSA, Rotary, Anaheim Police and Fire Departments, and Sandy Taylor for their time and commitment to bringing this program to our school.

Canyon Rim Elementary

1090 S. The Highlands Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/532-7027 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



David Appling
Principal

Working Overtime

The parents at Canyon Rim know that volunteering and involving themselves in school activities and events shows children the importance of education. I am so proud of the involvement our parents have taken in their children's education.

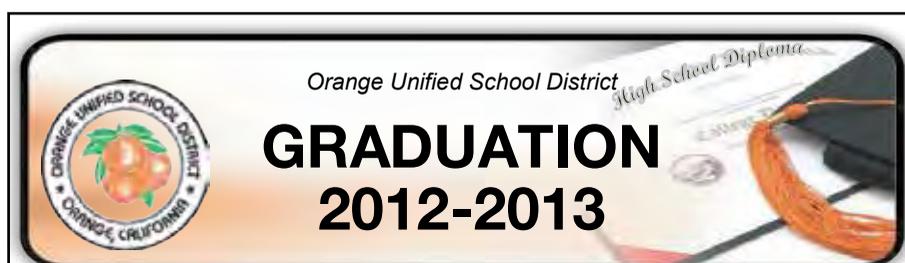
Some parent opportunities and PTA-sponsored events that have been offered are the Fun Run, which made more donations this year than any other year prior; the Art Masters, where parents coordinated Art Masters lessons; the Book Fair Days, where parents coordinated book fairs for all the students; the Magic Night, where parents coordinated family nights; the Fall Carnival, where they planned the biggest fundraiser of the year; and Room Moms, where the parents organized class assignments.

There was also the Imagination Machine, where the students write stories, and actors come and act them out; Reflections, for parent volunteers; I Know My Facts, which is parent-facilitated; Health and Safety, where the parents assist with screenings; the Student Store, where children bring in their Roadrunner Bucks and exchange them for rewards; the Birthday Book Club, where parents processed book orders; and Box Tops and classroom volunteers.

Canyon Rim Elementary School has had the following parent and community activities support parent understanding and collaboration on core instruction:

- Parent education trainings on ST Math
- Parent walk-through (new math series enVision, Thinking Maps, and writing)
- Parent understanding of technology
- Parent in-service on the Common Core Standards

On behalf of the staff of Canyon Rim, I want to thank all of our parents for your involvement and dedication to the education of our Canyon Rim children!



Orange Unified School District

GRADUATION 2012-2013

Promotion & Graduation Schedule Thursday, June 13, 2013*

Special Education School

School	Time	Location
*Tuesday, June 11, 2013 Canyon Hills	10:00 am	Canyon Hills

Middle School Promotions

School	Time	Location
McPherson Magnet	9:00 am	McPherson School Cafeteria
Portola	9:00 am	Portola School Field
Yorba	10:00 am	Yorba School Field
Cerro Villa	10:30 am	Cerro Villa Outdoor Amphitheater
Santiago Charter	11:00 am	Santiago Outdoor Amphitheater
*Friday, June 14, 2013 El Rancho Charter	6:00 pm	El Rancho Outdoor Amphitheater

High School Graduations

School	Time	Location
El Modena	1:30 pm	Fred Kelly Stadium
Canyon	4:00 pm	Fred Kelly Stadium
Orange	4:30 pm	OHS Outdoor Theater
Villa Park	7:00 pm	Fred Kelly Stadium
Richland	10:00 am	Fred Kelly Stadium
Alternative Education		Fred Kelly Stadium

Chapman Hills *Elementary*

170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/532-8043 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Sandra Schaffer
Principal

A Year in Review

The 2012–2013 school year has been a busy one for our Chapman Hills Bobcats.

The students have been working extremely hard throughout the year to get ready for the California Standards Test. Our teachers have used Blueprints, nemesis standards, benchmark assessments, test chats, and everything else within their reach to help all of our students achieve proficiency.

We are confident that with all of this hard work, and the support of our parents, we will make our API goal for the year. We are proud to score above 900, but it takes hard work to stay there. Our students have put forth a tremendous amount of effort, and we are excited to see the results.

Overall, this has been another great year at Chapman Hills. Our sixth-graders are ready to move on to middle school with the knowledge they need to succeed. They are prepared for the challenges they will face, and will handle themselves in true Bobcat fashion.

All of our students, from kindergarten to the fifth grade, are ready to embrace the new academic standards in the fall. We are thrilled to begin to make the transition to the Common Core State Standards.

It's been a great year, and through it all, our students have laughed, smiled, and made great memories! I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as a Bobcat, and am looking forward to next year. Go, Bobcats!

Crescent *Elementary*

5001 E. Gerda Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6371 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Randi Leach
Principal

Building a Robot

Sponsored by the Robotics Education and Competition Foundation, our Crescent third- through sixth-grade GATE students participated in an exciting new challenge called “VEX Rings and Things.”

Under the guidance of third-grade GATE teacher Natalie DePalma, the parents and students worked together after school to design and build a robot in preparation for the April 19 VEX Robotics Competition at the Anaheim Convention Center, where they placed 21stst out of 71 teams. This competition leveraged

the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education and social skills gained in the classroom environment, and elevated our students to even grander heights as they worked in teams to strategize, design and build their robot.

The STEM specialists prepared a research project and presentation on the different ways in which robotics technology is used in the world. The engineering team created an engineering notebook with detailed records of the phase challenges, test results and presentations.

The robot was a great way to provide a deeper STEM education to our students!



Crescent students maneuver their robot.

Cerro Villa *Middle School*

17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6251 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Ken Miller
Principal

The Year in Review

Cerro Villa has experienced many successes this past school year. Our focus has been “Team Viking, A New Paradigm,” and we have accomplished so much as a team!

First, we earned another California Distinguished School Award for our two signature practices: Technology Across the Curriculum, and Response to Intervention and Instruction (RtI2). We also scored the largest Academic Performance Index gain in our school's history, of 24 points.

Second, we were the only Orange County middle school awarded the anti-violence/anti-bullying grant. We used this opportunity to continue our school-wide focus on anti-bullying by holding assemblies and engaging in the common practice of respecting and honoring one another every day.

On April 25, we demonstrated and celebrated these successful strategies during Family Night. Our newest club called STAND (Stand Up, Take Action and Deliver) acted out skits on how to take positive and proactive stances against bullying.

Third, under the direction of Mr. Steve Babnick, our students and community members enjoyed four stellar performances in May of *Into the Woods*. The play earned rave reviews! We also honor Ms. Hedspeth for her incredible guidance as assistant director.

Lastly, we are proud to be engaged in Positive Behavioral Intervention Strategies that focus on proactive approaches to help resolve student academic and behavioral issues. We celebrated student success and positive campus conduct with spirit cards, positive referrals, bracelets and pizza snacks.

As you can see, our mantra is truly CVMS: Choose Respect, Value Yourself and Others, Make it Safe, and Strive for Success!

El Modena *High School*

3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6331 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Rebecca Martinez
Principal

Accolades and Appreciation

I would like to congratulate Mr. John Ahern for being recognized at the Public Schools Recognition Night at the Orange Grove Mason Lodge. He was recognized as an excellent teacher and mentor to the Vanguardians. John is a teacher in the Collaborative Technology Program, one of the oldest and most successful partnership academies in California. El Modena High School (EMHS) calls the Collaborative Technology Program (CTP) “one of the best kept secrets in Orange County.”

Our Vanguardians have been very busy in the community. Currently we have 35 community service clubs on campus, with over 3,000 community service hours to non-profit organizations within Orange County. Graduating seniors who serve over 100 hours receive gold cords on graduation day.

Additionally, we are thankful for El Modena's parent volunteers, who give so much time and energy supporting academics, athletics, dances, and extracurricular activities. So many activities on campus are successful because of the support from our Vanguardian parents.

International Week was a huge success. Many Vanguardians participated in the assembly, which showcased the variety of cultures on our campus. To support our International Week, many of our clubs provided a cultural food-fest during lunch.

Congratulations, Class of 2013! As you exit the gates of EMHS, may you continue to be Enlightened, Motivated, Honorable, and Strong!

**Need Driving Lessons? See page 16 for
City Freeway Driving and GNC Driving**



El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

181 S. Del Giorgio Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/997-6238 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



John Besta
Principal



Michele Walker
Principal

Cyber-Classroom, Here We Come!

Incorporating innovative technology in the classroom is always a challenge in difficult and uncertain financial times. However, the onus is on us to overcome the roadblocks and look for ways to offer curriculum using engaging technology that we hope will stimulate a learning response.

El Rancho will be breaking ground in the upcoming 2013-14 academic year with a simultaneous curricular offering of iPad English and history courses for seventh- and eighth-graders. Honors sections of both subjects will also be offered. The iPad will be the primary instructional tool used to access the content areas of instruction. The intent is to provide dynamic, individualized student-paced learning for our new modern learners.

Courses will follow current California Content Standards and department-set guidelines. Specific applications, such as iBook Author and Google Drive, will be required. Requirements for these classes include the provision of an iPad with the most current iOS software, Bluetooth keyboard and an iTunes account. Internet security will be provided by Aerohive Solutions, which will ensure student-network safety by blocking sites and monitoring student usage by the minute. El Rancho will also require students and parents to sign an iPad policy contract stipulating parameters and consequences for inappropriate usage.

"Maximizing every student's learning" is what our El Rancho staff strives for. We are looking forward to welcoming our students back next year with our new course offerings.

Fairhaven *Elementary*

1415 Fairhaven Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6178 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Kelli Keller
Principal

Doing More

On May 30, Fairhaven Elementary School hosted a community ceremony that put our prized instructional program on pause for an hour. The Falcon Family earned recognition as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School. The school has made 140-point gain in Academic Performance Index (API) score in just six short years through the determination and dedication of staff, students, and families, placing the school as one of three in the state to receive such an achievement as an improving school.

Though we welcome this honor, at school it is business as usual, with another round of state testing behind us. In preparation for the testing window, our staff members carefully scrutinized their instructional plans to be sure to cover all the state standards before the test booklets arrived in their rooms. The entire school was geared towards our new API goal: 810. Not only will this goal get the school over the state required 800 hump, but it would put the school up for recognition as a Title I High Achieving School.

The true achievement on campus is when any team member is stopped to ask about their greatest moment as a learning community, the response is simple: it is always about a child; it is always about doing more.

There is a small sign on the exit door of the school that reads, "I could have done more." As one among these excellent educators, I know that I can and will do more when I return tomorrow.



Esplanade *Elementary*

381 N. Esplanade St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6157 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Amy Hitt
Principal

Learning to Excel

In May, we celebrated those stellar students who helped raise our API score 34 points, to a total of 831!

At our annual Test Scores Celebration, we had 230 students who received almost 500 awards for various levels of achievement on the 2012 testing. Thirty-seven students also celebrated their reclassification to advanced levels on the CELDT.

Rising Star awards were given to students with certain scaled-score improvements on language arts and math. There were 116 awards in this area. Level Jumpers are students who increased an entire level on the test, and 100 students accomplished this feat.

Finally, there were 213 awards given to students who scored proficient and/or advanced on one or both tests, and 43 students received advanced on both!

Finally, six students received trophies for perfect scores on the math CST: Christopher Diaz, David Gonzalez, Lesly Mejia, Esteban Moreno, Juan Trejo and Guadalupe Villa Vazquez. This year our API goal is 850!

Fletcher *Elementary*

515 W. Fletcher St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6181 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Helen Chung Lu
Principal

Testing for Success

By *Martha Landry, Office Manager*

To enhance the learning process for our students, teachers at Fletcher Elementary School have implemented numerous instructional strategies.

Teachers have re-doubled their efforts to identify and support at-risk students through the implementation of Response to Intervention and Instruction (RtI2). Teachers meet regularly to assess the learning progress of students through classroom and district PACE assessments and initiate classroom strategies to help identify struggling students and target support accordingly.

Students participate in ExCEL, in which students are placed in leveled math and language -arts groups to reduce the size of the instructional groups and allow instructors to target the needs of each group effectively.

Prior to the commencement of Standardized Testing And Reporting (STAR) testing April, teachers helped students gain confidence in the abilities and knowledge using strategic schooling strategies. By participating in practice tests and released questions, warm ups, and the use of Bell Work, students are able to approach STAR testing, or any testing in the future, with confidence in their ability to critically think and appropriately analyze their responses.

Fletcher teachers actively work to engage and give students ownership of their learning through a variety of feedback tools. All students participate in goal-setting conversations, including test chats with instructional staff. During test chats, teachers and students review the results of learning as demonstrated by standardized assessments, discuss strategies for improvement, and set goals for future success.

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Handy *Elementary*

860 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6183 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Michelle Owen
Principal

Can You Create a Robot to Do Homework?

At Handy Elementary, we believe in providing rich learning opportunities for all students. In order to meet this goal, we are excited to announce the addition of a new robotics team led by our fifth-grade teacher, Dane Ullman, and our third-grade teacher, Misty Canto-Beaver. As our school gears up to add more opportunities for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), we have included VEX robotics as an additional learning opportunity for our students.

During our initial implementation, 15 students were selected to pilot the program based on advanced test scores in language arts, math and science. Most recently, our students participated in the International VEX Robotics World Championship competition held in Anaheim. Handy Elementary placed 33 out of 71 teams after only six weeks of training. We are excited at the progress our students have made and plan to continue the expansion of STEM opportunities as we transition to Common Core.



Handy Elementary Robotics Team competes in the VEX Robotics World Championship.

Jordan *Elementary*

4319 E. Jordan Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6187 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Andrea Roman
Principal

Stay Motivated This Summer!

During the 2012–2013 school year, we recognized 35 English language learners that were reclassified to fluent English speakers. This is a great accomplishment, as these students must demonstrate good academic standing as well as meet all of the reading, writing, speaking and listening requirements. Congratulations to our students and teachers for their hard work and dedication.

We would like to remind our families that although summer break is upon us, there is always an opportunity for learning. So read, read, read! Please visit your local library to motivate your children to read by having them participate in the summer reading program.

In math, all students can continue to practice their math facts, such as the numbers 1–100 for the kindergarten students, addition and subtraction for grades one and two, multiplication for the third grade, and multiplication and division for the fifth- and sixth-graders.

We want to thank our Jordan families for their continued support. We would also like to thank and extend our best wishes to many of the sixth-grade parents, whose children are promoting this year and moving into middle school. Some of these parents have been volunteering in our school for many years, and their contributions have been greatly appreciated.

To each of our parents, we would like to thank everyone for your support this past year. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Imperial *Elementary*

400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6282 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Ginette Kelley
Principal

All Students Soar

From March Madness to June Jubilation, Imperial has kept an eye on what matters most, which is ensuring a safe and challenging learning environment for its students.

During March the sixth-graders attended Outdoor Science School, while the other grade levels had the opportunity to participate in Science-on-the-Go. Both programs offered students hands-on opportunities to experience science and nature while also supporting grade-level instruction. The enriching experience of Outdoor Science School provided our sixth-grade students with opportunities to hike, discover, learn and explore the San Bernardino Mountains.

During March and April, the fifth- and sixth-grade students participated in a pilot of the Smarter Balanced Assessments. Imperial was one of the OUSD schools selected as a Scientific Pilot for these assessments, which gave students and teachers the opportunity to peek at the future of state testing. This “history making” opportunity supports the adoption of the Common Core State Standards and the newest assessment tool.

May brings California State Testing (CST) and other activities for students to shine academically and creatively. The second- and sixth-grade students will be putting on plays for the school. The second-graders will present *Nanny Goats Gruff*, while the sixth-graders are performing *Cleopatra, Queen of Denial*. These creative efforts support standards through music and drama. Students learn while having fun.

June brings promotion and the end of an exciting school year. We are extremely proud of the efforts of our students, staff and parents. We believe that all students will succeed and soar.

La Veta *Elementary*

2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6155 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Connie Smith
Principal

Art for the Environment

By Karin Barone, Teacher – 4th-Grade Gifted and Talented Education

The fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-grade Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) classes participated this past month in The Muzeo Museum Trash Art Challenge. The challenge is designed to help students think of ways to recycle otherwise discarded materials that would possibly end up in landfills and make creative pieces of art.

The fourth- and fifth-grade students worked together to create an eco-friendly garden filled with drought tolerant plants, with the logo “Water Less, Choose Wisely, Plant the Seeds Today.” The sixth-grade students created an extra-large Greek bead necklace and earrings, made out of plastic containers, boxes, magazines, and grocery bags. The logo “Beads Are the Legacy of Ancient Civilization. Let’s Not Trash our Legacy” hung from the top of the necklace.

Both projects were made possible by the generous help of parent Lauren Valentine. I am proud to announce that our sixth-grade project won second place in the sixth- through eighth-grade division.



Fourth grade student Grant Valentine visiting the 6th grade project at The Muzeo Museum.

Lampson *Elementary*

13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/997-6153 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Maria Chairez
Principal

Student Reclassification and Saturday School

This year, 64 students at Lampson Elementary school were successful in reclassifying to fluent in the English language. A breakfast was held in April for the students and their parents to celebrate this growth in language proficiency. Students received certificates from their classroom teachers (see picture).

Again in April, 85 students attended school on Saturday to celebrate the end of a six-week program designed to help students in reading and math. The Saturday school included instruction in reading and math to ready students for the California State Test, which was taken in May at Lampson Elementary School. Students worked from 9 to 11:30 a.m. improving their reading and math skills. On the last day, they were given a pizza party and a slide show that I prepared.



Saturday school

McPherson Magnet

333 S. Prospect St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6384 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Jeanne Bentley
Principal

Embracing the Common Core

McPherson Magnet is excited that the Common Core State Standards are coming. Curriculum standards clearly communicate what is expected of students at each grade level. What's different is that Common Core State Standards focus on core-conceptual understandings and procedures that enable teachers to give students the opportunity to master and apply skills through communication, application, engagement and higher-level-thinking skills.

Our staff is always looking for new ways to help teachers provide unique opportunities for students to create with learned knowledge. Last month, our fifth-graders presented group studies of the watershed to experts in Dana Point at the Ocean Institute. Our sixth-graders went to Imperial Valley College to compete with other schools in Southern California, using their self-made gliders, bridges and prosthetic arms. Middle school students competed with other schools from around the world at an Orange County convention center, using VEX Educational Robotics. Second-graders are building a plot in the school garden that is based around life cycles and butterflies, and are getting their hands dirty.

We reach out to the community to make learning come alive. The Chuck Jones Center for Creativity visited McPherson to encourage our students to follow their dreams and to take their visions and transfer them to animation.

The possibilities are endless for our students. McPherson will continue to prepare our educators and students for the future.

Linda Vista *Elementary*

1200 N. Cannon St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6201 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Sally Hughson
Principal

A Snapshot of Third and Fourth Grades

Third graders will wrap up the second trimester with some exciting activities. We'll review our study of Native Americans by hosting docents from Bowers Museum, who will bring artifacts from California's earliest natives. We'll then experience the Indian Trails Tour at a local theme park.

After creating research reports on animals, we'll write summaries and sensory-descriptive essays. Fourth-graders have completed a successful second trimester and are looking forward to the final one. Recently, students took a field trip to Irvine Park to learn about the California Gold Rush. During the third trimester, fourth-graders will present their science fair projects and begin the electricity and energy unit. Our math curriculum currently focuses on integers. We continue to work on the writing process: making thinking maps, writing drafts, proofreading, and correcting through editing skills to create final copies.

The fourth-grade teachers and students want to thank the PTA for sponsoring activities such as PE, music and art masters!



Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

4100 E. Nohl Ranch Rd., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6203 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dominique Polchow
Principal

Valuable, Renewable Resources

Our children are the future, and the elementary years are fundamentally important. The Nohl Canyon school community continues on the road of academic success because of our focus of working together. Our school community believes that it takes everyone: staff, students, parents and leadership. We continued with Response to Intervention and Instruction strategies while also preparing for the upcoming Common Core State Standards. These instructional strategies were successful as the staff was able to instruct, monitor, and evaluate student progress in smaller groups.

President Hoover once said, "Children are our most valuable natural resource." It is fulfilling to know that these precious natural resources will be continuous thanks to the many dedicated hands it takes to help our children grow and learn.

Best of luck to the sixth-graders as they go forward with their educational career and transition to middle school. On behalf of the staff at Nohl Canyon, we thank everyone for their continued support and for providing nothing but the very best for our Roadrunners. All in all, the 2012-13 school year was an eventful one at Nohl Canyon Elementary.

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Est. 1998

Monday, April 29, 2013 was a historic day in our Club's history; completing the transition of our regionally known Canyon PSA and vaulting our name to the national level by becoming a franchise of the San Diego Surf Soccer Club. Canyon PSA will now be known as **Anaheim Surf**.

The transition to Anaheim Surf will provide many benefits and opportunities to our Club and members. Immediately, our name is recognized as one of the premier soccer organizations in the country, with all the status and benefits that comes along with that name. Anaheim Surf will have access to the Surf family of coaches, administrative and technical support, participation in regional and national sponsorship agreements, and tournament entrance assistance. There will also be opportunities for our players to participate in Surf sponsored events, Surf-Select teams, and the possibility to participate on Surf ECNL and Academy teams. The benefits of this agreement to our Club are many!

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While receiving the benefits of the Surf name, Anaheim Surf will continue to operate as we have in the past as an independent franchise. Our coaching staff will continue to focus on player development and teaching, we will hire additional coaches that will do the same. Our players and teams will improve and expand, and our Summer and Winter tournaments will improve and expand. With our potential of growth this will help our community and our current as well as our future players.

Brett Carman
Club President

- **Club Director Eddie Carrillo**
(Men's Soccer Coach, Chapman University)
- **Asst. Club Director Sal Lopez**
(Men's Asst. Soccer Coach, Chapman University)
- **Technical Director Luis Balboa**
(Former Professional Player)
- **Youth Girls' Director Lindsey Huie**
(Former U of Portland Player & National Player)

We provide a very experienced and professional staff

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(Men's Soccer Coach, Cal State Fullerton)
- **Girls Coach, Dale Ervine**
(Former Professional Player)
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Parent To Parent

Educational & Safe Scavenger Hunts



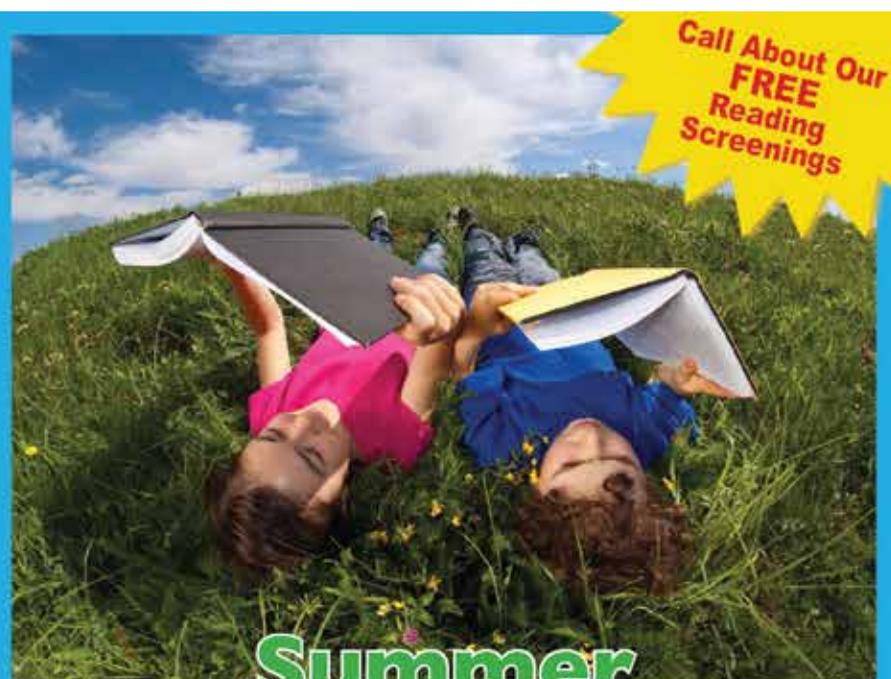
Jodie Lynn

Q. I have heard that playing scavenger games involving specific hunts in the neighborhood can actually build memory, reading, communication and math interpretation skills. We would like to put together a few for our kids this summer and was wondering if there was a set of ground rules we needed to implement, having flexibility for younger kids.

— Francie Roberts in Boise, ID

A. Rules are already pretty flexible in scavenger hunts, so there is no need to worry about increasing the time frame to find things if needed. For example, if the younger kids become frustrated, reduce the number of items on the list or make them easier to find for the first game. Gradually build to a more challenging one. Since just about anything can be utilized as an item to be found, matched or gathered, if there is concern among the parents about an outside neighborhood hunt, consider creating one inside your own houses or yards, or perhaps ask permission from the school to use the playground. Changing the collectibles can also be an unexpected and creative twist while encouraging the kids to be active and adventurous. Indoor hunts are pretty cool using newspapers, magazines, pictures, books, toys and lots more. Math, communication and other educational skills can be a part of the guidelines as you're organizing them. Be sure that everyone understands the rules, keep everything age appropriate, stay flexible by reworking the guidelines should you need to do so and encourage the kids to have fun without additional stress or pressure.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author. Her column Parent to Parent™ (www.ParentToParent.com) has been successful for more than 15 years. She is a regular contributor to several sites and has written four books and contributed to three others, one of which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. She has authored several books including *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having Doing*, and *Surviving it All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* Check www.ParentToParent.com for details on new radio talk show, Inside Parenting Success.



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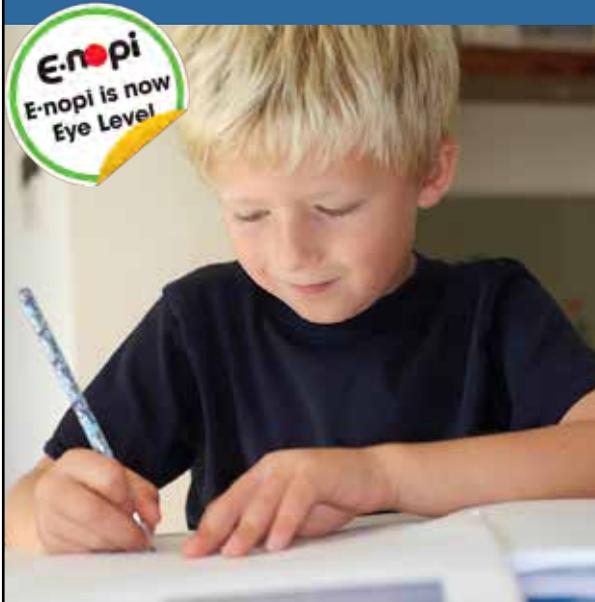
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Positive Parenting

Gearing Up for Summer



Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel

For some parents, the arrival of summer means less stress because the school schedule is not a part of the daily routine. For other parents, having the children home all day every day is stressful. Whichever arena you are in, the reality of life is that summer vacation is almost here for the traditional schools.

Children may get more wound up, more disagreeable, more difficult to manage as the start of summer gets closer. Change is stressful, even if it is for the better. The break in routine is stressful for children and adults. It is advisable to keep your discipline strong so that you glide into summer with boundaries in place. Consistent boundaries will also help your child to contain his or her behavior and to feel safe.

My discipline system is mentioned on parentingsos.com and my new book, *Don't Feed the Dragon*, is a discipline manual divided into three sections:

(1) what parents need to understand about children in order to successfully guide them; (2) my discipline system, and (3) answers to 130 of the top concerns of parents, listed in alphabetical order. The book is age-appropriate from tots through the teens and is available on parentingsos.com.

Having your discipline system in place, it is wise to sit down as a family and make a list of things that can be done during free time. The list may be posted in a place where children can use it as a reference. To quell the endless, "I'm bored" message that children who are not used to having non-structured time often begin chanting when school ends, offer two choices: "You may refer to the chart that we created or I will choose a chore off the chores chart that will help you dispel boredom." This plan might allow you to have your whole house cleaned in the first week of summer!

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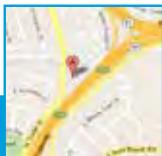
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Summer is a wonderful time to train your darling children to do chores. Finally, they have time—the constant excuse during school months! Children will leave home some day—I promise!—and when they do, they need to know how to take care of a house and themselves. Chores teach a child that a house does not clean itself and how to do fundamental tasks, such as clean a toilet. If you have a housekeeper, create a space each week that the children are responsible for in terms of upkeep and give the tidiness angel one less area to clean.

It is important that children are not in so many activities that their lives become stressful. Children need time to be children! If you want your child to be successful in school, have at least a half hour a day that is devoted to school skills. If each child took a 30-minute “chill break” and read for that amount of time, their future teachers would be ecstatic! Every child needs quiet time each day that does not involve any media or mechanical gadgets, including during the summer.

Most important of all, enjoy your children! There will never be another summer like the one ahead of you. Your children will not be this age ever again. Create some sort of structure and have some time that is not structured. Don't send your children to other people to play all the time—what each child wants more than anything else is time with you. It is easy to forget that when you are trying to keep the energy-packed chicks busy.

Thanks to all the teachers who gave so much of themselves this school year to help our children be all that they can be!

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel has written four books. She has taught school, raised two children, worked as a consultant to schools and has taught parenting for the past 35 years. Sandy now lives in Meridian, Idaho www.ParentingSOS.com and Kindle

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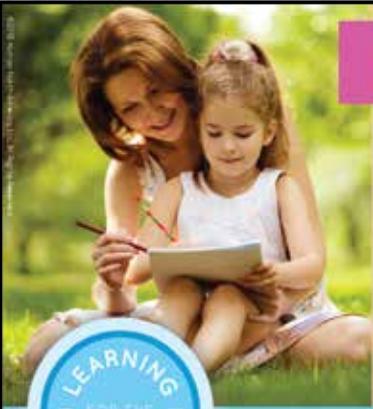


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Note-ables

Get Moving with Ella Jenkins



Kate Karp

If you were in preschool or early elementary school any time after 1962, listen to “London Bridge Is Falling Down” or “Skip to My Lou” from Ella Jenkins’s new collection, *Get Moving with Ella*. I can almost guarantee that you’ll have an immediate olfactory memory of the waxy smell of crayons and that thick white paste that came in a jar. You may even remember how it tasted.

Ella Jenkins’s songs and activities, sung in her gentle, firm voice accompanied by her guitar, have been the first introduction to integrated music and vocabulary for many young children within the past 60 years. Her 33rd release, *Get Moving with Ella Jenkins*, is a compilation of 15 of these songs, three of which are previously unreleased. The collection will have young children getting up and getting on some healthy moves and enriching their language through repetition and rhythm, a long-practiced, successful methodology. “Who Fed the Chickens?” features personal pronoun usage along with farm animal names; “Head and Shoulder” mixes exercise with learning the names of body parts; and “Play Your Instruments” involves music making while learning the names of instruments. And there’s a really neat reworking of the old jump-rope rhyme “Teddy Bear.”

First Lady Michelle Obama recommends exercise to keep children fit. *Get Moving* will provide children with a good measure of it along with smart, healthy play—just like the kind you got as a child if you danced and moved to the sounds of the First Lady of Children’s Music.

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.



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On The Run

Foot Injuries at the Beach



Dr. Doug Richie

With summertime here again, it is appropriate to alert beachgoers about the potential for injury in the sand and in the ocean. For various reasons, there are reports of increased foot and leg injuries affecting unsuspecting visitors to the beaches of southern California.

Walking in sand barefoot may be a unique and joyful experience, but some caution should be considered.

Unfortunately, our beaches may be filled with debris, such as broken glass, torn aluminum cans, and even hypodermic needles.

The use of sandals can minimize the risk of a laceration or puncture wound from a potential hazard buried beneath the sand.

In the ocean, natural wildlife may pose a threat to your feet and legs. Jellyfish abound in the waters off California. A jellyfish sting can be annoying, if not painful, but can be quickly remedied by applying rubbing alcohol to the affected area.

Sting ray injuries can be far more painful, and they seem to be on the rise along California beaches. To avoid these injuries, shuffle your feet in the sand as you walk slowly in and out of the water. If you have the misfortune of getting stung by one of these creatures, your best remedy is to soak the affected foot and leg in a bucket of very hot water (100-105 degrees F) for 30 minutes, then repeat once every hour until the pain subsides. Occasionally, antibiotic therapy will be needed as a follow-up treatment, so seek the advice of your physician.

Dr. Doug Richie is a sports podiatrist who has practiced in Seal Beach for 28 years. He is president of the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine and serves as a medical advisor to U.S. A. Track and Field. 562/493-2451

Car Parts Word Search Contest



Rules!!! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put OUSD in the subject line)

Entries must be received by July 15, 2013

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate for hair services redeemable at Haircuts in Orange by Teri. 1337 E. Katella Ave., Orange 92867

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| brakes | ignition | wheels |
| bumper | key | windshield |
| engine | lock | wipers |
| fenders | mirror | |
| gas tank | muffler | |

Congratulations to Chelsey Booth
Winner of the April Word Search Contest!

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R	N	T	R	N	O	E	C	K	E	Y	G	P	T	H
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College 4 Less

College Financial Planning Part I



Susan D. Marshall

If you were sitting with me in an audience listening to two extremely respected college admission counselors speak, you might have overheard this conversation between a dad and his son. "I can tell you one thing for sure; you will not apply to that private school. It is far too expensive." Dad, just tell me how much I have to spend. I'll make it work, I'll figure it out."

These words broke my heart because I knew there was a solution to their dilemma. I knew the father had no idea how much his son's actual college cost would be or how to know what he would be expected to pay. Most people don't. My heart went out

to the father as a parent and to the son who was genuinely sincere in accepting whatever his parents could offer and ready to take on the responsibility himself.

The father had no idea how the financial aid process works and was in "Sticker Shock"- as I call it. He saw the price tag on the expensive school and immediately told his son he was NOT applying there. The irony is; the school with the higher sticker price in the end may have cost far less than the degree from the college with the lower sticker price. Unfortunately this is one of the biggest, potentially, the most costly mistakes families make when they are selecting a college.

They look at the sticker price and rule out a school before understanding what the true cost of a degree from that school will be. College selection based on sticker price is a mistake. Parents need to understand what the true cost of attendance will be before ruling out a school.

You can know what your COA – Cost of attendance will likely be and the type of aid you are most likely to get at the different financial institutions. You can know what your EFC or Expected Family Contribution will be if there tax or EFC strategies that you can employ. You can know what other opportunities exist for your family when saving and paying for college.

Susan both educator and advisor specializes in college planning. She helps families save for and pay for college. Susan@College4Less.com or on her Web site at www.college4less.com



What is your family doing this summer?



3rd of July Celebration

Wednesday, July 3, 2013, 4 – 9 p.m.
El Modena High School – Fred Kelly Stadium,
3920 Spring St., Orange, 92869

Spend a fun-filled day with the City of Orange in celebrating America. Activities include interactive games, live entertainment, delicious food from our local non-profit groups, a patriotic musical performance by the Orange Community Master Chorale, and a spectacular fireworks display.

Ticket prices are \$7 per person, children 2 and under are free. Tickets are available now and may be purchased from the Community Services Department located at 230 E. Chapman Ave. Orange, 92866 until 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 3rd or at the event gate at El Modena High School after 1:30 p.m.

Fred Kelly Stadium has synthetic turf and your help is needed in preserving the field. Therefore, only blanket seating is permitted and wheeled items such as strollers, wheelchairs, wagons, motorized scooters, etc. are only permitted in the designated areas. The following items are not allowed on the field: lawn chairs, food, drinks, seeds of any kind, gum, popcorn, hard-soled and high-heeled shoes, and any other items staff deem harmful to the field.

Concerts in the Park

Wednesdays, July 10 – August 28, 2013
7 – 8:30 p.m.

Hart Park Bandshell, located off the
22 Frwy. & Glassell St., Orange, 92866

Pack your picnic basket, relax, and enjoy free entertainment for all ages under the starry sky! Bring your blankets or low lawn chairs and get ready for a great time. Reminder: alcohol is not permitted in the park; food will be available for purchase courtesy the Kiwanis Club of Orange. For the safety of your pets, we kindly ask that you please leave them at home.



- | | |
|------------------|--|
| July 10 | Film at Eleven, Motown & R & B Classics |
| July 17 | The Fenians, Traditional & Contemporary Irish |
| July 24 | Tease, Old School Oldies & Top 40 |
| July 31 | Tom Nolan Band, Soul, R & B, & Jazz |
| August 7 | Raymond Michael, A Tribute to Elvis |
| August 14 | Swing Cats Big Band, Big Band Swing Orchestra |
| August 21 | Southbound and Company, Classic Rock |
| August 28 | Stone Soul, Soul & Motown |

Become a City of Orange Community Partner!



The Community Services Department organizes city-wide special events throughout the year that attract thousands of residents and visitors to our great City. Our 2013 special event season is underway and it is with the generous contributions of our Community Partners that we are able to continue to offer quality community events that unite families and friends. As a Community Partner you will be granted with marketing opportunities which will establish your business as a community supporter, as well as help create and maintain relationships within the Orange Community.

Our Community Partner program offers a variety of support levels and accompanying benefits that is sure to fit your budget. Invest in your community and gain recognition by becoming a partner today! To find out more information on how you can become a Community Partner, please visit cityoforange.org or contact Megan Hanley at Mhanley@cityoforange.org or call (714) 744-7293.

Olive *Elementary*

3038 Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/637-8218 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Helping Others

In addition to the academic program at Olive Elementary School, students work daily on building character. Participating in a community-service experience provides infinite possibilities for developing character, along with applied academic skills! We strive to develop youth of good character who actually make a positive difference in the adult world.

Katherine Rizzo
Principal

Every classroom is supplied with a large recycling box, where students can place plastic bottles and cans to be recycled. Each week, the class with the most items is awarded an ice-cream party. We are learning to keep our environment clean, to re-use materials, and to be responsible and accountable for bettering our world and our community.

In February, all students participated in Jump Rope for Heart. Our students learned that working together to raise funds for heart research can touch the lives of many. We also learned about our hearts and the benefits of living a healthy lifestyle.

Hailey Elliott, an Olive student, coordinated a school-wide drive to collect new and gently-used toys for the children at Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC). At this time, the collection is taking over the lounge. We are so excited to put smiles on the faces of children being treated at CHOC!

Earlier in the year, Olive participated in a canned food drive and the Thanksgiving Basket Give-Away. Our Clean Campus Campaign goes on all year.

Learning the responsibilities of community membership and holding ourselves accountable for our world and for each other are high on the list of school-wide goals at Olive!

Orange *High School*

525 N. Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6211 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Environmental Science Community Mural

Orange High School (OHS) recently unveiled a new Environmental Science Community Mural, located near the library and the 500 building. It started as a project to engage students in a hands-on learning experience about environmental science. Our instructional specialist, Ms. Jennifer Koons, worked with the students in science teacher Mr. Jeff Ricupito's classes. Together they developed plans to revitalize a courtyard that was overgrown with shrubs and weeds.

The students researched native plants to determine which ones would best acclimate to our environment and put together plans for a tile mural. Ms. Koons contributed expert knowledge on tile murals, which she learned from her father. With assistance from artist Tony Salas and volunteer Chris Salas, as well as donations from local home centers and nurseries, the group went to work.

Please stop by OHS to see the hard work put in by teachers, students, and our community partners.



Environmental Science Community Mural

Panorama *Elementary*

10512 Crawford Canyon Rd., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6265 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



An Amazing Year!

As the 2012–13 school year draws to a close, the Panorama Staff wishes to recognize our Panther Family for all they have done this year. Student effort and achievement have been outstanding. Every day, Panorama students are enthusiastic, challenged and engaged. They truly care about one another and their school.

Kathryn Martin
Principal

Academics are a priority for the students and teachers at Panorama, but Panorama Elementary is so much more. Thanks to our Panorama PTA and amazing volunteers, students grew in music and visual arts through classroom Art Masters lessons and hands-on music experiences. A full year of Academic Chess for grades 1–6 produced quite a chess team. Spanish, art fundamentals and ceramics were taught by area professionals, and Panorama's record-breaking track team was coached by parent volunteers. Panorama's Robotics Team learned about collaboration and teamwork as they designed and built a working robot.

We are already looking forward to 2013–14! Go Panthers!



Palmyra *Elementary*

1325 E. Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6207 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



In Closing...

We have certainly had an exciting 2012–13 school year here at Palmyra Elementary School. Our staff and students have worked diligently once again this year to create a challenging and nurturing learning environment for our students. We focused on numerous activities this year in support of this goal, and there was tremendous payoff. We continue to focus every effort to meet academic targets in each and every subgroup on the California Standards Test. Students showed academic growth in language arts, math, social studies and science this year. Great job!

A tremendous thank-you also goes out to our parent volunteers. Thank you to our outstanding PTA, who sponsored some terrific activities this year and supported us in so many ways!

In closing, we wish our sixth-graders much success as they move into their secondary years. They have done an outstanding job of representing Palmyra's Class of 2013. Go Pintos!

Portola *Middle School*

270 N. Palm Dr., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6361 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Deborah Backstrom
Principal

Be the Best

By *Debbie Backstrom, Principal*
and *Heriberto Angel, Assistant Principal*

Portola Middle School has had a great year! As we say goodbye to our eighth-grade students, we wish them much success in high school and future years. We are looking forward to welcoming back our returning students and new sixth- and seventh-grade students, who will be starting in the fall. Portola will continue participation in the Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) grant, which provides funding to reduce class size in all core classes: English; math; science; and history.

Daily, our students are asked to set big goals, dream big, and “Be the Best.” Our students have lived up to the challenge, as we have celebrated many accomplishments this school year. These accomplishments include: 29-point growth in our Academic Performance Index (API); 50 English Learner students reclassifying; winning writing and art contests; over 90 percent of our seventh-grade students scoring proficient on their California Standards Test writing test; creating a 160-foot mural depicting “The Greatest Athletes in History”; increasing Lexile reading levels; over 300 students earning academic honor roll per trimester; more students with perfect attendance and fewer tardies; and thinking more critically in core classes. We are so proud of our Portola Matadors!

We wish everyone a safe and fun summer! And remember, Portola students, “You are the best!”

Prospect *Elementary*

379 N. Virage St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6271 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Elena Rodriguez
Principal

Young Authors Fair

On Sunday, April 21, a number of school-aged authors from around Orange County converged on the Main Place Mall in Santa Ana to display their talented works for everyone to enjoy.

Prospect School was one of the participants in this event. Our students shared both fiction and non-fiction stories that they created from their own talented minds. Each student spent time with their writing coach, Ms. Ceja, and went through the entire writing process to come up with something special to be shared.

The students who participated in this event enjoyed the opportunity to be creative and just have fun with writing. Many of them added artwork, clip art or photos to enhance their works.



Our featured Prospect authors were Jonathan Acosta, Claudio Castillo, Jairo Castillo, Veronica Galicia, Chris Palacios, Clay Johnson, Cynthia Jackson, Melissa Larios, Eddna Olguin, Maritza Ibarra, Paola Marquez and Nathan Fabela. We look forward to reading more delightful stories from these budding authors!

Richland *High School*

615 N. Lemon St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6167 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Ed Madrid
Principal

Making Connections

Richland High School is an alternative education site that offers students the opportunity to recover credits for graduation. A key factor in student success will always be the individual's work effort and attitude. But the ability of a teacher to make a connection with students is also critical to academic success.

As an outstanding educator who makes a difference, Mr. Willsey was recently nominated by his peers and honored along with four neighboring high school teachers by the Orange Grove Masonic Lodge. They recognized that Mr. Willsey has the ability to make his lessons meaningful, while at the same time developing a connection with his class that leads to improved performance.

Students who didn't care about school are now students who pass his class. He works with quiet and shy students who are now able to successfully give an oral report. His positive manner in the classroom generates a positive learning environment.



Mr. Willsey

Mr. Willsey's ability to help students undergo these changes is due to the care and respect he demonstrates every day. When you enter his classroom you see students working cooperatively, engaged with their work, and treating one another with the same respect he shows them.

What makes Richland unique is a staff that knows how to make meaningful connections with their students to enhance academic success.

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- AP History
- Homeschooling
- Grades 4th – 12th



Currently Scheduled:

Mondays 4 Week Courses

June 24, July 1, July 8, July 15
Choose one or attend all three
Each course \$60

- 1) **American Revolution**
10:00am – 11:00a.m
- 2) **Civil War**
11:15am – 12:15pm
- 3) **W.W. II**
12:30pm – 1:30pm

Location: 225 Main Street, Seal Beach

Tuesdays 4 Week Course

June 25, July 2, July 9, July 16
Course \$60

Socialization through History

11:00a.m – 12:30p.m
(combining dance with history)
Location: Long Beach



For Information (562) 852-5242

Santiago Charter *Middle School*

515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6366 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



James D'Agostino
Principal

Working Together

We are focused on preparing for the California Standardized Tests in all of our classrooms, as we have very high expectations again this year. Santiago teachers are going the extra mile to make themselves available to students before school, after school, and during lunch.

Santiago students have shown some outstanding gains on the CSTs; an increase of 76 points over the last three years. The reason we have done so well is because of the effective collaboration between teachers, parents and students. Everyone is working towards the common goal of increased student achievement.

Our philosophy of having class sizes smaller than the other middle schools in the area, and our commitment to project-based learning, is also allowing the students to gain a deeper understanding of the core content areas. We believe that this transfers into increased student achievement.

Over the past few weeks, our Santiago students have been participating in many engaging educational projects, including building castles for the world history classes, dressing up as Revolutionary War characters, and creating artifacts from the Civil War era. The students have also done a great job at the Science Olympiad and Academic Pentathlon by bringing home dozens of medals from the two events.

Our athletes also shined at the Foundation Games. They won many events, and showed their strong character by being supportive of all the participants regardless of which event or school they represented.

Our Santana's continue to make us proud in everything they do.

Serrano *Elementary*

17741 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6275 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Bobbie Lansman
Principal

Recipe for Success

It has been a busy year for the Serrano Elementary School as we cooked up our "Recipe for Success." Focusing on the mind and the body, Serrano once again earned the first place trophy for the 2013 Foundation Games. Continuing the tradition, this is the ninth year in a row that Serrano has had the honor of receiving the first place trophy honors. This year there were 175 Serrano students who signed up to participate in this wonderful community wide event. Track and field coaching was led by Serrano teacher, Mrs. Vicky Schmuhl and her team of wonderful, motivated, and dedicated parents.



Serrano Elementary 2013 Track Team

Running Springs *Elementary*

8670 E. Running Springs Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/281-4512 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Lydia Roach
Principal

Representing the Best

We have many outstanding Redhawks to recognize this trimester. Each year, assessments and grades are reviewed to identify those English learners who qualify to be reclassified as proficient in the English language. Congratulations to the 19 students who recently received this designation.

Congratulations also go out to Kassidy Aslay, Nicolas Simons and Katie Steuernagel. These three qualified to represent Running Springs in the OC Parents Magazine fifth-grade Spelling Bee held on April 19. Jake McIlhaney, Andrew Nguyen, Tyler Rhode and Ansh Patel also qualified to participate in the Orange Unified School District's Math Pentathlon held on May 4.

Thirty students also earned a medal at the Foundation Games track meet. Running Springs earned second-place overall in the large school division, and our very own fifth-grader Kylee Medlin set a new record for the high jump!

We are so proud of the students who represented Running Springs exceptionally well in all of these events.



Sycamore *Elementary*

340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6277 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Erika Krohn
Principal

Proud Highlights

It's been a busy and productive year here at Sycamore Elementary School, a state-of-the-art modernized school with extensive fields and a beautiful garden. Here are a few school highlights.

Response to Intervention and Instruction (RtII) was in full force! We held Collaborative Academic Support Team meetings each trimester in order to place students in appropriate interventions, such as System 44, READ 180, after-school math classes, and small-group instruction with support staff.

Our teachers have honed their skills using Thinking Maps. This year, our focus was how to use the maps for English Language Learners.

We learned about the upcoming Common Core State Standards as well. In order to prepare, we rolled out communication objectives and response frames in all of our classrooms. Our students speak in complete sentences!

We hosted Saturday School for extra test preparation, as well as a six-week *Disciplina Positiva* parent workshop and a seven-week parent workshop about nutrition.

We exceeded our goal for reclassifying English Language Learner students to Fluent English Proficient. All students who achieved this goal were honored at a school-wide assembly, and we celebrated with cake.

Due to our united efforts and hard work, our school was named a California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll School for 2012 and was nominated for the National Blue Ribbon Award. I am extremely proud and honored to be principal of such an outstanding school, where the entire staff is committed to continuous improvement through a safe and supportive learning environment.

Villa Park *Elementary*

10551 Center Dr., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6281 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Debra Larson
Principal

Understanding the Balance of Nature

This May the First Grade is excited to embark on their hands on insect unit. It is a fascinating unit that explores the characteristics and habitats of insects that make up the largest group of animal life on the planet. We will be learning to follow directions when writing a research report and make dioramas to illustrate what we have learned. This unit ties into our study of the author Eric Carle and our last literature theme of "Wonders" which includes the story, Fireflies for Nathan. We will be utilizing these literature stories to enrich and extend our study of insects and how they affect the balance of nature. Math is integrated throughout this unit through the use of graphs, measurement, and problem solving. We are looking forward to guiding the students towards being experts in entomology!



Taft *Elementary*

1829 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6254 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Antonette Coe
Principal

Achieving Success and Serving the Community

The bells of success rang out loud at Taft this year! Because of the incredibly hard work of our students and staff, Taft has now exited Program Improvement. We were also able to reclassify 49 English learners as fluent English proficient.

Our Spring Book Fair was a big success, too. It makes me proud that our students are excited about reading. This year, all grade levels exceeded their Reading Counts goals. Some classrooms even had every student meet their quarterly goal, which shows the dedication our students and teachers have about reading.

At Taft, we focus on the whole student. Academics are very important, but learning about oneself by serving others is an admirable character trait that our students are striving to acquire.

This year our students also proudly helped three charities: the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society, the American Heart Association and Mary's Soup Kitchen. Both students and staff enjoyed the opportunity to give back to the local community.



Every Penny Counts, Taft students show their dedication to helping others.

Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/532-8020 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Ed Howard
Principal

A Great Time to Be a Spartan

It seems within the first two minutes of any conversation I have had as of late, I am asked the question, "So how are things going at Villa Park High School?" This year I have been able to answer, "Everything is going very well."

We started with a boost in our Academic Performance Index (API) of 22 points to an 836. Spartan football won their third Century League title and played in the CIF championship game at Anaheim Stadium. Our school won its fourth-straight Orange County Science and Engineering Fair. Our Future Business Leaders of America had a state champion, and several students placed at the state level. Drama took third place at the California State Thespian Festival in their first year of competition. Our girls soccer team won the Century League title for the first time in over 20 years, boys soccer earned a league championship, boys basketball also took first in the league and played in the CIF championship game at the Anaheim Convention Center. The choir took home superior ratings at Segerstrom Hall, and the Marching Spartans won the sweepstakes at the Korean Day parade. We have been recognized as a California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll School, and we were named by the Washington Post as one of the most challenging schools in America. We were also recognized as a California Distinguished School.

By most standards, one would have to agree things are going very well. It is a great time to be a Spartan.

West Orange *Elementary*

243 S. Bush St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6283 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Jennifer Bourgeois
Principal

Reading Lives On through Mardi's Garden

In any school, there are people who leave a legacy. Recently, we honored the legacy of one such person at West Orange: Mardi Erdkamp. Mrs. Erdkamp dedicated 34 years of her life to students, families and staff. While she was here, she shared her love of reading that inspired students to become better readers.

As a way to perpetuate her memory and love of reading, one of our teachers, Tami Draffen, wrote and received a grant from the Orange Blossom Auxiliary to create a schoolwide reading garden. Each grade level and support staff created individual stepping stones. Primary grades planted vegetables. A bench surrounding an orange tree was added to complete the garden. During a recent dedication ceremony, different students, staff and past employees spoke about the impact Mrs. Erdkamp had on West Orange. Her husband, son and friends joined us for this festive event!



First Grade teacher Tami Draffen reads to her first grade students in Mardi's Garden. The schoolwide dedication ceremony took place on March 29, 2013 honoring Mardi Erdkamp, former West Orange Instructional Aide.

Yorba *Middle School*

935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6161 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Kerrie Torres
Principal

Teaming Up for Technology

Exposing our students to 21st-century learning skills and preparing them to be a competitor in the global economy is our priority. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is an integrated approach to the teaching and learning of these subjects. This pathway helps provides students with a practical foundation in math and science in preparation for their post-secondary education.

Yorba Middle School is emphasizing college and career readiness by providing opportunities that allow students to experience the following: critical thinking, collaboration, communication, creativity, innovation, technology and interactions with other perspectives. In order to accomplish this goal, Yorba Middle School launched a robotics team that competed in the VEX Robotics competition in the month of April. Our team was led by Mr. Cabase, science teacher at Yorba Middle School, and was instituted to provide students with exposure to STEM through the VEX Robotics program. The concepts behind robotic engineering are grounded in STEM and match the philosophy behind the common-core inquiry-based learning model. To support the program, a certified mechanical engineer joined our team as a coach to connect students with the "real-life" application to the field. The program was a success, and the concept has generated interest and excitement from the students, parents and community.

In 2013-14, we will explore the idea of implementing a robotics program through the advanced technology class that will be founded in introductory engineering, computer-based design, hands-on inquiry-based learning and applied mathematics. We are excited to offer this opportunity to our students.

OUSD Alternative Education / ROP

1401 N. Handy St. Orange, CA 92867 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>

Hard Work & Perseverance



Dennis McCuiston
Coordinator

Eleven seniors from Canyon, El Modena, Orange, and Villa Park high schools have successfully completed the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program on the ROP campus and will have an opportunity to graduate as licensed EMTs. These students have juggled both their senior classes as well as attending night classes four days a week to work toward their goals of becoming an Emergency First Responder. They are to be recognized for their hard work and perseverance.





Students will come to understand different perspectives and cultures. They will use technology and digital media strategically and capably.

In mathematical practices, students will be able to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. They will reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct viable arguments, and analyze the reasoning of others.

Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Parents' Role in Implementing the Common Core "Habits of Mind"

Parents play a key role in supporting their child's development of 21st Century competencies, or "Habits of Mind." Parents can begin by setting high expectations and supporting their child in meeting them. If a child needs extra help, or wants to learn more about a subject, parents and teachers can work together to identify opportunities to extend learning and find additional resources.

Other things parents can do to help their child develop the Common Core "Habits of Mind" include the following:

- Provide a wide range of reading materials, both fiction and information text, and discuss what they read.
- Ask them to share daily work and discuss what they are learning.
- Explore what ignites their curiosity.
- Talk with the teacher and help assess progress.

As we move forward together on this exciting path to transforming education across America, I am confident that with Common Core State Standards implementation, Orange County students will graduate from high school prepared with the knowledge, skills, and personal attributes needed to become successful in college and careers.

For additional resources to support implementation of the Common Core State Standards, visit www.ocde.us/CommonCoreCA.

Orange County Department of Education, 200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92628
714/966-4000 • www.ocde.us

OUSD Child Development Services

Parkside Campus: 2345 E. Palmyra. Orange, CA 92869 • www.oranged.k12.ca/child_care/

40 Year Anniversary

By Jim Stephens, Director

Some like to say the OUSD Child Development Center (CDC) is the districts best kept secret. The CDC which is located on the previous Parkside Elementary campus will be hosting an alumni celebration early this fall.

The OUSD CDC opened in 1973 to provide a safe, nurturing, and quality learning place for the babies of teen parents. With their babies being cared for, the teen parents could continue completing their educational endeavors. Because of the success of the CDC, hundreds of teen moms and dads have been able to complete their education and graduate high school.

Although the CDC has changed and grown over the years into a standardized preschool format, it continues to provide the same nurturing caring environment as it did the very first day it opened.

One who remembers this best, is Frances Montoya. Frances (AKA "Teacher Frances"), the current director for the CDC, began her career as a preschool teacher soon after the CDC opened.

Frances has seen thousands of children promote from CDC with a strong foundation for learning, health, and behavior. Montoya, who will be retiring at the end of the school year, said she's happy to see more of an emphasis on the importance of preschool education. It's an emphasis she said she hopes the 40th celebration also will detail, as alumni of the program come back to reminisce and see the changes to the preschool.

For more information and continued reunion updates, please log on to http://www.oranged.k12.ca.us/child_care/INDEX.htm

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- Can you afford to make a mistake or do you have enough time to recover from possible losses due to careless mismanagement of your financial resources?
- Are your investments meeting with your expectations and are you in the right product to meet your retirement goals based on your risk tolerance, objectives and timeline?

The choice is yours to pick up the telephone and take the first step in getting a personal financial evaluation. Let me help you set realistic personal and financial goals, customize a plan to meet your objectives based on your own budget, your commitment to yourself and to your loved ones and to begin implementing strategies that can provide your financial future with higher propensity of success.

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