FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

ROLL CALL Est. 2000

Covering the Orange Unified School District

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 39 **SEPTEMBER–NOVEMBER 2013**

SUPERINTENDENT

Michael L. Christensen

Michael Christensen has worked in education for over 18 years, mostly at Orange Unified School District and three years at Riverside Unified School District. Prior to his current position as Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Christensen held numerous titles in OUSD including Deputy Superintendent, Executive Director of Facilities and Planning, Executive Director of Administrative Services, and Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services and Chief Business Official (CBO).

Mr. Christensen has received numerous awards and recognitions throughout his career. He received the Orange Council PTA Honorary Service Award in 2004, was named the 2010 Greater Orange Person of the Year by the Greater Orange Community Organization and honored as the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region XVII 2011 Business Services Administrator of the Year. Most recently, Mr. Christensen was nominated as Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region XVII 2012 Superintendent of the Year.

Mr. Christensen earned his Masters in Business Administration degree at California Baptist University and his Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Redlands. Additionally, he has earned the School Business Management Certificate from the University of Southern California.

Coach Lou's Life Lessons

By Kent Kawaguchi
Guest Columnist, Freshman USC

September to January is a special time for college sports fans. It's the season when millions of people watch football games and sports analysts almost 24/7 during the weekend. As I watch sports television, I remember my interview with the ESPN analyst and former Notre Dame head coach Mr. Lou Holtz when I was 13 years old. Lou Holtz, also known as "Coach," won three national Coach of the Year honors, is the only coach to ever lead six different schools to bowl games, and as head coach is ranked ninth in most career wins in college football history. As a successful coach and sports analyst, Lou Holtz is known for his knowledge, wit, and enthusiasm. Before my interview with Coach, he gave a lecture to a large audience, where he discussed his three simple life lessons: do what is right; do everything to the best of your ability; and care about people.

Coach suggested that you should do what is right and develop trust with your peers. He said that all relationships are based on trust. Gaining trust from someone can be as simple as being on time and/or doing what is right. He added, if you are late or make a mistake, don't just say you're sorry; be genuine about it.

Coach Lou Holtz

Coach's second simple life lesson is to do everything to the best of your ability. When I asked Coach Holtz, "What do you tell kids who don't make the team?" he responded by saying, "Find something that you can do pretty well and do what you like to do. Then work at it. Do the best that you can. If it doesn't work out, the fact that you did something to the best of your ability will make you win in the long run. You are not competing against anyone except for yourself. So ask yourself, 'What am I capable of doing?'" In addition, Coach Holtz said everyone must have: passion and dreams; love for someone; something to dream for; and something to believe in. To achieve those dreams, Holtz said not to cut corners when life is tough, as you will only be fooling yourself. Although achieving dreams requires sacrifice and can be tough, one should never do something half way because in the end, it will be worth it.

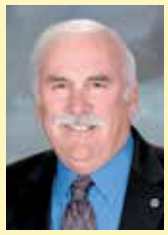
He said, "It should not be all about me. Rather, it's about others. Ask how you can genuinely help, care about others. Learn to be unselfish for the benefit of your teammates."

I will always remember Coach Holtz's authentic personality and willingness to talk to me. His kindness towards others on and off the field is what makes him an icon in the football community. Coach Holtz's final words of advice were, "Keep life simple. God put you on Earth to do something. Have a vision, make a plan, lead by example, be accountable, and have core values so that you can make a difference in people's lives. Play like a champion today. Live like a champion every day."

Orange Unified School District Board of Education

Timothy Surridge
President

Dr. Alexia L. Deligianni
Vice President



Mark D. Wayland
Clerk

Rick Ledesma
Member

Kathryn A. Moffat
Member

John H. Ortega
Member

Diane Singer
Member

Please Drive Safely—Students are Back in School

UCLA Extension

explore.
experience.
expand.

Pathway

For Students with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

Our Post-Secondary 2-Year Program Offers:

- A college experience with expertly trained staff
- Growth in academics, career exploration & transition to independent living
- A supportive environment

Learn more. Visit *uclaextension.edu/pathwaySN* or call **(310) 794-1235**.

13790-12

Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher

Here we are ready for another school year. We hope you had a fun summer. This is one of our most popular issues when the principals share with you their bio's. It is interesting to read about where they graduated, their families, pets, hobbies and years in education. Many principals are continuing with their education. Many are products of the OUSD. They all share the same focus and dedication to educating our youth.

Chalk boards have faded into our memories soon to be joined by smart boards and iPads as technology continues to evolve. Until then... Common Core is here!

School News Roll Call

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

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

@SchoolNewsRC
SchoolNewsRollCall

You can now launch our Web APP to your SmartPhone from our web site

SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC
P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193
www.schoolnewsrollcall.com
Copyright © 2006, School News Roll Call, LLC
Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest columnists are their views and not necessarily those of *School News Roll Call*. This publication is privately owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content. The school district does not endorse the advertisers in this publication.

VISA MasterCard PRINTED WITH SOY INK

Leo Do Carmo
Financial Advisor Representative
Foresters Equity Services, Inc.
(714)777-5693 Office
ldocarmo@forestersequity.com

Call for an appointment now.

Home Office in Yorba Linda, California

Attention Teachers, Administrators and District Employees

- Can you maintain your current life style at retirement with 60 to 70% of your current income? And why should you?
- How long will you wait to find out if you are on the right track to a good or a great retirement?
- Can you afford to make a mistake or do you have enough time to recover from possible losses due to careless miss-management 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?

Contemporary RETIREMENT Strategies

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.

www.ContemporaryRetirementStrategies.com

Securities & Advisory Services offered through Foresters Equity Services, Inc. / A registered investment advisor / Member FINRA, SIPC.
Branch office location: 19720 E. Walnut Drive South, STE 205, Walnut, CA 91789 • 626-340-4618

Orange County Department of Education

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

Bullying Epidemic & Public Health Crisis

Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

As educators, parents, and community members, we know that the goal of education must go beyond learning reading, writing, and mathematics. Teaching students basic human values such as honesty, kindness, respect, and compassion are essential to ensuring our children become morally responsible and productive citizens in an increasingly interconnected world. Children spend much of their young lives in classrooms. This time in school is an opportunity to explain and reinforce the core values upon which character develops. Schools are much better places for academic learning when they are civil and caring communities. The self-discipline that enables a child to behave in morally acceptable ways is also, what allows them to apply themselves to tasks such as homework and to concentrate in the classroom and at home.

Each day in America, approximately 160,000 students miss school because they are targets of bullying or not feeling safe at school. In the past bullying was considered a "rite of passage", today it is viewed as an epidemic and a public health problem. Youth who bully others are at an increased risk for violent behavior later in life, substance use, academic problems, and conviction of crime. Targeted individuals are at increased risk for anxiety, depression, sleep difficulties, and a negative impact on their academic achievement.

In many incidences, the word bullying is used to describe an event that in fact could be teasing, and it is important that educators and parents understand the difference. Bullying is aggressive behavior that is repetitive, intentional, and involves an imbalance of power. Teasing behaviors are often not intended, may be isolated, and center on a lack of awareness regarding potential outcomes.

See **OC Dept. of Ed** • *Page 15*

Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

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

Sandra Miller
Principal

Welcome to Anaheim Hills Elementary School (AHES), home of the Panthers! Mrs. Sandra Miller feels honored to be the principal. This is Mrs. Miller's 19th year in education. She was an elementary school teacher for 13 years before taking a position as a vice principal and then a principal. She is entering her my fifth year as principal at AHES.

Mrs. Miller said, "Anaheim Hills Elementary's goal is to challenge each student to grow and progress to his or her fullest potential to achieve academic excellence. We believe in an active and supportive learning environment through collaboration and ongoing evaluation of student work and assessment results. Teachers stimulate learning through problem-solving, critical-thinking skills, and providing opportunities for student choice through differentiation."

The AHES staff is very appreciative of the supportive PTA and community, both of which play vital roles in assuring that enrichment programs are available to our students. Mrs. Miller looks forward to an exciting and productive year!

California *Elementary*

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

Laurie Dieppa
Principal

Laurie Dieppa is happy to be returning to California Elementary. This will be Mrs. Dieppa's second year at California. She holds an administrative credential, a reading specialist credential, a multiple-subject credential and a CLAD certification with the state of California. Her background in elementary education and reading instruction has served her well as the instructional leader at both Lampson Elementary and California Elementary.

Mrs. Dieppa has been an employee of Orange Unified since 1999. She and her family are 29-year residents of the city of Orange. Her husband and three sons are all products of OUSD schools. Mrs. Dieppa looks forward to the continuation of her work with the California staff and parent community, who are committed to ensuring the success of all students. Plans for the new school year include a continuation of successfully implemented programs, Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports and an emphasis on 21st-century teaching and learning

Cambridge *Elementary*

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

Jeremy Mortensen
Principal

The 2013–14 school year marks Jeremy Mortensen's second at Cambridge Elementary School and his fourth as a principal. Mr. Mortensen is a father of two who spends most of his off-time with his wife, attending their children's passions in the sports of surfing with their daughter and Brazilian jiujitsu with their son.

Mr. Mortensen is excited to continue his career at Cambridge Elementary and with the Orange Unified School District. Given the abundance of positive attributes exhibited at Cambridge and within the Orange Unified School District among the students, staff, families and all other stakeholders, it is easy to see why Cambridge has such an excellent reputation and is such a wonderful school to call home for everyone who attends.

"The enthusiasm on display from students and parents along with our teachers' commitment to excellence are the hallmarks for student success at our school," he said. "It really does make Cambridge the wonderful place it is to call home!"

It is Mr. Mortensen's unwavering belief that all students can learn. It is up to us as educators, parents and community members to work together to ensure that all the students at Cambridge Elementary learn and become respectful, contributing members of our community and society as a whole.

It takes us all!

Canyon Hills

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

Dr. Karen Hanson
Principal

Dr. Karen Hanson is beginning her third year at Canyon Hills School. She brings with her a unique blend of experience in the fields of both health care and education. As a Registered Nurse, she has worked in the hospital setting, as a school nurse, and as a school health administrator. She then transitioned into the area of special education administration and recently earned a doctoral degree in education. Dr. Hanson has spent much of her career working with students with special physical and educational needs. She is committed to continuing the positive work done by the staff and families at Canyon Hills School for our special students.

Canyon *High School*

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

Kimberly Fricker
Principal

The Orange Unified School District is pleased to announce the appointment of Kimberly Fricker as the principal of Canyon High School. Fricker has previous experience within Orange Unified as a former biology and chemistry teacher at Orange High School. She also served as a guidance counselor before moving into administration.

Originally from Michigan, she earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan Technology University. She taught biology, chemistry, and physics before earning her master's degree in counseling psychology and moving to California with her husband and three children. She served as an assistant principal in the Huntington Beach Union High School District in a variety of areas, including: Master Schedule; Curriculum; Instruction; Guidance; Professional Development; Regional Occupation Program (ROP); Special Education; and Discipline.

Currently, Fricker is nearing completion of her doctoral degree from the University of Southern California (USC) in the area of educational leadership. Her work with USC involves K–12 college and career preparation, with specific interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). Fricker's philosophical approach to education is based on a phrase by John Dewey: "Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." She firmly believes that education is the key to unlocking doors of opportunity for every student and is excited to contribute to the success of Canyon High School.

GNC Driving School
"Serving the OC for 15 Years!"

For a matter as serious as drivers education you only want the best

Since 1997 DMV Lic. #3483
Se Habla Español

Fall Semester
Back to School
Specials!

Online driver education courses
Ask about our group discount

SANTA ANA
714-973-6369
1621 E 17th St N

MISSION VIEJO
949-682-6227
28752 Marguerite Pkwy #12

gncdrivingschool.com

Canyon Rim *Elementary*

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

David Appling
Principal

During David's career in education, he taught multiple grade levels also serving as a master teacher and BTSA Support Provider. Leaving the classroom, Appling spent 4 years as a reading intervention teacher implementing the Scholastic Read180 program. At the district level, he served as a curriculum specialist for 3 years supporting the interventions, ELD, and curriculum professional developments. David served as a vice principal for Clara Barton and Horace Mann before moving to Orange Unified School District.

This will be Appling's 5th year serving Canyon Rim and its community. The past four years has brought focus to data, interventions, Best First Instruction in the classroom, and common and consistent practices across the grade levels moving the school into an API of 913. "Making The Connection" has been the motto for teachers this past year where students make the connection of what they are learning in the classroom and how it will be assessed.

Appling was raised in the Los Alamitos, California and a product of its K-12 public educational system. After graduating from Los Alamitos High School, he continued his education earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the California State University of Long Beach. David received his teaching credential and Masters of Science in Educational Administration from National University in Costa Mesa, California. Appling enjoys traveling, playing softball, and spending time with his family.

Mr. Appling looks forward to collaborating with the teachers, parents, students, and community of Canyon Rim Elementary School as they move forward achieving student success.

Chapman Hills *Elementary*

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

Sandra Schaffer
Principal

Mrs. Schaffer is excited to begin her sixteenth year in the Orange Unified School District. Prior to coming to Chapman Hills in 2012, she had been the Principal at Handy Elementary for seven years and Fletcher Elementary for five years. Her career in Orange USD began as an Assistant Principal at West Orange Elementary for two years. She has enjoyed working at all three schools, and looks forward to another great year at Chapman Hills.

Graduating with a Bachelors in Business Administration from Loyola Marymount University, Mrs. Schaffer decided to become a teacher. She attended Chapman University's credential program, and enjoyed teaching elementary school in LAUSD and Pomona Unified while working on her Masters and Administrative Credential from Cal State, Fullerton. Mrs. Schaffer's aspirations to become a principal led her to Orange USD, where she has had the good fortune to work with many wonderful students, parents, and teachers over the years.

Mrs. Schaffer is thrilled to continue working with the Chapman Hills community. This year promises to be filled with hard work as they strive to maintain our 900+ API score. Mrs. Schaffer reflects, "I am dedicated to working with the staff and students to meet our goals that drive us toward reaching every child's potential. Through diligence, laughter, and commitment, we can achieve great things."

Cerro Villa *Middle School*

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

Dr. Ken Miller
Principal

I am beginning my seventh year as a member of the Leadership Team in the Orange Unified School District. I served as Assistant Principal, Curriculum/Instruction, ROP and Athletics at El Modena High School and now I am entering my fourth year as Principal at Cerro Villa Middle School. Before joining Orange Unified, I served as social studies teacher and football coach at the comprehensive high school level for over four years and a Vice Principal for nearly ten years in the Downey Unified School District. I sought a leadership position in Orange Unified because I wanted to be part of the outstanding team that provides such a great education for all children including my own children.

My wife Jennifer and I have two children: Katelyn, 17, attends Canyon High School and Kenny, 15, attends Villa Park High School. We have a black Labrador retriever named Justice and a cat named Chaplin. These two firmly believe they are the third and fourth Miller children.

My daily experiences in Orange Unified have been excellent as the District Leadership and staff has truly made me feel right at home. I am thrilled to be a part of the OUSD leadership team and I am absolutely elated to be part of the Cerro Villa Middle School family as we continue to grow as a learning community and a California Distinguished School 2013!

Crescent *Elementary*

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

Randi Leach
Principal

Mrs. Randi Leach earned her undergraduate degree from UCLA, and then attended USC where she earned her Masters Degree in Special Education and both an elementary and learning handicapped teaching credential. She began her teaching career as a 3rd – 8th grade Special Day Class teacher in the Castaic Union School District.

Randi Leach taught for 12 years in the Westminster School District where she served as a New Teacher Mentor and Math Mentor, creating their District "Math Mania" competition. Over the years, she also provided staff development for teachers in Orange County and presented annually at county and state reading and math conferences. In 1996 Randi received the OCDE Excellence Award for Outstanding Contributions to Education and was named Westminster School District's "Teacher of the Year."

Randi Leach began her administrative career in 2001 as the Assistant Principal of Handy Elementary in the Orange Unified School District. She then served seven years as principal of Canyon Rim Elementary and the past four years as principal of Crescent Elementary. Randi's passion for curriculum and instruction continues as she is and was a member of the OUSD writing team for years, creating and presenting Staff Development for teachers and principals in order to support effective instructional strategies. She is also currently serving on the OUSD Science Steering Committee and the District's Curriculum Council. She was honored as an OUSD 2008 "Administrator of the Year" and was just honored last May as ACSA Region 17's Elementary Administrator of the Year.

Mrs. Leach looks forward to working with the dedicated Crescent staff and community as we transition to Common Core.

El Modena *High School*

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

Dr. Dustin Saxton
Principal

The Orange Unified School District is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Dustin Saxton to the position of El Modena High School Principal. Saxton started his education career in 1991 as a mathematics teacher at a private school. Five years later, he began teaching algebra, geometry and calculus at San Bernardino High School, where he also coached varsity football, basketball, and baseball. After serving as principal of a private K–12 school in Redlands, Saxton moved on to become an assistant principal at the high school level in the Alvord and Upland Unified School Districts and at Orange High School in the Orange Unified School District. His responsibilities as a high school assistant principal included leadership of: discipline and attendance; the Math Department; the Summer School Program; the Adult Education program; the Special Education Department; activities; and athletics.

"I feel excited, honored, and privileged to be named the new principal at El Modena High School. El Modena has a rich tradition of excellence, and I am looking forward to working with the students, staff, and the El Modena community to build on that tradition," remarked Saxton.

Born in Illinois, Saxton is a graduate of Drury University, National University, and La Sierra University. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration, a master's degree in instructional leadership and a specialist degree in administration and leadership. He also received master's and doctoral degrees in divinity from Dallas Theological Seminary.

Saxton is the proud father of two sons, aged 18 and 20. His wife, Debra, has taught special education for 21 years.

Fletcher *Elementary*

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

Rebeca Nelson
Principal

Rebeca Nelson has been appointed the new principal at Fletcher Elementary School. Ms. Nelson grew up in the city of Orange and has been part of the Orange Unified School District for seven years. Prior to coming to Orange Unified, she taught six years in the Santa Ana Unified School District. Ms. Nelson has taught at various grade levels, as well as in the Dual Immersion, Gifted And Talented Education (GATE), and Reading Resource programs. She has also served as a Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA) for the district's Accountability and Special Programs Department, where she supported English learners district-wide, and has been part of the Common Core State Standards professional development district-wide training and support. Most recently, Ms. Nelson has served as the assistant principal at McPherson Magnet School.

Ms. Nelson received her bachelor's degree in history from the University of California, Santa Barbara and her master's degree in Education with an emphasis in leadership from California Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Ms. Nelson was so pleased to meet the children and families at Fletcher, and she is looking forward to a successful year working together!

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

El Rancho Charter School will continue with a concept seen at few schools throughout the United States—two principals. Mrs. Michele Walker oversees the academic programs with a specific goal of ensuring all students learn at a high level. Mr. John Besta is responsible for business and operations functions of the school. His goal will be to build a new science building and a new gymnasium on the El Rancho campus. John Besta has just completed his 16th year as the El Rancho principal and has worked in Anaheim Hills schools for 25 years. Michele Walker has completed her third year as El Rancho principal and has been at El Rancho a total of eight years.

Fairhaven *Elementary*

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

Kelli Keller
Principal

Kelli Keller is a member of the local Fairhaven community. She lives within a stone's throw from the school with her husband, who is also an educator, and her two children.

Kelli received her master's degree locally from Chapman University, and began her career in education in 1999 as a teacher in her hometown. Since then she has served as an elementary, middle and high school teacher, and as an administrator at the preschool, elementary and secondary levels.

She is proud to be a part of the Fairhaven Elementary School family, as it is the Orange Unified School District's only National Blue Ribbon School. She remarked that, "I sincerely thank the students, families and staff for their hard work to ensure our school's great success!"

Kelli Keller is an educator who believes that her position as an educational leader is to stand up for the future of her community's children. She believes that all students deserve the right to learn in an environment that is safe, accepting and engaging, and will provide them the opportunity for continued success throughout life.

Students must be competitively educated to thrive in today's society, and Kelli Keller is determined to see that Fairhaven will serve as each child's first step towards higher education, and to meeting this great challenge.

Handy *Elementary*

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

Dr. Michelle Owen
Principal

Dr. Michelle D. Owen is entering her second year as the principal of Handy Elementary School and her 13th year in education. Dr. Owen holds bachelor's and master's degrees in education, as well as a doctoral degree in education, leadership, and policy from Pepperdine University. She is a member of the American Association of School Administrators, the Association of California School Administrators, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the California Association for Bilingual Education.

Providing rigorous and relevant learning opportunities that challenge student thinking in the areas of math, science, technology, and literacy is a priority for Dr. Owen. She works with the teachers, students, parents, and community as a collaborative facilitator to ensure data-driven school improvement, professional learning communities, targeted instructional delivery, and school and community partnerships.

Dr. Owen credits the success of Handy Elementary to her outstanding staff, students, parents, and community. Through our parent organization, English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC), Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (GRIP), partnerships with community organizations, and district support, Handy Elementary provides an outstanding place where all students grow and feel supported.

Imperial *Elementary*

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

Ginette Kelley
Principal

Gigi Kelley earned her bachelor's degree in Community Health Education from CSU Long Beach. After graduation, her first professional job was as a Prevention Education Specialist working in partnership with schools in Southern California. Gigi returned to school, earning her California Teaching Credential from CSU San Bernardino. Her teaching career took her first to Rialto and then to Fullerton School District as a classroom teacher.

Hearing the call of administration, Gigi returned to school to earn a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Concordia University. She remained in Fullerton, however she moved out of the classroom and into district administration. She served that district as a Program Specialist for Gifted and Talented (GATE) program and also the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Program. She also had the opportunity to serve as Interim Junior High Assistant Principal.

Through her experiences as an educator she has had the opportunity to develop new and innovative approaches to student success by creating, planning, and implementing instructional practices for district-wide programs. In 2005 she was named an Apple Distinguished Educator, bringing innovative technology to classroom instruction. She developed and teaches a curriculum for a teacher GATE Certification and is currently an adjunct professor for Hope International University.

Now as Imperial Elementary School's principal, Gigi Kelley continually looks forward to working with teachers, students, and the rest of the Imperial community.

Please Drive Safely
Students are Back in School

Jordan *Elementary*

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

Andrea Roman
Principal

Mrs. Andrea Roman has devoted her career to public education. Prior to becoming the Principal of Jordan Elementary, Ms. Roman had the privilege of teaching Kindergarten, second and third grade in two large districts. From her teaching experience, Mrs. Roman was able to gain a sound perspective on how to address the various needs of diverse student populations. In addition to her teacher experience, Mrs. Roman has also worked as an Elementary and Secondary site administrator for the Pajaro Valley Unified School District.

She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree and her teaching credential from the University of California, Riverside and her Master's Degree and Administrative Services Credential from the University of Redlands. Mrs. Roman strives to inspire all children, even at the youngest age, to look toward a higher education and make those pathways available to them and their families by providing them a positive and academically challenging learning environment.

Mrs. Roman loves her job and enjoys working with teachers, parents, and most importantly students. This will be her third year at Jordan Elementary and looks forward to working with the families, students, and staff that make Jordan a special place to work and learn. Her family is also very important in her life. She is married to her wonderful husband Albert, and has two amazing children, Ashley and Albert, Jr. When she sees the students she interacts with on a daily basis she also sees her own children in them. She treats them as if they were her own children. When she is not spending time with her family she uses her time to give back to the community. She is a proud member of a Kiwanis Service Club and has also served on various community boards. In addition, Mrs. Roman has also been involved with several scholarship committees that directly assist students pay for their college education.

Dr. Meeks ORTHODONTICS

"Quality Orthodontics
In Old Town Tustin"

Braces and Invisalign treatment
for children and adults

**Complimentary
New Patient Exams**

(714) 838-6464 • 500 S. C Street • Tustin, CA 92780
www.drmeeksortho.com

La Veta *Elementary*

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

Connie Smith
Principal

La Veta Elementary Principal, Connie Smith, celebrates 32 years in education. Her experience includes classroom teacher, mentor teacher, IBM education consultant, site administrator and district curriculum coordinator.

Connie's many professional associations and accomplishments include former Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region 17 Elementary Administrator Representative, Adjunct Professor at Concordia University, past member of the Tustin Public Schools Foundation Board of Directors and Orange Unified School District's 2010-2011 Administrator of the Year. Connie also shares her administrative expertise by serving as an assessor for the Orange County Department of Education in their Developing the 21st Century Principal program.

Connie was born and raised in Orange County. She has been married to Phillip Smith for 20 years and has two sons in high school, Garrett and Grant.

Smith says, "I am looking forward to my third year at La Veta working with an outstanding team of teachers, support staff, parents and young scholars."

McPherson Magnet

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

Jeanne Bentley
Principal

As a public educator, I believe that I have the responsibility to be the voice for all students, while bringing our children into the 21st century. I must ensure that all of our students have the right to learn in a safe and nurturing environment, inclusive of all. My charge is to guarantee that McPherson Magnet School students are active learners in an engaging, relevant, and challenging atmosphere that permeates the campus every day.

I have been a public educator for over 25 years and am reflecting on my experience to make my ninth year at McPherson an even better one. Prior to receiving my master's degree in educational leadership and my administrative credential at California State University, Fullerton, I taught first through sixth grade in both Stockton and Tustin Unified School Districts. I have been a Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) coordinator, an assessment coordinator, and an elementary teaching assistant principal.

I am committed to our school mission of KIDS: Knowledge-Inspiration-Discovery-Success. McPherson's rich school community of educators, support staff, and families relies on teamwork to continuously improve the educational experience for our students. The Common Core State Standards will be providing us with a stable and thought-provoking way of learning. I look forward to the challenge of preparing our McPherson students for the future of a global economy.

Lampson *Elementary*

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

Dr. Maria Chairez
Principal

Lampson Elementary School principal, Dr. Maria Chairez, is completing her second year as the principal. She graduated from University of the Pacific and earned her Ed.D in education administration with an emphasis in special education. She is a native of southern California and worked previously in Clark County. Dr. Chairez is excited about sharing her expertise in project-based learning, community service, and technology with students and staff members. She recently taught an after-school photography class for Lampson students and their final project was a printed and video scrapbook album.

She has published articles on how to motivate and reach at-risk youth, including calling non-enrolled students and encouraging them to return to school thus reducing the high dropout rate. This year her goals at Lampson are to sponsor Make a Difference Day to involve parents and students and to help teachers use technology in the classroom for student learning.

Linda Vista *Elementary*

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

Sally Hughson
Principal

Mrs. Sally Hughson became the principal of Linda Vista Elementary School in August of 2008. She has been an educator for 20 years. She has worked at Cambridge, Handy, West Orange and Running Springs where she was the Assistant Principal.

Mrs. Hughson taught lower and upper grades and was a reading resource teacher, English Learner resource teacher and an Instructional Coach.

Mrs. Hughson grew up in the Orange area and attended Orange Unified schools beginning in kindergarten and graduated from El Modena High School. She earned her BA in Communication Disorders and a Master degree in Educational Administration from California State Fullerton; she earned her teaching Credential from Chapman University.

Mrs. Hughson lives in Santa Ana with her husband Steve of 33years. Her son Grant lives in Tustin and her daughter Katie and husband Danny Quesada live in Orange. Mrs. Hughson enjoys trips to Catalina, relaxing in the desert, walking in Peter's Canyon and spending time with her family and friends.

2013-2014 will be Mrs. Hughson sixth year at Linda Vista. She looks forward to another distinguished year with the supportive teachers, staff and the community.

Orange *High School*

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

Ernest Gonzalez
Principal

Ernie Gonzalez is the proud principal of Orange High School. He grew up in a small city east of Los Angeles. After high school, he completed his undergraduate work at the University of San Diego. Go Toreros! After completing his teacher credentialing program, Mr. Gonzalez earned a Master of Arts degree and an administrative credential from Azusa Pacific University. Mr. Gonzalez has served twenty years in education. In that time, he has been a teacher, AVID coordinator, activities director, federal and state project director, and assistant principal. Although his experience has spanned kindergarten through twelfth grade, his passion lies at the high school level.

Ernie is married to Denise Quan, a high school counselor. They have two children Christian and Kaleiah, ages 10 and 12. The Gonzalez family enjoys traveling together and spending time with friends and family. Gonzalez says, "Orange High School is truly a special place. I love working with our dedicated parents, students and staff - they are the best!"

Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

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

Amy Hitt
Principal

Ms. Amy Hitt has been a principal in the Orange Unified School District since 2008, most recently at Esplanade School. Before that time she worked in the Anaheim City School District, where she served as a vice principal, curriculum specialist, teacher on special assignment and classroom teacher.

Ms. Hitt has worked at several schools teaching in the third through sixth grades. She has also specialized in curriculum, program evaluation/assessment, and technology. She has an administrative credential from California State University, Fullerton, a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Azusa Pacific University, and an undergraduate degree in professional writing from Baylor University.

Ms. Hitt's roots in this community run deep: she attended Orange Unified schools as a child and still lives in Orange. Her children are also eighth- and eleventh-graders at Cerro Villa Middle School and Villa Park High School, respectively.

Coincidentally, Ms. Hitt's children both attended Nohl Canyon for their entire elementary school careers, and so she has first-hand experience with the teachers' and community's standard of excellence. She is looking forward to a great year of meeting new students and their families, and sharing the perspective of working with the school as a teacher, administrator and former parent!

Olive *Elementary*

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

Katherine Rizzo
Principal

Welcome to Olive Elementary School, Home of the Ocelots! Mrs. Rizzo considers it a privilege to be a part of a hardworking, knowledgeable and supportive school community and welcomes you to the 2013-2014 school year!

This is Mrs. Rizzo's twenty third year in the field of education having had experiences ranging from school secretary, teacher, coach, project specialist, assistant principal and principal. This is her twelfth year as an elementary principal, each year she looks forward with enthusiasm to the new school year, providing the highest quality education for children. Her vision is to create limitless opportunities by fostering a collective culture whereby professionals learn in a community to empower our students.

As an educator, Mrs. Rizzo makes every effort to ensure that each child is treated with respect and is in a safe school. She believes that it is important that families and staff members work collaboratively to help students succeed. She feels without a doubt, the most successful students have family members that communicate regularly with the school.

The staff at Olive Elementary School hold high expectations for all students. They believe that all students are capable of learning to their highest potential. Olive's mission is to ensure that students will be well equipped to impact, influence and contribute to a global society with the freedom to explore and develop their strengths.

Palmyra *Elementary*

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

Dr. Larry Hausner
Principal

Dr. Larry Hausner is currently beginning his third year as principal at Palmyra Elementary School. Prior to this assignment, he served as Administrative Director, principal at both Villa Park and Cambridge Elementary Schools. "Palmyra is a terrific school community, and I am looking forward to continue working with the parents and staff to maintain the excellent educational experience Palmyra offers." Hausner said.

Education was second career for Hausner after 10 years as a sportscaster. He hosted and produced a weekly television show for SportsChannel (Fox). In addition, he was a segment host for both the Angels and Dodgers pre-game shows. Also, he was the play-by-play voice of the Honolulu Sharks and Hilo Stars of the Hawaii Winter Baseball League, along with the San Bernardino Spirit, Rancho Cucamonga Quakes and the Palm Springs Suns.

Hausner began his teaching career as a substitute teacher in both Tustin and Saddleback Valley Unified School Districts. He said, "I taught everything from kindergarten through 12th grade, including many different special education settings. My goal was to teach anything and everything so I could find where my true love was." He quickly realized that elementary students were his true calling.

Dr. Hausner earned his doctorate in K-12 Leadership in Urban Settings last fall at the University of Southern California. Also, he earned a bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis in radio, television and film in 1991 from California State University, Fullerton. He later earned his multiple subjects credential from Chapman University and his mater's degree in school administration from Azusa pacific University.

Currently, Hausner resides in Rancho Santa Margarita with his wife, Nicci and his children Riley (15) and Jacob (13).

Panorama *Elementary*

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

Kathryn Martin
Principal

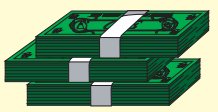
It is an honor and privilege for Principal, Mrs. Kathy Martin, to welcome back our Orange Unified School District family for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mrs. Martin is a product of Orange Unified, having attended OUSD schools in kindergarten through twelfth grade. Mrs. Martin earned her BA in Psychology from UCLA, and will forever be a "Mighty Bruin." She admits she morphed into an Anteater for a short time while earning her teaching credential at UCI. She received her

MA in Education from Concordia University in Irvine. Educational Technology is a passion of hers, and Mrs. Martin recently published her first book, What Every Educator Should Know About Google.

Having been in education for more than twenty years, Mrs. Martin can attest to the fact there is no nobler profession or purpose than helping to shape the next generation. Not a day goes by that she is not grateful for and humbled by the outstanding professionals in the Orange Unified School District. John Wooden put it best when he said, "The main ingredient of stardom is the rest of the team." Mrs. Martin is proud to be working with the star students, fantastic families and excellent educators at Panorama. Go Panthers!

Save Green!



Go Yellow!

School Bus Ride
Round Trip only $335 per year
Bus Pass Office (714) 538-8295

Portola *Middle School*

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

Deborah Backstrom
Principal

It is so exciting to be starting my fifth year at Portola Middle School and to be a part of such a wonderful school district—and especially to be at Portola!

I was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Downey, where I attended elementary, middle school and high school. I continued my education, receiving an Associate of Arts degree in sociology from Cerritos College and then graduated from California State University, Long Beach, with a degree in sociology. I also received my teaching credential from California State University, Long Beach, and my administration credential and Master of Science degree from California State University, Fullerton.

My career in education began in 1984 when I was employed as a teacher for Orange Unified School District. My passion has always been working with students and guiding them to be the best they can be. Since 2000, I have served in an administrative capacity. Before coming to Portola, I was the principal at Richland High School in Orange.

I have been married to my high school sweetheart for 41 years. Mr. Backstrom retired after teaching for Orange Unified School District for 37 years. We have one daughter, who is married, and two beautiful grandchildren.

My door is always open to all students, parents and staff. I look forward to another outstanding year.

Richland *High School*

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

Dennis McCuistion
Principal

Dennis McCuistion, Principal at Richland Continuation High School is entering his 16th year as an educator and 18th year in the Orange Unified School District where he started as a Campus Supervisor at Orange High School. In 1998 Mr. McCuistion was hired as a Special Education Special Day Class (SDC) teacher at Portola Middle School. After one year he transferred to Orange High School where he taught RSP and later became the Special Education Department Chairperson. Dennis went on to teach for a total of 10 years in both Special Education and General Education. While at Orange High School He served as the Head Baseball coach for the Panthers for 7 seasons. In 2006 Dennis became the Orange High School Athletic Director and then the Assistant Principal of Facilities, WASC, Attendance, and Discipline. He was appointed as the Coordinator of Alternative Education and ROP in 2011 where he was the Administrator for Community Day School, Home School, and the Educational Options program. In 2013 Dennis was appointed as Richland's Principal. Mr. McCuistion studied Sociology and Criminal Justice at Chapman University and Education Administration at National University. Dennis is married to his wife Julia, has two children, and is a resident of Orange.

School News Roll Call

Education + Communication=A Better Nation

We know you are busy and appreciate you including *School News Roll Call* among your reading choices

Follow Us @SchoolNewsRC

"Like" Us SchoolNewsRollCall

562-493-3193
Kay Coop, Founder/Publisher
www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Scan this QR Code with your SmartPhone to launch *School News Roll Call* APP

Prospect *Elementary*

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

Elena Rodriguez
Principal

Prospect Elementary's principal Elena Rodriguez is an alumnus of Orange Unified School District. Once graduated from Canyon High School, Mrs. Rodriguez, pursued a degree in Child Development at Cal State University at Fullerton. She realized then, that she loved working with children. Mrs. Rodriguez went on to earn her teaching credential at Chapman University and begun her career in Orange Unified School District as a bilingual 1st grade teacher at Sycamore Elementary in 1994. A few years later she became the Assistant Principal at Sycamore while it was still a multi track school. After three years as Assistant Principal and completing her Masters Degree at Azusa Pacific University she became principal at Imperial Elementary in Anaheim Hills. Mrs. Rodriguez served as principal at Imperial Elementary for five years. Following her time at Imperial she was placed at Fairhaven Elementary a Title I/Program Improvement school where she could utilize her bilingual skills in Spanish with the community. The three years at Fairhaven enabled her to enhance her leadership skills in working with the diverse communities our district serves. Now entering her sixth year at Prospect, she looks forward to continue the path to increased student achievement by working collaboratively with the awesome staff, students and community Prospect serves.

Mrs. Rodriguez' children are also products of Orange Unified School District. Her sons Frederick and Robert Stoces, attended Sycamore, Running Springs, El Rancho and both graduated from Canyon High. She was remarried in September of 2010, and now she is blessed with having her 9 year old step son, Angel. Having her own children attend the same district that she herself grew up in, brings her enormous pride to be a long time member of the Orange Unified School District family.

Running Springs *Elementary*

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

Lydia Roach
Principal

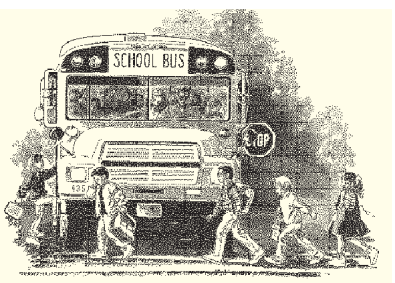
Mrs. Lydia Roach became the principal of Running Springs Elementary School in May 2007. She has been an educator for 30 years and has worked in various elementary schools in the Orange Unified School District including Handy, Riverdale, Canyon Rim, Lampson, and Running Springs. Mrs. Roach was both a primary and upper grade teacher, a bilingual resource teacher, and a reading resource teacher before becoming an administrator. In addition, she was the assistant principal at both Running Springs and Lampson for four years before becoming a principal.

Mrs. Roach grew up in the city of Orange and is a product of the Orange Unified School District. As a student, she attended Esplanade Elementary, Fairhaven Elementary, Santiago Jr. High and El Modena High School. Mrs. Roach continued her education at San Diego State University where she earned a Bachelor's degree and an elementary teaching credential. She then graduated from Cal State Fullerton with a Master's degree in Educational Administration and an administrative credential.

Mrs. Roach currently resides in the Anaheim Hills area with her husband Russ of 29 years. She has two children Kyle, age 24, and Lara, age 19. She enjoys spending time with her family and her two golden retrievers Brody and Bailey. Mrs. Roach is excited to be a Redhawk and looks forward to continuing to work with the wonderful families in the Running Springs community!

Please Drive Safely

Students
are
Back in School



Santiago Charter *Middle School*

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

James D'Agostino
Principal

Jim D'Agostino is in his third year as principal at Santiago Charter Middle School. He takes pride in being visible to parents and students, and demonstrates this by greeting everyone each morning as they enter the Santiago campus.

His philosophy of making everyone feel welcomed and valued at the school, while also continuing to strive toward academic excellence, is part of the leadership style he brings to the school and school community. His positive attitude and energy has helped to create a very welcoming culture at Santiago.

Mr. D'Agostino is completing his doctorate in educational leadership, and is currently researching how parental involvement with students in the school environment can impact student learning. One of the things that make Santiago Charter Middle School unique is that each Santiago parent is required to serve 12 service hours per year. This promotes parental involvement, and helps form a partnership with students, parents and teachers. Mr. D'Agostino is on pace to complete his doctorate in November of 2013.

Prior to becoming the principal at Santiago, Mr. D'Agostino taught both general education and special education classes, and has been a school site administrator for the past eight years in the Orange Unified School District. Mr. "D" (as the students call him) once owned a restaurant in Buffalo, New York, and was also involved in a family business as a licensed insurance agent prior to entering the field of education. He loves working at Santiago, as it ties into both the business and educational aspects of his professional background.

Mr. D'Agostino credits his beautiful wife Valerie for all of her support in his personal life, and credits his staff and faculty for all of Santiago's success. This includes receiving the honor of being named a California Distinguished School in 2011, and the 92-point Academic Performance Index (API) growth the school has earned from 2009 to 2013!

He looks forward to continue serving the Santiago community, and work in partnership with all of the schools within the El Modena High School attendance area and the Orange Unified School District, to ensure that every student receives the best possible education.

Sycamore *Elementary*

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

Erika Krohn
Principal

Mrs. Erika Krohn takes great pride in leading Sycamore Elementary for a fourth school year. Last year was an exciting year for the school! Sycamore exited Program Improvement and received a nomination for the National Blue Ribbon Award. In addition, Mrs. Krohn was recognized as Administrator of the Year from Leadership Team Orange and an Outstanding Administrator from the Sycamore Parent Teacher Association. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the united effort of Sycamore's incredibly hard working teachers and staff.

Mrs. Krohn earned her Bachelor's degree from California State University, Fullerton, a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from Chapman University, and a Master's Degree from National University. Prior to coming to Sycamore, she taught 4th, 5th and 6th grades for several years in Rowland Heights with a concentration on English Language Development. She was a vice principal/special projects coordinator for three years, and a principal for six years at a Title One school in La Puente.

On a personal note, Mrs. Krohn is committed to public education in order to better the world for all children, including her 10 year old daughter, Kendall, and 7 year old son, Wyatt. She is an avid reader-both for entertainment and education. Her favorite activities outside of school are snow skiing and biking with her husband, Jim, and children.

Mrs. Krohn is looking forward to keeping the positive momentum moving forward at Sycamore. The staff and community have been working collaboratively to provide extraordinary learning experiences for Sycamore students.

Serrano *Elementary*

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

Dr. Bobbie Lansman
Principal

Dr. Bobbie Lansman began her tenure as an administrator in OUSD in 1994 and has been afforded many unique and memorable opportunities. She holds a doctorate in educational leadership from USC, a master's degree in reading and language arts, a Bachelor of Arts degree summa cum laude in social studies, and three teaching credentials. She has been principal at four different OUSD schools, earning Distinguished School and Title I Academic Achievement Awards by working with wonderful and talented school teams.

Dr. Lansman also had the honor and privilege of planning and opening Running Springs Elementary School. She has found each administrative experience to be truly dynamic and fulfilling. She will begin her sixth year at Serrano Elementary School and her 19th year as principal. She was recognized as the 2006 OUSD Administrator of the Year.

Dr. Lansman is a native Californian and currently lives in the city of Fullerton with her husband. She feels blessed to have a wonderful family, including two fabulous grandchildren. Her younger daughter is completing her medical residency in Las Vegas, Nevada. As an OUSD principal, she feels truly fortunate to have had such diverse, challenging and amazing administrative opportunities.

Dr. Lansman is looking forward to an exciting 50th Anniversary Jubilee celebration with the wonderful Serrano community.

Taft *Elementary*

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

Antionette Coe
Principal

Mrs. Antoinette Coe is beginning her fifth year as the principal at Taft Elementary School. She is looking forward to a positive start of the year. "We have implemented many instructional strategies and academic programs that have produced positive results," said Mrs. Coe. "Between our wonderful staff and all our new and returning students, we can't wait to get this year started!"

Mrs. Coe has been with Orange Unified School District for 12 years, serving as a literacy coach, teacher and vice principal for both La Veta and Lampson Elementary Schools. She was born and raised in Southern California. She received her bachelor's degree and a multiple-subject teaching credential from the University of California, San Marcos. Mrs. Coe earned her administrative credential from the University of California, Irvine and a master's degree in administration from California State University, Fullerton.

Currently, Mrs. Coe resides in Huntington Beach with her husband, Eric, a vice president for a local staffing firm. She has three children, a junior in high school, a freshman at California State University, Chico, and a junior at the University of California, Berkeley. In addition to her busy days as a principal, Mrs. Coe belongs to Kiwanis of Orange, where she volunteers her time helping others. She is passionate about learning and wants to assist all her students in their quest for a successful future.

West Orange *Elementary*

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

Dr. Jennifer Bourgeois
Principal

Orange Unified is happy to welcome back Jennifer Bourgeois, Ph.D. Jennifer feels honored to continue to serve as the Principal of West Orange Elementary School and be part of the Warrior Family. She is excited about the upcoming year!

Dr. Bourgeois earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Pure Mathematics from the University of California at Riverside, a Master of Arts degree in Education with a Crosscultural Language & Academic Development emphasis from California Baptist University. She earned her Ph.D. in Urban Leadership from Claremont Graduate University. She is beginning her sixteenth year in education. During that time, she has been a teacher at the elementary and secondary levels, a mentor, a coach, a supervisor and an administrator.

Dr. Bourgeois looks forward to working the families and students during the upcoming year as the West Orange community reaches their dreams.

Yorba *Middle School*

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

Tracy Knibb
Principal

Tracy Knibb is proud to be the new principal of Yorba Middle School. After serving the last two years at Yorba as the assistant principal, she is excited to be taking the lead for the Toros! Prior to coming to Orange Unified School District, she was an English teacher and Title I coordinator for eight years in the Downey Unified School District. She holds a bachelor's degree in English education and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction.

The Yorba staff is energized and anticipating another great year! With student achievement as the focus, the staff is committed to providing students with interactive, engaging, and rigorous courses. With strong academics and impressive technology, visual arts, and music programs, Mrs. Knibb knows she is fortunate to be part of such an amazing team!

Mrs. Knibb is married with two daughters, Jocelyn, 7, and Zoey, 8. She enjoys reading and writing and strives to bring the passion of books to all students. She believes, as author Victor Hugo did: "To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark."

Villa Park *Elementary*

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

Debra Larson
Principal

Principal Debra Larson is a longtime Orange County Native, educated in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District and living for 36 years in the Anaheim Hills area. She has taught for 26 years in Orange Unified School District (OUSD). Throughout her career, she taught kindergarten through sixth grade, spent three years as an assistant principal and six years as principal at Anaheim Hills Elementary School. She was chosen as the California Teacher of the Year among the state's first year teachers in 1986. She currently serves as the principal of Villa Park Elementary, where she has been for three years.

Larson earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Southern California. She did not choose a career in teaching until her youngest daughter was nearing school age. After serving as a parent volunteer in her daughter's classroom, she decided to pursue her teaching credential at California State University, Fullerton and began teaching when her youngest daughter was in first grade. She later received her administrative credential from Azusa Pacific University.

"It is a privilege to be the principal of Villa Park Elementary," Larson said. "I know I have chosen the perfect profession, and I gain energy from the students, staff and parents I work with every day. What else do I need in a profession, knowing that I can make a difference in the life of one child.

Villa Park *High School*

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

Ed Howard
Principal

Preparing students for what is next in their lives has been what Ed Howard has been doing for the past 25 years in the Orange Unified School District. As a Social Studies teacher and coach at Orange High School, Ed learned the importance of quality-first instruction and creating a learning environment where students feel welcomed and are inspired to reach beyond their own comfort zone. Coaching baseball and football for over 11 years taught Ed that students want to be challenged and be held to high expectations. He learned that students will live up to the expectations of those that are leading them if those expectations are reasonable and the student is motivated to be successful. As an Athletic Director and Director of Athletics for the District, Ed learned how to build programs by including all shareholders and getting the right people in position to create and sustain quality.

Starting his eighth year as the Principal at Villa Park High School, Ed draws on the lessons he has learned and relies on the relationships he has built to help guide VPHS into being the highest quality high school it can be. Doing things the SPARTAN way has become synonymous with greatness. Ed and his administration work hard every day to make VPHS a school that is a source of pride for the community it serves. Once again VPHS is a U.S. News and World Report top ranked school and has earned the California Distinguished School distinction. In the classroom, on the playing fields, or in the community it is Ed's goal to have the Spartans lead the way.

Ed was born in the Bronx, NY and moved to Orange in the 6th grade. He attended Serrano, CV and VPHS. Ed went on to Cypress JC and then received a scholarship to attend California Lutheran University where he received his degree in Political Science and his Single Subject teaching credential. Toward the end of his seventeen years in the classroom Ed went back to school and earned his Master of Science in Educational Administration.

Still living in Orange, Ed is blessed to have a wonderful and supportive family. His wife Amiee is his greatest motivation to succeed. His daughter Savannah and son Eddie are his greatest source of pride. Ed enjoys traveling, camping, and spending time with family and friends.

City of Orange
cityoforange.org

Community Services Department

Special Events

Hotline (714) 744-7278

Treats in the Streets Autumn Festival

Thursday, October 24, 2013
Old Towne Orange Plaza • 4–7 p.m.
Celebrate the fall season with an evening full of fun activities for the entire family to enjoy. Activities include games, trick or treating, a costume parade and entertainment for participants of all ages. Our local non-profit groups will provide delicious food items and tasty treats for a nominal charge. Parents, please leave masks and pets at home.

Veterans Day Tribute

Monday, November 11, 2013
Veteran Memorial at Depot Park
100 N. Atchison St. Orange, 92866 • 2 p.m.
Help us honor past veterans and current military personnel with patriotic music and inspirational speeches. If you are a veteran or active military member interested in participating in the program or you have a photo to share for the display at the event, please contact Emily Robinson at (714) 744-5599 or erobinson@cityoforange.org.

Tree Lighting Ceremony & Candlelight Choir Procession

Sunday, December 8, 2013
Old Towne Orange Plaza • 3:30 p.m.
Join us for an evening of holiday cheer and family fun as we sing traditional carols of the season with the Orange Community Master Chorale led by Musical Director, Michael Short. Our local non-profit groups will provide delicious food items and tasty treats for a nominal charge.

Thank You to our 2013 Whole Orange Community Partners!

Our special events would not be possible without the generous contributions of our Community Partners! To receive information on how you can become a Community Partner and market your business in Orange, please contact Megan Hanley at (714) 744-7293 or mhanley@cityoforange.org for a brochure.

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
ISF ORANGE INTERNATIONAL STREET FAIR
"Old Towne Al" Ricci Realty
SOUTH COAST COLLEGE Established 1981
Wilson Automotive Group

Aha! FOR KIDS™

OC Martial Arts
DEDICATED TO THE FINEST INSTRUCTION

$29 New Customers Only 4-Week **Adult Boxing/ Kickboxing** Trial
With this coupon. Not valid with any other offers or prior purchases. Offer expires 11-30-13
OC Martial Arts & Fitness
Orange • 714-654-7558

$49 **Kids 4-Week Taekwondo** Trial **+ Free Uniform or Kickboxing** Trial **+ Free Gloves**
With this coupon. Not valid with any other offers or prior purchases. Offer expires 11-30-13
OC Martial Arts & Fitness
Orange • 714-654-7558

No Registration Fee For Any Program
Kids' Classes Help Build Confidence and Self Control
Adult Classes – Get in Shape and Relieve Stress

3126 East Chapman • Orange • **(714) 654-7558 • www.OrangeCountyMA.com**

AN ESSENTIAL PART OF YOUR BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST.

- Individualized Instruction
- Low Student:Instructor Ratio
- Basic Thinking & Critical Thinking Math
- Reading Comprehension
- Writing Skills
- Ages 3 and up

Eye Level
I am the key.
LEARN MORE TODAY
myeyelevel.com

Anaheim Hills
410 S. Anaheim Hills Rd.
Anaheim Hills, CA 92807
714 282 1005

Irvine North
14795 Jeffrey Rd., #100
Irvine, CA 92618
949 287 3667

Huntington Beach
10111 Adams Ave.,#107
Huntington Beach, CA 92646
949 287 3667

the YMCA
FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

ENSURE A BRIGHTER FUTURE
YMCA OF ORANGE

Licensed Childcare
The YMCA of Orange provides quality, affordable school age childcare for children and youth. We provide a nutritious snack and a well-rounded curriculum that is designed to challenge and entertain your children and help them realize their full potential. Homework support is provided each afternoon, Monday through Thursday.

Indian Guide and Indian Princess Program
For over 80 years, the Y has helped create life long memories and parent/child bonds for Big Braves (dads), Little Braves (sons), and Little Princesses (daughters) through this impactful father-child program. Join our historic program and participate in activities that include: Yucaipa camp out, monthly tribal meetings, the Indian 500 car race, and much more!

146 N. Grand St. Orange, CA 92866
P: (714) 633-9622 www.ymcaoforange.org

It's Not Fair to Me

Kate Karp

You know that you have something special when a couple of guys with a collective résumé that includes *professional blues musician, innovative educator, performance artist, children's book author* and *NPR commentator* put out a children's CD. The songs, which uniquely deal with childhood agonies and annoyances—hat swiping at recess, copycatting, unfairness—are more than clever; they're backed with music and harmonies catchy enough to plant earworms for days in children and adults alike.

Bill Harley and Keith Munslow are old friends and fellow performers who decided to combine their impressive talents to create a superior project. The title song is catchy and might conjure up the Firesign Theater for parents and grandparents who dug its oddball counterculture humor in the '60s and '70s. "Stinkeye" relates a superpower that many of us, at one time or other, doubtless wished we had. The hilarious liner notes describe the song as "a blender drink made from Love Potion #9 and Screamin' Jay Hawkins"; to the artists' immense credit, it delivers. There's an ode to an eraser, which every child knows is the best Delete/Do Not Send key for unflattering pencilings of the teacher. And "Dog Named Bo" is outstanding in my mind not just because of the clever lyrics and the effective rhythms provided by handclapping and a cardboard box but because Dad adopted Bo from the shelter. *It's Not Fair to Me* is far more than fair to me, and you'll love it, too!

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

At Halstrom Academy
MAKE UP, CATCH UP...GET AHEAD!
1:1 Instruction • Flexible Scheduling • Grades 6-12

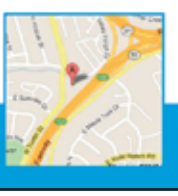
ONE TEACHER. ONE STUDENT. NO LIMITS.

Let Halstrom's 1:1 Classes Be a Resource for You!
Credit Recovery • Grade Remediation • Course Advancement

If you attend a public school, Halstrom can help you make up classes, replace grades, or get a jump start on preparing for college **with your counselor's approval.**

- More than 100 courses in math, science, English, and foreign language
- Transfer credits back to your middle or high school
- College prep and AP courses that meet college requirements
- WASC Accredited - UC/CSU Certified - NCAA Approved
- On-campus or online programs

Enroll Today!
www.halstromacademy.org/Fall OR
call 714-705-6973



Halstrom Academy | Anaheim Hills
WASC Accredited - UC/CSU Certified - NCAA Approved

OC Dept of Ed • *From Page 3*

Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Bullying among youths may take place in a variety of aggressive actions. The most common are physical, verbal, and psychological. Behaviors can include hitting, kicking, pushing, taunting, name-calling, threatening, rumor spreading, manipulation, exclusion, extortion, and intimidation. Girls are the primary offenders of verbal and psychological bullying, especially when it involves the cyber world.

There are potential characteristics and warning signs that youth who bully others and their targets may display. The child that bullies may have higher levels of conduct problems, display a positive attitude toward violence and a strong need to dominate, have a confident view of themselves, and little empathy toward the target. For the child who is the target of bullying behavior, warning signs could include, a drop in grades, lack of interest in school, refusal to go to school, complaints of stomachaches or headaches, and withdrawal from family.

As educators, we take seriously the responsibility to support student development, and take advantage of the opportunities to model and teach positive behaviors such as respect, responsibility, honesty, and compassion. Since 2011, OCDE has collaborated with the Orange County Health Care Agency to host the Annual Bullying Prevention Conference in June. The conference brings together the Orange County Sheriff's Department, real life stories from students and their families who have experienced bullying, and other community agencies who present best practices and information on bullying and cyber bullying.

We welcome parents to take an active role in shaping their school and neighborhood climate. The leaders of tomorrow are in our classrooms today and we must all work together to create positive environments for teaching and learning.

For additional information, visit www.ocde.us/SchoolSafety/Pages/More-Safe-School-Resources.aspx or contact Christine Laehle, MPH, Program Specialist, Safe Schools, at 714-327-1067 or claehle@ocde.us.

Miller Children's Hospital Long Beach

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/933-KIDS • MCHLB.org

Childhood Cancer, What You Need to Know

Amanda Termuhlen, MD
Medical Director Jonathan Jaques Children's Cancer Center

Childhood cancer is rare. The odds of your child developing cancer by the age of 19, is approximately 1 in 330. Still, as a parent, you need to be aware. Cancers in children are often hard to recognize. The symptoms can overlap with common illnesses or injuries and cover the early signs of cancer.

- Childhood Cancer Signs and Symptoms:
- Continued, unexplained weight loss
- Headaches, often with early morning vomiting
- Increased swelling or persistent pain in bones, joints, back or legs
- Lump or mass, especially in the abdomen, neck, chest, pelvis or armpits
- Development of excessive bruising, bleeding or rash
- Constant infections
- A whitish color behind the pupil
- Nausea which persists or vomiting without nausea
- Constant tiredness or noticeable paleness
- Eye or vision changes which occur suddenly and persist
- Recurrent or persistent fevers of unknown origin

Make sure your child has regular medical check-ups and watch for any unusual signs or symptoms that don't go away. An early diagnosis is the best way for a child to beat a cancer diagnosis.

Tell your pediatrician if you are worried about any prolonged symptoms that your child has. Your child's doctor can work with you to assess your child's risk, by reviewing family medical history, a physical examination, or screenings.

Bicycle 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 subject line)

Entries must be received by September 30, 2013
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a $20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

A special thank you to
Anya, Marina and Ivan Dulyanai,
for the words for this Word Search

BASKET	FRAME	LIGHT
BRAKES	GLOVES	PEDALS
CHAIN	GOOSENECK	REFLECTOR
CHAIN GUARD	GRIPS	SEAT
CRANK	HANDLEBARS	SPOKES
FENDERS	HELMET	TIRES
FORK	KICKSTAND	WHEELS

H	A	N	D	L	E	B	A	R	S	K	M	X	S	A
C	M	P	S	D	N	A	T	S	K	C	I	K	P	H
H	K	V	E	T	Y	R	E	F	L	E	C	T	O	R
A	A	N	W	D	E	K	R	E	V	N	A	F	K	R
I	I	Y	A	H	A	M	B	N	R	E	I	L	E	T
N	N	T	Z	R	E	L	L	D	S	S	G	A	S	Y
G	F	R	B	T	C	E	S	E	V	O	L	G	H	T
U	S	L	M	G	T	M	L	R	H	O	C	G	Y	C
A	E	K	P	C	W	A	I	S	G	G	I	G	G	H
R	J	K	S	P	I	R	G	D	N	C	N	F	S	X
D	X	R	K	R	O	F	H	A	J	P	W	Z	L	V
L	P	W	S	E	R	I	T	B	R	R	R	W	K	Y

Congratulations to Anya, Marina and Ivan Dulyanai
Winner of the June Word Search Contest!

You have a **SHARE** in his future.

THE WORLD IS AT HIS FEET. ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

Help keep it that way—by opening a ScholarShare 529 College Savings Plan account. With a wide variety of investment portfolios and low fees, ScholarShare is how Californians save for college: tax-free, qualified withdrawals for tuition, books and some room and board costs for use at most colleges, universities, vocational and trade schools. With just a $25 minimum contribution, you can start making his dreams a reality.

SCHOLARSHARE

CALIFORNIA'S 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN

scholarshare.com

TIAA CREF Financial Services

Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the ScholarShare College Savings Plan. Visit ScholarShare.com for a Plan Disclosure Booklet containing this and other information. Read it carefully. Before investing in a 529 plan, consider whether the state where you or your Beneficiary resides has a 529 plan that offers favorable state tax benefits that are available if you invest in that state's 529 plan. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed, and there is a risk of investment loss. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., Program Manager. The ScholarShare 529 Twitter and Facebook pages are managed by the State of California.

C5317