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# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*



## Covering the Carlsbad Unified School District

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 36

[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)

MAY–OCTOBER 2012

### SUPERINTENDENT



#### A Great Eight Years

Last October, I submitted a letter to the Board of Trustees which began, "It is with both a sense of satisfaction and a touch of sadness that I submit my resignation to you for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2012. Satisfaction, because as a governance team we have worked well together through difficult times focused on doing our best for the students of Carlsbad; sadness, of course, because Carlsbad Unified has been my professional home since 2004."

In fact, not just the District but the entire Carlsbad community has been a most welcoming home to me and my family over the past eight years. As I approach the end of my service as your Superintendent, I look back over the many successes we have shared and storms we have weathered together.

The October 2007 firestorms displayed Carlsbad's mettle. With blazes raging in North County, we quickly transformed Carlsbad High School into a shelter. Within a few hours, City personnel joined CUSD Board members, administrators, staff, students and other volunteers in making the facility into a safe haven for people and pets. I felt a strong sense of pride.

That cohesion would be amplified three Octobers later when the shooting at Kelly Elementary brought out the very best in our community. No one wants to relive the incident that many of us will never forget, but the example of public agencies and people working together for the safety of our students and security of our

*SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 14*



Karen Evans and her students.



**Kelli Moors**  
President

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### Choosing Our Next Visionary Leader

One of the most important responsibilities of the Carlsbad Unified School District (CUSD) Board of Trustees is selecting the best and most qualified person to serve as District Superintendent. The Superintendent oversees all daily operations of our District and carries out Board policy and direction.

After eight years of notable service, Superintendent John A. Roach, Ed.D., is retiring effective June 30, 2012. The Board regrets the loss of this fine leader, but is taking the necessary steps to secure the next great Superintendent. All five Board members are committed to securing the optimum combination of leadership, talent and experience to meet our District's needs and to ensure continued preparation of our students for success in education, career and life.

To fill the position, the Board initiated a statewide Superintendent Search and enlisted the services of a three-person consultant team of educators, including two former superintendents. During February, the consultants conducted focus group session with 11 District and community groups. Participants included individuals representing CUSD administrators, employee associations, parents and students; City of Carlsbad; Carlsbad Educational Foundation; business, higher education and the general public. Discussion

*SEE BOARD OF EDUCATION PAGE 14*

*By Marilyn Campbell  
CUSD Communications Consultant*

From health technicians to instructional aides and custodians to bus drivers, without our more than 400 classified employees, teachers couldn't effectively teach, students couldn't adequately learn, and our schools could not function.

Each month, the Board selects a Classified Employee of the Month. At the end of the school year, a Classified Employee of the Year is chosen. Here are this year's designees.

September's honoree was Cindy Lutz, the Kelly Elementary School health technician, affectionately known as Nurse Cindy. She also is the school's famous Birthday Fairy. Every Wednesday, she sings "Happy Birthday"

*SEE WORLD CLASS! • PAGE 15*

### On the Beaten Track



Breana Jemison is on track, athletically and academically.  
(Please see page 3 for story.)

## The City of Carlsbad

1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/434-2830 • www.carlsbad.gov

## Stay connected



**Kristina Ray**  
Communications  
Manager

Can you believe another school year has flown by? As you finalize your summer plans, be sure to check out some of the great programs the city has to keep kids happy, healthy and learning all summer long.

You probably already know about all our great camps for school-aged kids, but did you know the city also offers Pee Wee camps and a summer preschool program for kids 18 months to 5 years old? Don't let older brothers and sisters have all the fun, sign up your little ones too. It's great for social development and lots of fun.

Speaking of kids camps, this summer's offerings even make me want to be a kid again. Science, cooking and LEGO engineering are ever popular, and each brings some new twists this summer. New offerings include Be the Cake Boss, Iron Chef Jr. Edition and JEDI Engineering with LEGO. And, after a stressful school year, who wouldn't love "Spa-Tastic Camp for Girls," another new city camp this summer.

Kidz, Explorer and Counselor-in-Training teen camps are full day camps featuring crafts, sports, team building activities and field trips to local destinations. Each camp is geared toward a specific age group, providing a safe place for new friendships to flourish through shared experiences.

Got a budding sports star in the family? Try the city's wide variety of sports camps, such as soccer, golf, tennis—even skateboarding and dodge ball. Tweens and teens can learn about Web design, animation, video games and green screen technology in new science and exploration camps this summer.

Summer is prime time at the city's Monroe Street Pool. The city offers lessons for swimmers of all abilities and ages – group and individual. Don't forget that the pool is also open for open swim time all summer long. Check the city's website for times.

SEE THE CITY OF CARLSBAD PAGE 5

## Stay connected all summer long



City events, activities and news  
[cityofcarlsbad](#)

Also @

[carlsbadcitylibrary](#)  
[carlsbadparksandrec](#)



**Kay Coop**  
Founder / Publisher



We are celebrating our 8th Anniversary publishing the excellence in the CUSD. It has been a privilege knowing Dr. Roach and launching *School News* under his leadership. We wish him well in his retirement and thank him for his support of our efforts. We look forward to working with the new superintendent.

We do not have a contest in this issue due to space; however, congratulations to Emma Gibson who was the winner in the last issue. Our next issue is November 7. Have a wonderful summer.

Congratulations Class of 2012!

## School News

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[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](#)

Covering the  
CARLSBAD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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# On the Beaten Track

Marilyn Campbell, CUSD  
Communications Consultant

Running. Swimming. Tennis. Golf. These are the kinds of athletic endeavors that might come to mind when you think of girls' high school sports, but Carlsbad High's extracurricular activities give students of many interests an opportunity to pursue their passion.

Take senior Breana Jemison. Last year, as a junior, this preeminent track and basketball standout broke the Carlsbad High shot-put record of 40 feet, then captured the 2011 California State Girls Title with a 43-foot, 1-1/4-inch shot.

In February 2012, Breana received the 2011 Amateur Significant Achievement Award in Track and Field at the San Diego Hall of Champions' 66th Salute to the Champions gala. At the gala, NBC TV sports director Jim Laslavic highlighted Breana's accomplishments as a video displayed her athleticism on the field.

Not content to rest on her laurels, or to rest at all, Breana recently told the CHS Lancer Link's Josh Lee, "Now I hope to break the national record of 53 feet!" When she's not chasing that goal, she's often on the basketball court, shooting and practicing fundamentals.

Academics are equally fundamental to this driven young lady, who "sports" a 3.6 GPA. It's no wonder she is mulling over her many college options.

Whatever path she chooses, it's certain that Breana Jemison will always stay on track to achieve her goals.



**Jim Laslavic congratulates Breana Jemison.**

# Need for Skilled Workers

The nation is in the midst of the most serious economic downturn since the 1930's, with California leading the way with the highest unemployment rates in the nation. Despite this, the coastal North San Diego County corridor offers hope for future job seekers—from Carmel Valley to Camp Pendleton, the cities within the MiraCosta College district continue to grow, and with that growth comes a defined need for skilled workers in the professional, scientific and technical areas.

According to the California Department of Employment Development, an additional 12,740 jobs in the technical field will be added within the MiraCosta College district by 2020. These jobs are anticipated to be mostly higher wage positions with earnings of

more than \$53,000 a year. In response to this, MiraCosta College is poised to take a strong role in training our future local workforce, ensuring that not only will our students start great careers, but that they will be able to live, work and obtain a higher education in North San Diego County.

MiraCosta College has just completed its ten-year education and facilities plan—the 2011 Comprehensive Master Plan—that calls for the expansion of its science,

**SEE MIRA COSTA COLLEGE PAGE 14**



**MiraCosta College nursing students achieve a 92-100% pass rate on the registered nursing licensure exam and have an 85- 95 % employment rate in local hospitals and healthcare agencies.**



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COVERING THE CARLSBAD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MAY—OCTOBER 2012 **3**

# Aviara Oaks Elementary (K-5)

6900 Ambrosia Way, Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 760/331-6000 • <http://www.aviaraoakselementary.com/>



**Kimberly Huesing**  
Principal

## Thursdays with Fernando

By Kimberly Huesing, Principal,  
and Angelika Arganda, Second-Grade teacher

Each fall, the leadership team at Aviara Oaks Elementary School invests time in reviewing our data on student achievement in order to determine goals for the coming year. This year, our leadership team saw what is called the “achievement gap” between our English-learning and our English-proficient students, so the team wrote a goal to address English-learner performance, with the desire to increase English-learner performance.



Fernando enjoying reading.



Josh is reading to Fernando,  
the boy who inspired the program.



Engaging students in a game and encouraging conversations by using appropriate subject/verb agreement and enriched vocabulary.

Thursdays with Fernando was developed in adherence to our goal to improve the performance of our struggling English learners after second-grade teacher Mrs. Arganda identified a concern with one of her students, Fernando. Mrs. Arganda realized that Fernando had no one to read to him at home and that he lacked the opportunity to practice reading, writing and speaking English outside school. Mrs. Arganda remembered from her teaching preparation program that one of the best ways for English language learners to acquire and practice new vocabulary was through play. She thought about integrating the resources of our nearby middle school—student volunteers could be paired with our elementary-age English language learners for conversation practice, positive relationship building and the development of academic vocabulary that could transfer to the classroom.

## Oh, Boy! It's Thursday!

Together, Mrs. Arganda and Principal Huesing came up with the name Thursdays with Fernando after speaking about the book *Tuesdays with Morrie*, which is about a mutually nurturing and beneficial relationship between a college professor and one of his previous students. And this was exactly what we had in mind for Fernando as well as the rest of our English-learner students!

Since early October, 20 English learners from AO Elementary School meet with 20 advanced students from AO Middle School for snacks, conversations and games. The AOM students are encouraged to support the elementary students' speech and vocabulary by modeling grammatically correct sentences and expecting the same back from their friends. The AOM students have built strong relationships with their little buddies and help our elementary students feel connected to school and important. They ask their new friends if they have finished their homework or if they have studied for their spelling tests. In turn, the elementary students look up to their AOM big buddies, and both groups agree that Thursdays are the best days at school!

# Aviara Oaks Middle School (6-8)

6880 Ambrosia Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 760/331-6100 • <http://aoms.schoolloop.com/>



**Megan Coelho**  
Principal

## So Many Electives...

Spring is here, and Aviara Oaks Middle School Falcons have been preparing their migration into the next school year. This includes students selecting what elective they will take next year. AOMS offers a variety of interest-based electives. A special part of becoming a middle school student is the benefit of having elective classes. For the first time, students are able to choose elective classes that explore personal interests and possible careers as well as provide enrichment and exploration into different content areas. Electives in schools are more important than ever as we prepare students for highly competitive universities. Universities today are intentionally looking for students who can do more than excel academically. They want well-rounded students.

At AOMS, the hard part is not deciding which elective to take but deciding which elective not to take. One way to get exposure to different classes is to sign up for the exploratory wheel. The wheel rotates through different electives every nine weeks, thereby exposing students to a variety of new experiences to help them choose an area to pursue in greater depth in the following years. There is also the option of semester and yearlong electives, including drama, band, orchestra, art, photography, yearbook, broadcasting, science technology, AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination), ASB (Associated Student Body), Spanish and academic-support classes that provide extra assistance during the school day to help students to excel.



## Fostering Artistic Accomplishment

Electives foster a sense of community as students engage and share an interest in like-minded activities. They help students feel connected to the school, build school pride and engage students in the learning environment. Many elective classes at AOMS include opportunities to showcase work and compete against other schools. Just this year alone, AOMS students have won numerous awards and competitions in their elective classes. The AOMS drama department won the First Place Sweepstakes Trophy Overall Top School award at the Drama Teacher's Association of Southern California's 92nd Shakespeare Festival. The drama department also put on a full-cast incredible musical production of *Beauty and the Beast*. AOMS band students won the coveted Esprit de Corp award at this year's Disneyland Music in the Parks competition and received numerous trophies for their performance. AOMS orchestra performed at in a professional venue with the Young Artists Symphony. They also received among the highest rankings at the orchestra festival and performed at a major theme park. Broadcast won first place for the best middle school music video at the Student Television Network 2012 Convention in Dallas. Photography and art will place their pieces at the competition at the Del Mar Fair this May.

As we celebrate our student achievements today, we can't help but be excited for when our Falcons return to Aviara in the fall to gain the knowledge and experiences necessary to soar successfully toward their future goals and destinations.

# Buena Vista Elementary (K-6)

1330 Buena Vista Way, Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5400 • <http://buenavista.schoolloop.com/>



## 50-Year Celebration: Order of the Day!

Congratulations to the entire Buena Vista Elementary School Community! If you haven't heard, the Buena Vista School closure was one of many cost-cutting measures considered this year as part of the school district's ongoing budget crisis. However, Carlsbad Unified School District Superintendent

Dr. John Roach's recommendation to the school board was that the school remain open. The school board agreed, voting 4-1 to keep Buena Vista open, and suggested that the school build on their recent successes while focusing on innovation and adding a fee-based preschool to the campus to build its population. This is a great relief for this tight-knit North Carlsbad community!

With this decision, the community can now focus on its upcoming 50-Year Anniversary celebration taking place Thursday, May 24 from 4-7 p.m. at Buena Vista's campus. The entire Carlsbad community is invited to participate in what is destined to be a memorable event. Food, music, classroom walk-throughs, iPad demonstrations, a student art show, silent-auction opportunities, raffles, and fun and games are all slated to make a memorable event for all. Class photos covering most of the school's 50 years will be available.

If you or anyone you know attended Buena Vista, please come to the event. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer at the event, please call our office.



Hana McAnally shows off her t-shirt.



Principal Howard, Student Daniel Lopez, Demi Ortega, Leslie Laurer, Ali Dolan, representatives donating 50 Year Anniversary t-shirts for all Preschool through grade 5 students and staff.

## CITY OF CARLSBAD • FROM PAGE 2



Kristina Ray  
Communications  
Manager

If your family is planning to attend the TGIF Jazz in the Parks concerts this summer, be sure to check out the city's free Art At Jazz: July 6 and 27 and August 17, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Participants are greeted by professional artist educators, and many talented volunteers guide young concert goers in a planned hands-on art making activity. Come join in the fun and music, and another great family arts program.

Summer reading programs foster a lifelong love of reading and may advance literacy and academic performance for students during summer months. All three city libraries will host the annual Summer Reading Program from June 18 to Aug. 3. Best of all, this popular program featuring fun activities, reading incentives and entertainment

# Calavera Hills Elementary (K-6)

4104 Tamarack Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-6300 • <http://ches.schoolloop.com/>



## Much to Celebrate

2012 Teacher of the Year, Christine Kunkel, was celebrated and honored at a schoolwide assembly on April 6, 2012. As an integral part of our first grade team, Mrs. Kunkel makes learning come alive for her students. Her goal is to build a foundation and love for learning in our youngest students. Content is made interactive through songs, movement, manipulatives, games, collaborative learning- all with specific purpose and objective. She is an expert in meeting the needs of the variety of learning styles and abilities within her classroom. Her passion is truly for children and their ability to succeed with whatever disabilities and/or obstacles life has dealt them. She is persistent in her efforts, compassionate in her approach, and unyielding in her expectations for their success. Her students love her and achieve. Her families embrace her as part of their own families. We are so fortunate to have Mrs. Kunkel as part of our Coyote family!

Coyote Cavern Productions celebrated another successful musical production as they presented Fiddler on the Roof, Jr. With a cast and crew of over 115 elementary and middle school students in grades 3-8, and under the direction of producer/director extraordinaire Katie Gardner, this year's production included 14 musical numbers in a story rich with Broadway history and tradition. Katie Gardner, commenting on this year's cast and crew, "These young people gave every ounce of their talent and energy toward making this a remarkable experience for performer and audience alike." Congratulations for another great run!

Congratulations to our Learning Center staff at CHE for being recognized as our nominee to the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce's Outstanding Educational Program. Steps to Learning is an interactive, collaborative model for both students and teachers. It offers a three-pronged approach to building student proficiency and self-esteem. The first level of support is the regrouping within grade levels of students to create instructional groups which are comparable in ability and mastery of grade level standards for both math and language arts. With these regroups, each teacher can offer small group instruction which is more targeted to student skill and concept development. The second level provides a tandem instructional program within the core curriculum under the guidance of special education teachers Kari Neilson, Rory Marner and Debra Ainsworth, speech and language specialist Cyndi Schmitz, and psychologist Tracy Smith. Instruction is further defined and refined as students receive core instruction in a small group setting. Variations exist in instructional strategies which are best practices for struggling learners- i.e. more hands-on activities, more preview and reteach, more modeled skill and guided practice, more ability to ask questions at a pace more conducive to their level of understanding. This grouping allows students to work toward the expectation of grade level standard proficiency. It also allows all students access to additional support and remediation as the service is provided within the structure of the classroom. Finally, these groupings allow for fluidity within and among instructional groups. Weekly collaboration allows teachers and staff to identify and target student groups and needs specific to each skill and concept introduced. As each student maintains a different "window of learning", each has the opportunity for support as they navigate through the grade level curriculum.

Congratulations to our students and staff!

for all ages is free! This year's themes are "Dream Big – Read" for children in kindergarten through 6th grade and "Own the Night" for 7th through 12th graders. And, there's a special program for babies. Parents are invited to participate in the adult program, "Between the Covers," and be entered into weekly drawings for bookstore gift certificates.

If, like me, you're exhausted already just thinking about all this fun, don't forget that down time is important, too, and summer is the perfect time to explore city parks. You probably already have your faves, but I encourage you to check out our full listing of parks on the city website and explore a few new ones. Each of our city parks has its own personality and is just waiting to be discovered – 25 in all! Bring a picnic, meet up with friends and enjoy another great Carlsbad summer.

To find out more about all these great activities, visit [www.carlsbadca.gov](http://www.carlsbadca.gov).

# Calavera Hills Middle School (6–8)

4104 Tamarack Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-6400 • <http://calavera.schoolloop.com/>

**Carol LaBreche, Acting Principal**

## Award-Winning Coyotes

The staff and students at Calvera Hills Middle School (CHMS) are talented, creative and innovative, if we do say so ourselves! Recently we have had some big wins in the areas of arts, science, and academics.



**Award winning drama students at Shakespeare Festival**

The PTA Reflections contest theme this year was "Diversity Is...." Two CHMS students were honored for their talent at a recent School Board meeting. Madison Hays was recognized for visual arts, and Grace McGuire received recognition for poetry.

The outstanding work of CHMS scientists was featured at the Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair. This year was the first year our young scientists took their science fair projects to the county level of competition. Emily Kimura earned second place overall in Jr. Division Physics. She also received honorable mention from the Acoustical Society of America, San Diego Chapter and the Air Force Communications and Electronics Division. Darcy Erwin earned second place in Jr. Division Chemistry. Daniel Dorais took home fourth place for Jr. Division Engineering.



**Kayleen Diaz at PLNU for AVID Standout Awards**

Eighth-grade students Juliana Fan and Christine Abrell are currently finalists in the Time Warner Cable Best Moms essay contest. Juliana excels in math as well, earning a perfect score on the math portion of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

CHMS Coyotes are proud of our teachers, too. Eighth-grade English teacher Bobby Allen was recently recognized by CHMS student Tori Simpson as a favorite teacher in Barnes and Noble essay contest. Tori's essay earned recognition for her writing and Mr. Allen's talented teaching.

Finally, we are proud to announce the 2011–2012 Teacher of the Year: Sharon Walsh. Mrs. Walsh has been an education specialist at CHMS for seven of her 14 years in teaching. Mrs. Walsh's outstanding performance as an educator is not simply the result of her vast knowledge of the job, but more importantly her love for children. She is effective at demonstrating flexibility and a willingness to adapt to the needs of the students. Sharon Walsh is a student-centered teacher and a collaborative colleague. We are extremely proud and excited to have her represent our school.

# Carlsbad High School (9–12)

3557 Lancer Way, Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5100 • <http://www.carlsbadhs.schoolloop.com/>

## The Best For Our Students

*By Kate Jerman, Editor in Chief – Lancer Express*



**Matthew Steitz**  
Principal

Carlsbad High School (CHS) was proud to announce CHS teacher Rick Brown as the Carlsbad Unified School District (CUSD) Teacher of the Year. Brown was hired by Carlsbad in 1987 as the head football coach, and since then has been teaching physical education and woodshop classes. After 25 years of teaching at CHS, Brown reacted to CUSD's recognition as Teacher of the Year with amazement.

"I was overwhelmed. I really was," Brown said. "It blew me away because I know there are so many great teachers on this campus, much less the district, and it's amazing, so I'm blessed."

Even after 37 years of teaching, Brown still remembers why he chose the profession in the first place and why he continues to do so. Many of his students come back to visit. Others, such as current head football coach Thadd MacNeal, have found themselves back at Carlsbad teaching alongside Brown.

"Working with young people keeps you young," Brown shared. "Just recently, going for the Teacher of the Year award, they have you fill out probably 20 pages of essays, and it made me really reflect why I'm teaching. It made me sit here at night and type and think 'Why am I teaching?' And it's because I love the kids."



**Carlsbad Unified Teacher of the Year Rick Brown works with a student, who is building an Adirondack chair, in his first period woodshop class.**

CHS staff and students can also look forward to the brand-new parking lot, containing over 400 spaces and opening in mid May. The new lot will provide significant parking relief to the streets surrounding the high school. While some of the spaces will be reserved for administration and teachers, 300 spots will be available for the use of students with parking permits.

For the rest of the year, the lot will be open for all students; however, in order to qualify for a parking permit next year, students are required to take the Start Smart class with a parent or guardian. The classes, which aim to teach young drivers about the responsibilities and consequences of driving, are free to all students and are offered monthly in the CHS library.



**The construction crews begin planting trees and paving the area which will be Carlsbad High's new 400-space parking lot. Staff and students eagerly await its opening and look forward to the end of the year when parking on campus will significantly ease street congestion.**

**THE THEATRE SCHOOL @ NORTH COAST REP**

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# KAMPS / ACTIVITIES FOR KIDZ

**BY SUSAN PETERSON**  
Noted author of the comprehensive guidebook: "Fun & Educational Places to go with Kids & Adults in Southern California."

The word "summer" brings to mind a myriad of images from my childhood—going to the beach, reading a good book, eating popsicles, building a treehouse, and hanging out with my friends. Those are great memories. I also remember getting bored. And I remember sharing this information, persistently, with my mom—I think she referred to it as whining.

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July 10 – July 27 (Semester 2) (typically Tues-Fri)

All classes will be offered at Carlsbad High School. Please check the CEF Summer Academy website [www.CEFAcademy.org](http://www.CEFAcademy.org) for all class details and to register.

To register or learn more about our summer programs, please visit  
[www.CarlsbadEd.org](http://www.CarlsbadEd.org) or call 760.929.1555



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Art To Grow On

## Ready, Get Set,...Create!

As a parent, I really now understand what everyone was saying when my sons were born: "It goes by so fast! Before you know it they will be...." And it is true! Since they grow so fast, I often think, what are the "seeds" that we parents should plant in our children? Manners? Of course! Respect? Of course! Self-esteem and self-confidence? Yes and yes!

But as my youngest child moves into elementary school, I truly believe that giving children the opportunity to think critically, problem solve, imagine, and create will elevate them even more as they continue to grow.

Math calls for it. Social studies calls for it. Playing in the yard and getting into arguments call for it—the ability to analyze a situation, concretely or theoretically come up with solutions, and communicate those solutions through thought, speech, written word, movement, or art.

I opened Art To Grow On Children's Art Center, Inc. in 2000. There were not as many demands on our children as there are now. Kindergarten is truly the new first grade. Our children's minds need to be agile, sharp, open to new ideas, curious, passionate, and creative, no matter if they will become chemists, professional athletes, teachers, artists, musicians, or business executives.

If you can give your child a gift in 2012, take the time to do something creative with him or her. Get out those cardboard boxes and turn them into a race car or doll house. Get out wire, tile, and glue and play. Read books, take walks and collect rocks, write letters, and talk! These life skills will be a gift to your child.

Lauren Perelmuter, President/Founder of Art To Grow On Children's Art Center, Inc.  
[www.art2growon.com](http://www.art2growon.com) (310) 625-6028



# School News



## Survey Says...

Take our survey online and you will be entered in our drawing for a chance to win \$100. Your survey entry must be received by June 30, 2012.

It's easy. Just visit our website [www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com) and click on the Mr. Ruler icon



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SchoolNews RC

City of Carlsbad Park & Recreation Presents

# Wild West Fest

**Saturday, May 19  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park  
6200 Flying LC Lane

- War, Eagle & Hoop Dancing
- Salsa Tasting Contest
- Native American Adventure Card
- Pony Rides & More
- \$5 Activity Cards  
\$3 Salsa Tasting Wristbands

Parking available at Carrillo Elementary School

CITY OF CARLSBAD  
Parks & Recreation

Information: 760-434-2843  
[www.carlsbadca.gov/parksandrec](http://www.carlsbadca.gov/parksandrec) | keyword wild west fest

CITY OF CARLSBAD PARKS & RECREATION

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Boogieing Since 1985

# Hope Elementary (K-6)

3010 Tamarack Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5900 • <http://www.hope.schoolloop.com/>



## Our Star Educator!

We love to recognize student achievement, and every year, we also get the chance to recognize outstanding staff members as well. Mrs. Goddard was recently selected by her peers and endorsed by our School Site Council as Teacher of the Year. As a member of our faculty since 1997, we are very proud to have Mrs. Goddard represent our school as an excellent educator.

Mrs. Goddard started her teaching career in 1992 at Jefferson Elementary in Carlsbad, where she taught first and second grades. As a third-grade teacher at Hope Elementary, Mrs. Goddard has taken a leadership role to serve as our grade-level leader since 2006, and she expanded her leadership role in January 2011 to work as the districtwide third-grade facilitator. Mrs. Goddard has continued to challenge herself professionally by volunteering to pilot our current language arts and math program that is used by all Carlsbad Unified elementary students. Her work also includes serving as our GATE liaison and as a member of the CUSD Summer institute.

Mrs. Goddard is dedicated to helping students reach their full potential and has been instrumental as the founding coordinator of our Everyone a Reader program. As coordinator of this program from 1997 to 2006, she received the Diamond Award from the San Diego County Office of Education two years in a row and was a finalist in the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Educational Award.

Mrs. Goddard is an outstanding example of a dedicated teacher who creates a well-balanced environment where her students are engaged in learning. She continues to learn innovative and creative ways to best serve her students. Congratulations to Mrs. Goddard for her selection as Teacher of the Year for Hope Elementary!!



**Mrs. Bussey is all smiles around her students!**



**Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Goddard and her students.**

## Psst! Someone Is Retiring!

In case you haven't heard yet, our beloved kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Bussey, is retiring at the end of this school year. Mrs. Bussey is one of our founding faculty members from when the school opened in 1987. As a dedicated and amazing kindergarten teacher all those years, we will miss her. If you or your child has had the pleasure of working with her, be sure to drop her a note of congratulations! We wish you the best in your retirement, Mrs. Bussey.

# Jefferson Elementary (K-5)

3743 Jefferson St., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5500 • <http://jefferson.schoolloop.com/>

Chad Lund, Principal

## Future Business Leaders

What do you want to be when you grow up? This question is asked and answered time and time again, like a rite of passage. Often children have little experience to answer that question and simply pick a popular career. Our job is to prepare each of our students to thrive as adults by giving them the tools to be capable to perform the tasks of most jobs. The second-grade team at Jefferson Elementary School gives students the experience to go along with those tools so they understand what the workplace is really like.

Junior Business Expo has integrated a social studies unit into an inquiry-based program. With the cooperation of Carlsbad businesses, students are able to adopt local businesses, learn the ins and outs, market them, map them, and finally showcase their businesses in the Junior Business Expo. Teachers developed baseline knowledge by inquiring about: the product or a service the business offers; the type of consumers who interact with the business; the importance of the business; and how to advertise the business to others.

These became real-world learning because questions were asked in real time and were relevant to the surroundings. When students flipped pizza dough, they understood space and a clean environment were necessary to making pizza. When going to a local supermarket, students saw not only the grocery aisles and checkout counters, but an entire behind the scenes area which is crucial to the overall business.

Teams wrote letters to local businesses to invite partnerships. The teachers then scheduled visits. During each visit, the students received a tour, asked questions, and participated in hands-on work experiences. Local businesses including pizza restaurants, smoothie restaurants, credit unions, frozen yogurt restaurants, and music stores opened their doors to our students. Groups then organized what they learned and developed display boards to tell about their partnership-businesses.

The final outcome is the Junior Business Expo. The event included a business directory for visitors, groups of student "experts" to discuss their businesses with consumers, gifts for the business-partners (a framed photo of their Jefferson buddies at the business), and something for all attendees.

The Junior Business Expo truly combines the best of business and education through partnerships which empower students to think about what they want to be when they grow up—and this time they can answer the question with experience.



# Kelly Elementary (K-5)

4885 Kelly Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5800 • <http://kelly.schoolloop.com/>

## Our Angels Thank Yours

*Music is well said to be the speech of angels.*

~Thomas Carlyle, Essays, "The Opera"

On the heels of a grand day at Celebrate Carlsbad Day in April held at a major theme park, Kelly Elementary School would sincerely like to thank the Carlsbad Education Foundation for its good work in supporting our Carlsbad elementary school music programs!

Tressie Armstrong  
Principal

It is well known that each individual is unique in the fabric woven to make them who they are. It is well known that some learn through sitting and listening, some learn through art, some learn mathematically and in a linear fashion, and others learn best through rhythm and music. By addressing all learning styles throughout the week, all children get to learn in a style that best places them in a position to learn through a mode that speaks to each of them. No child is left feeling like a square peg in a round hole in an environment that doesn't fit him or her.

The Carlsbad Education Foundation works tirelessly to bring in the resources so that we can continue to offer rich learning experiences for our students. For all elementary school children, it is through weekly music classes with credentialed music teachers that draw on community resources such as the Museum of Making Music, which loaned gathering drums for a week of rhythm experiences, cultural music experiences, performance opportunities through specialized choruses, and of course, the support of the music curriculum standards for each grade level determined by the state of California.

Our own Kelly Cougar Chorus celebrated Earth Day with a sweet performance for families in our Secret Garden and was very excited to perform on the stage at the theme park on Saturday. As is stated above, "music is well said to be the speech of angels," and nothing is more angelic than the voices of children singing. Again, from our Kelly Cougar Family to the Carlsbad Education Foundation, sincere thanks for all you do for the children of Carlsbad.



**the Kelly Cougar Chorus performing in our Secret Garden to celebrate Earth Day.**

# Magnolia Elementary (K-6)

1905 Magnolia Ave., Carlsbad, CA, 92008 • 760/331-5600 • <http://mes.cusd.ca.schoolloop.com/>



## Tangible Science

Science Day at Magnolia truly is a day like no other! It is a day when our entire campus is transformed into a working lab. It is a day when our students are able to apply their textbook knowledge to genuine and engaging experiments. It is a day when our entire school community comes together to support the learning of all of our students.

Each of our school-site classrooms are utilized to meet the needs of the given science workshop and the presenter charged with teaching specific grade-level science-content standards. From kindergarten to fifth grade, all students are given the opportunity to experience science in a more meaningful and tangible way. Science sessions such as Reptile Round-Up, What is Chemistry?, Fun with Energy, Rockets, Kermit: The Inside Story—frog dissection, along with brain and heart dissection—are just a few of the 28 activities offered for the day. In short, there is an activity for every learner of every age packed into Science Day!

It is important to note that the majority of the activities on Science Day would not take place without the unending support from our Parent Teacher Organization and the wealth of time and effort dedicated by parents past and present to organize the entire day. Our PTA raises and sets aside a significant amount of funds to ensure that our students have access to great presenters and concrete materials for every workshop. All parents, including those who are employed as physicians, firefighters, and chemists, give of their time to support and validate the curriculum in each workshop. The planning for this event takes place well before our calendar school year begins by our Science Day Committee, led this year by Melissa Genewich, to ensure that all aspects of the day run smoothly. The reality is that only with the time and dedication on the part of our parents and teachers are we able to offer such a great program every school year!



Fourth graders Christian, Schuyler, and Logan team up on brain dissection.

the entire day. Our PTA raises and sets aside a significant amount of funds to ensure that our students have access to great presenters and concrete materials for every workshop. All parents, including those who are employed as physicians, firefighters, and chemists, give of their time to support and validate the curriculum in each workshop. The planning for this event takes place well before our calendar school year begins by our Science Day Committee, led this year by Melissa Genewich, to ensure that all aspects of the day run smoothly. The reality is that only with the time and dedication on the part of our parents and teachers are we able to offer such a great program every school year!



First grader Morgan works with Bubbles!



Rachel enjoys Reptile Round-Up.

# Pacific Rim Elementary (K-5)

1100 Camino De Las Ondas, Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 760/331-6200 • <http://pacificrim.schoolloop.com/>



## Extreme Fun

The Friends of Pacific Rim Foundation (FOPR) hosted Pacific Rim School's first-ever March Madness Food Truck Festival. An estimated 800 people were present on the blacktop on March 16 under unexpectedly sunny skies. Festival goers enjoyed great food from a variety of gourmet food trucks.

X-games gold medal winner Pierre-Luc Gagnon, along with fellow skateboarders Elliot Sloan and Rob Lorifice, were a huge hit with the students. Their pens were continuously signing autographs on posters and skateboards for over two hours. Gagon had one of his impressive gold medals on display for all to see.



Gold medal winner Pierre-Luc Gagnon and Elliot Sloan signed hundreds of students' skateboards including a memorized Max Quirin, a Pac Rim 3rd grader.



Arden Khanna, winner of signed PLG skateboard



FOPR Food Truck Committee excited for the event to begin.

# Poinsettia

*Elementary (K-5)*

2445 Mica Road, Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 760/331-6500 • <http://www.pes.cusd.ca.schoolloop.com/>



## The Cycle Spirals Upward

Each month is a new cycle that we see at school. We start the year, hold conferences, study more, have report cards, continue studying, have spring conferences, work harder, take state tests (STAR), finish the year and get a final report card. Whew! The process has an educational rhythm and is repeated each year with other items put in place to add to the basics and make school fun.

We have just finished conferences, and I hope all parents received an accounting of the learning that has transpired to date for this year. We are approaching the recess in the school year known as spring break, and the push to finish the year will be at hand. All the learning to this point has been built for this time. Once the finish bell is rung, we are working to be at our best in school for the learning. Parents can help by asking each night what their child has learned that day. They can check the student planners with the assignments listed and behavior indicated for the day's work. Please sign the planner daily. This helps reinforce what we do and what the students are expected to complete. It shows that learning is important to you. We need your involvement and support in order to assure that we will have made a maximum effort in the learning and preparation for the next grade in the educational journey all the way up to the end of the year.

## The Fondest of Farewells

As a principal, I am excited about what we have accomplished in building a great community and a fun place to learn. I feel fortunate to be able to have worked with everyone at Poinsettia Elementary and will be closing my career as an elementary principal with this promoting class. We have made a great school! This year has been a fun and productive one. You are a terrific bunch of children! It has been fun to look back at where we have been and what we have accomplished over the past year.

Thank you to all of the parents, the teachers and the staff for another fun-filled year of learning and making this a great place to come to each and every day. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you at our school, Poinsettia Elementary. I will be leaving the school and promoting with you all to my next part of life. I will look forward to hearing the great things that you young men and women will do in the future as well as miss the times we have shared the past five years. Thanks to all of you for what you do for the school and have done for me since we opened in 2007.

**Steve Ahle**  
Principal



# Valley Middle School (6-8)

1645 Magnolia Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5300 • <http://vms.schoolloop.com/>



## In the Loop

The Valley Middle School community is in the loop—School Loop, that is.

School Loop is an online communication platform aimed at supporting students' academic success. This software facilitates communication between parents, teachers, and students, functioning as an information hub for both internal and external communities. This system ensures that parents and students have up-to-date information on school activities, student assignments, and grades. In addition, the guidance and administration teams utilize the program's built-in tools to monitor students who are struggling academically: students demonstrating a downward trend in their grade-point average; students earning zeros on assignments; and students earning two D grades or more.

To date, 100 percent of our students have registered accounts, 100 percent of our core teachers, including English, mathematics, science, and social studies, are posting online grades and assignments, and 91 percent of our students have at least one parent with a registered account.

Much of our success with School Loop use is attributed to our workshops, which are focused on training students and parents to use the program's tools to ensure student success. In sixth grade, students received a full in-service showing them how to use the e-mail feature, check their progress reports, and view the various calendar features available to them. Sixth-grade parents are also trained on how to use the School Loop system when they register their students.

Valley Middle School is working hand-in-hand with our parents and students to ensure academic success!



**Cesar Morales**  
Principal



**Francisco C.  
Rodriguez, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent/  
President

## MIRA COSTA COLLEGE • FROM PAGE 3

biotechnology, nursing and technical health-related careers and job training programs. The vision that fuels this plan is centered on the college's commitment to provide exceptional educational opportunities, sound leadership and prudent fiscal stewardship to the North San Diego County communities we are proud to serve. You can view this Master Plan on our website at [www.miracosta.edu/masterplan](http://www.miracosta.edu/masterplan).

The 2011 Master Plan for MiraCosta College is more than just a planning document. It is centered on the needs of our students and community and provides a vision of what the college will look like in the next decade. It also gives the necessary guidance to get us there. This Master Plan is the result of thoughtful collaboration among MiraCosta College faculty, staff, students, community members and the governing board.

Much has changed since MiraCosta College served its first class of 130 students in 1934. What has remained consistent over the past 78 years is our strong commitment to student success, focus on academic excellence and innovation, and dedication to serve the local community. These are the hallmarks of MiraCosta College, and they remain at the forefront as we plan for the future.

Today, the college educates more than 14,500 credit students and another 8,000 noncredit students each semester. As our numbers have grown, so has our focus on student success. This commitment ensures that our students transfer to both public and private universities, start successful careers upon college completion, and achieve their personal and professional goals. As more students graduate from our programs, expect to see an increasing number of well-prepared alumni in our local hospitals, biotechnology facilities and pharmaceutical firms. They represent the future of our region, and your continued support of MiraCosta College ensures that the students of today will be able to capitalize on our local region's growing job opportunities tomorrow.

MiraCosta College has a long tradition of serving our communities and transforming lives through education. I want to extend a personal invitation to visit one of our three campuses—in Oceanside or Cardiff—or visit us online at [www.miracosta.edu](http://www.miracosta.edu). And, as always, thank you for your investment in the futures of our students and our college.

## SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1



**Dr. John Roach**

community is a shining example of the Carlsbad spirit that will remain with me for the rest of my life.

Families gathered in the adjacent park anxiously waited hours for their children, who were under protective lockdown. Finally, as the sun was about to set on this horrific but ultimately triumphant day, the youngest students—our brave little Cougar kindergarteners—carefully crossed over a gully and into the park and spontaneous applause broke out. The mixture of joy, relief and pride was indescribable.

Now, the Superintendent Search process is nearing completion. By early June, the Board will select my successor and an orderly leadership transition will take place. I will impart much information to the incoming Superintendent. Above all else, I will let him or her know that Carlsbad has an unparalleled tradition of valuing education and working together to do what is in the best interests of our children.

I wish to publicly thank the Board members whom I have served over these past eight years. Thank you for bringing me to Carlsbad and for encouraging and trusting me to do the right thing.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION • FROM PAGE 1



**Kelli Moors**  
President

topics centered on what is going well in the District that should be continued, what challenges the District faces and what leadership traits are essential for the next Superintendent.

After speaking with—and, importantly, listening to—more than 100 people, the consultants presented a Summary of Focus Group Sessions to the Board on February 24, 2012. This document and related information is at <http://www.carlsbadusd.k12.ca.us/supt-search.html#supt>. Community input is always valued and greatly appreciated. My Board colleagues and I pored over the focus group results. We used the feedback to determine the qualifications, skills and abilities of our ideal candidate and directed the consultants to create an application packet.

As this column goes to publication in mid-April, the process moves forward with applicant recruitment, followed by rigorous screening and assessment. Finalists will be interviewed in May, followed by a site visit to the leading candidate's community. We intend to announce the new Superintendent by early June, to ensure a smooth transition process.

On behalf of the entire Board, I thank our focus group participants and everyone who has shared their thoughts and concerns with us; whether at a meeting or when encountering one of us in our daily lives.

Building a strong team that collaboratively focuses on a common mission and vision in a respectful and supportive environment starts at the top. I have personally been inspired by John Roach's integrity, wisdom, empathy, common sense and sense of humor. We are intent on finding a vibrant new Superintendent who will build upon Dr. Roach's successes, forge new paths of innovation and continue to do right by students, staff, families and the Carlsbad community.

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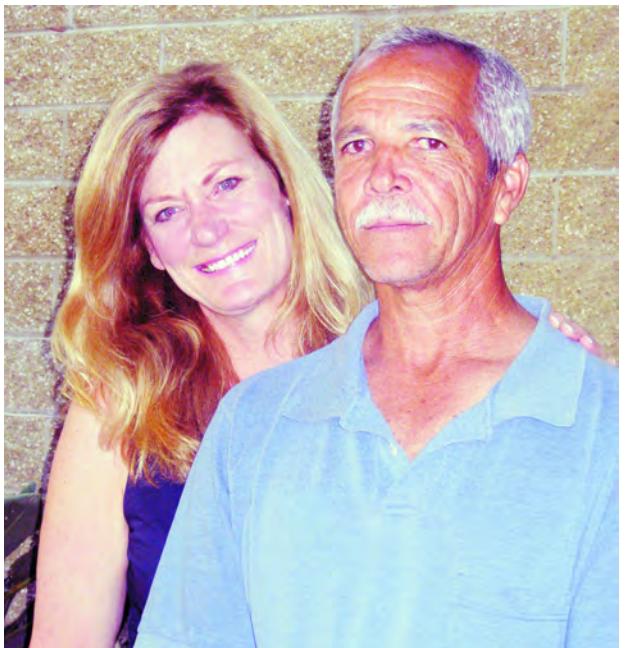


**Kelly's Nurse Cindy AKA Birthday Fairy.**

over the speaker system to children whose birthdays fall within that week. Last summer, after learning that one student wondered what happened for summer birthdays, the Birthday Fairy called the girl at home to wish her a happy birthday!

Buena Vista

Elementary School's night custodian, Angel Santiago, was honored as October's Classified Employee of the Month. Principal Tina Howard praised him as "an exemplary employee whose dedication to fine-tuning the campus reflects his care for our children, families, staff and school." Known as a problem-solver, he modestly reported, "I learned in the Marines to do more than I'm supposed to do. That's what I do at Buena Vista: I do my job and do more."



**Buena Vista Principal Tina Howard with Angel Santiago.**



**Carol Fredericks and Anahi Matia.**

November Classified Employee of the Month was Carol Fredericks, a Special Education instructional assistant at Calavera Hills Middle School. She has a gift for connecting with students. She has experienced wonderful success working with the students in her care by adapting the modality and pace of instruction based on the unique needs of learners and says her work is "very rewarding."



**Victoria Scully and Kristin Lewis.**



**The bus stops here for Mimi Nelson's kids.**



**Bonnie Montanez poses with the Lancer Jack mannequin that welcomes hundreds of students daily to the CHS campus store.**

Principal Steve Ahle called her "a stable force" and noted, "Karen is consistent in her approach, and this structure allows for secure performances by the students." Karen said, "The truth is that these children teach me. There's no better education than working closely day by day with a child who needs encouragement, praise and support."

Each of these outstanding employees devotes his or her days to addressing the needs of every student—and that embodies the philosophy of our district. To all of our outstanding classified and certificated staff: you're all class acts!

Victoria Scully, a Special Education instructional assistant and the December honoree, was nominated by Aviara Oaks Middle School's principal Megan Coelho and teacher Kristin Lewis for her expertise, dedication and compassion. They said, "Victoria creates innovative materials to help students study for tests, assists teachers in reinforcing instruction, and helps students complete assignments."

In January, Mireya (Mimi) Nelson, a school bus driver, was honored. She transports students with special needs to and from several sites. Curt Huckins, Director of Facilities, Operations and Transportation, said, "Mimi always puts the needs of the children first, providing a stable, positive school experience from the moment they leave home. One grandmother said that her student gets off the bus every day with a smile on her face, because she feels happy and secure in Ms. Nelson's care."

Alma (Bonnie) Montanez, February's honoree, puts her heart into her work as Carlsbad High School's Lancer Jack's student store assistant. Her 20 years of service with the district came in handy during the renovation and relocation of her store. Buoyant Bonnie is the embodiment of Lancer spirit. She declared, "I was shocked to receive recognition for doing something I enjoy so much. I can't imagine ever doing anything else!"

In March, Karen Evans, a Special Education instructional assistant at Poinsettia Elementary School, received recognition for her service.

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