

FREE

School News

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Covering the Glendora Unified School District

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2016

Glendora High School Makes List of 2016 Best Public High Schools in America



Dr. Robert J. Voors
Superintendent

Once again, Glendorans have reason to be proud of their excellent schools – *Newsweek's* list of the best public high schools in the country was revealed this a few weeks ago, again ranking Glendora High School as one of the best high schools in America!

Newsweek's rankings of the best public high schools in the country stand apart from most “top 10” lists, as they are borne of real research. *Newsweek*, along with the analytics firm Westat, uses legitimate and objective measurements to put together its annual ranking of the country’s best high schools. School performance data from the National Center for Education Statistics was used to narrow down the list of schools. In all, 6,477 of the nation’s 15,819 public high schools met the criteria to be considered in *Newsweek's* rankings. Glendora High School came in at 326! In California, 51 high schools made the list – GHS was 38th. There are approximately 4,495 high schools in California, made up of 3,523 public schools and 972 private schools.



Congratulations to all GHS students, parents, teachers at GHS, elementary and middle school teachers who prepare students for high school, all support staff, administrative team and Board of Education! With their expertise and the continued support of PTA, the Glendora Education Foundation, service clubs, volunteers, and the City of Glendora, Glendora students continue to thrive!

Going Solar!

by Marc Chaldou,
Assistant Superintendent of
Business Services

The Glendora Unified School District has entered into an agreement to place solar arrays at all school sites.

The arrays will be in the form of covered parking and at some sites, shade structures located on campus. The installation of solar will provide the school district with energy and cost savings, additional shade areas for students and countless environmental benefits. Students and teachers will also benefit from the solar installation as they will be able to incorporate technical data from the panels into classroom curriculum. The construction is slated to begin in the fall of 2016 and should be completed by spring of 2017. School sites will work with parents and staff before and during construction to ensure the process goes smoothly.



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\$357,200 for Glendora Schools!

Each year, the Glendora Education Foundation works to provide the best education possible for every student of the Glendora Unified School District (GUSD). The Foundation is proud to continue to support a variety of programs that benefit the students in the GUSD. Last year, thanks to your support, we raised and will contribute \$357,200 for the school year!

The programs that the Glendora Education Foundation supports touch EVERY SINGLE STUDENT IN THE GUSD providing the following for your students, in their schools, right now:

- Music Programs
- Technology Education & Software
- Expanding Healthy Living Programs
- Offering Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Kinder Literacy Program
- College & Career Preparation Activities
- Scholarships
- Individual School Support

Thank you so much for your continued support and we look forward to another great year and giving you updates on the programs we fund throughout this 2016-2017 school year!



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Welcome back to another school year. New beginnings are always exciting and particularly for students. It is a time of anticipation of seeing old friends, making new friends, meeting teachers, learning where the classrooms are and getting used to a schedule after summer break. Thank you for including *School News* among your reading choices.

In this issue, we welcome our student columnist, Michael, to review his favorite books.

Our next issue is November 9.

Please Drive Safely — Students are Back in School

School News

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Covering the
GLENDORA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

ADVERTISING SALES:
562/493-3193 • Fax: 562/430-8063

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim DeLacy

COPY EDITORS:

Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST:

Netragrednik by Neta Madison



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SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
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Teachers See the Possibilities

Whether studying cell membranes or the scientific method, students in Leslie Sandoval's seventh-grade classroom make connections—to the curriculum, with their teacher and peers, and to the world around them.



Lone Hill Middle School, Third Period, Life Sciences, Teacher: Leslie Sandoval, M.A.Ed. '04

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GUSD Educational Services

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Rebecca Summers, Ed.D.
Director of Curriculum & Instruction,

A New Vision for Science Education in GUSD

Believe it or not, it has been over 17 years since the last state science standards were written! Since then, there have been major advances in science and in our understanding of how students learn science. We also know that when our current students graduate from high school, they will need more skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) than ever before. The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) are a new set of K-12 science standards adopted by the state of California and many other states. The NGSS were benchmarked against countries whose students perform well in science and engineering, including Finland, South Korea, China, England, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, and Singapore. Teaching based on the NGSS calls for a more student-centered approach to learning scientific concepts. This approach allows students to think on their own, problem solve, communicate, and collaborate. Parents will see less rote memorization of facts and terminology, and more investigations, modeling, and discussions of open-ended questions. Critical concepts in physical science, life science, and earth/space science build over time from Kindergarten to 12th grade. In Glendora Unified, our teachers have already begun the transition to the Next Generation Science Standards, and they will continue to receive professional learning on this topic throughout the year.

To learn more about NGSS, visit www.nextgenscience.org.

Glendora High School

1600 E. Foothill Blvd., Glendora, CA 91741 • 626/963-5731 • www.glendora.k12.ca.us



Paul Lopez
Principal

An Amazing Start to the School Year

Our students have done a tremendous job of making the beginning of school a major success. We had our first assembly which was great as we highlighted our new teachers and our Pep Club was amazing with the routine they performed. There was no down time and our student body had high energy and enjoyed the assembly. We followed the assembly with our annual Howdy Dance in which approximately 1000 students were in attendance. Again it was a high energy night and all of the students enjoyed themselves. We continue to expect our students and staff to make an "IMPACT" at GHS and continue to build momentum so the school year never wanes. I am looking forward to a phenomenal school year! "It's Great To Be A Tartan!"

Cullen Elementary

440 N. Live Oak, Glendora, CA 91741 • 626/852-4593 • www.glendora.k12.ca.us



Dr. Cheryl Bonner
Principal

We Got the Gold!

Last May, Cullen was awarded the distinction of Gold Ribbon School, the interim replacement for Distinguished School.

Our application defined our school culture, built upon the Cullen Condor Code of Conduct, the tenet of expectations that we focus on here at Cullen. Weekly, we recite the Code of Conduct as a reminder

of the qualities and behaviors we encourage at Cullen. Annually, classes dissect it for critical analysis and understanding, and it is a basis for guiding and redirecting behavior throughout the year. This, coupled with SchoolTools TV video messages provide life lessons and social skills for building a school culture in which "students and staff alike take risks in teaching and learning, make mistakes, and persevere through challenges to be successful, all while feeling safe in the setting and in mutual endeavors." The additional elements of our model program included description of our schoolwide interventions and how through our IST process, staff and parents work collaboratively to identify strategies for closing the learning gap among Cullen students.

After the initial evaluation of the Gold Ribbon application, Cullen was identified as a good candidate for a site-validation visit. In March, a team of educators visited Cullen for a presentation of our model program as well as interviews with our leadership team, students and parents. They also visited classrooms to confirm that they saw evidence of what was stated in our application. Upon completion of their visit, the team recommended that Cullen be awarded the distinction of Gold Ribbon School. Thus in May, the California Department of Education recognized Cullen Elementary School as a Gold Ribbon School, a distinction of which we are very proud!



Goddard Middle School

859 E. Sierra Madre, Glendora, CA 91741 • 626/852-4500 • www.glendora.k12.ca.us



Jennifer Prince
Principal

21st Century Skills for Digital Natives

The concept of the necessity of 21st century skills is wholeheartedly embraced at Goddard. We think it's imperative to provide our students with the best possible chances of success in their futures and also understand the reality that our students are digital natives who are engaged and comfortable with the use of technology in nearly every setting.

On any given day, you might see science students using iPads to create stop-motion films explaining mitosis or meiosis, history classes on Chromebooks, English groups reading and annotating articles on the habits of successful teens, or PE students reflecting on their fitness goals and using Google Forms to provide feedback to their coaches. We're constantly searching for ways to expose our students to the topics and skills they will need to be prepared to compete in a global and constantly changing workplace.



From our engaging curricular enhancements to our exciting STEAM Clubs like Robotics, Minecraft and 3-D Printing, Goddard is on the forefront of innovation and 21st century learning that will get our students ready to be tomorrow's leaders.

La Fetra *Elementary*

547 W. Bennett, Glendora, CA 91741 • 626/852-4566 • www.glendora.k12.ca.us



Marie Porcell
Principal

Got Speed?

At La Fetra, not only are we the smartest students, we are also the fastest!

Last year our amazing PTA revamped the Mileage Club to increase motivation and participation. As a result, the participation increased as students set goals to achieve 50 miles or more and earn a special edition Mileage Club t-shirt and medal.

The program is run by parent volunteers who provide supervision and encouragement to runners and walkers during our lunch recess on Tuesdays and Thursdays. As the students accumulate miles, they receive colorful jogger charms that can be worn with pride as bracelets and necklaces. This is a fantastic way to motivate and reward students for choosing to participate in healthy activities during the recess break.

Only the elite can reach the ultimate level of 50 miles and earn the privilege of sporting the highly coveted t-shirt. Pictured are our third-grade champions showing their Lion Pride!



Sandburg *Middle School*

819 W. Bennett, Glendora, CA 91741 • 626/852-4530 • www.sandburgspartans.com



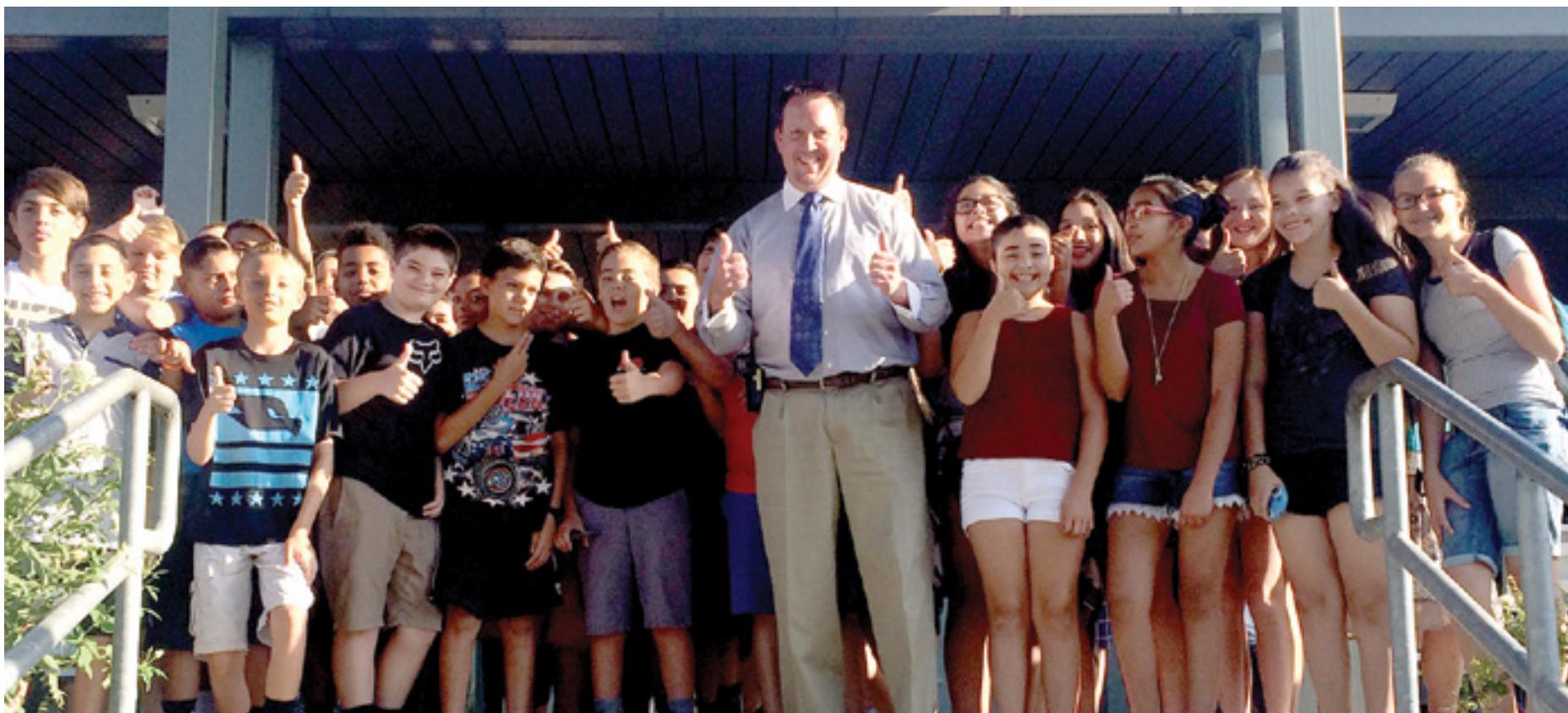
Eric Osborne
Principal

Once a Spartan, Always a Spartan

By Tim Relph, Assistant Principal

The other day I was walking through campus and memories began to flood my mind. Things I had not thought about for years were suddenly as vivid as yesterday - my P.E. locker, school dances, little league fields, and lunch aides. Memories that reminded me of days long past have come back to me like a long lost friend. I am Tim Relph, the new Assistant Principal at Sandburg. I was a Spartan, I've always been a Spartan, and will always be a Spartan. I am home. Sandburg was more than

just my school; it was where I grew up. It was my movie, my, "Stand By Me" and "Sandlot" all in one. The days spent in the classrooms, afternoons spent running amongst the grass and hills, finding glory on the diamonds, waiting for my mom to come out and yell for me to come home for dinner were the best of days. Now I find myself with the responsibility to help the next generation of students experience all that Sandburg has to offer them. What a privilege to be in a position to help students create their own precious memories and the chance to carry on the legacy left for me. I am very honored and humbled for this opportunity. It's not about me; it's about our kids. Like the teachers of days gone by who invested in me to prepare me for the future, I now have the opportunity to do the same for our students. What an honor! I've come full circle and in some strange way feel I was always destined for this. Sandburg was where I belonged then and where I belong now. I am a Spartan and thankful to be back in the Spartan family



Sellers *Elementary*

500 N. Loraine Ave., Glendora, CA 91741 • 626/852-4574 • www.glendora.k12.ca.us



Steve Bishop
Principal

Growing the Future

If you come by Sellers, you may see students digging and getting dirty. But they will not be in trouble!

The garden at Sellers gives students a chance to get their hands dirty by planting, caring for, and harvesting vegetables. The Sellers PTA has established a successful garden program that provides opportunities for each class to experience the satisfaction of planting and learning about how plants grow. School gardens help promote healthy eating habits for our students. It's indicated that most students do not eat the

recommended amount of fruits and vegetables. When students get to plant and watch their seeds grow into vegetables, the natural curiosity and exposure encourage students to try new vegetables.

Another benefit of our school garden is the environmental awareness of the students. Students develop a sense of caring for the plants and environment as they water and care for their class garden. We are not only growing vegetables in our garden but we are also planting the seeds for our future.

Whitcomb *Continuation High School*

350 W. Mauna Loa, Glendora, CA 91740 • 626/852-4550 • www.glendora.k12.ca.us



Ron Letourneau
Principal

Advisory Groups

At an alternative site, we are always looking for different ways to open the lines of communication with our students and to give them opportunities to talk with their classmates and adults about various topics. Two years ago, we developed a pressure-free program called Advisory Groups. Each group consists of one teacher and approximately eight to 10 students, with all teachers and students participating. Groups meet twice per week for 20 minutes. The teachers have been provided with 200 discussion topics, and they also have the freedom to use topics of their choice.

This program has enabled students to speak freely and offer opinions. At the



same time, teachers have opportunities to learn a little more about the students and gain a better understanding of them as well.

As is true with any program, we are always looking for ways to revamp and make it more beneficial for all involved. But for now, we will continue on our current path to assist and learn more about our incredible students.

Stanton *Elementary*

725 S. Vecino Ave., Glendora, CA 91740 • 626/852-4604 • www.glendora.k12.ca.us



Dr. Sara Najarro
Principal

One Team One Dream

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year.

We approach what we do each day knowing that elementary education is the foundation for future success. The journey we will take this year will have some sharp curves, hills, straight and narrow paths. We will not turn around, but will strive to reach our destiny. We will learn from our past to work on the future. We welcome our new staff members Emily Bergler, Colleen Lindsay (Brower), and Megan Daley. Our goal is moving forward to promote a culture of universal achievement and excellence for all stakeholders.

At Stanton we believe that our profession is one with the highest expectations. We believe that the only acceptable standard for education is the standard of greatness.

Our most basic goals for the year are:

- Ensuring the students are always safe.
- Teaching the best lessons we possibly can.
- Teaching with love, patience, and understanding.
- Expecting respectful behavior from all students and understand students grow along a continuum. Giving second chances!
- Integrating literacy, discussions, and technology into our lessons.
- Preparing students to work in a global world in jobs that may not exist yet.

We will accomplish our goals by:

- Building on Relationships, Rigor and Relevance
- Continuing with our No Excuses Focus.
- Delivering of California Standard, 21st Century Skills, and Character Education
- Collaboration, Commitment, and Communication
- A Broad range of Response to Intervention and much more!!!

This continued effort is what makes our Stanton School a No Excuses GOLD RIBON School! It is with renewed enthusiasm that we look forward to this year and all that it will bring. We are confident that we will continue to grow and expand our abilities to provide the highest quality education for our children.



Sutherland *Elementary*

1330 N. Amelia, Glendora, CA 91740 • 626/852-4614 • www.glendora.k12.ca.us



Sheri Cole
Principal

A Fantastic First Day

The first days of school went very well. It was good to see parents and students back on campus. It was wonderful to chat with students about summer vacations and other adventures. Our Back-to-School Night was a success. Many parents attended teacher classroom presentations. There were also quite a few parents who attended the principal meeting, which included a message from our PTA and Glendora Education Foundation (GEF) liaison.

Many parents of transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students took part in an event called Tears and Tissues. The transition for some children can be challenging, and for many parents this might be the first child they are sending to school. This event is a way to welcome parents with open arms to our school. Parents dropped their children off on the first day and then went to the cafeteria, where they enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by our fabulous Glendora Unified School District Food Services Department. Parents listened to a welcome message from the school principal and were able to connect with other new parents. This event offered parents a chance to enjoy the first day of school and make connections with other parents.

Sutherland is looking forward to another successful school year filled with meaningful learning and fun school activities. Here's to a great school year!

'Saddle Up'



Kate Karp

Childhood buddies Justin Lansing and Joe Mailander—the brothers neither of them ever had—are off at a gallop with *Saddle Up*, a spirited musical jaunt along the Continental Divide region. The Grammy-award-winning pair gives cowboy, bluegrass and American Western music a good turn—sometimes right on the ear—and boy, howdy, can they rustle up a good band!

Lansing on banjo and Mailander on guitar join up with fiddles, acoustic guitars, steel drums, cardboard boxes, a washboard—of course—and a Nigerian Urdu drum. The Lovin' Spoonful's John Sebastian and his harmonica join the hoedown on "Lead a Horse to Water;" other guest artists—the Benally family's Navajo chant song "Sister Moon and Brother Sun" and Carlos Medina y El Trio Los Gallos "Somos Amigos"—illustrate how wonderfully diverse genuine American music is.

The Okee Dokee Brothers are home on their usual range of metaphor and an amazement and appreciation of nature, all expressed through tenderness and spicy, sloppy dollops of youngster-appealing humor. "The Jackalope" is a Holy Grail legend with a wink to the listener, and "Last Lullaby" gives a sweet treatment to "My Little Buckaroo" and comfort to the listener.

But hold your horses—there's another saddlebag full of goodies. The included DVR treats each song to regional geography and beauty, highlights the artists, and lassoes us in with spirited hijinks and home movies of the Brothers' childhood, nostalgic flashbacks on "Good Old Times."

Cowboy music has come a ways. Roy Rogers would be proud—maybe a little envious, too.

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

Marvelous!



Lucy Davis

The Land of Stories: An Author's Odyssey

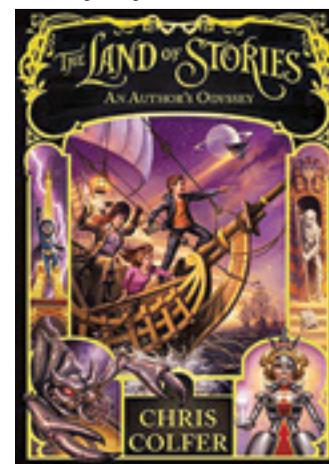
Author: Chris Colfer

I had been waiting for this book to arrive at my local library, and after much suspense, the story continues! Conner and Alex travel into Conner's short stories; in hopes of recruiting an army of different storybook characters: their own! With help from some leftover Portal Potion, which allows people to travel into stories, the twins hope to recruit the Ziblings, Auburn Sally's crew, the British Navy, and many more.

Not much better things are in the other dimension: the Masked Man's Literary Army rebels and joins evil witches who plan to take over the Otherworld. Will they succeed?

Chris Colfer succeeds once more in continuing the series and relying on a readers imagination to create a marvelous story further extending the fairytale world we thought we already knew.

I give this book four bookworms for its imagination.



Lucy is a fifth grade student that enjoys theater, playing guitar and singing. She's a Harry Potter fanatic and hopes to one day publish a series of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.

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Car Seat Safety

Keeping Kids Safe in the Car

By Heidi Heflin, MN, RN, CNS, CPSTI

Many parents look to the law to 'guide buckling up their children safely in the car'. From 1/1/17, all children under 2 years old (unless 40 lbs. or 40" tall or more) must ride in a rear-facing safety seat. Pediatricians and safety professionals recommend children ride rear facing for as long as possible, until the maximum height or weight on the seat. Rear facing is 5 times safer! After age 2, California law requires children ride CORRECTLY in a safety seat or booster until age 8 and then, until the safety belt fits properly. But today, children often fit in a forward-facing seat until starting elementary school or longer. Use a booster until the belt fits properly, usually between 10 and 12 years old. By law, ride in back until age 8; however, the back is almost twice as safe, and labels in cars read stay in back to age 13.

Try this test in your car

1. Are you sitting all the way back against the auto seat?
2. Do your knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?
3. Does the belt cross your shoulder between your neck and arm?
4. Is the lap belt as low as possible to you, touching your thighs?
5. Can you stay seated like this for the whole trip?

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. is the national non-profit organization dedicated solely to protecting children from death or injury in vehicle crashes through the correct, consistent use of safety seats and belts. For more information, visit www.carseat.org or call the Safe Ride Helpline 800/745-SAFE, 800/747-SANO. Heidi Heflin, MN, RN, CNS, CPSTI is a Program Consultant with SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. She can be reached at CarSeatRN@gmail.com.

Big Nate in A Class All By Himself



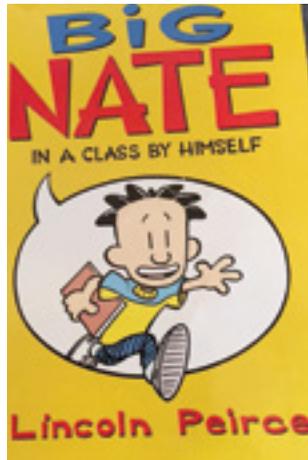
Michael H.

Nate knows he is destined for greatness. When a fortune cookie confirms that, he is very excited. The fortune reads "Today you will surpass all others." He soon learns that trouble seems to be following him everywhere. Instead of something good happening, bad things happen. He receives

detention slips from all of his teachers. Confused by it all Nate tries to figure out, how it all went wrong.

Later he realizes that although he did have a really bad day, his fortune cookie was correct. He surpassed all others by establishing a new record. He was the first person to get 7 detention slips in one day! Nobody could believe it, but Nate was happy because his fortune came true.

I give this book 5 stars because it kept me interested the whole time. His adventure made me laugh and Nate didn't give up until he made his fortune come true. I may never want to come close to that record, but reading about it was fun.



Michael H. is a 4th grade student. Besides his love for reading, he also enjoys Karate, playing guitar and sharing new adventures with his mom. He will rate the books 1 to 5 stars with 5 being the highest.

Follow Through Pays Off

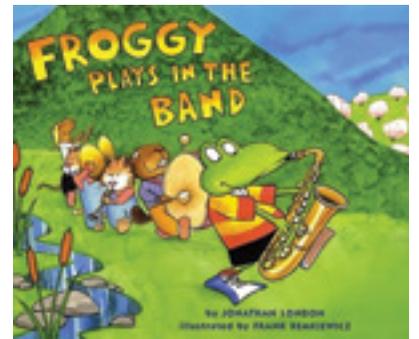


Richard J.

The book, *Froggy Plays in the Band* by Jonathan London, is one of the series of books about Froggy by this author. Froggy and his friends wanted to be in a band, but they weren't good at it, so their music teacher told them they had three weeks to practice

until the march, and if they did good they might win a prize. At first Froggy and his friends didn't play well, but after they practiced hard for 3 weeks they ended up sounding very good in the marching band and got a Golden Trophy in the shape of a saxophone as a reward.

I liked how the story is that in the beginning Froggy and his friends were discouraged, but practiced hard anyway, and all their hard work had paid off, because practice makes perfect, and everyone should stay determined and work hard to follow through to reach their goal. I also liked many fun illustrations in the book by Frank Remkiewicz.



Richard J. is a second grader who likes math, coloring, fun activities, playing on the playground and reading. Richard rates the book 5 out of 5, with 5 being the best.

Ships 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 Glendora in the subject line)

Entries must be received by October 24, 2016

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | | |
|------------|--------------|-------------|
| BATTLESHIP | FRIGATE | SUBTENDER |
| CARGO | GUNBOAT | SUPERLINER |
| CARRIERS | ICEBREAKER | SUPERTANKER |
| CONTAINER | LANDING SHIP | TANKERS |
| CRUISER | MINE SWEEPER | TRANSPORT |
| DESTROYER | OILERS | TUGBOAT |
| FERRY | REPAIR | YACHT |
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Congratulations to **Christina Antonetti and Lori Motz**
 Winners of the June Word Search Contest!

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Balance amount	Bonus	Balance amount	Bonus
\$10,000 - \$20,000	\$100	\$40,001 - \$50,000	\$400
\$20,001 - \$30,000	\$200	\$50,001 +	\$500
\$30,001 - \$40,000	\$300		



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*ScholarShare has received a Silver rating from Morningstar, making it one of the best-rated plans in the nation. In an annual review (10/20/2015) of the largest 529 college savings plans (64 total), Morningstar identified 29 plans that rose above their typical peers, awarding those plans Gold, Silver, and Bronze Morningstar Analyst Ratings for 2015. These forward-looking, qualitative ratings signal Morningstar's conviction in the plans' abilities to outperform their relevant benchmark and peer groups on a risk-adjusted basis over the long term. Morningstar evaluates college savings plans based on five key pillars — Process, Performance, People, Parent, and Price. For more information about Morningstar's overview of ScholarShare, go to 529.morningstar.com. Past performance does not predict future results. Source: 529.morningstar.com



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. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed, and there is a risk of investment loss. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., Plan Manager. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, member FINRA, distributor and underwriter for ScholarShare College Savings Plan. Taxpayers should seek advice from an independent tax advisor based on their own particular circumstances. Non-qualified withdrawals may be subject to federal and state taxes and the additional federal 10% tax. Non-qualified withdrawals may also be subject to an additional 2.5% California tax on earnings. 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. Neither TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., nor its affiliates, are responsible for the content found on any external website links referenced herein.