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School News

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Covering the Glendora Unified School District

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 10

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On the Path to Extraordinary Futures!

By Dr. Robert Voors,
Superintendent

Shortly we will be on Thanksgiving break! I am very thankful to work in such a great school district with so many incredible educators, support staff and leaders. With that in mind, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on some of the academic successes the Glendora Unified School District has enjoyed over the past several years.

We've been recognized as: an AP District of Distinction by the College Board; one of 30 Districts in the state (out of 1,050) identified as High Performing and "Raising the Boats" of all students; one of the top ten districts in the state (tied for fourth) for closing the achievement gap for low income students and students of color; top 10 in the State of California in the categories of Student Performance and College Readiness for low income students and students of color; GUSD had the highest ranking possible in, "Where Are the Nation's 'Most Productive



School Districts?" and was also highly ranked (16/153) in another assessment of the "Best School Districts for Your Buck in Southern California". *Niche 2016 Best School Districts*, ranked Glendora USD 53rd in the State of California based on statistics, student and parent reviews, and expert insights.

Cullen, La Fetra, Sellers, Stanton, Sutherland and Sandburg were all named California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll Schools; Cullen Elementary School and Stanton Elementary School were recognized with the California Gold Ribbon Schools Award, created to honor schools in place of the California Distinguished Schools Program; Whitcomb High School was

recognized for the second time as a California Model Continuation High School; Glendora High School has consistently been nationally ranked. Most recently:

Newsweek rated GHS 313 out of 500 ranked, with 30,000 schools considered. Only 58 CA schools made the list.

The *US New and World Report* State Ranking for GHS was 218 out of 2,199, with a National Ranking of 1,084 out of 21,000

The *Washington Post* listed the GHS National Ranking at 1,333.

This level of success does not occur without inspired student effort, parent support, expert teaching, skilled leadership, accomplished support staff, PTA, Glendora Education Foundation, a full network of volunteers and a Board of Education that sets sound policy. Thank you to all of you, whatever your role, who help keep Glendora students and Glendora schools on the path to extraordinary futures!

Growth Mindset



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

As Glendora students enjoyed a day off of school on October 10, for Glendora teachers, it was a good day to learn something new, as they attended a full-day of professional learning workshops at Glendora High School.

In the morning session, all teachers learned about Growth Mindset, a way of thinking about intelligence and learning that actually encourages greater effort and learning. The term was first coined by Dr. Carol Dweck after many years of research. Teachers who practice this mindset use praise that encourages student effort rather than praising intelligence. For example, instead of saying,

"You're so smart," a teacher might say, "You really stayed with that problem until you solved it" or "You gave exceptional effort to this."

Studies show that praising hard work and effort cultivates a growth mindset in students. When students have a growth mindset, they take on challenges and learn from failures, increasing their abilities and achievement. For example, seventh-graders who were taught using a growth mindset showed a clear increase in math grades.

In Glendora Unified School District, many teachers are reading the book *Growth Mindset* by Dr. Carol Dweck, and they are already trying new activities and practices in their classrooms based on these new discoveries about how children learn best. To read more information about Growth Mindset, visit www.mindsetworks.com.



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Cullen *Elementary*

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



Dr. Cheryl Bonner
Principal

Cullen Visits LA County Fair

On September 21, over two thirds of Cullen's student body joined a good number of Glendora's students at the LA County Fair. Designated as Glendora Day at the Fair, this annual event, funded by the Big Yellow Bus Committee, begins with students boarding buses first thing, that day and arriving at the Pomona Fair Grounds with hundreds of other students from throughout the area, to visit the various exhibits provided, before the Fair opens to the public, three hours later. In speaking with some students who attended this year, they enthusiastically recalled highlights including:

- Making rag dolls
- Feeding goats
- Viewing baby animals such as the newborn lambs and rabbits
- Viewing the pig races
- Getting honey sticks at the Honey Bee building
- Walking through the body exhibit
- Fake shopping
- Seeing the beautiful flowers and peacocks
- Getting the opportunity to milk cows (in a hands on exhibit)
- Visiting the sports or classic art exhibits
- Visiting Jurassic World and seeing a variety of dinosaurs
- Riding the tram through the fair grounds

As you can see, there were quite a variety of responses, just further illustrating the variety of experiences available to Glendora's kids.

Thank you Yellow Bus Committee!



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



This school year is going by so fast it is hard to believe winter break is around the corner. Superintendent Dr. Voors begins this issue being thankful for everyone who makes this district successful. It is perfect time for me to express my thankfulness to publish the excellence from this district.

In this issue you will read about Kindness Week, Stomp Out Bullying, the Walking School Bus and much more...enjoy!

Our next issue is January 18. Until then have a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

School News

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Covering the
GLENDORA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Goddard *Middle School*

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



Jennifer Prince
Principal

Pay It Forward for Kindness Week

Goddard strives to mold well-rounded and active citizens. One example is a joint effort from our "Be the Difference" and ASB clubs that organized a weeklong event to "Pay It Forward." Students collaborated to develop a week of activities that promoted kindness to others for National Kindness Week.

One of those was the "Pay It Forward Challenge," which encouraged students to do chores for friends and family and then donate the money to Pay It Forward. Our amazing Titans took on the challenge with gusto! In just one week they collected \$863 for donation to two worthy organizations: the African Development Mission, an organization that provides meals and school supplies for a school in Africa; and the Make a Wish Foundation, earmarked for granting the wish of a fellow Goddard Titan student.

I am always proud to be a Titan, but when I look at the effort, coordination, and kindness that went into this campaign from our staff and students, I am even more proud.



Glendora *High School*

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



Paul Lopez
Principal

Our Momentum Continues!

GHS is in the middle of Homecoming and all things college. We have had our annual Tartan University College and Career Fair, and we had a great turnout, with over 80 colleges and trade/technical schools as well as the Armed Services hosting tables at the fair.

Our keynote speaker was Paul Kanarek from a college-counseling company, and he gave the audience tips on what questions to ask and specifically how to navigate through a college fair. Our Homecoming event was a great success—we won our football game, and our dance will be attended by 1,300 of our students! Our Homecoming Parade had a lot of community support and was a ton of fun.

The first quarter has ended, and the school year is flying by! We are having fun at GHS and making an impact and keeping active the momentum that will carry us for the rest of the school year.

It's great to be a Tartan!



Happy Holidays from the *School News* staff!

La Fetra *Elementary*

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



Marie Porcell
Principal

Change for a Cure

We are really proud of our generous, compassionate students and families! During the month of September, we raised pediatric cancer awareness at La Fetra, beginning with an awareness assembly and culminating with a month-long collection of change for supporting pediatric cancer research. Each classroom had a collection jar and students brought in spare change, some even emptying their piggy banks, to show their support. We have a few students who have recently battled cancer and their La Fetra friends have been touched by their experiences and today,



celebrate their victories. It is incredibly rewarding to watch our students grow academically while simultaneously developing positive character traits. Watch out world...La Fetra lions are on their way to leaving an amazing legacy of generosity, love and compassion!

Sandburg *Middle School*

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



Eric Osborne
Principal

Preparing, Literally, for the Future

Sandburg Middle School is excited to announce the opening of Spartan Labs, a new technology center, makerspace and professional-development center complete with an 11 foot digital SMARTWALL, Chromebooks and flexible seating for 70 students. Spartan Labs is the first installment of a library-transformation project with the intent of moving away from a traditional library space and evolving into a creative and student-centered learning commons.

Spartan Labs provides hands-on, creative ways to encourage students to design, experiment, build and invent as they deeply engage in science, technology, engineering, art and math. Makerspace learning can also empower students, helping them shift from being passive consumers of information and products to active creators and innovators. Sandburg's staff is working hard to instill a growth mindset with an emphasis on community partnership, collaboration and creation within all of our students. Spartans will soon have the opportunity to learn from the latest in technological advancements such as 3-D printing, laser cutters, glow forges, video and website production, coding, robotics and more. Ultimately, the interdisciplinary and empowering nature of Spartan Labs will help prepare Sandburg's Spartans for a future we can't yet imagine.

If you are interested in learning more about the innovation going on at Sandburg or would like a tour of Spartan Labs, please call the Spartan Office. Next step? Spartan Lounge, a new student-centered space, is currently in the design process.

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Sellers *Elementary*

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Steve Bishop
Principal

All Aboard the Walking School Bus

Sellers Elementary School participated in National Walk to School Day on October 5. This was a nice start to the day, as many students gathered to make walking to school a special event.

Students and parents gathered at predetermined locations to walk together to school. Many students had signs to celebrate the event, while others carried balloons and banners. Students also carried large cardboard cutouts of traditional yellow school buses to represent the theme.

This great event brings student and parent groups together. Walking together also provides security for all involved. Another benefit was a reduction in vehicle traffic at the school site.

After the students arrived at school, McGruff the Crime Dog and officers from the Glendora Police Department greeted the students. Students received stickers and pencils for their participation in the event.

Thank you to all who participated in this wonderful event.



Stanton *Elementary*

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



Dr. Sara Najarro
Principal

Honored at the LA County Fair

We are proud of our students whose work was featured at the Los Angeles County Fair. The art theme was based on *The BFG*, a book by Roald Dahl. Students in Mrs. Lotz's 2015 second-grade class listened to their teacher read the book aloud. Then they made cootie catchers, dream jars, or dream catchers based on the theme. One student, McKenna Oldham, received the fair's top honor, and Tim Osorio received best use of the theme for his Dr. Seuss project.

Rebekah Zweerink submitted her Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) project at the fair and earned



Rebekah and her Science Project

first place. This project was titled *Charging Up* and explored how charged particles move. Rebekah measured their speed and direction and found that their speed did not change with their direction.

Our Stanton Elementary School scholars continue to make their mark within and outside of our school walls. Congratulations!

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Sheri Cole
Principal

No Bullying Here!

Sutherland Elementary School celebrated National Bully Prevention Month with weekly themes.

The first Monday of the month, students wore blue in support of Anti-Bully Day and signed a poster to commit to preventing bullying. During the first week of October students were encouraged to do a kind deed for a family member or friend. At the end of the week, students filled out sticky notes about random acts of kindness they did during the week. These posters are hung in the front of the school to celebrate kindness.

The recognition of bullying prevention continued with additional themes, including "Make New Friends" and "Stomp Out Bullying." We even have a first-grade classroom that started a Kind Kids Club, which encourages students to be kind and friendly to one another. The club works to support kind efforts and deeds at our school.

It is wonderful to see Sutherland students take action.





Ron Letourneau
Principal

Students Lead the Way!

The faces may be different from year to year, but the outcomes produced by our Leadership students continue to maintain a positive atmosphere on our campus. Each year, our Leadership class does everything in its power to provide students with activities and events that will be memorable and increase school spirit.

Under the guiding hand of librarian Linda Shook and recommendations by the Whitcomb teaching staff, the Leadership students hit the road running when school starts. This group spends a great deal of time decorating the campus for both Suicide Awareness Week and Red Ribbon Week. Along these same lines, bracelets are provided to students with emergency contacts, if necessary.

Various activities and assemblies are put together by Leadership throughout the year. There are a couple of fund-raisers by the students that take place throughout the year to help raise funds for all students. These fund-raisers, along with assistance from our incredible PTSA, are utilized to keep prices down for the highlight of the school year—our wonderful and exciting prom hosted by Leadership.



Curious George Goes to the Zoo—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 December 15, 2016.
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | | |
|---------|--------------|-----------|
| Amazing | Giraffe | Water |
| Animals | Headquarters | Wild |
| Climbed | Hippo | Wonderful |
| Curious | Leaves | Zoo |
| Danced | Park | Zookeeper |
| Fun | Party | |
| George | Rhino | |

Congratulations Maren Stone
Winner of the September Word Search Contest!



Glendora Education Foundation

417 W. Foothill Blvd., Suite B#324, Glendora, CA 91741 • 626/963-1611 ext 367 • www.glendoraedfoundation.org

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Comes to Elementary

Beginning in GUSD in 2007 with just two 7th grade sections, AVID is now 13 sections strong in 6th-12th grades! We are excited to announce the program is being piloted for the first time in 6th grade at Sandburg, and will expand to 6th grade at Goddard and the upper grades at La Petra and Sellers next year.

AVID teaches students vital skills needed to succeed in school and be prepared for college and beyond. Teachers are trained to provide support and instruction in diverse academic modes, including note-taking, studying and organization, and critical inquiry. These strategies are embedded across campuses, so all students benefit from the program. Both nationally and in Glendora, AVID is proven to prepare students for college, and has a high degree of success helping them enroll and graduate from 4-year colleges.

The Glendora Education Foundation proudly supports the funding of the AVID program.



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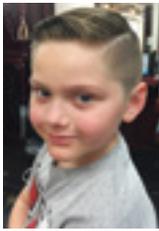
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The Hardy Boys - The Missing Mitt

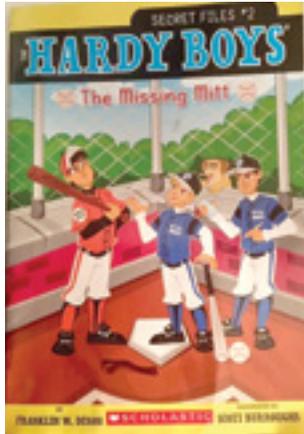


Michael H.

This Hardy Boy case is about Joe and His brother Frank. They try to figure out who took Jason Prime's baseball mitt. Their Team the Bayport Bandits were all ready to win the final little league game of the season using their good luck charm. Jason's mitt was special because his dad Winner Prime had used it to win the world series. Right before each game the whole team would touch it for luck.

Jason thought it was Conner Hound from the opposing team, because he had seen him snooping around their bags while they were practicing. Jason was upset and did not want to play until the mitt was found. After some detective work they figured out what had happened to the missing baseball mitt. They remembered that earlier that day Mr. Mack's dog Lucy had jumped on Jason. Lucy loved to play fetch especially with things that people threw on the ground. You had to be very careful around her because anything thrown might end up buried somewhere. They decided to throw another mitt. Lucy immediately picked it up and began to run. Jason, Joe and Frank chased her. When Lucy stopped she dug a hole and there in the hole was Jason's mitt. The Hardy boys were very happy. Secret File Case #2 was solved.

I give this book 4 stars I really enjoyed the mystery. The only thing that would have made this book more exciting was if Lucy the dog wasn't the one who had taken Jason's mitt.



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.

Fascinating!



Lucy Davis

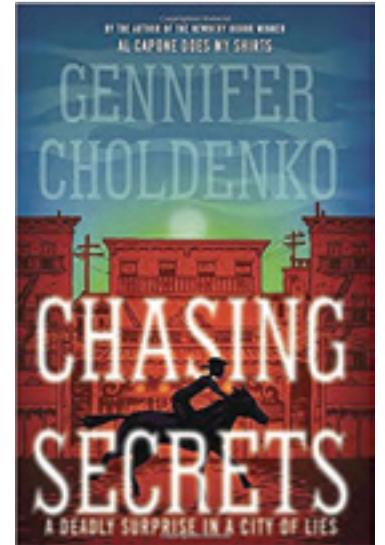
Chasing Secrets

Author: Gennifer Choldenko

Set in the year 1900, Elizabeth is a thirteen-year-old girl living in San Francisco. Not really fitting in at her finishing school governed by an unruly headmistress, Lizzie wants to become a scientist. She loves her family's cook, Jing, who always has an encouraging word, friendly smile, and occasionally a surprise-filled cake!

Suddenly a deathly surprise steps in. The bubonic plague has hit San Francisco, especially rat-infested Chinatown. Jing is unfairly placed in the quarantine because of his ethnicity. Now it's up to Elizabeth, along with the help of her brother and the cook's son, Noah (secretly living in her attic), to get Jing out of quarantine. Can they do it?

I give this book five bookworms because of the suspense and hope that Elizabeth gives the reader. Every step of the way you'll be on her side cheering her on to the very last page of this truly fascinating book.



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.

We Love Our Dogs Word Search Contest

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

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Basenji	Doberman	Rottweiler
Beagle	Great Dane	Saint Bernard
Bloodhound	Labrador Retriever	Samoyed
Boxer	Malamute	Shiba Inu
Bulldog	Mastiff	Shih Tzu
Chihuahua	Pinscher	Siberian Husky
Chow Chow	Poodle	Weimaraner
Collie	Pug	Xoloitzcuintli

S	I	B	E	R	I	A	N	H	U	S	K	Y	G	N
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E	C	I	W	A	R	O	T	T	W	E	I	L	E	R
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