

FREE

# School News

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Covering the Brea Olinda Unified School District

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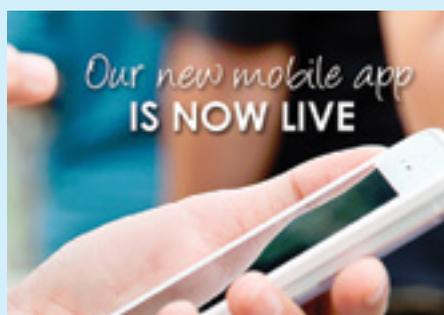
## SUPERINTENDENT

### BOUSD Has An App for That!



Dr. Brad Mason

As a superintendent, I am often challenged to find the most effective way to communicate to our parents, students, staff, and the community at large. In our ever-changing world, where having current information is critical, this challenge has become even greater. To that end, BOUSD is always working to utilize all available resources to communicate with district stakeholders and the community at large. To more effectively communicate with parents and stakeholders in this very digital world, the Brea Olinda Unified School District recently launched a smartphone app that enables individuals to easily access district news, calendars, information about district initiatives, and if they have children in schools, student grades—right from their mobile phones. Additionally, the app can be customized to include an array of features useful to parents, such as lunch menus and staff directories. The app can also be used to push important communications to parents as well as emergency updates. The app is free for users to download and is available for iOS and Android users. As you can see, BOUSD is changing the way we communicate in order to reach our parents, students, and staff, as well as our entire community.



## Exploring the World of Computing— Coding

By Daryn Coburn,  
Principal Mariposa Elementary School

Along with their fellow Monarchs, our Mariposa students in grades four to six are exploring the world of computing as they learn how to code.

Led by two Mariposa teachers, Mrs. Terri Kueny and Ms. Heather Kelley, this after-school group of about 60 students had their first meeting in January, and will be continuing for another 16 weeks.

Coding is not just for college students any more. Our 20-lesson course created by code.org is prepared with critical thinking, logic, persistence, and creativity in mind. It also helps our students excel at problem solving in other subject areas.

The students create programs with loops, events, and conditionals, and also write algorithms for everyday tasks. They can translate their names into binary, investigate various problem-solving techniques, and discuss the societal impacts of computing. By the end of the course they have developed interactive games or stories for sharing.



There are also self-paced tutorials available, so that if our upper-graders catch the computer “bug” they can still keep coding at home. There’s no limit on how far they can go.

## Your Voice Counts!

By Brad Mason, Superintendent

The effort continues to inform and seek input regarding our Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and all of the components of this document.

We, in the Brea Olinda Unified School District (BOUSD), want to ensure that this document is not just some pages sitting on a shelf, but that it is the guide for what we do. For that reason we have worked very hard to ensure that all of our plans and documents are aligned and meaningful. In 2016, we gathered data through surveys, meetings, and in-depth conversations and below are the additions that were made in the 2016-17 school year using LCAP supplemental funds:

- The addition of the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program at Brea Junior High (2 periods in both 7th & 8th grades)
- Hired two new 21st Century Learning Coaches (Teachers On Special Assignment)
- Hired additional PE teachers to provide additional PE time for the students, and prep time for grade level teacher planning

- Purchased additional Chromebook carts (40 per cart): one cart per elementary school (40) , two carts (80) at the Junior High, and three carts (120) at the High School
- New website design and mobile app launch to further inform parents, promote involvement and solicit community input

Now in it’s fourth year, the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), is moving into the annual revision cycle between February and May 2017. During this time, a host of LCAP meetings have been scheduled to review the current progress on goals, actions and services and gather feedback on how to continue to refine supports for all students, with a particular focus on supporting achievement for students who are economically disadvantaged, English learners and foster youth. Your voice counts in this process. The District is encouraging the Brea community to take the annual LCAP survey which is located on the District website at [www.bousd.us](http://www.bousd.us) under the LCAP tab. We thank you in advance for your time and valuable input.

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- ✓ Is a **proud sponsor** of the Brea Centennial
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- ✓ Is a **proud sponsor** of multiple Brea Olinda High School sports teams
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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



This is our 3rd year publishing the excellence from the BOUSD. There have been many changes in the classrooms, but the one constant is academic excellence. One major change has been in communication technology. As Dr. Mason writes about in his message on the front page there are many ways to stay in contact and the District has launched a smartphone app.

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. All 31 of our publications are available printed and digitally.

Our next issue is May 17.

# Brea Olinda Unified School District



## Now Enrolling! School Age and Teen Programs

BOUSD's Before and After School programs offer a safe place for students and include homework assistance, enrichment activities, indoor play and outdoor recreation. Programs are located at every elementary school and Brea Junior High School. All program centers open at 7:00 a.m. each day and are open until the start of the school day. Sites reopen at school dismissal and remain open until 6:00 p.m. TK/Kindergarten Connection wrap-around programs compliment the traditional school day and provide a full day learning program for all of its participants and is also offered at each campus.



## Full Day and Part Day Preschool

BOUSD's Early Learning Program was created to provide an enriched environment for early-aged children with benefits to their intellectual, physical, emotional and social development. State Preschool (income qualifying program) and Fee-Based programs are designed for potty-trained 3- and 4-year olds and are held at Arovista, Country Hills, Laurel, Mariposa, and Olinda. Full time and Part time options are available.

## Seasonal Day Camps

Full day camp programs are offered during the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer breaks. Weekly tuition includes on site activities and off site field trips.



## Registration/Information

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## Arovista *Elementary (K-6)*

900 Eadington Dr., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-2185 • <http://arovista.bousd.us>



**Karen VanDine**  
Principal

### Buddy Benches

Buddy Benches are Arovista's newest approach to building a positive school climate for students. Buddy Benches help to provide a friendly school community and help students to increase their social emotional learning. They promote friendships and ensure that every child has a place on the playground. If students aren't sure what to do, whom to play with, or what their options are at recess, they can go hang out on our benches.

Arovista's three Buddy Benches were built by former Arovista student Jacob Albee for his Eagle Scout Project. He placed one Buddy Bench in each of our three playgrounds.



Arovista is very appreciative that one of our past Allstars chose to give back to his elementary school and students for his service project. They look great and are a great addition to our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program.

## Brea *Junior High School (7-8)*

400 N. Brea Blvd., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7500 • <http://bjhs.bousd.us>



**Kelly Kennedy**  
Principal

### P.A.L.s Supporting Their Peers

Brea Junior High School is proud to be implementing a Peer Assistance Leadership (P.A.L.) Club, in order to help reinforce the positive school climate on our campus.

This school-based, peer-to-peer program allows for students to gain leadership skills by helping other students in providing conflict resolution services for the entire student body. Our thirty-one PAL students were trained to work through conflict by following a peer mediation script, in a safe and confidential environment. This script allows for two PAL peer mediators to aid two conflicting students in discussing their points of view of the specified conflict, identifying their feelings, exploring solutions, and agreeing upon a resolution. Knowledge of conflict management skills will not only reinforce the P.R.I.D.E. on the BJH campus, but provide all students with strategies way beyond their secondary school years, allowing for college, career, and life readiness.



## Brea Canyon *High School (9-12)*

689 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7882 • <http://bchs-bousd-ca.schoolloop.com>



**Eric Barrientos**  
Principal

### Reaching New Apex

For several months, Brea Canyon High School has been in talks with staff and BOUSD leadership regarding how Brea Canyon High School students could benefit from a digital/online program and what a program like that might look like logistically on its campus. After much conversation and preparation, Brea Canyon High School and Apex Learning have finally formed a partnership in exploring how their digital curriculum can be successfully used at BCHS for credit recovery, remediation and enhanced learning instruction. Beginning 1.31.17, Brea Canyon

High School will be offering blended-learning elective courses, using APEX Learning digital curriculum and providing credit-recovery online opportunities for our most at-risk students. During this 20-week pilot, Apex Learning will allow Brea Canyon a 21st century A-G approved standards- and web-based alternative in continuing to provide students with more individualized pathways in hopes of increasing graduation rates through online credit recovery and creating blended-learning opportunities to scaffold current instructional practices and expand options in core and elective courses for all students. Apex Learning will also allow specific subject-matter remediation through online modules and tutorials for targeted students, and will provide broader alternatives for elective courses, including college prep and Career Technical Education (CTE) options through Apex Learning courses for all students.

Apex Psychology, Apex CTE Intro to Health Sciences, and Apex College and Career Preparation are the beginning of an array of elective options now being offered at our state-recognized Model Continuation High School. As the semester continues, look for more details regarding the progress of this collaboration between Brea Canyon High School and Apex Learning.

# Brea Country Hills *Elementary (K-6)*

150 N. Associated Rd., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-3221 • <http://countryhills.bousd.us>



**Trish Walsh**  
Principal

## Thriving Cougars

Spring has sprung, and all of our Brea Country Hills Elementary School Cougars are thriving in academics and enrichment. Excelling in math has been a particular focus for us this year. Teachers are working diligently to help guide students through the complex critical thinking and writing required in today's rigorous mathematics curriculum.

Our dedicated teachers are providing our Cougars with lots of enrichment, too. The Cougar Chorus and Fitness Club keeps students healthy and engaged in the arts. The Computer Science Club provides technology-based growth opportunities for our 21<sup>st</sup>-century learners.

The Country Hills PTA has been supporting our students by providing six weeks of fantastic music classes for all Cougars. They have also supported cultural performances from the Segerstrom Performing Arts Center Arts Teach



program, including the Japanese drums of the Taiko Project, a Korean dance troupe, and Street Beat, a rhythmic music and movement experience.

Country Hills is the place to be a great student!

# Brea Olinda *High School (9-12)*

789 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7850 • <http://bohs.bousd.us>



**Jerry Halpin**  
Principal

## Latest Efforts

Brea Olinda High School (BOHS) has had another great first semester of the school year. BOHS has a strong Advanced Placement program, and students are in the process of registering for their May exams. Last year, more students took the AP exams than in any other year of our school's history, despite a slight drop in overall enrollment.

BOHS has excelled athletically too, with 11 of 13 varsity teams advancing to the CIF playoffs. Boys cross country, girls golf, and girls basketball captured league championships, and boys cross country finished sixth in California. The BOHS marching band also advanced to the state championships by finishing fourth in their division. Vocal music, dance, and the drama department have also put on over a dozen high-energy shows.

Additionally, BOHS is in the planning stages for two new programs. Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a program that supports campus-wide acceptance of positive behavior and recognition. We are a strong school in the area of school safety, and this program will enhance our efforts in this concern.

Brea Junior High School began their AVID program this year, and BOHS will also be offering this program in the 2017–2018 school year. AVID is designed to support college-bound students (typically from first-generation families) with their efforts to succeed in high school and college. The students are exposed to a strong college-going culture, and can receive in-class instruction and tutorial support to help achieve their goals.

Our students are also in the middle of the course selection process for the 2017–2018 school year. BOHS will be offering two new courses: an ROP body systems class that supports the medical careers pathway, and an AP art history class. In addition, we are also exploring adding Korean as another world language offering to support strong student and family interest. We look forward to a successful second semester!

## Teachers See the Possibilities

In Jennifer Swanson's high school English class, seniors master material that prepares them for college and careers, gaining writing and communication skills that will benefit them throughout their lives.



Arroyo High School, Expository English Class, Teacher: Jennifer Swanson '96, M.A.Ed. '99

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# William E. Fanning *Elementary (K-6)*

650 N. Apricot Ave., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-3908 • <http://fanning.bousd.us>



**Theresa Stevens**  
*Principal*

## Blast from the Past

An important purpose of education in history is to make the past seem real instead of something just read in a textbook. At Fanning Elementary School, students used Google Slides to present information about Black History Month and Martin Luther King Jr. Day by integrating current events with history. Through research, students created books, thinking maps, and biographies on historical black heroes, including Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Ruby Bridges, Michael Jordan, George Washington Carver, and Barack Obama.

There is no better way to learn about history than to live it. Our fifth-grade students trekked to Riley's Farm to see a reenactment of the American Revolutionary War. Historical figures came to life with a living statue event hosted by our third-graders. And sixth-grade students prepared for weeks to enjoy their Walk Through Ancient Worlds presentation.

Using a variety of activities to make history meaningful helps students learn and remember.



# Olinda *Elementary (K-6)*

3145 E. Birch St., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/528-7475 • <http://olinda.bousd.us>



**Robert Rendon**  
*Principal*

## Read Around 2017

Olinda Eagles at each grade level recently completed participation in the 2016-17 Olinda Read Around. This year's theme was "Oh, the Places You'll Go!," and students in all grade levels participated with great enthusiasm.

Our school's Read Around is the major fund-raiser for our school's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). A major highlight for the Read Around includes the different dress up days that students get to participate in during the fund-raiser. Each day had a different theme: Hop on Pop Day had students wear neon colors to school. Fox in Sock Day was a fun activity as students wore crazy socks to school. One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish Day had a double meaning for our students as they wore red, white and blue to school.

The second dress-up day that most students participated in was Cat in the Hat Day, when students were allowed to wear crazy hats. The culminating dress-up day, I Could Read with My Eyes Shut Day, was the most popular of all. On this day, all students and staff wore pajamas to school and participated in a 45 minute Drop Everything and Read on the school playground. Our school also invited community readers to read to classes throughout the two-week activity.

The most active readers will be eligible to participate in reward activities that may include participating in a Glow Dance Party, attend a field trip to a trampoline park, or enjoy an ice cream from an on-campus ice cream truck. This was a very successful fund-raiser and was an amazing two weeks of fun activities for all.

Thanks to our school's fabulous PTO for planning this wonderful event. As you can see, great things are happening at Olinda School, Home to the Eagles!

# Laurel Elementary *Magnet School of Innovation and Career Exploration*

200 S. Flower Ave., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-2520 • <http://laurel.bousd.us>



**Heather Bojorquez**  
*Principal*

## Muddy Hands, Happy Planet

The Laurel Elementary Magnet School of Innovation and Career Exploration provides its students with hands-on, real-world learning experiences. Our classroom teachers are committed to using Project Based Learning (PBL) as a means for their students to explore and solve unique problems and answer driving questions.

This past February, our Leopard PTA, BOUSD grounds team, and Common Vision group all worked together to help the students put their science and art knowledge to work. The result is that this trimester our students are engaged in a PBL unit about environmental science.



## Laurel students get their hands dirty to plant a new orchard on campus.

Students from the second to sixth grades are now helping to revamp the school's central planter and turn it into a school orchard. A variety of fruit trees have been planted, including Desert Gold Peach and Panache Fig. The students have also collaborated to paint identification signs for each tree.

We are so proud of our new orchard, and cannot wait to see the fruits of our labor!

# Mariposa *Elementary (K-6)*

1111 W. Mariposa Dr., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-4916 • <http://mariposa.bousd.us>



**Daryn Coburn**  
*Principal*

**Please see our article on the front page.  
Exploring the World of Computing**

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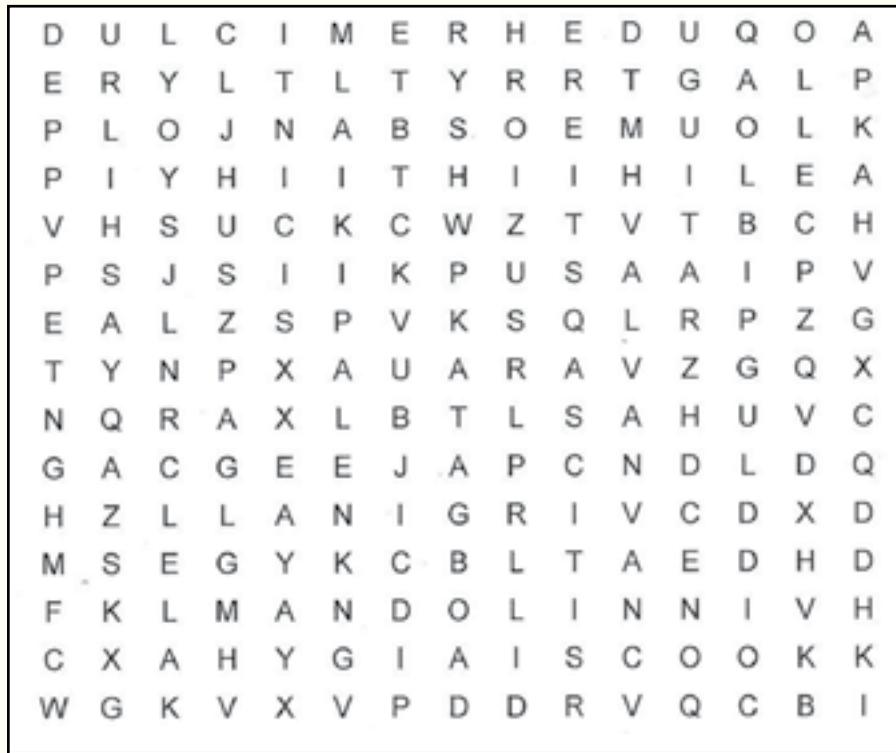
## Musical String Instruments Word Search Contest

**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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) Please put Brea Olinda in the subject line.

Entries must be received by April 15, 2017  
 From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- |            |             |         |
|------------|-------------|---------|
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Congratulations to **Lucy Lee**  
 Winner of the November Word Search Contest!





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