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Covering the Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach City, Huntington Beach Union High School, Ocean View, and Westminster School Districts

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HBUHSD Honor Band

By Alyssa Griffiths -Public Information Coordinator, Huntington Beach Union High School District

Annual Huntington Beach Union High School District Honor Band Concert showcases 87 top-notch HBUHSD student musicians

Eighty-seven of the district's finest student musicians from Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) comprehensive high schools recently combined to participate in the 31st annual Honor Band Concert.

Following a month-long audition and rehearsal process, the honor musicians assembled on the historic HBUHSD Auditorium stage to perform the band's annual, complimentary concert. Under the leadership of guest conductor, Dr. Leo Sakomoto of California State University, Bakersfield, the show featured a medley of five complex music pieces "Olympiada" by Samuel R. Hazo, "Courtly Airs and Dance" by Ron Nelson, "Dusk" by Steven Bryant, "Vesuvius" by Frank Ticheli, and "National Emblem" by E. E. Bagley.

The band consisted of an array of students including nine Edison Chargers, 16 Fountain Valley Barons, 32 Huntington Beach Oilers, 15 Marina Vikings, eight Ocean View Seahawks, and seven Westminster Lions. Nine students also received special recognition for their unwavering dedication to the District Honor Band, having participated all four years of high school.



HBUHSD Honor Band

The tradition of the District Honor Band is made possible each year by the devoted service of HBUHSD school site band directors Arwen Hernandez (Edison High School), Mark Irons (Fountain Valley High School), Matt Matthews (Fountain Valley High School), Gregg Gilboe (Huntington Beach High School), John McGilligan (Marina High School), J.P. Combs (Ocean View High School), John Whatley (Westminster High School), and Kim Long Vo (Westminster High School).

The Power of Perseverance

By Dr. Clint Harwick, Superintendent Huntington Beach Union High School District

The Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) 2016–2019 Strategic Plan, The HBUHD Pledge, outlines the following core values that the district represents and encourages: integrity, collaboration, wisdom, perseverance, and creativity. On this year's National Athletic Signing Day, HBUHSD student athletes seemed to exemplify one of these core values beyond the rest: perseverance.

The HBUHSD Pledge defines perseverance as "showing courage to sustain focus and effort in order to achieve success." On February 1, HBUHSD school sites recognized senior student athletes who have committed to playing collegiate-level sports, therefore displaying their athletic perseverance throughout their high school years. Huntington Beach High School (HBHS) hosted a grand ceremony for the largest signing class in the county, honoring 34 signees.



Senior girls water polo players with Superintendent Harwick at Huntington Beach High School's National Athletic Signing Day Ceremony.

The school's gymnasium, home to many student athletes as a place for practice and competition, was transformed, complete with individualized college banners, Oiler-themed balloons, and rows of signing tables. Proud supporters packed the stands to help recognize and celebrate the student athletes' great success.

Before the student athletes signed the most important documents of their young lives, those in attendance were reminded of the distinct academic and athletic perseverance it took these students to reach that point. Then, with a confident stroke of a pen, each student athlete signed a national letter of intent, committing not only to a specific college and sport but also pledging to persevere.

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WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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/PRODUCTION: Katie Caress

COPY EDITORS:
Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST:
Netragrednik by Neta Madison



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562/493-3193

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



This is our 13th year publishing the excellence from these districts and the good news just keeps coming. In this issue, you will read about the Virtual Enterprise, A Garden of Learning, Inspirational Students, STEAM, Coding, Outdoor Science School, Science Night, and so much more...what a great time to be a student! Also, to keep you busy during Spring Break on page 6 you will find the library activities.

Our contest this issue is on page 20 where you will also find the name of the winner from the January issue.

Our next issue is May 10, 2017.

Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center

17100 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/966-7200 • www.fountainvalleyhospital.com

Childhood Sleep Problems



Kenneth Kim, M.D.

Medical Director,
Pediatric ICU

Children can make up many excuses not to go to, or stay in bed. Some childhood sleep problems are caused by poor sleep habits, while others may be hereditary or symptoms of emotional difficulties. Fortunately, children typically outgrow sleep problems.

The amount of sleep children need gradually decreases as they mature. Newborn babies usually nap about 16 hours through the day and night, while teenagers need about nine hours of sleep per night.

For many parents, getting their children to go to bed and stay there can be frustrating, but they can help put a stop to bedtime troubles by following these simple steps: Stick to the same bedtime every night, even on weekends; Turn off the television, video games and computer at least one hour before going to bed and start winding down with a consistent routine that includes brushing teeth, going to the bathroom and maybe reading a short story; Make sure the place to sleep is comfortable; Keep a low noise level in the house while the child is asleep.

Some childhood sleep problems called parasomnias, include night terrors, sleepwalking and sleep talking. Night terrors involve episodes of fear, flailing or screaming that can last a few minutes while the child is asleep. They affect only a small number of children between the ages of three and 12 and usually are outgrown by adolescence. Children who sleepwalk may be at risk for injury by falling down stairs or opening windows. Parents should not try to wake children up, but instead guide them back to bed or otherwise gently reassure them.



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Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 800-MEMORIAL • MillerChildrens.org/GI

Identifying When a Stomachache is Serious



Barry Steinmetz, M.D.

associate medical director, Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition Center, Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach



When a child experiences a stomachache, it's important for parents to be able to distinguish normal abdominal pain from a serious problem.

There are several reasons kids may experience stomachaches:

Constipation: Stool may be hard and difficult to pass leading to stomach pains. Poor diet and insufficient water intake are frequent causes.

Diarrhea: Diarrhea is runny, loose bowel movements. It's often caused by food that upset the stomach, but if diarrhea persists it may be a sign of an infection.

Stomach Flu: The "stomach flu" is not actually a type of flu but inflammation in the lining of the intestines usually caused by a virus, called gastroenteritis. Symptoms can include diarrhea, stomach pains, vomiting, headache, fever and chills. Most people recover without treatment.

GERD: A common childhood condition is gastroesophageal reflux disease, which is a chronic disease that occurs when stomach acid or contents flows back into the food pipe. Symptoms include a burning sensation in the chest, chest pain, difficulty swallowing and dry cough.

Unless your child has a serious infection or condition, stomachaches will usually go away with time. However, if your child experiences frequent abdominal pains, bloating, diarrhea or constipation, talk to your child's pediatrician about an improved diet or consultation with a gastroenterologist.



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A Beautiful Smile and So Much More



Dr. Andrew Harner
Orthodontist

People expect to have a beautiful smile at the end of their orthodontic treatment. However, did you realize there are so many other benefits of having orthodontic treatment? In this installment, I've listed the additional benefits below!

Less likely to be bullied as a child: A recent study found that children with severely protruded upper front teeth, often called "buck teeth", were more likely to be bullied and teased.

The perception of being successful: Based on a survey done in 2012, when Americans were asked about having crooked teeth, an overwhelming 78% of them associated crooked teeth with unsuccessful people.

It's easier to clean aligned teeth and maintain overall health: Studies have shown that straight teeth are easier to clean than crooked teeth. When teeth are difficult to keep clean, gum disease can develop which has been shown to be a risk factor for coronary artery disease. So, having aligned, easy to clean teeth is more beneficial than ever!

Prevention of trauma and adverse tooth wear: Children with 'buck teeth' are at an increased risk of chipping these teeth and can benefit from early orthodontic treatment. In addition, teeth can be damaged and worn down if pairs of teeth are hit against each other in a traumatic fashion when biting down.

Breathing issues: There is a growing body of evidence that the size and position of the jaws can influence the ability to breath efficiently. In fact, for some individuals, sleep apnea treatment involves orthodontically aligning the teeth and moving the jaws into a better position relative to each other and the airways.

Dr. Andrew Harner is an orthodontic specialist and maintains a private practice in Huntington Beach. He is currently the President of the California Association of Orthodontists. He has served on the Board of the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists, and is member of the American Association of Orthodontists. (714) 842-9933

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Every 15 Minutes



John J. Collins
Mayor

Since 1998, the Fountain Valley Police Department has partnered with local high schools to present an educational program called “Every 15 Minutes.” Targeting high school teens, the program is designed to educate them on the harmful effects of drinking and driving.

The program title reminds participants that someone in the United States dies or is seriously injured every 15 minutes in an alcohol-related traffic collision. This year, “Every 15 Minutes” will take place at Fountain Valley High School on March 24-25.

This powerful program is designed to create awareness among students that they are not invincible, and it helps open the emotional doors, addressing the problem most teens do not know exist. One of the primary objectives of the “Every 15 Minutes” program is proactive education.

During the “Every 15 Minutes” program, everyone involved is reminded that drinking and driving is not an accident. These crashes and injuries are predictable and preventable. The Fountain Valley Police Department is very serious in the attempt to eliminate deaths and injuries caused by drinking and driving, which is why “Every 15 Minutes” is scheduled prior to high school prom and graduation activities.

Drivers under 21 are subject to zero tolerance laws. Underage impaired drivers are subject to very strict penalties, such as license revocation, hefty fines, and extended community service. It does not pay to drink and drive. Be smart, DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!

Huntington Beach Central Library

7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/374-5338 • www.hbpl.org

Beanstack Online Reading Program



Barbara Richardson
Senior Librarian
Programming and
Youth Services

Have you registered yourself and your children in our online reading program, Beanstack? It's simple and easy to do. Once you are registered you don't need to re-register. You can log in with your email or phone number and password. Go to hbpl.org and click on the Beanstack Banner. Need help registering or logging books online? You can go to any HB library and ask for assistance. The Children's Department now offers several year round online reading programs through Beanstack as well as seasonal reading raffles. Our Spring Reading Raffle Program starts March 20 and ends April 29. Children ages 0 – 13 can choose to count either books or minutes spent reading. They can pick up a Spring Reading log at any branch starting March 20. Children who complete the program will receive a scratch and sniff bookmark

and scented sticker. There will be a special Garden Party behind Central Library on Saturday, April 29, 10:00 a.m. to noon hosted by the HB Tree Society. This event is free and everyone is welcome to attend.

Thursday, March 23, Jamie Ford, author of the bestselling book, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* will speak at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Theater. This HB Reads' event is free and open to the public. Mr. Ford will also be visiting Edison High School to talk to the students.

Fountain Valley Library

17635 Los Alamos St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/962-1324 • www.ocpl.org

Spring Library Events

By Erik Oviedo, Children's Librarian

We will have many fun and free programs at the Fountain Valley Library in March and April, join the fun! Our Spring storytime session begins January 4th and we have two times available, 10:30am and 11:30am every Wednesday until March 29th (on break in April). The monthly BARK reading with therapy dogs program will be in our children's area March 18th and April 15th from 3:30-4:30pm. Spring craft days will be held on March 30th and April 20th 4-6pm.

City of Huntington Beach Office of the Mayor

2000 Main St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-5553 • www.huntingtonbeachca.gov

Surf City Events



Barbara Delgleize
Mayor

The new year is already flying by and Huntington Beach continues its efforts to bring incredible, family friendly events to Surf City.

Congratulations to the more than 15,000 runners and walkers in the recent 21th Annual Surf City Marathon. It's always so great to see thousands of folks from all 50 states and 17 countries come out on Super Bowl Sunday to bring high energy to HB!

We are thrilled for the City's Sister City Association to host the 4th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival at our beautiful Central Park on Sunday, March 19 from 11am to 5pm. Dignitaries from our

Sister City, Anjo, Japan, will attend the free event that

Our numerous event plans are shaping up - including the 113th Annual 4th of July Parade with this year's theme “United We Stand” will sure to be a crowd pleaser! The Vans US Open of Surfing returns July 31 August 6 featuring the top surfers in the world competing for prizes.

You can also visit our city website for the latest news around town. Hope to see you at some of these fantastic events!

Westminster Library

8180 13th St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/893-5057 • www.ocpl.org

Lots of Choices



Cathy S. DeLeon
Regional Branch
Manager

Book Babies every Tuesday at 10:30am. Get your littlest one started early with songs, play, and books! Recommended for children 0-2 years old.

Preschool Storytime every Wednesday at 10:30am.

Family Storytime every Saturday at 10:30am. Help encourage early literacy skills in your children—and have fun—with stories, songs, and a craft. Preschool Storytime is for children 2-4 years old, and Family Storytime is for all ages.

Family Movie Days every other Saturday from 2:00-4:00pm

Join us for a family movie followed by a fun craft! Light refreshments are served, but feel free to bring your own, too!

Homework Help every Saturday from 1:00-4:00pm. Volunteers are here every week to help students from kindergarten to high school!

VolunTEENS If you need volunteer hours for school, church, boy/girl scouts, or just to look good on your college application, come to the library! You must be at least 12 years old to volunteer.

Teen Advisory Board

The TAB is a group of teens who meet once a month to help plan programs and give valuable input about what books and magazines to order for the teen section. A fun way to have a say about what goes on at your library (and get volunteer hours)!

Please come to the library for a full calendar, or check online at www.ocpl.org. Library events are always free!

The library is an excellent, FREE resource for students. Your library card gives you access to our books, magazines and computers—and even eBooks and databases you can access from home!

Finally, our Spring Let's LEGO! sessions will be on March 28th and April 25th from 4:30- 6:30pm.

Our TAB (teen advisory board) will have a busy spring! Our teen movie will take place on March 4th from 2-5pm. Game/Let's LEGO! will be held on March 25th and April 22nd from 1-4:45pm.

- Shelving program for teens ages 16 years and older, needing community service hours for graduation requirements, honor society hours or college preparation. Teens may pick up an application from the library.
- Friends of the Library Bookstore sells gently used books for all reading interests, including children's fiction and non-fiction. Donations are also accepted at the bookstore. The Friends hold movie matinees every fourth Friday of the month at 1:00 PM for older teens through adults.

Fountain Valley School District

10055 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/843-3200 • www.fvsd.us

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Mark Johnson

FVSD Instructional Impact!

On Friday, February 10th FVSD teachers, principals, and counselors focused on continuing their professional development in the areas of reading, CGI math, common unit development, and student data during our third non-student day of the year. Through the collective input from site leadership teams, each school site uniquely created and executed a day designed to build upon the District's overall professional development plan while targeting the specific needs of its teachers. While some elementary sites brought in consultants such as Growing

Educators, and Momentum in Teaching, to expand learning around reading instruction, others created teacher-lead sessions around site writing programs or CGI math. At the middle schools, all three of our sites highlighted the work curriculum teams have been engaged in this year including: common novels in ELA, math units, primary source work in history, and deeper preparation for NGSS. This day highlights all of the amazing site teams we have throughout our District and their commitment to continued learning in order to make an IMPACT on all FVSD kids!



Principal Erin Bains leads Gisler Elementary staff through an impactful day of professional development. All ten of our sites engaged in PD on February 10th as a part of our commitment to continued learning.

Fountain Valley Schools Foundation



Judy Edwards
President

Student Art

As Spring approaches we are entering the season of student showcases. This a time that lets the students involved in the arts and music "show their stuff". The Schools Foundation has the opportunity to give financial support to the students, and allow them a time and a place to showcase their artistic talents.

On April 11, 2017 from 4-7 PM the Fountain Valley School District will hold their annual Art Fair at the district office. Under the able direction of the VAPA (visual and performing arts) coordinators, Amelia Tirich and Brooke James there will be a wide variety of activities for the whole family. The Board room will be a gallery of student art that has been framed to high light student artistic talents. There will be will be a variety of stations for hands on activities. One of the stations will be designing, and making a mural. For the little ones there is even a place to decorate cookies. David Troung, a local jeweler, will again host a jewelry design contest. Children can design a piece of jewelry from a list of specific stones. The winning design will have their piece made by Mr. Troung. This was a big hit last year.

To make this a complete family event there will be food trucks so you can have dinner. The Middle School band and cheerleaders will provide entertainment. So bring your family and see what amazing artists and musicians our students are.

Please remember that we must fundraise to make these events possible. The TASTE of FOUNTAIN VALLEY will take place on April 29th at Los Cab. Join us to help the children of Fountain Valley School District grow through Art, Music, Science, and Robotics. www.FVschools.org

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Lisa Schultz
President Pro-Tem

Abuzz About Facilities in FVSD

FACILITIES. It's the buzz word all over FVSD! Eighteen months ago, we got a clear message from our community that they want to see substantial modernization for our schools. Then, they backed that up with their support of Measure O. Now, we are working hard to fulfill our promise of fiscally sound and transparent modernization projects at all 10 schools. The work planned for our schools includes: air conditioning, windows, doors and electrical and roofing upgrades, and we hope to be able to afford new portables and middle school science rooms, too. It's so exciting!

Our Board of Trustees and staff are working as fast as possible to select an outstanding architect and contractor, get our plans approved and issue bonds. We can't wait to put shovels to the ground and execute this well thought out plan to reach all our goals for a modern, comfortable and safe learning environment for our wonderful students and teachers.

As a parent, I know how important modern schools are to our kids; as a homeowner, I know how important modern schools are for maintaining property values; and, as a Trustee, I know how important modern schools are to our community's well being. I am thrilled to be a part of this process in FVSD during my tenure as one of your Trustees!

Roch Courreges Elementary (K-5)

18313 Santa Carlotta, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4280 • www.courreges.fvsd.us



Chris Christensen
Principal

Teacher of the Year

Courreges Elementary School is proud to select Tiffini Workman as its 2017 Teacher of the Year. Tiffini has been teaching in the FVSD since 2007, and is currently teaching

first grade at Courreges. She has had a tremendous impact on the students and staff members at Courreges.

As a teacher, Tiffini goes above and beyond to meet the individual needs of her students. Beyond just the classroom, for the past several years Tiffini has also served as our E.L. coordinator. Additionally, she has been an instrumental member in coordinating, teaching, and advocating for our E.L. after-school writing program.

Third-grade teacher Jennifer Hisgen stated, "Tiffini is a rock star, and does an amazing job as a teacher, E.L. coordinator, mentor, mother, and all-round professional."

Congratulations, Mrs. Workman!



Tiffini Workman

James H. Cox *Elementary (K-5)*

17615 Los Jardines E., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4240 • www.cox.fvsd.us



Patrick Ham
Principal

Celebrating Writing Excellence

The staff of Cox Elementary School have come together to bring a consistent writing program for all students in grades K-5. All 27 general education teachers as well as

our support staff are participating in professional development in the writing program: Write from the Beginning and Beyond. The consistency in writing strategies, organization, and lessons will have a tremendous impact for years to come for our students. We are excited to see the results so far in our students' response to literature and personal narrative writing samples.



2nd Grade Writing Award Winners – Desormiers: Melanie Borquez, Avea Harris, Josh Pham
Lewis: Angela Truong, Marigold Nguyen, Kei Ikehata; Macdonald: Emma Nguyen, Jayden Truong, Emma Chavez
Ostrzyzek-Schlosser: Sophia Cooper, Sophia Nguyen, James Nguyen

Harry C. Fulton *Middle School (6-8)*

8778 El Lago St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-2816 • www.fulton.fvsd.us



Kevin Johnson
Principal



Matt Ploski
Assistant Principal

Falcons of the Year

At the February FVSD Middle School Extravaganza, Fulton Middle School had the privilege of honoring the Falcons of the year.

Fulton Middle School is proud to present the 2017 Falcons of the Year. These students were selected by the Fulton staff based on their extraordinary effort, academic achievement and excellent citizenship. These students represent the very best Fountain Valley has to

offer. Also recognized (not pictured) were Fulton's PTA Volunteers of the Year Ms. Erin Volz (Ways & Means Chair) and Ms. Elizabeth Smilor (Secretary & Parliamentarian). Fulton is forever indebted to our PTA members who actively participate in our school's important decisions and daily contribute to what makes Fulton such an amazing place for our students.



Kanoa Wesley (6th grade), Sean Zukle (7th grade), Julia Svartstrom (8th grade), Jake Pedersen (8th grade), Emelia Ostovarpour (7th grade) and Eileen Baghdasarian (6th grade).

Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

18720 Las Flores, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4211 • www.gisler.fvsd.us



Erin Bains
Principal

Teaching Our Teachers

Recently, Fountain Valley School District had a non-student day for professional development. Gisler Elementary

School focused on our work in reading and Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI).

Gisler is currently piloting the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System, and teachers from our leadership team planned and led the activities in this area. The topic was shared and performance reading with an emphasis on fluency. Rubrics and criteria were discussed to equip teachers to select appropriately leveled texts for their students to practice dimensions such as rate, intonation, pausing, and stress. In grade-level groups, teachers even performed their own Readers' Theater!

We quickly switched to math with a discussion of problem solving with CGI. Grade-level groups created word problems and then shared with the whole group so we were able to see the progression from Transitional Kindergarten through fifth grade and how each grade supports the next.

All in all, it was a productive (and fun) day!



Teachers working collaboratively to get their minds in math mode for CGI and problem solving!

Kazuo Masuda *Middle School(6-8)*

17415 Las Jardines W., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4250 • www.masuda.fvgsd.us



Jay Adams
Principal



Jennifer Kajdasz
Assistant Principal

Masuda's Future Stars!

During the month of February, Masuda School recognized some of its outstanding students. They were Masuda's "Winning Hand" for the 2016-2017 school year.

We recently had a school board celebration to honor these fabulous students for their accomplishments, and for their exceptional contributions to our school. We are proud to applaud Jaden Smalley and Abdulazim

Muhammad, sixth grade; Audrey Tengan and Eric Stiffler, seventh grade; and Marina Haliem and Glenn Atkins III, eighth grade. The entire staff is extremely proud of their accomplishments, not to mention incredibly thankful for the opportunity to work with such stellar students.



Also honored at the board recognition were outstanding parent volunteers Karen Cunningham and Theresa Payne. These two PTSO members have spent countless hours going above and beyond for the students and faculty of Masuda. There aren't enough "thank-you's" in the world to show our appreciation for these two moms, and to the rest of our phenomenal PTSO.

William T. Newland *Elementary (K-5)*

8787 Dolphin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4200 • www.newland.fvgsd.us



Christopher Mullin
Principal

Training to Reach All Students

Newland staff members have been continuing to attend special training in both Cognitively Guided Instruction and the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems. This trend was in force at a recent all-day staff training here at Newland. Our teachers are making a concerted effort to see that every student is proficient in math and ELA.

Cognitively Guided Instruction, often abbreviated as CGI, is an approach to teaching mathematics that builds on a child's natural problem-solving strategies. Based on over 20 years of research, CGI identifies the specific strategies that children use in order to help teachers guide them towards mathematical understanding. For CGI math to be successful, the teachers must have a thorough understanding of the grade-level curriculum, and the distinctions between the different problem types within that curriculum. They must also have a working knowledge of the various processes that are typically used to help solve these problems, and the various stages that the students go through in developing their own concrete knowledge.

The teachers at Newland have already seen some amazing results after administering the techniques and procedures that they have learned over the past year. Newland teachers have also begun the process of using the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems to determine a student's independent and instructional reading level. The teachers are able to observe student reading behaviors one-on-one, engage in comprehension conversations that go beyond retelling, and make informed decisions that connect assessment to instruction.

Our Newland staff looks forward to advancing its education in order to best serve all of the school's diverse students. Newland's mission continues to focus on academic excellence, while also encouraging each student to develop their own maximum potential.

Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K-5)*

9800 Yorktown Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4260 • www.oka.fvgsd.us



Erik Miller
Principal

Science Night Success

In early February, hundreds of Oka students returned to school in the evening for some hands-on learning with their families at our Family Science and Math Night.

This fantastic event was made possible by the support and commitment from so many Oka teachers who returned to school and volunteered their time to host and lead stations. At each stop, the students were able to complete activities and challenges in the area of math or science.



Some of the highlights included building electric circuits, solving various math problems using CGI strategies, identifying the uniqueness of fingerprints, seeing how much weight it took to sink different objects, Groundhog Day, and getting more educated about life in Antarctica.

Oka was also fortunate to be joined by Mr. John Wood, Talbert teacher and scientist. He shared some of his knowledge and experiences about life and animals in Antarctica and the polar regions of the world.

Urbain H. Plavan *Elementary (K-5)*

9675 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4230 • www.plavan.fvds.us



Julie Ballesteros
Principal

Kindness is Contagious

Imagine a school where friends support one another and success is measured by selfless acts. To some children, kindness comes easily. To others, it is a challenge. Kindness is a skill, and, like any skill, it can be developed with practice and repetition.

This February, in honor of the month of love and friendship and National Random Acts of Kindness Day, all Plavan Elementary School students and staff accepted the Kindness Challenge. Every morning, we shared the kindness challenge of the day on the announcements. Students were encouraged to complete these acts of kindness and more before the end of the day.

In addition to the daily challenge, each student was given a paper heart. They were asked use these to record their personal kindness goals for the month. The hearts were then placed on the Kindness Tree in our media center.

The Plavan community learned that even the simplest act of kindness can make a difference in another's life, and, in return, it makes them feel good as well. Kindness is truly contagious, and we hope to keep spreading it throughout the year.



TK students: Liam Boadt, Bryn Madden, Megan Truong and Tyler Pham accomplished their kindness challenge!

Samuel E. Talbert *Middle School (6-8)*

9101 Brabham Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • www.talbert.fvds.us



Jennifer Morgan
Principal



Mark Holman
Assistant Principal

Got Real

At Talbert Middle School, we believe in students! Our philosophy is that collaboration, engagement, innovation, and problem-solving all lead to high achievement and an exemplary student body. These factors are what make the school a special place and drive our mission.

We celebrate students often and champion these attributes each trimester with an awards ceremony called Got Real. This ceremony

recognizes student grades and citizenship in three different categories.

The first category is for students who have earned a 3.0 to 3.49 grade-point average. Recipients of this award earn cards, which entitle them to perks around campus, such as free food at the dance or a front-of-the-line lunch pass. A 3.5 to 3.99 grade-point average earns the students silver cards. These students receive two front-of-the-line lunch passes and dance treats. Students earning a 4.0 grade-point average receive black cards, which entitle them to a free mile pass, front-of-the-line lunch passes, and dance treats.

Students who receive cards during the ceremony also receive pins to wear on their lapels during the eighth-grade promotion. Receiving these pins is a highlight of the assembly, and students wear them around campus with pride. The ceremony is always an exciting one and a favorite of students and parents alike.

It is a team effort with Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL) and Associated Student Body (ASB) chipping in to make the assembly unforgettable for students, staff, and the entire Talbert community through the activities, performances, and videos. It is always an amazing sight when over three-fourths of the student body is recognized for their academic accomplishments each trimester.

Thank you for reading *School News!*

Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K-5)*

17340 Santa Suzanne St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-6226 • www.tamura.fvds.us



Kathy Davis
Principal

Face to Face!

Speech/language pathologist Antoinette Gaglione is a grateful recipient of a grant from the Assistance League in Huntington Beach. She and Ms. Julie, her SLPA, have been going into the kindergarten classrooms to assist them in developing conversational skills, using The Color My Conversation program, a multisensory approach that incorporates visual, auditory, tactile and kinesthetic strategies. With the reliance on technology, the art of face-to-face conversation is diminishing, so why not start early?



The program runs approximately 10 weeks and addresses greetings and farewells, short conversations, long conversations, asking and answering open-ended and closed-ended questions, making comments, speaking loudly and clearly, topic changers and other conversation elements. Each class was given a group name: Angel Bunnies—hopping to learn, Sparklers—sparkling to learn, Honey Bees—buzzing to learn and Eager Beavers—eager and excited to learn.

“The students loved Mrs. G’s games so much,” said Mrs. Monsoor. And Dakota said, “Mrs. G played the best games! I loved the spiderweb game!”

Huntington Beach City School District

17011 Beach Blvd., Suite 560 Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/964-8888 • <http://www.hbcسد.k12.ca.us>

SUPERINTENDENT



Gregory Hauk

Innovation Education Coming Soon

This summer, the Huntington Beach City School District (HBCSD) will be constructing a 21st-century technology-based classroom at each of our school sites. These classrooms will allow our students to use the latest technology to demonstrate their skills and abilities in project-based assignments and assessments. These classrooms will also allow HBCSD students to continue to develop the skills necessary to be successful in their future schooling and work environments by stressing the 4 Cs—critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity—in all of their work.

During the school year, each of these classrooms will be open on specific evenings to allow our parents and community to see the types of skills we are developing in each of our students. Teachers and students will be trained in research-based best practices to allow the best usage of the technology so it becomes a tool to demonstrate knowledge and growth.

These classrooms will continue to move us forward with construction of innovative technology labs at all of our middle schools. Our elementary schools will continue to prepare our students with the skills necessary to utilize our newest and most technologically advanced tools and classrooms to maximize the usage of these middle school labs. Although HBCSD continues to be one of the top-performing school districts in Orange County, our staff is committed to becoming an elite district in the state of California. Currently we are in our open enrollment period in the district. Students and families that are interested in joining HBCSD as we move towards elite should contact the district office at (714) 964-8888 or contact one of our schools to enroll for next school year.

Also during this summer, HBCSD will continue to improve our facilities in order to enhance our excellent campuses. Each of our schools will have security cameras installed to keep our students safe and secure. In addition, HBCSD will be adding fan solutions to each of our classrooms, along with the many facilities that already have air-conditioning. The district recently piloted the fan solution in many of our classrooms and at one entire school. The data shows a considerably lower temperature in the classrooms that were outfitted with these quiet and efficient industrial solutions.

We would be happy to answer your questions about enrollment and the many opportunities in the Huntington Beach City School District.

John H. Eader *Elementary*

9291 Banning Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-2451 • <http://eader-huntington-caschoolloop.com>



Debbi Randall
Principal

Changing Lives

The Eader Elementary School Eagles know the importance of making others' lives better and doing good for our community and world. Our students, staff, and parents participate in many philanthropic projects throughout the school year.

In the month of February, our students learned about blood diseases and how children in southern California who have these diseases need our help. The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society presented an educational and inspiring assembly using the famed Kid President video clip to show how our pennies and donations

make a positive difference for many children. Our students have been raising funds, and some are writing letters to patients in the area.

An Italian restaurant chain will reward the winning classroom with a luncheon, but our Eader Eagles are content with giving from their hearts, knowing they are being superheroes as they change lives for the better!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Dr. Paul Morrow
President

Middle School Matters

What is it that happens to students when they leave fifth grade and move into middle school? Well, some pretty amazing things are happening here in the Huntington Beach City School District (HBCSD)! Surrounded by adults who care, our students are guided through some pretty big life changes; wanting to fit in, searching for self-identity, and navigating relationships with their parents and their peers are just a few of the challenges facing the middle school child.

Here in the HBCSD, our two middle schools, Isaac L. Sowers and Ethel Dwyer Middle Schools, are staffed by some pretty unique, talented, and dedicated teachers and support staff. They are offering some cutting-edge programs to our students, which definitely are leading to success in life and beyond. From Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) courses to integrated technology, listening and communications skills, amazing music, art and drama courses, a variety of clubs, and both before- and after-school sports and intermural activities, all of these programs are enhanced by adults who truly care about our students, their lives, and their futures. Our district continues on the path of creating 21st-century learners!

Middle school is a “make or break” period that can put a student successfully on the path to a success-filled future. Come see for yourself how “Middle School Matters” in the HBCSD and how a caring and dedicated staff can positively impact these important middle years.

We would love to show you around our schools, so feel free to call for a tour of some pretty amazing schools here in the HBCSD!

Educational Services

17011 Beach Blvd., Suite 560 Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/964-8888



Carolyn Wertheim
Director
Early Childhood
Education

Here We Grow Again!

The early childhood programs in Huntington Beach City School District are growing again! Early this year, the HBCSD Preschool Academy proudly welcomed the State Preschool Program as an exciting addition to our high quality early childhood education programs. We were overwhelmed with interest for the initial State Preschool Program classroom, and are pleased to announce an additional classroom is opening in April 2017!

State Preschool is a free program for children who were at least three years of age as of September 1 of the school year they wish to attend. Program eligibility is based on family size and gross monthly income guidelines and state enrollment priorities.

HBCSD Early Childhood Education programs believe children have enormous potential and curiosity; benefit from intentional, age-appropriate instruction; and deserve a challenging, enriched learning environment.

Preschool Academy programs are designed to invite children into the world of learning using the California Preschool Learning Foundations and Curriculum Frameworks as a basis for all areas of development. Our highly trained instructors have education and experience specific to the early childhood years. Children attend State Preschool Monday through Friday and enjoy indoor and outdoor activities that engage and support each child in all areas of development.

Interested families are invited to complete and submit an eligibility questionnaire to the Early Childhood Education department. Eligibility questionnaires are available on the district website (www.hbcسد.us/preschoolacademy), District Office and at the Perry Elementary Campus.

We are currently enrolling children for the new class opening in April 2017 and building an interest list for Fall 2017-18. Contact us now at earlychildhood@hbcسد.us to be placed on our interest list.

Please visit www.hbcسد.us/preschoolacademy for additional information about our early childhood programs. We look forward to talking with you!

Ethel R. Dwyer *Middle School*

1502 Palm Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-7507 • <http://dms.schoolloop.com>



Darren Platt
Principal

21st-Century Learning

A group of educators from the Huntington Beach Union High School District recently came to Dwyer to observe our STEM lessons. STEM is where rigorous academic concepts are coupled with real-world lessons to allow students to apply science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in a context that can create strong connections.

Our students were seen working on the concepts surrounding acids and bases, indicator labs, and differentiated stations. A deep understanding of this material surrounded one essential question: "What are the main factors of acid rain, and how can acid rain be stopped?"



This event was a great example of the development of a 21st-century learner. Our students experimented, collaborated, thought critically, and communicated with each other to find solutions.

As we walked around the school, it became clear that not only were we witnessing true 21st-century learning, we were also practicing these STEM ideals as well. The students saw the adults communicate, collaborate, and creatively and critically think through solutions to real-world problems in an effort to best prepare them for the future.

Dr. Ralph E. Hawes *Elementary*

9682 Yellowstone Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/963-8302 • <http://hes-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Julie Jennings
Principal

Immersed in Technology

At Hawes Elementary School, with the implementation of the Common Core State Standards, technology is embedded into our instructional practices each day. From kindergarten through fifth grade, our students demonstrate proficiency in technology and applications as they research, think critically, create, innovate, collaborate, and communicate.

Every classroom has an interactive whiteboard, a document camera, and at least six desktop computers. Weekly, students visit both of our computer labs, and we have mobile carts with laptops, netbooks, and digital tablets that travel into the classrooms. In fact, we have netbooks carts designated for each of our grade levels from second through fifth grade. Our bring-your-own-device policy allows students to bring their e-readers, tablets, and electronic devices to school to provide additional opportunities to use technology as part of the learning process.

Students can be seen developing their understanding of fluency through ST Math, Accelerated Reader, Earobics, and ST Music, a keyboarding program. As our students' skills develop, they begin researching, creating iMovies, publishing wikis, writing blogs, and researching explorers, missions, the life cycle of plants, bees, and more. We see them learning to use applications appropriately to demonstrate their learning and to cite sources to support their arguments.

To help our students gain a better appreciation of the ethical issues surrounding the use of technology, our digital citizenship program, spearheaded by our librarian, begins with age-appropriate curriculum in kindergarten and continues through fifth grade, with monthly lessons focused on social media and Internet safety.

By embedding technology across the curriculum, we are providing students with opportunities to create models using Minecraft, make iMovies on social issues, develop interactive maps, film green-screen trailers, and more! Technology is embedded across our school, and we are excited to see where our students take us on this journey! We are Hawesome!

Huntington Seacliff *Elementary*

6701 Garfield Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/841-7081 • <http://seacliff-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Dr. Monique Huibregtse
Principal

Opportunities for Philanthropy

Huntington Seacliff Elementary students work very hard each day under the direction of an expert staff to increase their academic achievement. Students also work diligently to improve their technology and 21st century skills of collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication.

They do not rest there, as another layer of learning is added so that students understand the responsibility of citizenship. Specifically, Huntington Seacliff students learn how to give back and support others in need in their community. During the year, there are many activities for students and families to engage in to support others. To start the year off, during the month of November, food is collected and sent to Second Harvest Food Bank in time for Thanksgiving meals. During the month of December, toys are collected for the children in CHOC hospital so they can have something new in their hands that may help to put a smile on their faces. In February, our student council leads the school's Be the Match coin drive to support patients who are trying to connect with lifesaving marrow donors. During the month of March, socks for all ages are collected to keep the cancer patients' feet warm when they're receiving treatment. This act is in memory of our office manager's sister, who passed away from cancer. In memory of our speech teacher's daughter, who passed away from myelodysplastic syndrome, small toys are collected all year long and delivered to Long Beach Miller Children's Hospital throughout the year.

Seacliff students are growing up to be smart, thoughtful, giving and kind people.

S. A. Moffett *Elementary*

8800 Burlcrest Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/963-8985 • <http://www.moffettschool.com>



Michael Andrzejewski
Principal

Happy Campers

Moffett School shared the hard work our students and teachers have completed to this point in the year at our annual Open House on February 16. The turnout was excellent, and everyone was impressed with the significant learning displayed in our classrooms.

Concurrent with Open House, the Moffett PTA held a book fair, where books appropriate to all reading levels were available for purchase. This is one of the events our students enjoy most throughout the year. Parents Jill Tague and Kara Ritter led the team that organized the fair with the theme of "Happy Campers," which generated lots of interest. One of our classrooms was decorated in keeping with the theme, which added to the enjoyment of visiting the fair and purchasing the available books.

A huge thank you to our PTA for supporting our school and our reading program by providing this service!



PTA Book Fair parents Jill Tague and Kara Ritter share books with Moffett Mustangs Avery, Ella, and Harper Tague and Kaylee and Parker Ritter



beautiful
smiles
bright futures

Changing lives, one smile at a time!



HARNER
ORTHODONTICS

Andrew T. Harner DDS, MS



(714) 842-9933 • www.harnerorthodontics.com
18700 Main St., Suite 112 • Huntington Beach, CA



Joseph R. Perry *Elementary*

19231 Harding Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-3348 • <http://perry-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Dr. Renee Polk Johnson
Principal

Author's Day

With support from the Friends of the Huntington Beach Children's Library, Perry Elementary School was recently able to host two well-known children's book authors at our January "Author's Day at Perry School" event.

We were fortunate enough to feature authors Caroline Hatton and Derek Taylor Kent in our Perry library. Both writers shared the childhood experiences that influenced their writing, and they also provided interactive presentations that engaged each grade level of students. It was an incredible experience for the children

to be able to listen to an author actually read the story they wrote!

The students had an opportunity to purchase one of the author's books and have it personalized and autographed. Both writers also provided ample time for our students to ask questions, and they each took the opportunity to provide thoughtful responses.

Our Author's Day was a great success, and a great way to continue to spread the love of literacy at Perry Elementary.



Author Derek Taylor Kent presenting to students

John R. Peterson *Elementary*

20661 Farnsworth Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-1515 • <http://pes-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Dr. Constance Polhemus
Principal

Sharing the Love of Reading

Recycling is not just for plastic, aluminum, and glass. At Peterson Elementary School, we also recycle books.

For many years the Peterson PTA hosted a book fair with new books provided by a large book publisher, but no more. So two years ago they began their annual Used Book Fair in an effort to recycle books. Over 6,000 books were donated this year!

Our families are always being asked to donate the books from their home bookshelves that they are no longer reading. They're happy to clear their shelves to make room for newer books more appropriate for their child's reading level. Some donations even came in to open an adult reading section at the Fair!



Agnes L. Smith *Elementary*

770 17th St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-1469 • <http://www.smithelementary.com>



Carolyn Beck
Principal

Outdoor Science School

Smith School's fifth-grade students have a unique opportunity to learn about science through our outdoor science school program. Recently, 140 students traveled to Arrowhead Ranch Pine Crest Camp for four days and three nights of hands-on science activities.

The students were grouped into cabins with a camp counselor. They spent the week doing group activities, including seven hikes, a favorite of the students. The trail leaders taught the students about habitats, wild life, and the importance of hydrating! Their favorite hike was the night hike, where they learned about astronomy and nocturnal animals.

The students completed a science journal and recorded what they learned during their seminars and hikes. Skit night was a blast, too! Our teachers and counselors performed for the students, and the students performed their group skit. This is always a highlight of the week. The students create close bonds and memories at outdoor camp that last a lifetime!



The most exciting part of our Used Book Fair is the cost of each book, which is only one dollar. This means that our students can walk away with arms full of exciting new literature to read. For only \$25, a sponsor can also purchase one book for every child in a classroom. Many families even donate last year's purchases to help keep our book recycling going strong, and promote the love of reading.

Isaac L. Sowers *Middle School*

9300 Indianapolis Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-7738 • <http://isms.schoolloop.com>



Dr. Cynthia Guerrero
Principal

A New Principal

The Huntington Beach City School District is pleased to announce the selection of Mr. John Ashby as the principal of Isaac L. Sowers Middle School. He follows Dr. Cynthia Guerrero after her promotion last January to director of child welfare and attendance at the Huntington Beach City School District.

Mr. Ashby has 12 years of experience in education, and is known for his approach to creating positive change and ensuring that every student is afforded an environment in which they can be successful. Mr. Ashby is a former Spanish teacher, water polo coach, dean of students, and assistant principal in the Chino Valley Unified School District. At his last school he helped to create the "Transformational Change Project," a complete school-based mental wellness program.

Mr. Ashby's appointment was recommended to the Board of Education at its February 21 meeting. After approval, Mr. Ashby began his position a week later.



Ocean View School District

17200 Pinehurst Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2551 • www.ovsd.org

SUPERINTENDENT



Watching Our Students Grow

We continue to demonstrate our commitment to our students and families in providing safe, nurturing learning environments and rigorous, innovative academic programs across all of our schools. If you ask me for a specific example of something we are doing in our classrooms to support student success, I will happily tell you about the Ocean View School District (OVSD) writing continuum.

Dr. Carol Hansen

What is a continuum? According to Google, it is defined as a continuous sequence in which adjacent elements are not perceptibly different from each other, although the extremes are quite distinct. In OVSD, we are providing our students with a continuum focused on writing, all the way from preschool to eighth grade. Each element in every level of learning links to the next, taking all students on a journey toward clear, confident communication through the written, conceived, and spoken word. Along the way, students also use age-appropriate digital tools and collaborate with peers to enhance their communications.

Starting in preschool, our teachers open the door to better writing. It starts simply, with body position, grip, scribbles, shapes, letter formation, and eventually writing one's own name. By Transitional Kindergarten and kindergarten, students begin the Handwriting without Tears program, which includes printing practice through letters, then words, and then paragraphs. In third grade, students begin cursive writing, a skill we continue to emphasize and support in our schools. By the fourth grade, students are writing fluidly and legibly in cursive and keyboarding. In kindergarten through fifth grade, students are provided with online access to the Type to Learn program for home practice. All OVSD students should leave their elementary schools with the ability to write and research stories in cursive writing, type one to two pages using a keyboard, complete a story or project, and collaborate with others in the creation of their work. It takes practice, practice, practice.

At the middle school level, our students are using the communication skills they have learned to develop longer, more involved stories and projects. They are using technologies to research, publish, and share their work, including proper use of the Internet. They are also expanding their ability to collaborate with others, as well as citing their information sources. By the time our students reach this highest level of the OVSD writing continuum, they go beyond the written word and the conceived idea to the spoken word. They enter high school with the ability to present their ideas cohesively and clearly and explain the relationships between ideas and information.

From merely picking up and holding a crayon to participating in debate contests and presenting detailed projects before a classroom of peers, OVSD students experience our writing continuum. It may seem simple, but when you consider how often we rely on our communication skills in our personal lives and in our work, you can see how crucial these skills are for our youth. The continuum is not just writing on a piece of paper or typing on a keyboard; it is taking the thoughts we begin to form in a shape, letter, and word and putting them together into a sentence, paragraph, story, and project. It is taking those written words and learning how to explain ideas to peers in an efficient, organized manner. It supports expression, and it makes a tremendous difference for our students as they grow into young adults.

Pleasant View *Ocean View Preparatory Preschool*

located at Pleasant View School, 16692 Landau Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/845-5000



Incredible Health Team

Has your son or daughter ever come home with an Ouch Report for an incident that happened at school? How about a scraped knee with a bandage? Perhaps you have received a phone call informing or updating you about an injury or illness that happened while your child was at school.

Paul James
Principal

When it comes to the health of the students and staff at Pleasant View Elementary School/Ocean View Preparatory Preschool, we are fortunate to have Mary Clayton and Caroline

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Gina Clayton-Tarvin
President

New Beginnings

With the start of 2017 come new resolutions, new hopes, and new beginnings, in our personal lives as well as in our professional endeavors. We are embracing this spirit in the Ocean View School District, too! Continuing our commitment to consistency, innovation, and engagement with families and the community, we have launched a number of new programs, events, and opportunities for information sharing in January and February. I hope you have been able to take advantage of these district-wide activities or will stay tuned to all of the wonderful happenings taking place in OVSD these days.

We kicked off the New Year with our biggest, most successful Kindergarten Parent Information Night to date. I was so pleased to see hundreds of families walking through our doors. Thank you to all of the families who came out on January 26 to learn about our Transitional Kindergarten and full-day kindergarten programs. We offer the best programs for our littlest students starting their formal educations, and we cannot wait to see all of you in the fall!

Expanding on this concept of supporting our families in these focused, forum-like settings, we launched two other parent information nights in February—one for middle school students and families transitioning to middle school and another for middle school students and families making the leap to high school next year. Both events were incredibly well attended and well received, and I was thrilled to hear from many families about how much they appreciated the information! Thank you to the parents who shared their needs with us and helped us to create such inclusive events to support our students.

Westmont and Lake View Elementary Schools also continued the momentum in February. OVSD was thrilled to announce that Westmont will return in the fall of 2017 as a Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) Academy, formalizing their work and focus in the arts. I attended one of the two VAPA Parent Information Meetings that were held in February. We are excited to get the word out as we develop this much-anticipated program. Meanwhile, OVSD's first Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) school, Lake View Elementary School, began ramping up for the fall of 2017 with a STEAM Information Meeting and special Math Night in February. Lake View is enrolling students for the fall.

Our schools have already hosted some fantastic visitors this year, as well. The annual TET Festival at Star View Elementary School was celebrated on February 3. Every grade level participated in a variety of Vietnamese New Year traditions, from music and dance to clothing and food. It is always a thrill to watch the students from Westminster High School perform the colorful, energetic Dragon Dance. Star View and Lake View students and staff also learned in surprise visits in January that City National Bank and Barnes & Noble would be donating 2,400 books and \$8,500 worth of reading materials to each school. I am so grateful for the strong relationships we have with these entities and our community partners.

Speaking of community partners, the Anaheim Ducks and the NHL chose our own Star View to host the NHL's Centennial Celebration trailer in January as part of the Ducks' SCORE program. Families from Star and several other OVSD and surrounding districts' schools toured the trailer full of NHL memorabilia and the Stanley Cup itself, while having the opportunity to play field hockey with the Ducks' mascot Wildwing and the Ducks' staff.

For all of us in OVSD, 2017 is looking to be a positive, momentous year!

Ishino as part of our health team. This dynamic duo performs a myriad of duties, from assessing students for health needs, administering medicines, determining appropriate first aid interventions, and applying specialized medically necessary procedures to updating health records, communicating with our staff and parents about health alerts, and a myriad of other health related topics. They provide ongoing, nurturing service to our students and share their expertise with our staff on a regular basis. When there is a situation that requires immediate attention, they are always leading the way to make sure our students are safe and receive the proper care.

We feel very fortunate to have both Mrs. Clayton and Mrs. Ishino as part of our staff, and we thank them for their dedication and the pride they take in keeping us healthy.

Circle View *Elementary*

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5035 • www.ovsd.org



Kristi Hickman
Principal

Author's Day Celebration for Award Winning Students

The Friends of the Huntington Beach Children's Library hosted its 29th Annual Authors Festival on Tuesday, January 31, at the Huntington Beach Central Library. The reception included the recognition of seven Circle View Elementary School contest winners who submitted an award-winning essay entitled, "The Secret in the Library Book." Congratulations to Suraya Mircheff (2nd grade), Giovanni Truong (3rd grade), Sophia Brooks (3rd grade), Zoe Hidalgo (3rd grade), Abigail Babikian (5th grade), Alina Tran (5th grade), and Joey Brooks (5th grade), for the Most

Original and Most Creative story writing. All students received Certificates of Excellence and a Barnes & Noble gift card.



College View *Elementary*

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • www.ovsd.org



Katherine Smith
Principal

Learning a Life-Long Skill

Our College View Elementary School students study language arts, math, science, social studies, and American Sign Language.

That's right! As a result of two enthusiastic and dedicated teachers, our College View Wildcats have an opportunity to receive a half-hour of American Sign Language instruction each week. Mr. Vincent Saporito and Mrs. Ashlee Abasolo, College View's deaf and hard of hearing teachers, have donated their time to teach all 440 of our College View students. Children who attend the grade-level classes can learn the ASL alphabet, numbers, vocabulary, and grammar which are part of the monthly themes.



As a special treat, they are also learning to sign the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance so that they can perform at our end-of-year fifth-grade culmination ceremony and musical performances. As a result of this enrichment experience, many of our students have expressed an interest in learning more about American Sign Language.

Golden View *Elementary*

17251 Golden View Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • www.ovsd.org



Brett Hardy
Principal

Classified Employee of the Year

Golden View Elementary School's Eric Taylor is simply an outstanding head custodian. He has worked

at Golden View since 2001 and has been a part of the Ocean View School District family since 1999. In those 16 years, it has been very clear that Eric takes great pride in his work. He keeps the Golden View campus in tip-top shape.

In addition to his regular duties, "Mr. Eric," as he is known to our students, takes great interest in knowing all the students. He can often be seen interacting with them at recess or lunch and asking them about their favorite hobbies or sports teams. Mr. Eric also serves as our guest disc jockey at our monthly Golden Gatherings. While it is not part of his daily schedule, Mr. Eric takes time to help feed and care for the animals on our two-acre farm and the many birds in our aviary.

Congratulations to Mr. Eric for this very well deserved honor!



Eric Taylor and his wife Christine

Harbour View *Elementary*

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-6602 • www.ovsd.org



Cindy Osterhout
Principal

Making Character Count through Positive Role Models

At Harbour View, we truly believe that character counts, and to that end we honor our students at monthly citizenship assemblies where they can receive awards that highlight the memorable qualities of famous

Americans. Parents are invited to attend our school-wide assemblies to watch their children receive the awards. Here are just a few examples of the awards:

- The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebrated Citizen Award
- The Eleanor Roosevelt Humble Humanitarian Award
- The Bill Gates Technically Talented Award
- The John Wooden Spirited Sportsmanship Award
- The Jane Goodall Loyal Friend Award
- The Michelle Kwan Amazing Athlete Award

There are thirteen different awards, providing thirteen ways to honor and acknowledge the citizenship and efforts of our students. We are so proud of our amazing Pelicans!



Hope View *Elementary*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • www.ovsd.org



Paul Kraft
Principal

Engaging Activities Welcomed the New Year

Hope View started the New Year with many exciting activities. First-graders participated in a science unit that included a hands-on lesson involving mixtures. Second-graders learned about life in the past in various cultures. As a culminating activity, they held a schoolwide Chinese New Year assembly. Students were delighted by the Southwind Lion Dancers from the University of California, Irvine, performing Chinese dances in traditional dragon costumes.

Fourth-graders set goals for the year by writing new year's resolutions. As part of a physical science unit, fifth-graders participated in a hands-on STEM activity in which they learned about compounds, reactions and mixtures. Our teachers trained in various technologies to support expansion of technology use in all grades.

Hope View students also celebrated Author's Day in January by attending assemblies presented by two professional authors. In February, we prepared for our annual Kids Run the OC Marathon training and after-school enrichment classes in science, golf and Spanish.



Mesa View *Middle School*

17601 Avilla Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • www.ovsd.org



Randy Lempert
Principal

Staying Healthy

At Mesa View, we are proud to offer opportunities for our students to be mentally and physically active. A shining example of the belief that all students should be active is seen in our physical education program. Our P.E. team is committed to providing students with an active and engaging experience that can get everyone's hearts pumping and bodies moving!

Throughout the week, the team of Mr. Vlachos, Mr. Jones, Ms. Letcher, and Ms. Manz lead our middle school students through a variety of activities that are engaging, challenging, and fun. Team sports, a health and fitness curriculum, skill training, and fitness units make up this comprehensive physical education program. During the week you can find our students exercising in fitness circuits inside the gymnasium, practicing their basketball skills on the blacktop, or kicking the soccer ball on the field.

Mesa View is located directly next to Huntington Beach's world famous Central Park, and our students take full advantage of this beautiful landscape. Twice a month they participate in a field trip that has them running a mile through the facility. The students love the opportunity to work out within the shaded trees and green grass of Central Park.

Outside of our P.E. class, Mesa View students also participate in intramural sports. Ms. Letcher has organized sports tournaments for our students to team up and compete against their classmates. In the spring, Mr. Coville will be organizing his annual sixth-grade basketball tournament, which always brings a healthy and spirited competition between advisement classes! To keep with the theme of being active and encouraging healthy competition, the P.E. department also hosted a school basketball tournament during the night of Open House.

Mesa View is very fortunate to have a team of teachers that can get our students moving and promote a love for being healthy!

Lake View *Elementary*

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • www.ovsd.org



Jamie Goodwyn
Principal

Exploring Watersheds

Lake View Elementary School's fifth-grade students participated in a four-month Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) integrated and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) based study of our local watersheds. As part of the Ocean Institute's Watershed Program, students explored the relationship between natural processes and human impact. They were taken through the four components of the program: a classroom visitation; a field trip to Dana Point; a comprehensive research project; and a culminating presentation.



Lake View's teams presented their findings to hundreds of local fifth-grade students about the safety of our local water, ranging from rainwater to the harbor, beach, and wetlands. With minimal support from their teachers, Lake View's teams developed and conducted their experiments and presentations. They learned from their experiments that our watersheds are not as clean as they had hoped. Through this project, the students became professional scientists by exploring their local environment and presenting their findings to the community.

Marine View *Middle School*

5682 Tilburg Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-0624 • www.ovsd.org



William Lynch
Principal

Support and Encouragement

Marine View Middle School is a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) school. Our staff trained with the Orange County Department of Education several years ago, but we have made a collective effort over the past three years to reinvigorate our program. Why did we do this? We wanted to create a safe, supportive learning environment for our students.

We started by streamlining our referral process to generate better data to monitor student discipline for both "major" and "minor" behavioral infractions. To do this, we created a Google form as an online referral. Since Google forms automatically populate a spreadsheet, we were then easily able to organize our data by student, infraction, date, period, location, and teacher.

We also expanded our process to support our positive incentive efforts. Students who meet behavior expectations receive incentives called Mariner Money. Thanks to donations and support from our parents through PTSA, students can now cash in their currency for a variety of gift items at the student store, which is run by our Associated Student Body (ASB) students and parent volunteers.

The positive result of all these efforts is two-fold. Both office referrals and suspensions have decreased by more than 50 percent! Through an increase in our data-driven decision-making and a partnership with our parents, we have made Marine View a place that supports and encourages all students.

Oak View *Elementary*

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • www.ovsd.org



Dr. Rosa Mendieta
Principal

Increasing Learning Opportunities

The SDC students in Mrs. King's class are having fun incorporating a variety of STEAM-based projects into their daily instructional activities. The students are actively engaged in their lessons because Mrs. King makes the textbook come alive, and the concepts stay relevant for each student. STEAM is Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics!

The students recently built a "snowball" launcher using marshmallows, a cup, rolled-up sentence strips, and a balloon.

They then launched their marshmallows and used yardsticks to measure the distance they'd traveled. The students also compared the data they gathered to determine whose marshmallow traveled the farthest, and then discussed strategies that might have helped them increase the distance. They even discussed any slight adaptations to their launcher that might have given them an extra edge.

After these extraordinary learning activities, Mrs. King helped the students chart their data. We are making learning fun at Oak View Elementary every day!



Oak View *Preschool & Education Resource Center*

17131 Emerald Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/843-6938 • www.ovsd.org



Anna Dreifus
Principal

Science Comes to Life

Oak View Preschool students have been studying animal groups and how they adapt to their various habitats. The students recently had an opportunity to see some of these animals up close with a visit from a traveling nature class.

The instructor, Sunny, taught them about the external features of a wide variety of local and exotic animals and how those features help animals thrive in their varied environments. Students learned about the animals' eating and nesting habits, as well as the types of shelter on which they depend.



The students enjoyed a truly hands-on science experience. They snuggled up with snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, hedgehogs, insects, and even a parrot to round out the menagerie! Almost every student was full of questions, and Sunny very patiently answered each and every one.

The lessons learned will lead to wonderful student projects and encourage future reading. No wonder the animal books in our classroom libraries are so popular!

Spring View *Middle School*

16662 Trudy Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-2891 • www.ovsd.org

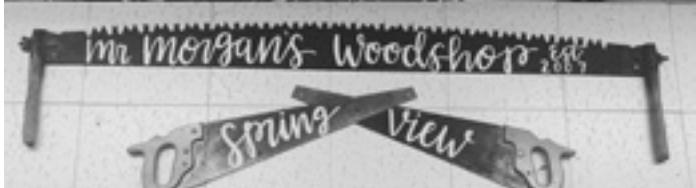


Jason Blade
Principal

Spring View Woodshop

As part of a multi-year plan to increase the number of elective courses that students can choose from, Spring View's is proud to offer woodshop as both a year-long course and as part of our exploratory wheel program. In his first year as a full time woodshop teacher, Mr. Morgan has done an outstanding job of developing a program that supplements other core academic classes such as science and math by using hands on projects including dragster construction, flight technology, bridge building and reverse engineering. In our first year offering

woodshop as a yearlong elective it has already become our most popular elective on campus due in large part to Mr. Morgan's dedication. Also, a special "thank you" to our outstanding PTSO for helping support the woodshop with additional funding to get the program off the ground.



Star View *Elementary*

8411 Worthy Dr., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • www.ovsd.org



Carrie Haskin
Principal

Students, Families Celebrate the Year of the Rooster

In February, Star View students learned about the customs, traditions and meaning of the Vietnamese New Year, also called the TET Celebration. This holiday was celebrated with a cultural presentation, a play entitled, "The Spirit of Mountain and Sea," performed by Star View first graders. The Vietnamese Cultural Club from Westminster High School performed their annual Dragon Dance, along with several other colorful and exciting dances for Star View students, staff and families.

This highly anticipated annual celebration was filled with information, activities and fun. A huge thank you to our very own Mrs. Tran for all the time, planning and dedication she puts into the preparation of this a wonderful celebration. It is truly a day to remember and a year to celebrate!



Dancers from Westminster High School.

Sun View *Elementary*

7721 Juliette Low Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-9643 • www.ovsd.org



Elaine Burney
Principal

A Love for Reading

Sun View Elementary School librarian Christine Barry honored our recent Author's Day by inviting a professional author to visit our student assemblies and help celebrate reading.

The author explained to our students how she publishes her books with a different professional name, as many writers do. She shared how research shows that boys tend to have less interest in books written by a female author, and so she chose to go by a less identifiable name.

Sun View was fortunate to have a huge number of books on hand personally signed by the author. She also explained how when she started running out of new ideas for her characters, she eventually turned to the younger members of her extended family for help!

Sun View uses Reading Buddies to help the older students share their love for reading with our younger ones. This provides a great learning opportunity for both sets of students!



Vista View *Middle School*

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • www.ovsd.org

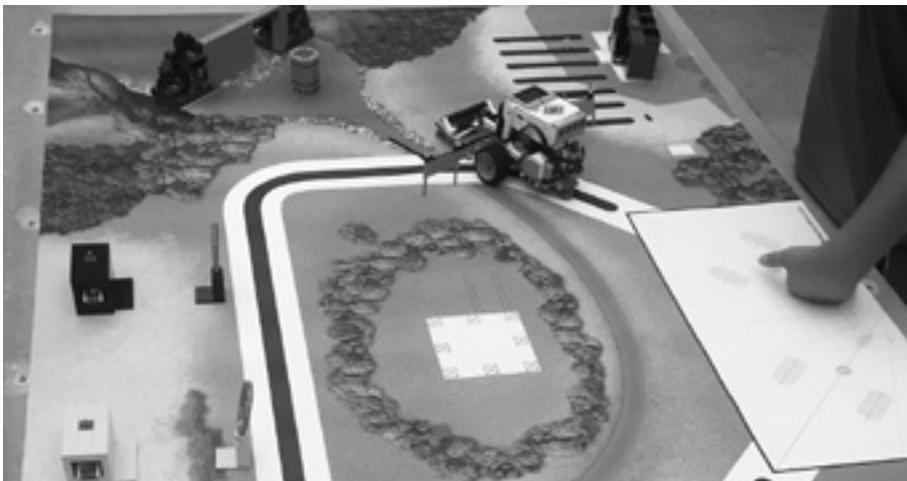


Scott Mooney
Principal

STEAM

Vista View continues to increase our student offerings that focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). This year we began offering a small group of advanced sixth grade students an accelerated math course that will allow them to take Algebra next year and Geometry in eighth grade. We have added additional sections of music and drama to our elective offerings, including adding a full time music teacher to our staff. Our robotics (pictured) and marine biology electives are increasing their enrollment and adding additional opportunities

for learning within and outside of the school day. In March, we will begin an after school coding class using the computer game Minecraft. In addition to these formal offerings, Vista teachers and students regularly integrate STEAM into their courses.



Village View *Elementary*

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • www.ovsd.org



Francesca Ligman
Principal

All Together: Code!

With technology affecting every industry in the world today, computing knowledge has become a necessary part of a well-rounded skill set. However, fewer than half of all schools teach computer science! The good news for our families is that Village View is on a course to change this statistic. Our teachers are implementing computer science into the school day from transitional kindergarten through fifth grade.



With the expertise of the Ocean View School District's Ed Tech Team, our teachers are being trained, coached, and inspired to bring coding to our students. Our Chromebooks, computer lab and Smart Boards are essential tools for the students to learn and engage in exciting coding projects.

As of February, our students have written 175,708 lines of code. One of our recent parent-education nights focused on bringing Village View families together to learn about it and actually do some coding together!

Westmont *Elementary*

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • www.ovsd.org



Susan Broderson
Principal

Arts Academy Restructure

Westmont teachers have been working diligently behind the scenes to create the district's new Visual and Performing Arts Academy (VAPA) at Westmont. When Westmont opens for the 2017-18 school year, we'll officially be a performing arts school!

In 2015, we received a highly coveted grant to start a musical theater program. Our new program will expand to include transitional kindergarten through fifth grade in the four core areas of dance, music, theater and visual arts.

The goal for the VAPA Academy is to provide intentional, meaningful and balanced integration of the arts. Students will have the opportunity to develop their appreciation, skills and literacy in the arts. Through mastery of the arts disciplines, they'll become effective

communicators, enhancing and expanding their academic and life experiences.

OVSD invited families to attend several showcases of the newest county VAPA school. Principal Sue Broderson, district administrators and school staff highlighted the expanding program and answered questions.



Westminster School District

14121 Cedarwood Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7311 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Marian
Kim-Phelps**

Exceptional Employees

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and district, I would like to salute our outstanding staff members who have been recognized as Classified School Employees of the Year. These people go above and beyond the call of duty in performing their jobs, and they demonstrate a dedication and commitment to children that is second-to-none. Our honorees were nominated by their peers based on their work performance, school community involvement, leadership, and commitment. Here is how their supervisors and colleagues describe them:

Elda Carey – Para-Educator & Instructional Assistance

Elda has been with Westminster School District (WSD) for the last 16 years. She is an exemplary paraeducator who seeks and retains information important and pertinent to a high quality of support for our students, such as nursing care and behavioral support plans. Elda maintains a kind and supportive demeanor, which is ideal for the students she works with. Dealing with students with learning disabilities can be difficult, but Elda does so with grace and professionalism. She instructs with wit and good humor while insisting our students work hard. Elda sets high but achievable goals for our students, and she scaffolds and supports learning and acquisition of these goals. In addition to her duties as a paraeducator, Elda volunteers her time to make after-school programs, such as Movie Club, Game Club, Bowling Club, Surf Club and Sparkle Cheer, a success. She is passionate about allowing students with autism and other disabilities to have the opportunity to go to the movies with friends to promote friendships and valuable social and life skills. Elda makes Johnson Middle School stronger, and her hard work and dedication are appreciated by everyone on campus.

Ingrid Luna – Maintenance, Operations & Transportation

Ingrid came to WSD in 1997 as a student transportation assistant. After seeing how rewarding it is to work with our special needs students, Ingrid studied and became a school bus driver five years later. Ingrid transports WSD's most medically fragile students, including those who require tracheal tube suctioning and those in wheelchairs or with seizure disorders. Ingrid always acts professionally and builds rapport with the staff and, most importantly, the students. Her positive attitude sets the tone for everyone to have a great day at school. The students arrive happy and energized because their ride to school was filled with upbeat interactions. Ingrid is very committed to her job and is the first to volunteer for extra duties. She is eager to participate in events that bridge the district to the community, and every year she drives a WSD bus filled with staff and students in the Tet Parade through the city of Westminster. This special event promotes cultural unity and is fun for everyone involved. Ingrid is an asset to our district and a source of inspiration for all of her colleagues.

Nancy McKernan – Office and Technical Support

Nancy has been with the district for 29 years and has been at Johnson Middle School for 25 years. She has not only proven herself to be an amazing registrar but has been a driving force behind the overall positive atmosphere at Johnson. Nancy works every day to ensure that Johnson is a wonderful place to work. She does little things to make everyone smile, be it holiday decorations, organizing potlucks, or sending the occasional funny photo. Nancy runs a tight ship and works tirelessly to get her job done, and she does it with a smile. Johnson's principal, Mr. Owens, says that Nancy is the reason the office runs smoothly and the reason he survives each day. "With Nancy on my team, I know things will get done, and I know that no matter how stressful the day is or how much work has to get done, Nancy will make me smile and laugh at the end of it all." Johnson Middle School is so thankful to have Nancy, and she is very deserving of this wonderful honor.

Van Tran – Support Services & Security

Van has been with the district since 2010 and serves as the Johnson Middle School community liaison. She is the first face you see when you arrive at Johnson, and she never fails to show you her bright smile. According to staff, she is the definition of a team player. She does whatever needs to get done to ensure that the office runs smoothly and that staff, students, and parents are supported. Van goes above and beyond what is asked and always does it with a positive attitude. The daily routine in a middle school front office can be overwhelming and daunting some days, but Van never lets the workload get to her and does an amazing job dealing with everything that comes her way. The parents at Johnson know they can count on Van for support and guidance, and the entire Johnson community is very fortunate to have her on their side. Van is very deserving of this award.

Karen Vargas – Child Nutrition Services

Karen is a dedicated and knowledgeable food service lead in the Nutrition Services Central Kitchen. Over the past 17 years in the Nutrition Services Department, she has worked as a server, salad bar monitor, lead cashier, cook, and truck driver. The variety of positions she has held has given Karen a knowledge of the business that few employees share. She is flexible and willing to help the department and to serve students whenever and wherever needed. Karen stays late, comes in early, and has altered her schedule too many times to count when other employees are absent or when someone is needed to help out. Karen is rarely absent from work and maintains an above-average record of attendance. She can be counted on to be at work on-time and ready to work. Karen goes above and beyond in her commitment to the team. When she has completed a task, Karen looks for something else to do. She is also steady, calm, and composed. These qualities enable Karen to work well with many different personality styles. She brings a positive, can-do attitude to work every day and has been an asset to the Nutrition Services Department. Karen is the consummate team player.

Contest!

This chicken is hidden somewhere in this publication.
When you find it, email the **page number** to:
Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
Please put FHOW in the subject line.



Congratulations to **Kamalani**
the winner of our January contest!

Your entry must be received by April 15, 2017.
From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a
\$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Inspirational Students

By Penny Loomer,
Board President

Recently, I had the privilege of attending one of the most poignant and heart-warming awards ceremonies of the year. The Westminster Educational Leadership Association (WELA) annually honors students who have succeeded against all odds,

beyond expectations or who simply won the hearts of the educators that helped them achieve their goals. WELA recognizes students who have made a special effort to succeed and triumph over obstacles such as: overcoming physical and mental barriers, changing their attitude, improving their grades, increasing their attendance, or resisting bad influences. In addition, they are active in school programs, student conflict resolution, cross-age tutoring, community activities and peer mediation.

Many of these students have overcome extreme adversity. Several of our winners have been battling serious challenges like cancer, liver failure, or the loss of a parent, but they have not let these difficulties hinder their accomplishments. Conquering these types of obstacles takes both mental and physical toughness.

Every one of these students has shown tremendous courage and determination. They set very lofty goals for themselves and have met or exceeded them. These winning students are an inspiration to us all.



2017 Every Student Succeeding Winners

Reese Smith-Tejeda, Anderson Elementary; Mathew Nguyen, Clegg Elementary; *Daniel Juarez, DeMille Elementary; Angel Rodriguez, Eastwood Elementary; Esmeralda Martinez, Finley Elementary; Alexa D'Annuzio, Fryberger Elementary; John Tu, Hayden Elementary; Nicholas Yearout, Johnson Middle School; Kimberly Aguilar, Meairs Elementary; Natalie Vidal, Schmitt Elementary; Ricky Jimenez, Schroeder Elementary; Dominic Lyons, Sequoia Elementary; Isabella McGookin, Stacey Middle School; Romio Ramirez, Warner Middle School; Thomas Rivera, Webber Elementary; Loan Luu, Willmore Elementary.

*Daniel Juarez at DeMille Elementary School has been selected to represent the district and to be honored at the regional level of the Association of California School Administrators.

Anderson Elementary (K-6)

8902 Hewitt Pl., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • <http://anderson.wsdk8.us>



Every Student Succeeding

By Mrs. Breckenridge, Mrs. Guerrero, Mrs. Bui, and Mrs. Dodosh

Congratulations to Kassie and Sesa Amosa, Anderson Elementary School's Every Student Succeeding Award recipients. If we had to describe them in one word, it would be extraordinary!

Despite being faced with more than most adults can handle, they come to school every day with smiles on their faces, ready to learn! They are personable, get along well with their peers, and have a work ethic like no other.

Fifth-grade teachers Ms. Dodosh and Mrs. Bui said, "Although we are proud of their accomplishments academically, it is their capability to endure during the toughest times that impressed us the most."

Mrs. Guerrero, their sixth-grade teacher, added, "These girls are a breath of fresh air. There's no such thing as a bad day if Kassie or Sesa is in your classroom!"

Anderson is so proud to honor Kassie and Sesa, and we know they will continue to succeed in all they do.



DeMille Elementary (K-6)

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224 • <http://demille.wsdk8.us>



Year of the Rooster

Happy Lunar New Year! DeMille welcomed the Year of the Rooster with music, food, songs and dances during our annual Tet festivities. In February, the students from the Westminster High School Vietnamese American Culture Club braved the drizzly weather and performed dances and a fashion show for the whole school. The drums and the lions scared the rain away!

Students from the Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion program performed a song and a dance, and students from our Extended School Program did the same. The program concluded with our library media assistant reading a Vietnamese poem.

In the evening, the ESP program hosted a fun family potluck with more dances and delicious food. The next day, many of our DLI students marched in the Tet Parade in Little Saigon. DeMille had fun celebrating Tet in many ways.



DeMille's Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion students singing for the school at our annual Tet Festival

Clegg School

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218 • <http://clegg.wsdk8.us>



John Staggs
Principal

Fun & Fit Club

Clegg Elementary's Fun & Fit Club was created eight years ago and is run entirely by our PTA at Clegg every Wednesday after school. The program is run by a great group of parent volunteers. A big thank-you goes to Lisa Rodden and the large group of volunteer parents that set up the activities and provide support to students for a great afternoon of fun and exercise.

Students are provided a chance to run, jump rope, and participate in a number of sporting games such as basketball, soccer, flag football and kick ball for one hour every Wednesday after school. There are two fields set up for soccer or field hockey, and another field is set up for kickball or flag football. The blacktop area offers paddle ball, basketball, handball, jump ropes, Hula-Hoops and aerobics.

There are currently over 300 first- through fifth-grade students signed up and ready to enjoy Fun & Fit Club this year. We would like to thank everyone that makes this program possible for our students on a yearly basis.

Eastwood Elementary (K-6)

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • <http://eastwood.wsdk8.us>



Dr. Jason Kuncewicks
Principal

Helping a Local Charity

Eastwood School, its students, and the school community all believe in raising both awareness and money for local organizations and those in need. So this past month, Eastwood set a goal of raising \$6,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through its "Pennies for Patients" program.

Each student was given a fund-raising "penny box" to bring their loose change in every day and help reach this goal. The students turned their pennies over to their classroom teachers and kept a weekly tally. This three-week philanthropy effort ended with a grand total of \$10,500 raised to help cancer research.

The class that raised the most money earned a luncheon at a local restaurant. The three classes that raised the most for charity were given the opportunity to "slime the principal." Each of them took turns taping the principal to the flagpole and throwing slime at him in front of the entire school. Eastwood takes their giving seriously!



Finley Elementary (K-5)

13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764 • <http://finley.wsdk8.us>



Raul Olivas
Principal

Computer Science Magnet School

Finley Elementary School will be the home of Orange County's first computer science magnet school this fall. The district has partnered with Code to the Future, the nation's leading computer science immersion program, to create Finley Computer Science Magnet School.

All students, from Transitional Kindergarten through fifth grade, will develop computer programming and coding skills as part of their daily curriculum. When students are provided with computer science skills, they develop critical thinking, creativity, and confidence in an engaging and motivating way while also developing the mindset to become contributing leaders in a global society.



In January, the White House recognized Code to the Future's program as a leader in computer science magnet schools. Growing numbers of schools across the country are using computer science, coding language, and even games to help students learn everything from math to language skills.

Finley School is ready to lead the way in integrating computer science as a learning tool.

Fryberger Elementary (K-5)

6952 Hood Dr., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237 • <http://fryberger.wsdk8.us>



Dr. Dena Kioues
Principal

Smart Choices!

Every morning, students and staff pledge that as Fryberger Falcons, they will be SMART students: Solve problems, Make safe choices, Are always ready to learn, Respect others, and Take responsibility. Fryberger School staff believes in supporting all students in both educational and social learning. Through Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS), all staff members foster and promote a safe and positive school environment that enhances student learning through teaching and recognizing positive behavior. Recently, students earned a game party for their positive behavior and their part in creating a culture of learning.

Upcoming events for students include a special recess activity and a good-behavior dance party. In February, the student store opened. Students can save the SMART slips to buy healthy snacks, classroom supplies, fun equipment like footballs and admission to celebration parties.

Great work, Falcons! Keep up the SMART work!

Hayden *Elementary (K-5)*

14782 Eden St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7261 • <http://hayden.wsdk8.us>



Mark Murphy
Principal

Congratulations, Dr. Hubbard!

It is with great pleasure to announce that Hayden School is recognizing Dave Hubbard as our Teacher of the Year. Dr. Hubbard has been an integral part of the Hayden team for the last nine years. He works extremely hard to make those important connections with his students, which in turn create a great learning environment. He is consistently looking for new ways to enhance the learning that takes place in his classroom and provides many opportunities to not only engage his students but also empower them.

Dr. Hubbard is always willing to put in many extra hours of his own time to help support the students and the Hayden community. Whether it's volunteering at the Book Fair, working at the Fall Festival, or taking pictures at all of our school events, Dr. Hubbard is the ultimate team player. Congratulations to Dave Hubbard for being Hayden's Teacher of the Year!



Johnson *Middle School (6-8)*

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244 • <http://johnson.wsdk8.us>



Daniel Owens
Principal

A Progressive Learning Experience

Johnson Middle School prides itself on being a school of opportunity and hands-on learning experiences, and so we are excited that this year we will have 50 students attend a STEM Camp in the San Bernardino Mountains (that's science, technology, engineering, and math).

The Camp will be held at the Pali Institute near Lake Arrowhead. Their mission is to introduce experiential education to young people by providing progressive learning experiences that extend far beyond the classroom walls. According to the Institute, their innovative curriculum and professional outdoor staff will help our students experience the thrill of seeing, touching, and learning about the world around them.

Johnson Middle School and trip coordinator Mrs. Cindi Heinle are excited to be able to offer such a valuable and rewarding experience to our students. As Johnson focuses on allowing its students to take control of the content they are learning, and truly immerse themselves in their education, this trip will give them one huge opportunity to bring their content to life.

Land School

15151 Temple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us
714/894-7311 Student Services • 714/898-8389 Child Development



Beverlee Mathenia
Executive Director,
Early Education
& Expanded
Learning



Reagan Lopez
Executive Director,
Student Services

Welcome, Fire Rooster!

John F. Land School is an early-childhood center that values multiculturalism. They celebrated the Year of the Fire Rooster by participating in a school-based parade for the Lunar New Year, known as Tet, within the Vietnamese community. Tet occurred on January 28 and can be celebrated for up to seven days. Tet brings the community together and allows families to pay respect to their ancestors and welcome in a new year with wishes of good luck.

Through lessons focused on cultural proficiency, students learned about New Year foods and traditions. They applied their newly found knowledge by making New Year decorations, including masks and dragons, which they proudly displayed during a schoolwide Tet celebration. Some students wore traditional Vietnamese clothing known as *áo dài*.

The celebration culminated with a school-based parade in which the students proudly marched around the campus and wished everyone Happy New Year!



Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • <http://meairs.wsdk8.us>



Kathy Kane
Principal

Every Student Succeeding

At the Every Student Succeeding Breakfast all WSD schools had the chance to honor one of their students. At Meairs that student was Kenny Huynh. Kenny came to us as a kindergartener and is now in 5th grade. His teachers from previous years shared some of their thoughts about Kenny.

"Kenny touched my heart the moment he entered my kindergarten classroom five years ago. He is the most polite, articulate, funny and enthusiastic scholar."

"Kenny is a young gentleman with a heart of gold. He is unfailingly polite and well mannered. He has an excellent memory and strives to be a responsible student. I absolutely loved being his teacher!"

"Kenny brought so much joy into our classroom. He loved learning and was like a sponge. When I think of Kenny, it always brings a smile to my face."

Kenny continues to bring a smile to everyone's face at Meairs. Congratulations Kenny!



Every Student Succeeding award winner

Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264 • <http://schmitt.wsdk8.us>



Orchid Rocha
Principal

A Model for Everyone

By Joanne Roh, Third-Grade Teacher

Philip Tran is a remarkable example of success and triumph. He has endured the severe physical trials of leukemia and its subsequent grueling chemotherapy, and has also maintained above-average performance in all of the academic disciplines. After surviving cancer, last year Philip was then stricken with a rare muscle condition. And yet, he has persisted with his rigorous work ethic.

Philip rejoices in moments of discovery; his eyes positively twinkle when he knows the answer to a question! His peers are the willing recipients of his sunshine disposition. He is looked upon by all as a model of manners and behavior in every column of our school's list of values and expectations.



Philip's parents have been decisively instrumental in his academic success, and in the molding of his character of humility and peace. They have raised him to be a disciplined and highly delightful student. It is a joy to recognize Philip Tran with this award.

Schroeder *Elementary (K-6)*

15151 Columbia Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7268 • <http://schroeder.wsdk8.us>



Carrie Hernandez
Principal

A Garden of Learning

At Schroeder Elementary School, our upper-grade students have the opportunity to be part of our Garden Club. Students meet weekly with Miss Carlson and our wonderful community volunteer, Mr. Collier, to care for our garden.

Students learn about how to grow things organically and help weed and care for the plants that are growing. At harvest time, the students get to enjoy the fruits of their labor, tasting a variety of lettuce, Brussel sprouts, onions, and tomatoes. They often make their own salsa!

The garden is a group effort that continues to grow and bloom because of donations. It was started as an Eagle Scout project, with the Daisy Girl Scout troop planting the first flowers, which still remain! The fencing was donated, as well as the tree and the butterfly plant. The primary students help plant seedlings and donate worms, too!

Our garden is a wonderful place to sit and relax. Benches encourage students to sit and read, talk with friends, or just enjoy the nature around them. Our garden is a wonderful place to just be!

Thank you to Miss Carlson and Mr. Collier for all their hard work and to our community for the continued donations. Also, thank you to our Garden Club members for tending our garden each week!



Sequoia *Elementary (K-6)*

5900 Iroquois Rd., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7271 • <http://sequoia.wsdk8.us>



Michelle Watkins
Principal

A Day to Celebrate

January 24, 2017 was the perfect day to celebrate with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony. That's because we became the official GATE Magnet School for Westminster!

Parents and special guests — including district administrators, Mayor Tri Ta, and a representative from Senator Nguyen's office — were all greeted by our student council. Part of the ceremony included students speaking about what they love about our school's many new programs.

After the ceremony, student ambassadors led the guests on campus tours. In addition to seeing both GATE and AVID strategies being used in each subject area, our guests also saw the following enrichment programs: Music Lab, simple machines and robotics in our new Innovation Lab, engineering, Dance Academy, STEAM lessons, technology, and videography.

If you are interested in learning more about Sequoia's programs, please call the office to set up a campus tour. Remember, as Helen Keller once said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."



Stacey *Middle School*

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212 • <http://stacey.wsdk8.us>



Heidi DeBritton
Principal

JHS Induction Ceremony

By Kelsi Bisetti, "Cougar Chronicle" Student Staff Writer

At the NJHS Induction Ceremony, there were candles, children and black cloaks—OK, well...maybe not black cloaks.

In January, several of Stacey's most esteemed students made an appearance at this prestigious event. The National Junior Honors Society, otherwise known as NJHS, shows students how gratifying it is to help their community. Participants take part in campus cleanups, help teachers and staff, or volunteer for other local organizations like the Orange County Humane Society, the Huntington Central Library and WAGS.

Mrs. Gates, one of the NJHS leaders, expressed much pride in the honored students. Several students gave speeches in the candlelit room, focusing on scholarship, service, loyalty, character and citizenship. NJHS officials are hoping this program will instill these characteristics in their students. On their official website, it reads, "[NJHS] challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service."



Webber *Elementary (K-6)*

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • <http://webber.wsdk8.us>



Kevin Whitney
Principal

To the Moon and Beyond

Rocket scientist Mike Rossoni inspired Webber Elementary School's Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) to imagine a future when humans will travel to Mars. Mr. Rossini provided

the students with a vision of the Mars transport ship and a stage landing drone ship.

The Wolf Pack is focused on sustainable ways of life; we have gardens and compost bins, and we use technology to share information rather than paper. So when Mr. Rossini presented the idea of a reusable rocket, our students were ready to purchase their tickets to Mars.

The GATE learners researched ways to travel to other planets and determined the types of resources needed to recreate the conditions of Earth's biosphere on a planet or asteroid which is currently inhospitable to living beings.

We thank Mr. Rossoni for encouraging Webber students to dream of careers in space travel.



Warner *Middle School (6-8)*

14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281 • <http://warner.wsdk8.us>



Amy Pham Kwon
Principal

Smiles of the Season

By Tammy Nguyen, Warner Journalism

Each year, Warner Wildcats' PAL group visits the local senior center to sing them joyful holiday songs. The leaders of this event, Robin Talbot and Colleen Maxwell, plan this for the last day of school before Winter Break. We walked from Warner

to the Senior Center and were greeted with the workers' warm

smiles and baskets of candy canes to spread holiday cheer. Before going door-to-door, Ms. Maxwell and Ms. Talbot gathered everyone to the center of the actual center to offer the seniors a wakeup call and preview. We then sang cheerful songs of holiday joy, including "Jingle Bells", and headed back to school with candy canes and satisfaction, leaving the residents with smiles of the season.



Willmore *Elementary (K-5)*

7122 Maple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-3765 • <http://willmore.wsdk8.us>



Dr. Nicole Jacobson
Principal

A Community Celebration

Willmore Elementary School recently brought together many of its community members to ring in the Vietnamese Lunar New Year, also known as Tet.

Students, parents, and local community leaders gathered together to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2017 year. With their amazing musical drums and beautiful Vietnamese attire, our Westminster High School's Vietnamese American Culture Club (VACC) performed several dances in front of the audience. A highlight of the celebration was the iconic Lion Dance, during which the students are able to feed the lions the traditional red envelopes.

Willmore was also honored to welcome a few special guests to this assembly, including Westminster School District Superintendent Dr. Marian Kim-Phelps.

Following tradition, Dieu Ngu Temple priest Thay An Minh addressed our Willmore students with a message about showing kindness to one another during the upcoming year. This festive assembly concluded with Vietnamese songs sung by our very own Willmore students and parents!



The Westminster High School VACC performing.

Huntington Beach Union High School District

5832 Bolsa Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/903-7000 • www.hbusd.edu

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Clint Harwick

The Power of Perseverance
(please see the front page)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Dr. Michael Simons
President

A Team Effort

February is an exciting month for our high school athletes. It is at this time that they are able to sign national letters of intent with colleges and universities where they will become student-athletes. This is usually accompanied by offers of scholarships. Students not only need to perform well on the athletic field, they must also perform well in the classroom in order to qualify for college admittance.

On February 1, 2017, over 60 male and female athletes in the Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) signed their national letters of intent to attend many colleges and universities, including: University of California, Berkeley; University of California, Los Angeles; University of California, Santa Barbara; University of California, Davis; University of California, San Diego; University of Southern California; Yale University; Duke University; University of Notre Dame; Bucknell University; United States Military Academy West Point; University of Arkansas; Brandeis University; University of Illinois; University of Arizona; California State University, Long Beach; University of Oregon; Oregon State University; California Polytechnic University, Pomona; College of Holy Cross; Kansas State University; University of San Francisco; Texas Christian University; Arizona State University; University of Wyoming; Santa Clara University; and Pepperdine University.

This does not occur without a total team effort, including the student, parents, teachers, administrators, teammates, and coaches. Students involved in athletics frequently have extremely complicated schedules, which often include other sports and extracurricular activities. Add in practice, travel, games and meetings, and time for homework, and study gets impacted. That's where the team effort comes in to help these student-athlete succeed.

This same team effort is also needed for students involved in the arts and theater, Model United Nations, student government, and other extracurricular activities. We want all of our students to be successful in the academic field as well as on the athletic field and to be able to continue learning as they move on to the next stages in their lives.

Please join me in congratulating these extremely motivated student-athletes and their families.

Huntington Beach *Adult School*

17321 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4227 • www.hbas.edu



Steve Curiel
Principal

Life Turnaround

HBAS congratulates Kathleen Jones! She completed the Personal Care Assistant (PCA) class in December and within three days was hired by a home-caregiver company. However, the story does not end there. Kathleen—or Katie, as she goes by—was quickly promoted to case manager/coordinator. So, how did this happen?

Our staff quickly realized that Katie is an awesome individual who demonstrated tremendous initiative while in the PCA program. Katie had a strong administration background, but because of various unfortunate events, she had to consider a career change and started HBAS's PCA program. Her self-esteem was very low at the time. Unfortunately, events in life had beaten her down and crushed her own self-perception.

Nearing the end of the PCA class, Katie's confidence level began to grow. She started to wear contacts and got a new hairstyle. After completing the PCA program and receiving soft skills and interview training from Mrs. Flores, our job developer, she was ready to get back into the working world.

Having caring teachers like Mr. Bell and Mrs. Flores helped Katie build her confidence back up. "We wanted Katie to see her self-worth, too, by pushing her and encouraging her to apply for the promotion." Mrs. Flores said.

It was not easy—she interviewed with the managers and then with the owner and beat out many other candidates for the position. Another success story for HBAS! Go Katie!



Kathleen Jones, newly hired and promoted HBAS Personal Care Assistant graduate.

Growth and Unity

The schools in our district have been striving to maintain and create unique traditions. Ocean View and Edison High Schools hosted Spring Club Rush, where students were given a second opportunity to sign up for clubs. Marina High School started a similar tradition this year. Fountain Valley High School put on its annual FNL Talent Show, with over 20 different acts!

Huntington Beach High School threw a winter formal with a Cirque de HB theme. Coast High School's first-ever dog support allowed students to pet dogs for stress relief. And Valley Vista High School promoted a college-going culture with their financial aid and application workshops, and Westminster High School hosted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Night and Freshman Passport to Success event.

School cultures of positive growth and unity make Huntington Beach Union High School District the best!

Thank you for reading *School News*! Our next issue is May 10 with April 24 deadline to be included.

Email kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com or 562-493-3193

Coast *High School*

17321 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/848-5160 • www.coasthighschool.com



Dr. Angela Harding
Principal

Responsible Electronics Pilot

With the advent of handheld electronic devices, we now face the collective task of navigating instruction in the age of technology. Zero-tolerance policies of the past seem unrealistic when one thing is clear: electronic devices are here to stay.

Coast High School stakeholders united to craft a modern policy by asking “How do we honor instruction while respecting both the age of technology and the rights of all involved?” We are thrilled to be piloting a solution that includes the same classroom charging lockers used by Harvard University and NASA.

With a firm understanding and vision that electronic devices can be well utilized as instructional tools in the classroom, we have mutually agreed to allow students the opportunity to self-manage cell-phone usage during class time. To provide support for this philosophy, our staff works diligently with students to help teach responsible usage. To make an analogy, think of scissors. We wouldn't say “No scissors in the classroom” for fear that scissors could be dangerous. Instead, we teach students how to use the scissors responsibly.

When not being used as an instructional device, students agree to place their electronic devices in the classroom charging locker only if opportunities to self-manage device usage first fail. Each locker bay is protected by a student-created password. Staff members never touch the device, which removes potential for liability. There are an Android and an Apple charger in each locker bay, which provides the student an incentive to cooperate. Many students even place their cell phones in the charging locker upon entering the classroom by their own choice.

Our electronic device philosophy has evolved from a zero-tolerance policy to a responsible-use agreement; so far, the pilot seems to be a success.



Edison *High School*

21400 Magnolia Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-1356 • www.edisonchargers.com



Jennifer Graves
Principal

Charger Night

Edison had its annual incoming freshman night in early February. Our goal was to showcase everything our school has to offer. Knowing that our families are busy and limited in time, we combined both our “Expo” and eighth-grade parent night into one big evening.

The night began with an Expo event that allowed the opportunity for over 50 academic programs, departments, athletic teams, performance groups, clubs, and parent organizations to showcase their programs to our incoming ninth-grade students and their parents. The families were able to receive information, tour our Innovation Lab, and sign up for future events that can allow them to make better choices in the upcoming year. Even with the impending rainstorm looming nearby, we had approximately 1,000 people in attendance!

Immediately following the Expo, we invited all of the students and parents back to the gymnasium for a short presentation about Edison High School, along with a video that was put together by our amazing digital media class, Bolt TV. After the presentation, the parents were sent off to hear from our guidance specialists about the “inside scoop” on how to help their students be successful in high school. The students remained in the gym to experience a high school rally led by the Edison ASB. It was an exciting evening.

Parents now have everything they need to assist their students in May with registering for courses for the 2017–2018 school year. So welcome to the Charger family, Class of 2021!



Fountain Valley *High School*

17816 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/962-3301 • www.fvhs.com



Dr. Morgan Smith
Principal

VE Competition Qualification

In January, Fountain Valley High School's (FVHS) Virtual Enterprise (VE) team placed fifth at the Virtual Enterprises International California State Trade Show in Bakersfield. Fountain Valley's team is one of just six in the state that will advance to nationals in New York City.

Virtual Enterprise is a course that allows students to create and operate a virtual business while determining the nature of the enterprise and its products, services and management structure under the guidance of a business partner. FVHS's business, Off the Grid (www.fvoffthegrid.wixsite.com/fvhs), is a clothing and adapter line that produces clothes that charge devices through kinetic energy. This is the very first time any VE firm in our school district has moved on to the national competition.

Getting a team to New York is costly. They need to raise \$12,000 in the next few weeks. Please consider making a donation of any size to their GoFundMe page at <https://www.gofundme.com/fvhsNYC>. The funds will be used for the entry fee to the competition, plane tickets and hotel rooms.



In order to secure our spot in the competition, we must book tickets and pay all fees within a month's time. Every little bit counts, so please consider donating to help us make it to New York. With your support, our company will be able to compete with students around the country and even the world!

Huntington Beach *High School*

1905 Main St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-2514 • www.hboilers.com



Daniel Morris
Principal

World-Class Arts!

The Academy for the Performing Arts (APA) is a performing-arts magnet program on the Huntington Beach High School campus, offering extensive preprofessional-level classes in a variety of performing-arts disciplines within a traditional high school.

Actors, dancers, singers, musicians, theater technicians, choreographers, composers, filmmakers, costume designers, set designers, directors,

playwrights, publicists, managers and more—we have them all!

Over the past several months, the APA staff has been busy getting ready for the upcoming 2017–18 school year new-student auditions. In preparation, we have hosted APA audition workshops in every discipline to allow students to feel prepared and help calm nerves for the APA auditions.

This year, the historic HBUHSD auditorium and bell tower has already seen thousands of guests come through its doors for APA main-stage shows, including *The Producers*, *Flowers for Algernon*, "Sounds of the Season," "Fusion" and "Playlist 2017." APA staff and students are busy, busy, busy getting ready to finish out the season with *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, "Retrofest: Songwriter," and "Fanfare 2017," just to name a few!

We are also so excited that HBHS APA was selected as one of just eight Distinguished Arts,

Media and Entertainment (AME) Model CTE Programs by the California Department of Education. On May 5, HBHS APA will be hosting arts educators from around the state for AME Industry Sector Model Demonstration Day, which will include the infamous "MMET Retrofest" show. If you haven't seen an APA show, you are missing out!



Marina High School

15871 Springdale St., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/893-6571 • www.marinavikings.org



Dr. Jessie Marion
Principal

Career-Ready Vikings

According to the California Department of Education, Career and Technical Education (CTE) is an important program that provides students with real-world 21st century skills. As the website states, “CTE practitioners and experts concur that the discipline provides relevance and real-world content for academic studies while promoting teamwork and cooperative learning. It builds teacher, counselor, parent, business

and community engagement. It also encourages students to see a high school diploma and readiness for college or other postsecondary study as a foundation for the future rather than as an end in and of itself.”

At Marina, we are fortunate to have an amazing CTE program that allows students to grow in their real-world skills and introduces them to outstanding career pathways. They have the chance to learn about culinary arts, fashion industry and design, car maintenance, construction, the arts and a variety of life skills. Our CTE teachers continually seek opportunities to educate themselves, remain current with industry standards, and connect with local business leaders to understand the competences our students need to be successful in future careers.

Recently, Carrie Peterson helped students develop skills for career-readiness through a Dolphin Tank activity. Much like the show Shark

Tank, students collaborated to create an innovative business idea, develop a business plan, and present their plan to a panel of school and community leaders. It was a great opportunity for students to collaborate, think critically, present publicly, and receive constructive feedback while also learning the actual steps it takes to create and build a business.



Sadie Atwood, Daniel Hernandez, Samantha Torres, Alexander Kellam, Mark Gaber, Mrs. Peterson.

Westminster High School

14325 Goldenwest St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/893-1381 • www.whslions.net



Joe Fraser
Principal

Eleven Consecutive Years!

Westminster High School has done it again! The little team that could....

The team that essentially rebuilds itself from scratch each year is going to the State Academic Decathlon championships for the 11th year in a row—a feat not accomplished by any currently competing high school in Orange County. They will be back in Sacramento from Thursday, March 15, through Sunday, March 26.

The team started its work last June, studying 10 academic subjects and tasks: art, economics, essay writing, interview, language and literature, mathematics, music, science, social science and speech—for only one competition! They have put in between two and four hours a day, seven days a week, since June. The competition was divided into two parts: subjectives, i.e., essay, interview, and speech, in January at Tustin High School; and objectives, i.e., all other subjects, in February at Westminster High School. In order to have a Decathlon team, there must be between

two and three students from each of three unweighted GPA categories: Honors (3.75-4.00), Scholastic (3.00-3.74) and Varsity (0.00-2.99). The top-scoring two individuals get to contribute to the team score.

Westminster High School ended up with 45 individual medals as a team, tied for second in the SuperQuiz, and placed third overall, sealing the trip to the state championship!



Ocean View *High School*

17071 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/848-0656 • www.ovhs.info



Dr. Courtney Robinson
Principal

Amazing Student Leaders

There are many groups on a high school campus that can make an impact in the overall culture of a school. Our Associated Student Body (ASB) is one of those groups at Ocean View High School. With over 50 members, our ASB can be seen all over campus, sometimes at all hours of the night.

This year's ASB is a special group that has worked tirelessly to make sure that our school is inclusive and that students treat each other with kindness and respect. So far this year, ASB has organized dances, pep rallies, fund-raisers for major causes, club rushes...and the list goes on.

More importantly, ASB has been helping to create a culture at school where students truly care about one another and stand up for what is right and what they believe in. When things don't seem to be going the right way, ASB has turned them in a more positive direction.

Our activities director, John Volo, has taught the students numerous leadership lessons, and the students take them to heart. Probably the most important lesson has been for them to take a good hard look at who they are as a leadership team so they can continue to make a positive impact on our school.

I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with such an amazing group of student leaders.



ASB at Leadership Camp during the summer!

Valley Vista *High School*

9600 Dolphin St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/964-7766 • www.vhs.info



Kerry Clitheroe
Principal

Diving into the Aquarium

A recent field trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach gave students a chance to explore a new place, see animals they'd never seen before, and get some hands-on experience with living sea creatures.

Jason Mintzer, a Valley Vista High School biology teacher, explained, "I wanted my students to have an exciting and memorable educational experience. Some of the students had never been to an aquarium. They touched jellyfish, sharks, stingrays, and anemones. They dissected squids and fed the lorikeets."



"I didn't know squids had three hearts!"

Gabe Roberts, another Valley Vista science teacher, accompanied the class to the Aquarium. He said, "It was a pleasure to see the students' faces light up when seeing the different underwater creatures."

Ana, a participating student, was impressed with how hard marine life has to work to survive. "We can just pick up the phone and order a pizza," she said. "Sea creatures have to spend every waking moment surviving."

Another student, Breyan, was amazed at the abundance and variety of life in the ocean. Alicia realized how important it is to "do everything we can to protect our oceans."

All the students expressed a desire to return with families and friends to learn and explore more.

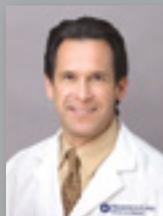
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OB/GYN
FOUNTAIN VALLEY



Patricia Evans, CNM
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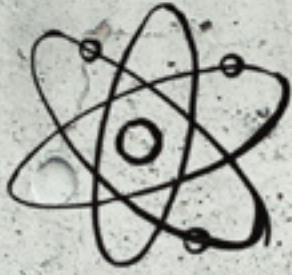


Stephanie Wyckoff, MD
OB/GYN
FOUNTAIN VALLEY



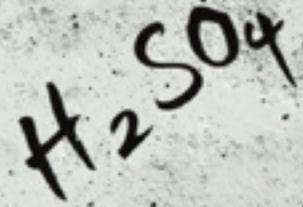
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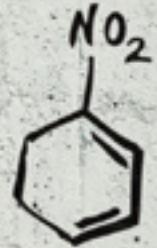


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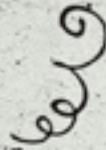
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