

FREE

School News

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Covering the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 30

APRIL / MAY 2017

Student Success

Éxito Estudiantil

By Dr. Hasmik Danielian, Superintendent

I am so proud to serve Norwalk-La Mirada Unified, where every day I am reminded of the vital role that each and every single one of us have in building an environment where our students can learn, grow and thrive.

It is important that our students are empowered to believe that they can attend any college and take on any career pathway they choose. With the strong college-going culture we have infused throughout our schools, our seniors are already receiving acceptance letters to top universities across the country, including UC Berkeley, Columbia and the U.S. Naval Academy. Many also signed letters of intent to attend colleges and universities on full scholarships based on their athletic talents.



Norwalk High School Senior Promise Agbo was accepted to UC Berkeley as a Regent Scholar.

La estudiante Facultado de la Escuela Secundaria Norwalk fue aceptada a UC Berkeley como Regente Erudito.

Estoy muy orgullosa de servir a Norwalk-La Mirada Unificado, donde cada día me doy cuenta del papel vital que cada uno de nosotros tiene en la construcción de un ambiente donde nuestros estudiantes puedan aprender, crecer y prosperar.

Es importante que nuestros estudiantes estén fortalecidos para creer que pueden asistir a cualquier universidad y asumir cualquier camino de carrera que ellos elijan. Con la fuerte cultura universitaria que

hemos infundido a través de nuestras escuelas, nuestros estudiantes del 12° grado ya están recibiendo cartas de aceptación a las mejores universidades de todo el país, incluyendo UC Berkeley, Columbia y la Academia Naval de los Estados Unidos. Muchos también firmaron

See **STUDENT SUCCESS** • Page 11 • **Éxito Estudiantil**

Norwalk High Raises Over \$16,000 for Charity



Norwalk High School seniors Caleb and Jordan Volpei share a story about a family friend's battle with cancer before presenting a representative of the Los Alamitos-based non-profit Breast Cancer Angels a check for \$1,520.17, during Norwalk's fifth Charity for Charities fundraiser.

By Dr. Hasmik Danielian, Superintendent

Norwalk High School seniors Caleb and Jordan Volpei shared with their classmates the story of a family friend, Krista Dornburg, who lost her job and house while undergoing cancer treatments in 2009, but pushed through the difficult time with positive spirits.

Four years after the treatments, the cancer returned. Ignoring the advice of her doctors to stay home, Dornburg went to church on Sundays and attended the Breast Cancer Angels Christmas Ball.

See **NORWALK HIGH** • Page 11

Preparation for the Future

Preparación para el Futuro

By President Board of Education • Sean Reagan • Presidente de la Junta de Educación

One of the Board of Education's priorities is to ensure that our students excel, acquiring the knowledge and skills to prosper after they graduate. This includes strengthening our students' talents, offering the support to translate their passions into careers and helping them discover a university that will support their career pathway.

Our students are immersed in a rigorous, academic environment that encourages growth from kindergarten through grade 12. Elementary school students are singing and acting alongside visual and performing arts professionals, boosting their confidence and collaboration skills while on center stage. In the classrooms, they are building foundations in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), as well as language arts while discovering which pathway in middle and high school they wish to follow.

Students may attend a magnet middle school that will suit their interests, including STEM, visual and performing arts, and medical and forensics. Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) programs build their

Una de las prioridades de la Junta de Educación es asegurar que nuestros estudiantes sobresalgan, adquiriendo los conocimientos y habilidades para prosperar después de graduarse. Esto incluye fortaleciendo los talentos de nuestros estudiantes, ofreciendo el apoyo para traducir sus pasiones a carreras y ayudarles a descubrir una universidad que apoye su camino profesional.

Nuestros estudiantes están inmersos en un ambiente académico riguroso que fomenta el crecimiento desde kínder hasta el 12° grado. Los estudiantes de primaria están cantando y actuando junto a profesionales de las artes visuales y escénicas, aumentando su confianza y habilidades de colaboración mientras que están en el centro del escenario. En el salón de clases, están construyendo cimientos en ciencia, tecnología, ingeniería y matemáticas (STEM, por sus siglas en inglés), al igual que lenguaje y literatura del inglés mientras que descubren qué camino desean seguir en la escuela intermedia y secundaria.

Los estudiantes pueden asistir a una escuela intermedia que satisfaga sus intereses, incluyendo STEM, artes visuales y escénicas, y medicina y estudios

See **PREPARATION FOR THE FUTURE** • Page 11 • **PREPARACIÓN**

Adult School

15711 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk CA 90650 • 562/868-9858
15920 Barbata Rd., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 714/670-9279 • www.nlm.as.org



**Sharon Renfro
Todd**
Director

Become a Childcare Professional!

The Norwalk-La Mirada Adult School's relatively new Childcare Professions Certificate Program is a popular choice for those seeking to work with young children. The program consists of four core classes that meet the Department of Social Services educational requirements for employment in licensed private preschools and childcare programs as a teacher or teacher assistant.

This short-term program also serves as a foundation for those who wish to continue training to become licensed for a variety of public childcare providers. Through these dynamic classes, future professionals gain a thorough introduction to child development, principles and practices, and curriculum planning.



Childcare Professions students are eager to share their ideas.

As employment in childcare is projected to grow five percent through the year 2024, this program provides an avenue to employment in a popular field. For more information, or to enroll in this career pathway, please call (562) 210-3990. You are also welcome to visit us at one of our two campuses.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



It is hard to believe we are already nearing the end of another school year. Dr. Hasmik Danielian's article on the front page reminds us of the importance of this time of year for the seniors as they anxiously wait for responses from the colleges/universities of their choice. As the Superintendent's message says, students are being prepared daily in the classrooms for success in whatever endeavor they choose. Parents and the community all play a role supporting our youth. It is an exciting time to be a student!

Our next issue is June 7.

School News

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www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Covering the
**NORWALK-LA MIRADA UNIFIED
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Contest!

This student is in a picture in this publication. When you find him, email the page number to:

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
Please put NLMUSD in the subject line



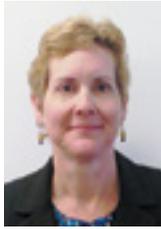
Your entry must be received by April 15, 2017. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a GAZUMP card/dice game — fun for all ages.

**Congratulations Lucy and Soren Earle
Winners of our February Contest!**

<p>Golf N' Stuff Family Fun Park 2 Hours Unlimited Fun! With this coupon you can purchase a wristband for 2 hrs. consecutive use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lit'l Indy Go-Karts • Bumper Boats • Kiddie Train! <p>Plus 1 game of miniature golf</p> <p>Only \$20 (Retail \$30)</p> <p>Must Present coupon in person. Not valid w/ other offers. No Cash Value. Expires 12/31/17 SNRCLM 10555 E. Firestone Bl., Norwalk (562) 868-9956 Other coupons at www.golfnstuff.com Prices subject to change without notice.</p>	<p>Golf N' Stuff Family Fun Park Hole In One Discount Coupon Bring this coupon to receive:</p> <p>\$2.00 off Miniature Golf*</p> <p>*Discount off reg. price Mini Golf (Reg. \$10.00)</p> <p>Limit up to 4 per coupon. Not valid w/ other discounts. No Cash Value. One offer per coupon. Expires 12/31/17 SNRCLM 10555 E. Firestone Bl., Norwalk (562) 868-9956 Other coupons at www.golfnstuff.com Prices subject to change without notice.</p>
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Ramona Head Start *Pre-School*

14616 Dinard Ave., Norwalk CA 90650 • 562/921-7610



Laurel Parker
Director

Exciting Changes

The Head Start classes were recently reviewed as part of a federal review of all Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE)-funded Head Start programs. This is one of a series of reviews that the Office of Head Start conducts to determine if funding will continue in the next grant cycle. Five classrooms were evaluated in regards to teacher-student interaction, and results are expected soon.

We are excited to announce that the Early Head Start program will be adding seven more children in July 2018. Community assessment information tells us that services for children from birth to three are urgently needed, so we are pleased to continue to grow. Other changes include adding a full-day Head Start class at Glazier and Foster Road Schools. We will continue to offer both half-day and full-day program options at six sites across the District and one site in Downey.

At all our sites, we offer a variety of parent workshops on topics such as financial literacy, first aid, family literacy, and nutrition. Please ask your family services worker or your teacher for the latest flyers. Almost every site has workshops available, but you may attend training at any of our preschool sites, regardless of where your child attends.

The Early Head Start program will be adding seven more children in July 2018.

Optometry




Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others.

– Booker T. Washington

John Larcabal, O.D.
Sandra Stevens, O.D.
Diane Almanza, O.D.

(562) 868-8233 • drjohnlarcabal.com



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Norwalk, CA 90650
(562) 210-4205



- 1** Head Start, Early Head Start and State Preschool are offered across multiple sites. Home base or center base options are offered to 0-5 year olds beginning in July and August. Classes are currently being filled. Ofrecemos una variedad de programas y escuelas. Home Base, clases para niños de 0 a 5 años, las clases empiezan en julio y agosto. Las clases se llenan rapido.
- 2** We toilet train too!
¡Les enseñamos a usar el baño!
- 3** We welcome children with disabilities.
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- 4** We offer services to expectant women.
Ofrecemos servicios a las mujeres embarazadas.

www.nlmusd.org/preschool
Applications available online (website)

The programs serve all eligible children regardless of sex, race, religion, ethnicity, or disabilities, and refrain from religious instruction or worship. Estos programas sirven a todos los niños elegibles, sin importar raza, sexo o incapacidad, y no proporcionamos instrucción religiosa.

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Benton *MS Visual & Performing Arts Magnet*

15709 E. Olive Branch Dr., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 562/943-1553 • www.nlmusd.org



Dr. Michael Gotto
Principal

College and Career Readiness

Benton Middle School recently held its annual College and Career Week. Parent volunteers and staff combined their efforts to create a dynamic week full of opportunities.

On Monday, teachers shared their college journey with their first-period classes, and students took a virtual tour of colleges and universities. On Tuesday, teachers shared about careers in education, and students took an online survey of career pathways. In grade-level assemblies on Wednesday, a representative from the Princeton Review shared about the

positive impact college has on career and life. We also had a special guest performer who graduated from California State University, Long Beach, who now has a career in the music industry. On Thursday, students attended three sessions for Career Day. Nearly 20 guest speakers from various industries spoke to students about their career options. On Friday, students made a commitment to college.

At Benton, college and career readiness is a priority!



Cathy Rigby, 1972 Olympic Gold Medalist turned Broadway actress and producer, speaks to a group of Benton students during Career Day on Thursday, March 2, 2017.

Chavez *Elementary School*

12110 E. Walnut St., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-3565 • www.nlmusd.org



Gabriela Galvez-Reyna
Principal

Read Across America Week

Chavez celebrated reading! Read Across America is always a special time at Chavez Elementary. The week had special events every day including buddy reading, super hero day, and making bookmarks. On Thursday, we happily welcomed more than 30 guest readers who came from near and far to read out loud to Chavez students. All classes had multiple readers who shared some of their childhood favorites. It just happened to be PJ day, and so the whole Chavez community snuggled up for some cozy read alouds.



Corvallis *MS Arts & Technology Magnet*

11032 Leffingwell Rd., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-2678 • www.nlmusd.org



Bob Easton
Principal

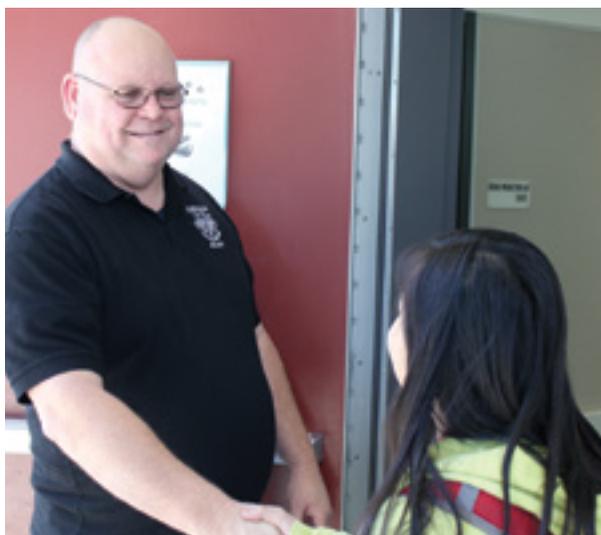
Positive Learning Environment

During summer, teachers received training focusing on developing an effective and positive learning environment. Using the EXCEL model, which stands for Engage, eXplore, Communicate, Empower and Launch, staff and students build solid relationships and learn skills to communicate in a professional world.

Every day, every class period, teachers greet students at the door with a handshake and a welcoming smile, and engage students in sharing “good news” for a few minutes. The students commented that they appreciate how much the teachers care about them. To

further support this positive environment, students are taught what is expected of them all over campus. Staff then “catch students being good” and reinforce their positive behavior with Bulldog Bucks. The Bucks are used in our Dog Pound “store,” which is staffed by student leaders from our Leadership class, ASB, WEB and AVID.

Based on research, these actions set the stage for high levels of learning.



Teacher Kelly Rasar greeting students at the door.

Dolland *Elementary School*

15021 S. Bloomfield Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/921-9934 • www.nlmusd.org



Lorena Sierra
Principal

Husky Running Club

It is important to understand that our students need to be emotionally and physically healthy for learning to take place. There is growing evidence indicating that physical activity can benefit academic performance for children. Here at Dolland Elementary School, we have two role models who are committed to providing ample opportunities for students to be physically and emotionally ready to meet their challenges of the day!

Mrs. Cleven, one of our fabulous teachers, and Coach M, our wonderful Playworks coach, have teamed together to bring the Husky Running Club to our school. Each Tuesday and Thursday, they are here early to get students running before the start of the school day. Students are encouraged to have a balanced breakfast and check in to meet their running goals. Prizes and recognition are given to students every five miles. Currently, there are several students who have run over 25 miles! Go, Huskies!



Running Club 2017! Students with their running cards and charm lanyards.

Dulles *Elementary School*

12726 Meadow Green Rd., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 562/943-6734 • www.nlmusd.org



Shanti Gallegos
Principal

The Dulles Opera

Dulles Elementary School's fourth- and fifth-grade students partnered with the Los Angeles Opera to perform the elementary school opera "The Legend of Cannery Row." This experience taught students the importance of teamwork and the process of using imagination to work toward a group goal. One student shared, "Participating in the opera has helped me to realize I can do anything if I pay attention and work with others." And Anthony Albano explained, "The opera helped me with my participation skills."

Students from Benton Middle School provided feedback on the presentation. As Makayla Carter explained, "I learned that if we make mistakes it's ok because we are learning."

Teachers participated in an educator workshop at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and students engaged in an interactive performance in the Eva and Marc Stern Grand Hall, followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the opera house.



Dulles 4th and 5th Graders Perform Cannery Row Opera.

Eastwood *Elementary School*

15730 Pescados Dr., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 714/521-6480 • www.nlmusd.org



Yvette Cantu
Principal

Families Learning Together

Eastwood School holds a long tradition of providing parent education that matches the academic and social emotional needs of our students. For the past three years we have held a series of "Common Core Nights With Mrs. Cantu" that focus on the new California Common Core State Standards for reading, writing, and math. Participants learned strategies and techniques for developing perseverance, open mind set, and problem solving skills.

This year the Eastwood instituted parent workshops especially for Kindergarten parents designed to help young children build friendships and manage their emotions. The workshops gave parents insight into beginning school social skills that support academic learning. Tools and strategies for learning social skills and behavior development were the highlights of the sessions.

The workshops are well attended and highly rated by our parents.



Parents and children learning together

Edmondson *Elementary School*

15121 S. Grayland Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/864-9501 • www.nlmusd.org



Sharon Stewart
Principal

College Bound and Career Focused!

Edmondson's second- through fifth-grade AVID students visited the UCLA campus on Sunday, March 5. This visit definitely left a lasting impression on our students! They enjoyed watching the womens gymnastics team in action and touring the campus.

The students were amazed with the gymnasts' athleticism, and were in awe of the enormous campus. They are still talking about it! One of our fifth-graders even got to see his older sister on campus who is currently a junior. We will be inviting her to visit Edmondson later this year to talk to our students about campus life, college courses, and the importance of staying focused on learning.



Edmondson students posed with the bear statue at UCLA. They had a blast visiting this college campus and watching the Women's Gymnastics Competition.

In our second year as an AVID elementary school, our teachers' continued dedication to increasing their students' organizational skills has positively impacted student achievement and engagement. We also teach universal soft-skills lessons to help build student awareness about what future employers are looking for.

El Camino *High School*

14625 Keese Dr., Whittier, CA 90604 • 562/944-0033 • www.nlmusd.org



Ryan Cummins
Director
Alt. Education

Student Strong!

Students at El Camino High school are continuing strong as we close in on the end of the school year. To prepare for post-secondary educational opportunities, a number of our students will be participating in the upcoming Cerritos College Preview Day. Our students continue to complete courses and get closer on a daily basis to graduation.

The Gators continue to participate in our intramural activities with the juniors versus the seniors in the March Madness basketball tournament. So far, the seniors have captured a victory in the first game of the tournament to balance the scales of the outcome of the flag football tournament, which saw our juniors come out victorious.

On the community side, our students are preparing to spread the word about the dangers of tobacco use through a shoe drive. When the activity is complete, the collected shoes will be donated to Relay for Life. We will also be hosting our annual Career Fair on April 11 to allow our students the opportunity to learn about and research career options.

Overall, we look forward to finishing the rest of the school year on a positive note with our staff and students.

Escalona *Elementary School*

15135 Escalona Rd., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 714/521-0970 • www.nlmusd.org



Bonnie Lytle
Principal

Escalona Eagles Have Heart

Escalona School maintains a long tradition of rigorous academics paired with community service. Our students continue to open their hearts and minds to support various causes outside our school walls.

Recently, during National Heart Health Month, Escalona School partnered with the American Heart Association to host our third annual Jump Rope for Heart event. This service project teaches students the importance of heart health, including regular exercise, healthy nutrition, and living tobacco free, while also having fun jumping rope to raise funds for the American Heart Association.

The money raised through the Jump Rope for Heart event helps to fund research and education aimed at lowering the risks of heart disease and stroke, America's No.1 and No.4 killers. Through our Escalona students' diligent efforts, and our community's generous support, our Escalona Eagles raised over \$9,700 for the American Heart Association during our 2017 campaign! Way to go, Eagles!



Foster Road *Elementary School*

13930 Foster Rd., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 562/921-9908 • www.nlmusd.org



Salvador Villagomez
Principal

Family Reading Picnics

Foster Road kicked off and ended its College Week with two wonderful and motivational assemblies. Throughout this week, our students were treated to activities and projects that really invited them to start thinking about their future plans.

But the highlight was our Read Across America Day picnic. Our end-of-the-day family reading picnic was attended by over 100 parents. We enjoyed the nice weather, read some good books, and ate healthy snacks with family and friends. The Cat in the Hat also made an appearance handing out books to all of our Foster Road Stars.

In the evening we hosted a pajama reading picnic for those who couldn't make the day event. We enjoyed some Dr. Seuss videos, snacks, and prizes.

Both picnics were wonderful examples of just how our Foster Road family is coming together to help guide our scholars onto a path filled with opportunity.



Gardenhill *Elementary School*

14607 E. Gardenhill Dr., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 562/944-6128 • www.nlmusd.org



Sarah Gilbert
Principal

Character in Sports

The Gardenhill Girls Basketball team was selected by all NLMUSD Playworks Coaches as best representing the Playworks core values of respect and healthy play in the recent Girls Basketball League! With this selection, Coach Tonji and the team were able to participate in the Junior Lakers partnership program and represent Gardenhill, NLMUSD and Playworks at the Los Angeles Lakers in February.

Coach T and the team traveled to the arena and got to demonstrate their skills while completing dribbling

drills, shooting challenges and team competitions. Excitement reached an all-time high when Lakers rookie Brandon Ingram came to the floor to meet the teams, cheer them on, and take pictures.

The team enjoyed a hard-battled game, but the home team fell short. Despite the loss, the memories and fun that were had by all will surely last for a long time.



Coach T, Mr. Ramsey, and the Gardenhill girls basketball team at the Staples Center.

Glazier *Elementary School*

10932 E. Excelsior Dr., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/863-8796 • www.nlmusd.org



Adriana Nakano
Principal

Talented Gladiators

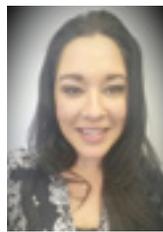
On Tuesday, February 28th, Glazier students showed off their singing, dancing and comedic acts in our annual talent show! Students from TK through 5th grade put on amazing performances showcasing their craft. With the support and guidance from teacher, Mr. Bradley Erickson, our students put on a spectacular show in front of their peers, teachers and family with confidence and enthusiasm. This event also served as a fundraiser and all profits were donated to Glazier's PTA to help support students and families in need. Here at Glazier we believe

in giving back to our community!



Glenn *High School*

13520 Shoemaker Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-0431 • www.nlmusd.org



Jennifer Padilla

Interim Principal

Staying Busy

During this time of the year, our students and staff members start to see the benefits of their hard work and dedication to rigorous academics and engaging extracurricular activities. Our competitions, showcases, and celebrations are continuing through June. We are proud to highlight some of the events that occurred during the months of January and February:

In VAPA we had 27 band musicians, under the direction of Mr. Frank Hinojos, who were included in the District Honor Band, which performed on February 23 to a packed Excelsior auditorium. Their musical renditions were beautiful and moving.

The Drama Department had a successful season with the community event, A Night of Terror, the Improv Show, Made Up Stuff, Speak: A Poetry Slam, and the riveting stage play *Bang Bang You're Dead*. They will finish their season with a trip to the California State Thespian Festival, hopefully qualifying for Nationals, and two more productions including the satire *Hearts Like Fists in May*.

In Pathways, the TCAP and PLTW swept the gold and silver awards at the annual Skills USA Robotics: Search and Rescue competition. They also hosted the annual VEX Robotics Competition, where 36 teams from all around California met to compete in February. Pathway leads Tom Carrion and Manny Parras are facilitating valuable real-world engineering experiences for students in these two pathways every day.

In athletics, the baseball season officially started on February 28. Our Eagles took a preseason trip to Palm Springs, the Varsity team went 2-1, and some great art exhibits were seen during the annual Palm Springs Art Festival.

In recent activities, our Link Crew is under the guidance of Derrick Wroten and Pat McLoy. They have hosted our Ice Cream Tailgater, freshman dodgeball tournament, class lessons and activities, and a powerful C2G (Commitment to Graduate) assembly. Upcoming events are a school-wide dodgeball tournament, movie night, dances, a Renaissance assembly, and some spectacular spirit competitions.

Hutchinson *MS Math, Science, Technology Magnet*

13900 Estero Rd., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 562/944-3268 • www.nlmusd.org



Robin Padgett

Principal

High Expectations

HighHutchinson prepares our students for college and career by challenging, motivating and inspiring them. Our staff has high expectations for their academic growth, ensuring that they are well prepared for the rigors of high school and college. Our College and Career Center is located in the library where students can access information daily. Our counselors, Angela Min and Erika Vesper, organized a College Week earlier this year and our AVID students researched colleges & universities and presented this information to all of our students. Just this week, Ms. Min organized Career Day and invited presenters from our district and community. Our students were inspired by doctors, military officers, Southeast Academy students, businessmen and women and NLMUSD's own Superintendent, Dr. Danielian and Director of Educational Services, Dr. Medrano. What an inspiring day for our students!!



Johnston *Elementary School*

13421 S. Fairford Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/864-2508 • www.nlmusd.org



Angela Togia

Principal

Learning with Technology

Throughout our school, the increased use of technology to enhance student learning is very apparent. Students are utilizing digital tablets, computers, and netbooks on a daily basis to support individual and cooperative learning through the use of educational applications and Web sites to increase their knowledge base in all subject areas.

The students have explored various ways to showcase their learning by creating digital multimedia presentations on Keynote and Pages and uploading them to Schoology. In order to improve their reading and math skills, students are on various programs such as i-Ready, Think Central, Razkids, and Spelling City. Since students are required to utilize technology for district and state assessments, teachers provide them with various opportunities to take weekly tests on their devices.

All of these amazing and wonderful learning experiences will truly make our Roadrunners college and career ready!



Students sharing their learning with technology while building their communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills.

La Mirada *High School*

13520 Adelfa Dr., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 562/868-0431 • www.nlmusd.org



Lisa Reed

Principal

Bio Medical Program

La Mirada High School's Medical Assisting class is excited to have fifteen students participating in internships during the 2017 spring semester! These students attend class daily as well as attend night school two times a week to gain the hours they need to participate in the internship program. During their classes, they learn a variety of skills they will need to know in order to complete their medical assisting certification. These skills include: reading an EKG, giving injections, taking blood pressure even practice doing minor suturing! We are also very proud to be graduating our first seniors from our Bio Medical Program! All of these students are now prepared to begin a career in the medical field.



La Pluma *Elementary School*

14420 La Pluma Dr., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 562/943-7104 • www.nlmusd.org



Seryna Huynh
Principal

College Awareness Week

It is never too early to start thinking about college. Children do better in school if they can see how education is connected to a successful future.

At La Pluma Elementary School, teachers are connecting what the students are learning to real-world situations and developing work-readiness skills, including working in teams, collaboration, critical thinking, making decisions, problem solving, and being a classroom leader.

During our college week, we conducted several events to highlight college opportunities. On Hats Off to College Day, students wore their favorite college hats. On another day, students wore neon shirts and sunglasses to show that their future is bright. For College Gear Day, teachers, staff, and

students wore their favorite college gear, and students enjoyed a picnic with their parents.

Events like these build motivation and encourage students to set goals for the future, namely to gain entry to the colleges of their choice.



Our Students are College Bound!

Lampton *Elementary School*

14716 Elmcroft Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/462-9273 • www.nlmusd.org



Cindy Rayburn
Principal

Oh, the Reading...!

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.
~ Dr. Seuss

Lampton Elementary is inspired by that quote! In March, we held our annual Read Across America event to honor Dr. Seuss's birthday. Teachers Rosemary Segal and Elisa Erickson scheduled over 40 guest readers that included school board vice president Chris Pfanzer, Supt. Hasmik Danielian, former superintendent Ginger Shattuck, and a judge, a musician, a fireman, a pastor, a

college professor, feeder school administrators, and even the Laker Girls!

After a wonderful morning of reading, Lampton families enjoyed a "Book-nic" on our main playground. Parents joined their children on the lawn to read in the sunshine. Classmates and teachers huddled around baskets of their favorite books. Toddlers and infants sat in their parents' and older siblings laps, looking at books and listening to stories. Perhaps next year, you'll join us, too!



Los Alisos *MS Math, Science, Technology Magnet*

14800 S. Jersey Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-0865 • www.nlmusd.org



Mike Garcia
Principal

Magnet Fair

What a wonderful evening! In January, our school district held its annual Magnet Fair, with a tremendous turnout! Los Alisos received numerous Open Enrollment applications, and families received information about our wonderful programs, especially the magnet program and our work with Project Lead the Way.

Families observed our work with VEX and Lego Mind Storm robotics, Project Lead the Way's Medical Detectives course, and our video-production class. Student volunteers from our Medical Detectives classes demonstrated a dissection of a sheep's brain.

We also highlighted our Dual Immersion classes in which students take half their core classes in Spanish and half in English. They're doing great and will be ready to ace the high school AP Spanish exams.

Our amazing robotics team, the Lobo Bots, competed at the robotics competition at John Glenn High. They competed against middle schools and mostly high schools, and more than held their own by defeating many high school teams. Great job, Bots!



A Los Alisos Medical Detective student explaining his sheep brain dissection to an intrigued 5th grader.

Los Coyotes *MS Centurion Honors and Medical/Forensics Magnet*

14640 Mercado Ave., La Mirada, CA 90638 • 714/739-2368 • www.nlmusd.org



Jacob Muñoz
Principal

The Green Team

The Green Team, at Los Coyotes Middle School, is preparing to change the mind-set of an entire school. Currently, our team (pictured below) is planning on applying for the Green Ribbon award in December 2017, which entails the following:

1. Reduce environmental impact and costs
2. Improve the health and wellness of schools, students, and staff
3. Provide environmental education, which teaches many disciplines, and is especially good at effectively incorporating STEM, civic skills, and green career pathways.

In order to accomplish this feat, our Green Team has accepted the challenge of changing an entire culture. This is because it is what is necessary if we are to successfully meet all criteria for the Green Ribbon. Most importantly, it is about taking better care of our earth and the natural resources it provides.



Green team at work.

Moffitt *Elementary School*

13323 S. Goller Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/864-3071 • www.nlmusd.org



Rachel Garcia
Principal

Read Across America

This year's Read Across America event was a huge success! The day began out with a Spirit Assembly in which our students learned about the significance of Read Across America. They even received a surprise visit from the Cat in the Hat! Throughout the morning the students participated in various activities at several themed Dr. Seuss stations, such as the Lorax Relaxing Reading Station, Horton Hears a Who! Bookmark Station, and the Bartholomew and the Oobleck Art Station.

At the Lorax Relaxing Reading Station, students were able to

sit down in a comfy chair and enjoy a great book with JGHS students and Playworks junior coaches. Other activities included students voting on their favorite Dr. Seuss book, and estimating the number of goldfish crackers in a bowl at the One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish Station. It was an amazing event, and our students had a great time!



Moffitt 1st graders reading with a junior coach at the Lorax Relaxing Reading Station.

Morrison *Elementary School*

13510 S. Maidstone Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-9878 • www.nlmusd.org



Rudy Gonzalez
Principal

Learning About Autism

In late March, Morrison Elementary School, in partnership with the PTA, joined the WORLD and participated in the annual "Autism Speaks" campaign known as "Light It Up Blue."

The Light It Up Blue campaign is designed to increase understanding and acceptance of those with autism spectrum disorder. Many national landmarks, businesses, and family homes will use blue lights to increase attention and awareness about autism in their communities. Not only did Morrison Light It Up Blue, but all of the classes from kindergarten through the fifth grade also completed mini-lessons on autism.

These grade-level lessons will increase our students' general knowledge about autism. Our students also learned how to support their peers who have autism, or any other difference, by fully including them at school.

Each week during the month of April, our Morrison staff will also be receiving professional development literature to continue their understanding and knowledge of the social and educational impacts which face students with autism.



#lightitupblue

New River *Elementary School*

13432 S. Halcourt Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-9848 • www.nlmusd.org



David Hoffman
Principal

New Intervention Plan

Soon after winter break, New River embarked on a new schoolwide intervention system to help students in need of extra support at every grade level.

Four days a week, every class goes to the computer labs where they are met by the intervention team. Most students spend the intervention block using iReady to supplement their learning while three intervention specialists pull targeted groups to work with in the intervention room. The classroom teacher also pulls a select group of students during this time.

Wednesdays follow the same time schedule, but students attend Character Education assemblies in our MPR while teachers meet as grade-level teams to discuss student data and plan for the following week's intervention groups.

Five weeks in, and the plan's working. Teachers are supportive, and the students love the time spent on computers or in small groups. Thank you, Bob Rayburn, Laurie Smilowitz and the staff at Chavez Elementary for their ideas and support.



Mr. Jacks' class utilizing the 4th grade intervention block.

Norwalk *High School*

11356 E. Leffingwell Rd., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-0431 • www.nlmusd.org



Dr. Sylvia Begtrup
Principal

College Admission Season is Here!

Springtime for seniors means another college admission season. The hard work of the last 12 years that our students, families, and teachers have been doing is finally paying off!

Students in the Class of 2017 have been notified of admission to UCB, UCLA, UCSD, UCR, UCI, CSULA, CSU Dominguez Hills, Rice University, Columbia, Azusa Pacific University, California Baptist University, and more! Many additional colleges will be releasing their admissions information later this month.

The Norwalk High School counseling staff have helped hundreds of parents fill out the FAFSA for their students' post-secondary education expenses. This can include vocational, college, and training programs. They have held evening workshops and one-on-one appointments for parents.

Mr. Sanchez also recently prepared over 30 students for the Project Lead the Way (PTLW) program to participate in Mock Interviews. The panel was impressed with our students!



Nuffer *Elementary School*

14821 S. Jersey Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-3788 • www.nlmusd.org



Makara Sar
Principal

Read Across America

John H. Nuffer Elementary kicked off Read Across America Week with an assembly from Ronald McDonald. Students were able to get a message about the importance of books from the most popular clown of all time. Our students had a blast learning about the different types of books, especially the book on how to do magic tricks. Some of them even had the opportunity to come up on stage and be part of the show.

Our students were also treated to some guest readers that wanted to share their favorite books with them. The guest readers included the Mayor of Norwalk, City Councilmen, School Board members, community helpers and even the Fabulous Laker Girls. Our students are ready to read even more after their experiences this week.



Sanchez *Elementary School*

11960 E. 162nd St., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/926-2365 • www.nlmusd.org



Alicia Rubio
Principal

Prepared for the Future

Sanchez Dragons are headed for great futures! Students are learning organizational skills, using higher level thinking skills and learning to have a Growth Mindset. All students have a red organizational folder to help keep their papers organized. Students in third, fourth and fifth grade have organizational binders as well. These students keep their work divided in their binders by each curricular area. They also keep an agenda to note their homework and projects and use tools to ensure each assignment is done. Students are able to take their notes home to

help them study for tests and to refer to in case they're having difficulty with their homework.



Students are sharing their organizational tools with visitors from other educators in our district as well as other districts.

They are learning how to persevere and that mistakes are part of learning and growth. Students share that they feel prepared for school, and better able to learn. Students state that they feel prepared for what's to come.

Southeast Academy *High School*

12940 E. Foster Rd., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/809-6237 • www.nlmusd.org



MSgt. Marty Schafer
Director

Learn to Achieve

Southeast Academy High School has a challenging school environment by design. The structure and organization of the school supports each individual cadet as they learn to take on increasing levels of academic and personal responsibility.

Southeast Academy focuses on developing leaders by challenging and improving a cadet's academic skills, character, and self-motivation. Each cadet who attends the Academy will take our leadership class. This challenging and rewarding class experience will test a cadet's can-do-attitude and mental toughness, thus expanding their own understanding of what they can achieve.

Cadets at Southeast Academy are pressed to be high achievers and live very busy lives. When they are not active with academics or leadership duties, they are busy fitting in personal interest time. If you are interested in becoming a cadet at Southeast Academy, please call us for a visit. We are currently interviewing all grades (9–12) for the 2017–2018 school year.

"Failure is Not an Option."

Waite *MS Careers Magnet*

14320 S. Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/921-7981 • www.nlmusd.org



Dr. Susan Newcomb
Principal

Exemplary Site Status

We are thrilled to share that Waite Middle School has been awarded Exemplary Site status through Project READ. This multiyear initiative focuses on closing the achievement gap through strategic, school-wide literacy development that helps to raise student reading and writing skills across content areas and throughout the varied levels of classrooms across our campus.

Only 44 middle schools in California have been part of Project READ; of that group, Waite has been recognized in the category of parent involvement. Research shows that parent involvement is a key factor in student success at various developmental stages, and Waite staff members build parent partnerships through our campus-wide progress report meetings, Saturday programs, evening events, and daytime classes, as well as phone communications and parent groups such as English Language Advisory Council, PTSA, and School Site Council.

Our parents and students know: Come see for yourself how Waite is great!



Waite works hard to coordinate with community partners for parent connections. City of Norwalk community services liaison Anthony Garcia is pictured with parents at the graduation of a 10 week parent involvement class for supporting students, especially teens.

STUDENT SUCCESS • From Page 1 • Éxito Estudiantil

Their success sets an inspirational path for other students who are looking to excel in their academics and discover their passions.

Behind the success of our students is a supportive network of teachers, administrators and counselors. They spend the extra time before and after school, and during their breaks to answer our students' questions and offer guidance in their academics and career choices. We all share the common vision of ensuring that each student receives a high-quality education, ensuring that every student is given every opportunity to demonstrate excellence. Thank you also to our Board of Education for providing great leadership and support for Norwalk-La Mirada Unified so that we can strengthen our tradition of excellence.

Graduation is just around the corner, and with the collaborative efforts between our teachers, administrators and staff, we will continue to raise the level of success for our students.



Dr. Hasmik Danielian
Superintendent

cartas de intención para asistir a colegios y universidades con becas completas basadas en su talento atlético.]

Su éxito establece un camino de inspiración para otros estudiantes que buscan sobresalir en sus académicas y descubrir sus pasiones.

Detrás del éxito de nuestros estudiantes está una red de apoyo de maestros, administradores y consejeros. Ellos utilizan su tiempo extra antes y después de la escuela, y durante sus descansos para responder a las preguntas de nuestros estudiantes y ofrecer orientación en sus académicas y opciones de carrera. Todos compartimos la visión común de asegurar que cada estudiante reciba una educación de alta calidad, garantizando que cada estudiante tenga la oportunidad de demostrar excelencia. Gracias también a nuestra Junta de Educación por brindar un gran liderazgo y apoyo a Norwalk-La Mirada Unificado para que podamos fortalecer nuestra tradición de excelencia.

La graduación está a la vuelta de la esquina, y con los esfuerzos de colaboración entre nuestros maestros, administradores y personal, continuaremos elevando el nivel de éxito para nuestros estudiantes.

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PREPARATION FOR THE FUTURE • From Page 1 • PREPARACIÓN

writing, inquiry, critical thinking and collaboration skills, and students can pursue this program all the way through high school. Nearly all our middle schools have college and career centers, where students can learn about financial aid and university entry requirements, as well as speak with counselors to get a head start on planning for their future.

High school students can choose specific career pathways that range from computer science and business to medicine and education, gaining real-world experiences and deepening their knowledge to further their skills.

The PSATs and SATs are offered to all high school student at no cost, furthering access for every student to get closer to their academic goals. Around this time, it is always exciting to hear about our students receiving admissions to top universities across the nation.

I am proud to represent Norwalk-La Mirada Unified, a community that ensures all our students can thrive at school and beyond.

forenses. Los programas Avance Vía Determinación Individual (AVID, por sus siglas en inglés) construyen su escritura, investigación, pensamiento crítico y habilidades de colaboración, y los estudiantes pueden seguir este programa hasta el final de la escuela secundaria. Casi todas nuestras escuelas intermedias tienen centros universitarios y de carreras, donde los estudiantes pueden aprender sobre ayuda financiera y los requisitos de entrada a la universidad, así como hablar con consejeros para tener una ventaja en la planificación de su futuro.

Los estudiantes de secundaria pueden elegir itinerarios específicos de carrera que van desde la informática y los negocios hasta la medicina y la educación, obteniendo experiencias del mundo real y profundizando sus conocimientos para fomentar sus habilidades.

Los PSATs y SATs se ofrecen, sin costo, a todos los estudiantes de la escuela secundaria, facilitando el acceso para que cada estudiante se acerque más a sus metas académicas. Alrededor de este tiempo, siempre es emocionante escuchar acerca de nuestros estudiantes recibiendo admisiones a las mejores universidades a través de toda la nación.

Estoy orgulloso de representar a Norwalk-La Mirada Unificado, una comunidad que asegura que todos nuestros estudiantes puedan prosperar en la escuela y más allá.

NORWALK HIGH • From Page 1

"When she came back from the ball with my grandmother and aunt, there was a glow on her face as bright as the sun," Caleb said. "Krista loved this ball because it placed her with others who were in the same predicament. In honor of Krista's passing, Jordan and I realized that Breast Cancer Angels was a very special organization that we wanted to advocate for."

Breast Cancer Angels, dedicated to providing financial and emotional assistance to cancer patients, is one of nine nonprofit organizations to receive a donation of \$1,520.17 on Dec. 15 through Norwalk High's fifth Charity for Charities fundraiser.

Charity for Charities is a senior project that combines research and philanthropy as students choose to advocate for humanitarian organizations, often based on their personal connections to the causes. The Norwalk High Class of 2017 raised over \$16,000 over the three weeks by selling granola bars to family, friends and students.

The charities represented were: Alliance for Children's Rights, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Make-A-Wish of Greater Los Angeles, Susan G. Komen Foundation, UCLA Rape Treatment Center at Santa Monica, American Lung Association, Breast Cancer Angels, St. Jude Medical Center and Partnership for Drug Free Kids.

The

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A.

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