

Sixth Grade Mathletes Compete for Top Honors



Sixth-Grade Academies

Greetings, families!
The school year is quickly coming to an end, and our staff is busy preparing our annual end-of-the-year events. The Board of Trustees and I are

Raul Maldonado

excited to attend our upcoming events, such as our Student Showcase at the Palmdale Playhouse and our student promotions.

This upcoming school year will mark a new beginning for the district, as we are enrolling our sixth-grade students into our academies. Students will now have the opportunity for greater academic success by providing each sixth-grader with broader educational programs a year early.

For the 2016–2017 school year, we piloted a certain number of sixth-graders in our academies and found that students enjoyed the opportunities presented to them, including intramural sports, Honors

See SUPERINTENDENT • Page 11



Los Amigos First Place Team.

By Barbara Gaines, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Grades 6-8

Nineteen schools sent Mathlete teams to compete in the second annual Palmdale School District Mathlete Competition held at Shadow Hills Middle School on Monday, April 10. Students spent the morning solving various Math problems in an attempt to earn points both individually and for their team. Individual awards

were announced by Mr. Chris Vanderzee, host of the competition, for the top five students and the three top teams. Mrs. Gaines presented the third place trophy to the team from Buena Vista and their coach Barbara Overton. Second place was awarded to the Joshua Hills' team and coach Ginger Devalue. First place honors went to the team from Los Amigos coached by Monica Gutierrez. Congratulations to all of the sixth graders who competed!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Greetings, Palmdale Families!

By Joyce Ricks, President

Our beautiful poppies are in full bloom, which reminds us that we only have a few months left of the 2016–2017 school year.

I would like to share with you some important news from the California Department of Education and the California State Board of Education. This year both entities partnered together to unveil the California School Dashboard.

Many of you may be wondering, “What exactly is this new dashboard?” The California School Dashboard is a Web site designed to provide parents, educators, and our stakeholders with important data information that evaluates all of the school districts across the state in an easy-to-understand report card format.

The dashboard will replace the state’s former accountability system, the Academic Performance Index, in order to provide all of you with relevant information on how well our schools and district are performing. As you view the Web site, you will notice our district’s performance is measured in six different ways: Academic Indicator; Career/College Readiness; English Learner Progress; Graduation Rate; Suspension Rate; and Chronic Absenteeism.

Our Board looks forward to using this new, exciting tool to further evaluate our overall performance. The dashboard will help identify opportunities that we may implement in preparing students for success with our 21st-century tools.

Feel free to visit our Web site at www.PalmdaleSD.org to view more information on The California School Dashboard on our home page.

See BOARD OF TRUSTEES • Page 11

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Not having a paycheck during the summer had been cataclysmic. Having a Summer Saver helps me save throughout the year so I don't have to borrow for the summer."

ARRONDA H.
Intermediate School Teacher
Member Since 2013

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of another school year. Superintendent Maldonado writes on the front page a review of this school year and looking forward to the upcoming exciting year.

Our next issue is October 4 when we will be back excited to publish the excellence for a new school year. Have a wonderful summer!



Congratulations Class of 2017!

Counselors Corner

39139 North 10th St, Palmdale, CA 93550 • www.palmdalesd.org

Building a Compassionate Generation



Stacy Bryant
Deputy Superintendent

This winter season, our Palmdale School District Counselors worked diligently toward creating a kind and nurturing school environment. Students engaged in many activities to voice their social-emotional concerns, opinions and challenges.



In the attempt to foster social-emotional growth for all students, counselors began by identifying the difficulties and challenges that students face with their peers in regard to empathy, gratitude and kindness. All middle schools have implemented programs in which students have learned how to become kind and productive citizens in their schools and communities. For example, the Rachel's Challenge assembly was held at Desert Willow, and our students and communities learned to look for the best in others to eliminate prejudice; dare to dream by keeping a journal and reaching for their goals; choose positive influences—good in/good out; speak kind words; and start a chain reaction.

David G. Millen and Shadow Hills also held a Great Kindness Challenge week. Staff, students and teachers participated in spirit days such as Riding the Wave of Kindness and Throw Kindness like Confetti. These events target the positive aspects of being considerate of others.

Both programs encompass components for student interpersonal development that strengthen social-emotional resiliency, balance responses to stressors, and reduce aggressive acts on campus.

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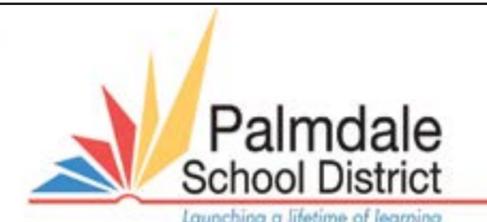
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The Personnel Commission is located at 37230 37th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 **661-285-2902**

Early Childhood Education

975 East Avenue P-8, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/273-4710 • www.palmdalesd.org

A Terrific Harvest!



Donna Lebitsamer
Director

This spring, teachers took the lead to organize activities and learning experiences that engaged families and inspired students.

The ECE teachers at Site 18 held a farmers' market for the students, where they extended their "In the City, In the Country" curriculum and also learned about budgeting and currency. Two guest speakers from a farmers' cooperative came and donated mandarins and carrots as well as a variety of other local seasonal produce.



Tierra Bonita Park focused on health, physical activity and nutrition. They decorated exercise T-shirts, had a Zumba instructor lead a 30-minute dance class, played with a parachute, blew bubbles, took part in plastic bowling, and assembled nutritious fruit and yogurt parfaits. There was a great turnout of families!

Buena Vista Elementary K-6

37005 Hillcrest Drive, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-4158 • www.palmdalesd.org

Rocking Admin Team!



Dr. Alusine Comteh
Principal

Palmdale Promise is committed to accelerating student achievement, building positive relationships between youth and adults and cultivating leadership at all levels. The district's commitment to improvement begins in the front office of Buena Vista, where children come first. One of the reasons that I am thrilled to serve as the principal of Buena Vista Elementary is because of the professionalism of the administrative team.

At Buena Vista, the administrative team creates a first impression that goes a long way, as observed through their interactions with parents and school staff. The administrative team members dedicate their time in creating a welcoming and nurturing environment for parents, students and staff members. They look at every issue and concern



through the lenses of critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication as they relate to decision-making and problem solving.

The school's administrative team professes diverse experiences that propel each member to perform daily out of their comfort zone, with great enthusiasm.

Barrel Springs Elementary K-6

3636 Ponderosa Way, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/285-9270 • www.palmdalesd.org



Kimberly Wright
Principal

1ST Place Cyberquest Champions!

On Saturday, April 8, Barrel Springs School sent two teams to compete in the Palmdale School District CyberQuest competition at David G. Millen. The CyberQuest competition is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their ability to apply their 21st Century Skills in a problem based, higher level thinking and learning activity in a public speaking arena while using technology.

We would like to congratulate our 5th/6th grade team who won 1st place in their division: Grace Lopez, Pricilla Marquez, Douglas Orantes, Adrian Duran and Alexis Afre (not pictured)! Your perseverance paid off and we couldn't be more proud! We are also so proud of our 4th grade team who participated in the competition as well. A special thank you to our team of teachers who set high expectations for our students: Maria Lugo-Valladares, Hope Overgaard, Denice Bosch and Ekong Uko (not pictured).



Grace Lopez, Pricilla Marquez, Douglas Orantes, and Adrian Duran.

Cactus Intermediate 7-8

3243 East Avenue R-8, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/273-0847 • www.palmdalesd.org



Danny Kanga
Principal

Having a Blast

The Cactus Cheerleading Club is back after many years! Unlimited enthusiasm, talent, and heart is at the core of our program, and our cheerleaders "bring it on" with clever and well-executed routines and chants. Our diverse cheer squad is composed of 25 sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students, and is led by Mrs. Amado and Mrs. Hutzel.

Cactus is a medical, health, and technology academy, and so our extracurricular groups are geared toward those disciplines. Our cheer group focuses mainly on fitness and healthy physical activity. Cheer requires higher-level thinking in order to memorize chants, dance moves, and collaboration with peers.

Our cheerleaders are preparing for their first rally in April, and the excitement is palpable as we make bows, pom-poms, and t-shirts in our school colors. Cactus students are awesome, and we are having a blast watching our cheerleaders come together as a team. Go, Coyotes!



Chaparral Elementary K-6

37500 50th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-9777 • www.palmdalesd.org



Tom Pitts
Principal

Reading Support Program

Chaparral Elementary has an amazing reading support program! For the past three years we have been promoting reading success by using a combination of three fantastic retired teachers and three amazing instructional aides.

Linda Trinidad, Fran Kelly, and Kate Malechikos are our retired teachers, and two days a week they work one-on-one with targeted students from specific grade levels. Due to their knowledge and skill set, these teachers have noticed that their struggling readers are starting to fill in the missing pieces to become more confident readers.



Chaparral's Reading Support Team: Linda Trinidad, Fran Kelly and Kate Malechikos (retired teachers), Dayana Gomez and Amber Jones (instructional aides)

Ms. Kelly has recently praised the reading support program, stating that, "The students I work with are reading at grade level with 50 percent proficiency, which is a huge growth, since the students began the year behind two grade levels." The instructional aides (Rina Bolanos, Dayana Gomez, and Amber Jones) focus their attention on the K-2 students. They provide additional support with phonemic awareness and phonics acquisition.

Desert Rose Elementary K-6

37730 27th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/272-0584 • www.palmdalesd.org



Melanie Pagliaro
Principal

Community Members Inspire

In March, Desert Rose celebrated Read Across America Day by welcoming many community members to come and share themselves and a story with our students.

Along with school employees and members of our teachers' families, the students had the opportunity to meet some true leaders from our community. We were honored with a U.S. Marine, an entomologist, a championship ice skater, a dance teacher, a deputy sheriff, and even a rocket scientist, to name a few!



Mr. DeVita's fifth-grade class was thrilled to meet our rocket scientist, Jeff Wright. He brought a 450-billion-year-old meteorite to share. To think that this meteorite came from across outer space, was once a shooting star, landed in Argentina, and is billions of years old is mind-boggling!

At Desert Rose, we know that our students were inspired by meeting so many interesting members of our community!

Cimarron Elementary K-6

36940 45th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-9780 • www.palmdalesd.org



Chris O'Neill
Principal

She's Workin' It!

At Cimarron, we're working hard to get healthy! We are so glad that the Palmdale School District has provided all schools with a PE teacher!

This month, we'd like to recognize and thank our awesome PE teacher, Ashley Sharp. Ms. Sharp taught in Palmdale from 2008 to 2014 at Cactus and the AVID Academy. She then moved to Boston and taught high school before coming back to teach PE in Palmdale.

Ms. Sharp has made PE fun in a variety of ways. She planned and organized a Jump for Heart event that raised over \$730 to donate to the American Heart Association. Her students made maracas out of water bottles for a unit on rhythm, and they use "Beat Sheets" to dance with. She and some students even performed at the district board meeting and had the audience dancing to "YMCA" with them!

Cimarron Stars have so much fun at PE—they wish they could have PE every day!



PIANO LESSONS ALL LEVELS AND AGES

TATIANA PENNY
MEMBER OF THE MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA



(661) 533-9609

Contest!

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

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

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



Desert Willow *Intermediate 7-8*

36555 Sunny Lane, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/285-5866 • www.palmdalesd.org



Gerilyn Cherland
Principal

AVID Program Revitalized!

By *Krishna Spates, AVID Coordinator*

"This is the first time I've gotten an A in math!" exclaimed proud Desert Willow eighth-grade-student Ariana. In December, nine members of the Desert Willow faculty joined together to revamp our AVID Program and recommit to improving student success. The impact is dazzling!

A few statistics make us proud: within one semester, 19 percent of our students' GPAs increased, 32.7 percent of our seventh- and eighth-grade students have a 3.0-4.0 GPA, our AVID Site Team has grown from three members to nine, our program participants increased by 145 percent, and students visited three colleges and interacted

with a host of community guest speakers. We maintain high expectations for our students; as such, we placed 24 students on AVID academic probation. They attend required lunchtime support twice per week and meet with their mentors weekly until their GPAs rise to at least 2.5.

Desert Willow's AVID Program is revving up!



Desert Willow AVID Students

Golden Poppy *Elementary K-6*

37802 Rockie Lane, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-3683 • www.palmdalesd.org



Melanie Culver
Principal

Saluting Our CyberQuest Teams!

We are so very proud of the hard work of our two CyberQuest teams!

The upper-grade team J.S.L.A. recently focused its efforts on helping our veterans through a program called "Project Hearts for Veterans." Their project was centered on helping those who are homeless by providing food, mental health services, and service dogs to assist with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Our lower-grade team, called "Ms. Morris' Minions," also addressed the hunger issue here in the Antelope Valley. The team decided to put their project into action by creating a proposal to run a non-perishable food drive at school. In addition to other food items, they collected over 500 cans! All of the food was donated to the SAVES Foundation in order to help our local residents in need.

The district competition was only one piece of CyberQuest. Our students also learned that it is their own personal experience and knowledge that can really make a difference in the community, no matter the age of the participants. A big thank-you goes to coaches Mrs. Decker and Ms. Morris for all of their hard work and dedication in guiding our teams. Great job, Grizzlies!



Dos Caminos *Elementary K-8*

39175 Palm Tree Way, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-1849 • www.palmdalesd.org



Laura Cervantes
Principal

Moving All Up

Dos Caminos is proud to announce that we had 43 students reclassify this Spring in the Reclassification Ceremony. Reclassification is the process used by many school districts to determine if an English Language Learner has acquired sufficient proficiency in English to perform successfully in core academic subjects without English Language Development (ELD) support. We are happy to report that our students have demonstrated proficiency in Reading and Writing of the English Language and are well on their way to being successful at school. Along with now being proficient in English our students are becoming

fluent in Spanish as well. Here at Dos Caminos we realize the importance of being Multilingual and we are PROUD to be BILINGUAL. Congratulations and continued success.



Manzanita *Elementary K-6*

38620 33rd Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/947-3128 • www.palmdalesd.org



Roberto Lopez
Principal

Going to College!

Here at Manzanita we are excited about "Going to College!" Every Wednesday we encourage students to wear their favorite college t-shirts in order to support the AVID program. This year, our sixth graders put on their very own college fair. They contacted schools to come out and talk to students and researched and created informative slide shows for other universities that could not send out representatives. In addition, our students reached out to multiple colleges and got informational booklets and give always to pass out at their college fair. Students were very excited, engaged, and gained a lot of inside knowledge on the application process for college and gathered research on colleges that they are interested in attending.



Joshua Hills *Elementary K-6*

3030 Fairfield, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/265-9992 • www.palmdalesd.org



Regina Tillman
Principal

Modern Learning

At Joshua Hills, we recognize that technology is no longer just a fascination, but a vital tool that can enable our students to succeed in the workplace.

Our Chromebook Academy includes experienced teachers who use simulations and illustrations to provide greater depth of knowledge. One of our teachers, Ginger DeValue, recently wrote an assignment where her students created a survey using Google Forms and publicly shared it as a link. They have received responses nationwide from as far away as New Jersey and Alaska, and will eventually display the data in Google Sheets.

Our school also understands the importance of providing 1:1 devices so that students are given the freedom and diversity to work at their own pace. Those who have internet and the appropriate technology at home can also assess their assignments in Google Classroom, thus enabling children who are absent from school or need more time to work on their assignments to do so.

In the past, the different forms of self-expression were limited to teachers, peers, and a student's parents. But today, with apps and computer programs (as approved by the district), our students have shared their work with grandparents in Mexico.

With our Chromebook Academy, Joshua Hills is bringing learning into the 21st century.



Los Amigos *K-8*

6640 East Avenue R-8, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-1546 • www.palmdalesd.org



Sonia Salcedo
Principal

Classified Employee of the Year, Mrs. Karen Poulson

The Los Amigos Family is proud to recognize Mrs. Karen Poulson as Classified Employee of the Year. She has been a devoted SDC Instructional Assistant for over twenty years. She exceeds district standards in all performance areas. She is a dedicated and hardworking employee whose number one priority is ensuring that her students receive a high quality education. She invests the time necessary to build positive relationships with students, parents, and staff alike. She is quick to offer her time and support to anyone in need, regularly going above and beyond the call of duty without expecting anything in return. When students are faced with challenging times, she rises to the occasion, and takes on the responsibility of providing them with support. Mrs. Poulson is a genuine team player and an important part of the Los Amigos Family.



Mesquite *Elementary K-6*

37622 43rd Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-8376 • www.palmdalesd.org



Ken Young
Principal

Dance, Music-Joy!

When we first heard the notes to the "Jarabe Tapatio," everyone's thoughts went to recognize the popular Mexican tune, and there, present in the crowd, were the students of Mesquite Elementary School! With smiles on their faces and filled with enthusiasm, they were ready to begin their first day of dance practice in the school cafeteria, which suddenly had been transformed into a dance hall.

This date marked the beginning of the journey to the newly formed folkloric dance group. The dance instructors were diligently working to get ready for the start of the first practice and began by showing a video of the traditional dance. As the students watched the dancers on the screen perform, they imagined what someday they would be able to achieve.

With the support of administration and our Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), all of this has been possible. Since that day, parents have been working hard conducting practices, designing and tailoring outfits, and holding fundraisers to help the PTO provide materials for the team. Our dance-team members have been conscientiously attending all practices, everyone with the objective of traveling through music and dance, to those places that enrich culture and leave the seeds of happiness in the hearts of those who participate. Our team is made up of two dance groups, students in grades K through 3 and students in grades 4 through 6. Currently, there are more than 50 students on a waiting list to join the dance team.

The Mesquite Elementary School Folkloric Dance Team's first official performance will be at our Parent Volunteer Tea on May 10. Next, they will perform on the big stage at the DELAC Multicultural Event on May 17. Additionally, these students will be performing at other school events such as the Principal-Parent Breakfast and at our upcoming AAPAC and ELAC parent meetings. We are very proud of our folkloric dance team!

David G. Millen *Intermediate 7-8*

39221 22nd Street West, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-3075 • www.palmdalesd.org



Ryan Beardsley
Principal

A "Model" for Excellence!

By *DGM Law & Government Academy student Sarai Lopez*

The Palmdale School District's Model United Nations program gives students the opportunity to learn about real world issues, international relations, and the overall function of the United Nations. Additionally, they are able to voice their opinions and have debates about current events, hence further exploring and analyzing the issues at hand. Every Tuesday and Thursday, these students join forces to share and discuss their one common interest, "Changing the world, one leader at a time." Students are able to develop a great deal of confidence, acquire the ability to problem solve, and hone in on their natural leadership skills.



Students from PSD who meet weekly at David G. Millen for practice

Oak Tree *Community Day School K-8*

38136 35th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/285-1548 • www.palmdalesd.org



Timothy Howell
Principal

Restorative Circles

Oak Tree Learning Center continues to make progress in the areas of restorative practices, behavior replacement, and student engagement strategies. Students have the opportunity to participate in restorative justice circles and practice skills of communication and respect. Students express themselves and reflect on ways to improve behavior. Students are able to share with peers and adults during these circles and feel that their voices are heard. Restorative circles are changing the culture and mindset of students and staff when it comes to relational

capacity.

Students are learning alternative ways to deal with problems, which ultimately exchanges negative behavior for something more positive. Students have to identify how their behavior has affected others and whom it has affected. These practices help teachers and students build more learning opportunities in the classroom.



Teachers are also using engagement strategies for rigor and relevance in the classroom. Students participate in cooperative learning activities, hands-on projects, and relevant discussions that support their learning.

Palmdale Learning Plaza *K-8*

38043 Division Street, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/538-9034 • www.palmdalesd.org



Michael McNelis
Principal

Helping Others

At the International Baccalaureate school, our PYP students explore the Action Cycle. They choose, act, and reflect on opportunities to help make the world a better place. Our MYP students examine Service as Action. They undertake long term inquiries into areas of need and facilitate community projects.

One such project resulted in PLP's first-ever Color Run. Many thanks to eighth-grade students Lesley Martinez, Mariah Mendez, and Vanessa Valenzuela for leading 350 of our empathetic and internationally minded students through an amazing event.

Special thanks also goes to teacher Ms. Melanie Montgomery, who helped to oversee this project, and to all of the many teachers and students who participated.



The event was a huge success, generating over \$2,000 for educational materials for the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH) orphanage in the Dominican Republic. Due to this success, we will soon welcome a student from NPH-DR named Victor to our school. Victor grew up at NPH-DR, and can tell us first-hand how PLP's efforts have changed his life, and the lives of all the students at NPH.

Ocotillo *Elementary K-6*

38737 Ocotillo School Drive, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-9987 • www.palmdalesd.org



Larry Lueck
Principal

Capturing Kids' Hearts the Ocotillo Way

At Ocotillo, we truly believe that to capture a kid's mind you must first capture their hearts and it shows!

In December, we received the good news that Ocotillo is one of only 47 schools in the United States to be a Capturing Kids' Hearts Showcase Nominee.

In February, we had our CKH Nomination Visit and we were very excited to show our CKH dedication to our representative. She was treated to see our morning good things, affirmation bags, social contracts, and staff greetings. Our parents and staff had the opportunity to share their thoughts on the impact that CKH has made to their students and classrooms.

This week we received the wonderful news that Ocotillo is officially a CKH Showcase School. As we continue to develop our use of the Capturing Kids' Hearts tools, we will keep in mind that our main focus is to empower students.



Palmdale Discovery Center

1330 W. Elizabeth Lake Rd., Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/274-0849 • www.palmdalesd.org



Colleen Sawyer
Principal

A Memorable Year

We are very busy at Palmdale Discovery Center preparing for the end of the school year.

In March we held our annual Bus Staff Appreciation Day. Every year we invite in our bus drivers and bus aides to share some refreshments and thank them for all of their hard work. Every spring we also have many activities planned for Autism Awareness Month, which is in April. This year our students and staff participated in an autism walk.

Our staff and students are also preparing for state testing. This brings along new challenges every year, but we are working hard to prepare students for the tasks expected of them.

All in all, it has been a busy but memorable year at PDC! I would like to thank all of our staff members. They are a very valuable team who contribute to the success of Palmdale Discovery Center. We look forward to many more amazing school years.



PDC staff celebrated bus staff members in March!

Palm Tree *Elementary K-6*

326 East Avenue R, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/265-9357 • www.palmdalesd.org



Gerald Luke
Principal

Making Things Happen!

Palm Tree is buzzing with activity! We have so many enhancements to our programs that it's hard to keep up!

Our librarian is not only improving the library, she is also conducting science observations to help support our teachers in their classrooms. The teachers are doing some great art activities that are exposing students to the visual arts. Our basketball team has had three games, and our soccer team has had two. We now even have an African dance group!

Our intervention program is in full swing as well, and is very effective at improving the reading levels of our students. Our Cyberquest team also took third place among the many schools participating. We will soon become a "Capturing Kids Hearts" and PBIS site, with the preparation currently taking place. Our RtI program is also showing strong improvement and effectiveness as our students benefit!

These are only some of the wonderful activities and events taking place at Palm Tree. We cannot mention them all right now, but we are a site that is bustling with activity for the benefit of our students. Palm Tree: an oasis of education!



Shadow Hills *Intermediate 7-8*

37315 60th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/533-7400 • www.palmdalesd.org



Dr. Donna Campbell
Principal

Show's on the Road!

Teachers at Shadow Hills have embarked on a series of parent meetings in which the electives that are offered are brought as show-and-tell to the feeder elementary schools. Parents and students can speak with one another and perform various tasks at some stations.

The first meeting at Chaparral Elementary had parents and children excited as they made mouse pads at the Graphic Design Station, carved initials in wood at the Geometric Design Station, played a student-created video game at the Computer Programming and Game Design Station, saw robots programmed by students at the Robotics Station, watched a drone fly at the Aviation Station, saw the construction of a foot orthosis at the PLTW Station, heard music at the Music Station, and saw student-created works of art at the Art Station. They also received information on the AVID curriculum.



Quail Valley *Elementary K-6*

37236 58th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/533-7100 • www.palmdalesd.org



Kathleen Moshier
Principal

Quail Valley Scores Gold!

This year Quail Valley had a school theme of "Going for the Gold." This theme was carried through the school year when celebrating student success. Quail Valley has been honoring students monthly for both citizenship and academics. Teachers get to select a top citizen monthly and those students are recognized as a Golden Chameleon. These students receive a certificate and a coupon to a local restaurant. For the academic award, teachers have a specific trait they are focused on and select students who have excelled in that. These students, Champion Chameleons, are honored with a certificate, a lanyard pin and a pizza lunch party. Having this focus has helped create school pride and build a culture of excellence. WE ARE...QV!!



Summerwind *Elementary K-8*

39360 Summerwind Drive, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-3863 • www.palmdalesd.org



Dr. Linda Brands
Principal

First and Last

This year was bittersweet as Summerwind saw some firsts and is getting ready for some lasts. Summerwind had a dance team and two basketball teams. The dance team, composed of fourth- and sixth-graders, competed at AV College Dance Force finals. The team, with boys in fedoras and girls in swirling skirts, was coached by Mrs. Alvarez-Correscaden.

Fifth- and sixth-grade boys and girls basketball teams were coached by Mr. Mazone and played both home and off-campus games. The boy's team offered to-do service at the school for one Friday a month. They cleaned the cafeteria, did campus cleanup, and helped kindergarten at lunch.

Summerwind is proud of all three teams and is sad to say goodbye as our fifth- and sixth-grade students will be sixth- and seventh-grade students next year on a middle school campus. Thanks for the memories!



Tamarisk *Elementary K-6*

1843 E. Ave. Q-5, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/225-9647 • www.palmdalesd.org



Cyperquest

With the school year coming to a close, Tamarisk students have been hard at work with our 4th and 5th grade teams competing in Cyperquest. We are very proud of the hard work put in by our teams and their teacher, Mrs. Pentecostes! But with hard work comes play time as well. We were fortunate to have Code Read come to our school this past month. Students are encouraged to continue to read and will all be receiving two brand new books to help with their own personal libraries at home. We also had an assembly where students go to see a Mars

rover and how it's used by NASA. As always our Tamarisk Tigers continue to roar!

Tumbleweed *Elementary K-6*

1100 East Avenue R-4, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/273-4166 • www.palmdalesd.org



Read Across America

During Read Across America Day, we had over 40 guest readers, including Palmdale mayor Jim Ledford, law-enforcement agencies, children's authors, a graphic designer, a stunt woman, a Palmdale High School administrator, district faculty representatives and retired teachers. Student ambassadors, wearing their Cat in the Hat hats, greeted and had breakfast with the guest readers.

For a Reading Rainbow Contest, GATE students made a storyboard with information about their favorite books, to be displayed at the GATE Showcase. The upper-grade GATE students also read to the lower-grade students.

During the family reading event after school, families spread out their blankets, and the students received free books and listened to the principal and vice principal read to them. Students checked out books and used technology in the Palmdale Library techmobile.



Events like Read Across America allow new generations of students to fall in love with Dr. Seuss and reading, which in turn will create a better America.



Yellen *Learning Center K-8*

37015 Goldenview Way, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/456-1600 • www.palmdalesd.org



Supporting the Arts

Yellen Learning Center students are exhibiting their visual and performing arts in the next two months. The entire school is learning art concepts. The Arts Attack program is having a huge impact on the creative side of our students. We have so many talented students and staff. Great art is always displayed in our hallways and classrooms.

Linda Jaramillo
Principal

Our yearly arts festival, sponsored by the Antelope Valley Sunrise Rotary Club, took place on April 21. This year's theme was "Recycled Art." The event was followed by the Antelope

Valley Sunrise Rotary Auction was held on April 30, where art created by Yellen students was auctioned. Each year, the Rotary Club delivers art supplies to the school, and, in turn, we contribute many pieces of art to them.



Project for Art Auction

Our annual talent show will be held on May 19 from 9-10 a.m. We have many students and staff who like to "show off" their unique talents. This year there will be a couple of soloists, some dance numbers, and a percussion group that has some snappy beats! Please come and join us!

Yucca *Elementary K-6*

38440 2nd Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/273-5052 • www.palmdalesd.org



CELDT Growth Assembly

We all need validation and recognition. Encouragement motivates us, not only when we have reached our goal but, more importantly, every step of the journey.

This is also true with our students. We celebrate our English Language Learners (ELLs) with a ceremony and certificate when they have reached the goal of being reclassified. But what about those who continue to make progress but have yet to reach that goal?



It was this question that inspired Miriam Torres to develop the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) Growth Assembly. At this assembly, our ELLs who have grown one, two, or three levels overall are celebrated and recognized for their accomplishments.

At our first CELDT Growth Assembly, we recognized 115 of our ELLs for their hard work and perseverance. Mrs. Dowling, Mrs. Summers, Mrs. Lopez, and Mrs. Haro celebrated their accomplishments in front of a crowd of proud parents and family members.

SUPERINTENDENT • From Page



Raul Maldonado

courses, and two electives each semester. Students may select their elective classes in the subjects of Project Lead the Way, Vex and FIRST LEGO robotics, Associated Student Body (ASB), band, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), and other enrichment classes. Additionally, our academies will provide our sixth-graders with more targeted courses that align with their current language and math skills, including algebra.

Our Board of Trustees is confident that our middle school configuration will lead our students on the right path to success.

If you would like more information on our middle school configuration, please call our district office at (661) 947-7191 or visit our Frequently Asked Questions sheet at www.PalmdaleSD.org on our home page.

Parents, don't forget you may enroll your child into a different academy during our open enrollment period. Each one of our academies has a different emphasis on the educational programs available to our Palmdale students.

Below is a list of our academies and their emphases, including the new addition of Space and Aeronautics Gateway to Exploration (SAGE):

- Cactus Middle School, Medical Health and Technology Academy
- David G. Millen Middle School, Law and Government Academy
- Desert Willow Middle School, Fine Arts, Science and Technology Academy
- SAGE Middle School, Space and Aeronautical Academy
- Shadow Hills Middle School, Engineering and Design Academy

Feel free to share your thoughts or concerns with me at our School Board meetings or as I visit each campus. I always look forward to your feedback as we continue to move forward with our Palmdale Promise.

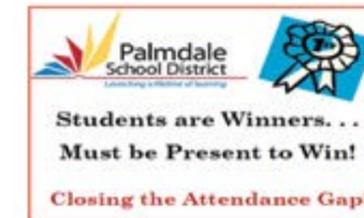
BOARD OF TRUSTEES • From Page

On another note, we recently held our Grab Your Hat and Read with the Cat event with our community partner The Antelope Valley Mall. I would like to personally congratulate, once again, all of our top readers from the Footsteps2Brilliance application. The Board is proud that our students have already exceeded reading 2.4 million words. Thank you to all of our Palmdale School District families for attending. We look forward to making this an annual event to educate our youth on the importance of reading.

As always, I hope you can join us during our monthly Board meetings. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month beginning at 4:30 p.m. Please come and join us as we create exciting opportunities for Palmdale families.

District Office (661) 947-7191 • Emergency (888) 474-8107
39139 North 10th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550
www.palmdalesd.org

Welcome and Enrollment Center	537-6100 (8am-3pm)
Child Nutrition	266-7280
Educational Services	266-7233
Health Clinic	537-6137 (8:30am-11am, 1pm-4pm)
Special Education	456-1452
Student Services	456-1457
Superintendent's Office	266-7222 & 266-7220



Be Part of the Largest National Study on Brain Development and Child Health at UCLA!

The Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study will enroll 10,000+ healthy children and follow them for 10 years from ages 9 to 10 into early adulthood to understand how children's experiences affect brain development and other aspects of their lives - including academic achievement, social development, and behavioral and overall health.



Receive up to \$150 for your time participating in the study. Kids can also get a picture of their brain!

UCLA

What will participants do?

There are 1-2 visits in the first year. During these visits, you and your child will be asked to complete interviews and questionnaires, play iPad games, give saliva samples, and undergo a safe, non-invasive MRI scan!

If interested, contact us:
ABCD Study @ UCLA

Phone: (310) 794-0089

Email: abcdstudy@ucla.edu

For more info, visit: AbcdStudy.org



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