

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation
Covering the Buena Park School District



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Spanish & Korean Language Edition Available at: www.BPSD.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT

Greetings



Greg Magnuson
Superintendent

We are pleased to once again partner with *School News Roll Call* to share the exciting work of our students and staff. Never has there been so many opportunities for students and community members occurring in and around our schools. Through the *School News Roll Call* and other communications we wish to keep you informed and aware of upcoming news and events so you may connect to our schools and support our students and staff.

In this Back-to-School edition, each of our school Principals share a brief article that conveys the focus and culture of their school as we begin the 2017-18 school year.

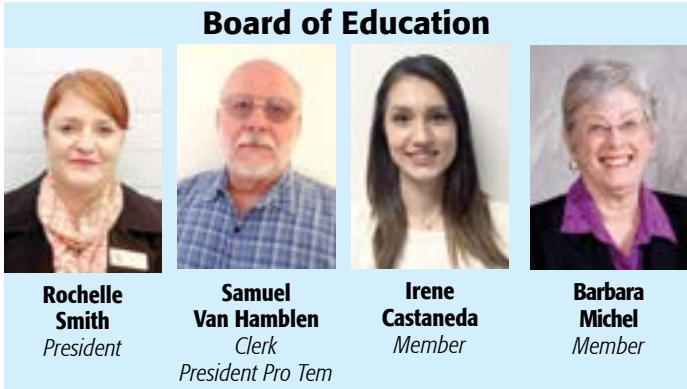
Following recognition of four of our six elementary schools as California Gold Ribbon Schools in 2015-16, it is exciting to have concluded the 2016-17 school year with all seven of our schools recognized by the California PBIS Coalition for implementing proven practices supporting safe and positive school campuses.

Moreover, our progress to address the needs of students for a technology dependent future, and college and career readiness is robust. As you will see in the following articles, our teaching and learning processes and classroom environments are evolving to address all areas to support students and ensure they are "Future Ready" upon promotion from BPSD.

Congratulations to all the Buena Park School District Schools for receiving the Statewide Recognition for implementing Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)



The California PBIS Coalition recognized District wide efforts at each of our schools to provide safe and productive school climates and positive school culture with fidelity to the national PBIS framework! Recognition was awarded on criteria linked to the Tiered Fidelity Inventory at the Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum Levels and is measured at the end of the academic school year. Arthur F. Corey was one of 13 schools within the state to receive the highest recognition, Platinum status. The work across the district continues to provide safe learning environments and positive school cultures through aligned support systems at each of our schools.



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Our schools all have a story, and like every great story, the plot evolves and engages the reader. In this and future editions of Buena Park School District *School News Roll Call*, we will continue to tell the stories of our students, staff and schools with the hope that you will become engaged with our work.

For all of us at BPSD, we are honored to serve the families of our school district, and to share the achievements of our students and schools. I invite you to follow our daily activities, provide comment and access information at: www.Facebook.com/BuenaParkSchoolDistrict and <http://www.bpsd.k12.ca.us>

6885 Orangethorpe Ave. • Buena Park, CA 90620

714-522-8412

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Schools apply at the end of each academic school year. The following list includes the school level status recognition:

- Gordon H. Beatty – Gold
- Arthur F. Corey – Platinum
- Charles G. Emery – Silver
- Carl E. Gilbert – Silver
- Mabel L. Pendleton – Gold
- James A. Whitaker – Silver
- Buena Park Junior High School – Gold

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Covering the

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Welcome back to another school year. This is always an exciting time for students to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, meet their teachers, find their way around the school and settle into a routine. Thank you for including *School News* in your

route as we continue to bring you the excellence of BPSD.

On page 2 Superintendent Greg Magnuson brings you up to date on focus of the school district. It is an exciting time to be a student.

Our next issue is October 25.



Our specialty: Orthopedics Zachary's specialty: Volleyball Ace

Our specialists are the leaders in children's health care.

For months, Zachary was experiencing hip pain. An x-ray revealed a bone tumor and Zachary was referred to Dr. Amy Williams at Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach, who diagnosed him with Ewing's sarcoma. Dr. Williams is one of the only doctors in California who specializes in both pediatric orthopedics and bone tumors. Dr. Williams performed a limb salvage surgery to completely remove the cancerous tumor while preserving Zachary's leg. After chemotherapy, radiation and rehabilitation guided by Miller Children's, today, Zachary is standing tall.



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**Zachary, 15-years-old,
Miller Children's
Bone Tumor Patient
South Bay Resident**



Language Acquisition & Development Team Expands

The Buena Park School District has recently added staff members to support English language and development for its' English learners students and families. BPSD has committed efforts to enhance programs and opportunities for children and adults within the classroom and beyond.

The coordinated efforts include a focus on strengthening content through English Language Development Standards, extended learning opportunities, and parent education and engagement opportunities including: an annual Parent Summit each spring that is led by parents in partnership with the Orange County Department of Education.

New members of BPSD's English Language Acquisition Team are Erika Rodarte, Family Services Specialist-English Learners. Ms. Rodarte supports families by providing parents with literacy opportunities

outside the classroom, and Ms. Soo Jin Choi, Teacher on Special Assignment, English Learners. Ms. Choi supports BPSD teachers with the implementation of research-based instructional strategies for English learners.

We are excited and appreciative of our newest additions to the Buena Park School District team. For information or resources for English Learners, please contact the Student Programs Department at (714) 736-4288.



Classrooms for Excellence

In June 2014, voters in the Buena Park School District authorized "Measure 'B'" to enable the school district to raise \$71 million to modernized classrooms, school security and support educational technology for its students across the District.

Since the Measure 'B' approval by the local voters, in just three short years the District is well on its way to realizing the promises made to the community. Following classroom modernization projects completed at Charles Emery and Mabel Pendleton elementary, and Buena Park Junior High Schools in 2015 and 2016, this summer the District completed upgrades to sixty-five classrooms at Carl E. Gilbert and James A. Whitaker elementary schools. Additionally, classroom renovation plans for Gordon H. Beatty and Arthur F. Corey schools have been submitted to California's Department of State Architect for approval.

"We anticipate that plans for both schools will be approved and the district will bid the projects, estimated to be \$8 million, in October of this year; and that construction will begin the day after school is out in May 2018." Says Superintendent Greg Magnuson. "When Measure 'B' passed



the plan was to complete all schools by 2020-21 school year. We are so pleased that we have been able to accelerate our program, and create "state-of-the-art" classrooms for all students in all seven of our schools two years ahead of the original plan" he adds.

Also this Summer, In addition to classroom

work, the District initiated an energy efficiency project at all campuses to centralize heating, air conditioning and lighting controls. The project is expected to be completed in September. Savings will result from more not only more efficient energy usage, but savings are expected to more than offset rising electrical rates. Lastly, the District reports that with security enhancements added at the schools, vandalism districtwide has been reduced by 90 percent.

Magnuson invites all community members to visit BPSD schools and says: "with the support of our community and Governing Board, and the work of our staff and building partners, our classrooms are the best environments you will find to support 21st century teaching and learning."

Early Learning Thrives at BPSD



We believe children learn through authentic, developmentally academic learning experiences and opportunities that expand and build the whole child through all domains of learning. Families are the child's first teachers, impacting their life-long growth and we honor families as partners in the child's learning process.

For parents with children between the ages of 0-5, BPSD provides various early learning programs to meet the needs of your family. Each program is unique and may have specific requirements and we are continuing to expand our offerings this year.



BPSD offers the following:

- **Pendleton and Whitaker Schools:** We offer licensed State Preschool Programs at these two sites. We operate 180 days during the school year. Students must be 3 or 4 by the time school starts to be eligible. Enrollment is based on income requirements. This program is free for parents and we offer morning and afternoon sessions.
- **Gilbert School:** We partner with THINK Together to offer a parent participation program. Parents must attend the program with students. Classes are offered twice a week with morning and afternoon sessions.
- **Beatty School:** We offer a unique program where students with special needs are integrated with typically developing students. The program operates on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. There are morning and afternoon sessions.
- **Corey School:** We offer a license-exempt preschool outreach program. Students must be under four years, nine months to be eligible. This is only a 10-12 week program. The program operates on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. There are morning and afternoon sessions.

For more information on BPSD's Early Learning programs, contact the District office at (714) 522-8412

Gordon H. Beatty (K—6)

8201 Country Club Dr., Buena Park, CA 90621 • 714/523-1160



On a Mission

Welcome back to the 2017–18 school year! I'm thrilled to see our students eagerly returning to school and entering classrooms their teachers have diligently prepared. When asked how the first day went,

"Incredible!" "Awesome!" and

"Great!" were some of the heartening student responses.

As we begin the year, we revisit our school's mission statement: "Beatty embraces diversity and develops lifelong learners who contribute to the global community."

We are dedicated to embracing diversity. I am proud to announce that Beatty School received the 2017 Gold Award for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). We will continue to promote positive student relationships and provide a safe learning environment where all students will learn and be accepted.

We are dedicated to being lifelong learners. Beatty staff provides students with high-quality standards-based instruction and learning opportunities to build skills, knowledge and abilities that put students on the path to college and career. Nurturing a "growth mind-set," our Beatty staff models lifelong learning by engaging in professional development to enhance instructional practice and student outcomes.



Seri Hwang
Principal

'Spreading the Good!'

We are dedicated to contributing to the global community. Each month, we focus on a different core ethical value

to remind students that they, too, can be positive leaders in the global community. Our sixth-grade students model these values for our school by participating in various community projects through our Beatty Loves Buena Park initiative. Together, we nurture the idea that our pre-K through sixth-grade students, along with the adults that guide them, have the ability to "spread the good" to make the world a better place!

We are dedicated to a safe and uplifting learning environment. Over the summer, a beautiful mural that reinforces our core ethical values and college-and-career-bound focus was painted on our wall near the kindergarten classrooms. The fencing and breezeway in front of our school has also been reconfigured to create a safer walkway as families approach our campus, and to showcase our beautiful vintage stone wall and school frontage. At Beatty, we start our year with a mission for student success!

Buena Park Junior High (7—8)

6931 Orangethorpe Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/522-8491



BPJHS Goes Gold!

Our theme this school year is "Sound bodies and minds, innovating learning today, to meet the challenges of tomorrow." We are very excited to open our doors for another great school year.

Over the summer we were notified that, for the first time in Buena Park Junior High history, students earned college credit for advanced course work in computer science. This is truly an amazing accomplishment for our students and staff. We were also one of only 54 schools in California to earn gold recognition for our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) implementation, and we have also been asked to present at the California PBIS conference in Sacramento to help others bring this program on board at their schools.



Erik Bagger
Principal

This year our PTSA fund-raiser will coordinate with our theme, focusing on fitness and innovation. The Step It Up fund-raiser will have our students and families seeking sponsorships to compete in an extreme obstacle course, where students can challenge themselves both physically and mentally to overcome challenges in life through individual toughness and the support of their community.

I am also so proud of our school's continued academic growth over the last three years with our new Common Core State Standards. Last school year we added a new tutorial period to our schedule to give extra time and support to our students in need. The tutorial period, which we call Success in Academics and Deepening Learning (SADL) Up! We have also added a new sixth-grade academy program, which allows students to come to junior high one year early to participate in the many great programs we provide, from music and arts to science, technology, engineering, and math.

It's going to be a great year! Go, Stallions!

Arthur F. Corey (K—6)

7351 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/522-8389



Valerie Connolly
Principal

A Buzz of Excitement

The 2017–2018 school year is off to a great start. There was a buzz of excitement as school was about to begin on the first day. Students were eager to meet their new teachers and reconnect with their old friends. Parents were happy to see their children energized to be back at Corey Elementary School. Teachers and other staff members, who spent several days preparing for the new school year, were ready to welcome the students back to school.

A parent said to me that morning, "My daughter didn't sleep well last night because she couldn't wait to come back to school." I shared that I had the same experience because I couldn't wait for the students to return. Everyone is excited at the beginning of a new school year. While I was walking around the playground before the first bell, a sixth grader said, "I'm so excited about my teacher and can't wait for Outdoor Science School!" Then a first-grader



approached me and told me that he practiced his reading over the summer because he was involved in the summer reading program at the library. I loved hearing the students share their enthusiasm. Once the morning bell rang, students lined up and waited to go to their new class. Then the students met their new teachers and learned about the expectations of their new grade levels and classrooms. The first day was a great success.

As the first week continued, the students were taught about appropriate behavior in other parts of the school, such as the library, computer lab, playground, and cafeteria. With these expectations clearly understood, disruptions to classroom instruction throughout the year are minimized, allowing teachers to focus on providing a strong academic foundation for all of our students from preschool to sixth grade. At Corey, we pride ourselves on a rigorous academic program focusing on reading, writing, and math skills. Those skills further enhance learning in science, social studies, physical education, and the arts. Our entire staff is honored to be educators and to prepare our students for the future.

Strong Leaders Transform Schools

At the growing Eastvale STEM Academy, high school students build knowledge in medical science and engineering within an innovative learning community guided by Kim Lu Lawe's leadership and vision.



Eastvale STEM Academy, Medical Biology Class, Director: Kim Lu Lawe, Ed.D. '16

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Charles G. Emery (K—6)

8600 Somerset St., Buena Park, CA 90621 • 714/521-5134



Julie Linnecke
Principal

A Great Year Ahead!

As the principal of Charles G. Emery School, I find it invigorating to see our campus filled with students and staff who are refreshed and enthusiastic about learning. This year we continue to dedicate our efforts to prepare students to become college and career ready for the future. But this work could not be accomplished without the support of our entire school community.

Every day our students are working towards meeting the rigorous state standards. In language arts, students are expanding their reading and writing skills. Their confidence is evident when they celebrate and share their work. In math, students are developing conceptual understanding of mathematical concepts while also memorizing facts. As emerging scientists, they work on projects and experiments that will stretch their thinking and problem-solving skills.

We also believe in the importance of collaborative learning, and building positive relationships. We strive to

deepen our students' knowledge to provide enriching and innovative learning experiences that will contribute to their academic success.

An additional component that contributes to our success is community support. Here at Emery School we value parent involvement. Our parent group, Emery EAGLES (Emery Adults Generously Lending Enthusiastic Support), plays a tremendous role in the overall functions of our school by planning many special events and fund-raising activities. Some events they support include field trips, sixth-grade outdoor education with extra activities, art classes, and spirit days and student incentives. In addition, we also have several parents who assist our teachers in the classroom. Their support and dedication is greatly appreciated!

As Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education." The Emery School community aims to be an environment that fosters engaged and life-long learners. Together, we will make this school year another one of growth, inspiration, and achievement.



Carl E. Gilbert (K—6)

7255 8th St., Buena Park, CA 90621 • 714/522-7281



Russell Harrison
Principal

Inviting, Engaging School Community

The staff, students and families here at Gilbert Elementary are celebrating their return to a new and exciting school year in some of the most impressive classrooms in the nation. I'd like to thank the Buena Park School District Board of Education and Superintendent Magnuson for their vision and support in providing modernization efforts to our classroom environments, which will enhance our mission to prepare students for success in the 21st century.

Unique student furniture encourages increased communication and cooperation among students, and cutting-edge technologies allow teachers to increase student engagement through interactive visual and auditory systems. If you have a chance, please stop by our school—I would be thrilled to show you how our amazing teachers are employing these innovations to increase college and career readiness, the very heart of Common Core instruction.

Beyond our beautiful campus and classes, I'd like to welcome new friends and community members to join our highly involved network of parents and volunteers. Carl



E. Gilbert has long been recognized for building a sense of community in a twofold approach. First, we offer informative and helpful parent workshops, led by experts in their field, on topics

that include good parenting practices, supporting student learning and protecting your children on social media. These meetings are well received, so check out our school website to see what topics may be coming soon. Second, we make every effort to allow family and community members to use their time and talents on behalf of our students. We have encouraged parent volunteerism at Gilbert School. Whether you'd like to read to students or serve on an advisory committee, whether you can assist daily or just a couple of hours a month, I'd like to encourage you to come by our office, and we'll find a way to help you build into the next generation of Buena Park's citizens.

Whether a student, a parent or a community member, Gilbert is truly an inviting and engaging place to be!

James A. Whitaker (K—6)

8401 Montana Ave., Buena Park, CA 90621 • 714/521-9770



Jose Alarcon
Principal

See What's New!

What's new at Whitaker Elementary School? From the outside, you may not see the changes, such as new staff, new classrooms, and new technology—but they are here! Let's start with me. My name is



Jose Alarcon, and I am honored and overjoyed to be the new principal of Whitaker. I am a longtime educator, having held many school positions. Joining me as the new administrative intern is Gil Kim, who has been with the Buena Park School District as a teacher and technology specialist for 20 years. Also joining our team are some new teachers: Megan Gonzales in kindergarten; Miyuki Hernandez in fifth grade; and Jenny Mangkalakiri in Special Education. We are all thrilled to be a part of the Whitaker team.

In anticipation of the 2017–2018 school year, our dedicated Whitaker teachers arrived early to prepare their classrooms. Their enthusiasm was contagious, and there was excitement in the air on the first day of school. As I

visited classrooms, I saw students eager and ready to learn and behaving well in the classrooms. I was pleased to see so many students who had attended Whitaker since kindergarten.

Over the summer, our classrooms were

modernized with new carpeting, new wall coverings, new ceilings, new furniture, and new technology. There is an interactive projection system in every classroom, and teachers and students are already enjoying their new state-of-the-art touch screens. These new learning tools will make learning more enjoyable and meaningful, and the furniture creates groups of learners to encourage interactive environments where students learn together in meaningful ways. To keep students hydrated, there is even a new hydration station, where students are able to fill their water bottles during the school day.

We also welcome new students and new families to our school. I encourage parents and community members to stop by the office for a tour of Whitaker. We look forward to a fantastic school year.

Mabel L. Pendleton (K—6)

7101 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA 90621 • 714/521-8568



Richard Rodriguez
Principal

Pendleton Elementary opened its doors to another wonderful start to the school year. A new face on campus is Principal Richard Rodriguez. Principal Rodriguez is originally from Northern California, and has been a school principal for the last 12 years. All told, Principal Rodriguez has worked in education as both a teacher and school administrator for the past 24 years. He is truly excited to join the Mabel Pendleton School faculty and meet our families and students.

Our school this year will join the Clark Common Collaborative, a community based organization in the Buena Park area dedicated to the decrease of obesity rates for all residents, access to healthy foods, and an engagement in regular physical activity. Our school will be active partners with the Clark Common Collaborative to teach students and families the value of an active lifestyle that can promote the overall health of the school community.

The Pendleton staff will lead the way, as many of them will participate in an after-school fitness program. As a neighborhood school, Pendleton Elementary will implement a curriculum that will inspire students to make healthy choices. Students will learn the value and importance of physical fitness, healthy foods, and safe choices at school.



A Happy and Healthy Start

Pendleton Elementary opened its doors to another wonderful start to the school year. A new face on campus is Principal Richard Rodriguez. Principal Rodriguez is originally from Northern California, and has been a school principal for the last 12 years. All told, Principal Rodriguez has worked in education as both a teacher and school administrator for the past 24 years. He is truly excited to join the Mabel Pendleton School faculty and meet our families and students.

We will also continue to implement our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports program (PBIS). This program is designed to promote positive behavior interactions among students, reduction in bullying type behaviors, and enhance school pride and spirit. Our school year was kicked off with PBIS school assemblies. Every student in grades one through six received skill-based presentations on promoting a healthy school environment. The students received information on school rules, classroom expectations, dialogue for conflict resolution, respect for school property, and overcoming adversity.

As the year moves forward, it is our school's goal to continue to focus student development in positive behavior interactions as part of our school readiness model. The research shows that when students have pride in their school and promote a positive learning environment, invariably student achievement and community relations are enhanced. We invite our parents and community members to join us, and to visit our school website at <http://pendleton.bpsd.edlioschool.com> to find out more information.

Novelist –Word Search Contest

Rules! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you
email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com Please put _____ in the subject line.

Entries must be received by October 15, 2017

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!

COMPUTER	BROWSER
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PENCIL	IMAGINATION
IDEAS	TELEPHONE
PEN	



Congratulations to: Jonathan Salazar
Winner of our June Word Search Contest!

Lucy's Book Review



The Fault in Our Stars

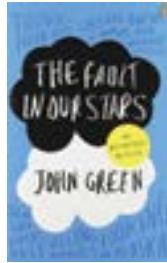
By John Green

We all have a different definition of the word 'normal'. For Hazel Grace Lancaster, a sixteen-year-old girl with lung cancer, that means daily medicine, an oxygen tank named Philip, and the worst of all...Support Group...

That is, before she meets Augustus Waters: charming, funny, and frankly handsome (even if he only has one and a half legs due to cancer). Together, the pair goes through infinity. From broken trophies and hijacked wishes, to Not Letting Illness Get In The Way Of Ruining Life. (Because it can, if you let it. You just have to learn how not to.)

I really, really, love this book for so many reasons. It's honest, funny, and raw. John Green does a wonderful job of telling such a story. I will give you a warning: the book contains some adult language and situations. Also, you might need tissues. Five out of five bookworms that are well deserved!

Lucy is a 6th grade student. When she isn't immersed in a book, she loves musical theater, ballet, and singing. She enjoys stretching her imagination by writing short stories of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.



Lucy Davis

Book Review by Abbas

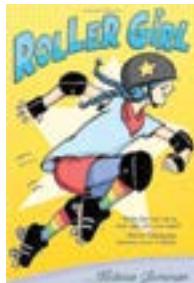


Amazing Graphic Novel

Roller Girl is a graphic novel by Victoria Jamieson.

This book is about a girl named Astrid and her best friend Nicole.

One day the girls go to a roller derby. Astrid later on begs her mom to go to roller derby camp and her mother agrees by signing her up. Astrid is elated and hopes her best friend will sign up too. Nicole signs up for dance class instead. This turns her summer upside down. Astrid's nemesis Rachel is now friends with Astrid because they're taking the same dance class. Rachel is a mean girl who keeps pressuring Nicole to stop being friends with Astrid. How will Astrid survive the summer without Nicole? This book is an amazing novel because it made me feel like branching out and trying new things can lead to new friendships. This book is great for people who love graphic novels and skating. Will Astrid continue her roller derby fame? I rate this book 5 out of 5 smiley faces.



Abbas D. is a fifth grade student who enjoys cooking in his free time, swimming and loves roasted marshmallows. Abbas will rate the books 1 to 5 smiley faces with 5 being the best.



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