

FREE

# School News

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Covering the Little Lake City School District

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 15

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2017

## Board of Education – Consejo Educativo

Our goal, as the Board of Trustees in the Little Lake City School District, is to provide our students with a quality education that ensures their success.

*Nuestro objetivo, como Consejo Directivo del Distrito Escolar de Little Lake, es proporcionar a nuestros estudiantes una educación de calidad que garantice su éxito.*



**Richard Martinez**  
President

Richard Martinez, board president, is a retired customer service supervisor for the Southern California Gas Company. He is very involved in monitoring our district's budget. He has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

*Richard Martínez, Presidente del consejo, fue supervisor de servicio al cliente de para la Compañía de Gas del Sur de California. Él está muy involucrado en el seguimiento del presupuesto de nuestro distrito. Tiene una licenciatura en Administración de Empresas.*



**George Buchanan**  
Vice President

George Buchanan, board vice president, has a Bachelor's degree in political science and a Master's degree in Public Administration. He works for the City of Norwalk in the Social Service Department, Senior Center.

*George Buchanan, Vicepresidente del consejo, tiene una licenciatura en Ciencias Políticas y una Maestría en Administración Pública. Trabaja para la Ciudad de Norwalk en el Departamento de Servicios Sociales, Centro para Adultos Mayores.*

### SUPERINTENDENT

Dear LLCSD Community,

On behalf of the Board of Education, our staff and myself, I want to welcome everyone to the 2017-2018 school year. I am honored to serve as the Superintendent of the Little Lake City School District and look forward to working with all of you throughout the year. As the Superintendent, I am committed to the success and safety of every child and will be actively involved and visible with our schools and community. During my 10 years here as Principal of Lakeview, Principal of Lake Center and Superintendent of Schools, I have come to truly appreciate and respect all aspects of this district and the communities we serve.



**Dr. Bill Crean**

Estimada Comunidad de LLCSD,

En nombre del Consejo Educativo, nuestro personal y en mi nombre, quiero dar la bienvenida a todos al año escolar 2017-2018. Tengo el honor de servir como el Superintendente del Distrito Escolar de Little Lake City y espero con interés poder trabajar con ustedes a lo largo de todo el año. Como Superintendente, estoy comprometido con el éxito y la seguridad de todos los niños y estaré activamente involucrado y presente en nuestras escuelas y nuestra comunidad. Durante mis nueve años aquí como Director de Lakeview, Director de Lake Center, y Superintendente de las escuelas, he llegado a apreciar y respetar verdaderamente todos los aspectos de este distrito y de la a la cual servimos.



**Dora Sandoval**  
Clerk

Dora Sandoval, board clerk, is serving her first term on the Little Lake City School District Board of Education. In addition to her participation in the school district, Mrs. Sandoval's civic contributions include service on various clubs and organizations in both the City Santa Fe Springs and Norwalk.

*Dora Sandoval, Secretario del Consejo, está cumpliendo su primer año en el Consejo Educativo del Distrito Escolar de Little Lake. Además de su participación en el distrito escolar, las contribuciones civiles de la Sra. Sandoval incluyen la participación en varios grupos y organizaciones, tanto en la Ciudad de Santa Fe Springs y en Norwalk.*



**Janet Rock**  
Member

Janet Rock, long time board member, served as an instructional specialist in two school districts. She believes that all students can learn. Her four adult children are LLCSD life-long learners.

*Janet Rock, Miembro por muchos años, sirvió como especialista de enseñanza en dos distritos escolares. Ella cree que todos los estudiantes pueden aprender. Sus cuatro hijos adultos son aprendices de por vida de LLCSD.*



**Hilda Zamora**  
Member

Hilda Zamora, long time board member, supports all students, especially Special Education and Limited English students. She is active in the Little Lake Educational Advancement Foundation. She also serves on several city committees.

*Hilda Zamora, Miembro, miembro por muchos años, apoya a todos los alumnos, especialmente a los estudiantes de Educación Especial y los estudiantes con Dominio Limitado del Inglés. Ella es activa en la Fundación Little Lake para el Avance Educativo. También es miembro de varios comités de la ciudad.*

### District Highlights

*By Dr. Bill Crean, Superintendent*

In November 2012, the voters of the Little Lake City School District approved two ballot measures that provide increased financial support for our schools. Measure EE, a general obligation bond, yielded funds to improve our facilities, most of which were built in the 1950s. Measure TT, a parcel tax in effect through 2017, was approved to increase student and teacher use of classroom technology, among other instructional needs. The funds from both of these measures are making a

### Destacados del Distrito

En noviembre de 2012, los votantes del Distrito Escolar de Little Lake aprobaron dos iniciativas que proporcionan un mayor apoyo financiero para nuestras escuelas. La Iniciativa EE, un bono de obligación general, generó fondos para mejorar nuestras instalaciones, la mayoría de las cuales fueron construidas en la década de 1950. La Iniciativa TT, un impuesto a la parcela vigente hasta 2017, fue aprobada para aumentar el uso del aula de tecnología por los estudiantes y maestros, entre otras

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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



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**Covering the  
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**SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 1**

The 2017-2018 school year begins my 28th year in public education. I came to California in 1990 as a *Charter Teach For America* (TFA) Corps member and began my teaching career at Compton High School. Over the years, I have worked as a classroom teacher, middle school assistant principal, middle school principal, elementary school principal and district level administrator. I joined the Little Lake City School District in 2007 as the principal of Lakeview Elementary School, later moving in 2012 to serve as the principal of Lake Center Middle School. As I begin my second year as your Superintendent, I feel fortunate to have been greatly influenced by the many students, staff members, parents and community members that I have had the pleasant experience to work with.



**Dr. Bill Crean**  
Superintendent

Our school district is fortunate to be located in a community that supports and appreciates our nine elementary and two middle schools. Being an integral part of the community, the Little Lake City School District takes great pride in not only encouraging students to value and recognize the importance of education, but also helping them to prepare to be contributing members of society.

Again, welcome to the new school year. I am confident that the District will continue to succeed as we support the work that has brought us success while at the same time explore and establish new paths that will further strengthen and enhance the teaching and learning environment.

El año escolar 2017-2018 inicia mi 28o año en la educación pública. Vine a California en 1990 como miembro de *Charter Teach For America* (TFA) y empecé mi carrera en la docencia en la Escuela Preparatoria Compton. A lo largo de los años, he trabajado como maestro titular de clase, subdirector de escuela intermedia, director de escuela intermedia, director de escuela primaria y administrador a nivel distrito. Me incorporé al Distrito Escolar de Little Lake City en 2007 como director de la Escuela Primaria Lakeview, y más adelante en el año 2012, pasé a desempeñar funciones como director de la Escuela Intermedia Lake Center. Al comenzar mi segundo año como su Superintendente, me siento afortunado de haber sido altamente influenciado por los muchos estudiantes, miembros del personal, padres y miembros de la comunidad con los cuales he tenido la grata experiencia de trabajar.

Nuestro distrito escolar tiene la fortuna de estar situado en una comunidad que apoya y aprecia nuestras nueve escuelas primarias y dos escuelas intermedias. Al ser una parte integral de la comunidad, el Distrito Escolar de Little Lake City se enorgullece no sólo de alentar a los estudiantes a valorar y reconocer la importancia de la educación, sino que también les ayuda a prepararse para ser miembros que contribuyen a la sociedad.

Bienvenidos al nuevo año escolar. Tengo la certeza de que el Distrito seguirá obteniendo logros mientras apoyemos el trabajo que nos ha llevado al éxito, al mismo tiempo que exploramos y establecemos nuevas vías que fortalezcan y mejoren aún más el entorno de enseñanza y aprendizaje.

## Our Mission

*By Tony Ayala and Jeff Mahlstede, Co-Chair Presidents*

The mission of the Little Lake Educational Enrichment Foundation (LLEAF) is to enrich and support the educational programs of the Little Lake City School District through community fundraising, active involvement, and awareness of the district's and students' needs. Toward that end, LLEAF sponsors a Fourth of July fireworks sale every summer. The LLEAF Board of Directors would like to thank all of you who recently supported the foundation through your purchase of fireworks from our stand. The proceeds from the fireworks sale will be distributed to our teachers this fall in the form of classroom mini-grants up to \$1,000. Your support will be experienced directly by our students through educational enhancements such as field trips, library books, or special technology equipment. LLEAF looks forward to working with our partners in the community to help realize our mission in the coming year.

## Nuestra Misión

La misión de la Fundación Little Lake para el Avance Educativo (LLEAF, por sus siglas en inglés) es enriquecer y apoyar los programas educativos del Distrito Escolar de Little Lake mediante la recaudación de fondos de la comunidad, la participación activa y la sensibilización de las necesidades del distrito y de los estudiantes. Con ese fin, LLEAF patrocina cada verano la venta de fuegos artificiales del 4 de Julio. El consejo de Administración de LLEAF quiere agradecer a todos ustedes que recientemente apoyaron a la fundación a través de la compra de fuegos artificiales en nuestro puesto. Los ingresos de esta venta serán distribuidos a los maestros este otoño en forma de mini-becas por salón de hasta \$1,000. Su apoyo será experimentado directamente por nuestros estudiantes a través de mejoras educativas, tales como viajes de estudio, libros para la biblioteca o equipos especiales de tecnología. LLEAF espera con interés poder trabajar con nuestros colaboradores en la comunidad para ayudar a cumplir nuestra misión en el próximo año.

*From DISTRICT / Destacados • Page 3*

significant and positive difference for the students of Little Lake.

Measure EE funds have been used strategically to modernize our sixty-year-old buildings. All nine schools in the Little Lake City School District have received extensive modernization since the passing of the bond and parcel tax in 2012. Improvements made to our schools include structural repairs, new classroom doors, new walkways, upgraded student and adult restrooms, new student restrooms in most TK/Kindergarten classrooms, modernized health care offices and improvement of accessibility for handicapped individuals. An important feature to note is the new doors installed at all sites not only include windows but are also able to be locked from within the classroom. These features greatly enhance the safety of our students and staff by providing visibility to the outside and immediate security, when needed. At Lake Center and Lakeside, students and teachers benefited from new heating/ventilation air conditioning units and the installation of new "teaching walls" that incorporate technology for use in teaching and learning. The administration offices at both middle schools were also renovated for increased efficiency in serving the school community. The end result is two middle schools that allow us to better meet our students' needs and that reflect modern day standards.

Funds from Measure TT, the parcel tax measure, have enabled the district to increase access and to enhance the effective use of instructional technology by students and teachers. Since the measure was passed, the district has been able to: update computer labs at all nine schools; provide laptops for use by all district teachers; improve the ratio of computers to students through the purchase of portable computer devices; increase our technical and professional development support to users; and repair/replace obsolete equipment. This investment in incorporating twenty-first technology into the teaching and learning process is already evident in students' increased skills and confidence levels.

The Little Lake City School District takes our responsibility as stewards of the public dollars very seriously. With this charge in mind, it is our intention to spend every dollar of public support in a manner that has a direct and positive effect on the students we serve. Your trust and support of the district are very much appreciated.

necesidades de enseñanza. Los fondos de estas dos iniciativas están haciendo una diferencia significativa y positiva para los estudiantes de Little Lake.

Los fondos de la Iniciativa EE se han utilizado de manera estratégica para modernizar nuestros edificios de sesenta años de antigüedad. Las nueve escuelas en el distrito de Little Lake City han recibido extensa modernización desde la aprobación del bono y del impuesto a la parcela en 2012. Las mejoras realizadas a nuestras escuelas incluyen reparaciones estructurales, nuevas puertas en las aulas, nuevas aceras, mejoras a los baños para alumnos y para adultos, nuevos baños para estudiantes en la mayoría de las aulas TK/Kínder, modernización de las oficinas de salud y mejoramiento en la accesibilidad para personas con discapacidad. Un aspecto importante a considerar es la instalación de nuevas puertas en todos los planteles que no sólo incluyen ventanas, sino que también se pueden asegurar desde adentro del aula. Estas características mejoran en gran medida la seguridad de nuestros alumnos y nuestro personal al brindar visibilidad al exterior y seguridad inmediata en caso de ser necesario. En Lake Center y Lakeside, los estudiantes y maestros se beneficiaron con nuevas unidades de calefacción/ aire acondicionado, así como la instalación de nuevos "muros de enseñanza" que incorporan tecnología para su uso en el proceso de enseñanza y aprendizaje. Las oficinas administrativas de ambas escuelas intermedias también fueron renovadas para aumentar la eficiencia en el servicio a la comunidad escolar. El resultado final son dos escuelas intermedias que nos permiten satisfacer mejor las necesidades de nuestros estudiantes y que reflejan los estándares de hoy en día.

Los fondos de la Iniciativa TT, la disposición del impuesto a la parcela, han permitido al distrito aumentar el acceso y mejorar el uso eficaz de tecnología de instrucción por los estudiantes y maestros. Desde que la disposición fue aprobada, el distrito ha sido capaz de: actualizar los laboratorios informáticos en las nueve escuelas; proporcionar computadoras portátiles para uso de todos los maestros del distrito; mejorar la proporción de computadoras con respecto a los estudiantes mediante la compra de dispositivos informáticos portátiles; aumentar nuestro desarrollo técnico y profesional de apoyo a los usuarios; y la reparación/sustitución de equipos obsoletos. Esta inversión en la incorporación de tecnología de siglo XXI en el proceso de enseñanza y aprendizaje, es ya evidente en el aumento de habilidades y niveles de confianza de los estudiantes.

El Distrito Escolar de Little Lake toma muy en serio nuestra responsabilidad como administradores de fondos públicos. Con este compromiso en mente, es nuestra intención gastar cada dólar de apoyo público de manera que tenga un efecto directo y positivo en los estudiantes a los cuales servimos. Su confianza y apoyo para el distrito son altamente apreciados.



## Cresson *Elementary*

11650 Cresson St., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-6620 • <http://cresson.llcsd.net/>



**Linda Rigg**  
*Principal*

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! It's hard to believe I am entering my twenty-ninth year in education. I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree and my Multiple Subjects teaching credential from California State University, Stanislaus. I spent the first nine years of my career teaching in Patterson, California, before moving to southern California to teach in Anaheim. I completed a Master of Science degree in Education with an emphasis in Curriculum and Instruction, and a Reading Certificate from California State University, Fullerton. I later decided to pursue an administrative position, so I obtained my Administrative Services Credential. After serving in a variety of positions with the Anaheim City School District, I joined Little Lake City School District as the principal of Cresson Elementary in the 2013-2014 school year.

It is a tremendous honor to be able to serve as the principal of Cresson Elementary School. I am looking forward to continuing the productive work that we are doing as a school community.

## Jersey Avenue *Elementary*

9400 Jersey Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 • 562/948-3772 • <http://jersey.llcsd.net/>



**Dr. Michael Trimmell**  
*Principal*

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the Jersey community. My path into education started with my acceptance into a prestigious dental school. After learning that I was accepted into the program, I decided that I would work for the few months that I had before entering dental school. I decided to do something that I thought was easy, so I decided to substitute teach. To my surprise, teaching was not at all easy; on the contrary, it was difficult! My Bachelor's Degree in Cell Biology earned me a long-term substitute teaching position in an eighth grade physical science classroom. I gladly accepted and proceeded to have the most challenging and most rewarding experience of my life. At the end of the semester, I withdrew my acceptance from dental school and I immediately enrolled in a teaching credential program. I have not looked back since that day. Since then, I have earned a Single Subject Teaching Credential, a Master's of Education, an Administrative Services Credential, and a Doctorate of Education. I am passionate about my education, and about educating others.

## Lake Center *Middle School*

10503 Pioneer Blvd., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 • 562/868-4977 • <http://lakecenter.llcsd.net/>



**Jack Sokoloff**  
*Principal*

I consider it an honor and privilege to be the instructional leader of Lake Center Middle School and am very happy to be here. My time growing up was spent not far from here. I was raised in Whittier and attended Longfellow Elementary School, Dexter Intermediate School, and Whittier High School. After high school, I attended Rio Hondo College, University of California, Riverside, and California State University, Long Beach. Prior to my time at Lake Center, I spent 4 years as the principal of Lakeland Elementary School, and before that, I was the Assistant Principal at Lake Center for 3 years. Before coming

to the Little Lake City School District, I also worked in the Long Beach Unified School District in various positions for about 10 years. Lake Center Middle School is a national School to Watch with great teachers, staff, and wonderful students. Our team works closely together to help prepare students in the middle grades for the transition to high school. Our goal is to help children grow academically, emotionally, and socially so they are ready to tackle those challenges that lie ahead. Moreover, we believe that the relationships we make should forge a collective responsibility for the wellbeing of our children. Every child should feel supported and connected to the school and its culture, and it is our obligation to ensure this occurs. I would like to thank the Lake Center community for their positive, welcoming spirit!

## Lakeland *Elementary*

11224 Bombardier Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-8887 • <http://lakeland.llcsd.net/>



**Georgette Baltierrez**  
*Principal*

Welcome to the 2016 - 2017 school year! I am excited to begin this year as the new principal of Lakeland Elementary School. I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree in Child Development from Whittier College. I hold both a Multiple Subject and Educational Specialist Teaching credential. I received my Masters in Educational Administration along with my Administrative Services Credential from California State University Long Beach.

I began my teaching career in LAUSD as a first and second-grade teacher. In 2006, I transitioned to the Little Lake City School District. I taught upper grade elementary at William Orr Elementary School. Since then I have taught at Lakeside and Lake Center. Most recently, I was one of the three district Math Coaches providing mathematics support and guidance in math instruction to teachers, students, and parents.

As the new principal, I am thrilled to begin this year with the tight knit Lakeland community. The communities' commitment to student success is evident from my interactions with parents and staff. Together we are dedicated to our students' social and academic success. I look forward to an AMAZING 2017-2018 school year!

# Back to School!



## Lakeside *Middle School*

11000 Kenney St., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-9422 • <http://lakeside.llcsd.net/>



**Ana Gutierrez**  
*Principal*

It is my pleasure to welcome all Lakeside Mustangs back to school! I have the honor of working with a dedicated team who engage and inspire our students and their families to show their Mustang PRIDE every day. I have enjoyed a career in education during the last 33 years as an elementary teacher, a middle school science teacher, and an administrator. I received a B.A. in English, teaching certification and Masters in Educational Administration from CSULA. I earned a Masters in Teaching Science from CSUF. I first entered administration in 1998 as a Federal and State programs site administrator and, eventually accepted a position as a district coordinator within the same program for Montebello Unified School District. In 2008, I embraced the opportunity to return to the school site as the principal of Paddison (Go Panthers!) and, currently, as the principal at Lakeside Middle School (Go Mustangs!). As I start my fourth year as a Mustang, I look forward with excitement to serving my wonderful Lakeside community.

## William Orr *Elementary*

12130 S. Jersey Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-7988 • <http://williamorr.llcsd.net/>



**Rebecca Casillas**  
*Principal*

I am pleased to once again introduce myself to our community. My educational background includes a Bachelors Degree in Spanish from CSULB and a Masters Degree in Education with an emphasis in K-12 Reading from CSULA. In addition, I have a multiple subject credential and a preliminary administrative services credential.

I began my teaching career in 1999 and joined the Little Lake team as a teacher at Orr in 2004. Throughout my career, I have taught many grades, including primary and upper grades and even middle school. I've also been fortunate to serve as a literacy coach, ELD coordinator, and a master teacher for student teachers. In December 2012, I accepted the role of interim principal at Orr, and I am absolutely thrilled to continue to serve as William Orr's principal.

I have also been a proud LLCSD parent since 2000. My boys have gone through Studebaker, Orr, and Lakeside. As both a former teacher and parent in the district and at Orr, I can't say enough about our wonderful staff and instructional program. We truly embody the statement "Students first" and pride ourselves in ensuring every student's success.

Orr had a fantastic 2016-2017 school year. We were honored to again be named a CBEE Honor Roll School for the seventh time. We also kicked off our PBIS implementation focusing on positive student behavior and a positive school climate and saw encouraging results. We continue to strive for excellence and support students' many needs, and our many accolades over the years are a testament to this.

Our work towards success will continue this year. I look forward to picking up where we left off last year and working hard to meet the needs of our students and community. Thank you for entrusting your child to us at Orr and welcome to our team!



## Lakeview *Elementary*

11500 Joslin St., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 • 562/868-8655 • <http://lakeview.llcsd.net/>



**Lauren Hernandez**  
*Principal*

Welcome back to the 2017 – 2018 school year at Lakeview Elementary School! The Lakeview staff is back and busy preparing for another successful school year. I am excited to begin my sixth school year as the principal of Lakeview Elementary, a 2016 Gold Ribbon and Title I Academic Achievement Award School. As a Santa Fe High School graduate, I am proud to serve in the community where I was raised. I earned a bachelor's degree and teaching credential from the University of California, Los Angeles (Go, Bruins!) and received my master's degree in educational leadership and administrative credential from the University of La Verne. In 2001, I joined the Little Lake City School District family as a sixth-grade language arts and history teacher. I served as a literacy coach, intervention specialist, and assistant principal at Lakeside Middle School before becoming the principal of Lakeview in 2012. I am proud to be a part of the Lakeview school community.

At Lakeview, we are committed to providing every student with a successful educational experience. Our teachers work collaboratively in professional learning communities to ensure a rigorous, standards-based curriculum and engaging, research-based teaching strategies. Add in our new infusion of technology, and Lakeview teachers are ready to lead our students to become 21st-century critical thinkers and problem solvers. I am looking forward to another positive and successful school year here at Lakeview. It is truly a special place made up of dedicated staff, supportive families, and exceptional students.

## Paddison *Elementary*

12100 Crewe St., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-7741 • <http://paddison.llcsd.net/>



**Dr. Lorena Martinez-Vargas**  
*Principal*

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! My name is Dr. Martinez-Vargas; I serve as Paddison Elementary School's principal. Paddison is a safe learning environment where all students access high levels of learning. In 2017, we were named an Honor Roll school by the Campaign for Business and Education Excellence. In 2016, Paddison was recognized as a Gold Ribbon school and identified as a Title I Academic Achievement school. Teamwork makes such distinguished achievement possible. Students, their families, teachers, and our surrounding community form a powerful and dynamic partnership. Together we make it possible for our all our students to engage in a school year filled with reading, writing, mathematics, enrichment activities, friendships, and adventures in education. Let's keep working together! Students should arrive at school by 8:00am. Don't be late! Don't miss a day! We hope to see you at Paddison's Back to School Night, Wednesday, September 13th at 5:30pm. I have great expectations for an amazing and productive school year.

As Always, Go Panthers!

## Studebaker *Elementary*

11800 Halcourt Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650 • 562/868-7882 • <http://studebaker.llcsd.net/>



**Paula Rode**  
*Principal*

Welcome to the 2017-18 school year. I am honored to be the new principal at Studebaker Elementary School. I earned my bachelor's degree, master's degree, and teaching credential from the University of La Verne. I began my teaching career as a 4th and 5th grade teacher. After several years of teaching I decided I wanted to be a principal. I earned my administrative credential from APU. I was a principal for 14 years at a K-5 school, which I expanded to become a TK-8. I was also coordinator of Special Ed. Inclusion and Compliance. I am very excited to return to the school site as a principal. My passion is working with students, staff, and families. The Studebaker staff is fabulous and the students are very polite and respectful. I am looking forward to a great year. I know working together we can provide students with a great education!

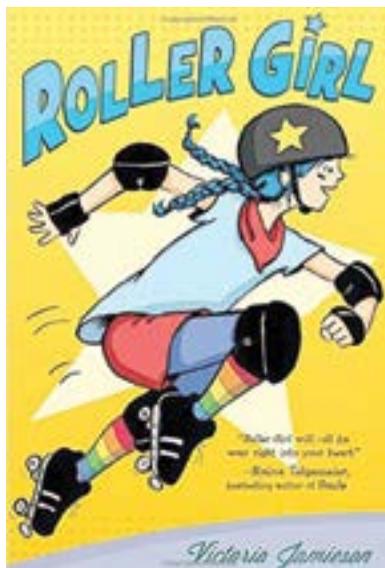
## Amazing Graphic Novel



Abbas D.

*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.

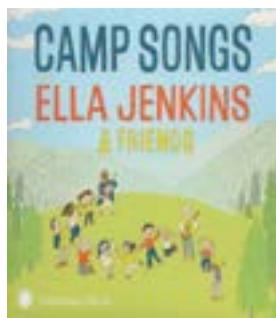
## Note-ables

### Camp Songs



Kate Karp

Camp songs are very dear to Ella Jenkins, the national children's-singalong treasure who at 93 is still performing. She cherished songs that her brother brought home from Boy Scouts and had always wanted to record a camp-song CD.



For this project, Jenkins assembled a literal band of brothers and sisters who have veritable campground DNA: Kate and Tony Seeger, nephew and niece of the legendary Pete Seeger, and Judy Seeger, the late folk singer's wife. A team of musicians, children, parents and teachers rounds out the rounds, spirituals, campfire singalongs, protest songs and just plain silliness.

*Camp Songs* opens with Jenkins's harmonica and the round of all rounds, "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." Following are 24 more familiar and yet-unheard numbers: "This Little Light of Mine," "Down in the Valley"; "Sipping Cider Through a Straw," and the hilarious but complicated round "One Bottle of Pop." On "The Hill Was Steep and Tall," Jenkins relates how she reluctantly signed up for a hike with some campers and then got hopelessly lost.

You may know that Woody Guthrie had written "This Land Is Your Land" as a protest song and might have wondered about it. One of the two sociopolitical verses not sung at school is included here—good fodder for a social studies lesson.

Our school districts provide numerous school-year camping opportunities and field trips, and there are scout gatherings and youth groups who are going to love these songs. Sing out!

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.

## The Fault in Our Stars

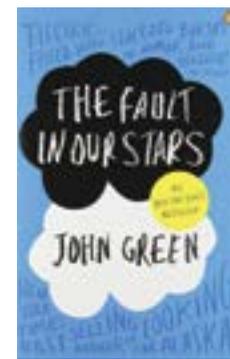


Lucy Davis

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.

## Isabella's Book Review

### Adventure and Fun

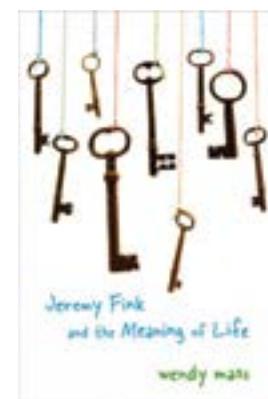


Isabella A.

The book *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* by Wendy Mass is about a 13 year old living in Manhattan with his mom and his friend Lizzy. Together, they convinced the mailman to give them a package. Inside, they find a letter and a box. The letter indicated that the box once had keys that were now lost. They decide to set out to find the keys. In the process, they sneak into a business and vandalize it. A policeman makes them do community service, as punishment they have to deliver packages. They ride around the city delivering antiques to the people who had once pawned those items. Almost all was planned by his dead dad

The friends must now do this the entire summer. Will they find the keys before Jeremy's birthday? Or ever?

I give this book 4 stars because it is full of fun and adventure.



Isabella is a 6th grader who loves to read, write, volleyball and plans on becoming an author of children's books. She rates books 1-5 stars with 5 being the best.

## Courtney's Book Review

### Exciting Quest



Courtney M.

*Sea of Monsters* by Rick Riordan.

Exciting times with Percy Jackson as he goes on a quest to find the golden fleece, in hopes to save talia's tree that protects Camp half blood. Percy also wants to save his best friend Grover that is stuck with a giant Cyclops called Polyphemus. Grover is wearing a wedding dress and a fake eyeball to pretend to be a cyclop, so Polyphemus won't eat him.

This book keeps you reading to find out what is going to happen next. Enjoy!

I would rate this book as a five star book.



Courtney likes to play softball, football, and volleyball. She also draws, sews and sings on the worship team at her church. She will rate the books 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest.

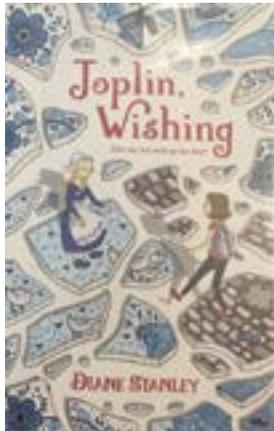
## A Page Turner



Keira

*Joplin, Wishing* by Diane Stanley is an extraordinary page turner! It really makes you feel like you are there with the characters. This fantasy novel is about a 12 year old girl named Joplin who finds an antique platter with a picture of a girl at a pond and wishes she could be her friend. The next day Joplin sees a girl in the garden. When she goes to say

hello, she learns that the girl, Sofie, is new to the neighborhood. Curiously, when Joplin goes back to her room the girl in the platter is gone! When Joplin discovers everything Sofie has been through, she comes to the conclusion that she must help her. Later when Sofie meets Joplin's mom, they think they recognize each other which made me think, "Is there a story behind this?" You'll just have to read the book to find out! I give this book 5 out of 5 apples.



Keira F. is a sixth grader. In addition to her love of books, she enjoys art, crafts, traveling and playing with her cats. She rates books from 1 to 5 apples with 5 being the highest.

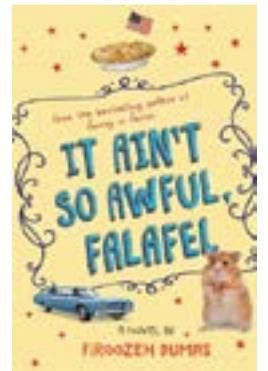
## A Heartwarming Story



Katie C.

Author: Firoozeh Dumas  
*It Ain't So Awful, Falafel* is a book about an Iranian girl named Cindy (who lives in the U.S) who goes through a turmoil of thoughts, challenges, and problems--big ones. In Iran, there are political problems that the U.S is now involved with. The Iran government takes hostages from the U.S, making

Americans hostile to Iranians. As if things can't get any worse, Cindy's dad loses his job. Cindy's parents give Cindy heartbreaking news to her: they must move back to Iran. Cindy is torn. She does not want to leave the city where she has just started to find new friends. Just as the family is about to leave, good news comes. Her father is offered a job in the U.S! Cindy can stay! Cindy is overjoyed at the news. With humor and relatable scenarios, this heartwarming story is sure to win your heart. I give this book a five out of five stars.



Katie is a 8th grader that loves to read and write. Fictional books are her favorite. Besides writing and reading, she loves soccer, acting, dancing, and playing the violin. She hopes to publish her own book someday.

# 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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put Little Lake 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	READERS	BING
EDITOR	PENCIL	ASPIRIN
IPAD	IDEAS	KEYBOARD
SPELLCHECK	PEN	TELEPHONE
PRINTER	BROWSER	WIFI
PUBLISHER	GOOGLE	IMAGINATION
NOTEPAD	INTERNET	TELEPHONE



**Congratulations to Mario and Eric Figueroa**  
**Winner of the May Word Search Contest!**

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