

FREE

School News

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Covering the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District

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SUPERINTENDENT

“Embracing Excellence In All We Do” is the theme for the 2017-2018 school year defining the vision we must strive to achieve. When searching for its definition, excellence is defined as “the quality of being outstanding or extremely good.” To embrace excellence at NLMUSD, we must continue to enhance the relationships we have established with our students, their families, our coworkers and the community we serve. Therefore, our relationships must be outstanding and extremely good, permeated by trust, respect, appreciation, and open communication.



Dr. Hasmik Danielian
Superintendent

Our goal is to increase and support student learning in Mathematics, Literacy, and College & Career Readiness through sustained and targeted professional development and research-based best practices. Accordingly, we must create the conditions to become lead learners and foster a climate of focused collaboration, effective team work, and data-driven dialogues.

Equity is at the heart of everything we do to make sure that we provide the support and

“Adoptando Excelencia en Todo lo Que Hacemos” es el tema para el año escolar 2017-2018, dando definición a la visión que debemos luchar para lograr. Al buscar su definición, excelencia se define como “la calidad de ser excepcional o extremadamente bueno”. Para adoptar excelencia en el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Norwalk-La Mirada (NLMUSD, por sus siglas en inglés), debemos seguir mejorando las relaciones que hemos establecido con nuestros estudiantes, sus familias, nuestros compañeros de trabajo, y a la comunidad que servimos. Por lo tanto, nuestras relaciones deben ser excepcionales y extremadamente buenas, permeada por confianza, respeto, reconocimiento, y la comunicación abierta.

Nuestra meta es aumentar y apoyar el aprendizaje de los estudiantes en Matemáticas, Alfabetización, y Preparación para la Universidad y Carreras a través del desarrollo profesional dirigido y continuo, y mejores prácticas basadas en encuestas. Por lo tanto,

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

Where Every Student is Given Every Opportunity to Demonstrate Excellence

For the 2017-18 school year, we are continuing our mission to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to succeed and prosper.

We are proud of our success in providing rigorous academic and career readiness programs throughout the district that encourage growth and excellence from kindergarten through grade 12. These programs have done a great job of building foundations and



Sean M. Reagan
Board of Education President

Donde Todo Estudiante Es Dado Toda oportunidad de demostrar excelencia

Para el año escolar 2017-18, continuamos nuestra misión de asegurar que todos los estudiantes adquieran el conocimiento y las habilidades que necesitan para tener éxito y prosperar.

Estamos orgullosos de nuestro éxito en proporcionar programas rigurosos académicos y de preparación para una carrera, a través del distrito, que fomentan el crecimiento y la excelencia desde el kínder hasta el 12º grado. Estos

See **BOARD OF EDUCATION** • Page 10

Teachers are Preparing to Lead Students to their Future Los Maestros se están Preparando para Guiar a los Estudiantes a su Futuro



By *Dr. Hasmik Danielian, Superintendent*

Norwalk-La Mirada schools are updating classrooms and curriculum to ensure all students are being prepared to succeed in college, careers, and tomorrow’s connected world. Through Measure G funded 2020 Learning Initiative, students across all schools are now using iPads and laptops to enhance their learning and 21st century skills. However, access to technology is not enough, so teachers are receiving professional development and support to effectively use these new digital tools and update curriculum.

This summer, over 500 Norwalk-La Mirada teachers and administrators participated in our second annual “Blended Learning Summits.” Blended learning is a new term describing the use of technology along with traditional face-to-face instruction. There were two Blended Learning Summits to accommodate our teachers Summer schedules, one in June at Southeast Academy High School, and the other in August at John Glenn High School. Over the two-day summits, teachers

Las escuelas de Norwalk-La Mirada están actualizando los salones de clase y currículo para asegurar que todos los estudiantes se estén preparando para tener éxito en la universidad, carreras, y el mundo conectado del mañana. Por medio de la Iniciativa de Aprendizaje 2020 con fondos de Medida G, los estudiantes de todas las escuelas ahora están utilizando iPads y computadoras portátiles para mejorar su aprendizaje y habilidades del siglo 21. Sin embargo, el acceso a la tecnología no es suficiente, por lo que los maestros están recibiendo desarrollo profesional y apoyo para utilizar efectivamente estas nuevas herramientas digitales y actualizar el currículo.

Este verano, más de 500 maestros y administradores de Norwalk-La Mirada participaron en nuestra “Cumbres de Aprendizaje Mezcladas” anual; por segundo año. El aprendizaje mezclado es un nuevo término que describe el uso de tecnología junto con la instrucción tradicional de cara a cara. Para

See **TEACHERS • LOS MAESTROS** • Page 10

Adult School

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



**Sharon Renfro
Todd**
Director

A Path to Success!

Ana Romo is a great example of a student utilizing programs at the Norwalk-La Mirada Adult School to meet her educational goals while also meeting the needs of her family. Ana began as a student in ESL Level 2 and found it challenging to attend due to family responsibilities. Fortunately, her family supported her goals and desire to be a good model for her children, so Ana was motivated to continue.

Three years later, Ana has not only completed all levels of ESL, but also her high school diploma. She continues to study math and ESL in the morning where she can take advantage of the child care program and returns in the evening to study Childcare Professions. Next year Ana will move on to Cerritos College to complete her goal of becoming a preschool teacher. Ana's path to success could be your path to success!



Ana Romo is achieving her goals!



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Welcome back to another new school year. This is always an exciting time of year and by now the students have settled into a routine and are focused on their academic goals. This is our 7th year publishing the excellence from the NLMUSD. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.



School News

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**Covering the
NORWALK-LA MIRADA UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Benton *MS Visual & Performing Arts Magnet*

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



**Benjamin
Webster**
Principal

Award Winning

Benton prides itself on offering students a wide array of electives to cultivate a culture of creativity through art, media arts, photography, band, chorus, and drama. Nearly one third of Benton students travel from outside the regular attendance area to take advantage of our amazing staff. Los Angeles County recently recognized the importance of arts in education when it named Mrs. Jennifer Hodge as a Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year.

Benton students submitted a number of pieces of art for the 2017 LA County Fair Art Show. The Wolverines collected 37 first, second, and third place ribbons, including the award for "Best in Theme."



Chavez *Elementary School*

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



**Gabriela
Galvez-Reyna**
Principal

Breakfast Reading Club

At Cesar Chavez Elementary the staff is committed to ensure all our students receive support. We all know how important reading is for students, especially for emerging readers. At Chavez this week, the Breakfast Reading Club started. Any morning before school beginning readers who weren't able to read with an adult the previous night can grab their breakfast and sit at a designated table with their food and their book. Fourth and Fifth Grader Junior Mentors will come with their breakfast too and will listen to the younger student read aloud. The Junior Mentor signs off the homework. So far both students head to class with smiles. It's a great way to start the day!



Corvallis *MS Arts & Technology Magnet*

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



Bob Easton
Principal

Where Everyone Belongs

Corvallis Middle School is proud of the hard work and efforts of our WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) team. Our student leaders came in before school began to be trained and then hosted our 6th grade orientation. They did a great job welcoming them to middle school and helping to feel welcomed, safe, and comfortable. In addition, our WEB students assist with the continued focus on establishing a positive climate on campus. Lastly, we continue to focus on Capturing our Kids Hearts to create an atmosphere where every student feels that they have a teacher or staff member who cares about them. We enjoy hearing “Good News” and work together to create a fun, caring, learning filled environment where we live by our motto of “Discover Your Passion, Create Your Future”.



WEB Leaders welcome new students.

Dulles *Elementary School*

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



Shanti Gallegos
Principal

Stars Seeing Stars!

Dulles has built a partnership with the Columbia Astronomy Club and the Columbia Space Museum. Through collaborative efforts with Sen. Tony Mendoza (32nd District), our school community received a telescope and a hands-on astronomy lesson. The project is led by real astronomers who are members of the Columbia Astronomers organization. The level of expertise, knowledge and hands on activities has engaged students and filled them with excitement.

The outreach continues this year with the Astronomy Club leaders holding our first family astronomy night in coordination with Back-to-School-Night, also known as our Dulles Star Party. This partnership provides hands-on learning experiences to students, staff, families and our community.



Dulles Star Party

**Ray Wong, Representative for Senator Tony Mendoza,
Bob Weinrich from Downey Columbia Astronomers**

Students will extend this learning when they venture out to the Columbia Space Museum this week and experience the Lego Robotics lab and the Space Science presentation produced by NASA.

Dulles students are thriving and learning about science through this partnership and support.

Dolland *Elementary School*

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



Lorena Sierra
Principal

Believing in Oneself

As Huskies, we are off to a howling start! Our school motto of, “Teamwork, Perseverance and Commitment” exemplifies the qualities we want every Husky to master before they leave our school.

A huge part of this goal is starting the school year off right. And so we decided to introduce the power of the little word “Yet.” To explain this idea, every classroom read the book *Giraffe’s Can’t Dance* within the first week of school. We did this to teach our students that everything we want to learn requires both patience and a belief in one’s abilities, and that we have to put in work and time to achieve what we set out to accomplish.

We have learned that, as a community, we all need to enjoy and celebrate each of our students’ journey in building their own self-awareness of growth. Every student has the potential to develop their own skills. Sometimes all it takes is believing in oneself, and that this same belief in others can catapult our students towards success.

Thanks to special teachers like Ms. Jesolva and Mrs. Cleven, who serve as our math demonstration leads as part of the district Math Campaign, we have brought this learning to our school. We have all now become fans of that three-lettered word “Yet.” It really is a powerful little word if you think about it!

Each student has identified one thing they can’t do yet, but will be able to do by the end of this school year. Come see our “Power of YET” posters in each of our classrooms.

El Camino *High School*

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



Ryan Cummins
Director
Alt. Education

An Exciting Year of Events

El Camino High School, has opened the school year with a very smooth start and students have a choice of courses to recover credits as well as meet A-G requirements to support their post-secondary pursuits. New to the campus this year is a comprehensive Work Experience program to assist students who have a desire to work and support the student already in the workplace. Targeted intervention courses in the areas of math and ELA have also been implemented to ensure our students receive the academic support they need to be successful.

Elections have been held in which students selected a new ASB board for the school year and the intramural sports are about to be underway. Our staff and students are looking forward to a great, and productive school year.

Optometry

*Learning never
exhausts the mind.*

– Leonardo da Vinci

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



(562) 868-8233 • drjohnlarcabal.com

Eastwood *Elementary School*

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



Yvette Cantu
Principal

A School for Thinkers, Designers, and Innovators

We believe that students have the qualities of great designers and innovators. Eastwood School will be implementing science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) curriculum using Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Launch curriculum at every grade level. The STEM curriculum is aligned with the new standards for science known as the Next Generation Science Standards for California (NGSS).



2017 Eastwood the Graders Master Robotics

Eastwood STEM instruction utilizes project and problem-based learning that teaches students how to apply what they are learning to real-life situations. STEM units of study provide opportunities for students to:

- Understand the scientific process, engineering problem-solving and the application of technology;
- Understand how technological systems work with other systems;
- Use mathematics knowledge and skills in solving problems;
- Communicate effectively through reading, writing, listening and speaking; and
- Work effectively with others

Edmondson *Elementary School*

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



Sharon Stewart
Principal

Coming Together

This school year is off to a great start! In August at Back-to-School Night, we had an MPR full of parents and families for our Annual Title 1 Parent meeting. New this year was an Attendance Matters meeting to kick off our Attendance Campaign. We also had full classrooms, with excited students, parents and teachers!

Informational booths for our parents and families included migrant education, Nutrition Services and public library resources. Our PTA dinner prior to the meetings and classroom visitations was festive and fun!

Our PTA has also been working hard to provide event opportunities for our students and families. Within the first month of school, we have already had two fund-raising events at local restaurants! We look forward to several additional events coming up, like our annual Trunk-or-Treat festivities and Storybook Character Parade in October.



Escalona *Elementary School*

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



Bonnie Lytle
Principal

Eagles on Success Path

It's my pleasure to welcome you to the 2017-18 school year at Escalona Elementary School! Our Eagles are back in full swing and ready to take on new challenges.

This year, Escalona's fifth-grade students will participate in AVID (Achievement via Individual Determination). AVID focuses on five tenets to enhance the curriculum: writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading to learn. These intentional practices support all students on their path to college readiness.



Fifth grade students display their agenda and binder, two of the tools used to maintain organization."

Our fifth-grade teachers are creating a college-going culture within their classrooms by labeling table groups with names of colleges, displaying their personal college memorabilia on bulletin boards, and teaching students that through hard work and a growth mindset, they can be college ready. Students are learning that organization is one key to success. Teachers are directly modeling the use of three-ring binders and folders to maintain organization, and planners to keep track of assignments and upcoming events.

AVID + Escalona = student success!

Foster Road *Elementary School*

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



Salvador Villagomez
Principal

School-Wide Behavior Plan

With feedback from staff, parents, and students, it was determined that our school-wide behavior plan needed improvement. The summer break afforded us the opportunity to establish a behavior plan that was worthy of our STAR pupils.

A comprehensive examination revealed the need for increased consistency and improved communication with all stakeholders. Our Foster Road team was able to develop an excellent plan that includes a discipline action matrix, a reflection component for guiding students toward expected behaviors, and a systematic rewards system.

The cornerstone of our behavior plan is the use of Star Bucks to encourage students to become more aware of the school's behavioral expectations. To help us achieve our district-wide goal of a 97 percent attendance rate, Star Buck rewards are used to encourage all students to not miss school. The students have reacted positively, and are excited about the various Star Buck Goal Events being planned for throughout the year.

With our new plan in place, we believe that our school environment will allow our Stars to shine even brighter!

Gardenhill *Elementary School*

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



Sarah Gilbert
Principal

Growing Brains Make Gains!

Gardenhill students are using a growth mindset. Classrooms read books on how to grow their brains, like *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds, *The Girl Who Never Makes Mistakes* by Mark Pett and Gary

Rubinstein, and *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae. These books brought the concept of “yet” to students, showing them that they may not be able to do something yet, but they will!

Students are exploring how mistakes are powerful and how science has indicated that this struggle makes the brain grow! Using this mindset has helped students change their self-talk, motivating them to persevere and continue to learn!

The first 10 days of school were spent discovering number talks. When given a problem, students use math strategies and share out their thinking and strategies with peers. Students discover the learning process of others as they move from discovery to efficiency.



Ms. Galaske's class never says I can't, they only say I will try!

Hutchinson *MS Math, Science, Technology Magnet*

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



Robin Padgett
Principal

A Welcome to Our 6th Graders!

Hutchinson has had a fantastic start to this school year, thanks to our teachers, staff and WEB Crew! Our 8th grade WEB leaders welcomed our incoming 6th graders at the

beginning of August with a fun-filled and informative WEB Orientation. Our newest Hutchinson Hawks got to know each other and our campus. We also piloted a JumpStart program for 6th graders who needed additional support as they began their middle school career. For two days, a group of 40 students rotated between 3 classes focused on learning technology, collaboration and AVID strategies. They thoroughly enjoyed these classes and the extra attention they received before the school year started! By the first day of school, our 6th graders came to the first day of school with confidence and school spirit!



Glenn *High School*

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



Francisco Ramirez
Principal

Soaring to New Heights

As the new principal of John Glenn High School, it is amazing to see the tremendous amount of work that goes into making our school a special place. We offer something for everyone, especially for our Freshmen Class of 2021.

These JGHS students have the option to pursue one of four Linked Learning Pathways, including the Transportation Careers Academy Program (TCAP), Academy for Careers in Education (ACE), Project Lead the Way Engineering (PLTW), and the Film and Video (FAV) pathway. AVID is also available for freshmen seeking extra guidance in preparing for college.

As part of NLMUSD's 2020 Learning Initiative, all ninth- and tenth-graders have been issued laptops. To support our learning through technology, many of our teachers attended August's district-wide Blended Learning Summit training held at JGHS. Teachers learned how to develop lessons that incorporate innovative uses of technology. They also explored using technology to strengthen our students Four "C's" of 21st-century learning: Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking, and Creativity.

JGHS has many support systems in place to ensure that all freshmen feel welcome and engaged. Link Crew offers upperclassmen mentors to all freshmen. These mentors encourage freshmen to get involved in JGHS activities, and even put on great events like ice cream socials and special holiday celebrations just for these students. AVID Ambassadors and Academic Tutors also work with our English learners to support their adjustment to a new school setting. They help provide very powerful peer-to-peer academic and social support systems for our students.

This summer, several JGHS incoming freshmen began earning high school credit through their participation in the summer Jumpstart program. Through Jumpstart, students learn how to study, stay organized, and plan for college while attending high school. As part of their learning experience they visited Cal State University at Los Angeles to learn more about going to college.

Glazier *Elementary School*

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



Adriana Nakano
Principal

Caught You Being Healthy

"When you come to school everyday, GOOD things happen" and when you eat healthy you feel even better at school! Students who bring healthy snacks to school such as fruits, veggies, granola and yogurt or are giving 100% during physical education instruction are given a "Caught You Being Healthy" slip. This slip is entered into a weekly raffle and 5 students are awarded a prize that promotes physical activity. Prizes include jump ropes, bouncy balls and frisbees. Our goal at Glazier is to keep students moving, and fuel their bodies with nutritious foods so they can be the best possible student!

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Now that your children are back in school
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You work from your home. Call or email for information.

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Johnston *Elementary School*

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



Angela Togia
Principal

We're Proud, Roadrunners!

Johnston Roadrunners are constantly making us proud! The 2017-18 school year is off to great start! We had a 97 percent attendance rate for the first two days of school. The continuous collaboration by and dedication of our teachers has proven to be successful with our SBAC scores. In the last two years, our Roadrunners have increased 16 percent in English language arts and 22 percent in mathematics.

Not only are we proud of our students' academic abilities but also of their ability to display great character. Our students showed their caring hearts by making cards for the families in Texas dealing with Hurricane Harvey. Also, our community collected items, and one of our amazing former students delivered them to Texas. That former student's daughter made us extremely proud when she represented Johnston at the Norwalk City Council meeting and led the pledge of allegiance.



Malia Hernandez representing Johnston as she leads the pledge of allegiance at the September 5th Norwalk City Council Meeting.

We are definitely on the path to greatness here at Johnston!

Los Alisos *MS Math, Science, Technology Magnet*

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



Dr. Majid Salehi
Principal

Off to a Great Start

Los Alisos Middle School's WEB Students are off to a great start behind Ms. Dufresne and her amazing support staff. Eighth grade students were trained for two days in the summer to support the incoming 6th grade students. Further, on the day of the solar eclipse, the 8th grade students visited each 6th grade class to review "Eclipse Safety." The 6th grade teachers were so impressed by their positive attitude and productivity to support our Lobos. Thanks 8th grade WEB Leaders. You make Los Alisos PROUD!



Back to School Night was a great success at Los Alisos Middle School. Clubs and Associations provided information and food for our amazing parents and staff.

We reviewed our schoolwide goals and objectives for 2017-18 and reviewed information on Title 1 to a packed house.

La Mirada *High School*

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



Lisa Reed
Principal

Link Crew Welcomes the Class of 2021

Incoming Freshmen students were welcomed to La Mirada High School in August by 150 Link Crew Leaders. Link Crew, an organization designed to help students transition from the middle school to high school, provides 9th graders with an opportunity to make new friends and acquaint themselves with the LMHS campus. Freshmen orientation consists of an opening assembly comprised of games, and motivational speeches. Freshmen are then released to classrooms with their official Link Leader. For every 12 freshmen, 2 upper class men Link Leaders provide help

and guidance not only on the first day of school but the entire year. On orientation day, the Link Leaders get to know their freshmen through activities focusing on time management and interpersonal skills. Link Leaders are chosen through an application process which includes interviews and teacher recommendations. It is Link Crew's goal to make all freshmen feel welcome and infused with school spirit.



La Pluma *Elementary School*

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



Terry Pace
Principal

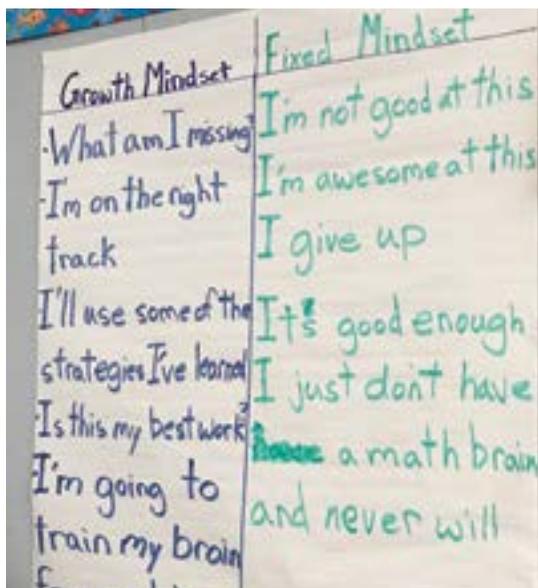
Believe, Achieve, Succeed

The La Pluma staff welcomed over 475 students to the 2017–2018 school year! Students arrived prepared, ready to learn, and will work towards excellence as we step out “On the Trail to New Adventures!”

We are committed to paving the path for career and college readiness by building a solid foundation in the area of literacy, mathematical thinking, and problem solving, and by developing students of character. Our path begins with our year-two

implementation of AVID Elementary. We are putting the systems in place school-wide to teach organizational skills. In every grade level our students are working on organizing their work areas as well as their tools and classroom resources.

Our fourth- and fifth-grade teachers are empowering students to organize their thinking through two-column note-taking strategies, as well as by team collaboration. Our students are engaged in goal setting as they learn to Believe, Achieve, and Succeed! Go, Panthers!



AVID is developing an “I can do it” mindset!

Lampton *Elementary School*

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



Cindy Rayburn
Principal

Three Ways to 'B'!

Lampton Elementary School has implemented two important positive-behavior and play supports. All students have learned Lampton's 3 B's: be respectful, be responsible and be safe. They've been explicitly taught and are reinforced throughout the campus. In the few short weeks that we've been in school, teachers and staff have already noticed increases in positive behavior across campus.

On the playground, Lampton is promoting positive and inclusive play. Our site recess coach, Coach Myles, works closely with a site coordinator, Coach Moore, to select and organize games and activities for students on the playground. These two coaches will conduct monthly classroom sessions to teach students the values of positive play through the games they set up for recess breaks. Junior Coaches have been selected from among fourth- and fifth-graders to assist Coach Myles and the recess staff by keeping games organized and running smoothly. Junior Coaches will also have monthly leadership training.



Lampton's New Junior Coaches

Los Coyotes

MS Centurion Honors and Medical/Forensics Magnet

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



Jacob Muñoz
Principal

Good Calls Home

Los Coyotes Middle School is both excited and proud to announce a new strategy that will celebrate student success. Our administrators will be making positive calls home on a weekly basis to the families of students recommended by our teaching staff. In collaboration with our teachers, Ms. Cammarata and

Mr. Muñoz will be placing calls home to speak to the families of our Centurion All-Star students! We are excited at what this can do to increase our positive culture, school wide. We believe that the good calls home will serve to motivate our students to achieve at an even higher rate. Major kudos to LCMS's illustrious Assistant Principal, Ms. Cammarata, for coming up with this brilliant idea.



LCMS celebrates student success on weekly basis

Moffitt *Elementary School*

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



Rachel Garcia
Principal

Off to a Great Start

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2017-18 school year! We are off to a great start at Moffitt Elementary and excited about the opportunities that this year will bring.

This year, we are focusing on attendance through our attendance campaign. We are reinforcing the importance of coming to school every day and on time with students and parents. One way that we're promoting attendance is through our "100% Attendance Today!" classroom banners.

Whenever a class has 100% student attendance, the classroom attendance banner is placed on the outside of the classroom door. This has been a great motivator for our students. Consistent school attendance and punctuality are essential for student success. If students aren't in school, they aren't learning.

We are looking forward to a year of EXCELLENCE at Moffitt Elementary!



Morrison *Elementary School*

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



Rudy Gonzalez
Principal

Stellar Solar Experience!

Julia B. Morrison Tigers are off to a roaring start! We are building lifelong learners daily by utilizing every tool possible. We were excited to use the eclipse on Monday, August 21, to teach students in a tangible, meaningful way.

Many Morrison classes were fortunate to view the fantastic, rarely seen solar eclipse. It was a day of science and excitement for us all! Several teachers purchased solar-viewing glasses for each student in their classes so that they could safely enjoy the spectacular solar event. Permission slips were collected for all participating students, and parents were encouraged to join in the fun.

After practicing safe viewing procedures inside their classrooms, students gathered outside for the eclipse. It was very rewarding to hear all the *ooohs* and

aaahs as the moon moved across the path of the sun.

Our Morrison community greatly benefitted from educational inspiration for reading, writing, math, science and art.



Mr. Gonzalez, Mrs. Edwards' Kindergarten students, and their parents use solar viewing glasses to watch the eclipse on August 21st.

New River *Elementary School*

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



David Hoffman
Principal

Keeping Connected

New River's Back to School event on August 30 was highlighted by a ribbon cutting ceremony for our new Parent Center.

In an effort to better support our families here at New River, we have turned an available classroom into a parent resource center with a welcoming environment. The room will serve as a meeting space for parent groups like the PTA and English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC), and will also play host to parent/adult education classes offered throughout the school year, such as CPR, financial advice, English language, etc.

We have and continue to invite local agencies to send us brochures and contact information which we can make readily available in the Parent Center. We have also provided three new internet wired desktop computers and a printer for our parents to use, particularly those families who do not have these resources at home.

We are thrilled to provide our New River families with a resource hub that will help connect them with the city of Norwalk and other outside agencies.



**New River Parent Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Principal David Hoffman, Norwalk Mayor Luigi Vernola,
Intervention TOSA Kim Chavez, School Board Member Jude Cazares,
Assistant Superintendent John Lopez**

Nuffer *Elementary School*

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



Makara Sar
Principal

Back to School Night Activities

John H. Nuffer had our first annual Back to School Night Fair on August 23, 2017. Our parents attended our Title 1, PTA and Principal's Message meetings before visiting their children's teacher. Afterwards, our parents, students and teachers enjoyed a delicious taco plate together. When dinner was all said and done our families had a chance to visit different information booths to find services that would help their children or themselves. Our information booths were manned by our community partners like Headstart, NLMUSD Adult School, City of Norwalk Recreation Dept., Cub Scouts and many more. Myrna Sotelo, a proud Nuffer parent, said "It was great bringing the Nuffer community together." We look forward to bringing our community closer together.



Norwalk *High School*

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



Mike Garcia
Principal

Getting in Gear

I am very excited to be starting my first year as principal of Norwalk High School, where great things are taking place!

I'm pleased to announce that our "L.A. Fame" pathway (visual and performing arts) has partnered with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and the producers of the play *Hamilton*. This partnership will allow 60 of our juniors to see the play in November at the Hollywood Pantages Theater. As a prerequisite, the students will work on linked projects involving the arts and history before they attend the event. The staff and students are super excited about this opportunity.



NHS Link Crew Leaders!

In August, we had a couple of hundred Link Crew leaders attend our LINK Crew Freshman Orientation. As a result of this orientation, our ninth-graders had a smooth first day at Norwalk High School. They were able to make connections with the older students that will help them throughout their freshman year.

Southeast Academy *High School*

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



MSgt. Marty Schafer
USMC, Director

Choose to Be Challenged

For Southeast Academy High School this 2017-2018 school year marks the start of our 18th year. What makes us unique, are the cadets who choose to be challenged in our school-wide Career and College Ready environment. Including staff, who collectively work together to ensure cadets are well served so they succeed in school, and ultimately in the college and career of their choice. Our daily morning homework inspections is an example of our proven approach to education that combines Career Technical Education and College-Focused Academic with

an intensive student support system. By centering around the Public Service Industry, learning in all classes become relevant and applicable. This all means nothing without proven results, we are proud of our continued 100% graduation rate including a recent \$3,000.00 check from our district for outstanding attendance. We are excited about what we have to offer cadets and their families we hope you are too!

Sanchez *Elementary School*

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



Alicia Rubio
Principal

Something New

Play keeps us healthy! So thank you school board, Henry Castro from our facilities team, and the other district departments who helped us add two new play structures to our playgrounds.

One structure was added to our kindergarten playground, which is appropriate for both our kindergarten students and our pre-kindergarteners with special needs. One of our kindergarten students even shared with us that he couldn't wait to come to school to play with the new structure. He still talks about how much fun he's having on it!



A second playground structure was added to the first- through fifth-grade playground. This structure is unlike any we've ever seen. The students love the variety in play that they're able to engage in.

These additions come at a perfect time, since we have been working hard at Sanchez to teach and encourage healthy play. Our students, parents, and staff members are really excited and grateful for these new additions.

Waite *MS Careers Magnet*

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



Dr. Susan Newcomb
Principal

Bringing Vision to Life!

Waite School staff revised our vision statement this summer to ensure that it captures our work motto: "Waite Middle School is a community committed to developing character, leadership, and academic excellence in ALL students."

With this vision guiding our work, we recently set about building a dynamic leadership program in partnership with Southeast Academy and Cal State Fullerton's ROTC program. Through the guidance of Waite science teacher Heather Crocker, intervention counselor Paul Castanos, and retired U.S. Army Ranger and former Waite student Ives Garcia, this zero-period class shapes student mindsets around physical and mental conditioning for success.

Seeing students build as individuals and in a team-based approach has been a powerful influence on our individual students, as well as the campus environment. Alongside support from current Southeast Academy students, this program is already building student leadership on our campus in a new direction.

We look forward to great results throughout the year. Please call to schedule a tour of this and other fantastic programs at Waite, at (562) 921-7981.



From Page 1 **President Board of Education**

encouraging interest in science, technology, engineering, math, language arts, and visual and performing arts.

We are also proud of our Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) programs, particularly at the middle school level, which help develop writing, critical thinking and other academic skills. And we value the many opportunities provided for our high school students to choose specific career pathways that range from computer science and business to medicine and education.

The opportunities for high schoolers also extend to the PSAT and SAT college entrance exams, which are offered by the district to students at no cost. It has always been exciting news — for the district and families — to hear every year that so many of our students have been admitted to top universities across the nation.

I am happy to report that by way of its role, the Board of Education continues to support the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified community by helping make certain the district is striving every day for operational and institutional excellence. The Board is especially committed to the goal that students, teachers, staff members and administrators will be encouraged to reach the highest levels of achievement in their studies and professions.

And likewise, the Board remains committed to expanding parent involvement and partnerships across the district — and working closely with all stakeholders to help create an engaging and responsive climate and culture at all of our wonderful campuses.



From Page 1 • **Presidente de la Junta de Educación**

programas han hecho un gran trabajo en construir fundaciones y alentar el interés en ciencia, tecnología, ingeniería, matemáticas, lenguaje y literatura, y artes visuales y escénicas.

También estamos orgullosos de nuestros programas de Avance A Través de la Determinación Individual (AVID, por sus siglas en inglés), particularmente al nivel de la escuela intermedia, que ayudan a desarrollar la escritura, el pensamiento crítico y otras habilidades académicas. Y valoramos las muchas oportunidades proporcionadas para que nuestros estudiantes de secundaria elijan caminos de carreras específicos que van desde informática y negocio hasta medicina y educación.

Las oportunidades para los estudiantes de secundaria también se extienden a los exámenes PSAT y SAT para ingresar a la universidad, que se ofrecen a los estudiantes por el distrito sin costo alguno. Siempre ha sido una noticia emocionante - para el distrito y las familias - escuchar cada año que tantos de nuestros estudiantes han sido admitidos en las mejores universidades de todo el país.

Me complace informar que, por medio de este rol, la Junta de Educación continúa apoyando a la comunidad de Norwalk-La Mirada Unificado al ayudar a asegurar que el distrito se esfuerce todos los días por la excelencia operativa e institucional. La Junta está especialmente comprometida con el objetivo de que estudiantes, maestros, miembros del personal y administradores sean alentados a alcanzar los niveles más altos de logros en sus estudios y profesiones.

Y asimismo, la Junta sigue comprometida a expandir la participación de los padres y las asociaciones a través de todo el distrito- y trabajar en estrecha colaboración con todas las partes interesadas para ayudar a crear un entorno y una cultura motivadora en todos nuestros maravillosos campus.

SUPERINTENDENT • *From Page 1*



Dr. Hasmik Danielian
Superintendent

resources our students need in order to become future ready.

On behalf of the Board of Education, I salute you for “Embracing Excellence In All We Do”, and wish you a most wonderful and productive 2017-18 school year. Go team!

debemos crear las condiciones para convertirnos en aprendices líderes y fomentar un entorno enfocado en la colaboración, trabajo en equipo eficaz, y diálogos basados en datos.

Sepa que la equidad está en el corazón de todo lo que hacemos para estar seguros de que proporcionamos el apoyo y los recursos que nuestros estudiantes necesitan para poder estar listos para el futuro.

En nombre de la Junta de Educación, te doy homenaje por “Adoptar la Excelencia en Todo lo Que Hacemos”, y te deseo un año escolar 2017-18 de lo más maravilloso y productivo. ¡Vamos equipo!

TEACHERS • *From Page 1*

were able to attend workshops to build their technology skills and “explore” the use of digital tools to improve teaching and learning.

Teachers chose from over 60 workshops over the two days, ranging from device basics to advanced technology applications. Workshops were taught by experienced Norwalk-La Mirada teachers who piloted technology integration in their classrooms over the past several years. Through these workshops, teachers learned how to prepare their teaching to best support students. Workshops included:

- Helping students use Google Docs to create collaborative documents
- Creating online quizzes, tests, and assignments with Schoology
- Teaching students to be safe online with Common Sense Media
- Creating engaging presentations using Keynote and Powerpoint
- Empowering student voice by supporting creativity

2020 Learning is guided by our district vision which calls for personalizing learning opportunities for all students. Our teachers were able to experience personalized support, and developed individualized growth goals for this school year. Teachers will receive resources and support in meeting these goals through ongoing professional development and coaching. Our teachers are looking forward to using these technology tools to help EVERY student find success in and outside of school.

LOS MAESTROS • *From Page 1*

adaptarse a los horarios del verano de los maestros, hubieron dos “Cumbres de Aprendizaje Mezcladas”; uno en junio en la Escuela Preparatoria Southeast Academy y el otro en agosto en la Escuela Preparatoria John Glenn. Durante los dos días de cumbres, los maestros pudieron asistir a talleres para desarrollar sus habilidades tecnológicas y “explorar” el uso de herramientas digitales para mejorar la enseñanza y el aprendizaje.

Los maestros escogieron entre más de 60 talleres durante los dos días, desde lo básico de aparatos hasta las aplicaciones de tecnología avanzada. Los talleres fueron dados por maestros experimentados de Norwalk-La Mirada quienes pilotaron la integración tecnológica en sus salones de clase durante los últimos años. A través de estos talleres, los maestros aprendieron a preparar su enseñanza para apoyar mejor a los estudiantes. Los talleres incluyeron:

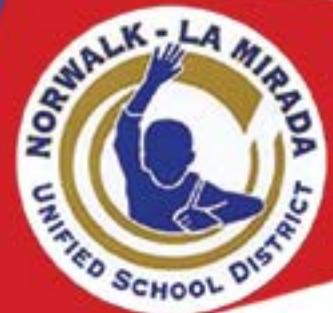
- Ayudando a los estudiantes a utilizar Google Docs para crear documentos colaborativos
- Creando pruebas, exámenes, y asignaciones en línea con Schoology
- Enseñando a los estudiantes a estar seguros en línea con Medios de Comunicación de Sentido Común
- Creando presentaciones atractivas utilizando Keynote y Powerpoint
- Fortaleciendo la voz de los estudiantes al apoyar la creatividad

El aprendizaje 2020 está guiado por la visión de nuestro distrito que pide personalizar las oportunidades de aprendizaje para todos los estudiantes. Nuestros maestros fueron capaces de experimentar apoyo personalizado, y desarrollaron metas de crecimiento individualizadas para este año escolar. Los maestros recibirán recursos y apoyo para alcanzar estas metas por medio de desarrollo profesional continuo y adiestramiento. Nuestros maestros están esperando con gusto utilizar estas herramientas tecnológicas para ayudar a CADA estudiante a encontrar éxito dentro y fuera de la escuela.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 18, 2017

**WEDNESDAY
6-8PM**



Come meet and interact with representatives from over 50 Colleges!

COLLEGE EXPO '17

Along with information booths, workshops will focus on:

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- NCAA Eligibility
- University Admissions
- Alumni Q & A



Location:

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NORWALK, CA 90650**

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