

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Tustin Unified School District



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Best of the Best – 2018 Teachers of the Year



W.R. Nelson Elementary School fourth-grade teacher Carrie Murillo (top photo) and Tustin High School AVID teacher Joanna Vandal are TUSD's Teachers of the Year and will represent the District at the Orange County Teachers of the Year Program. Please see story on page 5.



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Is College a Good Investment?



Gregory A. Franklin, Ed.D.
Superintendent

In Touch with TUSD

There has been a great deal of media attention on the soaring cost of college tuition, the increase in student debt and defaults on student loans, and the lack of jobs for recent college graduates. This media coverage begs the question “Is college a good financial investment?” The short answer is YES!

On average, four-year degree completers will earn \$1 million more in their lifetime than high school diploma earners. In addition, four-year degree completers are:

- 47% more likely to have health insurance through their employer
- 72% more likely to have retirement benefits through their employer
- 21% more likely to be married; and
- 44% more likely to report that they are in very good to excellent health

There are many factors for students and their families to consider when planning their post-secondary options (such as two-year vs four-year program, public, private, or for-profit schools, and majors), but the data is clear. College completers (two-year or four-year) are far more successful than people who only have a high school diploma, or some college without a degree.

That is why Tustin Unified will continue to strive to provide all students with a rigorous K-12 experience. Upon leaving TUSD students should have as many post-secondary options open to them as possible, and then they can pick the path that best suits their interests, goals and desires. Thank you for your role in ensuring that TUSD students thrive now, and in their future!

Go TUSD!

Climate Change Summit

Columbus Tustin Middle School’s Science Department sponsored its first Climate Change Summit on March 8 in the school’s Activity Center. Over 200 sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students from the Columbus Tustin Magnet program participated in the event, according to science/STEAM Magnet teacher Jacque Cunningham George.

“Our students began the school year studying climate and weather,” Cunningham George said. “Their capstone projects addressed current natural disasters around the world and human impact connected to these disasters,” Cunningham George said.



Columbus Tustin Magnet student James Wankel poses with his “Solar is a Bright Idea!” project at the Climate Change Summit.

The student scientists gathered information and offered solutions to help minimize human impact on the environment. Their final projects were presented at the Climate Change Summit.

A variety of activities took place during the summit, including student presentations and projects, plant-based recipe books, water filtration filling station and solutions for reducing the carbon footprint.



Mark Eliot

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Spring is here and students are focused on their year end goals.

This is also the time of year the Teachers of the Year are honored. We would like to thank all teachers for their dedication to education.

Our next issue is June 6.

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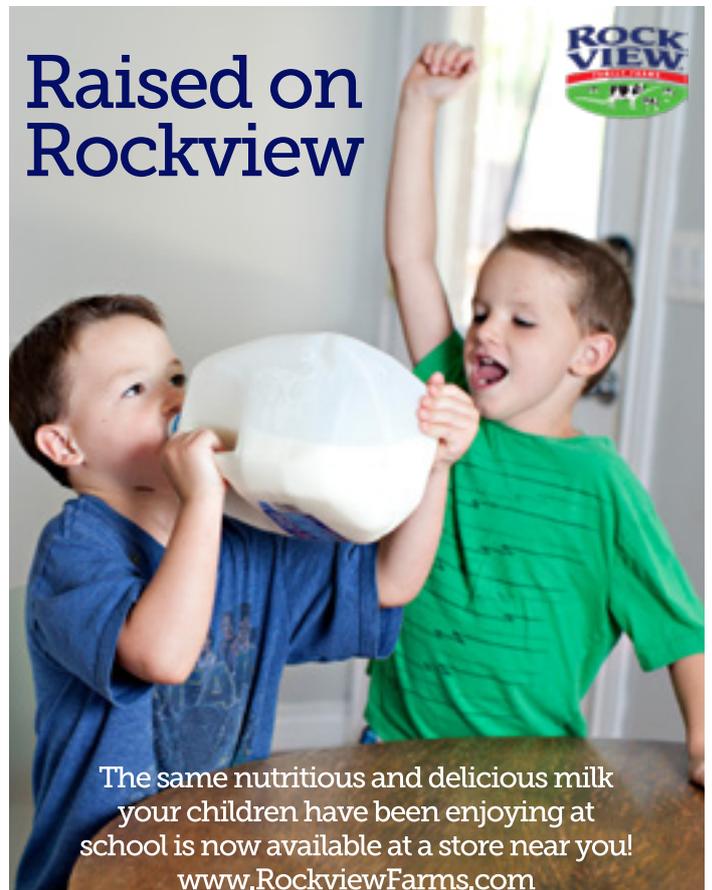
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TUSD Announces 2018 Teachers of the Year



Nelson Elementary School fourth-grade teacher Carrie Murillo is joined by Superintendent Dr. Gregory Franklin (left) and TUSD Board of Education members Lynn Davis and Jonathan Abelove following the surprise announcement in the courtyard at the school.



Tustin High School AVID teacher Joanna Vandal, center, is congratulated by Tustin Public Schools Foundation Executive Director Carol Burby Garrett and TSPF Board Member Margie Sepulveda during the surprise announcement in Vandal's classroom.

*By Mark Eliot
Director of Communications and Public Information
Tustin Unified School District*

Carrie Murillo, fourth-grade teacher at W.R. Nelson Elementary School, and Joanna Vandal, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) teacher at Tustin High School, have been selected as the 2018 Teachers of the Year by the Tustin Unified School District. They will represent the District in the 2018-19 Orange County Teachers of the Year program.

The Orange County Department of Education will interview the selected candidates and announce winners in May. The county finalists will then go on to the California and National Teacher of the Year programs.

Tustin Unified's annual awards program recognizes outstanding teachers who have displayed extraordinary teaching, creativity and excellence at their school and community.

Murillo and Vandal were chosen from a field of 28 candidates. Additionally, Murillo was named Elementary (grades K-5) Teacher of the Year and Vandal was selected as Secondary (grades 6-12) Teacher of the Year.

Murillo has taught in public education for 14 years – four in Tustin Unified. Besides teaching fourth grade at Nelson, she is Student Council coordinator, Read Across America coordinator, grade-level lead teacher, Master Teacher and TUSD Summer Institute Professional Development facilitator for teachers.

Murillo readily takes on additional projects and always takes them to the next level. For this year's Read Across America Day, she reached out to the Tustin High School Drama Department and asked the drama students to perform skits based on Dr. Seuss stories for Nelson students.

Each spring, Murillo teaches her students the art of square dancing, including the Buffalo Gals, The Virginia Reel and Square Dance Fair. Additionally, her former students return to help teach the dance steps to the current students.

Murillo and her students are involved in many community service projects. They participate in an African Pen Pal Project writing letters to orphaned and abandoned children at the Treasures of Africa Children's Home in Tanzania, East Africa. The class also raises funds for Canine Companions for Independence, which provides therapy dogs free of charge for adults, children and veterans with disabilities.

"I want my students to learn that from a young age they can make a positive impact not only in our city, but also across the globe," Murillo said.

This year Murillo empowered Nelson's student leadership team to launch a schoolwide Kindness Campaign. Student leaders created a kindness banner "Hall of Fame" where Nelson students posted random acts of kindness and used Flipgrid to upload videos detailing acts of kindness at home or at school. Teachers award students who demonstrate kindness with "#Be Kind" T-Shirts and hats.

"Being a teacher is part of who I am," Murillo said. "Instilling a sense of confidence and love of learning is what I treasure. It is igniting that spark within each child so that they can grow and reach their full potential."

Joanna Vandal has taught in public education for 24 years – all at Tustin High School. Over the years, she has taught AVID, English, Leadership, cheer/athletics, English Language Development and science at the school.

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Arroyo *Elementary School*

11112 Coronel Rd., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/730-7381



Katy Sheyka
Principal

Going Strong and Making a Difference

Arroyo School is very proud to recognize Tara McHugh as our Teacher of the Year! Currently a third-grade teacher, Mrs. McHugh has been motivating and empowering children for over 24 years.

Mrs. McHugh is a most talented, dedicated, and compassionate teacher. She inspires her colleagues by sharing her ideas and materials, and her positive attitude and incredible smile are contagious. She is a consummate team player who will pitch in to assist as needed on a moment's notice.

Mrs. McHugh cares deeply not only about her local community, but about her global community as well. Each year Mrs. McHugh runs a schoolwide Dollar Drive for Haiti, where she and her students rally together to raise money to feed families who otherwise would go hungry.

Mrs. McHugh makes learning fun! She is a true Mustang Strong teacher who shows strength of mind, character, and body every day in every way!



Arroyo Teacher of the Year Tara McHugh and her husband, Roger, celebrate at a Friday Flag Ceremony.

Arnold O. Beckman *High School*

3588 Bryan Ave., Irvine, CA 92602 • 714/734-2900



Dr. Donnie Rafter
Principal

Dedicated to Science Education

Beckman High School would like to congratulate Tracy Scott for being named our 2018 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Scott is a dedicated science teacher who is committed to her students' success. She works tirelessly for and with students, regardless of language proficiency, academic readiness, and special needs.

Tracy has been a constant advocate for her subject and her students. From year to year, she is always looking for ways to make her content more engaging and more memorable for her students. Whether it's field trips to the wetlands or whale watching in Newport Beach, she is always working to find real-life experiences for her students. Mrs. Scott also collaborates with other teachers across discipline boundaries, both within the sciences and in other departments. She incorporates available technology with all levels of students and is constantly sharing her ideas and discoveries with others.

Congratulations to Tracy Scott, Beckman High School's 2018 Teacher of the Year!



Beckman teachers Kristen Hammer, left, and Joy Havrisik, right, celebrate with the school's Teacher of the Year Tracy Scott, center.

Barbara Benson *Elementary School*

12712 Elizabeth Way, Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7531



Jackie Christy
Principal

Planting Seeds for Student Success

Our Benson Elementary School Teacher of the Year is Jenny Onstott, who is an exemplary teacher of students with special needs. She is patient, compassionate, and caring, and also maintains high expectations for her students.

Mrs. Onstott works collaboratively with her special education team to meet the diverse needs of each of her students. She is constantly seeking new ideas, methods, materials, and curriculum to help challenge her students. She has also worked closely with our speech and language pathologist to teach her students the kind of technological skills that can enable them to have easier access to communication anytime and anywhere.



Benson 2018 Teacher of the Year Jenny Onstott receives flowers from her husband and daughters.

In addition to everything she does in the classroom, Mrs. Onstott is also in charge of our Benson Garden. She organizes garden clean-up days and schedules the times for our classes to visit and work in the garden. We are so proud that Mrs. Onstott is Benson's 2018 Teacher of the Year!



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Benjamin Beswick *Elementary School*

1362 Mitchell Ave., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7385



Stephanie Yang
Principal

Leading Student Success

Tracy Long-Brillhart is our Specialized Academic Instruction (SAI) extraordinaire, and Benjamin Beswick Elementary School's Teacher of the Year for 2018!

Tracy goes above and beyond the call of duty to help ensure that our whole school community is coming together to support each

child. She leads our Student Success Team, supports over 40 students in grades K–5, and coordinates meetings with our parents and teachers to help develop strong learning paths for every student. She is also collaborative, resourceful, and always willing to share her strategies with any team member.

Tracy is a life-long learner who continually seeks best practices to positively impact all students. She engages in learning advancement along with her colleagues, which allows her

to build a strong program that is connected to our school-wide efforts. Tracy also supports our TUSD Induction program by coaching and supporting new teachers. She approaches every aspect of her role as an SAI with style, and is known for approaching every problem with a solution-driven approach and positivity. Congratulations, Tracy!



Beswick teacher Tracy Long-Brillhart celebrating her nomination with all of her amazing students.

A.G. Currie *Middle School*

1402 Sycamore Ave., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7360



Erick Fineberg
Principal

Dancing with...Ms. Bruley!

Currie is proud to recognize Brittany Bruley as our 2018 Teacher of the Year. Ms. Bruley, aka Superwoman, wears many hats at Currie. She teaches drama, coaches the Pentathlon Team, supports our writers in the prestigious Anti-Defamation League/Chapman

University: Bearing Witness Competition, teaches CORE 7, and runs multiple plays throughout the year.

In addition, Ms. Bruley is a professional Irish Dancer and uses her prowess on the dance floor to connect with her students. She can be found engaged in dance-offs with her students. She is super-competitive and rarely loses a match.

Both in and out of the classroom, Ms. Bruley knows what is possible for her students and

sees them for who they are and what they could be. She is passionate about their success and is an inspiration to both her students and colleagues.

Ms. Bruley has boundless energy, and Currie is a better school and place as a result of her work.



Currie teacher Brittany Bruley poses with her actors as they wrap up another successful performance.

Helen Estock *Elementary School*

14741 North B St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7390



Wendy Hudson
Principal

Inspiring Students to Achieve

Estock Elementary School recently surprised Jen Sandland at our flag salute with the announcement that she is our Teacher of the Year for 2018! Ms. Sandland is an outstanding teacher, and she has inspired students within Tustin Unified School

District since 2004. At Estock, she was instrumental in helping to establish our collaboratory as a space to house our impressive collection of technology materials. Not only does she serve as our resident consultant for purchases, she also trains scores of students and teachers to use the space to its fullest capacity.

Ms. Sandland establishes her mission each day to make learning magical for the children entrusted to her care. She is driven to ensure

that her students have unique learning experiences, and she strives to find ways to help close the “exposure gap” for those students with limited enrichment opportunities.

Congratulations, Ms. Sandland! Estock is proud of your accomplishments!



Estock teacher Jen Sandland and her fourth- and fifth-grade students love the Collaboratory.

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Columbus Tustin *Middle School*

17952 Beneta Way, Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7352



Maggie Burdette
Principal

A Genuine Innovator

Columbus Tustin Middle School is proud to announce that Barbara Stachelski is our 2018 Teacher of the Year! Ms. Stachelski is an innovative special education teacher who infuses science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics in her classes every day. She is always looking for ways to grow as a professional and bring new ideas into her classroom to challenge and encourage her students.

Ms. Stachelski has written and received numerous grants to help get students excited about learning. These include building a school garden, installing a weather station, and collaborating with astronomers and programmers to teach students how to take pictures of distant galaxies through the Junior SkyNet Telescope system. She goes above and beyond every day to make Columbus Tustin an incredible place for students and staff.

Congratulations, Ms. Stachelski, on this well-deserved honor!



Principal Maggie Burdette congratulates Barbara Stachelski, left, on being selected as the Columbus Tustin Teacher of the Year.

Foothill *High School*

19251 Dodge Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/ 730-7464



Dr. Michael Williams
Principal

A Knight in Shining Armor

Teaching has been a lifelong passion and family “business” for the Waibels. Growing up in the TUSD, David Waibel is a product both by blood and by nurture of some amazing teachers!

An alumnus of Foothill, David works tirelessly as a classroom teacher, a member of the leadership team, and, perhaps most importantly, as one of the key influences of student culture on

campus.

He logs countless hours outside of the regular school day to encourage positive student participation at sporting and other events, while also guiding our student leaders towards the kind of activities that can have a positive impact on the Foothill community. David has our students’ best interests at heart, and is a strong source of support to all of those who interact with him through his classes, clubs, and activities.

We are grateful that David Waibel is “Our Knight,” and are honored to have him represent Foothill High School as our 2018 Teacher of the Year!



World history teacher, ASB and Activities Director David Waibel stands proudly as a Foothill Knight.

Guin Foss *Elementary School*

18492 Vanderlip Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/730-7552



Ray Hernandez
Principal

Above and Beyond

Guin Foss Elementary School 2018 Teacher of the Year Kendal Dudley's lead-by-example attitude has won over the hearts of her peers. She has been a reliable and consistent team player at Guin Foss. She is someone who

is known to go above and beyond the

call of duty with both her time and money. Without her efforts, some of the programs that exist on campus would not be possible.

Ms. Dudley is an active part of the school's leadership team and has led the school to the highest Dinosaur Dash participation rate to date. Regarding instruction, Ms. Dudley is always proactive in seeking professional-development opportunities

and in implementing new pedagogy to further support her students. But Ms. Dudley doesn't only support her students—she also makes herself available and always opens her doors to support student-inclusion efforts on campus.

The Guin Foss staff and community are proud to honor Kendal Dudley this year as one of Guin Foss' finest!



After reading the book *Wonder*, Kendal Dudley and some of her students met to watch the movie release.

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Robert Heideman *Elementary School*

15571 Williams St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7521



Sean Lindsay
Principal

Standing Up for Student Learning

It goes without saying that a great teacher means a great deal to a great many people. This is definitely true of Robert Heideman

Elementary School's 2018 Teacher of the Year, Robyn Barnum. Robyn has served as Heideman's Specialized Academic Instruction teacher since

2013, and her distinguished work on behalf of students and their families is equaled only by her granite-like support of the entire learning community in a variety of roles.

Volunteering on a school field trip, Robyn first discovered her affinity for education, and she began to imagine a career of serving special needs students. She started volunteering in the classroom regularly and researching a path as a Special Education teacher.

She doggedly pursues effective instructional strategies to meet the

diverse learning styles of each of her students. She is a fierce advocate for the success of her students and of Heideman.

We tip our hats to you, Robyn!



Heideman teacher Robyn Barnum coaches her student Nathan on applying reading strategies.

Heritage *Elementary STEAM Magnet School*

15400 Lansdowne Rd, Tustin, CA 92782 • 714/730-7339



Beth Rabel Blackman
Principal

Innovative Teacher Loves Learning

Heritage Elementary is proud to announce that second-grade teacher Felisa Gibbs is our Teacher of the Year. Felisa exemplifies the #WeareTUSD initiative. She is innovative, dedicated, caring, talented, and she gets things done!

Felisa teaches professional development, leads her professional learning community, and is a passionate leader on campus. She models risk-taking to her students and her colleagues. She also loves to learn, and is actively pursuing learning all the time. She enjoys delving into new teaching methods and subject matter.

Felisa also reaches out to community partners both near and far to help build a robust science curriculum for her students. She is currently creating a groundbreaking project-based learning curriculum that will engage children in science, engineering, and technology.

Felisa is a leader on campus, and supports all of her colleagues and staff members as they pursue their own professional learning. We are proud to have Mrs. Gibbs on the Heritage team!



Felisa Gibbs, Heritage's Teacher of the Year, is surprised by her children and husband during a recent flag ceremony.

Hewes Middle School

13232 Hewes Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/730-7348



Eric Kilian
Principal

Enriching the Lives of Her Students

Hewes Middle School proudly announces our 2018 Teacher of the Year, Grace Bibona. She works as a specialized academic instructor, and she is responsible for creating enriching learning opportunities for students throughout the Hewes campus. However, if you

ask the students what Mrs. Bibona's job is, they will likely call her their "school mom."

Mrs. Bibona acquired this affectionate title because she continually goes beyond her responsibilities as a teacher. She can be seen flying around campus, moving swiftly from room to room to ensure that she is supporting all students in all areas of education. Furthermore, if you look for her before school, during lunch, or well after the sun sets, you will usually find her working with students.

Mrs. Bibona's personal motto is "Every student will be successful," and she represents this motto in everything she does. Her commitment is displayed in her dedication to the students, the staff, and the vision of Hewes School.



Grace Bibona's students celebrating her recognition as Hewes Teacher of the Year.

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Hicks Canyon *Elementary School*

3817 Viewpark Ave., Irvine, CA 92602 • 714/734-1878



Deena Vela
Principal

A Legacy in Education

Hicks Canyon Elementary School (HCE) is proud to announce Kristin Bailey as our 2018 Teacher of the Year! Mrs. Bailey is a fourth-grade teacher and has taught at Hicks Canyon since the school opened in 2004. She is a veteran teacher who has taught for 25 years.

Kristin truly admired her grandmother and did move forward with her dream of becoming a teacher.

Mrs. Bailey will also leave a legacy at Hicks Canyon. She had a vision of showing our school community and unity through grade-level, colored T-shirts. This tradition will live on at HCE because of Kristin's determination and "can do" attitude.

Kristin is a valuable member of our Hicks Canyon team!

Mrs. Bailey says her family's influence is what guided her to become a teacher. Her grandmother taught in a one-room schoolhouse in rural Nebraska during the early 1910s. Mrs. Bailey remembers her grandmother telling her to go forward with her dreams.



Hicks Canyon's Teacher of the Year Kristin Bailey celebrates with her fourth-grade class.

Hillview *High School*

1151 San Juan St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7356



Tim O'Donoghue
Principal

Having the Right Attitude

Hillview High School is proud to announce Judy Watts as its Teacher of the Year, and Mari Aviles as its Classified School Employee of the Year.

Ms. Watts has been a teacher for 27 years, with 20 of those at Hillview. She currently teaches English 3 and music appreciation. Ms.

Schools. For 11 years she also served as discipline secretary at Beckman High School. "Family is everything" to Mari!

Watts works diligently to ensure that each student has the best chance to graduate.

Prior to working in education, she served as legislative aide to U.S. Senator Paul Simon. She enjoys spending time with her three Beagles and score-keeping for her son's baseball team.

For the past two years Mrs. Aviles has done a fantastic job as our school secretary. Everyone appreciates Mari's positive and caring attitude!

Mari began working for the TUSD in 1996 as community liaison for Robert Heideman and Marjorie Veeh Elementary



Hillview salutes 2018 employees of the year, Mari Aviles and Judy Watts.

Ladera *Elementary School*

2515 Rawlings Way, Tustin, CA 92782 • 714/730-7505



Dr. Jennifer Harrison
Principal

Creating Engaging Classrooms

Ladera is pleased to announce and recognize our 2018 Teacher of the Year, Megan Donovan! With 13 years of experience, this fifth-grade teacher has developed a wide range of skills that allow her to create a classroom that is both inclusive and engaging. She works diligently with her grade-level colleague and special-education

team to ensure that she delivers the highest-quality educational program.

When asking her special-education colleagues what most impresses them about Mrs. Donovan, the most commonly shared characteristic was how she openly and willingly includes all students in her classroom. Mrs. Donovan serves on our site STEAM Team, establishing our new STEAM Lab and developing schoolwide curriculum. She is our site rep for the district's technology task force, and she coaches the fourth- and fifth-grade Robotics Team, giving up her lunch and

after-school time to meet with the students.

Mrs. Donovan is an all-around gem and an amazing representative for Ladera!



Principal Dr. Jennifer Harrison and PTO President Judy Clark congratulate Ladera Teacher of the Year Megan Donovan, center.

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Loma Vista *Elementary School*

13822 Prospect Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/730-7528



Ray of Sunshine

Loma Vista is thrilled to honor our 2018 Teacher of the Year, Kalleen Yeaw! Mrs. Yeaw is a third-grade teacher who has been teaching for 29 years— at

Loma Vista for 20 years! In that time, she has made an amazing impact on students and our school community.

Mrs. Yeaw truly lives her mantra, “By ourselves we are good, but together we are better!” She is a fixture on the Loma Vista campus and is known for her compassion and willingness to contribute and participate in anything that is needed. Not only is



Kalleen Yeaw is Loma Vista’s 2018 Teacher of the Year.

she an informed, driven educator with a strong foundation in pedagogy and instruction but her dedication to all of the students at Loma Vista is also truly inspiring. No matter what is happening throughout the day, Mrs. Yeaw always has a smile and a kind word for everyone she encounters. Staff and students describe her as a “breath of fresh air” and a “ray of sunshine you can always count on.” Her positive outlook and willingness to help any colleague or student is inspirational to all!

Thanks and congratulations to Kalleen Yeaw!

Myford *Elementary School*

3181 Trevino Dr., Irvine, CA 92602 • 714/734-1875



Valuing Every Child’s Potential

If you’ve ever had the pleasure of meeting Myford Elementary School’s Teacher of the Year, Anita Beres, you will never forget her! Anita teaches first grade and is the epitome of passionate. She approaches everything with 100-percent energy and commitment. She believes in the unique value of every child, and she

strives to bring out their personal best.

Anita is honest with her students and admits that sometimes learning new things can be a challenge. She then demonstrates this in her own life by putting in the time and effort to learn best teaching practices and find ways to improve her instruction. This grit is what makes her an excellent teacher. She is relentless when it comes to her own learning and that of her students.

Anita’s colleagues admire her dedication and her endless school spirit. The Tustin Public Schools Foundation’s Dinosaur Dash is one of her favorite events, and she gets everyone in our school involved.

We are so excited to celebrate Anita!



Myford 2018 Teacher of the Year Anita Beres gets ready to bring out the best in her first-grade students.

W.R. Nelson *Elementary School*

14392 Browning Ave., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7536

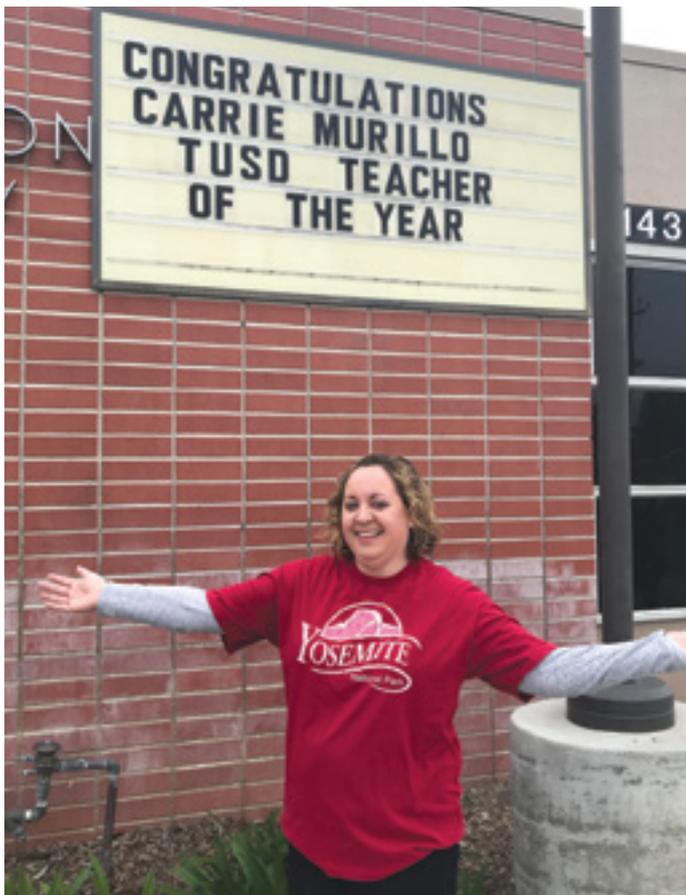


Melinda Smith
Principal

Leading Classroom Innovation

Nelson Elementary is pleased to announce that Carrie Murillo is our 2018 Teacher of the Year and Tustin Unified Teacher of the Year! Ms. Murillo, a fourth-grade teacher, has been teaching at Nelson for four years. She currently co-runs Student Leadership and is on the Read Across America Team.

As a former Connect Fellow, Ms. Murillo leads innovation efforts to maximize efficacy and student achievement. She collaborates with colleagues, parents and her students to build capacity. She is on the forefront of purposefully integrated technology, which has transformed the curriculum especially for our second-language-learner population. Her dedication is constant in all that she does.



Carrie Murillo represents Nelson Elementary School and Tustin Unified as this year's Teacher of the Year.

Nelson Elementary is so fortunate to have teachers who care and inspire, and who diligently work with student success in mind. Carrie Murillo is one of these very special teachers, and we are all very proud to celebrate her as she represents Tustin Unified.

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Orchard Hills School

11555 Culver Dr., Irvine, CA 92602 • 714/730-2078



Cindy Agopian
Principal

Sharing the Love of Learning

Orchard Hills School Teacher of the Year

Kristen Paulson loves to learn. After an 18-year career in the arts, Ms. Paulson made the move to education. A life-changing visit to Nairobi's slums in Kenya, convinced her that she was being called to a new career where she could

make a difference in children's lives through education. She has always had a heart for education, and the role it plays in breaking the cycle of poverty, both in developing countries abroad and at home in her own communities. Her leadership in non-profit organizations allows her to pursue her passion of helping meet the needs of women and children living in poverty worldwide. Continuing her education keeps her alert and focused to the ever-changing trends in educational best practices. She has participated in the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia

University for three years. Ms. Paulson recognizes that she can always be better at what she does and she hopes to model and share the love of learning with her students.



Orchard Hills eighth-grade Honors Core teacher Kristen Paulson celebrates Teacher of the Year honor with her students.

Peters Canyon Elementary School

26900 Peters Canyon Rd., Tustin, CA 92782 • 714/730-7540



Brooke Carreras
Principal

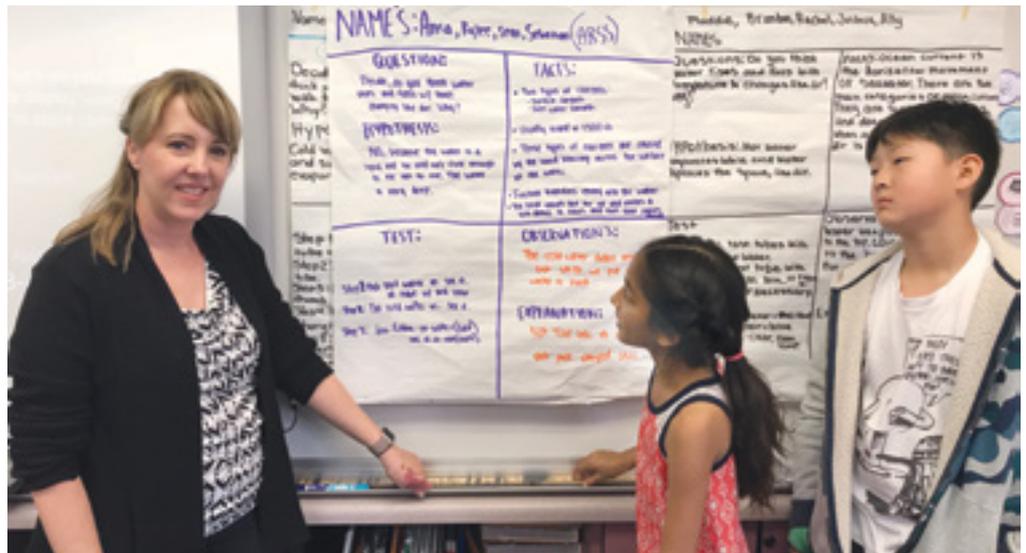
Inspiring Young Scientists

The "2018 Teacher of the Year" representing Peters Canyon Elementary School is Tiffany McMillan. She has taught at Peters Canyon for 12 years, and is currently

teaching fifth grade. Tiffany coaches robotics, and has taken teams to the

TUSD Robotics competition for the last three years. Her knack for creativity made her the perfect person to spearhead the creation of a MakerSpace in the upper grade hallway at Peters Canyon. Outside of school, Tiffany keeps busy by taking Martial Arts classes, and is currently working to earn her yellow belt. If she's not busy planning her daughter's wedding, you might find her playing with her pet

snakes, traveling to exotic places like Sweden, or building furniture for her classroom. What motivates Tiffany most as a teacher is not imparting new knowledge, but rather helping students discover their own joy of learning. Congratulations, Ms. McMillan!



Peters Canyon Teacher of the Year Tiffany McMillan reviews a science lesson with fifth-graders Alisa Mehta and Sean Kim.

Pioneer *Middle School*

2700 Pioneer Rd., Tustin, CA 92782 • 714/730-7534



Tracey Vander Hayden
Principal

Guiding Students to Excellence

Pioneer School life science and Project Lead the Way (PLTW) teacher David Bowers is a consummate professional. He is always seeking opportunities to strengthen his pedagogy and increase the engagement of his students. He is a self-learner. The cornerstone of Mr. Bowers' teaching philosophy stems from his own personal journey as a father, grandson, student, and educator. His daily goal of providing a classroom where students feel a sense of academic purpose, while also having a place where they know someone cares, is met each and every day. Connectivity is key to the success of middle school students and



Pioneer Middle School honored 2018 Teacher of the Year David Bowers for his commitment to students.

Mr. Bowers' commitment to ensure this happens is evident through his high degree of empathy. Mr. Bowers exemplifies the educational field of study by listening, inspiring, and guiding our students to excellence. He never gives up; failure is truly not an option!



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Contest!

This girl is hidden somewhere in this publication. When you find her, email the **page number** to:
Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
Please put TUSD in the subject line



Entries must be received by May 5, 2018
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!

Congratulations to
Myles Bentley (Word Search)
Tatiana & Natalie Huante (Seek 'n Find)
Winners of our February Contests!

Red Hill *Elementary School*

11911 Red Hill Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/730-7543



Will Neddersen
Principal

Rocketing to Success

Debbie Ludes is Red Hill Elementary School's Teacher of the Year for 2018. Mrs. Ludes teaches first grade and has been a part of the Red Hill staff for six years. She was nominated by her peers for her willingness to support students and staff throughout campus.

This support starts in Mrs. Ludes' classroom as she builds an environment where all of her students know that anything is possible when they take risks and show grit. She is dedicated to building every student's reading skills and boosting their love of reading. She continually models lifelong learning for her students, as she brings in other students and staff members to teach her and her students how to use various technology tools and new strategies.

Mrs. Ludes is also involved with our Rocket Reinforcers, who work to encourage students to follow our 3Rs: Respectful, Responsible and building Relationships. Congratulations, Mrs. Ludes!



Red Hill Teacher of the Year Debbie Ludes celebrates with her students.

Jeane Thorman *Elementary School*

1402 Sycamore Ave., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7364



Deanna Parks
Principal

Teaching from the Heart

If you look back at the qualities of your favorite teacher, compassion would most likely be one of the characteristics you think of first. Our Thorman Elementary School 2018 Teacher of the Year is Nancy Stretz, and she has an incredible sense of compassion that she shares with each student.

Ms. Stretz focuses on the whole child and what they need academically, socially, and emotionally. She knows each of her students well, and likes to include their own passions in her planning and motivational strategies.

Ms. Stretz also walks the walk. Her empathy for volunteer work with a non-profit includes supporting teenage mothers and their children. She is inspired by the relationships that she has built with these young moms, and eagerly supports and encourages them to become self-sufficient role models to their children.

Woven throughout Ms. Stretz's life is the strong, compassionate outlook she gives to her students, family, friends, and colleagues. We are proud to honor kindergarten teacher Nancy Stretz for both the work that she does and who she is.



Thorman Teacher of the Year Nancy Stretz shares the special moment with her family and students.

Tustin Adult School

1151 San Juan St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7395



Dr. Dustin O'Malley
Coordinator

Let's Talk!

What do career-minded people, immigrants, retirees, and young adults new to this country have in common? At Tustin Adult School, these individuals come together to gain practical English-speaking skills that will open up new career and life opportunities.

In Desma Soares-Brown's weekly conversation class, intermediate-level English as a Second Language (ESL) students from five different continents meet that goal. Students come together to discuss current events, culture, work, and family life while participating in out-of-your-seat listening and speaking activities and games. Adult students relish the opportunity to put their newly acquired English skills to use in this safe and supportive environment.

"I am working hard and learning more every day," stated Gabriella Romero, a student who takes advantage of a variety of free ESL classes.

At Tustin Adult School, approximately 1,800 students are learning English skills that will help them to survive on their own, navigate new places, meet new people, and accomplish their goals.



Tustin Adult School teacher Desma Soares-Brown (second from left) with students from her ESL Conversation Class.



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Dr. Dustin O'Malley
Principal

Art of Phenomenal Teaching

Tustin Unified is fortunate to have a highly dedicated and talented teaching corps throughout the entire school district. Among the many impressive and noteworthy teachers, a single teacher is typically recognized by his or her school site for distinguished service and significant

contribution to the community and school. At Tustin Connect, our outstanding teacher this year is Emily McCourtney.

Mrs. McCourtney has been with Tustin Connect since its inception, and she has been instrumental in building a flexible and personalized learning environment for Tustin Connect students.

One of the most impressive characteristics of Mrs. McCourtney is her drive to continually improve

the learning experience of her students through constant reflection and innovative thinking. Mrs. McCourtney has the confidence and grit to tackle the unique and constantly changing challenges that she faces as a teacher leader in an innovative blended learning environment.

Congratulations to Mrs. McCourtney!



Tustin Connect teacher Emily McCourtney, center, with students, Charlie Catrina, Hunter Lin, Kate Basovska, and Naomi Welch.

Tustin *High School*

1171 El Camino Real, Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7414



Dr. Jon Tuin
Principal

Leading the Way

Tustin High School is proud to announce its Teacher of the Year, Joanna Vandal. Mrs. Vandal was also named as the Tustin Unified School District's 2018 TUSD Teacher of the Year, and will represent the District in the Orange County Teacher of the Year program.

Mrs. Vandal, an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) instructor, is truly a Tustin Tiller through and through. Not only have all of her 24 years in education been at Tustin High School, she is also a graduate. Some of her previous roles at the school include English Department chair, activities director, CSF and cheer adviser, and an English and science teacher.

Mrs. Vandal's most current endeavors include Leadership Team, Tech Task Force, National Honor Society, AVID coordinator, and Free Chapel Youth Club adviser. Her most challenging roles have been as the AVID and Western Association of Schools and Colleges coordinator (WASC). Mrs. Vandal, you are truly a gift to our educational community!



TUSD/Tustin High School Teacher of the Year Joanna Vandal is congratulated by her husband, Jon, and daughter, Emma, during the surprise announcement in the AVID classroom.



Sharon Maeda
Principal

Growing Successful Learners

Tustin Memorial Academy is proud to recognize Kristi Taylor as its 2018 Teacher of the Year!

Ms. Taylor is an exemplary teacher and mentor for her students, and an inspiring colleague to her staff members. She believes that teaching is like gardening in that they both

require the ability to be patient, nurturing, and optimistic.

Ms. Taylor is dedicated to helping her scholars grow and bloom into successful lifelong learners who are well-prepared for the future. TMA's school community is inspired by her positive can-do attitude, caring ways, creativity, and strong instructional methods with her students. She motivates them to reach for the stars and be strong critical thinkers and role models.

We applaud Kristi Taylor for her hard work and excellence. Congratulations on this special honor!



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Tustin Ranch *Elementary School*

12950 Robinson Dr., Tustin, CA 92782 • 714/730-7580



Tracy Barquer
Principal

To the Best of Their Abilities

Tustin Ranch School is celebrating Kristin Huff as our Teacher of the Year!

Mrs. Huff loves teaching, reading, and her third-grade students. Her classroom is alive with learning, and her students love it when she reads to them with their class mascot “Buddy.”

Everyone also enthusiastically participates in class chants and brain breaks. The class chants are infamous in fact, and can be heard throughout the day.

Mrs. Huff also encourages her students to set personal goals, and she does all she can to help them reach those aspirations. She consistently plans lessons that are relevant and challenging, and her students definitely rise to the demands!

This busy classroom teacher also supports her colleagues as our PBIS coach on campus. She recently hosted a new teacher candidate from Cal State Fullerton, and also served on the school leadership team.

Tustin Ranch is very lucky to have Mrs. Huff on our staff. Her positive energy, kind smile, and pleasant pursuit of excellence make her one Cool Coyote!



Third-grade teacher Kristin Huff shares a story with her class and “Buddy” the class mascot.

C.E. Utt *Middle School*

13601 Browning ave., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7573



Dr. CK Green
Principal

It All Adds Up

C.E. Utt Middle School has many great teachers on campus. For 2017–2018, Gail Foley stands out as Utt’s Teacher of the Year for her special skills and dedication to her students in the area of sixth-grade mathematics.

Gail Foley builds great relationships with all of her students as well as staff around campus. She goes above and beyond by providing regular support and help to all students during tutorial, at lunch, and after school. One of her colleagues shared, “Gail is not only an exceptional math teacher, but she mentors each individual student to become a better person, which is above and beyond teaching math. Gail spends many hours after school working with her students to help them succeed in math and in life.”

Congratulations, Mrs. Foley!



Utt School selects sixth-grade math teacher Gail Foley as 2018 Teacher of the Year.

Marjorie Veeh *Elementary School*

1701 San Juan St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7544



Rafael Plascencia
Principal

Striving to Be Best

Iris Martin, Veeh Elementary School's 2018 Teacher of the Year, is an exceptional second-grade classroom teacher and a consummate professional who seeks the best interest of students at all time. She continually looks for ways to improve as an educator and seeks collaboration with her colleagues and shares best practices.

Mrs. Martin maintains a good relationship with parents and is in constant communication with them. She frequently comes to work early and is consistently one of the last ones to leave at the end of the day. Mrs. Martin is respected and loved by all at Veeh School. She has a strong belief that there are no racial, cultural or ethnic lines when it comes to dealing with people, especially students.

Mrs. Martin is a force in our school that helps us keep striving to be our best, and the parents and staff have tremendous amount of respect and admiration for her kind and loving personality.



Veeh School Teacher of the Year Iris Martin, center, receives star balloons and flowers from Connect Coach Monica Wyman and Principal Rafael Plascencia.

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Business Services

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Anthony Soria
Chief Financial
Officer

School Facilities Update

Construction is nearing completion on the new two-story classroom building at Robert Heideman Elementary School. The building will be open for use next school year. Staff is also gearing up for additional work on the Heideman campus this summer, including the replacement of various HVAC units, carpets, and a front entry aesthetic improvement project.

Solar work across the District is also progressing well, with new solar carports and/or shade structures completed at nine schools. The remaining six sites are scheduled for



completion by the end of this summer. Staff is also working on securing the necessary state agency approvals to move forward with the next phase of our facilities projects.

Planning and design work is currently underway on the following improvements:

Tustin Connect relocation, Orchard Hills School's Child Development Center, Red Hill Elementary School Shade Structure, Utt Middle School science lab modernization, Beckman High Career Tech addition, Columbus Tustin Middle School's front entry enhancement, and the proposed new Legacy Magnet School (submitted to the State Architect).

Educational Services

Tustin Unified School District, 300 South C St., Tustin, CA 92780
714/730-7301 Ext. 309



Kathie Nielsen
Deputy
Superintendent

California School Dashboard

The California Department of Education (CDE) released the new California School Dashboard reports through DataQuest early this year. The reports identify how districts and schools are performing on a variety of indicators from California's school-accountability system. Created as part of the Local Control Funding law passed in 2013, the Dashboard provides a more complete understanding of student achievement

through multiple measures, with a focus on equity and local decision making.

The Dashboard highlights six State measurements that include student academic achievement in English language arts and mathematics, English-learner progress, chronic absenteeism, graduation rate, suspension rate, and college and career readiness. Additionally, four local indicators are included in the report. Tustin Unified School District selected measurement areas include basics—teachers, instructional materials and facilities; implementation of academic standards; parent engagement; and local-climate survey.

Each Dashboard area is measured by a colored pie chart, ranging from blue to indicate high performance, i.e., 5, to red to indicate low performance, i.e., 1. Each of the six State indicators is further broken down into subgroup reports to highlight achievement of each subgroup. Tustin USD exhibits high marks in student academic achievement, graduation rate and English-learner progress; college and career readiness and absenteeism performance indicators will be available during the 2018–19 school year once data is reported for a second year.

The Dashboard is available at <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>.

Technology in TUSD Schools

Tustin Unified School District, 300 South C St., Tustin, CA 92780
714/730-7301 Ext. 306



Dr. Grant Litfin
Assistant
Superintendent,
Administrative
Services

Big Technology Transitions Ahead

By David Smith, Chief Technology Officer

With summer on the horizon, the Tustin Unified School District Information Department (IT) is already planning for a huge transition.

In the coming weeks, the first-ever Measure S student device change will be taking place. The IT Department thus needs to collect and inventory over 11,000 K–8 student iPads, purchase new iPads, image each device to support our TUSD Connect instructional initiative, deploy the new devices to school sites, and then issue each one to students.

It is a daunting process to execute all of this, especially in such a short period of time. But with that said, the IT team is confident that the past five years of learning from the device collection and distribution processes will lead to an efficient transition between the initial Measure S devices and the new ones.

Thanks to the generosity of the taxpayers who supported Measure S, Tustin Unified is able to provide its students with the best available instructional technology. In the Fall of 2018, our Tustin high schools will also begin a pilot process to determine which student device they will transition to in the 2019–2020 school year. Once a device is selected for use in grades nine through 12, the IT Department will then face another summer involving device transition.

While this sounds like a lot of work to get these devices into the students' hands, the reward of watching the amazing things our students and teachers do with them each day in class is worth the effort.

Nutrition Services

Tustin Unified School District, 300 South C St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7301 Ext. 342



Teresa Squibb
Director

Get your Health On! Challenge

The District Wellness Committee held its fifth annual Wellness in Action Video Contest. Students were challenged to create a video that highlights either nutrition education, school meals or physical education/activity. The winners received a “Front of the Line Pass” for school

meals and were recognized at a TUSD Board of Education meeting.

The video contest winners in the elementary (grades K-5) and secondary (grades 6-12) categories are as follows: Kaiden Kordorwu, Luc Bouscary, Ariei Torres, and Phillip Daniel Florez – fourth grade, Barbara Benson Elementary School; and Zoe Ahrens, seventh grade, C.E. Utt Middle School. An award was also given for Most Creative: Natalie Salvatierra, eighth grade, Hewes Middle School. The winning videos can be seen at <http://tustin.healtheliving.net/>

Tustin Unified has had an active Wellness Committee since 2005. Research has shown that there is a strong link between student health and learning. The committee sponsors the video contest to promote student wellness.



Kindergarten Readiness

1701 San Juan St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7592



Lauralee Cabibi
Coordinator
School Readiness

Hats off to Dr. Seuss!

What better way to encourage the love reading in preschoolers than to celebrate Dr. Seuss’ birthday? On March 2, the Kindergarten Readiness Program classrooms at Beswick, Heideman, Heritage, Nelson, Thorman and Veeh Elementary Schools participated in Read Across America, an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading.

The Kindergarten Readiness teachers invited parents to join their children in activities that celebrated one of the world’s most beloved authors, Dr. Seuss. Activities included cooking and eating green eggs and ham, making replicas of the Cat in the Hat’s iconic red and white striped hat to wear throughout the day, and dressing as their favorite Dr. Seuss characters. The Cat in the Hat even showed up in a couple of classrooms!

Fun was had by teachers, parents, and students as they celebrated Dr. Seuss and the joy of reading.



Kindergarten Readiness staff, Paloma Fonseca, Erika Salazar and Jessica Torres, dress up as their favorite Dr. Seuss characters to celebrate Dr. Seuss’ Read Across America Day.

Tustin Public Schools Foundation

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**Carol Burby
Garrett**
Executive Director

TPSF Salutes Teachers of the Year

One of our community's most exciting events is just around the corner. The 24th annual Teacher of the Year Dinner will be held Friday, May 18, at the Irvine Marriot to honor outstanding teachers nominated by each of school in the Tustin Unified School District.

The Tustin Public Schools Foundation hosts the dinner annually to celebrate the educators who have set themselves apart from the rest through their talent, dedication and passion for teaching.

Visit <http://www.tpsf.net/toy/> for information and to order tickets to join in celebrating these exceptional leaders.



TUSD's 2018 Teachers of the Year pose for a group photo.

Contest!

Are you looking for this girl
for the contest on page 19?



**Congratulations to
Myles Bentley (Word Search)
Tatiana & Natalie Huante (Seek 'n Find)
Winners of our February Contests!**

As a daughter of two teachers who met while teaching at Columbus Tustin Middle School in the 1960s, Vandal has teaching in her DNA. She is an innovative AVID teacher, National Honor Society advisor, Master Teacher and a member of the Tustin High Leadership Team, TUSD Tech Task Force and TUSD Summer Institute Professional Development Staff. Vandal's contribution this year at Tustin High was particularly significant as she organized and facilitated a high-stakes accreditation visit from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

Vandal embodies the school's saying, "Once a Tiller, always a Tiller." She is a Tustin High alumna who introduced the AVID program to Tustin High in 1997, with the goal of increasing the number of students who enroll in four-year universities. Under her leadership, the program has not only grown in size – 25 percent of all Tustin High students are in AVID — it has become one of the top programs in the United States as a National Demonstration School.

As a result of her dedication to AVID and her students, Vandal received the 2014 AVID Advocacy Award from the AVID Center. This award is given to teachers who "typify AVID's spirit and have become leaders for college readiness for all cultures on their campus."

Vandal also helped develop a College and Career Readiness curriculum that is delivered to all students throughout the school year to ensure they have the information they need to attend college after graduation.

Outside of the classroom, Vandal and her students volunteer at the Tustin Public Schools Foundation's annual Dinosaur Dash, Big Brothers/Big Sisters events and Tustin Host Lions Club Free Vision Screening Clinic. She also has been involved in the Girl Scouts organization and Tustin AYSO (American Youth Soccer Organization) with her daughters.

"As a teacher, I want to inspire students, make a positive difference in their lives and open up the world of possibilities for them," Vandal said. "I treasure each student and the opportunity to help them become intelligent, compassionate and independent adults I know they are destined to be."

Congratulations to Tustin Unified's 2018 School Site Teachers of the Year!

Elementary School: Tara McHugh, third-grade teacher at Arroyo School; Jenny Onstott, special day class teacher at Barbara Benson School; Tracy Long-Brillhart, specialized academic instructor at Benjamin Beswick School; Jennifer Sandland, fourth/fifth-grade teacher at Helen Estock School; Kendal Dudley, second-grade teacher at Guin Foss School; Robyn Barnum, specialized academic instructor at Robert Heideman School; Felisa Gibbs, second-grade teacher at Heritage School; Kristin Bailey, fourth-grade teacher at Hicks Canyon School; Megan Donovan, fifth-grade teacher at Ladera School; Kalleen Yeaw, third-grade teacher at Loma Vista School; Anita Beres, Carrie Murillo, fourth-grade teacher, Nelson School; first-grade teacher at Myford School; Tiffany McMillan, fifth-grade teacher at Peters Canyon School; Debbie Ludes, first-grade teacher at Red Hill School; Nancy Stretz, kindergarten teacher at Jeane Thorman School; Kristi Taylor, third/fourth-grade teacher at Tustin Memorial Academy; Kristin Huff, third-grade teacher at Tustin Ranch School; and Iris Martin, second-grade teacher at Marjorie Veeh School.

Middle School: Barbara Stachelski, special day class teacher at Columbus Tustin School; Brittany Bruley, seventh-grade core and drama teacher at Currie School; Grace Bibona, specialized academic instructor at Hewes School; Kristin Paulson, eighth-grade honors core teacher at Orchard Hills School; David Bowers, seventh-grade science and honors core teacher at Pioneer School; and Gail Foley, algebra, geometry and math teacher at C.E. Utt School.

High School: Tracy Scott, AP environmental, Earth and physical sciences teacher at Beckman; David Waibel, honors world history and U.S. history teacher, and activities director at Foothill; Judith Watts, English and music appreciation teacher at Hillview; and Joanna Vandal, AVID teacher at Tustin High.

The two winners and all the District's nominees will be honored at the 24th annual Teachers of the Year Dinner at 5 p.m. on Friday, May 18, at the Irvine Marriott Hotel. The event is co-sponsored by the Tustin Public Schools Foundation and Tustin Unified School District.

For additional information about Tustin Unified's Teachers of the Year program, contact the TUSD Communications Office at (714) 730-7339.



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Rabina's Review



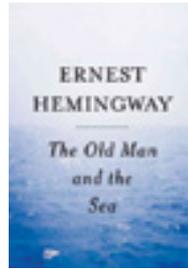
Rabina K.

An Impactful Book

The Old Man and the Sea

By: Ernest Hemingway

This book is a literary fiction, a story of courage and personal triumph won from loss. The story is tragic but it leaves the reader to appreciate the



strength of the main character and his positive approach towards life.

Down on his luck with not much caught in 84 days, Santiago, an old Cuban fisherman, goes to try again in deep sea. He got lucky to have caught a giant marlin far out in the Gulf stream. He faces relentless agonizing battle with this creature who is as stubborn as he is. Though he succeeds in catching this big fish but the bad luck does shadow his efforts, and eventually the fisherman does not get to enjoy his reward.

I think this book speaks to the reader and teaches the reader that hard work does not always lead to rewards. Instead of getting frustrated from unsuccessful events, one should accept it positively and keep working towards one's goal.

Rabina is a 5th grader, who enjoys reading historical fiction and biographies. Writing is her passion. Besides, reading books and writing, she also enjoys playing soccer and piano.

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The IDEA building will serve as a catalyst for innovative and effective technical education for students and employers in the region, offering such programs as design model production, laser optics and photonics, electrical technology, electronics, and pre-engineering. **For more information: atep.ivc.edu**

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 includes summer
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B is for Book



Bailey

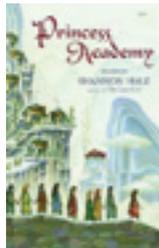
Surprising Twists

Princess Academy by Shannon Hale left me craving for more. It's the perfect combination of adventure, princesses, friendship, and even a little romance!

When the people of Mount Eskel receive message from the lowlanders saying their prince is looking for a princess and all young girls

will be sent to an academy, everyone is in shock, especially Miri. Without a choice, Miri, her friends, and a strange lowlander girl named Britta, set off to the academy, only to find themselves with a horrible tutor and homesick. Now, the pressure is on to be the best of the academy and marry the prince. Will Miri find out that even though she's small for her age, her voice is big? Will she stand up for what's right?

I couldn't put this book down! Shannon Hale always describes the moment just right and the twists were surprising! I give this book 5 out of 5 stars. Don't forget to read the rest of the series!



Bailey is a 6th grader that likes to read fantasy and daydream about adventure when she isn't dancing ballet or playing with her friends and siblings.



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Lucy's Book Review



Lucy Davis

An Enjoyable Read

Brooding YA Hero: How to Become a Main Character (Almost) as Awesome as Me
Broody McHottiepants had always been the protagonist — it was who he was.

So when an Author tells Broody that he can't be in anymore novels, something in him changes. That couldn't be right. He was Broody McHottiepants, the par excellence.

Then, an idea hits: what if he could write his own book, telling the world how to become main characters like him? Yes. That was what he would do. And nobody — not even his evil ex girlfriend could stop him.

Reading this book was definitely an experience for me. At first, I disliked Broody's personality, because he was shallow and conceited. However, as the story progressed, his character arc was interesting to observe. Through his experiences, he realized that change can be good. Overall, it turned out to be a enjoyable read that left me with a new look on the young adult genre. Four out of five bookworms.



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.

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Kindergarten through 9th-grade students

The Summer Academy is an enrichment (not remedial) program operated by the Tustin Public Schools Foundation and taught by Tustin Unified credentialed teachers.



June 18 – July 12, 2018

Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

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Richard's Book Review



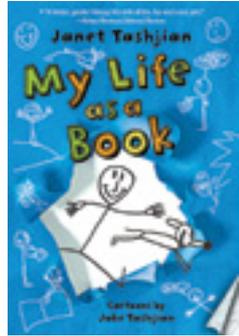
Richard J.

Interesting Mystery

My Life as a Book is about a kid named Derek Fallon. All Derek wants to do this summer is goof around and hang with his friends. But his parents have other ideas. They signed him up to a summer reading camp. Derek hates reading! Nothing in the world could be duller to him than reading a book. So he hid in the attic, and found an old

newspaper there about his babysitter who drowned when he was a baby. He wants to learn more about her and finds that the story is she saved him from going into the rough seas but drowned ... But then with more digging he finds out that wasn't the case at all!

My Life as a Book has an interesting mystery and is relatable to someone who doesn't like to read. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars, with 5 being the best.



Richard J. is a third grader. Richard likes math, playing sports, physical activities like bike-riding and running, reading and spending time with his family.



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Exciting coding challenges, wild dinosaur discoveries and science wonders await your kids this summer at Discovery Cube’s hands-on camps! We offer several different programs that give kids of all ages the chance to investigate science through fun and one-of-a-kind experiences. Discovery Cube camp staff consist of education professionals who will help ignite the spark of curiosity in your child through the wonders of science. Our 2018 Summer Camp offerings are listed below.

Zoomazement

GRADES:

3rd – 5th

LOCATION:

Santa Ana Zoo

DATES:

July 9-13, July 23-27

TIME:

FULL DAY: Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Do you have a future zoologist or veterinarian in your home? Does your child love everything about the animals that share our planet? Join us for a one-of-a-kind, behind the scenes wildlife adventure! Campers entering 3rd through 5th grade will enjoy spending a week in the Santa Ana Zoo experiencing the animal kingdom first hand, in a safe, educational, and fun environment. They will come in contact with a variety of wild and domesticated animals (all under expert supervision), learn about adaptations that help these incredible creatures survive in the harshest environments, and get a close-up look at the art and science of running and maintaining a wild animal sanctuary. Take a walk on the wild side and have a blast monkeying around with this exciting hands-on adventure!

MEMBER PRICING	GENERAL PRICING
Full Day Price: \$255 / Week	Full Day Price: \$295 / Week

Junior Wildlife Adventure

GRADES:

K – 2nd

LOCATION:

Santa Ana Zoo

DATES:

July 16-20, July 30-August 3

TIME:

FULL DAY: Monday-Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm

HALF DAY: Monday-Friday, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Imagine the excitement of your animal loving child getting an up-close and personal view of some of the animals to which they are introduced in their beloved storybooks. Each day of this fun and creative camp, campers entering Kindergarten through 2nd grade will learn about the interesting and diverse creatures that inhabit our planet. Within our private classroom at the Santa Ana Zoo, campers will enjoy an animal-themed story time and experience a variety of behind-the-scenes adventures including up close and personal animal interactions, zoologically-based art projects, and scientific experiments specifically designed to impact young learners. This week-long experience will satisfy the wild and tame alike!

MEMBER PRICING	GENERAL PRICING
Full Day Price: \$255 / Week	Full Day Price: \$295 / Week
Half Day Price: \$170 / Week	Half Day Price: \$195 / Week

Register today at oc.discoverycube.org



DiscoveryCube

ORANGE COUNTY

PRESENTED BY TACO BELL

Dino Detectives

GRADES:
3rd – 5th

LOCATION:
Discovery Cube Orange County

DATES:
July 16-20, July 30-August 3

TIME:
FULL DAY: Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Become a Dino Detective this summer! Campers entering 3rd through 5th grade will explore the prehistoric world of the dinosaurs as they learn all about these magnificent creatures. Grab a paleontologist's tool kit and dig for "fossils". Take a walk on the dino-side and experience what a dinosaur's life may have been like. This dino-mite camp will turn all campers into dinosaur experts.

MEMBER PRICING	GENERAL PRICING
Full Day Price: \$255 / Week	Full Day Price: \$295 / Week

Extended care available from 8:00am-9:00am and/or 4:00pm-5:00pm at no charge.

Dinosaur Adventure

GRADES:
K – 2nd

LOCATION:
Discovery Cube Orange County

DATES:
June 25-29, July 9-13, July 23-27

TIME:
FULL DAY: Monday-Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm
HALF DAY: Monday-Friday, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Discovering Dinosaurs will lead campers entering Kindergarten through 2nd grade through the mysterious world of the dinosaurs. Dive into a dino-themed summer by creating replica fossils, examining what makes a dinosaur a dinosaur, and discovering dino-traits still around today. Young dinosaur enthusiasts will harness their paleontologist skills as they learn about all things dinos!

MEMBER PRICING	GENERAL PRICING
Full Day Price: \$255 / Week	Full Day Price: \$295 / Week
Half Day Price: \$170 / Week	Half Day Price: \$195 / Week

Extended care available from 8:00am-9:00am and/or 4:00pm-5:00pm at no charge.

Code Constructors: An Exploration of the Raspberry Pi

GRADES:
6th – 8th

LOCATION:
Discovery Cube Orange County

DATES:
July 23-27, July 30-August 3

TIME:
FULL DAY: Monday-Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Calling all budding computer scientists: Code Constructing camp needs you! Campers will learn all about computers, from circuitry to programming, as they experiment with programming software and alter the real world through physical computing. By constructing text based programs, campers will create their own games and digital art. With just a few clicks, the world of Minecraft will unfold as campers learn how to create code for a special version of this popular sandbox video game. To pull all their new skills together, campers will build a sensor-based prototype and operate it with their own unique codes. By the end of camp, coding will become as easy as Pi.

MEMBER PRICING	GENERAL PRICING
Full Day Price: \$295 / Week	Full Day Price: \$335 / Week

Extended care available from 8:00am-9:00am and/or 4:00pm-5:00pm at no charge.

Mission to Mars

GRADES:
3rd – 5th

LOCATION:
Discovery Cube Orange County

DATES:
June 25-29, July 9-13

TIME:
FULL DAY: Monday-Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Prepare for an adventure: getting to and living on Mars! In partnership with Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), we have created a summer of space adventure for campers entering 3rd through 5th grades. Scientists, Engineers, and other Subject Matter Experts will participate with the students to help them explore the engineering process by designing a rocket ship to begin their journey. Campers will then create a Martian Lander to get them safely on the surface of Mars where they will test ways to survive the harsh Martian environment, gather resources needed to survive, and create a rover that can speed through alien terrain! In collaboration with JPL, Discovery Cube has designed a week of excitement and learning for campers that is sure to be out of this world!

MEMBER PRICING	GENERAL PRICING
Full Day Price: \$255 / Week	Full Day Price: \$295 / Week

Extended care available from 8:00am-9:00am and/or 4:00pm-5:00pm at no charge.

Register today at oc.discoverycube.org

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