

FREE

School News

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Covering the Vista Unified School District

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 22

MAY 2018

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Linda Kimble

The Vista Unified School District is pleased to announce the reinstatement of bus transportation in the 2018-19 school year. New bus routes will allow elementary and middle school students living more than 1.5 miles from school to ride the bus.

Vista is in the unique position of adding transportation when many districts are reducing. Vista schools are popular. Several have long waiting lists. The attraction of students to Vista schools has created long walks for some students. Because Vista has rural sections, students might have to walk to school on a road without a sidewalk. In order to make home to school routes safer, the District decided at their April 12 Board meeting to expand transportation. This requires the addition of buses to the fleet.

Expanded transportation is expected to improve student timeliness and attendance and improve student safety. Transportation services will enhance access to Vista schools by students presently searching for safe routes to school. The Vista Unified School District is pleased to expand this service for our students.

Nurtured by Nature– Film Documentary



Rancho Minerva Middle School students (please see page 8 for the article).

BOARD OF EDUCATION



Rich Alderson
President

School Safety

Given recent events, it seems logical that I address school safety and the efforts being made in VUSD. Each parent that sends their child to school wants to be assured that their child will be safe. For quite a long time, physical safety was taken for granted. Playgrounds were inspected and safety standards were developed to ensure that no student could be hurt by faulty equipment or failing buildings. These were tangible items which could be addressed and remedied if problems were noted. The emotional safety was a much more challenging element in school climate and required more attention by school personnel. Bullying, especially cyber-bullying, became a significant problem that entire curriculums were developed to address. The bullying in school has become so pervasive in some schools that we have had student suicides as a result of this treatment. Our schools were challenged to find ways to protect students from this insidious behavior. Schools launched efforts to address this issue with many programs to help students find supports in school.

Today, however, we are faced with a much greater threat. An active shooter on a school campus. I honestly can't believe I am writing to discuss this problem. It is difficult to imagine that we have reached the point that one solution being actively considered is arming teachers. How did we get to the place where we need more armed guards on our campuses? I am certainly not attempting to enter into the political fray and try to convince anyone of a particular point of view. I am just wondering how we got here.

Perhaps if we focus on the efforts being in our district, we can help solve some of the issues we face as parents and educators. State law requires that every public school in California conduct emergency drills on a regular basis. For elementary schools, the requirement is monthly; for middle and high schools, the requirement is once per semester or twice per year. These drills for years were simply fire drills. Evacuation the buildings and assembly on the playground or fields. The state monitors these drills and will sanction schools who fail to comply. In VUSD, we have in place a safety committee which regularly conducts drills of all types; fire, earthquake, lockdown

See BOARD OF EDUCATION • Page 10



**Congratulations
Class of 2018!**



Thank You!

By Brad Peterson, President

By the time you read this we will have completed our big fund raiser for the year! We are excited to recognize some of you for your hard work. I wish we could do more. This year awardee's are: Principal of the year- Kim Morton, Arts- Beverly Taylor, Classified- Steven Soderback, and Jennifer Manfredi of Qualcomm will receive the award for technology for the Think-A-Bit program.

VEF continues fund requests for the Arts, Technology and Scholarships. Since we have a permanent endowment we will continue to increase our contributions.

I have very exciting news on our Internship and Apprenticeship efforts. The district is in conversation with us to increase the opportunity for our students to gain real world experience in the work force. We have run a successful internship program with Moon Lite Youth theater for the past 3 years and have totaled just under 10,000 instructional hours and worked with 180 students during that time.

The most exciting part of that is Guajome Park Academy will begin implementing the Theater internship program as curriculum for their upcoming IB program. Mike Bradford is a great business partner and our funding allows us to transform lives.

We could use your help by asking the district to include internships and Apprenticeship programs in more schools. We are also asking for more funding so we can expand our program beyond the arts. Please help if you can. Call me at 760-917-1603.

Thank you all for the work you do. As a former teacher at the Adult school I understand the effort you bring each day to the class room. Thank you!



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Congratulations Class of 2018!

As we say goodbye to another school year, I'd like to thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. Our next issue is September 19. Have a fun, safe summer!



Covering the VISTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Counselors Unlock True Potential

Tony Morrow has one goal for the students of Fallbrook High School—graduate ready for what comes next. With his guidance, young scholars and families put their plans for the future into action.



Fallbrook High School, College and Career Counselor: Tony Morrow '11, M.A.Ed. '12

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Autism Spectrum Disorders



God First Since 1899

Alamosa Park *Elementary*

5130 Alamosa Park Dr., Oceanside, CA 92057 • 760/940-0700 • www.vistausd.org



Cindy Anderson
Principal

Red Shoe Project

Mrs. Perkins and Mrs. Manwaring's class worked on a service-learning project to help students understand the services Ronald McDonald House offers to families in need. The question students wanted answered was *Why is the Ronald McDonald House important to children?*

The original questions quickly evolved into *What can we do for children who stay at the Ronald McDonald House?* After reaching out to the charity's representatives and explaining their ideas, students decided to collect donations using the coveted red Ronald McDonald shoes! Students placed a red shoe in every class and stood outside with signs and shoes before and after school to collect community donations.

The project culminated with a visit to Ronald McDonald House to deliver the Alamosa Park Hawk donations. Through this service-learning project, students learned researching, interviewing, design, collaboration and communication. The greatest lesson for our students is the empathy they have gained for others. Our students have demonstrated that they are true leaders!



Beaumont *Elementary*

550 Beaumont Dr., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/726-4040 • www.vistausd.org



Sochie Schmitz
Principal

MTSS Teams

At Beaumont, there is no doubt our teachers have been working diligently to close the achievement gap and to support the social and emotional needs of students. The efforts of our Personalized Learning and our MTSS teams have merged the most important elements a school community should have in order to support students and create spaces where student strengths and interests can thrive. The focus of personalizing learning and creating high behavior expectations school wide have nurtured a capacity building environment where our teams collaborate resulting in a school community where students have connections, are engaged, and where they play an active role in their learning.

Collaborative efforts go beyond our campus in working with the following to engage students: MiraCosta College (STEM Robotics), Soccer Unity Project, Vista's Avo Theater (Annual musical production), and the Tierra Caliente Academy of Arts Ballet Folklorico.

At Beaumont, the best is yet to come.



Beaumont Personalized Learning Team

Alta Vista *High School*

1575 Bonair Rd., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/724-3775 • www.vistausd.org



Mike Sterner
Principal

Looking to the Future

The Alta Vista High School "Pathways to My Future" event on April 6th was a great day for our students, community presenters, and staff members.

This year we had 25 community presenters representing the CTE's 15 Industry Sectors. This included VUSD's own Dewayne Cossey, IT director; Amy Haessly, nutrition education and training supervisor; Rhonda Strange, of the Teen Parent Program; and community organizations like the SDCD Attorney's Office, Job Corp, VCC, MiraCosta College, Palomar College,

Alchemy, Canine Companions, Curtis Air, business financial managers, and various other professionals and community entrepreneurs.

Our most favorite guest speaker was an Alta alumni from 1993 who captured the audience with stories about his personal journey after graduation all the way to his military service and current career. All of these presenters spoke about their personal pathways, and provided valuable information about their current careers. The day ended with a shared luncheon with our Alta staff that celebrated the great energy and experiences of our speakers.

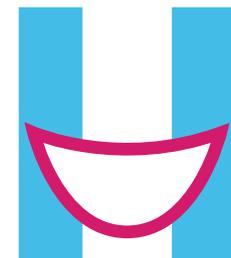


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Bobier *Elementary*

220 W. Bobier Dr., Vista, CA 92083 • 760/724-8501 • www.vistausd.org



Dr. Jenifer Golden
Principal

Reading Olympics

This month students were champion readers in the reading Olympics. Most of our students were challenged and met and exceeded their reading goals.

For seven weeks students compete in their reading fitness skills. Points are awarded based on the level of difficulty of a book and the student's ability to comprehend it. If students read and comprehend they earned points and students were honored with Gold, silver, and bronze medals. Students showcased their work at the STEAM festival. Our school is continuing to refine great science projects and students are solving huge world problems here at Bobier. Big thanks to Mrs. Whistler, Mrs. Encinas, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bourgeois for leading the reading Olympics. Big thanks to Mrs. Avila, Mrs. Calve, Mrs. Callahan, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Demirdjian, Mrs. Aguirre, Mrs. McCabe, Mrs. Urena, Mrs. Backman, and Mrs. Wolf for attending the STEAM fest and helping lead the way in Science.



California Avenue

215 W. California Ave., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/630-4870 • www.vistausd.org



Rachel Schmidt
Principal

Time to Play!

All children benefit from time outdoors to play, explore, and exercise. This is certainly true of the young students at California

Avenue School, many who require wheelchairs or other specialized mobility equipment due to their orthopedic needs. In addition to the school's adapted play structure, which includes ramps in order for all students to access the slides and other equipment, California Avenue School recently installed a platform swing designed for children in wheelchairs and two adapted sandbox and water tables. All students deserve the opportunity to learn, explore, and play with their friends. The playgrounds at California Avenue School foster these opportunities and provide a lifetime of school memories.



Breeze Hill *Elementary*

1111 Melrose Way, Vista, CA 92081 • 760/945-2373 • www.vistausd.org



Lori Higley
Principal

What's Cooking at Breeze Hill?

Breeze Hill First and Second Graders are learning how to cook! One of our personalized learning clubs this spring is Cooking Club which offers students a chance to learn about the food pyramid and making healthy eating choices. They are also learning some math concepts through measurement and portion sizes. It is also an opportunity to socialize with others and learn about other flavorful cuisines from around the world.

We are also proud of our Scrabble Club who participated in the district wide Scrabble Tournament this year. Our STEM club showed their innovations at the STEM FEST on April 5th. Among the many awesome science projects were a marble run, model of the solar system and hydroponics gardening!

Casita Center *Elementary*

260 Cedar Rd., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/724-8442 • www.vistausd.org



Laura Smith
Principal

Dynamic Learning Spaces

Casita Center is constantly changing and updating our learning environment to match the strengths, interests, and values of our constituents. First off, the library has been completely reorganized! The shelves have been moved to the perimeter of the room, and the space has opened up for whole-group instruction, lounge reading, and research. Over 10,000 books have been "weeded" off the shelves. Our nonfiction collection has been updated to the year 2000, and the fiction section will soon be organized by genres. We have ordered approximately \$20,000 of new books and will continue to "weed" our nonfiction section to strive to be state of the art.

Currently, the front garden is undergoing a major renovation. The roots of our beautiful sycamore tree are uplifting the concrete around the pond, and the Habitat Committee is creating a new vision for the space, which includes native California plants. This will attract more pollinators for increased produce production for our farm-to-table kitchen lab program. Next up, the kitchen lab will be remodeled with stainless steel cabinets, sinks, and a new electric stove top/oven.

Casita's International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme has been enhanced through the library, garden, and kitchen lab. Innovation is happening at Casita Center, where students are receiving a 21st-century education.

Empresa *Elementary*

4850 Avenida Empresa, Oceanside, CA 92056 • 760/940-8454 • www.vistausd.org



Dr. Cheree McKean
Principal

California Distinguished School Award

Empresa Elementary School was recently recognized as a 2018 California Distinguished School! Empresa is known for setting the bar for student achievement within our district and now throughout our state. This accomplishment recognizes the continued academic growth made by Empresa students for the past three years in English language arts and mathematics based on California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) scores.

We know our high academic expectations and results can only be reached through a close relationship with our school community, a high level of staff commitment, dedicated parental involvement, and student-centered learning environments. We are so grateful to our Empresa community, as this award truly celebrates all Empresa stands for. Together, we remain committed to providing a challenging academic environment where students and families feel connected, respected, safe, and appreciated.

Empresa rocks!

Foothill Oak *Elementary*

1370 Oak Dr., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/631-3458 • www.vistausd.org



Sandra Ceja
Principal

Reading Leaders

Our staff and students value reading, and they take the initiative to improve their skills here at Foothill Oak Elementary!

Each student is involved in setting a one-year growth goal and then tracking their progress. They also set a goal to close any gaps between their current performance and the grade-level standards. They identify new ways that they can meet their goals, including the use of digital instructional resources to build comprehension, fluency, vocabulary, and foundational reading. They develop independent reading goals, select texts that they are interested in, and track their own reading!

Our teachers have developed a unique collaborative system to assure that each student will receive daily instruction and practice at their own reading level. They monitor student progress, adjust the curriculum, engage parent support, and provide additional tutoring. As a result, every member of our community is involved in developing lifelong literacy skills that will help each child reach their highest goals!



Grapevine *Elementary*

630 Grapevine Rd., Vista, CA 92083 • 760/724-8329 • www.vistausd.org



Rafael Olavide
Principal

Positive Progress

Grapevine Elementary School has successfully implemented the first year of a socio-emotional education model called Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS). One of the areas of focus has been learning the four expectations of what we call the Grizzly Way: show respect, make responsible choices, solve problems, and be safe.

Our students have had the opportunity to practice these four habits and expectations in the classrooms, in the hallways, in the cafeteria, on the playground, and in the school restrooms, among other areas. With the support of our PBIS team, students learned and practiced the expectations in a system of rotation stations four times during the school year. All Grapevine educators have committed themselves to reinforcing the

PBIS model by creating a positive enriching environment and an incentive system called Grizzly Dollars.

We are very proud of the progress we have made as a school community committed to the social-emotional education of our students with PBIS. In the picture, our assistant principal, Lisa Maguire, is at one of the station rotations with our first-graders.



Hannalei *Elementary*

120 Hannalei Dr., Vista, CA 92083 • 760/631-6248 • www.vistausd.org



Tracy Zachry
Principal

Outside Learning Garden

Over the past two years at Hannalei, we have been working together with all stakeholder groups, our classrooms, our students and our families to create an outside learning place for students. Well ... we are almost there! This year we have added benches donated by our ASES/AMPM program, planter boxes donated and built by a former student as an eighth-grade project, and mulch, soil and a fence around the perimeter of the outside learning space donated by our PTA. This took a few Saturday garden days, but our students are ready to plant and put into

action what they are learning in hopes of having a small salad by June.

Having an outside learning space is so engaging and makes the learning more relevant for all children! We are not yet finished and will continue to "grow" our garden into a place of learning.



Lake *Elementary*

4950 Lake Blvd., Oceanside, CA 92056 • 760/945-5300 • www.vistausd.org



Krista Berntsen
Principal

Student-Imagined Ecology!

This spring, our amazing kindergarteners created a new recycling program to benefit Lake! Through a long-term project, students learned about the problem of trash and too much waste, and created a plan to solve this problem at our school.

They wrote letters to get help from our PTA, and with their support, they delivered new recycling bins to every classroom on campus! To share this new program with the staff and students of Lake, the kindergarten students developed their own PSAs by writing storyboards and scripts and filming their messages.

These rock-star students then traveled to every other classroom on campus to teach them why we should recycle, what kinds of materials can be recycled, and how our school program would work.

We are proud of our students, and thrilled to put our new recycling program into place!



Madison *Middle School*

4930 Lake Blvd., Oceanside, CA 92056 • 760/940-0176 • www.vistausd.org



Steven Bailey
Principal

STEM Learning

Got Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (TEAMS)? Madison Middle School does! Mr. Beanan's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) class at Madison just ended their month-long design project using five simple, readily available items—a bottle, a paperclip, a bead, a straw/stick, and rubber bands—to create a vehicle to prove or disprove the “Legend of the Toy Racer.” The legend states that a toy racer can travel straight, travel fast, travel far, climb mountains, cross oceans, and fly! Through the process, students discussed the different

problems posed by each challenge, considered and tested modifications, and learned to work through frustrations associated with failure to possibly experience the joys of success. In these pictures, students are testing their toy racer designs as prototypes in an attempt to cross an eight-foot-long tank of water without touching the sides.

Seventh-grade students in Ms. Lunde's science class just learned about matter and its interactions by adding thermal energy to increase the kinetic energy of the particles until a change of state occurs; in this case, the water changed states to a gas and inflated the balloon. They also were learning about the Law of Conservation of Matter and were able to fully understand that the total number of each type of atom is conserved, thus the mass does not change. This experiment was also used as an introduction to the ways heat energy moves (convection) through different substances.

Maryland *Elementary*

700 North Ave., Vista, CA 92083 • 760/631-6675 • www.vistausd.org



Carol McKane
Principal

First Annual STEMFEST was a Success!

Students in every grade level participate in designing and developing various STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) projects. Some of these projects included inventions inspired by animal adaptation, novel engineering designs, and products of Genius Hour, a time dedicated for students to choose a problem to research and design a solution for the problem.

Students had the opportunity to show case their work in science, technology, engineering, and math to family and community members. The multi-purpose room was busy all evening with student presentations.

Over 20 Maryland students also took the opportunity to present their project at the Vista STEMFEST.



Mission Vista *High School*

1306 Melrose Dr., Oceanside, CA 92056 • 760/758-6800 • www.vistausd.org



Nicole Miller
Principal

Already in Full Bloom!

Mission Vista High School has had a busy few weeks before and after returning from spring break. We hosted our third annual TedX talks, with our students presenting powerful and personal speeches. We had three athletic teams compete in post-season play, and we look forward to our spring season. That was followed by an opportunity to experience the talent of our dual-magnet students and staff, first with our Steel Drum and Choir and then our Speech and Debate Showcase.

Our spring musical, *Shrek*, promises to be an amazing show, and we have more arts performances scheduled for May. We have had state competitors in Theater and in Speech and Debate, and we are in the midst of college selection, with many of our students being offered admission to top colleges and universities.

What a great time to be a Timberwolf! All of this leads us right into our testing window. With our 12th-graders completing the California Science Tests, we are now in the midst of our Smarter Balanced Assessments and will begin our Advanced Placement tests. Our students are busy showing what they have learned and their level of mastery on the standards while experiencing unique and powerful learning opportunities on our campus.

Monte Vista *Elementary*

1720 Monte Vista Dr., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/726-0410 • www.vistausd.org



Charlene Smith
Principal

Showcasing Leadership Skills

In a world moving toward personalized learning, what better way to excite student learning and passion for education than to have them take over a school and show guests what it means to be a leader? Monte Vista students showcased their vast leadership skills during the second annual Leadership Day in March. Students designed and sent invitations, made flyers, and invited guests from across the community to attend this special day.

It was a student-led showcase from start to finish. They wrote and presented speeches about the 7 Habits and gave tours to large groups of guests. There were a variety of student-led performances. By the end, guests knew about our various student clubs and had heard several students talk about taking charge of their own learning.

This event shows how schools can develop students into leaders for college, careers and life!



Mission Meadows *Elementary*

5657 Spur Ave., Oceanside, CA 92057 • 760/630-7884 • www.vistausd.org



Dr. Bill Porter
Principal

Motivating Student Interest in Science

To help benefit our students, the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) are being incorporated into our STEM learning experiences with the help of two highly NGSS-trained Mission Meadows teachers!

Kindergarten teacher Evie Cockroft and second-grade teacher Carrie Ventimiglia have both attended NGSS professional development for three years, and they have committed themselves to sharing their newly acquired NGSS knowledge with their site colleagues. This collaboration has benefited both the teachers and students at Mission Meadows as we all continue to navigate to full NGSS implementation next year.

The Next Generation Science Standards are being utilized by multiple states in order to bring new educational standards that are, “Rich in content and practice, and arranged in a coherent manner across disciplines and grades to provide all students an internationally benchmarked science education.” By focusing on NGSS, it is hoped that our students will develop an increased interest in science, engineering, and technology.



Olive *Elementary*

836 Olive Ave., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/724-7129 • www.vistausd.org



Stephanie Vasquez
Principal

STEMFest

Volcanoes erupted on April 4, 2018 when Olive Elementary held it's first site based STEMfest to celebrate science, technology, engineering and math. Olive's STEMfest took place the day before the VUSD STEMfest to increase student participation at the district event. More than 100 preschool through 5th grade student exhibitors presented their personal interest work, including interactive demonstrations such as CSI fingerprinting, drone pilot training, solutions to the Bermuda Triangle mystery. Pictured here, first graders from Mrs. Lowe's class explain the water cycle and how people can help prevent

water pollution. There were over 500 students, parents, teachers, and guests in attendance at Olive's community oriented STEMfest. When asked about the event one kindergartner said, “Today was so much fun, I'm going to be scientist when I grow up you know.”



First grader Arley from Mrs. Lowe's class presents the water-cycle and pollution solutions.

Murray *High School*

215 N. Melrose, Vista, CA 92084 • 760/631-2502 • www.vistausd.org



Mike Sterner
Principal

Career Day

On March 23, Murray High School students had a special schedule, based on their choices of Career Day speakers. Career Day included presentations on different industries and jobs areas that Murray students were interested in, or could see themselves pursuing. The presenters came from a variety of career fields and training options. Students particularly enjoyed the presentations from the Fire Department, the Marine Corps, as well as the National Guard, Health occupations, and our local colleges. Many of our presenters were able to put up tables during the lunch hour and spend a little more direct time with our students. It was a wonderful experience for all involved. We truly appreciate the partnerships and connections we've forged with our local business and service community. This daylong event allows our students the opportunity to think about and explore the many career options available to them.



Rancho Buena Vista *High School*

1601 Longhorn Dr., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/727-7284 • www.vistausd.org



Chuck Schindler
Principal

Making Us Proud

We are having an exciting end of the year here at Rancho Buena Vista High School, with our academic and athletic programs highlighting the great work of our staff and students.

RBV is a World School that offers personalized learning through our IB/AP program, CTE program, college prep program, and arts program. All of these programs help prepare our students to be college- and career-ready for the real world that they will soon be going into. We have also developed a partnership with Palomar College to offer after-school Dual

Enrollment courses where the students can earn college credit while still in high school.

Our students also have a chance to be part of the “Palomar Promise” that will pay for their first year of college at Palomar if they choose to attend school there and qualify. We continue to be a part of the Cal State San Marcos WAVEPact that guarantees entrance to those RBV students who meet the CSU requirements.

The arts have been very active at RBV, which gives our students the opportunity to showcase their talents and extend their artistic expression. Our drama program's spring production of *Bring It On* was spectacular, with the students giving some great performances. RBV also hosted our annual Chalk Festival in April, with many students and staff members participating as they decorated the main walkway with chalk art.

Our athletic programs continue to make us proud, as they allow our students to further develop their skills and compete at high levels. Many of our girls' and boys' teams from the fall and winter seasons participated in the CIF playoffs again this year. We look forward to our spring sports teams doing just as well.

We also look forward to recognizing the Class of 2018 and the completion of another successful year!

T.H.E. Leadership Academy

1550 Temple Heights Dr., Oceanside, CA 92056 • 760/631-6242 • www.vistausd.org



Kim Morton
Principal

Growing Great Leaders

The Temple Heights Elementary School Leadership Academy is growing great leaders! We had a packed house for our second annual Leadership Day, where students showcased their leadership accomplishments.

Students shared their leadership experiences through musical performances, speeches, testimonials and multimedia presentations. In addition, student leaders served as greeters, masters of ceremonies, panel members, and tour guides.

We are focused on building a strengths-based culture that encourages our students to pursue their passions to guide their personal learning. When the focus is on what they are good at and what they enjoy doing, their confidence and motivation skyrocket.



Parents, business partners, and educators from all over the county were impressed with the energy in the room as students took ownership of the day. We are proud of our focus on happy and engaged students. Every child can be a leader!

Vista Academy of Visual & Performing Arts

600 N. Santa Fe Ave., Vista, CA 92083 • 760/941-0880 • www.vistausd.org



Benjie Walker
Principal

Transdisciplinary Learning

As the 2017–2018 school year comes to a close, our campus is buzzing with activities!

Our drama conservatory is gearing up for a “golden” display of acting, singing, and dancing with *Wonka, Jr.* from May 31 to June 2. Our music conservatories performed at the Moonlight and entertained local seniors at Gloria McClelland Senior Center as part of Vista Unified’s Service Learning project. Our musicians also shined at our annual music concert, Disney style.

Opportunities abound for students to pursue their passions at Vista Academy in a variety of artistic disciplines. All students have the opportunity to perform on stage each year when their grade develops a grade-level show tied to their learning.

Recently our third-grade students found their way into the hearts of the audience when they sang, danced, and acted out their message of “Kindness” and the importance of taking action. The second grade also demonstrated their learning about the diversity of plant and animal life in their recent show called *Biomes*. The other grade levels are busily preparing for upcoming shows.

The fifth-grade students are finalizing their work on the culminating project of the International Baccalaureate Primary Year Programme. This Exhibition is not to be missed, as students tackle real-world issues around the topic of health that range from the dangers of pesticides to school safety.

Please join us on May 17th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. to take an informational journey into their projects and see how they take action with their learning. Also, please visit the campus for our annual Open House.

From acting, to researching, to reading and designing, we are putting transdisciplinary learning at the forefront of how we connect knowledge to real life and real-world problems.

Rancho Minerva Middle School

2245 Foothill Dr., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/631-4500 • www.vistausd.org



Juan Ayala
Principal

A Documentary Film Production

For the third consecutive year, our Rancho Minerva students have placed in the top-three in the “Panasonic Kid Witness News Program.” KWN is a global hands-on video educational program for students. Four of our students will be traveling to New York with the hopes of reaching the international competition that is held in Japan.

This year their film tells the story of a 10-year-old boy named Luke who was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer. With the help and love of his family, doctors, and nurses, he survived. To celebrate, Luke and his family visited an animal sanctuary to be, “Nurtured by Nature.”

The message our students wanted to portray was that with the help and love of family and friends, you can overcome the adversities in your life like childhood cancer. If you need a little extra love while going through tough times, animals can also provide a nurturing and comforting experience, and can help you forget about your everyday problems in a magical way. Please go to <https://vimeo.com/259015547> to see the film.

Roosevelt Middle School

850 Sagewood Dr., Oceanside, CA 92057 • 760/726-8003 • www.vistausd.org



Heather Golly
Principal

Inquiry Centers

At Roosevelt Middle School, our PRIDE Promise Statement demonstrates that we value Personalized learning, Relationships, Ingenuity, Development of character, and Exploration.

In our first year of implementing Artful Learning, the RMS teachers collaborated to design the interdisciplinary units that they began to implement this spring. For these concept-based units, our sixth-grade students are focusing on Impact, and are considering the significant question of, “How do actions and events impact our world?”

Our seventh-grade unit concept is Relationships, and these students are reflecting on the ways in which relationships are affected by interactions. The eighth-graders are focused on the concept of Inspiration. They will be answering the important question of how inspiration can move society forward.

Through subject area inquiry centers, students move through a hands-on, four-phase learning sequence (experience, inquire, create, and reflect) as they begin to answer significant questions. At the culmination of their unit, they produce an original creation that reflects their understanding of the concept, the significant question, and unit content.

Vista Visions Academy

1575 Bonair Rd., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/724-4785 ext. 90000 • vva.vistausd.org



Dr. Susan Ford
Principal

Personalized Approach

Vista Visions Academy is an independent study school of choice for students in grades 6-12. Located at 1575 Bonair Drive near the Vista Unified district office, the school offers a personalized approach in a small school setting. Students receive support from credentialed teachers who meet at least weekly with all students, and students also have the opportunity to work at the school under the supervision of teachers several times a week. Students at VVA complete coursework in an online curriculum and may also meet with teachers for individual or small group support.

Vista *Adult Transition Center*

325 E. Bobier Dr., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/758-3400 • www.vistausd.org



Chris Altona
Principal

Model Education Program

Vista Adult Transition Center is an expanding, evolving place; it is unique in many ways. Adult-transition programs are available to young adult students with disabilities in any unified or secondary school district, but few have provided such varied experiences by offering truly individualized assistance in gaining skills necessary to become independent, productive members of the community. In the four years since its inception, VATC has become a model program.

Any student who has not received a high school diploma, who has a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP), and who has completed four years of high school is eligible to continue receiving services through the semester of their 22nd birthday. During that period, our staff will support, instruct, monitor, and assess progress in four important domains of adult living: postsecondary education, work experience/vocational and career education, and daily living/domestic skills and community access, including mobility skills and resource acquisition. Students of all capability levels are welcome if they meet the qualifying criteria.

We are especially fortunate this year because VATC has physically grown to encompass both 305 and 325 Bobier Street. This means that each of our teachers has a dedicated classroom. With our student-population growth in the past few years, we had to double up some classrooms and utilize our multipurpose room for classes. Use of the newly combined campuses has generated a wonderful sense of VATC as a hub in which all students have the space to build upon their goals and dreams. Those who need quiet can get it, and those who need to work collaboratively have space for that. We now have sensory labs and an instructional kitchen, and will soon have a “laundry lab” in which our students can hone their domestic skills or gain understanding of that service industry.

VIDA *Vista Innovation & Design Academy*

740 Olive Ave., Vista, CA 92083 • 760/724-7115 • www.vistausd.org



Dr. Eric Chagala
Principal

VIDA Goes to the Padres!

For the second year in a row, the VIDA Choir has had the honor of performing the National Anthem at PetCo Park for a Padres Game. This year, in addition to our Choir, several of our Drama students who are involved with our Spring Musical also joined in the fun. The Magnet Program at VIDA is about where the Creative Arts come crashing together with STEM, and public performances such as this continue to showcase the beauty of this intersection between the artistic and the technical.



Vista *High School*

1 Panther Way, Vista, CA 92084 • 760/726-5611 • www.vistausd.org



Anthony Barela
Principal

Spring Highlights

As the end of the school year rapidly approaches, we are celebrating a wonderful spring here at Vista High School (VHS). Here are some of the most notable spring accomplishments.

VHS was invited to and was showcased this spring as part of the national Arizona State University/Global Silicon Valley event held in San Diego. The VHS culinary arts team competed at the state level and finished in the top 10. Dave Hanlon had a group of student leaders selected to be part of the national WE Day in Los Angeles. Matt Stuckey was selected as the district High School

Teacher of the Year, and Stephen Soderback was selected as a Hero of Vista by the Vista Chamber of Commerce.

VHS has been featured for its personalized learning approach in a number of national publications. VHS was again named to the Washington Post's most challenging high schools in America. And VHS upgraded a number of classrooms over spring break.

As you can see, our students are in good hands, and we are continually striving to be THE model of educational excellence! Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a great end of the school year!

We Are Vista Every Day!

Vista Magnet *Middle School*

151 Escondido Dr., Vista, CA 92084 • 760/726-5766 • www.vistausd.org



Steve Post
Principal

IB Ambassador

Vista Magnet Middle School recently “walked the walk” as an IB World School by hosting twelve students and one chaperone from Shanghai, China. For the second year in a row, visiting students from China stayed with host families from Vista Magnet and attended a full schedule of classes for an entire week in February. The Chinese visitors were warmly welcomed by the Vista Magnet community, with many students and staff who were eager to learn about Chinese culture, language, and education.

While guided by Vista Magnet “IB Ambassador” students, the Chinese students practiced their English skills, attended classes in all subjects, played basketball at lunch, and really enjoyed the food in the Vista Magnet cafeteria. The entire school community enjoyed this authentic international experience that stood out as one of the most unique events of the school year.



City of Vista Office of the Mayor

200 Civic Center Drive, Vista, CA 92084 • 760/726-1340 • www.cityofvista.com



Judy Ritter
Mayor

Movie Time

The Movies in the Park series is back by popular demand. Pack up the family and a picnic and head to one or all of the movie series. The best part is that the movies are free. The movies begin at 8 pm. The annual City's Summer Fun Fest is planned before the July 14 movie - with jump houses, kids' face painting and activities and public safety displays.

June 16: Wonder (PG): Buena Vista Ball Fields

July 14: Despicable Me 3 (PG) &

Summer Fun Fest (5:30-7:30 pm): Brengle Terrace Park

Aug 11: STAR WARS: The Last Jedi (PG-13): Brengle Terrace Park

Enjoy your summer. Best wishes for a bright and successful future to all of the graduating seniors of Vista!

Vista Adult School



510 Sunset Dr., Vista, CA 92081 • 760/758-7122 • www.vistaadultschool.org



Liz O'Shea-West
Principal

Improving Lives

Adult Education Week was celebrated April 9-13 to increase awareness of the important role adult education plays in the local community. This year, both the San Diego County and the city of Vista made official proclamations recognizing Adult Education Week. Vista Mayor Judy Ritter and Deputy Mayor John Aguilera presented the city's proclamation at Vista Adult School's annual Career and Resource Fair.

Vista Adult School is proud to help people from our community gain the skills they need to become employed, advance in their careers, or pursue college education. Through low- or no-cost class offerings, convenient scheduling, and a wide variety of programs, Vista Adult School is creating positive outcomes for students. In addition to providing accredited classes, Vista Adult School offers students many resources to help them succeed. These resources include free child care, reduced-price transit passes, employment services, tutoring, and counseling. Whether it is learning English, studying to become a US citizen, earning a high school diploma or equivalent, or training for a career, Vista Adult School is helping people to improve their lives through education.

Career Technical Education

1234 Arcadia Ave., Vista, CA 92084 • www.ctevista.org



Kelly McKinney
Coordinator CTE

Preparing for the Future

The Career Technical Education program is continuing to prepare our students for a future beyond high school.

We are collaborating with our local community colleges to increase the number of courses we offer that are articulated with a college that will allow students to take a CTE class and receive college credit. In addition, we are looking at expanding our offerings by featuring dual-enrollment courses where our students are able to take college courses in high school.

Articulations and dual enrollment help to solidify the transition from high school to community college, and allow our students to complete a community college certificate program or associate's degree in a timely fashion and prepare them for the workforce.

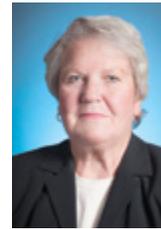
For students entering a four-year college after high school, CTE helps to prepare them for the requirements needed for entrance to the UC system, with 75 percent of all CTE courses meeting the a-g requirements. One example is that students in photography or TV/Film can fulfill their (f) visual and performing arts requirement by taking a CTE course. As we offer new courses in CTE, we are also designing them to be articulated and meet a-g requirements.

Preparing students for life beyond high school is a priority for our programs. Regardless of the direction our students take after graduation, whether two- or four-year college, trade school, the military, or going directly into the workplace, our CTE students will be prepared for the adventures ahead.

Board of Education



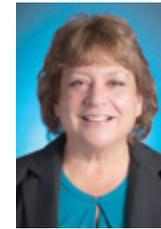
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BOARD OF EDUCATION • From Page

and active shooter. This committee is comprised of district officials as well as law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel, safety professionals and trauma counselors. We address every element of dealing with an emergency to ensure that we are prepared to protect children. School staff are assigned specific duties and are ready to transform our campuses into emergency centers to protect children and get them safely back to their parents.

Another element of this process is the ability to identify individuals within our schools who may be experiencing emotional difficulties and pose a risk to others. In Vista, we have certificated counselors, social workers and resources officers available to help at each school site. In addition, we have PSSTWorld, an anonymous reporting tool which will alert school personnel or local law enforcement of a possible dangerous threat to our schools or concerns that students may have. This tool is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is monitored and reviewed during school hours.

Lastly, I want to encourage every parent and student to utilize this tool to report anyone who needs help or support. While it may not be for dangerous behavior toward others, anyone who needs help for any reason should be reported to our school staff to ensure safety for everyone. If you see or hear something wrong, say something!

Vista Unified Council of PTAs

836 Olive Ave., Vista, CA 92083 • www.vistausd.org



Celebrating the Arts and Volunteers

By Kim Hilder, Vista Unified Council of PTAs
Vice President-Communications

It's hard to believe we are already near the end of the 2017-2018 school year. All of the PTA units in Vista Unified School District (VUSD) have been working hard all year to enrich the lives of the children in our schools. One of the goals of the Vista Unified Council of PTAs (VUCPTA) is to promote family and community engagement.

In February, our council hosted its first Meet and Greet with VUSD's new superintendent, Dr. Linda Kimble. We will continue that tradition in the next school year, with plans to add more opportunities to connect our community with Dr. Kimble.

Our National PTA Reflections art contest is a program that encourages expression and creativity through various forms of art. Of the 70 entries by VUSD students and the over 500 regional entries, 28 VUSD students received awards or recognition. Two of these were Awards of Excellence, which were sent to Sacramento for state-level competition. One of these, Melody Wheeler from Madison Middle PTA, won second place in the film category! Congratulations to Melody! We are so pleased for her and hope this inspires all students to express themselves through the arts.

Our annual Honorary Service Awards and Installation Luncheon took place on May 1. This event is an opportunity to honor amazing volunteers in our schools and community who have selflessly given their time and effort to help our VUSD PTAs and our children. We also introduced and installed our 2018-2019 VUCPTA council officers.

We hope the remainder of the school year is filled with great memories as we continue to strive for excellence in our schools and strengthen the relationships between PTAs and our VUSD community.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Ages 5-18
- Dates are June 8-August 11
- \$30/day OR \$120/week
- *Current am/pm site members from VIDA, Vista Magnet, and MADISON or members using transportation only \$60/week
- *Annual membership required: \$50 to attend
- *Afternoon snack provided at no charge

THEME WEEKS

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| JUNE 11-15 | SUPERHEROES |
| JUNE 18-22 | 60'S |
| JUNE 25-29 | CLUB WORLD CUP |
| JULY 02-06 | PARTY IN THE USA |
| JULY 09-13 | TIME TRAVELERS |
| JULY 16-20 | 80'S |
| JULY 23-27 | TV GAMES |
| JULY 30-AUG.03 | READY PLAYER ONE |
| AUG. 06-10 | HOLLYWOOD |

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