

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 34

OCTOBER 2018–APRIL 2019

NLMUSD Making the Most to Connect Kids and Campuses

From the District

It's only a matter of time when all its students, from kindergarten through high school, will have use of or personally possess a digital device and have full access to the internet.

That's the connectivity promise made by the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District — to have every student be future ready by the time they graduate as seniors.

The promise is being carried out through NLMUSD's 2020 Learning Initiative, now entering its third year, which calls for personalized and digitalized education for the district's nearly 18,000 K-12 students.

Under the initiative, digital devices are slowly and carefully being introduced to different grade levels and schools over a four-year period. For TK through 3rd grade, students share and use both iPads and Chromebooks in class. In the 4th and 5th grades, students have their own iPads to use at school, while middle school students work on iPads both at school and home.

High school students receive a laptop to use both at school and home.

Likewise, the initiative includes devices and training for all teachers. Digital-oriented classroom instruction is to be "shaped" by teachers to fit the specific needs of every student. Through this personalized approach, students will be able to more effectively use the devices and learn at their own pace.

A new element of the initiative that's being implemented this fall is the delivery of free internet hotspot devices with high-speed wireless service to families in the community without connectivity. The effort, courtesy of a partnership with Sprint's 1Million Project Foundation, will initially target more than 300 6th- and 9th-grade students from low-income households across the district who need the internet where they live.

See **MAKING THE MOST TO CONNECT** • Page 12



Staff at Waite Middle School help sign out 2020 Learning Initiative devices to incoming 6th graders and their parents.

SUPERINTENDENT

A Promising Year Ahead for NLMUSD

Every Student. Future Ready. Our Promise!

That's our motto at the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District and every day in every way we strive to live up to it.

We serve nearly 18,000 K-12 students across three cities and provide high-quality education programs and opportunities at all 28 of our campuses. We are a district that's proud of the academic achievements and community support we've attained by way of dedicating ourselves to the simple promise of helping every student become future ready.

Our district features many award-winning schools and 21st century learning initiatives, including, for example, Morrison Elementary School in Norwalk and Escalona



Dr. Hasmik Danielian
Superintendent

Un año entrante prometedor para NLMUSD

Cada estudiante. Listo para el futuro. ¡Nuestra promesa!

Ese es nuestro lema en el Distrito Escolar Unificado Norwalk-La Mirada y todos los días en todos los sentidos nos esforzamos por estar a la altura. Servimos a casi 18,000

estudiantes de K-12 a través de tres ciudades y brindamos programas y oportunidades de educación de alta calidad en todos los 28 sitios escolares. Somos un distrito que se enorgullece de los logros académicos y el apoyo de la comunidad que hemos logrado al dedicarnos a la simple promesa de ayudar a que cada estudiante esté preparado para el futuro.

Nuestro distrito cuenta con muchas escuelas galardonadas e iniciativas de aprendizaje del siglo

See **SUPERINTENDENT** • Page 13

BOARD OF EDUCATION

A District That's Building for Its Future

The Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District has been busy making smart, long-term investments for the communities it serves.

These investments are in the form of several major renovation projects that are underway at school sites around the district — work that, in addition to creating gorgeous aesthetics and newfound campus pride, will provide facility upgrades, user convenience and additional safety for students, staff and visitors alike.

The projects are being funded through Measure G, the district's capital improvements bond passed by voters in 2014, and a similar bond, Measure S, which was passed in 2002.

In Norwalk, John Glenn High School and nearby Corvallis Middle School are about halfway through their construction projects.



Chris Pflanzner
President

Un distrito que está construyendo para su futuro

El Distrito Escolar Unificado Norwalk-La Mirada ha estado ocupado haciendo inversiones inteligentes a largo plazo para las comunidades a las que sirve.

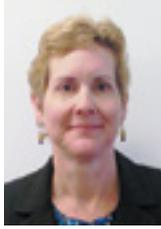
Estas inversiones tienen la forma de varios proyectos importantes de renovación en curso en las escuelas del distrito: trabajo que, además de crear una estética magnífica y orgullo recién descubierto en el sitio escolar, proporcionará mejoras en las instalaciones, comodidad del usuario y seguridad adicional para los estudiantes, el personal y visitantes por igual.

Los proyectos se están financiando a través de la Medida G, el bono de mejoras de capital del distrito aprobado por los votantes en 2014, y un bono similar, la Medida S, que se aprobó en 2002.

See **BOARD OF EDUCATION** • Page 13

Ramona Head Start *Pre-School*

14616 Dinard Ave., Norwalk CA 90650 • 562/921-7610



Laurel Parker
Director

Parent School!

In support of the district's focus on college and career readiness, the NLMUSD Preschool Program has partnered with the Adult School to offer early childhood education classes for parents of children enrolled in the program. All fees are paid by the Preschool Program.

The first class was held at the end of August, in the evening. In order to offer the class, 20 students were needed, and on the first day, there were 42 interested parents! There are 35 parents now enrolled in the class, taught by Adult School instructor Kristy Cota.

This is the first of two classes that will be offered this year. Another ECE class will be held during the spring semester. Once parents complete the second class, they will be eligible to sign up to substitute as paraeducators in the preschool program or to be hired as childcare aides. Congratulations to the parents enrolled for getting themselves "future ready"!



Parents in ECE class listen attentively to Kristy Cota, Adult Education teacher.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Welcome back to another school year. By now students are settled into their routines and focused on academics. This is our 8th year publishing the excellence from NLMUSD.

This issue brings you up to date on what is happening in each school. I was especially excited to read the Dolland Elementary article about the Art of Conversation. With electronic devices consuming the attention of both children and adults is refreshing to see focus on conversation.

Our next issue is May 22, 2019.

School News

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www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

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

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Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District Preschool Program

High Quality Free Preschool
Preescolar de alta calidad gratis

Now Providing Services to Families Living in Norwalk, La Mirada and Areas of Downey
Ahora presta servicios a las familias que viven en Norwalk, La Mirada y zonas de Downey



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Ramona School Office
14616 Dinard Avenue
Norwalk, CA 90650
(562) 210-4205



Head Start, Early Head Start and State Preschool are offered across multiple sites. Home base or center base options are offered to 0-5 year olds beginning in July and August. Classes are currently being filled.

Ofrecemos una variedad de programas y escuelas. Home Base, clases para niños de 0 a 5 años, las clases empiezan en julio y agosto. Las clases se llenan rapido.



We toilet train too!
¡Les enseñamos a usar el baño!



We welcome children with disabilities.
Aceptamos niños con necesidades especiales.



We offer services to pregnant women.
Ofrecemos servicios a las mujeres embarazadas.

www.nlmusd.org/preschool
Applications available online (website)

The programs serve all eligible children regardless of sex, race, religion, ethnicity, or disabilities, and refrain from religious instruction or worship. Estos programas sirven a todos los niños elegibles, sin importar raza, sexo o incapacidad, y no proporcionamos instrucción religiosa.

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Tuesday October 16, 2018 6-8pm



COLLEGE & CAREER Expo



**50+ Colleges
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**Location:
John Glenn HS
13520 Shoemaker
Norwalk, CA 90650**

NORWALK LA MIRADA

Unified School District

Every Student. Future Ready. Our Promise!

Contact Info: 562-210-4051

www.nlmusd.org

Adult School

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



**Sharon Renfro
Todd**
Director

Preschool/Childcare Professions Certification Program

As the need for certified childcare increases in California, the Norwalk-La Mirada Adult School is working to meet that need by expanding its Preschool/Childcare Professions program to include internships with local agencies.

The foundation of our program begins with rigorous coursework around teaching strategies, curriculum planning and implementation, creating age-appropriate learning activities, and building supportive relationships among diverse cultures, languages, and abilities. This broad coursework combined with the skills students gain while participating in the real-world experience of internship make our students both well-qualified and prepared for successful employment. Former students are now employed in various private schools and childcare settings, and some have chosen to continue their education in preparation to run their own centers.

We are pleased to provide this quality program, which addresses both employment and service needs in our communities. Please see our brochure at nlm.as.org or contact us for more information.

Benton *MS Visual & Performing Arts Magnet*

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



**Benjamin
Webster**
Principal

Stellar Artworks

Benton Middle School continues to shine in the area of visual arts at the 2018 Los Angeles County Fair Art Contest. Benton Wolverines produced 36 entries in the areas of photography, media art, and traditional 2D and 3D art. Of all the entries, three won third place, nine won second-place ribbons, 24 won first-place titles, and two were awarded the coveted Best in Show title.

Benton students created stellar works of art through skills developed by our master instructors: art instructor Mrs. Hodge, media-arts teacher Mrs. McMath and photography instructor Mrs. Pflanzner. Through hard work and persistence, we are meeting our mission to inspire and empower all students to achieve academic excellence in a creative visual and performing-arts environment.

Benton is also excited about the completion of our all-weather track at the beginning of September. After years of waiting, the Benton fields are nearing completion.



Best of Show Winner—Janyce Fuller

Chavez *Elementary School*

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



**Gabriela
Galvez-Reyna**
Principal

Talking and Learning

At Chavez we know the importance of “TALK.” We know that the person that is doing the talking is the one doing the learning. We also know that talking leads to coherent writing. From TK to 5th grade every child is talking more than ever before. Students are talking not only during ELD (English Language Development) time but also during, Reading, Math and Writing time. Some of our teachers attended an EL training recently to support them in expanding on this critical need. Our staff also participated in an onsite PD in math. It was no coincidence that “think, pair, share, write” was included! In addition, the PD gave us an opportunity to have our own meaningful dialog around how to best to get our students, many of whom are English learners, to begin and keep talking and learning!



Teachers and students at Chavez Elementary are engaged in meaningful conversations

Corvallis *MS Arts & Technology Magnet*

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



Bob Easton
Principal

New this Year

Exciting things are happening at Corvallis Middle School – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) Magnet. This year, we added a new engineering course through Project Lead the Way. Computer Science for Innovators and Makers is the newest addition to our five existing engineering courses. All of these classes prepare our students for high school pathways, as well as college and career.

In addition, this year, every student will visit our College and Career Center to investigate career interests, learn about college majors, and discover which universities offer programs to support those careers. Using online tools, students are also able to store resources and keep track electronically!



Our new and improved campus!

Lastly, the campus landscaping modernization is nearly complete, and it looks amazing. A new synthetic track was added, as well as an all-new blacktop area with basketball and volleyball courts. Parking areas are being improved, and a beautiful new lunch/stage area is nearing completion.

Dolland *Elementary School*

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



Lorena Sierra
Principal

The Art of Conversation

Let's talk about it! Where would we be without conversation? Throughout history, conversations have allowed us to see different perspectives, build ideas, and solve problems. At Dolland Elementary School, we are pushing our students to think and learn in lasting ways by training our students to maintain focused, respectful, and thoughtful academic conversations.

Academic conversations are back-and-forth dialogues in which students focus on academic topics and explore them by building, challenging, and negotiating relevant ideas. As a community of learners, we want to cultivate a strong respect for others' ideas, ensure equity of voice, and develop high levels of engagement.



As we continue to grow our strategies in academic discourse, I encourage our parents to develop family routines that support everyday conversations about learning. Together we can help our children grow the strong speaking skills they need to collaborate and build a better future.

Dolland Huskies will not only look great but they'll sound great too! Go, Huskies!

Dulles *Elementary School*

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



Shanti Gallegos
Principal

Walls of Hopes and Dreams

At Dulles Elementary School, we build relationships with students, greet them daily, and use praise to reinforce kind and positive behaviors. We use Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) to define, teach, and support appropriate student behaviors to create a positive school environment. We strive to cultivate a community of caring, honest and

compassionate learners in order to challenge and inspire each child to become more than he or she ever thought possible.

At the beginning of the school year, we asked all students to write or draw their dreams on one of our walls of dreams. Staff, families and community partners wrote their hopes for our students on the walls of hope. We display these walls of hopes and dreams as a daily reminder of what we are about and why we come to Dulles. Every day, what we say, what we do, and how we spend our time meeting the needs of our students are the most important things!



Nancy Reeves, Teresa Foote, Anne Honeybourne
put up Dulles Walls of Hopes and Dreams in the NLMUSD Board Room.

Edmondson *Elementary School*

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



Sharon Stewart
Principal

Educating the Whole Child

At Edmondson we believe in teaching the whole child, have lots to offer our students (DUAL Immersion, AVID, Visual Arts, Music, Technology, and more!), and are committed to our District focus areas of Literacy, Math, and College and Career Readiness. We are especially excited that our AVID elementary team is growing and we are on our way to becoming AVID school-wide!

We believe that college is not a dream, it's a plan...and that plan starts when our students are young. Throughout the school day, our Edmondson Eagles are learning how to stay organized using agendas and binders. They also take organized notes, and are engaging in inquiry and collaboration.



A team of ten dedicated teachers and the principal attended the AVID 2018 Summer Institute in Anaheim, CA.

Eastwood *Elementary School*

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



Yvette Cantu
Principal

Award Winner!

I am pleased to announce that the California PBIS Coalition honored Eastwood School with the Bronze PBIS Implementation Award. The award signifies our efforts to develop a positive behavior intervention support (PBIS) system based on clear behavior

expectations, instructional goals, and positive reinforcement. Teachers and staff members encourage students to follow the “Three Bs,” be safe, be respectful, and be responsible, by showering them with Golden Eagle Bucks. Students love to save their bucks to shop for goodies or trade them in for a chance to participate in fun activities with the principal. We are proud of our students and will continue to work to reach our mission which is to inspire and encourage every student in a manner that ensures success!



Eastwood is honored to be recognized by the California PBIS Coalition.

El Camino *High School*

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



Ryan Cummins
*Director
Alt. Education*

Off to a Great Start

Students at ECHS now have the opportunity to enroll in Spanish courses to receive elective credit as well as having access to higher level math classes to support College and Career Readiness. The campus currently provides courses to enable students to meet A-G compliance.

On August 29th, El Camino held its first Blood Drive for the 2018-2019 school year. We have joined with the American Red Cross working together to provide this community service. Thirty pints of blood were collected potentially saving 90 lives. There are four blood drives held annually at the school with a goal of

150 pints to earn a scholarship through the American Red Cross for graduating seniors.



ASB President Lexi Contreras and Treasurer, Denise Hernandez supporting the American Red Cross Blood Drive

Escalona *Elementary School*

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



Bonnie Lytle
Principal

Active Learning

Active engagement, academic discourse, and some amazing programs lead to academic success here at Escalona Elementary School. Our Escalona Eagles are excited for the 2018–2019 school year, and we are proud to support our district’s promise of “Every Student; Future Ready!”

This year our Escalona students will actively participate in mathematical problem solving through Cognitively Guided Instruction. This helps to develop our children’s mathematical thinking and fosters deeper conceptual understanding. Our students will also engage in academic discourse through interactive lessons and collaborative projects.



Escalona students are jumping for joy in the new school year.

Always supporting our students’ social and emotional well-being, our Escalona teachers will continue to stress the six pillars of character: Respect, Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Caring, Citizenship, and Fairness. They are also embracing our Escalona PTA’s theme this year of, “We Are Growing In Kindness!”

Our Escalona students continue to soar on the wings of knowledge!

Foster Road *Elementary School*

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



Salvador Villagomez
Principal

PBIS—New and Improved!

Our first year of implementation for our schoolwide behavior plan was a resounding success. Year two promises to be even better! The cornerstone of our efforts is the adoption of our new school motto: “A Bright Future Begins Here!” which is now displayed with a huge banner in our MPR.

We are adding other positive-message banners throughout the school. Our entrance will feature an “Enter to Learn” banner, with our exit displaying a “Leave to Achieve” banner. Our hallways will soon be displaying our positive character traits as well. In addition, we are opening our Foster Road store. Students will be able to use their accumulation of Star Bucks to obtain various prizes that include pencils, games, stickers and backpacks.

We at Foster Road are really pleased with the enthusiasm and excitement that are taking shape. Together, our school will continue to shine even brighter, as will the future of all of our students!

Be a STAR—strive for Safety, Taking responsibility, Achieving your best and Respect.

Gardenhill *Elementary School*

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



Sarah Gilbert
Principal

New Happenings!

Gardenhill Elementary School is honored to join the Cotsen Foundation for the ART of TEACHING. Through a process that included on-site interviews and lesson observations, six teachers were selected for a two-year fellowship.

Like Gardenhill, the Cotsen Foundation believes that the responsibility of educating students is a collective one. The foundation has established professional-growth opportunities that emphasize strong collaboration between teachers and mentors

as well as ongoing professional development training in effective instructional practices that are research proven and cutting edge. Our participants will deepen their understanding of Balanced Literacy, Writer's Workshop and Cognitively Guided Instruction.

Our office and MPR are almost ready! Construction is moving along, and we are excited to see our new entrance and provide you with air conditioning in the MPR!

Patriot pride and positivity! Teachers and staff are trying on new strategies to boost school culture and build positive teacher/student relationships. We look forward to making connections!



Glenn *High School*

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



Francisco Ramirez
Principal

Building Parent Partnerships

Parents want their children to be successful at school. Building parent partnerships to leverage student success is a priority at John Glenn High School (JGHS) and Southeast Academy (SEA).

This summer, freshman parents at both sites were invited to learn about the programs, activities, and resources available to them to ensure student success. Parent involvement is key to student success! This fall, the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) will train over 75 of our parents on everything

from understanding the high school system to discussing higher education options. There is also a Parent Resource Room, where parent trainings are held to learn about strategies to support students.

There are many options for parental involvement. Our JGHS/SEA PTSA is electing new officers during our Back-to-School Night in September. Parents will help us by planning our new stadium grand opening, joining our Principal's Parent Advisory Group, attending our School Counselor Advisory Council, or attending the English Learners Advisory Committee meetings. There is something for everyone!



Parent involvement is key to student success.

Glazier *Elementary School*

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



Adriana Nakano
Principal

Starting off the Year with Support!

Glazier students are beginning the year with support in literacy skills. Based on end of year data from the 2017-2018 school year, students in grades 1st-3rd are currently receiving 40-minutes, four times per week, of intensive instruction in the following areas: phonemic awareness, phonics and reading. The iTOSA and paraeducators provide doses of intervention in these three areas then tie it together with a brief writing assignment. The purpose of this targeted intervention is to give students the boost that they need in order to meet grade level standards. So far it's been working! Students are making gains and becoming stronger readers and writers! WOO-HOO!

and writers! WOO-HOO!

Optometry



"Don't prepare the road for the child, prepare the child for the road."

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



(562) 868-8233 • drjohnlarcabal.com

Hutchinson *MS Math, Science, Technology Magnet*

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



Robin Padget
Principal

Modernization: Thank you NLMUSD!

Hutchinson is getting a makeover! Our MPR and Main Office are being renovated and a digital marquee is coming soon! Our entire campus was painted over the summer – in our own Hawk school colors. All of our classrooms received new teacher & student furniture, including specialized furniture for our band/choir program and Science classrooms. Our staff, parents and students are excited to see the progress with construction and are proud to see our District put so much effort in creating an updated and beautiful environment for our school community to enjoy for years to come!



A permanent stage is being constructed to showcase the talents of Hutchinson's wonderful Choir, Band & Orchestra students.

La Mirada *High School*

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



Lisa Reed
Principal

AP Bootcamp

La Mirada High School was proud to host its first annual Advanced Placement (AP) Summer Bootcamp! AP Bootcamp was comprised of an opening session followed by 14 individual AP sessions. Over the course of three days, approximately 200 students attended various sessions throughout our campus.

The opening session included topics such as being an AP student and the AP test. Topics covered included course expectations, college credits, organization, and the study skills necessary for AP success. AP Bootcamp opening session ended with a question and answer panel comprised of experienced AP students and teachers.



Individual AP sessions were taught predominately by the teachers themselves. They provided insight into the courses and student expectations. Students who attended AP sessions were either enrolled in or interested in taking AP courses. This event also exposed students to more AP course selections.

La Mirada High School continues to work toward the goals of increasing AP course participation and raising AP scores.

Johnston *Elementary School*

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



Angela Togia
Principal

Another Amazing School Year!

The beginning of the school year here at Johnston has proven to be filled with great joy and celebrations.

Our new kindergarten students and their families were invited to meet their teachers prior to the first day of school. We had "Popsicles on the Playground" and sack lunches!

On the first day of school, the rest of the students were welcomed in with our staff cheering. They all walked through the gates and created a positive school atmosphere for our Johnston families.

Officer Ortego, from the City of Norwalk, and School Safety Officer Taylor, from the NLMUSD, also attended our PBIS assembly.

After the first 12 days of school, we want to acknowledge our top perfect attendance classes: Mr. Calma (88 percent), Mrs. Greenway (90 percent), and Ms. Perez (90 percent). Finally, our preliminary SBAC state test results have been showing a positive growth trend for the past three years. We are extremely proud of the greatness of our Johnston students, staff, and community. We continue to shine!



A Johnston tradition is to take a staff picture at the end of the 1st day of school. 2018-19 will be the best year yet!

La Pluma *Elementary School*

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



Terry Pace
Principal

Believe, Achieve, Succeed

It was an awesome opening on the La Pluma Elementary School campus as we welcomed our students and families to the 2018–2019 school year! We look forward to partnering with our learning community to “Reach for the Stars” in the upcoming year!

We are paving the path for career and college readiness through our Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) elementary strategies, as well as building a solid foundation in the areas of literacy, mathematical thinking, and problem solving. We are also working to develop social-emotional growth in our students.



Exploring our math tools in The First Ten Days!

In every classroom, students have experienced the First Ten Days of Math as they established math norms, learned the importance of a growth versus fixed mindset, explored with math tools, and engaged in mathematical conversations. Students are explaining and modeling their thinking as we strengthen our mathematical mindset school-wide.

Setting personal goals is also a priority as we teach students to Believe, Achieve, and Succeed!

Lampton *Elementary School*

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



Cindy Rayburn
Principal

Great Start

Lampton Dolphins are off to another great school year! Lampton teachers attended two days of training on Cognitive Guided Instruction (CGI) in Math. Students are diving in to classroom technology to learn and share exciting things. They have started “air-playing” their math strategies from an iPad to the TV, so they can explain their work to their classmates.

Lampton has earned recognition as a California Distinguished School, a Title 1 Academic Achievement Award winner, and recently earned silver level recognition for our Positive Behavior Interventions and supports. We pride ourselves on the positive relationships that we develop among our students, staff and parents. Here’s what a few of our new students had to say about our school:

We use Go Noodle videos for brain-breaks, and I like using i-Ready and Clever on the i-pad. – De’Lonni, 2nd grade



New students weigh in on their experiences at Lampton.

The kids are nice here, and we can work in groups to help each other.

— Emilia, 5th grade

We’re doing multiplication, but it’s like repeated addition, so it doesn’t feel hard like multiplication.

— Elizabeth, 3rd grade

My teacher has lots of degrees, and he makes our lessons fun. – Maurion 4th grade

Los Alisos *MS Math, Science, Technology Magnet*

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



Dr. Majid Salehi
Principal

PLTW

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) continues to expand and cultivate positive effects at Los Alisos Middle School. This year, Los Alisos is offering eight units of the PLTW Gateway program. The units are systematically offered in all grade levels so that students can engage in and apply a wide variety of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills. This also ensures that students that are in the magnet program for three years are exposed to all three STEM pathways: engineering, biomedical and computer sciences. This preparation will

empower and equip students to follow the STEM pathway of their choice in high school and beyond.



Seventh graders, Carlos Martinez Duran and Alia Perrish Rodriguez shared their experience at the Project Lead the Way Informational Conference at Cal Poly Pomona

Furthermore, students enrolled in the new computer-science courses have shown tremendous interest and fascination with the field. Last year, two seventh-graders, Carlos Martinez Duran and Alia Perrish Rodriguez, shared their experience at the Project Lead the Way Informational Conference at Cal Poly, Pomona.

Lastly, Los Alisos Middle School is now offering an after-school Femineers class to 24 seventh-grade female students interested in STEM careers.

Los Coyotes

MS Centurion Honors and Medical/Forensics Magnet

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



Dr. Jacob Muñoz
Principal

Future-Proof

At Los Coyotes Middle School we believe in the power of partnering with our community in order to support student achievement. We are both excited and proud to share the good news that 100% of our students received their iPads within the first few weeks of school. Additionally, Mrs. Carlisle, our 6th grade Social Science teacher, taught Centurions a 2-week technology boot camp to prepare our incoming 6th graders for success in their next several years of middle school and beyond. We pride ourselves on collaboration at LCMS. Centurions will be future ready!



Mrs. Carlisle training LCMS parents and students on iPads.

Moffitt *Elementary School*

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



Rachel Garcia
Principal

First 10 Days of Math

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2018-19 school year! We kicked off the start of the school year with the First 10 Days of Math Class to establish a “Growth Mindset,” create a positive math culture, and set up math routines to support students in building fluency, conceptual understanding, and math discourse. Classrooms read books such as *Leo the Late Bloomer* and *The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes* to learn about the power of “yet” and how mistakes are an important part of learning and help our brain grow. Students explored math tools and engaged in number talks to share their strategies and thinking. We are off to a great start at Moffitt Elementary and looking forward to an AMAZING school year, full of opportunities and new learning experiences for all of our students!



Kindergarten students exploring and interacting with their math tools

Morrison *Elementary School*

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



Rudy Gonzalez
Principal

Our Best Year Yet

The Julia B. Morrison Tigers are off to a roaring start! We are beginning the fifth year of our math campaign. In the previous four years, our students have shown continual growth in their individual achievement levels in mathematics as measured by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium state test (SBAC). In order to build on this success, our teachers are receiving training on Cognitively Guided Instruction math (CGI). This is a student-centered approach to teaching mathematics where the educators listen to students and ask strategic questions. CGI helps students deepen their mathematical understanding through problem-solving, Number Talks, and learning to represent their thinking in multiple ways.



Morrison 4th graders represent their Math thinking in multiple ways

Morrison is providing our community with future engineers, surveyors, financial analysts, and successful critical thinkers for every career! We look forward to creating students who love learning by partnering with our parents, district employees, and community in mathematics and every other subject, to make

New River *Elementary School*

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



David Hoffman
Principal

Excited about Robotics

Near the end of the 2017–2018 school year, robotics became a focal point for New River Elementary School’s fifth-grade students. This year we are looking to expand that enthusiasm to all grades.

In May, the district hosted its first robotics and programming tournament, with nine of the elementary schools participating in a day-long series of competitive events. Teams of students used iPads to code and program robots named “Dot” and “Dash.”

In line with the Harry Potter-themed tournament, New River entered a group of nine students with the team name “The Knightly Hallows.” The team went on to capture second place overall and had the highest total score for the event.

Since the event, New River is working to expand the robotics and coding program on campus and create accessibility for all students, kindergarten through fifth grade. An additional 18 robots have been purchased, and we are dedicating an entire room to serve as our robotics lab.

New River is excited to bring coding and robotics to all of our students!



New River's Knightly Hallows Robotics Team

Norwalk *High School*

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



Mike Garcia
Principal

Summer Beginnings

In early August, our eleventh- and twelfth-grade Link Crew leaders hosted several hundred new ninth-grade students at our LINK Crew Freshman Orientation. The Link Crew leaders, Link Coordinator Ms. Osongco, and a group of dedicated teachers all made this an extremely successful event.

As a result of this Link Crew orientation, our ninth-graders had a smooth first day at Norwalk High School. They were able to make strong connections with the eleventh- and twelfth-grade students that will help them throughout their freshman year.

Our Advanced Placement students also showed up in force to get ready for the school year. We had over 80 students attend our AP Summer Bridge event, which took place during the vacation period. The program provided a good foundation for the school year, and our students picked up some important information to help them become successful in their classes.



AP Summer Bridge students.

Nuffer *Elementary School*

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



Makara Sar
Principal

Expected Behaviors

The first few days of school can be very nerve racking for many students, especially if they are new to the school.

At Nuffer STEAM Academy, we do a venue training that helps students understand our expectations at every location on campus. We have our supervision lead reviewing the playground procedures with all of our fifth-graders, and our students also had a chance to visit the office, cafeteria, library, computer lab, and bathrooms. Our staff members also taught the students how to enter the office and even how to enter and exit the bathrooms.

As our students start to perform their expected behaviors, they can receive special Bobcat Bucks when they get caught doing the expected. Every month they can use those bucks to purchase items at the Bobcat Store. The Bobcat Store contains items chosen by our Student Council, which may have school supplies and toys.



Sanchez *Elementary School*

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



Alicia Rubio
Principal

Emergence of Discourse

The Dragons are off to a great start! Students returned to Sanchez excited to learn. Teachers also returned excited to challenge and watch their students learn from them and from one another.

Teachers are working hard to present material to students that help them achieve the rigor of the Common Core State Standards through academic discourse. Students are being asked to answer complex, thought-provoking questions so that they can engage in academic conversations with their peers—something they are all going to be expected to do throughout their academic careers and undoubtedly in the workforce.



Ms. Fisher's fourth grade students are working on a challenging puzzle as part of a beginning of the year, team-building activity.

Students in kindergarten through fifth grade are learning to challenge one another's thinking by asking their peers to explain their thinking as well as to share new ideas. Students and teachers are excited about the energy and learning these conversations are bringing to the classroom.

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Southeast Academy *High School*

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



MSgt. Marty Schafer
USMC, Director

College and Career Ready!

Southeast Academy is a career-related high school, offering cadets the opportunity to develop important career skills within our challenging academic framework. Our school-wide, career-related study, which is unique to Southeast Academy, is designed to prepare cadets for college-level work and employment.

Career pathways focus heavily on application of knowledge and skills in realistic, day-to-day contexts. Cadets who are interested in public service, law enforcement, military, and fire sciences can explore in depth whether they are on the right career paths. We focus on ethical issues within the public services by teaching cadets how to be successful leaders.

Cadets master career-specific concepts and theories in our daily, school-wide, real-world context. For example, our daily inspection of homework and uniforms helps teach consistency and responsibility. Whatever career choice cadets choose, they graduate with an understanding of what it takes to be successful leaders in a college and career environment.

Waite *MS Careers Magnet*

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



Dr. Susan Newcomb
Principal

Summer Mural Project

An expansive mural now encompasses the portion of the building that faces Rosecrans Avenue. Most of July was used to support outlining, community painting, and coating of this special artwork. We loved having so many students, families, and community members taking part in this piece of history for Waite Middle School and our Norwalk community!

Incoming sixth-grade students from across the district had a great experience partnering with prospective teachers from Cerritos College to enjoy Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) activities. Team building and collaboration made it a great summer experience for over 100 students, including students with special needs. Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District truly lives its motto: Every student. Future ready. Our promise!



NLMUSD students enjoyed Summer STEM hosted on Waite's campus.

We are thrilled to be above multi-year enrollment projections! Our vision is "A community committed to building character, leadership, and academic excellence in all students."

These campus projects help to build a climate and culture where children thrive. Please call to schedule a tour and see how great it is at Waite!

MAKING THE MOST TO CONNECT • From Page 1

The idea is to provide equity and access to the tools students need to succeed, according to Ernesto Centeno, the NLMUSD coordinator of instructional technology.

"The district is taking care of all that," he said about the project. "They don't have to worry about getting a computer for their child from kinder to high school graduation. We are providing access to the technology."

As part of the district's acceptable-use policy, however, the initiative requires not only teaching the students how to use their various devices, but also explaining and enforcing the rules on how to utilize them safely and effectively, especially when navigating the internet.



A Norwalk High School AVID student (standing) assists a classmate and his father sign up for a laptop computer provided through the 2020 Learning Initiative.

District administrators believe that NLMUSD is well positioned to lead families into the future by developing students who are well trained in new technologies that can be applied to a variety of subjects, including science, engineering and mathematics. The result will be students skilled in critical thinking who are open, curious and can work in teams.

Simply stated, the overall goal of the 2020 Initiative is to provide a richer learning experience for students and a better chance for their success in school and life.

"I'm excited. There are a lot of people who will greatly benefit from this," said Centeno about 2020, which is part of the district's Future Ready Technology Blueprint. "I think this will prepare families along with students. This is going to help all of our community."



SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 1

Elementary School in La Mirada, which were each recently named as a California Distinguished School by the state Department of Education.

In addition, Gardenhill Elementary School in La Mirada was named last academic year as a National PTA School of Excellence and a Project Lead the Way National Distinguished School.

We are particularly proud of the recent progress and growth of our Southeast Academy High School in Norwalk. It's a tuition-free, regional public school of choice that offers a small campus environment and a leadership-based education philosophy that is unique in Southern California.

The military-style academy, a winner of the prestigious state Golden Bell Award, features a diversity of students who, in addition to the cities of Norwalk, La Mirada and Santa Fe Springs, come from locales across the region such as Buena Park, Cerritos, Downey, Fullerton, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Montebello, Pico Rivera and Riverside.

There no doubt will be many accomplishments for our district, campuses, teachers and staff to take pride in during this school year. And all these achievements will be centered around fulfilling our pledge each day to prepare our students for their future success.



Dr. Hasmik Danielian
Superintendent

XXI, que incluyen, por ejemplo, la Escuela Primaria Morrison en Norwalk y la Escuela Primaria Escalona en La Mirada, a las cual el Departamento de Educación del estado designó recientemente como Escuela Distinguida de California.

Además, la Escuela Primaria Gardenhill en La Mirada fue nombrada el último año académico como una Escuela de Excelencia de la PTA Nacional y una Escuela Distinguida Nacional del Proyecto Lead the Way.

Estamos particularmente orgullosos del reciente progreso y crecimiento de nuestra escuela secundaria Southeast Academy en Norwalk. Es una escuela pública regional libre de cobros por matriculación que ofrece un entorno de sitio escolar pequeño y una filosofía de educación basada en el liderazgo que es única en el sur de California.

La academia de estilo militar, ganadora del prestigioso premio "Golden Bell Award", presenta una diversidad de estudiantes que, además de las ciudades de Norwalk, La Mirada y Santa Fe Springs, provienen de lugares de la región como Buena Park, Cerritos, Downey, Fullerton, Long Beach, Los Ángeles, Montebello, Pico Rivera y Riverside.

Sin duda alguna habrá muchos logros de los que nuestro distrito, sitios escolares, maestros y personal se enorgullecerán durante este año escolar. Y todos estos logros estarán enfocados en cumplir nuestro compromiso cada día de preparar a nuestros estudiantes para su éxito futuro.

President Board of Education • From Page 1 • Presidente de la Junta de Educación

Glenn is getting a new 2,500-seat stadium, baseball fields, a press box, ticket booth and concession stand. At Corvallis, extensive landscaping improvements are being done along with new work to upgrade parking lots, playground areas and pedestrian walkways. In addition, the campus will be getting an outdoor marquee.

Renovations similar to Corvallis are being done at Benton Middle School in La Mirada. At Benton, there will be extensive modernization work done on the campus athletic fields and playground areas.

At La Mirada High School, work will commence this fall on a major expansion of the campus gym, which in addition to doubling the seating capacity to about 1,400, will include new locker rooms and training facilities.

Next year, another major project is slated to begin. It will be construction of a stadium, athletic fields and accessory buildings at Norwalk High School that will be similar to the work being done at Glenn.

There is no doubt these wonderful and cost-effective projects will help each of the schools continue their exemplary education programs and outstanding record of academic achievement.



Chris Pflanzler
President

En Norwalk, la Escuela Secundaria John Glenn y la cercana Escuela intermedia Corvallis están a la mitad de sus proyectos de construcción.

Glenn recibirá un nuevo estadio de 2,500 asientos, canchas de béisbol, un palco de prensa, una taquilla y un puesto de ventas. En Corvallis, se están realizando mejoras extensas en el paisajismo junto con nuevos trabajos para mejorar los estacionamientos, áreas de juego y pasarelas peatonales. Además, el sitio escolar recibirá una marquesina al aire libre.

Se están haciendo renovaciones similares a Corvallis en la Escuela Intermedia Benton en La Mirada. En Benton, se realizarán amplios trabajos de modernización en los campos deportivos del sitio escolar y en las áreas de juego.

En La Escuela Secundaria La Mirada, el trabajo comenzará este otoño en una gran expansión del gimnasio del sitio escolar, que además de duplicar la capacidad de asientos a alrededor de 1,400, incluirá nuevos vestidores e instalaciones de entrenamiento.

El próximo año, otro gran proyecto está programado para comenzar. Será la construcción de un estadio, campos de atletismo y edificios accesorios en la Escuela Secundaria Norwalk que será similar al trabajo que se está haciendo en Glenn.

No hay duda de que estos proyectos maravillosos y efectivos en costo ayudarán a que cada una de las escuelas continúe con sus programas educativos ejemplares y su excelente historial de logros académicos.

Board of Education



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Take a little time to do your research. Our reviews and parenting advice can be an excellent starting point. Other parents also can be great resources. Ask around, and keep your ears open during parents' night at school for any cell phone or social media issues the school is dealing with.

Most importantly, talk -- and listen -- to your kids. They might tell you everything you want to know or at least drop the name of an app or a website you can check out on your own. Even if you can't stay on top of every new app, concentrate your efforts on keeping the lines of communication open so kids will come to you if a problem arises. Make sure kids know it's OK to make mistakes and that they don't need to hide these from you -- that you can actually help them through tough spots.

Beyond that, here are a few more ideas:

Have your kid use your app store account or an account linked to your email, so you'll be notified when an app is downloaded. Consider making a rule, at least until they're older, that they can't download an app or sign up for an online account without asking you first.

Ask which apps and sites are popular with your teen's friends. Kids may open up more when they're talking about someone else.

Share what you're using. Show them your Facebook page, favorite videos, or a game you're obsessed with. They may be inspired to reciprocate.

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Things in the Sky – Word Search Contest

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

Entries must be received by **December 15, 2018**
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!

STARS	MARS	SLEET
SUN	MERCURY	WIND
MOON	SATURN	CLOUDS
AIRPLANE	URANUS	SMOG
KITE	PLUTO	FOG
BALLOON	RAIN	RAINBOW
JUPITER	SNOW	ROCKET



Congratulations to **Conner Staples** — Winner of the June Word Search Contest!

Zoom a Little Zoom



Kate Karp

With all the changes around the planet, it brings you down to earth—like gravity—how basic science remains the same. Snowflakes still form through crystallization, lightning still comes from electrical charges, and that ol' gravity will still bring ya down! But fear not—the inherent lightness in *Zoom a Little Zoom* will have everyone up, moving, and learning about science at lightning speed!



The songs were selected from *Ballads for the Age of Science*, a forward-thinking collection of vinyl LPs produced in 1961. They featured original songs performed by folk and pop-music artists active in the mid-20th century, including Tom Glazer of “On Top of Spaghetti Fame.” The project aimed to make basic science enjoyable and understandable to children. Now, Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer, two longtime busker-type musical artists, have brought these songs into the STEAM-science present with *Zoom*, swapping one musical style for another—the duo does a great Andrews Sisters!—but retaining the lyrics

Nature, space, energy and weather are all renewed. “Vibration” uses stringed instruments in the best way possible; “Why Does the Sun Shine?” is a sea chanty that talks about how far, how big and how important our Mother Star is to life; and “We Know the Air Is There” suggests a neat experiment and is enhanced with fiddle solos and banjo plucking. Speaking of experiments, a downloadable PDF with science activities comes with the CD.

In this rapidly changing world, it's good to know that there's still a base on which to build science education.

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

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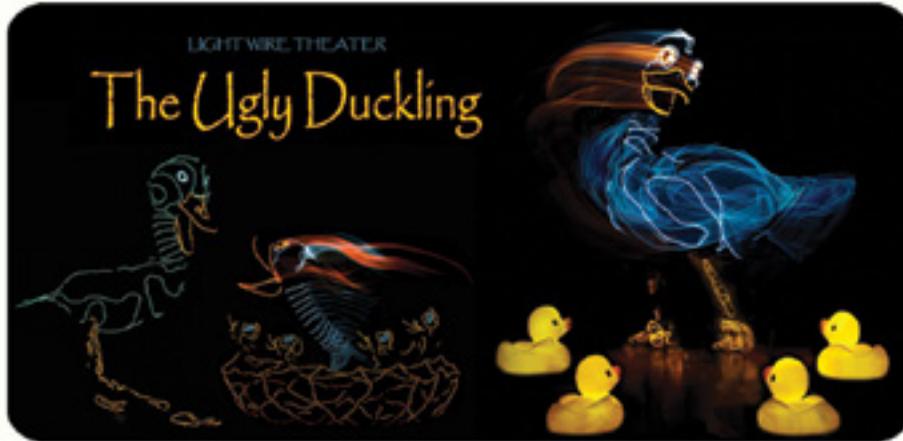
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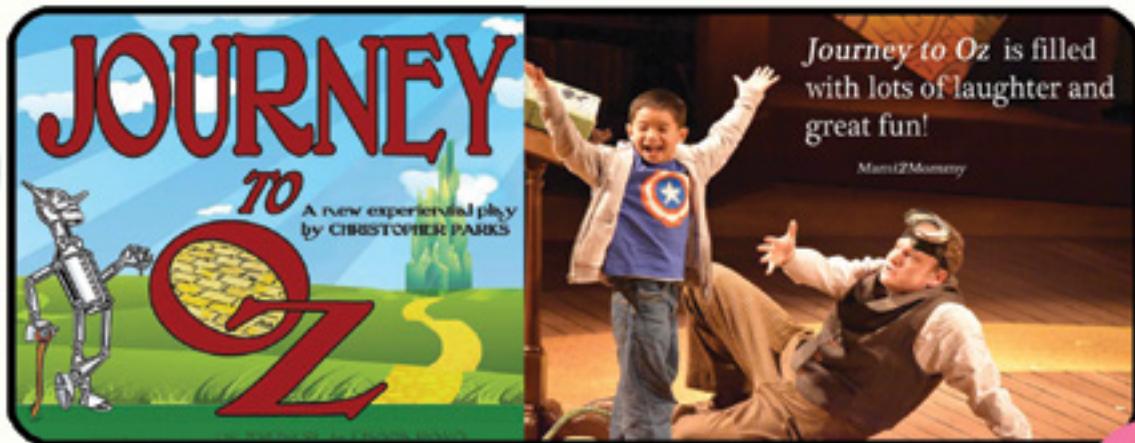


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