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School News

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Covering the Orange Unified School District



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September–November 2019

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Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! The new year brings with it a new mission, vision, core values, strategic initiatives, and graduate profile to guide the district's focus over the next five years. This new strategic plan – The Orange Unified EDGE – was created in a collaborative process that included staff, community members, parents, students, business partners, and service organizations. With a focus on Excellence

in academics and leadership, Dedicated and engaged communication, Genuine wellness and safety, and Efficient utilization of fiscal capital, The Orange Unified EDGE was designed to propel Orange Unified's academic programs, community outreach efforts, student and staff support systems, and efficiency to the next level.

In partnership with our community, we will provide a safe, equitable, and innovative culture of learning for each scholar to have a competitive EDGE as a leader.

Orange Unified School District

1401 North Handy Street • Orange, CA 92867

(714) 628-4000 • www.orangeusd.org

OUSD Alternative Education / ROP

Parkside Education Center: 250 S. Yorba St.. Orange, CA 92869



Justin Stanfield
Coordinator

Greetings from Alternative Education!

I am extremely excited to have the opportunity to serve as the Coordinator of Alternative Education. The 2019-2020 school year marks my 4th year as the site administrator here at Parkside Education Center. I am very proud of all the hard work and accomplishments by our students, staff and families here.

Prior to my time at Parkside, I was an Assistant Principal at Villa Park High School for five years. While at VPHS I oversaw discipline, student records, guidance and curriculum. My time and Villa Park was amazing and I had the pleasure of working with some of the best administrators, teachers, students and parents around!

Prior to my time in OUSD I was a classroom teacher and coach in the Irvine Unified School District. I taught middle school history and PE for 2 years at Sierra Vista Middle School and then spent 4 years in the same capacity at Creekside Continuation High School.

I am extremely excited to serve the students and families of Parkside Education Center. If I can ever be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact me.



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Welcome to a new school year. This is a special issue when the principals share their bios. It is always fun to learn where they attended college, about their families, hobbies and goals for this school year. Some of the principals have been with the district for many years and some are new this year. They all have the same shared dedication to education.

We are celebrating 20 years publishing *School News* and 14 of those years covering OUSD. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. OUSD has much to be excited about with the EDGE and this year is off to a wonderful start.

We look forward to bringing you the news from the classroom with our next issue December 4. In the meantime, Happy Halloween and Happy Thanksgiving! It is hard to believe the holidays are right around the corner.




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Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

6450 E. Serrano Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6169



Nicole VanWilgen-Moore
Principal

Mrs. Van Wilgen Moore is proud to belong to Anaheim Hills Elementary School (AHES), as she starts her first full school year as a Panther. This will be Mrs. Van Wilgen Moore's 10th year in education and her 5th year in administration. Mrs. Van Wilgen Moore has had a diverse set of experiences and roles as an educator including a teacher, educational technology coach, Coordinator in the Orange Unified Office of K-12 Curriculum & Instruction, and her favorite role as Panther Principal.

Last spring, Mrs. Van Wilgen Moore continued to support AHES signature programs including school-wide morning fitness, robotics, the Kindness Garden, PALS, Green Team, and VAPA showcases. With the support of AHES PTA, Mrs. Van Wilgen Moore opened the doors to the new STEM LAB to teachers and students in April of 2019. Additionally, she was able to expand the technology available to students by adding another Chromebook Cart to the AHES campus.

This school year AHES will implement a new STEM curriculum for students to experience in our state-of-the-art STEM Lab. With the support of our district, Mrs. Van Wilgen Moore was able to expand the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program at AHES this school year for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students. With our AVID focus, we will ensure all students have the skills and opportunities to prepare them for limitless future possibilities including college and career readiness.

AHES is so fortunate to have dedicated educators that are committed to providing strong and exceptional educational experiences to meet the needs of all of our Panther students each and every day. Mrs. Van Wilgen Moore is so thankful for the outstanding Panther students, families, and staff that she gets to work with at AHES and is looking forward to an exciting and productive 2019-20 school year!

Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6171



Dr. Karen Hanson
Coordinator

Dr. Karen Hanson is pleased to begin her 8th year at Canyon Hills School. In her background is a unique blend of experience in the fields of both health care and education. As a Registered Nurse, she has worked in the hospital setting, as a school nurse, and as a school health administrator. She then transitioned into the area of special education administration, earning a doctoral degree in education. Dr. Hanson has spent

much of her career working with students with special physical and educational needs. She is committed to furthering the positive work done by the staff and families at Canyon Hills School for these special students.

California *Elementary*

1080 N. California St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6104



Dr. John Albert
Principal

Dr. John Albert, is the Principal at California Elementary school home of the iInspire Academy where Technology and Language Flourish! The iInspire Academy is the premier public one-to-one Take Home iPad School for grades TK-5, and a Spanish Dual Immersion program. Under Dr. Albert's leadership they have been honored to receive the Apple Distinguished Schools 2017-2019 recognition (1 of 470 in

the world), California Gold Ribbon award, Title I Achieving award, and the OUSD's first California School Board Association's Golden Bell award. Dr. Albert serves on the Apple Distinguished Schools Advisory Board (1 of 12 in the world), is an Apple Distinguished Educator (1 of 2,447 in the world since the program was created in 1984), and is the 2019 OUSD Administrator of the Year. In addition, Dr. Albert is an Adjunct Professor at Chapman University's School of Education. Dr. Albert has experience leading schools at every level of public education including High School, Middle School, K-8, Elementary School, and at the district office. Dr. Albert earned his doctorate and master's degree from California State University, Fullerton, and a bachelor's of arts degree from the University of Redlands. Dr. Albert is an avid Country Music fan, Potterhead, and an Orangetheory Fitness fanatic. His wife is a teacher and they have two sons in Middle School and High School. He is first generation American. His father immigrated to the United States from Hungary after WWII and his mother is from Ireland. Both came to build a better life for their future family. It is with this same sense of passion that he entered the education field to help students find their voice in the world.

"As an internationally recognized leader in innovation, we continue preparing our students to be leaders in a globally connected 21st century world. We are ecstatic to expand upon our very successful Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) programs that includes coding and integration of computer science standards. Also, collaborating with Apple Distinguished Schools from around the globe to solve real world problems of ecological impact", said Principal Dr. Albert.



Cambridge *Elementary*

425 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6103



Diane Lew
Principal

Diane Lew is looking forward to her fourth year as the principal of Cambridge Elementary School. Prior to this position, Ms. Lew worked as one of Orange Unified School District's Special Education Coordinators, as well as an Education Specialist. She also has experience as an elementary and middle school general education teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Ms. Lew holds a Bachelor's degree in

Physical Education from San Francisco State University and Master's degree in Educational Administration from National University. Ms. Lew has a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, an Education Specialist Instructional Credential for Mild to Moderate Disabilities, and an Administrative Services Credential.

Ms. Lew believes in a collaborative and inclusive school environment in which talented and dedicated teachers deliver high-quality, data-informed instruction in a fun and safe environment. This approach encourages students to work together to take academic risks using communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity to solve real-world problems that will support them in reaching their full potential and becoming college and career ready.

Ms. Lew is honored to be part of the Cambridge Elementary School team. She enjoys partnering with staff, families, students, and the community to ensure that all student needs are met by maintaining a safe, structured, and inclusive environment that encourages students to develop a growth mindset, gives students the confidence needed to become creative problem-solvers, and promotes positive relationships and responsible behaviors.

Welcome to the 2019/2020 school year!

Canyon *High School*

220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/532-8000



Craig Abercrombie
Principal

Craig Abercrombie is excited to start the 2019-20 school year at Canyon High School. He is entering his 22nd year as an educator and his 17th year in the Orange Unified School District (OUSD). After graduating from college, Craig began his teaching career in Arizona. He joined OUSD as an English teacher and the head boys' basketball coach at Orange High School in 2003. While at Orange High, he also served as the athletic director before becoming an Assistant Principal in 2011. As the Assistant Principal, he was responsible for special education, interventions, and curriculum and instruction.

Craig is extremely proud of the commitment to excellence and the amazing accomplishments by the students and staff at Canyon High School. He feels extremely fortunate to have been able to share in the many successes of the past four years with his fellow Comanche community and looks forward to the many accomplishments to come this year.

Growing up in small towns in Oklahoma and Texas with educator parents, Craig understands the important role a school plays as a part of the community and enjoys working with all stakeholders in the Canyon community to make CHS the best it can be. He is a graduate of the University of Texas-Arlington and holds a bachelor's degree in English and a Master's Degree in Education Administration. Craig and his wife, Veronica, are residents of Orange and are the proud parents of an eight-year old son, Braxton, who attends Serrano Elementary in OUSD.

Canyon Rim *Elementary*

1090 S. The Highlands Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/532-7027



Bree Tippetts
Principal

Mrs. Bree Tippetts is the proud principal at Canyon Rim Elementary. Mrs. Tippetts holds a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services and a Master's Degree in Special Education. She also holds a multiple subject and education specialist teaching credentials. With over 15 years of experience and 10 years in leadership, Mrs. Tippetts is passionate about student achievement and progress, student engagement, high-quality instruction and school community and connectedness.

Providing rigorous and relevant learning opportunities

that challenge student thinking in the areas of math, science, technology, and literacy is a priority for Mrs. Tippetts. She works with her teachers, students, parents, and community as a collaborative facilitator to ensure data-driven school improvement, professional learning communities, targeted instructional delivery, and school and community partnerships.

Mrs. Tippetts values her outstanding staff, students, parents, and community. As a product of Orange Unified, resident of a local community and mother of two, she is invested in all students and strives daily to ensure that Canyon Rim Roadrunners are prepared to be our future leaders. Go Canyon Rim Roadrunners!

Cerro Villa *Middle School*

17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6251



Lisa Ogan
Principal

Welcome to Cerro Villa Middle School, home of the VIKINGS! Mrs. Ogan is honored and proud to enter her sixth year as principal of CVMS. Prior to her serving OUSD, Mrs. Ogan served as middle school assistant principal, summer school principal, teacher on special assignment, middle school math teacher, and elementary school teacher in the Placentia-Yorba Linda, Walnut Valley, and Ontario-Montclair school districts.

Mrs. Ogan received her bachelor's degree in child development with a minor in mathematics and a master's degree in educational administration, both from California State University, Fullerton. She holds a multiple-subject teaching credential with an authorization in mathematics and an administrative services credential.

Mrs. Ogan attributes Cerro Villa's success to her outstanding staff, students, parents, and community. Through collaborative efforts, CVMS is rated nationally as one of the top ten schools for its STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Math) program, showcased as a California Schools to Watch model middle school, and is WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) accredited. In partnership with the CV school community, Mrs. Ogan is committed to providing students a dynamic, safe, and supportive learning environment, which will prepare them with the highest quality education and assist them in realizing their full potential. #WeAreCV

Chapman Hills *Elementary*

170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/532-8043



Jana Saenz
Principal

Jana Saenz will be starting her fifth year as principal at Chapman Hills and is very excited to have another fulfilling year. She is honored to be working with the amazing Bobcat staff, students, and parent community in an effort to work collaboratively in continuing the wonderful traditions and level of success Chapman Hills has experienced.

Mrs. Saenz is a transplant to Southern California. She grew up in Tucson, AZ and moved to California to attend Chapman University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. She then received her Master's Degree in Special Education from Chapman University and later earned an Administrative Credential from California State University, Fullerton. Mrs. Saenz has served many different roles, including a special education teacher, general education teacher, instructional coach and assistant principal during her 18+ years in the Orange Unified School District.

Mrs. Saenz resides in Orange with her husband and three children. All three of Mrs. Saenz children attend school in the Orange Unified School District further deepening her dedication to the Orange Unified School District and our amazing community.

Chapman Hills' staff and students focus for the year is to continue our best practices in ELA and Math, uphold high academic and character standards for ALL students, and foster a strong parent and school connection. We are enthusiastic to continue our 3rd year of the Pyramid of Success which will be enhanced by a new school wide initiative, BP-PBIS, Bully Prevention-Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports. Bobcats are excited to R.O.A.R (Respectful, Organized, Appropriate Attitude, and Responsible) into the new school year!

Crescent *Elementary*

5001 E. Gerda Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6371



Shelé Tamaki
Principal

Shelé Tamaki comes from a long line of teachers in her family at the elementary, secondary and university levels. Majoring in Elementary Education, she graduated Phi Beta Kappa from CSU, Long Beach and earned her Master's Degree in Educational Administration from CSULB. Mrs. Tamaki taught for seven years in grades 2 through 5 while serving as a Social Studies Mentor Teacher and Master Teacher for the Downey Unified School District.

Mrs. Tamaki's administrative experience began in Downey as a Summer School Principal. The following year she served as an Assistant Principal for Capistrano USD. After two and a half years she became an Elementary

Principal in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District. In 1997 Mrs. Tamaki accepted an elementary principalship closer to home in Capistrano Unified. The next several years, she had the privilege of working with talented school teams who received various awards such as California Distinguished School and the California Business for Education Excellence (CBEE) Honor Roll with recognition for State API scores over 900.

The past educational experiences afforded her a professional career opportunity to join the Orange USD leadership team in August 2015. Mrs. Tamaki has since served as Principal of Crescent Elementary, a California Distinguished School and Gold Ribbon School. She looks forward to another year working with the dedicated Crescent staff and community to support student success.

El Modena *High School*

3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6331



Jill Katevas
Principal

El Modena High has a long history of serving students here in Orange, so Jill Katevas is proud to continue her role as principal of such an outstanding school! Mrs. Katevas was born and raised in Long Beach, California and earned her bachelor's degree in English Literature from Long Beach State and her teaching credential from Chapman University. She has proudly served as a public educator for the past 20 years. Mrs. Katevas

learned early on that her ability to work with others, think on her feet, and persevere through all challenges is a key to success that she hopes to instill in all children.

During this past year, she learned about El Modena's extraordinary culture and the dedication of the staff to ensure all students have great memories of their high school education and experiences. It is no secret why El Modena has such a powerful alumni or why so many of the teachers choose to send their children to El Modena. This is truly an amazing school, and she is proud to be a citizen of Vanguard Nation.

Moving forward, she is eager to work as a team to continue fostering the sense of value in community, the commitment to character, and the passion for learning in all students. She shares the pride stakeholders possess for diversity and inclusivity, so it is going to be an incredible year as, together, they promote their core value that Everyone Matters!

Fairhaven *Elementary*

1415 Fairhaven Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6178



Karen Sanders
Principal

Karen Sanders is thrilled to be returning for her sixth year as the principal of Fairhaven Elementary School. Mrs. Sanders has been in education for over 30 years previously in the Ocean View School District having worked as a teacher in a variety of grade levels, middle school assistant principal, and elementary principal. Mrs. Sanders received her bachelor's degree from Long Beach State University, master's degree from Alliant

University and administration credential from UCI.

When Mrs. Sanders is not working she enjoys spending time with her husband and grown son and daughter and her first grandson. Mrs. Sanders also enjoys reading, bowling, and attending Angel games. As principal, Mrs. Sanders feels privileged to have the opportunity to work with a committed staff, supportive families, and motivated and engaging students. She is dedicated to meeting the needs of all students and supporting everyone in the Fairhaven community. Mrs. Sanders is extremely excited to be returning to a school with a proven record of high academic achievement and is looking forward to another great year, building relationships, and continuing the Fairhaven tradition of striving for the best.

El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

181 S. Del Giorgio Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/997-6238



Michele Walker
Principal

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year! Michele Walker is proud to be starting her 16th year at El Rancho Charter School where she has served as both an Assistant Principal and Principal. Mrs. Walker holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and was a collegiate athlete at the University of Oregon. She also possess a Master's degree in Education Administration from National University. Prior to coming to El Rancho, Mrs. Walker was a history

teacher and volleyball coach. It is with great enthusiasm she continues to work with the students, parents, and staff in the next steps of their educational journey!

Esplanade *Elementary*

381 N. Esplanade St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6157



Christi Yokoyama
Principal

Mrs. Christi Yokoyama is looking forward to the 2019-2020 school year as the principal of Esplanade Elementary School. The 19-20 school year will mark Mrs. Yokoyama's 20th year in the field of education. She first served as a classroom teacher and teacher leader in the Tustin Unified School District for 13 years where she taught elementary school for 10 years and middle school Language Arts and Social Science for three years.

This will be her 7th year in administration in Orange Unified, having first served as the assistant principal at McPherson Magnet School and now as principal at Esplanade Elementary School.

Mrs. Yokoyama holds a Bachelor's degree from California State University, Fresno and a Master's degree from California State University, Fullerton, both in Biological Sciences. She continued her education at CSU Fullerton by earning her teaching and administrative services credentials. Mrs. Yokoyama is a National Board Certified Teacher, participates in WASC accreditation committees, and was a Cotsen Family Foundation Fellow--specializing in reading and writing instruction.

Mrs. Yokoyama is proud to be part of the OUSD family and is excited to continue the progress occurring at Esplanade Elementary School where the school staff has been working tirelessly to provide world-class education opportunities for all students. Mrs. Yokoyama looks forward to continuing to work with the community, students, and staff of Esplanade in their pursuit of 21st Century teaching and learning through a strong foundation of core academics integrated with STEAM exploration. It is an exciting time to be an Eagle!

#EsplanadeStrong

Fletcher *Elementary*

515 W. Fletcher St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6181



Sara Pelly
Principal

Sara Pelly is the proud principal of Fletcher Elementary - OUSD's Dual Language Mandarin Immersion School. She is attempting to learn Mandarin along with her students, although her students are learning much more quickly!

Mrs. Pelly began her teaching career at Crescent Primary School in OUSD where she taught for nine years, and then moved to Centralia School District in Buena Park

where she taught in the Gifted and Talented program with first and second graders. After becoming an administrator, Mrs. Pelly was a Student Support Community Liaison and then served as a principal for eight years. She was able to learn some sign language at her most recent school in Centralia that housed a Total Communication Program serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing students.

A native Coloradoan, Mrs. Pelly attended Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma where she earned her teaching credential and a B.S. in Elementary Education. After working as a College Admissions Counselor, she traveled to California for a job interview, and instantly fell in love with the beautiful city of Orange. Teaching preschool for the summer, Mrs. Pelly decided to stay in California to begin her teaching career, and earn her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction and Administrative Services Credential at Chapman University.

Mrs. Pelly spends her free time volunteering at local nursing homes, shelters and hospitals with her dog Orvis-- a licensed therapy dog! She and her husband, Mike, also enjoy fly-fishing, are involved in the Men's and Women's Lacrosse Parent Booster program at Chapman University, and are a part of the Community Foundation of Orange.

Handy *Elementary*

860 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6183



Erika Krohn
Principal

Mrs. Erika Krohn is the proud principal of Handy Elementary School. She is looking forward to continuing Handy's commitment to learning today makes a brighter tomorrow. This is Mrs. Krohn's third principalship in Orange Unified. Prior to coming to Orange Unified, she was a principal and assistant principal in La Puente, and an elementary school teacher in Rowland Heights. Her recognitions include: Orange Unified

Administrator of the Year in 2012/2013, PTA Outstanding Administrator in 2013, and Outstanding Administrator from Los Angeles County Bilingual Director Association in 2008. Under her leadership and with collaboration of staff, her schools have earned the Golden Bell Award, Title I Academic Achievement Award, and Gold Ribbon School. Mrs. Krohn is a product of Orange Unified Schools: Taft Elementary, Cerro Villa Middle School, and Villa Park High School. She earned her Bachelor's degree from California State University, Fullerton, a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from Chapman University, and a Master's Degree from National University. United with the staff, Handy proudly offers a one to one iPad program, AVID, restorative practices, Visual and Performing Arts conservatory classes, and differentiated learning to meet the needs of all students.

On a personal note, Mrs. Krohn enjoys spending time with her husband and 2 children. When not at Handy, she can be found at her kids' sporting and dance events and skiing the slopes of Mammoth.

Mrs. Krohn is looking forward to joining the dynamic Handy community. She and the staff will be working collaboratively to provide extraordinary learning experiences that the students will never forget!

Imperial *Elementary*

400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6282



Amber Miller
Principal

Amber Miller is the proud principal at Imperial Elementary School. She looks forward to another year of collaborating and building partnerships with the students, teachers, and the community of Imperial Elementary. Mrs. Miller has dedicated her career to the Orange Unified School District where she has served as an educator for 16 years. She began her career as an elementary classroom teacher. Throughout her time in

Orange Unified, Mrs. Miller has been a Reading Resource Teacher, ELD Resource Teacher, Title One Instructional Specialist, Assistant Principal, and currently Principal at Imperial Elementary.

Mrs. Miller received a Bachelor's degree, Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential, and Master's degree in

Elementary Education from Chapman University. She also holds an Administrative Credential and Master's Degree in Educational Administration from Concordia University. As a lifelong educator, Mrs. Miller is passionate about fostering a positive school culture and climate where every child can be successful. She is dedicated to ensuring that all students are exposed to 21st Century learning opportunities and that students gain the skills necessary for life-long success.

As an Orange County native, Mrs. Miller shares her life with her husband Justin, daughter Kennedy (age 11), son Maverick (age 9), and golden retriever Pilot. She enjoys spending time with her family and traveling. Amber Miller is looking forward to SOARing into the 2019-2020 school year. We are Eagles, Watch Us SOAR!

Jordan Elementary

4319 E. Jordan Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6187



Lorena Rubio
Principal

My journey in the education field began right out of high school as an instructional aide and activity supervisor at the elementary school I attended as a child. While clearing my credential, I began working for the Santa Ana Unified School District and where I taught for 18 years. In SAUSD, I also held a two-year position as a Certificated Learning and Achievement Specialist. This position

gave me the opportunity to train, coach, and support teachers and staff. Within this position, I developed curriculum, contributed knowledge of best teaching practices, and worked effectively with other educators across the district in collaborative settings. Now I begin my third year at Jordan and it continues to be an amazing experience working with such an awesome community!

This year Jordan is the second elementary school in OUSD to implement a Spanish Dual Immersion Program and the first to integrate newly adopted Computer Science standards. We have been working closely with our District experts, Lego Education, and OC Stem (UCI School of Engineering) to create a Computer Science curriculum based on the CA K-12 Computer Science Standards. Integrated curriculum has been created and is tailored to this unique program. We are very excited for the opportunities we will offer to students!

As an educator, I continue to make every effort to ensure that each child is treated with respect and is in a safe school. I believe that it is important that families and staff members work collaboratively to help students succeed. My personal mission is to ensure that students will be well equipped to impact, influence and contribute to a global society with the freedom to explore and develop their strengths. It is with great enthusiasm that I look forward to another successful year at Jordan!

Jordan Scholars Can and Will Succeed!



La Veta Elementary

2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6155



Lydia Roach
Principal

Mrs. Lydia Roach became the Principal of La Veta Elementary School in 2014. She has been an educator for 36 years and has worked in various elementary schools in the Orange Unified School District including: Handy, Riverdale, Canyon Rim, Lampson, Running Springs, and now La Veta. Mrs. Roach has been both a primary and upper grade teacher, a bilingual resource teacher, and a reading resource teacher before becoming an administrator. In addition, she was the Assistant Principal at both Running Springs and Lampson for four years before becoming a Principal. She was the Principal at Running Springs Elementary School for seven years before becoming the Principal at La Veta Elementary.

Mrs. Roach grew up in the city of Orange and is a product of the Orange Unified School District. As a student, she attended Esplanade Elementary, Fairhaven Elementary, Santiago Jr. High and El Modena High School. Mrs. Roach continued her education at San Diego State University where she earned a Bachelor's degree and an elementary teaching credential. She then graduated from Cal State Fullerton with a Master's degree in Educational Administration with an administrative credential.

Mrs. Roach currently resides in the Anaheim Hills area with her husband Russ of 35 years. She has two children-- Kyle, age 30, and Lara, age 25. She enjoys spending time with her family and her two golden retrievers, Brody and Bailey. Mrs. Roach is proud to be a "Viking" and looks forward to continue working with the wonderful students, families, and staff of the La Veta Elementary School community as they "S.A.I.L. Through 21st Century Teaching and Learning".

McPherson Magnet

333 S. Prospect St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6384



Joe Erven
Principal

McPherson Magnet is excited to open our doors for the 2019-2020 school year. As the principal of McPherson, Mr. Erven looks forward to working together with teachers, parents and students to create a positive and engaging learning environment for everyone. This will be his sixth year as principal of McPherson Magnet. Prior to his current position, Mr. Erven taught science for nine years and served as an assistant principal for five years all within the Orange Unified School District. Mr. Erven received his degree in zoology from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and also has a master's degree in educational administration.

Lampson *Elementary*

13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/997-6153



**Heriberto
Angel Jr.**
Principal

As we begin another exciting school year, we would like to welcome back all families to Lampson, a place that is rooted in its community and fosters critical thinkers today to solve tomorrow's challenges.

Mr. Angel, our principal, is in his fourth year at Lampson Elementary. He has served in various educational capacities such as K-6th grade teacher, middle school dean, middle and high school assistant principal. Mr. Angel earned a BA in Sociology and Global Studies from UC Santa Barbara and a MA in Elementary Education from Loyola Marymount University. Mr. Angel loves spending time with his family. He and his wife, Gladys, have three amazing kids- Mia, Mateo, and Max. He is a devoted Laker, Dodger, and 49er fan!

The 2019-20 school year promises to be filled with golden opportunities for our students. We embark on this journey with a pledge to you that Lampson will continue to provide our students with a learning environment of excellence with high expectations and the opportunity to become responsible, resilient, and productive world citizens in a changing and diverse society. We will strive to develop literacy across all content areas as a foundation to inspire each of our students to pursue their dreams and develop into tomorrow's global community leaders.

We want... we need... and we value your involvement and support in your child's education! Get involved by serving on our Parent Teacher Association (PTA), School Site Council (SSC), English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC), and/or other school groups.

We are excited about the upcoming school year! Here is to an incredible new school year as we work together to make Lampson a great educational institute for our students. Together, we will make a difference in the lives of our students.

For our latest school information and happenings follow us on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram @Lampson Leopards or visit our website at <https://www.orangeusd.org/lampson-elementary-school-k-5>

Linda Vista *Elementary*

1200 N. Cannon St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6201



Ginette Kelley
Principal

Ms. Gigi Kelley is beginning her second year as principal at Linda Vista, and her eighth as a principal within the Orange Unified School District. She began her career in education after earning her Bachelor's degree in Community Health Education from CSU Long Beach. After graduation, her first professional job was as a Prevention Education Specialist working in partnership with schools in Southern California. Gigi returned to school, earning her California Teaching Credential from CSU San Bernardino. Her teaching career took her first to Rialto and then to Fullerton School District as a classroom teacher.

Hearing the call of administration, Gigi returned to school to earn a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Concordia University. She remained in Fullerton, however, she moved out of the classroom and into district administration. She served that district as a Program Specialist for Gifted and Talented (GATE) program and also the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Program. She also had the opportunity to serve as Interim Junior High Assistant Principal.

Through her experiences as an educator, Gigi has had the opportunity to develop new and innovative approaches to student success by creating, planning, and implementing instructional practices for district-wide programs. She is an Apple Distinguished Educator, bringing innovative technology to classroom instruction. She has also attended the Discovery Education Principal's Summit, which encourages strategies that support 21st century learning.

Gigi developed and taught curriculum for teacher GATE Certification in partnership with Hope International University and has worked as an adjunct professor for HIU, teaching a course in Educational Leadership.

Now a true Leopard, Gigi believes that all Linda Vista students have PAWS, encouraging them to expand their Potential, develop Aspirations, apply Wisdom, and show their Spirit!

Palmyra *Elementary*

1325 E. Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6207



Brenna Godsey
Principal

Brenna Godsey is excited to begin her sixth year as the Principal of Palmyra Elementary School. Principal Godsey has had the pleasure of working with Orange Unified students for the last eighteen years. Prior to coming to Palmyra, she served as an Assistant Principal at Canyon High School for five years and a Science teacher for eight years. Mrs. Godsey received her Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Cell

Biology from the University of California San Diego with a Minor in Law and Society. She attended California State

University, Fullerton where she earned her teaching and administrative credential along with a Master's degree in Educational Leadership. Mrs. Godsey lives in the Orange Unified community with her husband and three children. She enjoys skiing and going to the beach with her family.

Mrs. Godsey is committed to fostering positive relationships with the students, staff, parents, and community of Palmyra Elementary School. A positive school culture and climate is the key to the academic and social success of all of our students. Mrs. Godsey is honored to continue her tenure as the Principal of Palmyra and is looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Nohl Canyon

4100 E. Nohl Ranch Rd., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6203



Heather Bosworth
Principal

Ms. Bosworth is honored and excited to be spending another year with the outstanding staff, students, and families of Nohl Canyon Elementary. She looks forward to continuing to build collaborative partnerships with the Nohl Canyon community to provide innovative learning experiences for all students!

Ms. Bosworth previously served Orange Unified School District as the principal of Sycamore Elementary and as Coordinator, 21st Century Teaching and Learning, in the Office of K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and GATE. Prior to joining OUSD, Ms. Bosworth was a classroom teacher, teacher leader, and professional developer in the Laguna Beach Unified School District and a classroom teacher in Capistrano Unified School District as well. Ms. Bosworth

has significant experience and training in the areas of professional development for teachers, instructional technology, and elementary curriculum and assessment. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Child and Adolescent Studies and a Master's degree in Education and Reading from California State University, Fullerton, as well as certification in Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) from UC Irvine. Ms. Bosworth is a National Board Certified Teacher who holds professional educational credentials in Multiple Subject Teaching, Reading Instruction, and Administrative Services.

"Nohl Canyon is passionate about children and enthusiastic about the possibilities for continued student success with 21st Century teaching and learning. I look forward to continuing our strong partnership with students, families, and community members to inspire excellence within every RAD (Respectful, Accountable, Decisive) scholar."

Olive Elementary

3038 Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/637-8218



Heather Darrow
Principal

Heather Darrow, Principal of Olive Elementary School, is proud to be a part of the educational team of Orange Unified. Prior to her administrative career, Mrs. Darrow was an elementary classroom teacher, a teacher on special assignment, and an Assistant Principal. As a teacher and administrator, Mrs. Darrow has served on many site and district level committees, which has instilled in her a passion for helping every child succeed. Always

looking for learning opportunities, Mrs. Darrow earned two Master's of Arts degrees from Concordia University, one in Curriculum and Instruction and the other in Educational Administration. Prior to her graduate studies, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and Multiple Subject Teaching

Credential from California State University, Fullerton.

Mrs. Darrow grew up in Orange County, where she spent several years as an Orange resident and OUSD parent. Mrs. Darrow's positive experience as an OUSD parent and her love for the community inspired her to join Orange Unified School District as an educator. As she begins her fourth year as the Principal of Olive Elementary, Mrs. Darrow is excited to continue learning and growing with the students, staff, and families that make Olive such a special place.

When she is not at work, Mrs. Darrow enjoys spending time with her husband and three daughters. They often watch movies together, go on walks, and always eat dinner as a family. It is only with the support from her family that Mrs. Darrow has been able to fully appreciate the journey through her educational career.

Orange High School

525 N. Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6211



Dennis McCuiston
Principal

Mr. Dennis McCuiston is beginning his fifth year as Principal of Orange High School. He is entering his 22nd year as an educator and 24th year with the Orange Unified School District. Mr. McCuiston started his career as a campus supervisor at Orange High School and later became a special educator at Portola Middle School where he gained tremendous experience as a teacher. He went on to work at Orange High School where he taught for 9 years, was the head baseball coach, athletic

director, and eventually served as an Assistant Principal. In 2011, he was appointed as the Coordinator of Alternative

Education and ROP where he worked with Community Day School, ROP, Educational Options and Home School. In 2013, he was appointed as the Principal of Richland High School serving students from all OUSD High Schools. Mr. McCuiston earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice from Chapman University and a Master's in Education Administration from National University.

Dennis has dedicated his career to serving the Orange community. He believes in the OUSD core values and trusts that OUSD is not only preparing students to compete in a global economy, it is preparing productive members of society. Dennis, his wife Julia, son Luke, and daughter Avery are proud residents of Orange.

Panorama *Elementary*

10512 Crawford Canyon Rd., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6265



Jeremy Mortensen
Principal

Mr. Jeremy Mortensen has been in education for 19 years, this being his eighth as a principal in the Orange Unified School District. Mr. Mortensen has lived and taught all over the world including Canada and later Australia, where he also earned his Master's of Education degree from Griffith University, Gold Coast Australia. He later taught in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Fontana, California, where he earned the Teacher of the Year award in 2005. Mr. Mortensen

taught grades three through seventh during his time in the classroom and has been a school administrator for 12 years.

Mr. Mortensen believes in a 21st Century, blended learning classroom environment where students not only learn the foundational skills needed to succeed, but also integrate real-world skills that will enable each student to be college and career ready for tomorrow's Corporate America. An

inclusive, hands-on, technological, collaborative approach is at the forefront of his educational model. Students are given the opportunity to have fun while they learn through the guidance of their knowledgeable and caring teachers, who understand the demands of our "digital native" students while focusing on each child's individual needs.

2019-2020 will mark Mr. Mortensen's fourth year at Panorama Elementary School. According to Mr. Mortensen, Panorama is a wonderful school with incredible students, families, teachers, and staff members and the proud recipient of being an Honor Roll School by the National Campaign of Business and Education Leaders. Mr.

Mortensen is thankful for the relationships he has built with our Panther families for the past three years and is excited to continue to build relationships throughout the upcoming years. He looks forward to another year of excellence!

It is going to be a great year at Panorama. Go, Panthers!

Portola *Middle School*

270 N. Palm Dr., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6361



Jeff Morgan
Principal

It is with great enthusiasm that Jeff Morgan continues his role of Principal at Portola Middle School. Born and raised in the Bay Area, Jeff graduated from Chico State with a BA in Spanish and later earned his teaching credential from Cal State Fullerton. This is Jeff's thirteenth year in education, all within OUSD. He has served as a Spanish teacher and Activities Director at Villa Park High School and most recently an Assistant Principal at

Orange High School for four and a half years. Jeff began as Principal at Portola towards the end of November of last year and he is looking forward to kicking off the year celebrating the many successes from the previous school year. Jeff looks forward to building and growing programs at Portola Middle School. Currently he is focused on growing

the AVID and ASB programs at Portola. When students are involved he believes that they are more engaged in their education. This philosophy comes from his time as an Activities Director and witnessing the direct correlation between extracurricular activities and student achievement. The belief is that all programs support each other.

Throughout his time in education, Jeff has seen the value in building relationships with parents and the community to support the overall vision of the school site. As a community we have the ability to foster the growth of our youth to prepare them for what is next. In this case that would be high school. Jeff believes that we must prepare students for the academic rigors of high school and for being a citizen of character as well. We continue to give our students the tools needed for success, so they can pursue and reach their goals and passions.

Prospect *Elementary*

379 N. Virage St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6271



Sally Hughson
Principal

Mrs. Sally Hughson is in her fifth year as principal at Prospect Elementary School. Mrs. Hughson was the principal at Linda Vista Elementary School for 7 years; 2008-2015. She has worked at Cambridge, Handy, West Orange and Running Springs where she was the Assistant Principal. Mrs. Hughson taught lower and upper grades, has been a reading resource teacher, ELD resource teacher and an Instructional Coach.

Mrs. Hughson grew up in the Orange area and attended Orange Unified schools beginning in kindergarten and

graduated from El Modena High School. She earned her BA in Communication Disorders and a Master's degree in Educational Administration from California State Fullerton; she earned her teaching Credential from Chapman University.

Mrs. Hughson lives in Santa Ana with her husband of 39 years, Steve. Her son, Grant, is an application engineer and her daughter, Katie, lives in Monrovia with her husband Danny and their two daughters, Gracie and Lane. Mrs. Hughson enjoys spending time with her granddaughters, relaxing in the desert, walking Peter's Canyon and spending time with her family and friends.

Richland *High School*

615 N. Lemon St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6167



Dr. Elsie Briseño Simonovski
Principal

Dr. Elsie Briseño-Simonovski is very excited to start her 5th year as the Principal of Richland High School! Dr. Briseño Simonovski has been a part of the Orange Unified School District leadership team since 2010. Earning her Ph.D. in Urban Leadership from Claremont Graduate University in 2015, Dr. Briseño-Simonovski has served as an educator for 21 years. Her educational experiences include teacher, literacy coach, project director, middle school assistant principal, district coordinator and district administrator. She holds a Multiple Subject Credential, a Specialized Reading Certificate from UCLA, and an Administrative Services Credential. She received a Bachelor's Degree in History with a Minor in Teacher Education from UC San Diego, and holds a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Briseño-Simonovski is the 2017 ACSA California Administrator of the Year for Educational Options. This year will be the second year that Dr. Briseño-Simonovski will serve at the State level as the President-Elect for ACSA Educational Options Council in 2019-2020.

Dr. Briseño-Simonovski's areas of interest include special education, literacy and language development. She is most passionate about ensuring the equity and access of learning for all underrepresented students. Richland High School is very excited to expand their 19-20 course offerings to include Advanced Placement (AP) Spanish, ASB, Online Health, Music, Guitar, Graphic Design, Video Production, Photography, Theatre Arts, STEM Lab and Microsoft Office Suite Certification. Richland is very proud of the work it has done in recent years to strengthen its partnership with Santiago Canyon College (SCC). This fall, RHS will be offering the Business 127 (Intro to E-Commerce) class that will be taught by an SCC college instructor, on campus. Additionally, SCC Career Coaches will be on site weekly to provide information to students and parents about college, workforce and technical career choices that include but are not limited to: jobs, certifications, resumes, internships and classes. We look forward to the 2019-2020 school year as they continue to celebrate their rich diversity, positive school climate, and strong sense of community, GO CONDORS!

Running Springs *Elementary*

8670 E. Running Springs Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/281-4512



Mark McLaughlin
Principal

It is with great pride that Mr. Mark McLaughlin will enter his third year at Running Springs Elementary, home of the Redhawks. Mr. McLaughlin has served as a teacher and administrator at both the elementary and middle school level for the last 19 years in the both Orange Unified and the Downey Unified School District. He completed his undergraduate degree at San Jose State University and prior to

approachable and eager to continue serving the Redhawk community.

As a coach of youth sports for 14 years he understands the importance of developing the whole child, teamwork, and goal setting. He believes that learning should be highly engaging, promote critical thinking, and should contain the rigor necessary to prepare our students for a competitive global economy. He embraces the growth mindset and believes that together, an inspired school community can overcome any challenge.

Running Springs has established a strong reputation in academics and community involvement. A fantastic staff, modern facilities, and current technologies are in place to lead ALL of our students to SOAR, be college and career ready, and global citizens of strong character. Additionally, Running Springs is honored to become an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme Candidate School in the upcoming school year. Mr. McLaughlin is looking forward to continued service to the highly successful students of Running Springs Elementary.

working in education was employed in the Aerospace industry. Mr. McLaughlin has since earned a Master's Degree in Cross-Cultural Education.

As an educator, Mr. McLaughlin has been a part of the development of a distinguished STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) program, worked with the implementation of Project Lead the Way (PLTW), and an award-winning Robotics and Drone programs. His experience includes creating a safe and caring school culture with high expectations. He is

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



2019-2020



Santiago Charter *Middle School*

515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6366



Dr. James D'Agostino
Co-Principal

Dr. Jim D'Agostino is in his eighth year as the Executive Director at Santiago Charter Middle School. He takes pride in being visible to parents and students and demonstrates that by greeting everyone each morning as they enter the Santiago campus. His philosophy of making everyone feel welcomed and valued into the school, while continuing to strive toward academic excellence, is part of the leadership style that he brings to the school and the entire school community. His positive

attitude and energy has helped to create a very welcoming and caring culture at Santiago which has resulted in increased enrollment and community involvement.

Dr. D'Agostino is a former history teacher and special education teacher. He has been an administrator for the past eleven years and believes that building and fostering healthy relationships is a critical component to success in life. Personalization is the one thing that he prides himself on bringing to his students and school community. Prior to becoming an educational leader, Dr. D (as the students call him) owned a restaurant in Buffalo, NY and was involved in a family business as a licensed insurance agent. He loves working at Santiago, as it ties into both the business, and educational aspects, of his professional background.

Dr. D'Agostino credits his beautiful wife Valerie for all of her support in his personal life, and credits his staff and faculty for all of Santiago's success. Dr. D'Agostino is also very involved in the Orange community serving on the Community Foundation of Orange Executive Board, The Santiago Canyon College Foundation Board, The National University Advisory Board, and The Pure Game Board of Directors.



Ashley Pedroza
Co-Principal

Mrs. Pedroza is excited and honored to be starting her fourth year as Co-Principal of Santiago Charter Middle School and be a part of a community dedicated to the success of all Santanas; a community who sees potential in every Santana and a community empathetic to the personalized needs of each Santana.

Mrs. Pedroza started her career in education eleven years ago as a Biology Teacher at El Modena High School and had a variety of leadership roles at the school site. In her five years of teaching at El Modena, she was named El Modena Teacher of the Year and PTSA Teacher of the Year. From the classroom, Mrs. Pedroza served as OUSD's District Office Assessment Coordinator and then Principal of Serrano Elementary. During her time as an Orange Unified administrator, she was recognized for her work to support the district's transition to new assessments by being named OUSD Administrator of the Year and ACSA (Association of California School Administrator) Region 17 Technology Administration of the Year. Mrs. Pedroza is passionate about Educational Technology, STEM Education, early literacy and building those 21st Century Skills required for students to be active and inspired stakeholders in their education.

Mrs. Pedroza lives in Orange with her husband Robert and their 7 year-old daughter, Addisyn and 5 year-old son, Trent. Mrs. Pedroza is proud to be a "Santana" and looks forward to another great school year.

Serrano *Elementary*

17741 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6275



Nate Garrett
Principal

Welcome to Serrano Elementary School, home of the Eagles! Mr. Garrett is thrilled to be part of a community of people who are committed to doing what is best for students.

This is Mr. Garrett's twelfth year as a professional educator having had experiences ranging from Third Grade Teacher, Middle and High School Education Specialist, Intervention Specialist, Assistant Principal and now Principal. He looks forward with

enthusiasm to the new school year, providing the highest quality education for all students. His passion is to create unlimited opportunities by fostering a collaborative culture where professionals learn in a community to empower students and truly believes that all students will be successful!

Mr. Garrett earned his Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Vanguard University and a Master's degree in Educational Administration from Concordia University. He has a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, an Education

Specialist Instructional Credential for Mild to Moderate Disabilities, and an Administrative Services Credential. For the last ten years, Mr. Garrett has served the students and families of the Orange Unified School District and is thrilled to continue his service as the Principal of Serrano Elementary School.

As an educator, Mr. Garrett's highest priority is for students to be connected, treated with respect, and able to learn in a safe and engaging school environment. He's convinced it is essential for families and school staff to communicate and work collaboratively to ensure students' success. His personal mission is to ensure students are excited to attend school each day, passionate about their learning, equipped to problem solve, and can influence and contribute positively to their community, on a global level as well. It is with great enthusiasm he leads Serrano Elementary staff and community and is looking forward to an incredible school year! Go Eagles!

Sycamore *Elementary*

340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6277



Renee Ybarra
Principal

Renee Ybarra is very excited to be beginning her third year as the principal at Sycamore Elementary, and her 6th year in school administration. Mrs. Ybarra has been an educator for 23 years and loves being part of Orange Unified. She spent many years as an elementary teacher in Kindergarten, 2nd, 4th & 5th grades. She received her Bachelor's degree in Child Development from CSU Fullerton, along with her teaching credential in 1995. She returned to CSUF and received a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction in 2002, and then received her Master's degree in Administration from Concordia University in 2012.

Mrs. Ybarra has been a proud Orange resident since 2005. Her two daughters and husband are all products of OUSD (VPHS class of '18 & '21, and OHS class of '89). Though she loved growing up in Fountain Valley, the city

of Orange has become Mrs. Ybarra's adopted hometown. In her free time, she enjoys reading, gardening, and baking.

Mrs. Ybarra is passionate about students learning and gaining knowledge through a wide variety of experiences, both in and out of the classroom. She cares deeply about the whole child and understands that every aspect of a child's life impacts their learning, which is why the Sycamore team developed the motto: "Educating and caring for our community, one student at a time. Learning through Leadership and Community Learning Experiences." Mrs. Ybarra is looking forward to continuing the work that the Sycamore team has begun, focusing on supporting students in their social and emotional lives, learning out in our community, and utilizing technology in creative ways to communicate their thinking and ideas.

We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious, and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths. – Walt Disney

Taft *Elementary*

1829 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6254



Connie Smith
Principal

Taft's Principal, Connie Smith, celebrates 38 years in education. Her experiences include being a classroom teacher, mentor teacher, IBM education consultant, site administrator and district curriculum coordinator. Connie came to Taft in 2014 and in 2016 she and the Taft Team received the distinct honor of becoming a California Gold Ribbon and Title I High Academic Achieving School!

Connie earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Redlands and her Master's degree in school administration from California State University, Fullerton. She taught in the Orange Unified School District, served as an Assistant Principal in the Capistrano Unified School District and served as Principal in Tustin Unified School District.

Connie's many professional associations and accomplishments have included former Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region 17 Elementary Administrator Representative, Adjunct Professor at Concordia University, member of the Tustin Public Schools Foundation Board of Directors and Orange Unified School District's 2010-2011 Administrator of the Year.

Connie was born and raised in Orange County. She has been married to Phillip Smith for 26 years and is proud of her two sons, Garrett and Grant. Garrett is a student at Concordia University in Irvine and Grant just graduated from the University of San Francisco.

Mrs. Smith says, "Taft's commitment to AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), expanding our STEM programs and continuing our Harper For Kids character development program will make for an amazing new school year!"

Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/532-8020



Dr. Ken Miller
Principal

It is great humility, honor and responsibility that I begin my fourth year as Principal at Villa Park High School. Villa Park is not only home of the Spartans...we are a School of Excellence (where Winners Win!), we are a California Gold Ribbon School and we have earned our six year full WASC Accreditation for 2018-2024! I am also beginning my 13th year as a member of the Leadership Team in the Orange Unified School District.

I have previously served Orange Unified from 2007-2010 at El Modena High School as Assistant Principal, Curriculum/Instruction, ROP, Cheer and Athletics; Principal at Cerro Villa Middle School from 2010-2014 and Administrative Director, Student and Community Services, 2014-2016. Before joining Orange Unified, I served in the Downey Unified School District as adult school teacher, social studies teacher, football coach and Vice Principal at the comprehensive high school level for 13 years.

My wife Jennifer (a Canyon High School graduate) and I have two children: Katelyn, 23, graduated from Canyon High School and recently graduated from Chapman University and Kenny, 21, graduated from (you guessed it!) Villa Park High School and plays college football at Cerritos College. Thankfully, I am now happy to report the Comanche-Spartan score in our family is now evenly balanced and tied at two!

I pledge to continue to serve all students, parents, staff and our community. We have an amazing and professional staff and we all look forward to working with you all, our greatest resource, our families, in the upcoming years in continuing OUR School of Excellence that is Villa Park High School!

Villa Park *Elementary*

10551 Center Dr., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6281



Dr. Sara Beggs
Principal

Dr. Sara Beggs has worked in Orange Unified School District and the field of education for sixteen years. Following nine years of elementary teaching experience, she moved to the District Office as an instructional specialist supporting teachers and students in curriculum, instruction, and intervention. She then accepted an administrative position as Coordinator of Inclusive Schooling. Dr. Beggs is thrilled to

start her second year as Principal for Villa Park Elementary School and is honored to carry on the rich traditions and rigorous learning environment currently in place at VPE.

Dr. Beggs grew up in Orange County, received her undergraduate degree from Radford University, and her graduate degree from Chapman University. She was awarded her Ph. D. in Education and Disability Studies from Chapman University in 2017. Dr. Beggs' deep-rooted philosophy and belief that ALL children can thrive and be successful in the general education environment drives

her passion to ensure a Multi-tiered System of Support for all students. She embraces the whole child, engages every learner, and empowers all students. Furthermore, Dr. Beggs views a safe and collaborative school environment as key to a successful school culture. Partnerships with parents and community partners are essential components to that success.

Dr. Beggs is a proud mother of two beautiful little girls Charlotte (6), and Caroline (3). Charlotte is in first grade and Caroline is in preschool. As a mom of school-age children, Dr. Beggs is keenly aware of the importance of family involvement and the significance of the school community. During her free time, Sara enjoys outdoor activities and spending time with her daughters and husband, Jeff, and their Great Dane, Winston.

As the VPE principal, you can expect that she will be visible, accessible, and collaborative. Dr. Beggs is looking forward to working together as partners in learning.

Go Bobcats!

West Orange *Elementary*

243 S. Bush St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6283



Dr. Monica Murray
Principal

Welcome to West Orange Elementary, Home of the Warriors! At West Orange, we strive for academic excellence by providing all students a meaningful and rigorous learning experience.

Dr. Monica Murray is honored and enthusiastic to be the principal at West Orange Elementary. Over the past 20 years, she has attained a Bachelor in Liberal Arts with a minor in History, a Masters in Multicultural Education, and a Multiple

Subject Credential with authorizations in English and History, an Administrative Credential, Gifted and Talented certification, and a Doctorate in Education with an emphasis on Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. During the past 18 years, she has acquired experience as an elementary teacher, curriculum specialist, administrator of professional development, coordinator of TK-12th grade curriculum, and as a principal.

She has dedicated her career in creating learning environments embedded in high expectations with a focus on empowering students, parents, and staff to become leaders. She firmly believes that in life you must, "Be the change you want to see in the world" – Ghandi. As a school leader, she wants to empower others to understand their potential, build their potential, and exceed their potential. It is with great enthusiasm she leads West Orange Elementary and is looking forward to creating multiple opportunities for all!

Yorba *Academy of the Arts Middle School*

935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6161



Sandra Preciado-Martin
Principal

Ms. Preciado began working in Long Beach, at Jordan High School as an On Campus Alternative Suspension Monitor, while attending California State University, Fullerton. She then moved to Milliken High School in Long Beach as a Bilingual Parent Liaison. After she completed her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, with a minor in Spanish Literature, Ms. Preciado began her tenure in Orange Unified as a Spanish teacher at Canyon High School. She taught every level of Spanish from the introductory level Spanish I to AP Spanish Literature. During that time, she returned to California State University, Fullerton to complete her Master's Degree in School Administration. After Ms. Preciado's 12-year teaching tenure, she had the privilege of making El Modena High School her home for three years as the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction. After 15 years of secondary education, Ms. Preciado then served as Principal of West Orange Elementary School for three and a half years. Although she cherished her time at West Orange, Ms. Preciado is very excited to make Yorba Middle School her new home. She is particularly looking forward to continuing her work with AVID implementation, targeted interventions, technology integration and quality first instruction. Outside of school, Ms. Preciado enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, running slowly and eating food she does not need to cook herself.



Manhar's Book Review



Manhar M.

Half Man Half Dog

Dog Man Unleashed is a great book. It is very humorous. The best thing about *Dog Man* is that it is very entertaining. Once you read it for a while you get addicted to it. My favorite characters are Petey and Dog Man. I like them because they are very smart and witty. It is a great choice for someone who does not like to read. My favorite pages are the "flip-o-rama" pages that show animation. I also like how Dog Man fights against injustice.



Manhar M. is in First Grade. Manhar likes science, math, coding, traveling, hiking, reading about world news and spending time in building robots from Legos.

Book Review By Katrina



Katrina D.

An Amusing Armageddon

Good Omens by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman is easily one of the most amusing and British books of my life. To put it simply, Armageddon is coming; this Saturday before dinner. And while Heaven and Hell



are preparing to battle over the fate of earth, the missing Spawn of Satan is posing a distracting. Following an angel with a flaming sword, a demon with a Bentley and just about everything in between, the chaos of the story reflects the writing style spot on and leaves you captivated for hours. Every character is charming in their own quirky way and even with the bizarre bouncing of dozens of voices, you don't feel lost. If anything, you feel trapped among all the rest of the characters as they panic, which is hilarious and exciting. I highly suggest this book to anyone whose in the mood for some British humor.

Katrina is a senior in high school. She spends her time drawing, writing and reading whenever her APs let her. When she isn't creating something, she's known to watch cartoons like OK KO let's be Heroes, Star vs. the Forces of Evil and Steven Universe. When asked what she wants to be, her reply is simply, "Everything".

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B is for Book



Folk Tale Galore

"The Day it Snowed Tortillas" by Joe Hayes is an awesome Mexican folktale book with ten interesting tales to learn from.



Bailey

Ranging from "La Llorona" to "Juan

Camison", my favorite one is "The Best Thief" where a boy must prove to the king that he's the best thief. In "Good Advice", a boy spends three months of earnings on advice. His parents drive him out of the house, thinking it was a waste. Were they right? In "The Prince", a few friends made along the way may be the only thing a prince needs to win.

I love this book because there are many important lessons, like always listen to your parents, lying will only get you into trouble, and intelligence is stronger than physical strength. I also enjoyed this book because it includes all the stories in Spanish too. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars.

Bailey is an eighth grader who loves to read whenever she's not dancing or with her friends.



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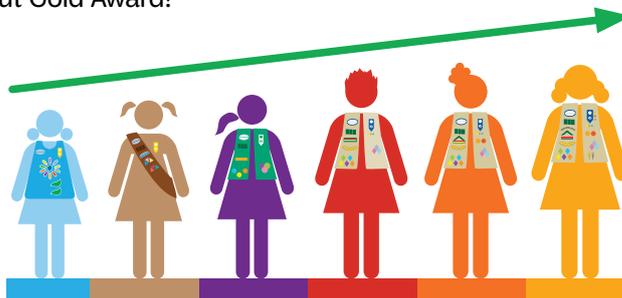
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Richard's Book Review

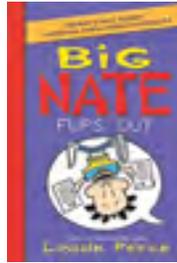


Richard J.

Finding the Right Way of Doing Things

Big Nate Flips Out by Lincoln Peirce

Nate is a 6th grader, known by everybody for his sarcasm and sloppiness. A lot of things happen with Nate and his friends. The main thing



is that Nate and his friend Francis are participating in putting together a school yearbook, but things do not go easy. Another student Gina, also involved in this project, hates to work with Nate, because he's messy and irresponsible. One problem after another, and Nate runs out of patience and excuses for himself. He takes a drastic step and asks a hypnotist to hypnotize him to become neat and responsible. But does it work and does he and his friends like it? You'll have to read the book to find out.

I enjoyed this book, it is funny and relatable. Half of the book are comics, which are fun to read. I rate this book 5 out of 5 stars.

Richard is a curious 5th grader. His favorite subjects are math and P.E. He likes to play sports with his friends, read funny books and watch nature documentaries. He likes writing book reviews, because he hopes they will interest other kids to read these books.

Katie's Review



Katie C.

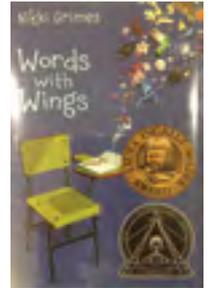
Daydreamer

Title: *Words with Wings*

Author: Nikki Grimes

Gabby is what you would call a daydreamer. She always seemed to be in her own world and sometimes it got her in trouble. Daydreaming

was a way to escape from her parents' arguments. She daydreamed at home, at school, everywhere — until it became a way of life. She seemed to meet everyone that discouraged her dreams, until she meets a new teacher. This new teacher shows her that her dreams can help her, that they can spark imagination and cause her to create great things. Gabby finally realizes that rather than daydreaming everything, she can WRITE. This book is a collection of poems that shows the mental growth of a girl who was lost in her own world.



Katie is in 10th grade. Her passion is to write, specifically poems. She loves to be around little kids and help them. Running is also one of her favorites.

Appliances—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 OUSD in the subject line.

Entries must be received by October 15, 2019

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble!

VACUUM	BLENDER
DRYER	COMPACTOR
DISHWASHER	RADIO
FRIDGE	CROCKPOT
HEATER	COMPUTER
MICROWAVE	JUICER
OVEN	SKILLET
STOVE	KNIFE
FAN	CLOCK
MIXER	

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I A E V A W O R C I M E F K
S D C T E B I O O V L A C G
H I H V U D M C U N N O Z A
W O O E G P S K I L L E T O
A T H E A I M P V C K B V R
S I E C M T E O A W M X H O
H K T Y S F E T C C C M J X
E O J U I C E R U F L Y R S
R N E N P Y V R U P W E A F
O L K O R E X I M N T T W N
    
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Note-ables



Kate Karp

'Can You Feel It?'

Can You Feel It? is a collection of original songs about natural science, played simply and organically. Banjo, bass, steel guitar, drums and keyboard blend with Jessa Campbell's lilting voice as she sings to both young people and adults about sun and shadow, a salmon's circular journey from birth to spawning adulthood, burrowing mammals, fractals...

Wait—*fractals?*

Yes, fractals. And alevins, bract, trillium and frass. *Can You Feel It?* doesn't play cute with science. The selections enchantingly introduce science vocabulary without being didactic or windy. They sneak up on anthropomorphism but don't diminish or trivialize the concepts through fantasy.

"Waltz of the Trillium and

Ant," for instance, encapsulates the natural partnership of flower structure, ant colonies, pollination and germination in a waltz melody. It's like a fairy tale, but the sprites are unarguably real. "Mole in the Ground," written in the Appalachian mountain tune manner, speeds up or slows down each verse depending on the pace of each animal.

The title song has a silent tone and focuses on feeling instead of sound. The listener can feel the waves as the salmon roll from freshwater to saltwater and back, changing from alevin to smolt to adult. The bouncy "T-Rex in the Forest" begs to be acted out by children who'll enjoy snoring like a prehistoric reptile. "How I Love You, Sun" is a worthy love song to the star that gives light, energy and life to everything on Earth.

How Campbell manages to pack so many ideas about each topic into every song without cramming it all in is a marvel, like her subjects themselves.

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

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Something for Everyone

5 Simple Steps to a Healthy Family Media Diet



Many parents struggle with exactly how much screen time is OK for their kids. Is a half-hour show OK but a full-length movie “bad”? How much gaming should you allow when your kid also uses his computer for homework? Does Wikipedia count as “reading”? And when does a passion for say, video games, become problematic? The truth is, there is no magic formula. And just as every family differs in what they eat, when they eat, and what they like, a healthy media diet is different for every family. The key is making sure that the things that are important to your family are fairly balanced over the long term.

A healthy media diet balances activities (games, social media, TV), time (15 minutes? Three hours?), and choices (YouTube, Minecraft, Star Wars) with offline activities (sports, face-to-face conversations, daydreaming). At some point, kids will be able to manage their own media diets. In the meantime, these tips can help set them up for success. (Learn more about the screen time habits of families with kids under 8 in Common Sense Media’s most recent research.)

Find balance. Instead of counting daily screen-time minutes, aim for a balance throughout the week. Get your

kids to help plan a week that includes stuff they have to do and stuff they like to do, such as schoolwork, activities, chores, reading, family time, and TV or gaming. Decide on limits and behavior using our Family Media Agreement.

Walk the walk. Put your devices away while driving, at mealtimes (learn about our Device-Free Dinner initiative), and during important conversations. Kids will learn habits from you.

Talk about it. Ask questions about kids’ favorite games, shows, and characters. Discuss ideas and issues they read about or learn about through a TV show or a game. This is an opportunity for bonding, learning, and sharing your values.

Create tech-free zones. Set rules that fit your family, such as “no devices during dinner,” “no social media during homework,” or “all screens off before bedtime.”

Check ratings. Choose age-appropriate, high-quality media and tech for your kids.

Common Sense Media is an independent nonprofit organization offering unbiased ratings and trusted advice to help families make smart media and technology choices. Check out our ratings and recommendations at www.commonsensemedia.org

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Is it Just A Stomachache or Something More?



Roy Nattiv, M.D.,
Pediatric Gastroenterologist, MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

All children at some point experience stomachaches, but recurring stomachaches or ones accompanied by other symptoms may be a sign of something more serious.

Abdominal pain can be caused by a variety of gastrointestinal conditions including inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). IBD is a term used to describe two conditions: Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

Ulcerative colitis can cause inflammation and sores along the lining of the large intestine and rectum. While Crohn's disease can affect the entire gastrointestinal tract including mouth, stomach, small and large intestine. Inflammation from Crohn's may often spread deep into adjacent organs.

- Nearly 25% of the estimated 1.6 million Americans who suffer from IBD are diagnosed by age 20 and up to 1 in 10 are diagnosed before age 10. Symptoms of IBD include:

- Unexplained weight loss
- Abdominal pain and cramping
- Diarrhea
- Blood in your stool
- Fever and fatigue

There is no known cure for IBD. However, there are a great number of treatments and with proper guidance, IBD can be put into remission - allowing patients to grow and thrive without experiencing symptoms.

Identifying a More Serious Problem

Stomachaches will usually go away with time. However, if your child experiences frequent or persistent abdominal pain, diarrhea, bloody stool or weight loss then talk to your child's pediatrician about a consultation with a pediatric gastroenterologist, like the ones at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach.

At Miller Children's & Women's, our team of pediatric gastroenterologists are experts in the diagnosis and medical management of IBD.



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