

FREE

# School News

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## Covering the Orange Unified School District

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 33

APRIL / MAY 2011

### SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Renae Dreier

The second semester of the 2010-2011 school year is well underway, and I hope everyone is enjoying what has been an exciting year despite the financial challenges

of today's economy. The Orange Unified School District is fortunate to have the amazing support of parents, business supporters, and the community as a whole. During lean times it is because of these supporters that many programs continue and thrive beyond what the district budget can supply. Their contribution to this District is greatly appreciated. There are numerous examples of purchases the district makes from funding received from outside sources: technology equipment, classroom supplies, physical education equipment, support for athletic and extracurricular programs, for which the district is extremely grateful. Again, thank you to our partners for their support and rest assured the Orange Unified School District will continue to provide an exceptional educational program while making the most responsible use of all resources from all its sources. While we have accomplished a great deal, we all know that there is much work to do in order to achieve our goals. The generosity of our parents, business supporters and community will help us realize those goals for all of our students.

Orange Unified School District  
1401 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867  
www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us

## Students Create Club to Help Homeless



Some of the Helping Hands club members  
(Back) Adalberto Barreto, Alexis Garcia, Natalie Sanchez, Jessica Valenzo, Kevin Hernandez, Brenda Rodriguez, Dioseline Moreno, Danny Loera (Middle) Josue Perez, Adela Salas, Eliza Palm, Alejandra Ortega, Erika Cortez, Valeria Martinez, Katherine Nunez, Yasmin Rodriguez (Front) Marco Lopez, Nancy Gutierrez, Pedro Castillo, Hillary Garcia

By Larry Hausner,  
Administrative Director –  
Communications and Educational  
Technology

We have so many students here at Yorba who are in need, and they want to help others. It shows that kids do care, and the beauty is that this was all students driven.

Yorba Academy of the Arts Middle School eighth-grader Brenda Rodriguez wanted to start a student club on her campus, but not just any club. She approached a Yorba counselor, Mr. Eddie Espinosa, with a unique request to start a club to help the less fortunate in her community. What was once an idea has now become a

SEE STUDENTS CREATE • PAGE 18

### BOARD OF EDUCATION



Rick Ledesma  
President

On behalf of the entire Orange Unified School District Board of Education, I want to thank our District community for what has been a very exciting and successful year thus far. Our District is dedicated to bringing teachers, students and teachers together to make OUSD a great place to educate and raise children.

This issue of *School News Roll Call* is dedicated to focus on our parent and community partnerships. There is no shortage of support OUSD receives from its parents and community as a whole. These partnerships are critical to the success of our students. One such partnership we are developing is a relationship with the Orange Chamber of Commerce to encourage local vendors to let us know about their business. We then will happily give them an opportunity to provide goods and services to our schools. As a District, the bottom line is that we do business with the vendor that can provide the goods at the best price.

The most critical of all partnerships is between the school and the home as they share responsibility for children's learning. When schools and parents develop and implement strategies for promoting effective school and home relationships, the result is improved learning for all students and this is certainly a goal of the Orange Unified School District.

### Electives Inside:

Orange County  
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Our next issue is June 1st

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Orange Unified School District  
**GRADUATION**  
2010-2011

School News Roll Call

# KAMPS FOR KIDZ

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Contest page 13  
See who won last issue

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**Kay Coop**

Founder / Publisher



The theme of this issue is parent and community involvement in the schools. Certainly my fondest memories are of being involved with my children's school and they are now involved with their children's school. Technology changes rapidly, smart boards have replaced chalk boards and curriculum is continually updated; yet, it is heartwarming to read the articles in this issue and see some things are constant—dedicated teachers, caring parents and a committed community. It doesn't get any better than that unless, of course, a stable economy and an ample budget.

**School News**

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Covering the  
**ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**



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**SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL**

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## The Power of Parents and Physical Activity



**William M. Habermehl**  
Superintendent

We know one of the most powerful tools in the fight against childhood obesity is physical activity. Yet, researchers tell us as our children grow, there is a decline in the amount of physical activity they get. How much physical activity do children and teens need? The 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans recommends that children and teens to get at least 60 minutes a day of physical activity, with a majority of that spent doing moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA). MVPA means raising your heart rate and “breaking a sweat” during physical activity.

Kids who get 30 minutes a day of MVPA have improved physical health, physical fitness, and mental health. At school we see links between physical activity, fitness, and improved academic performance. In other words, better grades and test scores at all ages!

Parents can have a powerful influence their children’s time and activities, by being an active role model for physical fitness. Children imitate what they see their parents do. Families can schedule an active play date at least once a week and should strive to make physical activity a part of every day if possible. Parents and caretakers can also substitute active play time for television, computer, and video game screen time at home. Children can invite their neighborhood friends to join in your family play time.

Physical Education (PE) is the class time schools allocate for students to learn and practice the movement knowledge, motor and social skills they need to start and sustain an active, healthy lifestyle. State and federal academic requirements for physical education are 200 minutes every 10 days in K-6 schools and 400 minutes every 10 days in grades 7-12. Schools are doing their best to make sure students are getting adequate PE time, however some may find it difficult to fit the time into the regular school day. If adequate PE time is a concern, ask your child’s teacher or school principal what you can do to help.

Parents can volunteer to help provide more MVPA at recess, lunch time, and after school. Parents can also assist teachers by supporting scheduled physical activity breaks in the classroom. Parents can promote walking, skating, and biking to and from school. As educators, we can encourage parents to learn about their school district’s Wellness Policy and participate in the Kids Run OC or Governor’s Challenge. Many organizations, including the Orange County Department of Education, offer free physical fitness resource materials, activity plans, and tools for parents.

None of us can do it alone. Working together, parents, schools, and communities can provide an environment that promotes physical activity and increases the amount of MVPA our children get. Let’s encourage collaborations between cities and community organizations, like YMCA’s and Boys & Girls Clubs, to work together and find ways to expand the use of existing facilities such as pools, parks, fitness centers, gyms, fields, playgrounds, and skate parks. Together we can find innovative ways to increase physical activity resulting in better health and fitness for everyone.

For more information: <http://HealthySchools.ocde.us>; [www.classroom.kidshealth.org](http://www.classroom.kidshealth.org)  
[www.ocnathon.com/kids-run-the-oc/program-info.aspx](http://www.ocnathon.com/kids-run-the-oc/program-info.aspx); [www.CalGovCouncil.org](http://www.CalGovCouncil.org)  
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# Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

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



**Sandra Miller**  
Principal

## Parent Participation in Kindergarten *By the Kindergarten Team*

We are lucky to have a fantastic group of parent volunteers this year! Any day of the week, you will find enthusiastic parents in our kindergarten classrooms helping our students with reading, writing, math, science, or special art projects. When children see parents make education a priority, they are more likely to make it a priority, too. Parents also do a great deal of photocopying and project preparation so our teachers can focus on lesson planning and teaching.

Our parent volunteers help make the holidays festive. When teachers want to plan special holiday centers and request extra help, dozens of parents respond to the request. We always have a high turnout of parents during awards assemblies and kindergarten performances. When we have a field trip, we actually have a lottery to choose chaperones because we have so many volunteers!

Some parents are unable to volunteer in the classroom due to work schedules, childcare issues, or other commitments. Some of these parents help by taking work home such as: book orders; word processing; or preparing projects. This is always greatly appreciated by teachers because it means that we take less work home that night.

Finally, we have many volunteers who have the desire to help financially. They generously send in classroom supplies and food items for special events.

We are very grateful for our fabulous parent helpers. They enrich our kindergarten program, school morale, and the lives of everyone at Anaheim Hills Elementary School.

# California *Elementary*

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



**Cyndi Paik**  
Principal

## Awesome Parent on Campus *By Patty Ruiz, 4th Grade Teacher*

It is our pleasure to take a moment to highlight super star parent Concepcion Linares. Mrs. Linares has spent countless hours helping her children's teachers make copies, file papers, as well as other tasks. She has three children—one at Yorba and two at California Elementary. In addition to helping teachers, she also volunteers as a morning greeter, as part of our school's Gang Reduction Intervention Program (GRIP). It is difficult to imagine



**Mrs. Linares**

how she squeezes in the time to help at California Elementary when she also works full time at her Mexican restaurant in the city of Orange. She not only owns the restaurant; she also does all of the cooking and typically spends seven days a week there. On the occasional weekend days she does not work, she spends time with her children. She has been a lifesaver to California Elementary and we are sincerely grateful for all that she does.

# Cambridge *Elementary*

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



**Karen Merkow**  
Principal

## Parent Involvement Activities

Parents are always a welcome partner in their child's education at Cambridge. While we encourage parents to work in the classroom to support their child's learning, we also provide many opportunities to fit everyone's busy schedules. Our PTA meetings are held monthly at 5:00 to help our working parents try and be involved. Our PTA organizes many enrichment activities for our students. Our Booster Club includes Dad's in supporting needs of the school by completing work projects on the weekends. Parents

may help in the classroom, at home or in the school office. There's lots to be done! We also invite community members and groups to volunteer at Cambridge. This year we've had volunteers from Chapman University, Orange High School and Reading Partners from the Women's Philanthropy of the JFOC. Please consider volunteering to support a better learning opportunity for your child!



**Volunteers support the learning at Cambridge**

# Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/998-5000



**Dr. William Gee**  
Principal

## Providing New Opportunities

Parents at Canyon Hills School are essential to the operation of our school. Without the support of our parents, our school would not be the effective school that it is. Our parents meet with us privately every year to review and discuss their children's goals and progress during the development of their Individualized Educational Programs (IEP). We hear about the goals, hopes, and dreams for every student.

The Canyon Hills Parent Association meets five times per year. Our meetings are focused on planning activities targeted for our unique population, encouraging further parent support, identifying potential fund-raising efforts, and enjoying time with other parents who face the difficulties and the joys of raising severely disabled children.

The Canyon Hills Parent Association also helps coordinate two of our major events every year. At our Back to School Night, our parents coordinate a major fund-raising campaign by soliciting donors from the broad community. Our donors offer their resources because of the unique needs of our students. Similarly, we have another major fund-raising campaign during our spring Open House. This also is a major fund-raising effort by our parents. The funds raised through these events and other direct sales allow our parents to provide opportunities for our students that they may not otherwise be able to enjoy. For example, this year we enjoyed a puppet show, a petting zoo, and a Halloween pumpkin patch with opportunities for our students.

Additionally, we have enjoyed donations of labor, talent, and funds from the local Rotary Club, local businesses, and the local Kiwanis Clubs. Their donations have allowed us to furnish our sensory room, enjoy visits from Santa, and provide toys and games for our students. We are fortunate to have such a supportive group of parents, businesses, and benefactors that care about our students.

# Canyon *High School*

220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/532-8000 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/canyon



## Parent/Community Involvement (activities)

Parents at Canyon High School have many opportunities for involvement at the school. Parents are always encouraged to contact the school and become involved to benefit all our students.



**Dr. Greg Bowden**  
Principal

We have an Education Foundation, which helps with supporting the mission of the school. The Ed Foundation has raised over \$70,000 to support our students and programs, and annually hosts a Gala to accomplish this. In addition, our PTSA has over 1100 members, and works to support the mission of the school through advocacy and volunteer work. PTSA members meet regularly with the principal to hear of school needs and events they can assist with.

Canyon also has many booster clubs to support athletic teams and co-curricular activities. These parent groups help provide needed resources to ensure our students have the equipment and supplies they need to be successful. At Canyon, the whole Tribe contributes: parents, staff, and students!!

# Cerro Villa *Middle School*

17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6251 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/cv



## Parent and Community Involvement

In the last edition of *School News Roll Call*, I highlighted Cerro Villa (CV) Middle School's six Theories of Action, aligned with our Orange Unified School District Strategic Plan. One of our Theories of Action helps foster our parent and community involvement strategies: If we are diligent in our communications with all stakeholders to establish common student achievement expectations, our families will engage with Cerro Villa as successful partners and will assist us in reinforcing positive school habits and a sincere focus on high-level achievement.

We pride ourselves on frequent communications of school events that reinforce our common language of student achievement and positive school culture with our parent and overall school community. CV is the district leader in phone messages sent home to our parent community along the BlackBoard Connect network.

Within these frequent communications are celebrations of parent and community involvement. In this issue, we celebrate our tremendous Parent-Faculty-Student Organization (PFSO), which diligently supports the teachers and the entire CV student body. Our PFSO has raised more than \$8,000 this year via the Goals Initiative. The PFSO accepts applications from our teachers and awards "goals" based upon teacher need. Through this initiative, countless volunteer hours are sacrificed by the PFSO Goals Board to award the products that will best address the needs of our students. We are most thankful for the efforts of our PFSO as the members continue to demonstrate that meaningful communications with our parents and community equals successful partners focused on student needs and high level achievement.

# Chapman Hills *Elementary*

170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/532-8043 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/chapman

Julie Lucas, Principal

No Article This Issue

# Canyon Rim *Elementary*

1090 S. The Highlands, Anaheim, Ca 92808 • 714/532-7027 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/cr



## Parents Put in Overtime

Parents of Canyon Rim Elementary School know that volunteering at school and being involved in school activities and events show students the importance of education. I am so proud of the involvement parents have taken in their children's education during the past two years.

Parent opportunities and PTA-sponsored events include coordinating and scheduling Art Masters lessons; coordinating Book Fair days for all students; coordinating family Bingo Nights full of fun for all families; planning Fall Carnival, which is our biggest fundraiser of the year for families to attend; Chess Masters; organizing class assignments as Room Moms; Reflections, volunteering to attend training sessions; assisting with health and safety screenings; working at the Student Store, where children bring in their Roadrunner Bucks and exchange them for rewards; processing book orders for the Birthday Book Club; Box Tops; and volunteering in their child's classrooms.

City of Anaheim Mayor Curt Pringle invited third-grade students to participate in the "Gift of History" event that was held at the Anaheim Convention Center in October. Students received a commemorative book titled *Anna's Home by the River*, which details the history of Anaheim.

Canyon Rim Elementary School has two parent/community activities scheduled for this year to support parent understanding and collaboration of the core instruction. They are parent-education trainings on Thinking Maps and CORE curriculum and the Parent Walk-Through.

On behalf of the staff at Canyon Rim, I want to thank all of our parents for their involvement and dedication to the education of the CR children!

# Crescent *Elementary*

5001 E. Gerda Drive, Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6371 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/ci



## Career Day

By Robin Nelson, 6th grade Teacher

On February 11th, the Crescent Elementary PTA hosted 19 professionals at its annual 3rd – 6th grade Career Day. Each year Crescent students rotate through the presentations of their choice learning about various professions in our community. This year's Career Day involved five sessions where students interacted with various scientists, engineers, paramedics and police officers, as well as a chef, a librarian and an attorney. Students learned about the education required for each respective career, in addition to what a typical day is like on the job.

Many presentations were hands-on experiences. Students were able to examine the tools used by paleontologists as well as the ancient artifacts found in the paleontology presentation. Ryal Wheeler of the Orange County Sanitation District brought in the tools needed to be a maintenance supervisor. A favorite hands-on presentation was with cooking host, Sharon McCrum. During this session, students learned how to make tuxedo brownies and enjoyed the fruits of their labor.



Students try out tools shared during the Orange County Sanitation District presentation.



Ethan Africano enjoys the tuxedo brownies by Sharon McCrum.

# El Modena *High School*

3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6331 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/emhs



## Parent Participation

I am sure we can agree that excellent teachers combined with solid curriculum and appropriate tools are essential to an effective instructional program. However, there are few things more critical to students' academic success than ongoing parent participation on school campuses. Parents serve as much-needed partners in the overall educational process because they are able to reinforce the school's philosophy and instruction outside the regular day. Furthermore, without parents' feedback and insights, a school can end up "flying blind" with regard to students' special needs and the myriad of external factors that might limit student opportunities for academic success.

**John Briquet**  
*Principal*

Parent participation is also critical to the existence of many school programs and activities. This participation is most visible in bodies such as PTA, School Site Council, booster clubs, education foundations, and other support organizations. Whether parents are fund-raising, organizing, chaperoning, supervising, proctoring, or simply supporting, many of our extracurricular programs would be dramatically altered or would cease to exist entirely without their tremendous assistance. For example, without the fund-raising support of our booster clubs this year, El Modena High School would have been unable to provide transportation to athletic events and band competitions.

As an educator and parent of three children, I highly encourage you to get involved and stay involved in your child's education. Be bold enough to ask questions, seek answers, and find ways to support the teachers and the campus. I assure you that both your child and his or her school will benefit from your involvement.

# Esplanade *Elementary*

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



## Busy Weekends

At Esplanade School, we are working with the parents and community volunteers to make sure that our students are on the road to being proficient readers!

As part of Orange Unified's "Careers in Education" program at El Modena High School, at least 12 of their students meet with our first- and second-graders (and any interested parents) before class each morning to practice reading fluency.

This program, led by Terri Nii in conjunction with Esplanade's teachers and Instructional Coach Dee Petersen, has seen an increase in fluency levels due to a multi-faceted approach to teaching and practicing.

Over the course of four afternoon sessions, Esplanade's parents have also had an opportunity to participate in the "School for Parents"/Colorin Colorado? curriculum. This is presented in Spanish by Mrs. Avalos. The parents especially enjoyed visiting different classrooms to help solidify their knowledge on standards and put new procedures into practice.

Thanks to our knowledgeable staff member Mr. Lopez, computer classes are also available for the parents to take each Saturday, through April 30th, for three hours at a time. Several grade levels also have special parent workshops on the weekend that can help bridge the gap between school and home through learning-based activities.

Finally, our Parent Institute classes, held through the community group PIQE, are also beginning during the week of April 18th. They will extend through the last 10 weeks of school.

At Esplanade, our parents and students are busy learning to be the best they can!

# El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

181 S. Del Giorgio Road, Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/997-6238 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/rancho



**John Besta**  
*Principal*



**Michele Walker**  
*Principal*

## Parent Visitation Day

On Wednesday February 9th El Rancho Charter School held its second Parent Visitation Day of the school year. El Rancho Charter School feels that these visitation days are an excellent opportunity for Parents to truly see what is going on in their child's school.

Each year El Rancho Charter School has two visitations with approximately 400 parents attending each one. Parents begin the day by signing in and then follow their child around to all of their classes, getting to really see and participate in their child's education. Teachers and parents think that this is a worthwhile event that gives the parent an opportunity to see first-hand what is going on in their child's classes. It also gives teachers an opportunity to showcase their many classroom activities and projects. El Rancho feels that this is just one more way that we are bringing the school and the community closer together.

# Fairhaven *Elementary*

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



**Andrew Fisher**  
*Principal*

## Fairhaven Celebrates Reclassified Students

March 11 was a very special day at Fairhaven. The parents of thirty-three of our students were invited to a recognition ceremony at our regular English Language Advisory Council (ELAC) meeting, to honor the students who were recently reclassified to Fluent English Proficient status. These students have demonstrated proficiency on their English Language Development Tests (CELDT), have scored mid-basic or above on their CST's, and are performing at grade level in their classrooms.

Proud smiles were seen all around as each student was called up with his or her parents to receive a reclassification certificate and rainbow wristband. Parents were also rewarded with wristbands to acknowledge their part in supporting their child's achievement. At the conclusion of the presentation, all joined together for delicious refreshments. We expect these students to have continued success in meeting their goals. As Mr. Fisher shared with the parents, "These are now children of the world!"



# Fletcher *Elementary*

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



**Helen Chung**  
Principal

## Community Involvement Spans Generations

Fletcher Elementary's most valuable contributor to community involvement is "Grandma" Nonie Morrillo. Grandma Nonie has seen scores of children make their way through Fletcher, including her own grandchildren. Although Nonie's volunteer "job" is assisting teachers by copying, assembling and distributing classroom materials, her real contribution is her outreach to the children of Fletcher. For 25 years, Nonie has been the only source of love, affection and stability in young lives that can be chaotic.

Barbara Iwasaki is another example of longstanding community service to Fletcher Elementary School. Ms. Iwasaki worked at Fletcher as the Health Clerk until 2001, when she retired. Ms. Iwasaki prepares all materials for use in the Art Masters programs and distributes them, and schedules lessons and lectures as well.

Grandma Nonie and Ms. Iwasaki also volunteer in classrooms, assisting teachers in small groups and one-on-one with students. These young at heart volunteers provide inspiration to new generations of other volunteers that remember them from their days as students and are now bringing their own children to Fletcher. New Fletcher parents should look to Grandma Nonie and Ms. Iwasaki as examples of true community service to the school.

# Imperial *Elementary*

400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6282 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/imperial



**Tim Biland**  
Principal

## Imperial Celebrates Our Parent Volunteers

Parent participation is a distinguishing characteristic of Imperial Elementary. Parents come and go as if they are at their workplace. Busily preparing materials and operating classroom learning centers, teachers have partners in their children's education. Of course, Imperial parents and their community resources respond to the call for help whenever needed whether for fundraising rewards, field day volunteers, or operating our book fairs.

Because of parents who are willing to respond to the call, teachers have more of the most essential resource, time.

Throughout our school, the challenge of having enough time to reach every individual child so that his distinct needs may be addressed is the single greatest obstacle. Daily, our teachers are fortunate to have co-teachers in the classroom that enable them to meet face to face with students and to address the variety of educational needs within a single class.



# Handy *Elementary*

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



**Sandra Schaffer**  
Principal

## Parent/Community Involvement

Parent and community involvement is an important component of student success. At Handy, there are numerous parent groups that support the educational process and recognize that it takes effort on all our parts to ensure success. We have an active ELAC that meets monthly. Handy parents also have the opportunity to support our school through HSA and Fathers' Club. Both of these groups help to generate money for programs like Art Masters and grade level fieldtrips.



**Officer Parker with student Luis Correa**

The GRIP program, run by the Orange Police Department and OC District Attorneys Office, continues to help our school with matters of student safety and attendance. This is our second year participating, and we have seen quite a difference. Police officers regularly visit Handy and greet the students in the morning as they are dropped off at school. Their presence reminds our students how important it is to come to school everyday.

# Jordan *Elementary*

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



**Bertie Anderson**  
Principal

## Parental Involvement

Jordan Elementary offers many opportunities for parents to get involved.

The school library is open every morning from 8-8:30 for the parents to check out books for their children. They are first given their child's reading level, and then our librarian helps them find the appropriate books. Our parents are also invited to attend after-school computer classes with their children to help them do the ST math or Reading Counts lessons.

Throughout the year, Jordan parents are also invited to attend a variety of parent workshops like, "Maintaining the Peace: Recommendations to Parents on how to Resolve Family Conflicts." There are also "Helping your Children with Homework" and "How to Help your Child be Successful in School" workshops as well.

The Latino Family Literacy Project, which focuses on family stories, is currently in session. This series is held on Mondays for 10 weeks. Parents can create their own scrapbooks that reflect the experience of Latino families and also learn how to share literature books to help promote the joy of reading.

In addition, Jordan has regularly scheduled various School Site Council, English Language Advisory Committee and Parent Teacher Association meetings. The PTA also has different fund-raisers and activities that can involve the community as well.

We are happy to report that our parents take time to attend workshops that visibly model to their children the importance of education. Jordan's high level of parental involvement goes hand-in-hand with our school slogan of, "Together We're Better!"

# La Veta *Elementary*

2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6155



**Gwendolyn Green**  
*Principal*

## Parent and Community Involvement

Parental involvement is invaluable to a child's development and education. Children of involved parents experience a variety of benefits that are evident during childhood and throughout the rest of their lives. With the state budget in crisis, there are fewer resources and funds available to support schools, and there are numerous opportunities for parents to volunteer and be involved at our school.

At La Veta Elementary, parents are highly encouraged to volunteer in classrooms, serve as classroom moms or dads, join our Parent Teacher Association (PTA), attend monthly English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC) meetings, and serve on our site School Site Council (SSC). La Veta has a rich history of parent involvement and prides itself on maintaining positive working relationships in an effort to provide our students with the best educational experience possible.

So far this year, La Veta has partnered with our parents and surrounding community to host several fund-raisers, including family nights at a local bookseller and some favorite fast-food restaurants, pie sales, and a catalog fund-raiser. In addition to fund-raising, La Veta has also hosted school events, such as our annual Family Campout, Skate Nights, Science Night and the Fit-A-Thon. Proceeds of such events go back to our students and help to supplement some of our additional programs at our school, including Art Masters and Outdoor Education.

Through teamwork we can continue to make great things happen at La Veta. Go, Vikings!

# Lampson *Elementary*

13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/997-6153 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/lampson



**Laurie Dieppa**  
*Principal*

## Parent Involvement

Lampson Elementary School is providing many opportunities for our parent community to come together to contribute to the academic achievement of their children in fun, informative, and exciting ways.

In February, Lampson hosted our Third Annual Community Science Night. It was a great success. More than 300 families attended the event. The night included astronomers, tropical birds, a traveling planetarium, local wildlife, and local researchers and scientists presenting laser and electronic demonstrations. Students and their parents were able to complete many different hands-on science experiences, such as extracting strawberry DNA, studying fingerprints, creating motorized vehicles, learning about paper airplane aerodynamics, exploring the various states of matter, and much more.

Fourth- and fifth-grade students also contributed to the evening by entering exhibits in the science fair. Their entries ranged from the study of the effect of color on birdhouses and animal behavior to consumer studies of which brand of popcorn pops the most kernels.

Lampson is also providing Bring Your Parents to School Days. One day each month hundreds of parents come to school with their children. Parents meet with the principal in the library to discuss the type of lessons they will see when they visit classrooms. After spending some time in classrooms, parents meet again and discuss the lessons they observed and are able to ask the principal and resource teachers questions. This is also an opportunity for the principal to inform parents of important issues and events happening at the school and in the education community.

# McPherson Magnet

333 S. Prospect, Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6384 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/mcpherson



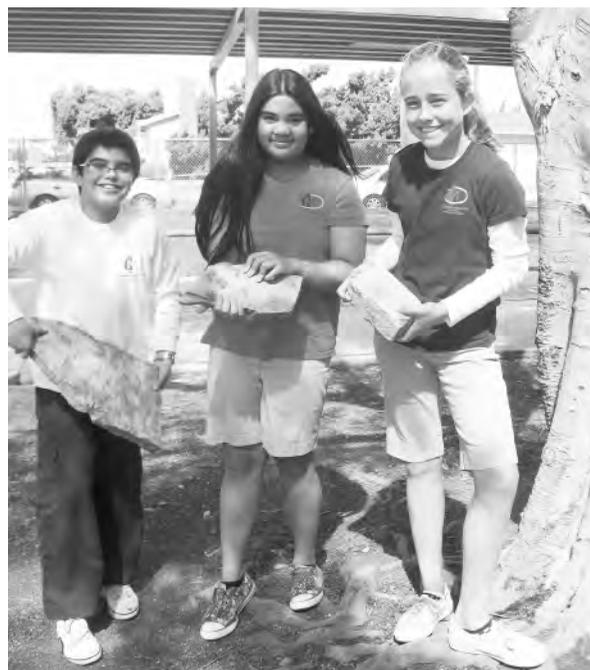
**Jeanne Bentley**  
*Principal*

## Social Studies Garden

McPherson strives to build a strong community where all members feel valued and respected. When people come together for a common purpose, kids succeed, families have ownership, and our school prospers.

This month, McPherson is working on a new Social Studies Garden. Teachers and students have created a shared vision of beauty, to compliment their science and history curriculum. Students have been bringing in rocks and have measured the area of the garden. Parents who are gardeners, engineers, contractors,

and planners are preparing to pour footings to build benches out of redwood and prepare pedestals to trophy student artifacts. Local business have supported us with donated plants and pathways of river rock and decomposed granite. Our district office has provided guidelines for us in the planning and safety aspects, "Be mindful of sprinklers and pipes as you dig." Students will be the beneficiaries of our labor as we reach outside the classroom walls to strengthen our community.



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Camps & Fun Activities

# CAMPS FOR KIDZ

BY SUSAN PETERSON

Noted author of the comprehensive guidebook:

*"Fun & Educational Places to go with Kids & Adults in Southern California."*

**THE WORD "SUMMER"** brings to mind a myriad of images from my childhood — *going to the beach, reading a good book, eating popsicles, building a treehouse, and hanging out with my friends.*

Those are great memories. I also remember getting bored. And I remember sharing this information, persistently, with my mom — *I think she referred to it as WHINING.*

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Great for beginners!

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[www.rawhideranch.com](http://www.rawhideranch.com)

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A SAFE, FUN, ACTIVE WEEK OF BASEBALL

June 27 – July 1

July 11 – 15

July 18 – 22

July 25 – 29

Advanced Camp August 1 – 4



9AM – 3PM Daily

Ages 6 – 12

\$190

Directed by Chapman University Head Coach Tom Tereschuk  
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## In the community since 1997



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Full Day 9am to 3pm \$150 • Half Day 9am to 12pm \$110

Session 1 June 20 thru June 24

Session 2 June 27 thru July 1

Session 3 July 11 thru July 15

Session 4 July 25 thru July 29

Session 5 Aug 1 thru Aug 5 (Half Day only)

[www.carrillosoccercamp.com](http://www.carrillosoccercamp.com)

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## Note-ables

### Swimming in Noodles



Kate Karp

Jim Cosgrove is a lot of fun. He's a daddy who treats his children and yours as well to silly songs set to foot-tapping styles and genres that ramble from acoustic to zydeco. His "Stinky Feet" has been requested so often that it's earned him the dubious moniker Mr. Stinky Feet, but Mr. Cosgrove doesn't seem to mind.

No stinky feet, though, on his latest offering, *Swimming in Noodles*, probably because there are too many songs about food on the collection "Cookie Time," "Spaghetti and Goofballs" and "Chips and Salsa" are side dishes to friendship and task breaks.

There are cozy family songs, such as the Cajun-flavored "Cool Daddy," which recalls the New Orleans classic "Iko Iko." Others can be used for science, personal development and social studies, like "We're Electrons," "Nobody Does It like You" and "Just Like You." In the whimsical "Hang On Mama," Mom disappears under a load of laundry, not exactly the way she does in real life but she'll relate, and we're guests in the otherworld of a child who protects a mysterious animal from the zookeeper. Listen for the surprise ending.

The recording was produced using live musicians and in collaboration with Grammy award-nominated producer Tor Hyams, who founded Kidzapalooza, the children's musical version of the annual Lollapalooza music festival. The CD jacket is peppered—there's that food theme again—with fun facts relating to the songs. Bet you didn't know that electrons are smaller than a freckle on a fly or that salsa is the number-one condiment in the United States. *Swimming in Noodles* will be a tasty accompaniment to car trips, playtime and classroom hands-on time.

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



**Santiago  
Canyon  
College**

## Community Services College for Kids Program

(June 20 through August 11, 2011)

If you're looking for a way to help enrich your child's summer,  
Santiago Canyon College has the solution.

### Community Services College for Kids Program

offers a wide variety of classes and activities that can help your child  
improve academic skills, challenge his or her imagination, and make new friends.

You can personalize your child's schedule to accommodate  
vacations and other summer activities.

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- sewing
- science camps
- Spanish
- web design
- video game making and more...

Registration begins April 20, 2011

For more information, visit our website at

[www.sccollege.edu/cs](http://www.sccollege.edu/cs)  
or call (714) 628-4960

Santiago Canyon College Community Services Program  
8045 E. Chapman Ave. • Orange 92869



# Children's Programs

Summer Camps and Classes for Kids and Teens – Held on the Cal State Fullerton Campus

## Art Camp

This two-week program (10 meetings) is designed for 7-14 year olds to explore art, drama and creativity.

## Math and Drawing Classes

Two hour classes (5 meetings) help to tutor students ages 8-18 for the upcoming school year on topics such as math, drawing, writing and reading.

[www.fullerton.edu/kidscamp](http://www.fullerton.edu/kidscamp)

These programs are made available through the CSU Fullerton Auxiliary Service Corporation. 47596 03/11

## The Value of Camp for Every Child

What happens when you make the decision to choose camp? You open up a world of discovery and learning for your child, a world that values children for who they are and who they will become.

Camp gives each child a world of good.



# What are your kids doing this summer?

The City of Orange has plenty of activities planned to keep your tots, kids, tweens, and teens busy throughout the summer months! A variety of fun and exciting specialty camps and classes such as sports, art, music, dance, engineering, science, cooking and much more will be offered this summer. Visit [cityoforange.org](http://cityoforange.org).



## Summer Day Camps

The City is also proud to offer its ever-popular Summer Day Camps at various City parks. Beginning June 20, 2011 kids are invited to join our themed, 9-week program with a structured schedule of games, activities, crafts, songs, special events, and excursions. Your child will experience a summer packed with adventure and excitement! Registration accepted NOW! For more information or to register visit [www.cityoforange.org](http://www.cityoforange.org) or call (714) 744-7293.

**Days/Times:** Mon–Fri, 7 a.m.–6 p.m.  
**Ages:** Children entering 1st grade–11 years old  
**Fees:** \$95 per week, per child for Orange residents  
 \$110 per week, per child for non-residents  
 Optional weekly excursions vary in cost.  
 A complete list of excursion activities will be available in the summer issue of Our Orange magazine available the week of May 2, 2011.

**Day Camp Locations:**  
 Handy & Shaffer Parks

## Teens-4-Team Orange

This program offers teens the fun and excitement of our traditional teen camp, as well as the opportunity to make a difference in their community by participating in various service projects throughout the City of Orange. Teens will not only build friendships and create memories to last a lifetime, but they can also earn required school service hours!

**Day Camp Location:** Hart Park  
**Days/Times:** Mon–Fri, 7 a.m.–6 p.m.  
**Ages:** 12–15 years old  
**Fees:** \$95 per week, per child for Orange residents  
 \$110 per week, per child for non-residents  
 Optional weekly excursions vary in cost.  
 Registration accepted NOW!  
 For more information or to register visit [www.cityoforange.org](http://www.cityoforange.org) or call (714) 744-7293.



## The Sports Center at Grijalva Park is open and ready to serve you!

Our NEW community Sports Center offers a variety of classes and activities for people of all ages to enjoy. Visit [cityoforange.org](http://cityoforange.org) for a complete list of family fun offerings!



# Orange Junior Soccer Club Summer Program



*Proudly Serving the Community for 43 Years!*

# EVERYONE PLAYS

All players welcome • 5 – 15 years old

**All skill levels welcome**

beginners, intermediate and advanced!  
 We proudly offer divisions and teams for EVERYONE.

# TEAMS FORMING NOW!

**Experience youth sports at its finest!**

Balanced teams, licensed coaches, certified referees, abundant fields and lots of volunteers. We strive to be the most fun, exciting and developmental soccer experience in the country!

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**Canyon Panther Soccer Academy**  
 "Development is our goal. Teaching is our business."

**Tryouts U14 thru U18**  
 April/May—Check Website for Dates  
**All tryouts are hosted at**  
**Riverdale Elementary School, Anaheim**

6 to 9 Year Olds

**PSA JUNIORS**  
 JULY 16-17, 2011

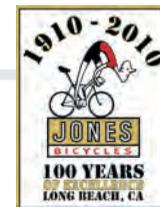
**PSA WINTER CLUB**  
 DEC 10-11, 2011

**In The Community Since 1998**

Canyon PSA is an organized youth soccer club for girls and boys ages U9 to U19. Under the direction of Club Director **Eddie Carrillo** (Men's Soccer Coach Chapman University, teacher with OUSD), Asst. Club Director **Sal Lopez**, Technical Director **Luis Balboa**, and our club's Goal Keeper Coach, **Bob Ammann**, (Men's Soccer Coach Cal State Fullerton), this leadership brings over 90 years of coaching experience and knowledge of the game. **Ultimately, our success will be measured by the number of Canyon PSA players that participate in soccer at the collegiate level and by the success our players achieve in all aspects of their lives.**

**www.canyonpsa.com**

## Keeping Up With the Jones'



# Wear It—Or Don't Ride!

By Lisa Genshock

Some of my best Summer memories are of riding my Schwinn Stingray Fair Lady bicycle. It was a hand-me-down from my older sister, and I loved it. I had a mod flower power banana seat with orange, red, and purple daisies all over it. The purple metallic paint sparkled in the sun. To me, it signified freedom. Peddling happily, I would ride to my friend Linda's house, one-half mile away.

I loved the wind blowing through my hair as I rode. So, when my Dad came home one day with a helmet, I was mortified. "Wear it" he said, "Or don't ride your bike."

According to the latest statistics from the National SAFE KIDS Campaign, the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, and the American

Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) nearly 50 percent of children 14 and under hospitalized for bicycle-related injuries are diagnosed with a brain injury. In California, it is law that all persons under the age of 18 years must wear a helmet while bicycling.

Parents, put a helmet on your child and wear one yourself. You are the example.



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 Don't miss out on all the fun...

**Camp Dates: Mon., 6/13/11 – Fri., 8/12/11**

**Cookin' Up Fun!**

"I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never go thirsty."  
 John 6:35

**Registration: \$100**  
**Tuition:**  
 \$468-\$414 for a 4 week, full-time session  
 \$414-\$144 for a 4 week, part-time session  
 (6% additional child discounts)

| Session 1:            | Session 2:            | Session 3:           |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 6/13 – 6/24 (2 weeks) | 6/27 – 7/22 (4 weeks) | 7/2 – 8/12 (3 weeks) |

Separate rooms for 1st-4th, & 5th-8th... 2 field trips per week... Swimming... Study Incentives...

Download Your Sign-Up Forms at: **www.hephatha.net**

# The Mr. California and Miss Southern California 2011 Pageant Information



The Mr. California and Miss Southern California are scholarship pageants with the opportunity for titleholders to receive prizes of up to \$1,000 and work with charities such as: Special Olympics • CHOC (Children's Hospital of OC) • Orange County Food Bank Cystic Fibrosis Foundation • And much, much more.....

**Even if you missed the orientation—it's not too late to enter!**

The pageant is open to young males and females ages 5 to 25 years old.

**Mr. or Miss** 19 – 25 yrs • **Teen** 14 – 18 yrs • **Jr.** 10 – 13 yrs • **Little Mr. or Little Miss** 5 – 9 yrs

(310) 720-1681

[www.capageantproductions.com](http://www.capageantproductions.com) • [capageants@aol.com](mailto:capageants@aol.com)

The pageant will be held on:  
Sunday, May 15, 2011

Martha Knoebel Theatre  
CSULB ~ Long Beach  
4:00PM – 7:00PM

## String Instruments Word Search Contest

**NEW 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 is the word you email to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put OUSD in the subject line)

**Entries must be received by May 15, 2011**

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

|            |             |         |
|------------|-------------|---------|
| Balalaika  | Guitar      | Sitar   |
| Banjo      | Harp        | Ukulele |
| Bass Viol  | Harpsichord | Viola   |
| Cello      | Lute        | Violin  |
| Clavichord | Lyre        | Zither  |
| Contrabass | Mandolin    |         |
| Dulcimer   | Piano       |         |

**Congratulations February Winner!**  
**Ashmita Deb**

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

# Linda Vista *Elementary*

1200 N. Cannon, Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6201



**Sally Hughson**  
Principal

## Community Involvement

Linda Vista Elementary school is fortunate to have a very active parent group that supports many important events and activities. In October, PTA hosted VIP Day. Grandparents, aunts and uncles were invited to visit their children's classroom and stay for a barbecue lunch prepared by OUSD's nutrition services. In November, our parents, with the help of Mr. Guerriero, our P.E. teacher, hosted the Turkey Trot. Students did the crab-walk, somersaults, push-ups and jumping jacks, and hopped on one foot. Ribbons were given to first-, second- and third-place winners at each grade level.

Our PTA depends on donations to fund Linda Vista programs. In the 2009 school year, parents were surveyed, and they overwhelmingly voted to stop fund-raising and change to a straight donation program. This is the second year of our donation program. John Schrank, our ways and means chairman, expects us to meet our donation goal. The donation program funds such programs as quarterly Art Master lessons, monthly music appreciation assemblies, hands-on science and a P.E. teacher. Funds from the donation program also support expanding Linda Vista's technology and teacher/classroom supplies.

Linda Vista's teachers, staff and students are very lucky to have the support of our families and the community.

# Olive *Elementary*

3038 N Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/637-8218 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/olive



**Kathryn Martin**  
Principal

## Volunteers are Appreciated

At Olive Elementary, we are honored to have dozens of wonderful volunteers that come on campus daily to work with our children in numerous ways. Adults from both the community and our Olive family take time from their busy days to serve the students at Olive. Any day of the week, one can walk through campus and see a grandmother, an uncle, a mom or a dad working with a small group of children in the shade of a tree, or inside the classroom. The Assistance League of Orange provides our HALOS (Helping A Little One Succeed) from the community to work with our students.

We treasure our HALOS! This Spring, we are honored to thank Mrs. Terri Warren and Mrs. Carroll Maietta for their service.

Mrs. Warren, an Olive parent, has volunteered in every capacity from selling ice cream, to Room Mom, to serving the past two years as our parent group President. Mrs. Maietta, a neighbor of Olive and a retired teacher, gives of her time to the kindergartners of Olive every day of the week. We are truly grateful.



Olive appreciates Mrs. Warren and Mrs. Maietta

# Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

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



**Dominique Polchow**  
Principal

## Our Volunteers, Our Vitality

One of Nohl Canyon's mottos is "It takes a village to raise a child," and our school community expresses this on a daily basis. On any given day, our campus is thriving, with many parent volunteers both inside and outside the classroom. Before school even begins, dedicated parents volunteer in the parking lot to ensure a smooth and safe drop-off for students. As the school bell rings, many parents enter the classroom to either help with small groups of students or to assist the teachers with paperwork and copying. Even during lunchtime, parents help with noon supervision, academic pentathlon, track and field, and other activities that occur throughout the school year. At the conclusion of the school day, parents assist with after school pickup, enrichment programs, variety show practice, school site council meetings and much more. Nohl Canyon parents certainly take an active role in their children's education.

Another huge part of our school community support is the Nohl Canyon School Association. Each year, this amazing group of parents raises an extraordinary amount of money through their fund-raising efforts. The funds raised give our Roadrunners additional learning opportunities. Some of these opportunities include Art Masters, Traveling Scientists, Class Act with the Pacific Symphony, Noon Time Sports, assemblies and technology. The home-to-school connection is vital to a child's success, and it is evident that Nohl Canyon students continue to flourish because of this strong relationship.

# Orange *High School*

525 N Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6211 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/ohs



**Ernest Gonzalez**  
Principal

## Recognizing Potential Leaders

Orange High School has been serving the community for over 100 years! With this rich a history, it's no wonder how often we hear the chant, "Once a Panther, always a Panther!"

The City of Orange, which is home to many a former Panther, has returned our good effort by involving Orange High School in its Junior Leadership Orange Program.

Sponsored by the Orange Chamber of Commerce, the program's goal is to develop a better understanding of what it takes to be a leader, and to help bring out the potential leadership qualities in each participant. Applicants are selected by their counselors based upon potential ability and not necessarily grades or school standing.

Selected students participate in fun and informative classes that include trips to city hall, the police station, the city library, St. Joseph's Hospital, Ronald McDonald House and local businesses. They have an opportunity to meet the mayor, city officials and many other business leaders. They also develop class projects to benefit their school and community. In addition, those students who complete the program attend a special graduation dinner.

Although there are many community outreach programs and other activities of benefit to the students at Orange High School, the Junior Leadership Orange program shows what community involvement is all about.

To place your ad in our June issue  
and reach YOUR target market:

**(714) 856-9884**

**leslie@schoolnewsrollcall.com**

# School News



Education+Communication=A Better Nation

# Palmyra *Elementary*

1325 E Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6207



**Connie Smith**  
*Principal*

## **Our Community Members Step Up** *By Jennifer Scholte, Kindergarten Teacher*

Palmyra Elementary student body has participated in Pennies for Patients (for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society) for the last four years. Organized by our Student Council, it has been a huge success in our school and has allowed our parents and community to join with us to raise money for this worthy cause. This year, we have seen many of our students reaching out to their community to raise awareness and receive donations. Students were given small collection boxes to collect donations from friends, family members and neighbors. Students, parents and teachers have been amazed to see the generosity of so many people. When there is a need, our community members really step up.



**Natalie Vasquez, kindergartener,**  
**with her collection box**

# Parkside *Pre-K*

2345 E, Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6202



**Kristi Franco**  
*Coordinator*

## **Community Involvement**

March is community helper month at Parkside. Students will be learning about the importance of various helpers in their community. The students will have an opportunity to meet some of these very important people and learn about how each of them contributes to our community. Parkside will have visits from a police officer, a nurse, a farmer, an artist and a baseball coach. The students at Parkside will learn why each and every one of these community helpers is an important member of their community. We here at Parkside anxiously look forward to our friends visits. It is such a joy for the teachers at Parkside to see the faces of their students light up when a police officer, fire fighter or other "helper" walks through the door.

# Portola *Middle School*

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



**Deborah Backstrom**  
*Principal*

## **Our Doors Are Always Open**

Parent involvement is such an important part of Portola Middle School. We offer many opportunities for our parents to become involved in their children's education.

The Student Site Council (SSC) meets on a monthly basis to offer parents the chance to have an active role in determining and approving school policies and how monies are spent. Our English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC) is another active group of parents and administrators that meets six times a year to discuss English language learners at Portola.

Parents, students, family members and teachers are also encouraged to join our Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA). This group gets together on a monthly basis, alternating between morning and evening meetings. They have many fund-raising activities during the year that help collect money to support the school. All parents, students, family members and teachers are invited to be an active part of the Portola Middle School's PTSA.

We understand the value of parent participation to ensure student success, and we encourage our parents to be a part of their child's education. Parents can volunteer for different school activities, or work in their student's own classroom.

# Panorama *Elementary*

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



**Michelle Moore**  
*Principal*

## **Parent Partners** *By Mrs. Laura Emerson, Teacher – 4th Grade*

What makes a school able to provide quality education for each and every student? At Panorama Elementary School, it is dedicated teachers who truly care about their students' welfare, students who are ready and eager to learn, a well-maintained, safe campus, a support staff that truly supports, and a principal who instills a desire for perfection in staff members and students alike. Walking on the campus of Panorama Elementary School, you will see evidence of the many people who are helping our Panthers to be successful as they travel down their Road to Excellence.

What makes Panorama extra special is our parents and their dedication to their children's education. Because they want the best for their children, they are always there to support in any way needed. Assisting in classrooms, coaching small groups during Panther ExCEL, monitoring students in the library and computer lab, serving as docents for Art Masters, coaching the track team for Foundation Games, and volunteering at our many fund-raisers, such as Panther Challenge, the book fair, the Fall Carnival, and family nights at local restaurants is just the tip of the iceberg.

Most importantly, our parents do what they can to ensure that their children are ready to learn. Encouraging their children to seek their greatest potential and keeping in close contact with teachers is what helps to keep our students traveling on the Road to Excellence.

Our parents' partnership brings a tremendous sense of community to our campus. They truly deserve a Panther pat on the back! Go, Panorama parents! Go, Panthers!

# Prospect *Elementary*

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



**Elena Stoces**  
*Principal*

## **Latino Family Literacy Program**

At Prospect this year we have implemented the Latino Family Literacy Program that meets on Wednesdays at noon for 10 weeks. This program is designed to support Latino families in creating opportunities to enhance their communication with their children at home through the use of literacy activities. Led by teacher Abril Ceja de Anda, the parents are learning how to build strong reading routines at home, improve vocabulary skills with their children, build their own English skills so that they can better support their children academically as well as to learn how to use literature and manipulatives at home with their family. As a school we are noticing how the class has become a bridge from school to home and is providing the parents not only the knowledge on how to help their children but also empowering them to know that they are a vital component to their child's education and that their collaboration with school is essential for their child's success.



**Prospect Elementary School volunteers make a difference.**

# Richland *High School*

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



**Ed Madrid**  
Principal

## Students Getting Involved with the Community.

Students who come to Richland have the opportunity to serve their community in a variety of ways. Twice a year the local Red Cross brings 2 blood mobiles to Richland where our students line up to donate the Gift of Life. We were able to collect 47 pints of blood in December. The Student Council coordinated the drive and made sure all went smoothly. Other activities that students get involved with here at Richland include our Penny Drive to combat blood cancers, canned food drives around the holiday season, clothing collections for the homeless, and our recycling drive which helps the environment.

Students take their roles seriously and learn valuable leadership roles as they get involved with their community. Under the guidance of the staff at Richland the students learn a valuable lesson about giving back to the community in one way or another.



**Richland canned food drive a success.**

# Santiago Charter *Middle School*

515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6366 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/santiago



**Mary Henry**  
Principal

## Santiago Parents Welcomed and Encouraged

A celebration of what makes Santiago unique would be incomplete if the important factor of parent participation was not included. As a part of the charter school protocol, parents acknowledge the important role that they play in the education of their children by signing an enrollment contract before entering the school. This contract states that parents will review and sign their children's learning logs on a daily basis. Additionally, each family will provide 12 hours of service per year to the school.

The services, tailored to meet the needs and/or schedules of all families, range from providing cookies for the 7th grade Renaissance Faire to working to beautify the campus on Saturday mornings. Parents also receive credit for any events that are attended during the year. It is easy to complete the requirement by simply attending Back to School Night, Student Led Conferences, Open House, Parent Education Nights, Music and/or Drama performances, PTSA Meetings, and Charter Board Meetings. Parents logged in 13,380 service hours during the 2009-2010 school year, an incredible tribute to the parent community supporting the school!

# Running Springs *Elementary*

8670 E. Running Springs Drive, Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/281-45120



**Lydia Roach**  
Principal

## Thanks to Our Volunteers

Running Springs Elementary School is very fortunate to have so many parent volunteers. Many parents dedicate time each week to assist in classrooms. Others spend many hours planning events and programs that enrich the educational experience of all Running Springs students. The Running Springs PTA provides several Family Fun Nights throughout the year, where families can come together to share friendship and fun. A sense of community that is fostered at these events helps students to feel connected to school. Many thanks to the PTA and the numerous parent volunteers who work in classrooms for continuing to support such wonderful family-oriented events and student-centered activities.

There are also parent groups that work to evaluate and revise academic programs. The School Site Council revises the Single Plan for Student Achievement and the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) revises the English learner plan each year. School Site Council parent members are elected by their peers, and all parents of English Learners are invited to attend ELAC meetings. Parent input and feedback is critical when making budgetary and curriculum decisions. Many thanks to the following parents for their commitment to the both School Site Council and ELAC: Paul Beehler, Jennifer Berkson, Annette Cambiaso, Lani Darby, Christine Medlin, Angela Mathews, Ivonne Hidalgo, and Rosa Alvarez. The students and staff benefit from the direct involvement of all of our parents, and their continued support is valued and very much appreciated.

# Serrano *Elementary*

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



**Dr. Bobbie Lansman**  
Principal

## The Move to improve

As a 2010 California Distinguished Award school, Serrano's strong parent and community involvement is integral to successful student achievement.

At the heart of Serrano is an active Parent Faculty Organization (PFO) and School Site Council (SSC). There is also an English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC), and even a Dad's Club which supports the many activities and events that make our school so great.

There are also many committees that not only serve the school directly, but also provide an opportunity for parents to socialize. This school year, parents planned the fabulous fall carnival, organized a school-wide fund-raiser, and continually prepared for Art Masters and the Class Act partnership with the Pacific Symphony Orchestra.

Parents also actively volunteer in classrooms, work in the library and office, and even help sell popcorn and ice cream after a hot day at school.

Many Serrano working parents get involved in evening activities that include doing things for school at home. Finally, unique to Serrano is the Foundation. Here parents meet in the evening to plan, discuss and promote exciting fund-raisers for "big ticket" items such as technology, playground equipment and the outdoor amphitheater.

Currently the Foundation's focus is on technology, overseen by an outstanding parent-led Technology Committee. Serrano positively promotes the ideal of teamwork.

Always on the move to improve, the Serrano SSC recently sponsored a school-wide survey to help validate our strengths and examine the areas where we can grow even stronger as a vibrant learning community.

The Mr. California and Miss Southern California  
2011 Pageant



Even if you missed orientation—  
it's not too late to enter.

Please see page 13  
for more information.

# Sycamore *Elementary*

340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6277 • www.orangecsd.k12.ca.us/sycamore



**Erika Krohn**  
Principal

## Sycamore Families Read!

At Sycamore Elementary School, we are proud of the many opportunities we have for our enthusiastic families and community to participate in our school Reading Campaign.

Our new monthly Love to Read Lunch has been a great hit with our families! We invite family members to join their child for a picnic lunch and reading under the Sycamore trees on our beautiful playground. Our objective for this monthly event is to promote reading for pleasure and to model that adults enjoy reading too.



Sycamore families enjoying Love to Read Lunch!

On March 2, we celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday. Every classroom had a guest reader including many volunteers from the Orange Rotary, police officers, and even our Orange mayor, Carolyn Cavecche, read to our first grade students. We culminated the birthday celebration with a book fair at Barnes and Noble.

Our families and community are helping our children learn to LOVE reading!

# Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/628-4300



**Ed Howard**  
Principal

## High School is the Hub

From participating in the local Little League opening ceremonies to providing shelter during the time of an emergency the local high school should be deeply rooted in the community it serves. At Villa Park High School we believe that the high school should serve as a hub for the community. When the talk at the ROTARY Club revolves around the game Friday night and the local barber shop hangs the school colors from the window it is a sign that the community is an active part of the school. This year we had over 30

parents and community members help judge our science fair, each semester we have 20 parents volunteer to handout class schedules, every dance we have a team of no less than 25 parents help with coat check and check in. These are a few small examples of how our community is involved in making us who we are. Spartans!



Community members assisting at our SPARTAN Way incentive lunch.

# Taft *Elementary*

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



**Antionette Coe**  
Principal

## Taft Celebrates Read Across America with a Hoot!

By Kelly Devine and Maureen Zoeter

Students started out the week by participating in a book exchange. Taft students also decorated a school wide poster titled "Taft Students Give a Hoot About Reading." In celebration of the day, Taft had many wonderful guest readers from the community including: Angel's Baseball Representative, Lindsay Linkey; Wes Pousma, former OUSD Board Member; Granny Mo, a.k.a. Maureen Zoeter; Yvonne Knight, former OUSD student; and librarians from the Orange Public Libraries.

The festivities continued into the evening with a Family Food Fair led by PTA which brought families together for fantastic food and conversation. Afterwards, over 100 families participated in literacy activities that focused on learning about owls. Students enjoyed several activities including: dissecting owl pellets, writing descriptive sentences, following directions to make healthy owl snacks and puppets, playing word games, classifying facts and opinions, and reading with the Principal. Everyone had a "Hoot" of a time.



Taft Tigers are wise "Owls" when it comes to Reading.

# Villa Park *Elementary*

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



**Debra Larson**  
Principal

## Bobcat Power

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

—Margaret Mead

One of the most important components of a good school is its strong partnerships with the parent community. At VPE, we are fortunate to have a great tradition of hardworking and supportive parent volunteers. They are a valuable and important part of our success, and we greatly appreciate the many thousands of hours that they have donated to our school.

Our parents have the opportunity to develop this home-school partnership in a variety of ways. They can join the Home and School League, participate in our Dad's Club, volunteer in the classroom, or help at the Carnival, Red Ribbon Week or Jog-a-thon. They can help organize the Art Masters, the Bike Rodeo, the Book Fair, the Dad 'n Me Campout, the Birthday Club or the after-school enrichment programs.

They can also attend our school site council meetings and PBIS trainings, or read to the children, or assist us in many other countless ways.

VPE is indeed a community school. Our volunteers give generously of their time, talents and skills. Parents can work directly with small groups of children, or perform clerical tasks, or help out with any number of jobs that need a pair of willing hands and a loving heart.

What makes our school "work" is the generosity and kindness of our parent volunteers. They are a significant part of the success of our students.

# West Orange *Elementary*

243 S. Bush St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6283 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/wo



## Engaging All of Our Parents

It is well known that parent involvement has a tremendous impact on student achievement and the value of education. A common difficulty being faced by schools these days is how to find new ways to involve those parents who don't speak English. Often, non-English speaking parents avoid school functions because of the language barrier.

**Michael Olander**  
Principal

West Orange recognized this challenge for our Spanish-speaking parents. This year, the school began a program called, "The Latino Family Literacy Project." It is a series of classes that teach parents how to work with their children on literacy skills, while at the same time learning about their ethnicity and the Hispanic culture.

The program is divided into 10 classes, each of which is two hours in duration. During these sessions, the parents are given a book in English and Spanish that is written from the perspective of the Hispanic culture. They are taught how to read with their children and work on literacy skills.

As with all instructional settings, this program is only as good as its teacher. West Orange is fortunate to have a tremendously talented instructor, which is the most important part of its success. Mrs. Basabilbaso takes pride in teaching parents the essential literacy skills they need. She has also added some English language instruction as part of the process.

Providing our Hispanic parents with the training and tools they need has helped to break down the barrier that so often keeps them from feeling competent enough to assist their children with their class work.

## STUDENTS CREATE • FROM PAGE 1

student-led effort to support Lifehouse of Orange County to help feed the poor and homeless.

"I saw many people starting clubs, and I wanted to do the same," said Miss Rodriguez. "I wanted to do something different and be able to help others." Mr. Espinosa knew of Lifehouse and immediately brought the students and the organization together.

Miss Rodriguez calls the club, which is currently comprised of 32 students, Helping Hands. Every Friday students come together under the direction of a Yorba reading and English teacher, Mrs. Elsie Espinosa, to help box up scores of bags of food and supplies for Lifehouse, which are later delivered to the homeless who occupy the riverbed. The students are in charge of organizing, assembling, bagging, and quality control.

Mr. Espinosa shared, "This is so heartwarming because we have so many students here at Yorba who are in need, and they want to help others. It shows that kids do care, and the beauty is that this was all students driven."



**Brenda Rodriguez (President of the club)**



**Danny Loera, Kevin Hernandez (Preparing bags for the homeless)**

# Yorba *Middle School*

935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6161 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/yorba



**Kerrie Torres**  
Principal

## Community Partnerships and Outreach

Parents and students aren't the only ones who benefit from flourishing schools. Successful schools are not just members of the community, either. They are also contributing partners.

Everyone in Orange gains from good schools because they improve the quality of life. The success of one entity impacts the other. The school is a valuable resource that provides a solid foundation for the future.

The spirit of volunteering can also have a long-lasting effect on the outside community, as well as the school itself. Because Yorba Middle School is an integral part of the landscape of the community, our students are learning how to contribute to its greater good by volunteering.

The students are given an opportunity to help various community organizations, and they learn valuable lessons in the process. Volunteering can even help them choose careers! They also learn how to work closely with each other, and more significantly, they learn the real value of being a volunteer.

As an example, this winter a Yorba student had a vision to help the less fortunate members of our community. She came forward with a group of 25 other students who also wanted to find a way to help those less fortunate. Working with our school counselor, teachers and the administration, this group of students was able to partner with Lifehouse of Orange to help feed the local poor and homeless.

Their effort is a testament to how important it is for young people to find ways to better the community.



**Rick Ledesma**  
President



**John H. Ortega**  
Vice President



**Dr. Alexia L. Deligianni**  
Clerk



**Kathryn A. Moffat**  
Member

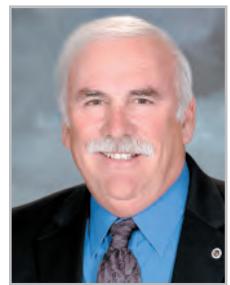
## Orange Unified School District Board of Education



**Diane Singer**  
Member



**Timothy Surridge**  
Member



**Mark D. Wayland**  
Member



Orange Unified School District

# GRADUATION 2010-2011



## Promotion & Graduation Schedule Thursday, June 16, 2011\*

| Middle School                               | Time     | Location                         |
|---|----------|----------------------------------|
| McPherson Magnet                            | 9:00 am  | McPherson School Cafeteria       |
| Portola                                     | 9:00 am  | Portola School Field             |
| Yorba                                       | 10:00 am | Yorba School Field               |
| Cerro Villa                                 | 10:30 am | Cerro Villa Outdoor Amphitheater |
| Santiago Charter                            | 11:00 am | Santiago Outdoor Amphitheater    |
| *Friday, June 17, 2011<br>El Rancho Charter | 6:00 pm  | El Rancho Outdoor Amphitheater   |

| High School                       | Time     | Location            |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| El Modena                         | 1:30 pm  | Fred Kelly Stadium  |
| Canyon                            | 4:00 pm  | Fred Kelly Stadium  |
| Orange                            | 4:30 pm  | OHS Outdoor Theater |
| Villa Park                        | 7:00 pm  | Fred Kelly Stadium  |
| Richland<br>Alternative Education | 10:00 am | Fred Kelly Stadium  |

Turn Your Summer...

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The Critical Test

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### Learn the Warning Signs, Rate Your Child's Learning Strengths & Weaknesses

**Write a number (0-4) in each bubble area ( ) to complete the statement:** Compared to kids the same age and gender, this behavior occurs \_\_\_\_\_ in my son/daughter.

- 0) less often OR doesn't apply to the age of this person  
1) at about the same frequency  
2) slightly more  
3) considerably more  
4) significantly more

- |  |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Distracted by other activities. ....              | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Reading is slow. ....                             | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Poor reading comprehension. ....                  | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Often asks to have things repeated. ....          | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Misreads similar words. ....                      | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Difficulty understanding stories or jokes. ....   | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Has difficulty maintaining attention. ....        | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. Slow, deliberate speech. ....                     | <input type="radio"/> |
| 9. Many spelling errors in written assignments. .... | <input type="radio"/> |
| 10. Needs to look multiple times when copying. ....  | <input type="radio"/> |
| 11. Jigsaw puzzles are difficult or avoided. ....    | <input type="radio"/> |
| 12. Takes a while to catch on to new things. ....    | <input type="radio"/> |
| 13. Has difficulty organizing activities. ....       | <input type="radio"/> |
| 14. Takes a long time to complete tasks. ....        | <input type="radio"/> |
| 15. Oral reading is slow or choppy. ....             | <input type="radio"/> |
| 16. Difficulty following verbal directions. ....     | <input type="radio"/> |
| 17. Poor at or dislikes drawing. ....                | <input type="radio"/> |
| 18. Doesn't like card games. ....                    | <input type="radio"/> |
| 19. Is impulsive. ....                               | <input type="radio"/> |
| 20. Writing assignments take a long time. ....       | <input type="radio"/> |
| 21. Has difficulty sounding out unknown words. ....  | <input type="radio"/> |
| 21. Has difficulty recalling stories and jokes. .... | <input type="radio"/> |
| 23. Has difficulty with math word problems. ....     | <input type="radio"/> |
| 24. Has problems seeing the big picture. ....        | <input type="radio"/> |

TOTAL EACH COLUMN

AT PS AP ME VP LR

Total each column at the bottom. These represent an indicator score for six essential mental skill areas:

Attention (AT), Processing Speed (PS), Auditory Processing (AP), Memory (ME), Visual Processing (VP), and Logic and Reasoning (LR)

**A SCORE OF:**

- 5 or below suggests normal range in that skill set
- 6 or 7 indicates a possible weakness in those skills
- 8 or 9 suggests a likely weakness
- 10 or above suggests a significant weakness

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