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K – 12 Public Schools
2014 – 2015

8th
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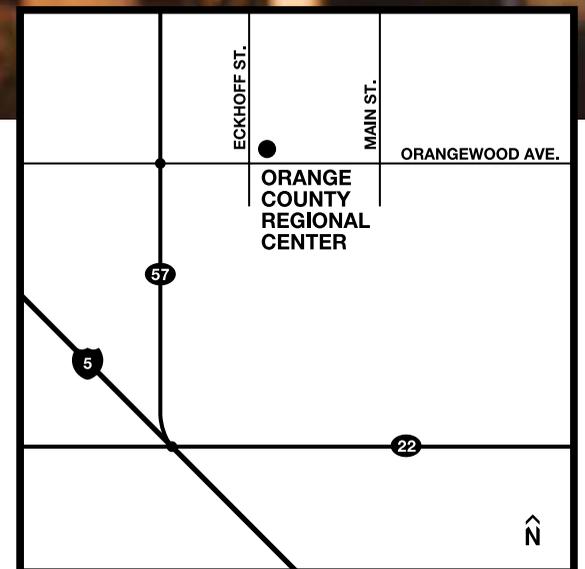
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8th Annual Edition

Covering the
Orange County
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Superintendents

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Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher



Neta Madison
Netragrednik



This is our eighth edition of the Orange County Superintendent K-12 publication, which we publish annually in July. Thank you for including *School News Roll Call* among your reading choices.

The quality of our communities are directly related to the quality of our public schools and we have much to be proud of. The brief articles herein are only an introduction. Each of the district web sites are in their mastheads where you can go online to read indepth information.

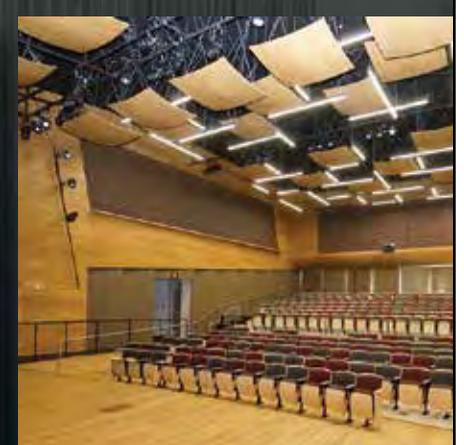
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21st Century Learning Environments



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Tony Wagner, Expert in Residence at Harvard University’s Innovation Lab, stated, “Knowledge is a commodity and having it is not enough. It is what you can do with it that matters to corporate America and the labor force.” In other words, it is the application of knowledge that is most essential to the strength of our country in order to solve problems. Technology is a powerful driver to in the acquisition of information and its use. Furthermore, it spurs on innovation and today affects virtually every aspect of our lives. The current social, economic, and technological environment presents challenges for educators but also wonderful opportunities. Just as technology has revolutionized the world, it is also transforming the classroom.

Educational technology is now providing teachers with a framework known as TPACK (Technology, Pedagogy, and Content Knowledge) to identify the skills required to integrate technology in learning. These practices help classrooms to incorporate learning activities that engage students. For example, many schools have implemented blended learning, a formal education program in which a student learns at least in part, through online delivery of content and instruction while still receiving face-to-face classroom instruction. Another instance is a school that solicited student feedback to redesign an instructional learning environment, resulting in a classroom with no rows, tables, or straight back chairs.

The Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) is committed to supporting educators in preparing today’s students for tomorrow. The OCDE Educational Technology Department, OC Innovate, maintains ongoing research and provides professional development to support the educational community in creating classrooms that continue to engage our learners. Schools need to foster global innovation while meeting the diverse needs of students. We recognize that teaching methods and environments must shift in order to keep students engaged in their education.

Our children are walking into classrooms with more significant technology experience than ever. Our duty is to provide them with the learning environments that will foster creativity and prepare them to apply knowledge to the workforce. I look forward to the challenges in education today, and have confidence that Orange County students will lead the nation in college and career readiness and success.

For more information, visit www.ocde.us/EdTech.

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Thank you for reading *School News!*

Educational Excellence



Dr. Linda Wagner
Superintendent

Anaheim City School District provides a high-quality education to the 19,300 TK-6 students in its 24 schools. We are proud of our well-rounded educational offerings that allow students opportunities to excel in a wide variety of content areas. Anaheim City School District’s instructional program consists of literacy, numeracy, science, social studies, the arts, and physical education and reflects high expectations for all students.

In Anaheim City School District, we are educating students for college and the work force, teaching them to extend themselves and to grow academically in multiple content areas. They are becoming prepared in skills that will help them contribute to a changing world.

Rigorous and challenging, the District’s curriculum ensures that students become literate, self-directed and interactive learners, proficient technology users, effective communicators, adaptable problem solvers, and productive, involved citizens. Instructional practices are well planned, include activities appropriate to students’ developmental levels, and support the achievement of every student. Assessment is a natural part of the instructional process and facilitates improvement of teaching and learning.

The Common Core has become an integral part of our work in Anaheim City School District, and it is changing the way teachers and students approach learning. Creativity, integration, and application are key to success as students’ knowledge is broadened and deepened with Common Core instruction.

Anaheim City School District is home to multiple dual language immersion programs in Spanish, benefitting students by creating bilingual, biliterate graduates. In our dual immersion programs, students become fluent and literate in both English and Spanish while mastering the core curriculum.

Anaheim Union High School District

Learn With Purpose



Michael Matsuda
Superintendent

In my visits to classrooms across the District, I have seen the AUHSD motto: “Learning With Purpose: College and Career Ready,” come to life. I believe that connecting our students to purposeful learning is key to their success beyond a high school diploma.

Our students are showing resilience, caring, and academic success in many ways, despite factors such as a doubling of our student homeless numbers since 2010. They want opportunities to engage with their school communities and to “Learn with Purpose.”

That’s our challenge, and I know we’re up to it. We have emerged as a leader in transitioning to instructional practices that align with Common Core State Standards across the curriculum. AUHSD has shifted toward a whole curriculum and is focused on more applied learning. This builds capacity in the area of the four Cs (Creativity, Communication, Critical Thinking, and Collaboration), which are the hallmarks of 21st century learning. Indeed, California State Superintendent Tom Torlakson has praised us for building a collaborative model where teachers are leading the way in designing relevant, student-centered lessons and performance tasks. I strongly believe that Project Based Learning, with its emphasis on problem solving and engagement with issues that impact students, will allow more of our students the opportunity to shine. We know that they will rise to the occasion when given the opportunity.

I envision that within a few years, we can take pride in the fact that AUHSD will be nationally known as the leader in student learning for the 21st century.

Brea Olinda Unified School District

1 Civic Center Circle, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7800 • www.bousd.k12.ca.us

Compass 2020 Vision & Strategic Plan



Dr. Arthur J. "Skip" Roland
Superintendent

The year 2020 seemed like a distant target when we first began our conversations about BOUSD's Compass 2020 vision and strategic plan. Now, less than six years away, the District continues its focus on 21st Century learning for every student. Brea Olinda is committed to continuing to provide high quality learning experiences in an "any time, any place, any path, any pace" environment that creates and supports the foundation for every student to lead a healthy, successful and fulfilled life.

In BOUSD, our students blend successful experiences in academics, sports, co-curricular activities and career pathways to prepare themselves for even further success in college and careers. Our students, schools and staff continue to receive local, statewide and national accolades, honors and recognition every year, with 2013-14 being no exception. This past year's graduating class at Brea Olinda High School earned over \$6 million in scholarships and awards for post-secondary studies. Our Global Information Technology Academy (GITA) and Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA) programs won many awards and competitions across the State and nation again this year. Our choir, band and cheerleading performing groups also won top honors in the state and national competitions. Our students' success stories begin in elementary school and culminate with over 97% of our high school graduating class attending the college of their choice next year!

Our commitment to Character Education is founded on our strongly held belief that preparation for success in life is not complete if we do not help support our families in developing positive core values and resilient attitudes in all our students.

In BOUSD, LEARNING is our priority, with OPPORTUNITY for all!

Buena Park School District

6885 Orangethorpe Ave., Buena park, CA 90620 • 714/522-8412 • www.bpsd.k12.ca.us

Opportunities Abound for BPSD Students



Greg Magnuson
Superintendent

At Buena Park School District, 21st Century learning is rapidly moving from plans to reality. For 2014-15, exciting growth areas for teaching and learning include:

Implementation of Common Core State Standards.

Following extensive staff development, including classroom pilot lessons, BPSD teachers will implement instruction aligned to new learning standards in all core subject areas. Content mastery and demonstration of critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication skills will be evident in our instruction and daily student academic work.

Putting new State funds to work. With increased operating funds in 2014-15, important supports will be added to enhance student learning opportunities including: smaller class sizes; a District-wide early literacy program; library support at all schools for everyday student access; student counseling; new physical education "fit" centers; and new and expanded junior high electives.

Putting new local funds to work. In June, community voters approved Measure 'B'— BPSD School Safety, Modernization and Repair Measure. Funding will soon be available to develop and install wireless infrastructure to enable every student and staff member to access digital media; and to research, create and communicate collaboratively. Additionally, building upon teacher led development of 21st Century demonstration classrooms last year, architectural design will begin for classroom and school renovations to leverage advances in pedagogy and technology to benefit all students.

In addition to these growth initiatives, BPSD students and families will continue to benefit from support programs including: early kindergarten and school readiness, corporate support, day-care and after-school tutoring programs and activities.

Find out more about BPSD by visiting our website and Facebook page at: www.bpsd.k12.ca.us

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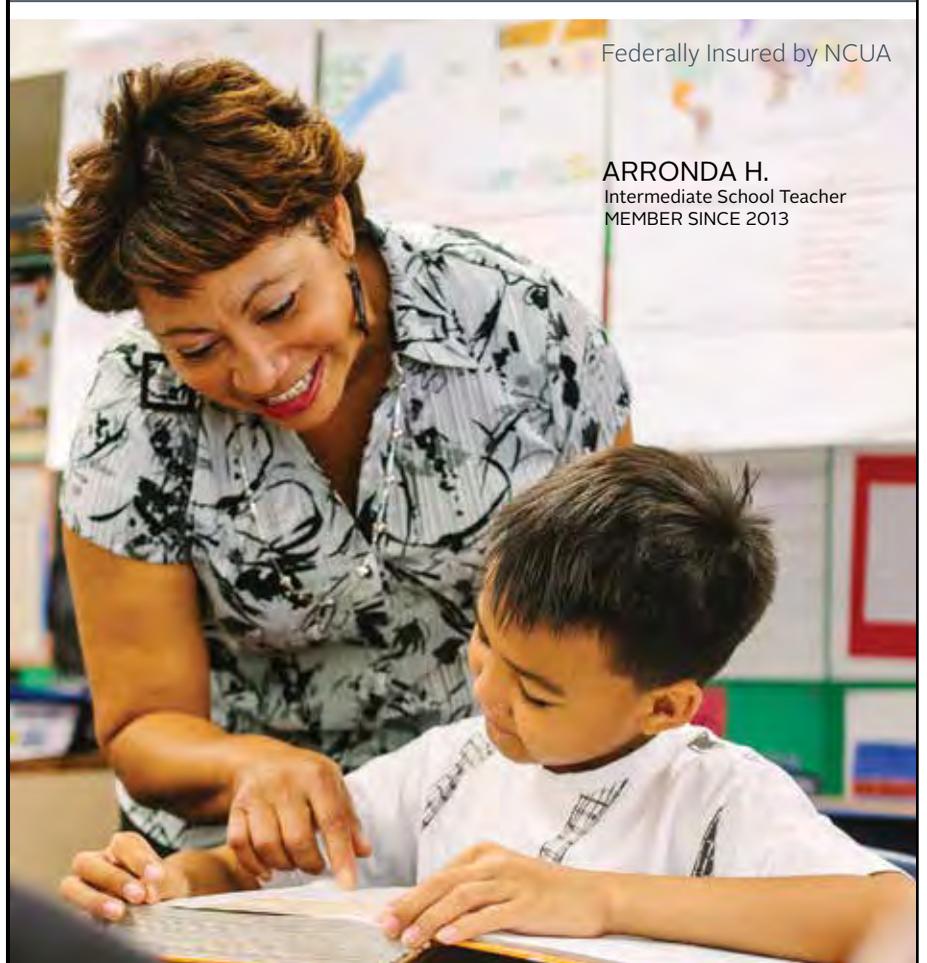
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Capistrano Unified School District

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A Culture of Excellence



Kirsten M. Vital
Superintendent

As the new superintendent, I am very impressed with what I am discovering about the Capistrano Unified School District.

The communities we serve can again be proud of the District's many years of success and recognition. District schools have been repeatedly recognized as the best in the state and country, earning many California Distinguished School awards and national Blue Ribbon School recognition.

All six of the District's comprehensive high schools were identified as among the top 5% in the latest state and national rankings released by *U.S. News & World Report* magazine.

We can also boast some of the top teachers and students in the county.

Karen Gauthier, a first grade teacher at Chaparral Elementary School is one of five Orange County Teachers of the year. This is the second consecutive year that a District teacher has received that honor.

We are extremely proud of the Class of 2014 which has earned over \$3 million in scholarships and will attend some of the best colleges and universities in the world. For example, this fall, all but one United States Service Academy, including West Point and the US Naval Academy, will have a Capistrano Unified School District graduate in its freshman class.

These accomplishments reflect our ongoing focus on classroom instruction and support for that instruction. I am learning that this District has a culture of excellence and I am pleased to lead it toward even greater success.

Please Drive Safely



Centralia School District

6625 La Palma Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3100 • www.cesd.k12.ca.us

Focused On Technology



Dr. Diane Scheerhorn
Superintendent

This year's focus is meeting the technological needs of the District and preparing classrooms for 21st Century learning. Important upgrades taking place this summer include new network equipment and cabling for a faster, more reliable network; wireless connectivity at all campuses; a Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone system to enhance communication between parents and schools; backup systems to protect District data; and computer upgrades at all schools to improve performance for student use.

Food Services implemented several programs to improve efficiency including: SmartTemps to monitor refrigeration systems; Health-e-Meal Planner Pro to manage school menus, provides nutrient analysis and calculate meal contributions; Rocket SCAN to scan and process free and reduced meal applications (70% faster than manual input); eTritition-web, to track student meal counts and allow parents to view monthly and daily meal selections through the web site; MySchoolBucks.com for parents to pay online; School Messenger to call and notify parents; and Google Presentations to manage "Digital Menu Boards" displayed at the entrance to our lunch lines. They also include a "joke of the day" which is very popular with our students!

Human Resources has gone paperless! This past year over 2,000 application packets were processed including resumes, recommendation letters, transcripts, professional records and other documents. The result is faster processing time for screening, testing, interviewing and hiring. Applications are processed through Ed-Join, the testing process is computerized and interviews are conducting with panel members using ChromeBooks to view application packets.

It is with great pride we invite our parents and community to visit our website (www.cesd.us) to learn more about the Centralia School District.

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Cypress School District

9270 Moody St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6900 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us

Together Toward Tomorrow



Beverly M. Hempstead
Superintendent

The Cypress School District's theme for 2014-15 is "Together Toward Tomorrow." As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we are mindful of the great strides we have made over the last few years. Each past step has been essential in laying the foundation for our future endeavors. Together toward tomorrow, we will continue to develop our teachers' and students' knowledge and use of Thinking Maps, helping our students to be critical and creative thinkers. We will encourage collaborative conversations in and out of the classroom to enhance communication skills. Our students will learn to be safe and responsible users of technology as its use is embedded in the Common Core standards and assessments. We will continue to foster our students' access to the Arts and promote physical fitness and healthful practices through models like the *Fit Kids Center* project.

Together – All positive, effective change would not be possible without a true collaborative effort. The Cypress School Board, Educational Leaders, teachers, staff, and parent community are working tirelessly together to bring the best possible educational experience to our students.

Toward – Each step we take is purposeful and moves us forward to the larger goal of advancing our instructional program through the 21st century as we fully implement the Common Core State Standards.

Tomorrow – We are focused on preparing our children for a bright future. We are working to ensure that their tomorrows are filled with opportunities to thrive.

The Cypress School District is committed to the development of each child's maximum potential so they can grow to be happy, healthy, contributing members of our society.

Fountain Valley School District

10055 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/843-3200 • www.fvsd.k12.ca.us

A Bold New Educational Foundation



Dr. Marc Ecker
Superintendent

Since 1982, the Fountain Valley School District has had the support of an Educational Foundation that focused its energy on raising desperately needed funds to support instructional programs that had been eliminated or reduced due to budget cutbacks in Sacramento. Over the years, many parents and community members accepted leadership positions on the Foundation to help accomplish this mission. As a result, we have seen the district able to continue its performing arts, hands on science, and teacher grant programs.

With the new state funding formula, however, the Fountain Valley School District has somewhat of a dilemma. Although revenue has increased from Sacramento, the funding target in 2020-21 only brings us to the level we were at in 2007-08. The Local Control Funding Formula is driven by English Learners and Low Income students of which Fountain Valley has only 27%. In order for our school district to be able to fund the enrichment programs we want for our district, we will need our community to be fully engaged and invested in our schools with the belief that excellent schools correlate to an economically vibrant and attractive community with high property values and low crime.

With this focus in mind and with our grateful appreciation to our past foundation leadership, a nominating committee began a campaign to attract greater number of community and business leaders onto the 2014-15 Board and Executive Committee. After several months of work, Fountain Valley is proud to announce that the Educational Foundation Board has been filled.

A new mission, revised bylaws and a new approach to fundraising will soon be operational. The new Foundation President is Judy Edwards, a longtime trustee, and well respected community leader. As the Fountain Valley community steps up for its schools, our continued reputation of excellence will serve the community well in return.

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FACE

Look for an uneven smile



ARM

Check if one arm is weak



SPEECH

Listen for slurred speech



TIME

Call 911 at the first sign

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Fullerton School District

1401 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7400 • www.fsd.k12.ca.us

Great Schools—Successful Kids



Dr. Robert Pletka
Superintendent

Education of today's young people is the most vital activity we can undertake to ensure the well being of our nation. Working in today's public schools coupled with the art of teaching is a profession characterized by skill, knowledge, discipline, tenacity, perseverance and creativity in the delivery of instruction to meet the diverse educational, social and personal needs of each child.

Fullerton School District educates over 13,700 children from the Fullerton community in fifteen K-6 elementary schools, two K-8 schools, three comprehensive junior high schools and a variety of preschool/childcare programs. District and school site staff work diligently to promote high academic standards as well as help students apply knowledge and skills in preparation for college and career readiness. As part of the developing 21st century skills, the District develops creativity by providing a comprehensive arts education for every kindergarten through 8th grade child. Also of high value is the District's commitment to integrating technology with 21st century skills for teaching and learning.

Working alongside District and school site staff, parent support and involvement in educating children is extremely important to the success of all students. To this end, Fullerton School District values the partnership with its parent and business community. It is through the spirit of collaboration and teamwork that helps to ensure that our students will be successful and well prepared for their future in the 21st century.

It is our belief that all students in the Fullerton School District can and will learn, achieve and grow each year. Our motto, "Great Schools – Successful Kids," exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic proficiency, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society.

Garden Grove Unified School District

10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6000 • www.ggusd.us

The Garden Grove Way



Dr. Gabriela Mafi
Superintendent

The Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD) is proud of its enduring record of academic excellence. Winner of the Broad Prize for Excellence, GGUSD is proud to be THE top large urban California district with a districtwide API of 820 and a record number of students meeting a-g (college) requirements – well above the Orange County average!

The secret to the success of our award-winning schools, under the leadership of the Board of Trustees, is that we treat all students as if they were our own children, always putting their needs first. This coming year, we will be articulating our deep commitment to our students via a new **STRATEGIC PLAN** that was developed interactively with our students, parents, and staff. Our strategic plan focuses on equipping students with all of the tools necessary for lifelong success following high school graduation:

All learners will develop the **ACADEMIC SKILLS** necessary for continual individual growth towards mastery of standards, including mastering both academic content and scholarly habits.

All learners will develop the **PERSONAL SKILLS** necessary to achieve academic and social goals, including developing motivation, socio-emotional well-being, and a positive school climate.

All learners will be prepared for **LIFELONG SUCCESS** in their intended career paths.

In GGUSD, we are committed to preparing all students to be successful and responsible citizens who contribute and thrive in a diverse society. We achieve this by providing a rigorous and supportive academic experience that motivates all learners to meet high expectations. That's the Garden Grove Way!

Fullerton Joint Union High School District

1051 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/8702801 • www.fjuhsd.k12.ca.us

Belief in Potential of All Students



Dr. George Giokaris
Superintendent

Serving more than 14,500 students, the District works to ensure that all students learn how to learn to become responsible citizens and contributing adults. District operations and programs emphasize moral and civic values education.

The Board of Trustees sets the positive tone and vision, creating the productive environment where the strong belief in the mission to all students and the communities served is firmly established. This dedication, mutual respect, collective responsibility, belief in improvement, and the potential of all students form the foundation of all District successes.

By working as partners with the parents and the communities served, recruiting and keeping dedicated and highly skilled employees, and paying very close attention and effectively working to meet the needs of all students by supporting their intellectual, social, civic, creative, emotional, and athletic development, the District has gained statewide, national, and worldwide recognition. Since 1991, District schools have been awarded California Distinguished School recognition 17 times; four National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence; California Model Continuation High School twice; all six comprehensive schools ranked in the top 5% nationwide in 2014; 19 straight state championships and national Science Olympiad champions nine times, including 2014 since 1995; national Speech and Debate program champions in 2008, 2011, 2013, and 2014; best Agriculture program in the Western United States in 2010 and 2011; all five JROTC programs are recognized as National Distinguished Units; and #6 STEM high school in the nation.

It's all about the students and meeting their needs through ethical relationships among all District members. The most recent survey results indicated that 99% of the staff members believe that the District is a good place to work; 96% of the parents are satisfied with the schools; and 90% of the students are satisfied with the overall learning environment at the schools.

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Huntington Beach City School District

20451 Cramer Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92640 • 714/964-8888 • www.hbcasd.k12.ca.us

Setting a Course for Success



Gregory Haulk
Superintendent

Through-out the Huntington Beach City School District our students continue to succeed in all areas of education. Having three of our elementary schools honored as California Distinguished Schools in 2013/14 was a tremendous honor, and just one of the many successes we celebrate on a regular basis.

In HBCSD we believe in High Academic Standards for all of our students. Our dedicated staff work hard to ensure that each of our over 7,000 students achieve to their highest potential. Our staff collaborate effectively with other staff members, parents and our community for the benefit of all students. Each of our 9 schools have a supportive and educational environment and each school utilizes relevant and robust materials and data to support each of our students.

Each day these attitudes and actions create wonderful schools full of supportive and caring people. It shows in the incredible teaching and student work at every grade level in every school. In Huntington Beach City School District we are a community of talented and dedicated educators here to support our students each and every day. Come by and see how we can help your student set a course for success.

Huntington Beach Union High School District

5832 Bolsa Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/903-7000 • www.hbuhd.edu

My Alma Mater

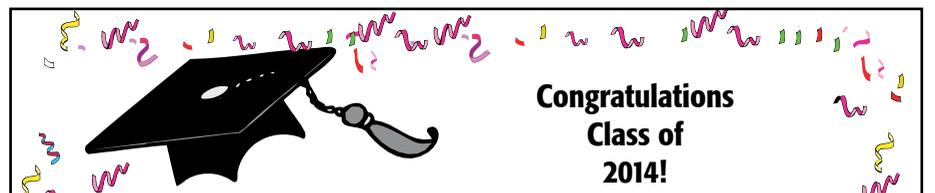


Dr. Greg S. Plutko
Superintendent

The rite of passage...high school graduation...and in the Huntington Beach Union High School District, it is clearly at the core of our mission. Sitting on the graduation stage, I am always honored and proud to look out and see our amazing smartly robed graduates, as well as the excited and energetic families lending their support with an affirming, "We love you Allison!"

This past June, I was reminded time and again by each end-of-year student speech and acceptance of a diploma, that our graduates, while thrilled to be heading on to a new journey, also found an immediate love for their high school years. I suppose in perfect honesty, while in high school I also couldn't wait to "get out" and start what was next. I watched both of my own children have that same "what's next" focus as they completed their high school years. But there is something special about our high school adventures that once we walk across that stage and receive the fruit of all the homework, essays, solving for "X," and exams, we immediately find a longing to return to those very same hallways and classrooms...yes, it was a special time.

While our seniors will not return to light up our classrooms, athletic fields, and artistic stages, they have a bigger purpose, and they know it! The very same speeches that acknowledged their fondness for their new alma mater had a distinct passion for becoming the next generation of leaders who will change our world. And while "changing the world" seems to be such an ambitious statement, having met these students and their talented teachers, the statement becomes much more a destined fact of what's to come. HBUHSD is so very proud of our graduates, and as we look around at both our community and our country, we see our alumni as engaged adults who are leading our future and the future of this year's freshman class...for the Class of 2018 that graduation stage seems at such a distance, but I can't wait to hear of their accomplishments along that rich high school journey and to hear their professed love for high school!



Irvine Unified School District

5050 Barranca Pkwy., Irvine, CA 92604 • 949/936-5250 • www.iusd.org

Striving for Momentum, Not Stability



Terry Walker
Superintendent

The Irvine Unified School District was established more than four decades ago on a set of founding principles, including a declaration that we would “strive for momentum, not stability.”

In pursuit of that momentum, our district annually updates a document known as our “Continuous Improvement Efforts,” guiding our evolution with essential capacities for students and staff. This roadmap for advancement predates the game-changing Common Core instructional standards, yet both promote similar objectives.

And that’s exactly why our district is championing the Common Core – because it’s where we’ve been heading all along.

For those less familiar with the new state-approved standards, they were crafted to enhance learning through creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and deep conceptual understanding, but they should not be confused with curriculum. While Common Core reflects the knowledge and skills students should possess in English and math, instruction remains the domain of our exceptional teachers under the oversight of our Board of Education and administrative leadership.

We believe that the Common Core standards, coupled with our own Continuous Improvement Efforts, will better prepare students for the rigors of higher education, as well as the evolving realities of the global economy. We also understand that this transition will be challenging.

Teachers must have effective professional development, structures for identifying and sharing best practices, and relevant instructional materials. Our schools will also need a robust technology infrastructure capable of delivering new computer-based assessments that will more effectively measure student mastery of these concepts.

At this critical juncture, stability might appear the easier path. But the needs of our students require that we choose momentum.

La Habra City School District

500 N. Walnut St., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2305 • www.lahabraschools.org

Empowering Students for Success



Dr. Susan Belenardo
Superintendent

In the La Habra City School District we are continuing to grow and develop as educators in order to empower all our students for success. We are creating learning environments where our students are engaged in solving complex problems and learning to be creative and effective thinkers, communicators and doers. We are preparing our students to be the very best and most creative people they can be.

Kindergarten students are researching and presenting their solutions for protecting endangered species. Fifth grade students are designing and constructing solar ovens that maximize green technology. Middle school students are applying the engineering design process to solve problems and showcase their solutions.

These are not traditional classrooms but are active/interactive environments where students are provided the challenge to create and invent solutions. They learn to work independently and collaboratively. They learn the importance and value of reflecting and editing and that mistakes are steps in the wrong direction. Our students are learning importance of learning through reflecting, editing and working on projects that matter.

Using the Common Core State Standards as our guide and focusing on the 4 C’s — Communication, Collaboration, Creativity, and Critical Thinking – we are creating 21st Century Learning Environments. We are confident that our students are prepared to take on the challenges of a rapidly changing world that needs creative thinkers and problem solvers. To learn more about the La Habra City School District visit our website at www.lahabraschools.org.



Deana Porterfield
President-Elect,
Roberts Wesleyan College
and Northeastern Seminary
Ed. D., 2013

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Laguna Beach Unified School District

550 Blumont St., Laguna Beach, CA 92651 • 949/497-7700 • www.lbusd.org

The Gold Standard of Education



Dr. Sherine Smith
Superintendent

Laguna Beach Unified School District is widely recognized as an outstanding school district. The College Board, *Orange County Register*, California Department of Education, *U.S. News and World Report*, and California Business for Education Excellence have all recognized LBUSD as an exemplary school district. This reputation for quality is a result of many factors. The Board of Education insists on a clear, unwavering focus on student learning. Our students experience the very best teaching and learning from talented teachers and a supportive staff.

In a 2010 executive survey by the American Management Association, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication skills were identified as crucial skills in our fast-paced, competitive global economy. In LBUSD, we teach our students these 21st Century skills for success in college and careers. Our students participate in a wide array of athletics, activities, and learning experiences that form a strong foundation for future success. Equally important, our graduates develop sound character, a social conscience, a deep awareness of global problems, and a history of community service.

In Laguna Beach Unified School District, we are fortunate to have strong community support from PTA, SchoolPower, SchoolPower Foundation and Rotary. The continued support and investment of these organizations has allowed us to provide a truly exceptional learning environment for our students. Together, we are providing a sterling education for our students, who are the future leaders of our country and our world. I am confident their experience here in the Laguna Beach schools will launch them into a successful future as leaders, entrepreneurs, innovators, and informed, engaged citizens.

Los Alamitos Unified School District

10293 Bloomfield St., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 562/799-4700 • www.losa.org

Igniting Unlimited Possibilities for Students



Dr. Sherry Kropp
Superintendent

Students in Los Alamitos Unified continue to thrive in Academics, Athletics, Activities, and the Arts due to excellent parent and community support; highly skilled and talented teachers, staff, and administrators; and visionary leadership from our Board of Trustees. Our spirit of excellence continues to drive ongoing improvement, innovation, implementation of our signature practices, and exciting uses of technology in every classroom.

Our motto, *Igniting Unlimited Possibilities for Students*, represents our goal of ensuring students discover their passions and special talents, transform them into goals for their futures, and graduate fully prepared to achieve these goals. We expect students to dream big and to achieve these dreams!

As a unified school district, we have the joy of seeing the culminating results of our students' pre-school through high school experience by the accomplishments of our seniors. LAHS ranked in the top 1% of high schools in the country by *Newsweek*, in the top 2% in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*, was named four years in a row to College Board's Honor Roll, and partnered with Google to be an AP Stem Access school. Forty-one Scholar-Athletes accepted scholarships to Division One Schools, four teams won CIF championships, and show choir was named National Grand Champions for the 4th time in five years. In addition, we were honored by Educational Trust – West as the seventh highest performing District in the State for closing the achievement gap.

Our vision, values, and goals remain the same for each and every student in Los Al: 9,900 Students, 950 Staff Members, 9 Schools, 3 Communities, ONE Mission: *Igniting Unlimited Possibilities for Students!*

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Lowell Joint School District

11019 Valley Home Ave., Whittier, CA 90603 • 562/943-0211 • www.ljsd.org

Committed to Strong Academic Program



Dr. Patricia A. Howell
Superintendent

The Lowell Joint School District strives to be among the leading schools throughout the state of California. Our students receive a quality education from outstanding teachers whose top priority is the success of their students. All five of the elementary schools and Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School have received the California Distinguished School Award.

The District is located in the southeastern portion of Los Angeles County and the northwestern portion of Orange County. It serves families from the communities of La Habra, La Habra Heights, and Whittier.

The District serves the educational needs of approximately 3,200 students in Transitional Kindergarten through eighth grade at five K-6 elementary schools and one intermediate school. The District is committed to providing a strong academic program of basic skills having achieved API scores above the 860's. All six schools acknowledge the importance of education, the family, and traditional American values. There is an emphasis on higher education, personal integrity, social responsibility, Character Education, and an appreciation of our national heritage.

Special programs provided at the schools include art and vocal music (TK-8), instrumental music (6-8), drama (7-8), and physical education (TK-8). Libraries and computer labs are available at all of the schools, and before- and after-school day care is available at four of the elementary schools. Honors classes and after-school sports are offered at the junior high school.

Parents will see that Lowell Joint schools offer the best educational opportunities.

Magnolia School District

2705 West Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/761-5533 • www.msdk12.ca.us

Continued Excellence



Dr. Ellen Curtin
Superintendent

Magnolia School District is nestled in the far western corner of Anaheim on the border of Buena Park and Stanton. We are a PreK-6 school district with approximately 6,400 students. Exciting district initiatives include a Spanish Dual Immersion Program, a third grade Swim Program for all children and a robust GATE program in every school. Seven of our schools participate in AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination), a study skills/organizational program which helps students focus on preparing to attend college. The AVID program continues in junior and senior high school.

We are thrilled that two of our schools, Dr. Peter Marshall and Walt Disney, were selected as 2014 California Distinguished Schools.

An exciting partnership with the Anaheim Ducks resulted in their generous donation of a volunteer built street hockey rink, raised vegetable gardens and a beautiful mural.

The district has a reputation of an excellent pre-school/school readiness program followed by either a TK (transitional kindergarten) two-year program or a traditional kindergarten program. Both programs are full day.

Our dedicated team of teachers, classified specialists, administrators, and Board Members are excited to provide wonderful learning experiences for all of our children.

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Newport-Mesa Unified School District

2985-A Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-5000 • www.nmusd.us

Many Years of Success & Recognition



Dr. Fred Navarro
Superintendent

The communities of the Newport-Mesa Unified School District can be proud of the District's many years of success and recognition. During the 2013-14 school year, eight of our schools were selected as California

State Distinguished Schools: Andersen, Eastbluff, Harbor View, Newport Coast, Newport Heights, Lincoln, Mariners and Woodland, and all five of our qualified high schools were identified among the best in the nation by *US News and World Report*.

The District's College and Career Education Program received \$483,000 as part of the AB86 Career Pathways Consortium Grant. The purpose of the grant is to link together business, colleges, universities, and k-12 schools to prepare students for the 21st century workplace and improve the transition into post-secondary studies and career preparation. The grant will allow N-MUSD to launch a 7-12 engineering program this year.

Four major construction projects in the District remain on-time and on-budget. New Middle School Enclaves will open this fall at both of the District's 7-12 campuses, Costa Mesa and Corona del Mar. New Performing Arts Centers for both campuses will follow.

Newport-Mesa stands out among school districts with its own dedicated fiber network connecting all the schools to the internet. This year another major milestone was reached with the installation of wireless access points in all the District's classrooms.

The District will host our first ever State of the Schools Breakfast on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at Corona del Mar High School. We look forward to sharing the remarkable work being undertaken and the impressive accomplishments of our students. Please mark your calendars now to join us for this community opportunity.

Ocean View School District

17200 Pinehurst Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2551 • www.ovsd.org

Get It Done Attitude for Our Students



Gustavo Balderas
Superintendent

As we complete another stellar year in the Ocean View School District, I reflect back on the tremendous amount of change that has occurred during the year. The state implemented a new funding formula, the Local Control Funding Formula, and a new accountability system, the Local Control and Accountability Plan. This set the tone for a year in which a new testing system, the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, was being piloted using an online format, and new state curriculum standards were implemented.

This is a tremendous amount of change for a state to go through in one year! Our staff was absolutely amazing throughout the school year, having teachers go through professional development to prepare for the revised state standards, and work to prepare students to take online assessments. At the central office level, staff worked to understand the new state budget process and requirements. A new strategic plan was woven into the accountability process using a year-long process to ensure public input. This plan will be adopted by the Board of Education in July and will set the path for the Ocean View School District for the next five years.

The District has met the various changes with a "get it done" attitude that has been a hallmark of our great District. It is a tribute to all of the employees in the Ocean View School District that we are working to make substantial improvements in all areas of the District to make a difference for who it matters most – for our students.


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Orange Unified School District

1401 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/628-4040 • www.orangeusd.org

Preparing Students for College & Career



Michael L. Christensen
Superintendent

Preparing students for college and career in the 21st century requires modern facilities that support individualized learning styles and provide uniform access to current technology. On June 30th, the Board of Education took action to place a high school facilities improvement bond on the November 4th ballot. Placing a school bond on the November ballot provides an opportunity for the OUSD community to have a profound impact on our high school facilities.

The bond resolution calls for tax payer protections and assures that the funds raised would go directly toward modernizing the campuses for which the voters intend them. In order to accomplish this, the Board placed clear language in the resolution requiring that 25% of the funds received be spent at each of the four comprehensive high schools: Canyon, El Modena, Orange and Villa Park. The resolution also includes language that requires staff to shift an additional 1% of all general fund revenue to facilities maintenance for the life of the bonds, providing for ongoing upkeep. This is all in addition to the protections already in law such as forming a Citizen's Oversight Committee to provide annual reports to the Board and public on the bond program's fiscal and performance audits. The entire text of the resolution is available on the District website at: <http://www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/board/pdf/2014/agenda0630a.pdf>.

I encourage you to stay up to date on the events surrounding this issue and other important District communications by visiting the District's website (www.orangeusd.org). You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

1301 Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7000 • www.pylusd.org

PYLUSD Advantage



Dr. Doug Domene
Superintendent

Orange County historians tell us that the Placentia School District dates back to 1874; Yorba Linda School District formed forty years later in 1911. These pioneers established one-room schoolhouses and laid the foundation for our education system. Our educational heritage gives me much to be thankful for, as well as a keen desire to continue to build our school communities and equip our students for the future.

In the spirit of building toward the future, our district launched The PYLUSD Advantage, a five-year plan of action for our school district. The PYLUSD Advantage guides our decision-making and includes five Focus Areas that provide a foundation of educational excellence.

- Academic Achievement – We will expect all students to demonstrate academic achievement in order to emerge college and career ready.
- Effective Instruction and Leadership – We will continue to support a dynamic and high-quality instructional program to build life-long habits of learning.
- Engaged Community – We will establish a culture that encourages positive relationships among our students, staff and parents as well as educational and business partners.
- Safe and Respectful Environment – We will foster a safe and respectful atmosphere to promote the emotional health, safety and well-being of students, staff and parents.
- Optimized Resources – We will ensure that all fiscal and capital resources maximize educational opportunities.

The 2014-2015 school year provides us an opportunity to write another chapter of new successes and legacy in the history of our school district. We are grateful for this opportunity and look forward to future success for our students.

Saddleback Valley Unified School District

25632 Peter hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234 • www.svusd.k12.ca.us

The People in SVUSD Make the Difference



Dr. Clint Harwick
Superintendent

For the past four years the teachers, support staff, and administrators have sacrificed their time and finances to help SVUSD recover from the economic downturn while continuing to provide high quality educational opportunities for students. Community volunteers and parent support groups kept libraries functioning, computer labs staffed, and performing arts programs running while we worked our way back to restoring the people and programs that make SVUSD great. We are happy to report that the years of sacrifice have paid off, as we have finally restored all the school days and furlough days that impacted our school year. We have also increased the number of counselors, improved facilities, and restored performing arts programs.

Students from five cities have also excelled in Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes, participated in dual-immersion programs and used technology in all phases of learning. From Smartboards to Chrome books, SVUSD students now have access to over 27,000 devices and a laptop ratio of two students to every machine. However, new facilities, technological devices, and program upgrades are only the tools our fantastic teachers and staff use to help students improve on a daily basis. It's the people in SVUSD that make the difference on a daily basis.

SVUSD students also excelled in extracurricular endeavors including Band and Performing Arts championships, professionally recognized play performances and CIF Athletic Championships (including the number one softball team in the country). SVUSD believes in the well-rounded student and a holistic approach to developing productive members of society.

So here is a big Thank You to the community members who invested in our schools, the staff and administrators that support the classroom, and the incredible teachers that dedicate their lives to helping others understand the importance of a quality education.

Santa Ana Unified School District

1601 E. Chestnut Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92701 • 714/558-5512 • www.sausd.us

Collaborating for Student Achievement



Dr. Rick Miller
Superintendent

It's been an exciting eight months as the new Superintendent of the Santa Ana Unified School District. Since my arrival in November, I have had the opportunity to meet, listen and engage with parents, staff and community members to hear what they believe to be essential for student success. Through a series of more than 50 neighborhood and staff input meetings, visits to all 56 schools in the District, collaboration with our employee associations, parent groups, and community and business partners, and with the approval of our Board of Education, the Santa Ana Unified School District has developed a plan of action that will ensure our students are achieving at high levels. As we continue to make great strides towards preparing all of our students for college and career, we can celebrate a myriad of accomplishments this school year.

- 584 high school seniors received the State Seal of Biliteracy, certifying that they are fluent in reading, writing, and speaking in English and at least one other language.
- 47 students graduated with both their AA degrees and high school diplomas from Middle College High School, a dual enrollment school, located at Santa Ana College.
- Both Boys and Girls Water Polo teams at Segerstrom High School clinched the CIF Championship.
- Valley High School Inc. Academy Culinary Arts students won the National Cooking Up Change competition for the third consecutive year in a row.

We have much to be proud of in Santa Ana, and I look forward to another successful school year.

Savanna School District

1330 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3800 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us

Great Expectations...



Dr. Sue Johnson
Superintendent

What a special place Savanna School District is! Encompassing parts of the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress and Stanton, Savanna School District is an elementary school district with approximately 2400 students. These students attend one of our four schools: Cerritos, Hansen, Holder and Twila Reid Schools.

Our philosophy of "Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come" can be evidenced through our positive learning environment and strong academic program. Great Expectations can be evidenced in the integration of Common Core State Standards across the curriculum in 2014-15. Our Great Expectations are that all students are college and career ready

when they leave our schools; we know that "The Best Is Yet To Come" as teachers integrate hands-on learning based on clear, consistent, rigorous, and relevant lessons that will help to provide students with a strong foundation on which to build. Infusing technology into all lessons across the curriculum is an essential component; teaching students how to use the available technologies for research as well as for developing projects to demonstrate their learning is equally essential. To meet these goals, we are committed to providing comprehensive professional development for staff as well as increased utilization of technological tools for students throughout the year ahead.

The entire Savanna School District staff and Board of Trustees welcomes you to the 2014-15 school year and look forward to a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate "The Best Is Yet To Come" as we prepare our students to be successful, contributing members of the community. Savanna School District truly is a special place to be!

Westminster School District

14121 Cedarwood Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7311 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us

A Year of Exciting Changes



Dr. Marian Phelps
Superintendent

This was an exciting and busy first year as the new Superintendent of Westminster! Here are just a few of the noteworthy accomplishments in our district:

Middle School Transformations – Funded by our Measure O bond, our middle schools were transformed into 21st century learning facilities.

STEAM – Clegg and Warner launched the District's first STEAM Magnet schools. Anderson and Hayden were awarded grants to enhance their art and science programs. Music instruction will be offered at all of our elementary schools in the fall.

Wireless Infrastructure and 1:1 Technology Student Devices – All schools have been equipped with a new wireless infrastructure, and are ready for the implementation of having 1:1 technology devices for students.

Educational Technology – The technology department has expanded to include educational technology educators, to enhance the integration of technology in the classroom.

Digital Libraries – We are creating Digital Libraries at all schools. This fall, students will be able to access online e-books.

Saturday Academy – Our new Saturday Academy allows us to recover funding lost from student absences through a voluntary four-hour enrichment Saturday program. More than 2,500 students participated in our first two Saturday Academies. Some of our site programs included: art, aerobics, math, reading, science, basketball, technology, web designing, kite making, rocket building, study skills, Vietnamese language, etc...

Language Programs – All of our middle schools will be offering foreign language courses in the fall.

Climate Improvement – Ceiling fans were installed in every school throughout the District.

Tustin Unified School District

300 South C St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7339 • www.tustin.k12.ca.us

TUSD Connects with Higher Achievement



Dr. Gregory A. Franklin
Superintendent

The Tustin Unified School District had an outstanding 2013-14 school year. It was a year of high achievement by students, as well as a year of learning for faculty and staff. Even as the District rolled out the TUSD Connect learning initiative that includes new standards, instructional strategies and technology, our graduates continued to matriculate to the best universities in the nation.

Progress continues towards the District's goals: Student achievement, quality facilities, highly qualified employees, fiscal responsibility, and parent/community partnerships.

Highlights of the year include:

- Eight California Distinguished Schools: Arroyo, Beswick, Guin Foss, Ladera, Myford, Peters Canyon, Tustin Memorial Academy, Tustin Ranch elementary schools.
- Two Title I Academic Achievement Schools: Beswick and Currie Middle School.
- Tustin High School was named a National AVID Demonstration School.
- The Foothill and Tustin high schools' engineering programs continued to gain accolades and unique experiences for their students.
- The Beckman High School Arts and Media Academy hosted its first Southern California Film Festival.
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) programs have been expanded to all secondary schools in the District.
- Over 12,000 iPads were deployed to students in grades K-8 through Measure S.
- Approximately 850 classrooms were upgraded with modern instructional technology that include a new teacher computer, interactive display, document camera, voice amplification, and Apple TV.

These achievements have added to our current success and poised the District to continue to excel into the future. Go TUSD!

School News

Congratulations

Dr. Gregory Franklin

2014 California Superintendent of the Year and 2014 Orange County Superintendent of the Year

Dr. Franklin was chosen as 2014 California Superintendent of the Year among 1,000 superintendents in California representing 19 regions. He was also selected as 2014 Orange County Superintendent of the Year by ACSA Region 17, which represents 28 school districts in Orange County.



The TUSD Board of Education recognized 2014 Orange County and California Superintendent of the Year Gregory Franklin. Presenting Dr. Franklin with a special award are Board members, from left, Lynn Davis, Jonathan Ablove, Francine Scinto, Tammie Bullard and James Laird.

Dr. Franklin has worked in public education for the past 28 years – three years as superintendent of the Tustin Unified School District. Before joining Tustin Unified, he served as superintendent of the Los Alamitos Unified School District for four years.

The Central Orange County CTE Partnership

2323 N. Broadway, Suite 301, Santa Ana, CA 92706 • 714/966-3528 • www.ocde.us/ctep

CTEp Promotes STEM



Diana S. Schneider
Sr. Director

Since the inception of standards-based education, the Career Technical Education Partnership (CTEp) has been living up to its promise of preparing students for college and careers. Opportunities abound for students who aspire to land high-tech jobs in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). With CTEp's increased focus on students' mastery of academic, technical, and 21st Century skills, students are already succeeding in the fields they want to enter after graduation.

This year, GGUSD's Pacifica High team won 1st Place in Level 3 of the ocMaker Challenge for their Quadcam project. Rancho Alamitos' auto technology teams finished 1st and 3rd at the Toyota Competition in Cypress, CA, winning against the three-time national champions. Another auto team qualified for the national "Hot Rodders of Tomorrow Engine Challenge" in Indianapolis.

In Orange USD, their "Aviation Science Pathway," which will launch in 2014-15, 50 students will study aeronautics, geometry, meteorology and geology while attending the new "Pilot Ground School." Students as young as 16 will qualify to take their Private Pilot's License exam.

In SAUSD, Century High race team took top honors at the California Science & Engineering Fair in Sacramento with their electric solar car, "Unstoppable 1"; and for the third time in a row, Valley High's Culinary Arts team won the national "Cooking Up Change" competition, an event that focuses on nutritious, scientifically balanced recipes.

With students like these, the 21st century is in good hands.

Coastline ROP

1001 Presidio Square, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/979-1955 • www.coastlinerop.net

Creating College / Career Connections



Darlene LeFort
Superintendent

To ready students for both college and career, it is important that we help them make connections—connections to learning, connections to post-secondary options, and connections to the workplace. It is, therefore, fitting that the Coastline ROP theme for the 2013-14 school year has been, *Creating College and Career Connections*.

This year the ROP offered new, innovative classes; increased the number of industry certifications; and focused on expanding STEM programs. New engineering and computer programming classes designed to provide students with competitive scientific and engineering skills were offered on high school campuses, and STEM elements were infused into the digital media arts curricula. Additionally, Common Core math practices, high level text-based discussions, and the reading of informational text were integrated into the ROP curriculum.

To help connect students to postsecondary opportunities, the ROP offered courses that were aligned within pathways and articulated with community college certificate programs. These rigorous courses helped students meet the high demands of post-secondary educational institutions and almost half of the courses meet the UC/CSU admission requirement. Students also connected to colleges and universities through competitive events like UC Irvine's Energy Invitational, HackUCI, and C-STEM Day at UCI.

Connections to industry and the workplace are essential to student success as well. Through sustained internships and work-based learning, students improved their communication and problem solving skills and learned to collaborate in authentic settings. They worked with mentors who helped them think critically, gain confidence, and understand the relevance of classroom instruction. These rich experiences motivate students and keep them connected to learning!

North Orange County ROP

385 North Muller Street, Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/502/5858 • www.nocrop.us

"I Owe it all to my ROP Class"



Dr. Michael Worley
Superintendent

The mission of North Orange County ROP is to provide high-quality, relevant career technical education, and prepare all students to succeed in employment, career advancement and further education. Studies have shown that students learn best by hands-on learning experiences that provide the opportunity to learn skills not available in regular classroom programs.

North Orange County ROP has long been a strong and integral part of California's educational system, with a 40-year history of maximizing opportunities for students to achieve marketable skills through regional delivery of career technical education classes that prepare students for career and/or college. We teach skills to 21,000 students annually. Some of the classes offered include Engineering, Registered Dental Assisting, Culinary Arts, Graphic Design, American Sign Language, Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA), Vocational Nursing and Child Development. We offer 98 courses, 638 sections, in a wide range of career pathways across 23 high schools and three satellite locations.

For many students, such as Joanna Igisaiar, North Orange County ROP Engineering and Design student at Buena Park High School, ROP has had a tremendous impact. Statistics have proven that students who are enrolled in ROP are more likely to stay in high school, change college majors less often and finish college at greater rates than their non-ROP student counterparts. Igisaiar is a graduating senior with plans to enter into a non-traditional field as a result of her ROP training. She says, "I am excited to continue my education in the field of engineering and I owe it all to my ROP class."

To read more about student success through ROP, please visit online at www.nocrop.us/news/default.html.

South Coast ROP

31522 El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675 • 949/496-3118 • www.southcoastrop.org

New Name, New Logo, New Day!



Kimberly Thomason
Superintendent

Exciting things are happening with the Regional Occupational Program (ROP). Formerly known as Capistrano-Laguna Beach ROP, the dedicated ROP Governing Board in August 2013 approved our new name, South Coast ROP, and our new logo.

And while our name has changed to better reflect the cities and communities we serve, our commitment to providing high-quality, relevant, and engaging career technical education that prepares students for career and academic success remains as strong as ever. Our colorful new logo represents the Capistrano and Laguna Beach Unified School Districts, Orange County Department of Education, and the State of California.

Beginning in the fall 2014 semester, several new courses will be offered on the high school campuses we serve and on the ROP main campus. These courses include: Surgical Technologist, Pharmacy Technician, Biotechnology, Engineering Technology, Alternative Fuels, Computer Science and Programming, and Financial Planning/Investment Management. Each of these courses provides additional career opportunities for students that lead to high-wage, in-demand fields.

In all of our courses, students "learn by doing" with practical, hands-on activities that apply their knowledge in meaningful ways such as project- and work-based applications, laboratory and field work, simulations, and internships. Additionally, students practice and apply essential skills, such as critical thinking, problem solving, communication, creativity, and collaboration, that are highly sought after by business and industry.

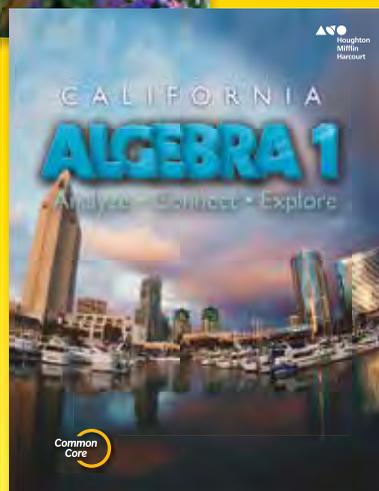
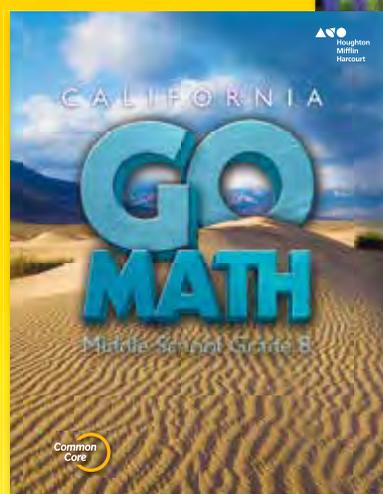
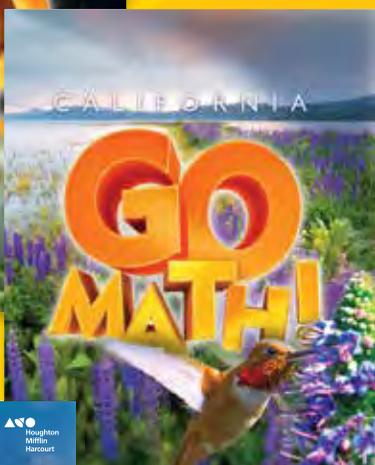
South Coast ROP looks forward to another year of proudly serving the communities and students of Capistrano and Laguna Beach Unified School Districts and providing new career pathways that can help students recognize connections between programs of study and career opportunities in high-wage, in-demand fields.



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