

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Torrance Unified School District

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2015

New and Improved



The first half of the school year has been a flurry of activity, especially with the passing of Bond Measures T and U in November. Nearly 10 years ago, when I began my tenure as the new Torrance Unified School

District (TUSD) superintendent, my long-term goals for our continued academic success and growth included an extensive capital improvement and renovation plan. First with the passage of Measures Y and Z, and now with the approval of T and U, that plan is being fully implemented.

The first set of bonds allowed the district to renovate aging facilities and bring them into the 21st century. Nearly two-thirds of the school renovation projects are complete, including the brand-new



Torrance High School Senior Patio.

construction of J.H. Hull Middle School and the new classroom buildings at Fern Elementary School. Schools received major facelifts, with brand-new windows, better lighting, plumbing upgrades, new floors and ceilings, improved bathroom facilities, and much, much more. Measures T and U will allow the

district to build an aquatic center as well as middle school gyms, replace dilapidated lockers, increase security, improve playgrounds, build new auditoriums, and enhance safety and security at all school sites.

An especially exciting part of the facility improvement projects is the renovations being done to Torrance High School, which was built in 1917. The overhaul at the high school will bring the campus back to its original grandeur, in time for the school's 100-year anniversary in 2017.

The passage of these bonds is the reflection of the Torrance community's investment in the educational future of TUSD students and the pride they have in our community schools. I would like to thank all our volunteers, who worked tirelessly to support our schools and helped us pass Measures, Y and Z, T and U. Your contributions are priceless and will benefit many generations of TUSD students.

It Takes a City



If it takes a village to raise a child, then it is no surprise it takes an entire city to make sure those children are educated and safe. Not once, but twice in the last six years, the citizens of Torrance have showed up for the students in this town and voted to make an investment in their futures. The November approval of Measures T and U took the involvement of so many dedicated people to make certain we were successful in our undertaking. I would like to thank our Measure T and U committee, which was made up of retired Mayor Frank Scotto, Council of PTAs President Janet Taji, Mario De Leva from the Torrance Teachers Association, Debbie Hayes, representing the Torrance Homeowners Associations, and Michael Wermers and Martha Deutsch from the Board of Education. All of these people did a ton of work to pass these measures. There is nothing predictable or organized in a campaign like this, and this committee reacted to all the issues and challenges bravely. As they say, we "got it done on time and on budget."

Behind every large-scale endeavor, there are the hundreds of volunteers and the countless hours they spend toward ensuring the success of their goal. We would not have had the resounding results that we did without the teachers, employees, administrators, parents, and students who spent their limited free time talking to voters and championing our cause. Both measures passed with over 60 percent of residents voting in favor for them. In fact measure T got over 66 percent approval, in an election that showed drastically low voter turnout

Celebrate Education Dinner

On March 27, the Torrance Education Foundation (TEF) will host their annual "Celebrate Education" Dinner at the Torrance Marriott Hotel and you are cordially invited to attend. You can find out more information at: torranceeducationfoundation@hotmail.com. The theme of the dinner is: "Round-Up for Education." There will be many auction items donated by TUSD schools and PTAs, as well as many local businesses. The culmination of the evening will be the drawing of the winner of a 2015 Lexus NX 200t: First-Ever Lexus Turbocharged 2.0 liter Gasoline Engine. The money generated by the ticket sales, will be used to support TUSD programs. In 2014, over \$45,000.00 was returned to TUSD schools from the sale of the car raffle tickets. This is the eleventh consecutive year that Toyota Motor Sales has provided a car for TEF and through this one fundraiser, TEF has raised over \$500,000.00 for Torrance Schools.

In addition to the car raffle money, TEF is focused on supporting high quality instruction and advanced learning opportunities for the students by donating money for math and science teacher training, along with providing funds for a new technology teacher-training lab. TEF has provided online digital curriculum and media to supplement classroom instruction, in addition to wireless internet network at all of our 32 campuses. Twenty-six Torrance teachers have just been awarded \$21,000.00 in grants to fund a variety of STEM initiative programs, including Family STEM Science Nights, Engineering After School Clubs, Science Olympiads, Math Counts and Robotics Teams. With the community's help, TEF strives to provide Torrance Unified students with an educational foundation to compete in the 21st century global community.

Board of Education



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BOARD OF EDUCATION • From Page 1

in Torrance. Measures T and U received more votes than any other candidate or measure, and the reason is that Torrance cares about its students. They care about the condition of school facilities and the safety and security of our most valuable citizens, our students!

We in the Torrance education community have a lot to look forward to in the coming years because of Measures T and U, such as a state-of-the-art aquatic facility, improved security and safety systems at all of our schools, technology for today and the future, science labs for our elementary schools, gyms for our middle schools, and a host of other projects on top of all of the work that is currently being done with Measures Y and Z. Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) will be busy fulfilling the promises we made when you trusted us with the finances to do the largest public works project in the history of Torrance. In fact, we have quarterly meetings on the progress of the Y, Z, T, and U bonds, and the next one is on March 20, 2015 in our Board of Education Meeting Room. So, if you have questions or just want to see how we are progressing, feel free to stop by...the more the merrier!

Again, I cannot thank the community enough for all of the support you give TUSD, either by voting for bonds, helping in the classrooms, working with your local PTAs, or just helping your children do homework that you sometimes don't understand (I know I don't.). The School Board represents you, so if you have questions, concerns, or just want your children's homework reduced (I don't think we can help you on that), feel free to contact any of us on the Board. Our e-mails and phone numbers are on the TUSD Web site.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik
Neta Madison



Happy New Year!

By now the students are well underway focused on the last half of this school year and reaching their goals. The Superintendent's message on the front page discusses reaching his long-term goals set ten years ago.

Terminology has certainly changed over the years and now we are reading about Common Core Standards, Chrombooks, Coding and Legos in the classroom...and so much more. What an exciting time to be a student!

Thank you for including School News among your reading choices.

School News

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Covering the
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FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

ADVERTISING SALES:
562/493-3193 • Fax: 562/430-8063

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Moshel Negrete

COPY EDITORS:
Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST:
Netragrednik by Neta Madison

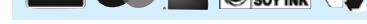


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562/493-3193

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Roma Barba, Realtor®
(310) 403-8591
SRES,CPS
CalBRE#01359711
roma.barba@camoves.com
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Marco Pirozzolo, Realtor®
(310) 975-5765
CPS, CalBRE#01918280
NYS DOS Broker's
Lic#10351206979
mpirozzolo@coldwellbanker.com



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Health News

by Jennifer Chew, MD

Should I get my child vaccinated against HPV?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common sexually transmitted disease that is associated with several types of cancer. Parents need to make an informed decision about whether their children should be vaccinated.

[When the HPV vaccine first came out](#) in 2006, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommended it for girls only, since the disease was most closely associated with cervical cancer. But additional studies linking HPV to cancers that also affect men prompted the FDA to approve the vaccine for boys in 2009.

Although national health authorities now recommend that 11-year-old girls and boys receive either the Gardasil or Cervarix vaccine, only 36 percent of teenage girls and 1 percent of teenage boys have received the full, three-dose series — mostly because parents mistakenly think their children

don't need the vaccine if they aren't sexually active.

The reason for early vaccination is to protect boys and girls from the disease before there is any sexual contact. The vaccine is more likely to be effective when children are younger because their immune systems respond better to it.

[There are many strains of HPV](#) but the most common are divided into two types: those that cause visible genital warts and those that do not cause visible warts but are associated with a higher incidence of cancers of the cervix, mouth, anus and



Dr. Chew is a primary care physician at the UCLA Health office in Torrance, located at 3500 Lomita Blvd, Suite 300, and sees patients of all ages.

genitals. Because some types of HPV do not cause visible signs of the disease, many people who become infected with the virus don't know they have it.

Why vaccinate boys

Many reasons exist for giving the HPV vaccine to males. The vaccine decreases their risk of contracting oral, penile and anal cancers related to HPV, as well as the possibility of contracting hard-to-treat warts. Since less than 40 percent of girls are getting the vaccine, it ensures more people are protected against the disease.

Statistics

About 20 million Americans, mostly teenagers and young adults, have HPV, making it the most common sexually transmitted disease in the nation. The disease, which can be spread by any kind of sexual contact, including oral sex, is so common that 75 percent of adults will be exposed to it sometime in their lives.



Pediatric Urology and Nephrology Issues



**Deepak
Rajpoot, M.D.**
Medical Director,
Pediatric Nephrology

Pediatric urological and renal conditions constantly present parents with challenges, not only because the symptoms of these conditions are mostly hidden, but also because parents don't realize how common some of these conditions can be.

Pediatric urological and renal conditions are issues involving a child's urinary tract and reproductive organs, which include kidneys, bladder and urethra.

There are an abundance of different urological and renal conditions, but some of the more common conditions in kids are:

- Renal tubular acidosis • Nephrotic syndrome
- Polycystic kidney disease • Urinary tract infections

Even though these are some of the most common conditions, every pediatric urological and renal condition makes itself known in different ways. Some of the most common signs of a urological or renal condition are:

- Pain during the passing of urine • Bed wetting • High blood pressure
- Fever • Blood in the urine • Swelling around the eyes, face, feet and ankles
- Significant increase in the frequency of urination

If any of these signs present themselves some common tests that are performed on kids to help diagnose their urological or renal conditions include:

- VCUG - voiding cysto urethrogram • Ultrasound • MAG3 scan

When it comes to pediatric urological or renal conditions two things that parents can do to help their children: be aware and communicate. If parents are aware of these signs they can ensure their child gets the care they need sooner.

If your child presents signs of any urological or renal condition, call your pediatrician as your child may require a pediatric urologist or nephrologist.



Our specialists are the leaders in children's health care.

Elizabeth was born with spina bifida, and later, was diagnosed with a tumor at the base of her spine. The position of the tumor affected Elizabeth's mobility on the lower half of her body. As she aged, Elizabeth's spina bifida began creating bladder issues and kidney weakness. Miller Children's specialized spina bifida team helped her manage her condition so she could get back to focusing on being a scholar.

From tip-top head to itty bitty toes, Miller Children's is the leader in getting kids better.

Follow the leader to Miller Children's.

MillerChildrens.org

800-MEMORIAL

Supporting Our Schools

By Janet Tajii, President

Torrance Council of PTAs continues with its mission of informing and guiding our unit PTAs and advocating for all children.

In the fall we held an information session for school bond measures T and U. Questions from the community were answered by Superintendent Dr. George Mannon, School Board Member Don Lee, and former Mayor Frank Scotto.

At our recent holiday luncheon, attended by unit PTA presidents, principals, Torrance Unified School District administration, and community members, we were pleased to collect donations of gift cards for foster teens, toys for children in the community, and canned goods for a local food bank. Our annual raffle of baskets donated by each unit was a hit and raised funds for high school senior scholarships. It was heartwarming to witness such generosity, and a great time was had by all.

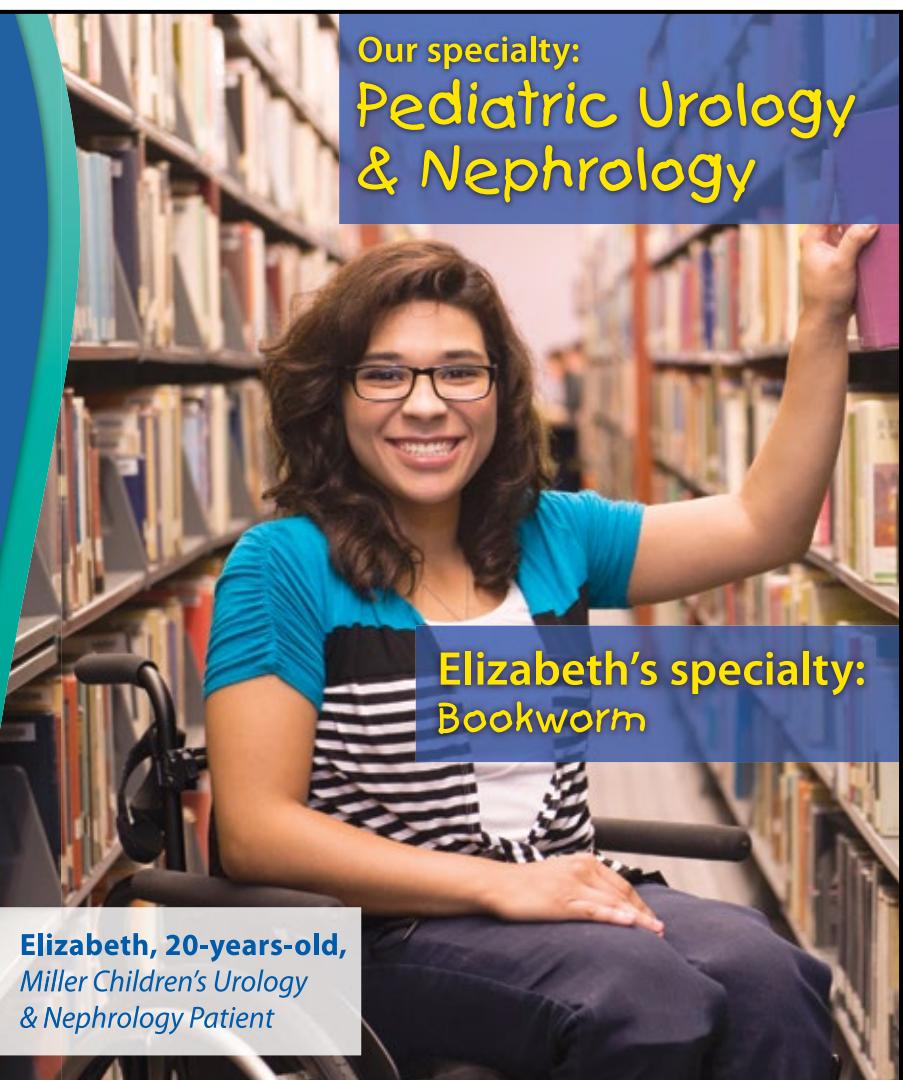
Now that we are back from winter break, we are hard at work again. We held our second round of workshops in January and are preparing for our association meeting on February 4, where we will present Honorary Service Awards, celebrate PTA Founders Day, and recognize the council-level winners of the Reflections contest, a National PTA arts recognition and achievement program.

Students and parents are welcome to attend our annual College Fair, co-sponsored by the four high school PTAs and the district on February 21 at West High School from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We expect over 100 representatives from colleges, trade schools, and the military in attendance to answer questions and provide information. Additionally there will be workshops on a variety of topics.

Our unit PTAs have also been working to provide programs, volunteers and funds for their schools. Remember, it's never too late to join! Contact your local school or see our membership invitation at torrancecouncilofptas.org under "Join the PTA."

**Our specialty:
Pediatric Urology
& Nephrology**

**Elizabeth's specialty:
Bookworm**



**Elizabeth, 20-years-old,
Miller Children's Urology
& Nephrology Patient**

Adams Elementary

2121 238th St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4480 • adams.tusd.org



Using Legos and Circuits

by Allen Chin, Third- and Fourth-Grade Teacher

"I like this class because we get to make something from our own minds," said Parker, a student at a John Adams after-school class. Connecting wires together with skill, he and his partner Max build a circuit, adjust the dials, and then laugh as a loud "beep" roars from a black box.

Each week, other students in this same Adams engineering class also try their hand at building something different. Confronted with a task and a challenge, our young engineers soon learn to build, adjust, problem solve, and then create some pretty cool contraptions.



"We explore things in science," said Sofia. "We're just given some pieces of materials, and we use them to make something better." Sofia and her sister Daniela use their knowledge of circuits to assemble a shoebox which turns on a light when closed.

Their neighbor Jordan chimed in when asked about the class. "I enjoy building stuff because it helps me to have a more creative mind," he said.

Dr. Kumi
Toyoda-Smart
Principal

Dr. Vicki Hath
Principal

Anza Elementary

21400 Ellinwood Dr., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4559 • anzaelementary.org



Challenging Students

Anza

Elementary's GATE Enrichment program affords gifted students the opportunity to explore various topics and interests that might not be addressed fully during the typical school day.

Barbara Marks
Principal

One recent session in December, led by Mrs. Williams-Bressler, involved an introduction to robotics using LEGO Mindstorms! The experience challenged students to build and program real-life robotics solutions. Anza GATE students developed innovative solutions; skillfully creating, building, testing and evaluating their robots. Students exercised essential skills like brainstorming, communicating, sharing ideas, and collaborating to find creative alternatives. Needless to say, this experience not only resulted in learning and growth—but a plethora of excitement!



Arlington Elementary

17800 Van Ness Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4519 • arlingtonpta.com



It's a SNAP!

Arlington 4th and 5th Grade GATE students had the opportunity to put their electrical engineering skills to work as they experimented with snap circuits. This afterschool enrichment class allows students time to explore and stretch their thinking with a variety of hands on experiments and games intended to trigger problem solving and experimentation skills. Arlington has had such a huge success with our class this year, the school is looking to expand it next year.



COVERING THE TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Arnold Elementary

4100 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4524 • arnold.tusd.org



Coding!

What do you get when you combine state-of-the-art Chromebooks and technology natives in a multiage classroom? Coding for students! That's right—our Arnold Alley Cats are learning to code!

Justine Lang
Principal

Through an online program called Code.org, students are introduced to computer science. Two of our Arnold buddy classes, first and fourth grades, participated in the "hour of code" challenge to encourage and give all students the opportunity to learn the basics of programming for at least one hour a week.

It was actually the first-graders who showed the fourth-graders how to get started! Students used problem solving, logic and creativity, but to them, it all just seemed like a game!



Since technology is such a huge part of our lives, it is crucial that our students learn how to use and ultimately how to design future technologies. Our Arnold Alley Cats are making that happen!

Calle Mayor Middle School

4800 Calle Mayor, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4548 • callemayor.tusd.org



CPR Certified

Recently, some Calle Mayor Middle School students earned their cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificates! Ms. Gebel's seventh-grade Life Management class recently completed their CPR training and earned their certification. Torrance Memorial Medical Center and Ms. Gebel have worked together to add this experience, which teaches the students the importance of using CPR to help save another person's life. The students had a fun and amazing time learning and practicing their skills on the CPR mannequins and working together to earn their CPR certificates.

Calle Mayor is committed to thinking outside the box, and CPR certification is another way we are continuing to build upon our curriculum to prepare students for the future and make the community where we all live a little safer.

We are proud to report that over 65 students earned their CPR certificates. We would like to thank our business partner, Torrance Memorial Medical Center, for their support with this program.

Happy New Year!



Casimir Middle School

17220 Casimir Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4498 • casimir.tusd.org



Connecting to the Community

Casimir students know how to connect to the community. That's the way we do things here, and this frequently heard phrase epitomizes the down-to-earth warmth that is our community. This same sense of connectedness has often driven our Cougars to give back to the community with their characteristic warmth and strong sense of fun.

In November, the entire school raced to collect cans as part of a classroom competition that even involved sabotaging the other classrooms' Kleenex boxes as a way to bring down the competitor's point total! The drive gathered over 1,500 food items, and filled two Salvation Army vans.

This strong focus on the community was also seen in the decorating tables that are put out at every major holiday for our students to work on during lunch. The completed decorations are then taken to liven up a local center for adults with special needs.

Even more events are already being planned for the spring. That's the way we do things here!

Carr Elementary

3404 W. 168th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4467 • carr.tusd.org



Dick Peterson
Principal

Welcome, New Teachers!

Carr has two new teachers who have been welcome additions to our staff. Teri Shimizu is our new second-grade teacher. She is a Torrance parent, with children attending Casimir Middle and North High schools. She most recently was a teacher at Peninsula Heritage School and, prior to that assignment, had been both a substitute teacher and an intervention teacher in Torrance Unified. She received her academic training from UCLA. Her students are very excited about a pen pal project she has established with her former private school. There are plans for the students of that school to visit their Carr pen pals in the spring. Mrs. Shimizu also recently was the recipient of a corporate STEM Award.

Our second new teacher is Tara O'Brien, who is teaching third grade. She has been a Torrance resident since elementary school and attended Lincoln Elementary, Casimir Middle and West High schools before attending college. She finished her student teaching in the spring of last year at Victor Elementary School, where she was extremely successful. Her students also feel lucky to have such a devoted and enthusiastic teacher. Ms. O'Brien graduated from UCLA.

The entire Carr community is delighted with our new teachers and hope that they will be here for many years to come!

Edison Elementary

3800 W. 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4513 • edison.tusd.org



Dr. Erin Lahr
Principal

Multicultural Week at Edison

Edison gears up for their annual Multicultural Week in January. At their school with over 17 languages spoken by students, families and staff, there is cause for celebration of such diversity! Students share their customs and traditions, while learning about others during this special week. The week is packed full of daily performances, where current and past students perform time honored cultural dances, songs and recitals at morning gatherings in the quad. Students reflect on traditions as they prepare artwork for display throughout campus for the festivities. Their wonderful parent volunteers host a multicultural museum filled with artifacts from around the world for students to tour as well as an evening event welcoming families to a potluck. Everyone enjoys sharing and tasting dishes and treats from favorite family recipes. The week culminates with a fantastic parade of students proudly wearing cultural dress representing their heritages and a special appearance by a dancing Chinese dragon.



Fern Elementary

1314 Fern Ave., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4506 • fern.tusd.org



Families and Common Core Math

Like all California educators, Fern Elementary School's teachers are focusing on implementing the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and math. Fern hosted a Family Math Night on November 20 and welcomed nearly 200 mathematicians to the school. Parents, guardians, siblings, and students participated in hands-on Common Core math games, facilitated by teachers and students.

Debbie Mabry

Principal

Games provided opportunities for students to share vocabulary, math language, and thinking strategies with their families. Students led their parents in activities, such as counting, place value, estimation, and Thanksgiving meal planning. Math games were raffled off throughout the evening so the fun could continue at home.



Family Math Night brought families and teachers together for learning, communicating and problem solving and to build strong family-school partnerships. We are proud of our Falcons and the math learning they have already accomplished this school year. Keep it going, mathematicians!

J.H. Hull Middle School

3420 W. 229th Pl., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4516 • hull.tusd.org



The Math Experience

For the past six years, Hull Middle School has gone through a transformation in what teachers do in the classroom and what students are expected to do with their learning. It started by joining the Loyola Marymount University Math and Science and Teaching Program, in which teachers were given extensive professional development and training along with consistent collaboration time with program coaches. Our math teachers have developed strategies and practices that are engaging and rigorous.

Students take ownership of their learning by completing learning logs, which document which learning targets they have mastered and which ones need more practice. They must write out their justifications of how they approached and solved the problems. An addition this year is aligning math practice with instructional moves. For example, a student may be encouraged to develop math sense and perseverance through use of the Ask/Hook move. Teachers provide a visual and culturally relevant prompt that elicits questions and diagrams to promote visual sense-making; students create questions, draw responses, and use evidence to answer these prompts, thereby providing evidence of student interpretation. Teachers provide feedback through gathering student data and filtering it with perspective and prior knowledge. Rather than just answering questions and utilizing a multiple-choice format, students are expected to show their steps and procedures and justify their answers, getting them ready for the new Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium computer-based exams. More importantly, they are building and improving their problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, preparing them to move on to high school and careers.

We would like to acknowledge all our math teachers for their commitment, dedication, and tireless additional hours to provide a high-quality math education. Our outstanding teachers include: Nicolle Fazis, Megan Wareham, Kim Gauna, Barbara Waldrop, Cindy Gottschalk, Cara Evans, Hannah Kang, Lindsay Moretti, and Wendy Creek. Thank you for your efforts!

Hickory Elementary

2800 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4672 • w1.hickory.tusd.org



Technology Increases Student Engagement

Hickory Elementary School's teachers are using technology to increase student engagement beyond the four walls of the classroom. Every teacher has created an eTUSD class Web site for students. These Web sites are great for communication and access to online textbooks, assignments, and other resources.

Hickory has a wonderful computer lab that is utilized by all students to work on ST Math, Web-based programs, and class projects. The ST Math program helps students deeply understand math and increase problem-solving skills, which are required for college and career readiness. Hickory offers an extended school day to our third- through fifth-grade English-language learners to increase their reading skills using Achieve3000, a Web-based, differentiated reading program designed to reach the entire student population—mainstream, English learners, and our Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) students. We are excited that every third- through fifth-grade student is working on increasing his or her Lexile Reading Level using Achieve3000. Within the first month, we had over 130 students jump to higher Lexile Reading Levels!

On the upper-grade side of campus, you will see students using netbooks to conduct research, publish writing and create Google Doc projects. Our upper-grade students also use netbooks to work on Achieve3000 in class.

Each Transitional Kindergarten through second-grade classroom is equipped with Internet television, which allows teachers to mirror online resources from their electronic tablets to a flat-screen television. This gives every student a front-row seat to daily lessons. Instead of a student walking up to the whiteboard, teachers can hand students electronic tablets to solve a math problem at their desks while the entire class watches the process on the television. Students are excited about reading and math!

Using educational applications on electronic tablets and educational Web sites on netbooks supports our enthusiasm for learning!

Jefferson Middle School

21717 Talisman St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4794 • jefferson.tusd.org



More than Music

Whether your child is the next Pavarotti or more likely to sing solos in the car, he or she is certain to benefit from an education which includes the arts. For instance, research shows that just learning the basics of music not only enriches a student's education; it helps them to excel beyond their foundational academics. Whether it is singing, dancing, or painting, visual and performing arts help students explore experiences, relationships and ideas that cannot be expressed simply in words or numbers.

Thanks to a partnership with Adventures in Art and strong parent docent support, Jefferson Elementary School students are enriched with experiences to explore the visual arts. Torrance Unified School District students are fortunate to have district and community support to partake in art opportunities and to perform as artists as an essential part of a well-rounded education.

At Jefferson, we aim to offer experiences encouraging students to become engaged with their school, develop a positive attitude, and make healthy choices. Music is an example of one such program, additionally addressing various learning styles, meeting individual needs, and engaging students in meaningful activities. Music courses can help students develop a sense of self-esteem and a sense of belonging and purpose. The benefit of music education continues with the incorporation and improvement of brain functions, such as motor, auditory, ocular, and attention, as well as the memory system, which all go into "play" when one makes music. Playing music also engages musical, spatial, bodily kinesthetic, and personal intelligences, as well as being an activity in which every student is a valuable member of the ensemble. Additionally, it allows students to work together toward a common goal and to develop a strong sense of purpose. Music education can motivate students to become healthy, beneficial, contributing members of society, a valuable component of our middle school curriculum.

LAUNCH Preschool Programs

4100 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/972-6500x2550 • launch.tusd.org



Angels Amongst Us

"I've seen and met angels wearing the disguise of ordinary people living ordinary lives." Tracy Chapman

The LAUNCH PTA is a very small group of incredibly dedicated parents who make a huge difference in children's lives. This core group of PTA parents—Lis, Lisa, Kelby, Carol, Jane and Ryan—make magic happen for the students and teachers at LAUNCH.

Careful planning and fund-raisers allow our PTA to provide four annual seasonal "Flings" for our little Rocketeers. With Lis at the helm, the fall fling this year brought straw bales, pumpkins, music and more. We have real snow and crafts for our winter fling, and the spring event combines a Trike-a-thon with a science assembly. Summer brings water play and traveling sea creatures. Our PTA parents host and staff book fairs for LAUNCH and become elves for our gingerbread workshop. Every year, they honor the teachers with a welcome lunch in fall and an appreciation lunch in spring. They rent a stage for our graduation and purchase toys and equipment for our teachers, speech pathologists and occupational therapists.

In addition to volunteering with Lis at every event, Lisa maintains the bulletin boards to keep parents up to date with LAUNCH events. Lis and Lisa are both dynamos who work tirelessly on behalf of our preschool. I haven't seen their wings—they must keep them hidden—but I know that we have angels here at LAUNCH.

I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble. Helen Keller

Lynn Middle School

5038 Halison St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4495 • bertlynn.tusd.org



Service Projects

Bert Lynn Middle School is proud to recognize our California Junior Scholarship Federation (CJSF) students as they gather gifts for distribution to local families. Reflecting a key leadership component within our school's vision that "today's caring campus becomes tomorrow's conscientious community," CJSF students meet weekly to provide service to the school and the community while fostering pride in their scholastic achievement.

Under the successful faculty supervision of Mrs. Linda Choy,

CJSF students have successfully planned and provided service projects including: school wide recycling, Pennies for Patients-Leukemia Research Foundation, UNICEF, Skechers Pier to Pier Friendship Walk, Madrona Marsh clean-up, Heal the Bay, Relay for Life, and many more community service events.



With over 130 students our CJSF has produced a very noticeable impact within our community and our program has produced a renewed civic spirit within our young scholars who want to make a difference in their world. On behalf of our learning community, I wish to again thank all of our CJSF students for their efforts and achievements. Thank you.

Lincoln Elementary

2418 W. 166th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4464 • lincoln.tusd.org



Healthy and Well

This year, the Lincoln Elementary School community has decided to capitalize on the addition of physical education teachers by creating an overall theme of health and wellness. Our physical education teachers are on campus every Tuesday, working with students in first through fifth grades. Their main focus is building foundational gross-motor and fine-motor skills with our younger students and increasing knowledge and skill levels in various sporting activities with our older students.

We were excited to start our school year with a great Perfect Attendance Incentive Program, which fit well into our health and wellness theme. Students with perfect attendance during the first trimester of school were entered into a drawing to win a free bicycle—one for a girl and one for a boy. The hope of this program was twofold: to encourage good attendance while promoting a healthy extracurricular activity.

Lincoln is in its second year of implementing the Healthy Ever After Program in conjunction with Torrance Memorial Medical Center. This program focuses on teaching children about healthy eating and lifestyles through presentations on various nutritional topics, such as healthy snack options and appropriate portion sizes.

These programs, along with effective and meaningful implementation of the district's Wellness Policy, mean that Lincoln is on track to be a school community that is mentally and physically healthy and well.

Go, Lincoln Lions!

Madrona Middle School

21364 Madrona Ave., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4562 • madrona.tusd.org



International Stage of Competition

Madrona has, for two years in a row, successfully qualified for the international level of competition in the Society of Automotive Engineers' World in Motion Challenge.

In concert with a team of engineers from Honeywell, Madrona students competed in teams to learn, design and build a model vehicle to meet the stringent engineering requirements demanded by the SAE for this competition. Working on their "Penguin Car" under the fictitious company name of IQ, students Camille Baluyot, Kaila Sakamoto, Janna Villanueva, Hurnica Vicencio and Sara Takigawa are on their way to the international stage of competition.



Madrona Middle School is especially proud of these young women and is expectantly waiting to hear the results of their performance on the global stage. They serve as a continuing example of our STEM and service philosophy. Congratulations!

Magruder Middle School

4100 W. 185th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4527 • magruder.tusd.org



All Are Welcome

On any particular Wednesday morning, parents can be seen visiting campus, sipping coffee and enjoying conversation at our new Magruder Middle School Information Center (MIC), and that's just the way we like it. Parent engagement and involvement have taken a lead role on our campus. Relationships between schools, families and the community should not be a luxury but rather a necessity. There is no question that involving families and the community has an impact on our students' academic achievement, and Magruder takes learning very seriously.

With this in mind, Magruder is blazing a trail toward developing mutually beneficial and exclusive relationships with our parent and family communities by introducing new involvement opportunities to accompany those already in place. Most recently, the start time of our Student of the Month celebration was moved from early afternoon to first thing in the morning, giving our parents the opportunity to join us for this exciting monthly celebration. I am happy to report that nearly 50 percent of parents whose children were receiving awards were able to join us for light refreshments and festivities.

Other new parent involvement and engagement opportunities include an incoming sixth-grade parent summer breakfast, which is an opportunity during Operation Back-to-School for parents to ask questions and discuss the transition into middle school, and the Magruder Report, a weekly informational email from our PTSA. Pizza with the Principal is a monthly opportunity to have dinner and discuss learning, academics and other current school-related events with site administrators. We also offer a free One-of-a-Kind Magruder Mustang app (for Apple and soon Android products) and our annual Magruder Madness community event, and we have many new opportunities planned in the very near future. Magruder is striving for 100 percent student and parent engagement, 100 percent of the time. We won't stop until we reach the top!

Richardson Middle School

23751 Nancy Lee Lane, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4790 • richardsonmiddleschool.org



Positive School Culture

At RMS, the positive school culture is built through a collaborative and reflective effort by staff, students, and the community. This culture has been built not only through our student recognition and community service program, but also by providing activities for students to feel connected to campus beyond the academics. RMS believes that developing strong character through social activity goes hand in hand with academics learning. Some of these activities at RMS include Game Club, Running Club, Widget (robotics) Club, Raspberry Pi (computer engineering) Club, Model United Nations, Yearbook, Trivia Challenge, Noon Leagues, Builder's (service) Club, Class Competitions, Environmental Club, Art, and Theatre Arts.

One of the most successful activities at RMS is the music program. Under the direction of Ms. Karrie Willet, music classes and clubs have grown in the last few years. The Advanced Band, which consists of around 80 students, received a Gold rating last year as one of the top middle school bands. The Choral program has been recognized with a Silver rating the last few years. And, the Beginning Band has another 35-40 participants. Beyond these groups of musicians, Ms. Willett also coordinates our Jazz Band, Drumline, and Tall Flag clubs during lunch break. In recent years, the RMS music program has performed at the Torrance Memorial Holiday Festival, Riviera Homeowner's Association, Armstrong Theatre, Disneyland, South Area Music Festival, Barnes-n-Noble, and Torrance Armed Forces Day Parade, to name a few! All of these music groups lead directly into similar award winning South High School music programs.

North High School

3620 W. 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4412 • northhighschool.org



Music to Our Ears!

It's often said that North High has one of the most talented, creative and rollicking music programs in SoCal—the celebrated Saxon Regiment Marching Band and Color Guard! These brilliant musician-scholars have amazed us with the hard work and dedication that earned them a number of achievement awards, including second place in the 2013 and 2014 Southern California Judging Association (SCJA) state championships!

This year, the melodies and movement of our Marching Band continued to add to the excitement of football games, assemblies and many community events at North High. Fans on both sides of the field smiled, giggled and clapped as our Saxon Band danced and pranced during football games, with unexpected, whimsical dance moves. Visitors from Kashiwa, our Sister City in Japan, were amazed enough to record videos and share them across Japan. In December, the Saxon Band performed for the district at the annual UCLA versus Rotary Club Tailgate Event. North High's Winter Concert was also a rollicking, melodic program! We thank our illustrious band director, Bryan Smith, and everyone associated with the Saxon Regiment Marching Band and Color Guard.

Our facilities continue to improve. Thanks to Bond Measures Y and Z, the North High music room is being modernized. We're also grateful that the Torrance community approved Bonds T and U in November. This will make it possible for each high school to have an auditorium. All of North High's fine performing arts programs, including music, drama, choir and dance, will share the new venue.

As a Saxon community, we encourage and support our student musicians! We appreciate our families and music staff for their countless hours of involvement, financial support and unflagging commitment. The hours of volunteer time are priceless. We're grateful to our parents and our entire community for their dedication, generosity and enthusiasm.

Riviera Elementary

365 Paseo de Arena, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4460 • riviera.tusd.org



We're a Community-Spirited School!

Character education is an integral piece of instruction at Riviera Elementary School. Every Monday, students make this pledge: I will be respectful! I will come to school to learn! I will be a friend to others!

Examples of student leadership and character-building activities are shared and modeled for our students. Student Council, Riviera Peer Mediators, Green Team Eco-Heroes and troops present meaningful character messages at flag assembly that show ways to help others and contribute at school and in our community.

Riviera's Character Counts monthly lesson topics focus on six value words: Citizenship, Responsibility, Respect, Fairness, Trustworthiness and Caring.

School-service projects calendared for the year include Trash-Free Lunches and School Recycling, September; Red Ribbon Week, Buddy Bench and Skecher's Walk, October; Food Drive and International Fair, November; Giving Tree, December; Firefighter Appreciation, January; Valentines for Vets, February; College Day, March; Beach Cleanup and Relay for Life, April; Blue Ribbon Week, May; and Volunteer Appreciation, June.

In October, Riviera added a Buddy Bench to our campus in honor of Riviera student Kaylie Russell, a third-grader who lost her battle with brain cancer. Riviera students learned to keep an eye on the buddy bench and if students are sitting there to invite them to play! The buddy bench message is to "sit on the bench if you need a friend, if you want to make new friends, if your friends aren't at school that day, or if you want to play something different."

Character education and service projects connect students to each other and to their school, encouraging community spirit. This creates a safe school environment that fosters friendships and leadership.

Seaside Elementary

4651 Sharynne Lane, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4532 • seaside.tusd.org



Supporting Technology Skills

Seaside Elementary School, like others in the Torrance Unified School District (TUSD), has a strong community rooted in active parent involvement and supported through the PTA. Room parents organize classroom activities, volunteers come into the classroom to support student learning and help the teachers with organization, emergency supplies and equipment are donated by parents, and the school library is managed and stocked by parents. The new state funding formula makes the PTA's fund-raising efforts more important than ever. The PTA raises money to purchase fun, educational field trips, fund assemblies and hire a credentialed computer-lab teacher.

Mrs. Bonello, the computer lab teacher, runs a tight ship! The lab is clean and organized. The new equipment was provided through parent support. The instruction is progressive and integrated with the learning in the classroom. Kindergarten and first-grade students become familiar with computers and develop their keyboarding and mouse skills. They play learning games to support reading, math and critical-thinking skills. In second grade, students practice keyboarding to help them prepare for instruction down the road, where reading to learn and writing to inform and present opinions and arguments are essential. By third grade, students conduct research and gather pictures to create presentations on United States monuments. Fourth- and fifth-grade students work on eTUSD and Blend Space to research, write and create presentations about California and another state assigned to them by the classroom teacher.

In addition to the facilities in the lab, Mrs. Bonello provides teachers with access to the laptop carts, provided to us by the district. These carts allow students to work on their lab presentations and classroom projects. This joint effort between the district and the parents works in harmony to help our students flourish, a large part of the reason it is great to be in Torrance!

South High School

4801 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4352 • shs.tusd.org



Record-Setting Seasons

Each of the South High School girls fall sports—cross country, tennis, and volleyball—experienced their best seasons in school history. The girls cross country team place fifth in the state, with team leader and University of Alaska-bound senior Kim Coscia placing third in the state by a mere 3 seconds. Kim later placed 10th in the Western Region in the Footlocker Western Invitationals at Mt. San Antonio College and then 33rd in the nation at the Footlocker Nationals in San Diego.

The girls tennis team, after going undefeated in league, rode a wave of momentum into the CIF Finals, beating top-ranked Riverside's Poly High School in the championship match by a score of 10 sets to 8. South, down 8 sets to 7, won the last singles match and last two doubles matches to secure the victory. It was truly a team effort, as each of the three singles and doubles teams contributed winning sets to the victory. This was South High's first CIF Championship in tennis.

Finally, the girls' volleyball team, after an undefeated Pioneer League Championship, completed their historic run to the state finals. After winning their first CIF Championship since 2004 by sweeping top-seeded Village Christian School 3–0 in the CIF finals, South continued their winning streak all the way through the state playoffs. Ranked third in the Southern California bracket, South beat the second- and sixth-ranked teams in thrilling five-set matches, only to again sweep Village Christian 3–0 in the finals to capture the Southern California State Championship. In the state finals matchup between the Southern California and Northern California champions, South fell to the top-ranked team in the nation, Archbishop Mitty High School, in four games.

Congratulations to all of South's fall girl athletes for having the most successful seasons in each sport's history!

Shery High School

2600 Vine St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4440 • shery.tusd.org



The Homeroom/Mentoring Program

This school year, Shery High School has established and implemented a homeroom class! Our students meet with their designated homeroom teacher for 15 minutes each day. The teachers then act as "mentors" by encouraging and supporting the students in class. In essence, the student's homeroom teacher is his or her mentor for the entire year. The homeroom teachers help our students by keeping them accountable for coming to class and showing up to school on time.

We know that success at Shery depends upon good student attendance and participation, and so each Monday our attendance for the previous week is examined and discussed. The students are then rewarded for their good or improved attendance, as well as class participation.

The second goal of homeroom class is teaching students practical life skills that can benefit them academically and as adults. Some of these skills include how to fill out a job application, how to write a resume, how to apply for college, how to open a bank account, knowing the costs of living on your own, etc.

The goal of our Shery High School teachers and staff members is helping students get prepared for life. We want to see them all become successful socially, emotionally, physically, and professionally. We are happy to say that we have already seen improvements in our attendance and progress in our classrooms. We attribute some of this to our new homeroom program!

Torrance Elementary

2125 Lincoln Ave., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4500 • torranceel.tusd.org



PLTW? STEM?

Relax. PLTW stands for Project Lead the Way. One has to wonder if, back in 1986, high school teacher Richard Blais' pre-engineering classes would evolve into a national movement.

In 1997, Blais received support from the Liebich family's Charitable Leadership Foundation to extend his engineering program to 12 schools in upstate New York. Since then, PLTW has gone K-12 nationwide, with courses in more than 6,500 schools.

In 2003, PLTW partnered with NASA. In 2009 it received a \$10 million grant from the Kern Family Foundation. In 2010 they partnered with VEX Robotics. In 2011, they collaborated with Analytical Graphics, Inc., which brought this NASA software to students in the classroom.

The focus (of course) was on STEM subjects. The intent is to tackle these subjects as a whole; as one intertwined learning unit just like the real world. So this summer, TUSD had the pleasure of sending one high school, middle school, and elementary teacher to a PLTW training session at San Diego State. Torrance Elementary was the participating elementary school.

Because of these sessions, our fifth-grade class in Room 40 will be doing an array of work, all the way from investigating gravity and fluidity in designing for air speed, to building a VEX Robotics unit with remote control. The students will interpret their hands-on experiences as documented in their Launch Journals; use iPad apps to design, distinguish, and sequence; and use a metal-based robotics kit to build a moving robotic unit.

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Torrance High School

2200 W. Carson St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4396 • ths.tusd.org



Helping Others

During the month of November, Torrance High embarked on our annual Canned Food Drive. This year THS collected more than 4,000 cans, which is double what we collected in 2013. Classes competed for spirit points with the Juniors winning with more than 1,500 points. With the help of the Torrance Rotary we helped feed more twenty Torrance High families. We were also able to donate a considerable amount of cans to the Salvation Army Food Bank. A special thank you goes to the ASB who spearheaded the drive.



Sandy Skora

Principal

Racing to Learn

It's a Thursday afternoon, and a group of students have just finished a full day of school. They converge upon a classroom and are clamoring for more. These high achievers are eager to experience more hands-on activities. About 30 fourth- and fifth-graders at Towers Elementary School are waiting for their Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) Enrichment session to begin. This year, elementary school sites in Torrance are offering afterschool enrichment sessions which are supported through the district's GATE office.

The December session was all about circuits, and the students worked diligently with partners to assemble circuit rovers. These rovers resembled high-tech, remote-controlled cars.

After much preparation, trouble-shooting, and collaboration, the groups approached the teacher. "Can we have a race? Please?" Critical thinking and perseverance were celebrated during the impromptu competition. Immediately after cleanup, the students were already looking forward to next month's session, a marble stunt maze.



Torrance Adult School

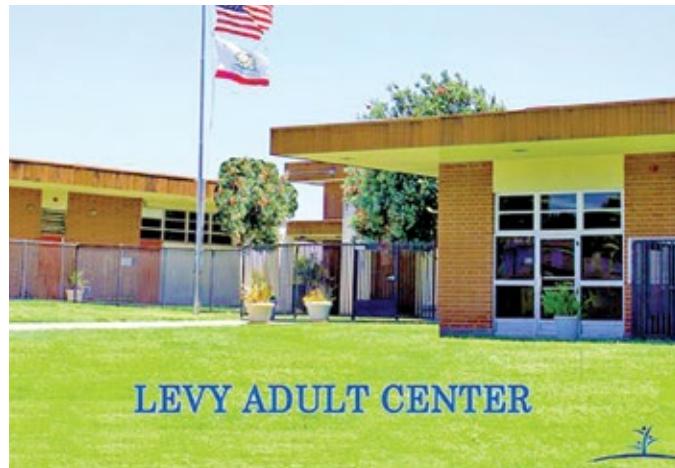
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An Exemplary Learning Experience

Torrance Adult School is excited to be welcoming the year 2015 with a number of new classes and programs. In our vision to assist community members to become lifelong learners, TAS continuously strives to open up new pathways for student success.

Whether you need to reach your academic goals, begin a new career, advance in the workplace, learn a new craft, or improve your health, TAS has a variety of classes that can help you achieve your objectives.



We have excellent allied health certification courses, engaging ESL classes, parenting and older adult classes, and a high school diploma program with online options. We also offer blended classes (both in-class and online) for students with busy schedules.

Finally, we are very excited to have the Levy Center as our South Bay testing site. In 2015, the Center will be expanding its services by offering college entrance preparation for the SAT, and Microsoft Office Suite and QuickBooks certification exams. In addition, the Hamilton site will also be offering the college ACT preparation exam.

Thank you for selecting TAS to help achieve your personal or professional goals. We strive to provide you with an exemplary learning experience, and want to assist our community members to continue to be lifelong learners.

Towers Elementary

5600 Towers St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4535 • towers.tusd.org



Sandy Skora

Principal

Victor Elementary

4820 Spencer St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4542 • victor.tusd.org



Vikings Keep the Peace

Victor Elementary implements a peer-mediation program in which students help other students resolve conflicts. Types of problems include disagreements on the playground, rumor and gossip, and name calling. Naturally, serious issues are handled by school administration.

Peer mediators do not make decisions but rather work toward a win-win resolution for both sides in order to avoid further trouble. This process has proven to be very effective at Victor. Office referrals for these types of matters have declined substantially. The key to this program is how it helps change the way our students understand and resolve conflict in their lives. Changes include improved self-esteem, listening and critical-thinking skills, school climate for learning and reduced disciplinary actions. These skills are transferable outside the classroom and will help our students for years to come.

Bill Baker
Principal

Walteria Elementary

24456 Madison St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4487 • www.walteriaelementary.org



The WOW Wildcats

Every day Walteria uses incentive tools and student help to actively inspire positive behaviors. On Friday, our students can earn 20 minutes of "WOW" recess if they exhibited good behavior during the entire school week.

Most of our teachers take their students outside to supervise this activity, something they all enjoy. Those students who do not earn WOW recess can remain in the classroom to either complete unfinished work or attend conflict management. This is done by grade level, with teachers sharing the responsibility.

We also have fourth- and fifth-grade student conflict managers who help resolve playground issues during the lunch recess for the third through fifth grades. During this process the students learn important life skills from their peers, such as conflict management.

Our students also have the opportunity to earn WOW cards for the positive behaviors they exhibit during the month. Twenty WOW cards are randomly drawn on the first Monday of the subsequent month. The winners have lunch with the principal and eat and play board games.

Student achievement is a priority at Walteria, and so our focus is on incorporating proven strategies to help maintain a safe and positive learning environment. We want to make sure that we are providing our students with solid academic and social/emotional learning opportunities.

Wood Elementary

2250 W. 235th St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4484 • wood.tusd.org



Ready Readers

Howard Wood Elementary School teachers and students have been focusing their energies on embracing the new Common Core State Standards for English language arts and math.

One way that we are supporting student use and understanding of non-fiction text is by utilizing Achieve 3000, a Web-based program that facilitates the building of students' reading Lexile levels, comprehension and writing skills through the use of a technology platform. This program is being used with students in third through fifth grades who are in need of intervention to build skills and help them stay on target for their grade levels or would benefit from enrichment support to expand their skills, which is particularly useful for our high achieving and Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) students.

Teachers also received training so that they can also teach lessons with nonfiction, high-interest text to their entire classes as well. Staff, parents, and students are excited about the success that we are already seeing with our students' reading comprehension abilities.

West High School

20401 Victor, Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4299



Enrichment Activities Flourish!

It's hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year. The fall semester went quickly, and several programs gained worthy recognition. Our athletic teams are again in the Pioneer League and up against the other Torrance high schools. West came away with League championships in football and boys' cross country.

Coach Druten was also named the Daily Breeze Cross Country Coach of the Year. Football went undefeated through the season under Coach Holt, losing only in the CIF semifinal game. Boys' and girls' cross country, and girls' tennis, also competed in CIF against teams from around Southern California.

Our Robotics Team 4512, under the leadership of Mrs. Evans, won its first two competitions of the year, a continuation of their winning streak from last year. They are also the recent recipients of a Torrance Education Foundation STEM grant. Mrs. Burkhard and Ms. Hecht, West High science teachers, also received STEM grants from Exxon/Mobil for a science research project and an after-school STEM club.

The West High Drama Department staged a successful fall production of *Murder in the House of Horrors*, and our West High Entertainment Unit presented a creative field show called *In the Fifth*. The vocal music department spent December in holiday mode, performing for organizations throughout the South Bay.

Mrs. Jensen, the choral director, is retiring from West High this year after 29 years of sharing her love of music with students. Her alumni choir members paid a tribute to her at the Winter Choral Concert as they filled the stage for the final song of the evening. West High students are fortunate to have a variety of opportunities to pursue special interests.

Yukon Elementary

17815 Yukon Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4477 • yukon.tusd.org



New Intervention and Assessment Methodologies

Yukon has recently implemented the Aimsweb data management system in order to make sure that all of its students are moving forward at the necessary pace. As part of this monitoring, we administer brief measures, called probes, to each one of our students at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year, and in both reading and math. During these periods we also perform what is called progress monitoring, which tracks the effectiveness of our instructional interventions.

These probes are valid generic indicators of individual progress, and allow us to adjust the specific interventions to the learning pace of each child. The students are then grouped together according to this data. Four times a week they receive intensive, small-group instruction in order to make sure that they have all of the foundational skills they need to achieve at high levels in our rigorous Common Core curriculum.

This process also allows us to make a snapshot of each child's longitudinal data, which reveals how their performance has changed over time. With this information we can determine if and when a student needs more intensive intervention, and if they will receive further in-depth testing and instruction. Class profiles and full-school results also add to our ability to craft the best instructional program possible.

Yukon is happy to be using this 21st-century approach in order to "stay in the know" about each student's progress and needs. We have organized this full-school approach in a collaborative manner, with everyone working together to achieve the very best outcome for each and every one of our children. Our dedicated and caring faculty members always strive for optimum results, staying current with the best and most effective ways of accomplishing their goals. It is truly our mission, and our joy, to do so.

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Note-ables

Build It Back Again



Kate Karp

I'm delighted whenever I come across a collection for children featuring music that isn't formulated, childishly cute or backed with electronic tracks. *Build It Back Again* by the Billy Jonas band is none of this, even with the use of a toy piano as a percussion instrument. The melodies are catchy compositions performed by a full range of vocal and instrumental mastery—even that little piano—and the lyrics do more than instruct and educate. They traverse sometimes wonky pathways to communicate profound messages of determination, maintaining humanity in a technological world, balance and historical significance.



The title song features a strong tempo with words to match. From the architecture of ancient Greece to the ravages of Hurricane Katrina—and certainly not stopping there—the band sings of the resolve of the human spirit to rebuild, often in new ways. The rollicking “Monkeys Driving Cars” tells how necessary it is to advance ourselves as humans to the same extent as technology if we want to survive as people. In a primal atmosphere of percussion, “Moment of Noise” seamlessly transitions from the creation of the universe to thankfulness and appreciation for every little sound and what causes it.

The CD is heavy but not any means ponderous. The songwriters also love wordplay, especially as it increases vocabulary and wallows in punning, as in “Hairy,” “Maybe Maybe Not” and “What Kind of Bear Are You?”

The Billy Jonas Band has dug a sturdy foundation in *Build It Back Again*—good stuff for any group discussion that involves young minds.

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

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Selfies



Jodie Lynn

Question: My 12-year-old daughter and her friends are constantly taking "selfies" on their cell phones. The other moms and I think this is a bad thing. All we hear is negative comments about their faces, noses, teeth, eyes, hair, etc. What's the best way to try to help these girls understand that these self-pictures should not be used as a testament of their true appearances, inside and out, and to try to teach them to make light of the selfies if they insist on continuing to take them?

From Jodie: Self-critiquing alone can be rough on one's self-esteem and emotional state of mind. But if the picture is shown to friends or posted on social media the comments, which can be quite mean, can devastate the individual and really do damage. As kids get older they begin to be generally hard on themselves as well as others when it comes to just about everything they do and say and especially how they look. Recognizing this, Dove® came up with ways to help build and rethink self-esteem in growing girls. In 2004, they created The Dove Self-Esteem Project which focuses on helping girls, ages 8 to 17, become more confident and well-adjusted, even enjoying themselves for who they really are. Be sure to visit their site where you both can engage in great lessons on self-esteem and loads of other resources. Check out <http://www.dove.us/Our-Mission/Girls-Self-Esteem/default.aspx> for more details. You might also want to watch a video that they put together (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_3agBWqGfRo&feature=youtu.be). It aims to reaffirm a happy, healthy insight into the next generation of women growing up. Since our own personal opinion about ourselves is important, we have a tendency to verbally express negative comments, which in turn is heard by family members.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author. She has authored several books including *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having Doing, and Surviving it All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* Check www.ParentToParent.com



FRAM SOCCER CLUB TRYOUTS

GIRLS

GU10 Feb 9 4:30-6:00pm Toyota
Feb 10 5:00-6:30pm MIS

GU11 Feb 9 6:00-7:30pm Toyota
Feb 10 6:00-7:30pm MIS

GU12 Feb 10 6:30-8:00pm MIS
Feb 11 4:30-6:00pm Toyota

GU13 Feb 11 6:00-7:30pm Toyota
Feb 19 6:30-8:00pm MIS

GU14 Feb 9 4:30-6:00pm Toyota
Feb 12 6:30-8:00pm MIS

GU14 Hoffman
Mar 2 4:30-6:00pm Toyota

BOYS

BU10 Feb 10 5:00-6:30pm MIS
Feb 18 4:30-6:00pm Toyota

BU11 Feb 12 5:00-6:30pm MIS
Feb 18 6:00-7:30pm Toyota

BU12 Feb 11 4:30-6:00pm Toyota
Feb 17 5:00-6:30pm MIS

BU13 Feb 11 6:00-7:30pm Toyota
Feb 19 6:30-8:00pm MIS

BU14 Feb 9 6:00-7:30pm Toyota
Feb 17 6:30-8:00pm MIS

BU13 Britton only
Mar 2 6:00-7:30pm Toyota

Toyota Fields | Toyota Sports Complex 555 Maple Torrance
MIS | Miraleste Intermediate School 29323 Palos Verdes Drive East Rancho Palos Verdes

TRYOUT INFORMATION

We are excited to announce our tryout dates for the 2015-2016 club soccer season.

Wear: soccer clothes, cleats, shinguards

Bring: water, soccer ball, FRAM tryout form (available on our website, www.framsoccer.com)

Fram Soccer Club was established in 1972 to provide the highest level of soccer training, education and competition to motivated youth players in the South Bay. Fram is now the only soccer club in Palos Verdes and has a heritage and a culture that separates us from other youth clubs through our long standing affiliation with Nansen Field and the community.

CONTACT

FRAM Director of Coaching
Joey Hoffman | Joey@framsoccer.com

Fram Administrator
Colleen Messner | admin@framsoccer.com
310.418.3708

For more information, please visit our website at www.framsoccer.com

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