

FREE

School News



Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Paramount Unified School District

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Learning is Fun for All Ages



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Paramount Unified School District Families

During the month of March, the state Department of Education ran a field test for an early version of its California Schools Dashboard, a tool that reports district, school and student subgroup performance on six state and four local measures.

The state measures are chronic absenteeism, suspension and graduation rates, English learner progress, college and career readiness and academics, which summarizes state standardized test scores. Local measures, used to track districtwide performance only, are school climate, parent engagement, implementation of academic standards, and adequacy of school facilities.

Just four measures are used in the field test, which allow educators and the community to review the dashboard's effectiveness.

The state plans to officially release a full version of the dashboard in fall 2017 that incorporates improvements generated by the field test. This final version will provide a comprehensive view of school and district performance.

The dashboard represents a potential step forward from the state's previous measure, the Academic Performance Index (API), which relied primarily on standardized test scores. The API was retired in 2013.

But to be effective, the new dashboard must clearly communicate school performance status to all members of the community.

Feedback from you, our district families, is essential.

Please take the time to review the material on the state Department of Education website (www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/index.asp)

We will provide additional information over the coming months regarding the dashboard.

Paramount Unified School District
15110 California Ave., Paramount, CA 90723
562/602-6000
www.paramount.k12.ca.us

Padres de familia del Distrito Escolar de Paramount

Este mes, el Departamento de Educación del estado ejecutará una prueba de campo para una versión temprana del Tablero de Datos Escolares de California (Tablero), una herramienta que informa el rendimiento del distrito, escuela y subgroup de estudiantes basándose en seis medidas estatales y cuatro medidas locales.

Las medidas del estado son absentismo crónico, las tasas de suspensión y graduación, el progreso del estudiante aprendiendo inglés, preparación universitaria y de carrera y académicos, que resume los resultados de los exámenes estandarizado del estado. Medidas locales, utilizadas para llevar cuenta del rendimiento de todo el distrito, son el ambiente escolar, participación de padres, aplicación de estándares académicos y adecuación de las instalaciones escolares.

Solo cuatro medidas se utilizan en la prueba de campo, que permiten a educadores y la comunidad para revisar la eficacia del Tablero.

El estado planea lanzar oficialmente una versión completa del Tablero en el otoño 2017 que incorpora mejoras generadas por la prueba de campo. Esta versión final proporcionará una visión integral del funcionamiento de la escuela y el distrito.

El Tablero representa un avance potencial a la medida anterior del estado, el índice de rendimiento académico (API), que se basaba principalmente en los resultados de los exámenes estandarizados. El API fue retirado en 2013.

Pero para ser eficaz, el nuevo Tablero debe comunicar claramente el estado de funcionamiento de la escuela a todos los miembros de la comunidad.

Los comentarios de ustedes, nuestras familias del distrito, son esenciales.

Por favor tome el tiempo para revisar el material en la web del Departamento de Educación del estado (www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/index.asp)

Proporcionaremos información adicional en los próximos meses sobre el Tablero.



Dr. Ruth Pérez
Superintendent

School News

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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/PRODUCTION: Katie Caress

COPY EDITORS:
Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia
Netragrednik by Neta Madison

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SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Dr. Seuss had many students celebrating his birthday as you will read in this issue. Such joyful books that make reading and learning fun for all ages. As we know, first we learn to read and then we read to learn.

Also, in this issue you will read how a student learned UCLA has

the only known radioactive potato tree in the world, how students learn history through arts, about the Aquarium on Wheels, what is PIQE, and so much more...

Our next issue is June 7 just in time to congratulate the graduates!

School News

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SENIOR DAY MAY 10, 2017



El Camino College
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PLEASE NOTE: Students must apply online at www.compton.edu by April 30 and bring a photo ID to the event.

Early Childhood Education Program

7340 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-6900 • www.paramount.k12.ca.us



Dr. Elida Garcia
Director

Preschoolers Celebrate Dr. Seuss

The preschoolers in Paramount Unified School District were very busy celebrating Read Across America in honor of Dr. Seuss. Classes read Dr. Seuss books and did different activities during the weeklong celebration.



At Gaines and Mokler State Preschools, the children were able to help make their own green eggs and ham. Wirtz preschoolers wore crazy hair and

shirts to show their Dr. Seuss spirit. Families at Collins State Preschool participated in a Read-a-thon, and the class earned a special pizza party for reading over 100 books at home. Also, Keppel preschoolers enjoyed reading their own copy of *The Foot Book* by Dr. Seuss.

Every student in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program received a copy of *The Foot Book* to encourage reading at home. Our preschoolers demonstrated all the fun one can have by reading books!

Alondra Middle School

16200 S. Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8004 • <http://alondra-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Carolynn Butler
Principal

Dolphins Get Bruin-ized!

Over a three-day span, 300 of Alondra Middle School seventh-graders participated in the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Cub Tour program. The Cub Tours is a volunteer organization whose mission is to educate, motivate, and inspire elementary and middle school students to pursue higher education. The field trip to the Westwood campus gave Alondra students a chance to experience college life firsthand.

During the 90-minute tour, students explored the beautiful campus and learned some interesting facts. The volunteer guides shared with our students how UCLA receives the most applications in the world, that the Internet was created there, and that the campus store is the second largest in the nation.

"I loved the story about UCLA having the only known radioactive potato tree in the world," said one seventh-grader. Another enthusiastic student expressed how the visit made her "excited about

doing well in high school, so I can go to a good college like UCLA."

The field trip was an extension of Alondra's mission to create a culture of college and career readiness. "Students learn all they can about college, but experiencing it firsthand is the ultimate motivator," said one teacher/chaperone. Many students were excited to be "bruin-ized" and even purchased Bruin gear to wear on College Swag Wednesdays. Hopefully in the upcoming years, Alondra can continue this tradition of exposing our students to various college campuses and encourage their enthusiasm about attending prestigious colleges, such as UCLA.



Buena Vista *High School*

3717 Michelson St., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/602-8090 • <https://bvhs-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Morrie Kosareff
Principal

SOARing Eagles!

Strive, Organize, Attend and Respect are the Guidelines for Success at Buena Vista High School. For many of our students, Buena Vista is a second chance for those who have not experienced academic success in a traditional high school setting. Our Guidelines for Success allow our students to SOAR as Eagles through high school and beyond to success in college and their chosen careers.

We started off our spring semester with a series of mini-lessons designed to have students delve deeper into one Guideline each week and determine how they can implement it in their daily lives. We started off the week with a short video clip that featured our very own students and taught the guideline for that week. Then each day, students engaged in a learning activity about that guideline. During Strive Week, we asked students to define what it meant to strive, read and analyze quotes related to the importance of striving and set goals for themselves. Teachers also shared times in their lives where they faced a difficult challenge or setback and had to recover through hard work.

During the Organize Week, we looked at various aspects

of organization, including time management. We had students determine which phone apps help a person stay organized and manage their time and which apps waste time.

For Attend Week, we asked student to examine how their attendance affects their grades, using their report cards as a tool. We held class discussions about the importance of attending not only physically but mentally.

Finally, for Respect Week, we discussed the ways we respect ourselves, others, the learning environment and our future. Students participated in an activity that modeled how a person's respect or disrespect can ripple throughout a community and the effect that it can have.

Finally, students identified one commitment they would each make to create a respectful classroom, and these commitments were linked in a paper chain to show how strong we can become when we respect one another.

Our Guidelines for Success have allowed us to start the second semester off strong. We now have a common language and set of guidelines that we are all working toward together. As we continue you through the semester, we will be recognizing students in a variety of ways that exemplify these guidelines and will continue to use them as a tool to support our students.

Collins *Elementary*

6125 Coke Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/602-8008 • <http://collins-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Scott Law
Principal

History through Arts

In February, Collins students, parents and families gathered for an exhilarating program focused on African American history, poetry and music. Students begin learning poems in early February as a means to encourage public speaking and presentation skills.

The show opened with third-through-fifth-grade students led by our music teacher,

Mrs. Pettygrove, singing a song dedicated to the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., titled "I Have a Dream." Audience members were enthralled with the message of the song and the students' delivery of such a powerful message. As the program progressed, each grade level recited poetry written by prominent African American poets in front of an audience of

100 parents and family members. Fourth-grade teacher Mr. Houston delivered an inspiring speech on the importance that music played in the lives of African Americans throughout history, especially during slavery, by serving as a means to communicate messages to others as well as a way of praise and worship. The J & P Community Workshop Choir performed renditions of several historical songs and encouraged audience members to join in and sing along.

Additionally, one of Collins School's parents, Veronica Chriss, lent her voice to our program by singing two solos.

As the program continued, all students gathered on stage and ended the performance with "Positive," a song learned in music class that moved everyone in attendance.

Collins School's third annual Poetry Night was a time for staff, families and community members to commemorate African American History in an interactive manner in which everyone walked away feeling inspired.



1st grade reciting "Hey, Black Child" by Countee Cullen

Gaines Elementary

7340 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8012 • <https://gaines-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Michael Naruko
Principal

Celebrating Dr. Seuss

By Fanny Varela, Instructional Coach

In early March, people from across the nation celebrated Read Across America in honor of Theodore Geisel, most commonly known as “Dr. Seuss.” At Gaines School, we extended this literacy celebration for the entire week.

All week long our students and staff celebrated Read Week by participating in various Seuss-themed activities to promote the love of reading. For example, one day the students came to school dressed like “Thing 1” or “Thing 2” by wearing red and blue. On another day they were encouraged to wear silly socks, mismatched socks, or lots of socks just like Fox in Socks.

The students were also invited to attend Pajama Night with their parents so that they could listen to stories read by their classroom teachers. This provided the parents with an opportunity to glean the importance of daily reading, and ask questions which would help build their children’s comprehension in an

enjoyable manner. The students also took home a book to read to their family.

To culminate our exciting week, the students were paired with another class from a different grade level to do buddy reading. That afternoon you could see our students from all around the campus reading books with their buddies.

As Dr. Seuss once said, “You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.”



Hollydale K-8

5511 Century Blvd., South Gate, CA 90280 • 562/602-8016 • <http://hollydale-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Lisa Nunley-Macon
Principal

Attendance Party On the Plaza

Hollydale School celebrates students who attend school every day with our monthly Attendance Party on the Plaza, also famously known as the P.O.P. Party. During this time, the kindergarten through eighth-grade Hollydale Hornets join together in a carnival-like atmosphere to dance, eat, make crafts, socialize, create science experiments, and have a great time!

Hollydale’s P.O.P. Parties also feature a variety of games, including musical chairs, volleyball, and tug of war. Hornets laugh and sing while they “Whip and Na-Na” to the beats of Hollydale’s awesome disc jockeys, Rosa Edwards, our counselor,

and Elaine Carrillo, our Resource Specialist Program teacher. Hollydale’s student council members, staff, and administration all work together to ensure that students have a fun-filled afternoon.

At the end of the P.O.P. Party, students consistently exclaim, “I can’t miss school because I want to come back next month!” This exciting incentive encourages students to be present every day, and it generously rewards the Hornets who do.



Jackson *Middle School*

7220 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8020 • <https://jackson-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Kelly Anderson
Principal

Fun for All Ages

Jackson Middle School joined in on the Read Across America fun with a week-long fourth- through eighth-grade reading celebration.

Students and staff participated in book themed dress-up days from “Green, Mean Monday” to “Red, White and Black Friday.” Throughout the week, the grade levels took turns competing in morning book challenges

by trying to guess popular Dr. Seuss books. Top-secret classroom door decorating also occurred during our breaks and lunches as the week went on.

The celebration culminated in READ Day, with our school staff and eighth-grade AVID students reading to our four and five classrooms. Our student readers enjoyed sharing their favorite early childhood books, and serving as reading role models for the younger Knights.

Math Coach and staff reader Cecile Kim said, “It’s always special to have an opportunity in which our older students can participate in encouraging reading across the campus.”



Jefferson *Elementary*

8600 Jefferson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8024 • <http://jefferson-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Kelly Williams
Principal

Students Run for Funds!

On March 1st, Jefferson students showed their jaguar pride by participating in our second, annual jog –a-thon. Students spent one week asking family and friends to sponsor them. Students were striving to collect the most donations and hopes of winning the top prize of a hundred dollar gift card to Toys R Us. All students that collected

donations earned a variety of prizes ranging from a free dress coupon to a popcorn and movie party. Eighty percent of our students participated along with their teachers and support staff. It was exciting to see our students trying to walk, jog, and run to achieve as many laps as possible. A special thank you, to our PTA, who coordinated the event. We raised over five thousand dollars to support field trips. The event was a success!



Keppel *Elementary*

6630 Mark Keppel St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8028 • <http://keppel-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Delores Stephens
Interim Principal

Read Across America

Mark Keppel School's annual Read Across America event took place during the week of February 27 through March 3. The National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America is an annual reading-motivation-and-awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss.

Our celebration of literacy and reading was an exciting time at Mark Keppel School. We spent the week honoring Dr. Seuss in a variety of ways. We wore crazy socks for Fox in Socks Day. Green was worn for our Green Eggs and Ham Day. Students wore college shirts to show Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Our culminating activity was Pajama Read Day. As a part of our Safe and Civil behavior initiative, we focused on connecting our third-through-fifth-grade students with students from the primary grades. These older students read Dr. Seuss stories in the kinder-through-first-grade classrooms in small groups. We received a huge amount of positive feedback from teachers in all grade levels. The kinder-through-first-grade teachers expressed how much

their students enjoyed the older students coming into their classrooms and reading to them. The upper-grade teachers raved about how their students enjoyed the experience of reading to the younger students. Teachers also talked about how some of their students really enjoyed the opportunity and how much confidence this activity gave them.

Overall, Mark Keppel School had a very enjoyable and rewarding time during this year's Read Across America, and we're looking forward to next year!



Lincoln *Elementary*

15324 S. California Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8036 • www.lincoln-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Dr. Topekia Jones
Principal

Partnering to Promote Literacy

In honor of Dr. Seuss's Birthday, and in collaboration with Read Across America, Lincoln teachers partnered with parents to promote literacy. On Thursday, March 2nd, Lincoln celebrated Dr. Seuss Day by inviting district guests to read to Lincoln students in the morning, and in the afternoon, Lincoln parents joined in on the celebration. Students, parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles, along with Lincoln staff, gathered

out on our grassy field, snuggled up with their favorite books, and enjoyed an afternoon of reading together. Students giggled to the rhymes of Dr. Seuss, as well as being entertained by other fabulous authors and stories, celebrating the love of reading with family members and Lincoln staff. Our mascot, Leo Lion, was also in attendance. It was a wonderful event, with teachers and parents working together to promote literacy.



Los Cerritos *Elementary*

14626 Gundry Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8040 • <http://loscerritos-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Hilda Verdugo
Principal

All You Need Is a Book

"Then our mother came in and she said to us two, 'Did you have any fun? Tell me. What did you do?' And Sally and I did not know what to say. Should we tell her the things that went on at Los Cerritos that day?" –Dr. Seuss in *The Cat in the Hat*

A week of whimsy ensued at Los Cerritos School as staff and students gathered to celebrate and honor the life of Theodor Seuss Geisel. The usual sea of blue and white uniforms was replaced by a colorful landscape reflective of a week-long Seuss character dress-up ranging from Grinchy green to Lorax yellow and ending with a black, white, and red homage to our favorite Cat in the Hat. The notes of memorable Seuss songs wafted over the loudspeaker each morning, signaling the beginning of the daily broadcast of the life and times of Ted Geisel, followed up with a Guess the Seuss book challenge, which inspired classes to rally to call in and add a new title to their classroom libraries.

Things really kicked into high gear with the actual appearance of Thing 1 and Thing 2, who danced side by side with the Grinch, the Cat in the Hat, and a colorful star-bellied Sneetch to commemorate Dr. Seuss's March 3 birthday.



The cafeteria hummed with the sounds of students digging into a hearty breakfast of green eggs and ham while the movie of the same title played in the background for all to enjoy.

On that warm Friday afternoon, teachers and students (young and old) carted out books, blankets, and even some very loved stuffed animals to stretch out on the lawn for a very Seussical reading picnic. Popcorn was munched, and books were shared as relaxed and shoeless students let down their hair. So follow our lead and take to heart this quote, because Los Cerritos School knows that "you'll find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a good book."

Mokler *Elementary*

8571 E. Flower St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8044 • <http://mokler-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Linh Roberts
Principal

Reading Across School

By *Marilyn Equihua, ELA Instructional Coach*

Here at Mokler, we stress the importance of reading every day while having fun at the same time! We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America Week with fun activities throughout the week. To kick off the festivities, the Cat in the Hat made a schoolwide appearance on Monday.

Together, the students took an oath to read a minimum of 20 minutes every day. Each classroom kept a tally to see who could read the most during the week, both at school and at home.

Every day was themed with a different Dr. Seuss book to read and a fun outfit to wear. On Monday, students read *The Cat in the Hat* and wore red and white. On Tuesday, students were seen wearing primary colors and classrooms were heard reading *One Fish, Two Fish*. Wednesday's celebrations included students wearing as many different colors as they could, just like the book *My Many Colored Days*. Our third-through-fifth-graders became reading role models to students in TK through second grade by buddy-reading with them. Laughter filled the playground during Thursday's lunchtime *Green Eggs and Ham* relay races.

Parents were included in our reading celebrations.

On Friday, students and parents brought in homemade headbands based on the story *Daisy-Head Mayzie*. These headbands were adorned with things that represent the child and were worn as students were met by their parents for a "reading lunch". Together, parents and children enjoyed a balanced and nutritious lunch prepared by our very own Mokler Café. After lunch, parents brought books and were encouraged to read to their child before students headed back to class.

This fun week ended with a schoolwide announcement of the two classes who logged in the greatest number of minutes read during that week!



Paramount *Adult School / Community Day School*

14507 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8080 • <http://www.paramount.k12.ca.us/schools/adulted/index.html>



Jerry King
Principal

CDS Students Visit Nearby College

Paramount Community Day School students took a field trip to a nearby college at the end of February. It is the third time they have done so this year.

Their latest campus was Long Beach City College. Like the previous two trips, this one turned out to be a big hit. The students visited some of the medical field classrooms, which was especially

interesting to several who plan to continue their studies in sports medicine and medical assisting. Another student returned excited about the impressive culinary arts program at LBCC. He and other CDS students saw the lecture hall that opens onto a full-fledged industrial kitchen where the college students learn and do.

During the lectures the professor teaches about the equipment, demonstrates the techniques, and performs the techniques for the students. During the next class period the students switch over to the kitchen and perform the very tasks they have just learned. They even sell their finished products (like bakery goods, salads, and lunches) to the other LBCC

students and faculty. Our CDS student was excited that this program fits exactly into his career goal of working in a restaurant and perhaps also owning one someday.

It was easy to see the excitement on our students' faces, and hear it in their voices when they returned to our Paramount campus. They could envision themselves studying at a college like LBCC. They are all looking forward to the next trip!



Paramount Park *Middle School*

14608 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8052 • <http://p-park-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Kevin Longworth
Principal

Aquarium On Wheels

GATE students at Paramount Park Middle School received a visit from some very interesting and, well, very wet guests recently via Aquarium of the Pacific's "Aquarium on Wheels." Students experienced a close-up view of several marine species that inhabit our local coastlines. The really exciting part was the truly hands-on

experience, as the Aquarium on Wheels rolled in three live "touch pools." Following the guidelines of the Aquarium's staff, students got the chance to pet awesome sea creatures like sting rays, sea anemones, starfish, and (gasp) even a shark! Though several students had visited the Aquarium in Long Beach before, this personalized visit felt extra special. Another benefit was that with the Aquarium's knowledgeable staff, the students got to ask tons of questions. Best of all, they got to go through the exhibit twice!



Paramount High School - Senior Campus

14429 S. Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-6067 • <http://phs-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com>



Dr. Greg Buckner
Principal

Soccer Champions

The Paramount High School varsity boys soccer team captured another San Gabriel Valley League championship this season, marking the 14th championship



in school history! The Pirates fought their way through the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section (CIFSS) Division 1 playoffs, made it all the way to the semi-finals, and then advanced to the elite regional playoff competition. Seniors Chris Perez and Miguel Martinez and juniors Bryan Duarte, Oscar Sierra, Rafael Yenez and Jonathan Serrano were named First-Team All-League Players. Senior Jesus Salazar was named the league's Most Valuable Player.

Paramount senior Anthony Yanez plays on the Paramount varsity boys soccer team and on a Special Olympics soccer team coached by his parents. Yanez also played in the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) VIP program, a league for athletes with disabilities. Rafael

Villaseñor, Paramount's head coach, stated, "When he [Anthony Yanez] told me he wanted to play soccer a year ago, I knew we had to make it happen. He's such an important part of this team. He reminds our players that we're all different, but we're all equal."

Both Yanez and Chavez served as honorary team captains for the championship game.

Outside of Coach Villaseñor's classroom door, it reads, "Pride, Honor and Success." It is clear to see that he has empowered his team to take pride in their work both in and out of the classroom. The team, which Villaseñor calls a family, understands that the honor and respect they have earned comes with sacrifice and sincere respect for each other and their opponents.

It is no wonder the Paramount boys soccer team has experienced great success under the mentorship of 1994 Paramount graduate Rafael Villaseñor, who truly understands the phrase "Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!"

Paramount High School - West Campus

14708 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8073 • <http://phs-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/WestCampus>



Elizabeth Salcido
Principal

Day of the Scholar

On February 23, 2017, Paramount High School West Campus held its annual Day of the Scholar to recognize students who earned a 3.0 or higher grade point average for first semester. Over 500 students celebrated their accomplishments on the field with a day filled with fun celebrating with fellow pirates. Our Pirate Scholars had an extended lunch to hang out, listen to music, and check

out the planned activities. Students enjoyed a delicious lunch that included pizza, dessert, and drinks. Our Pirate Scholars had a great time playing a variety of games such as balloon popping contest, football, and basketball in addition to new favorites like human foosball, billiards, and photo booth. Students were given a Pirate Scholar t-shirt with our motto "Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate." Congratulations on your achievement during first semester Pirate Scholars!



Roosevelt *Elementary*

13451 Merkel Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8056 • <http://roosevelt-push-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Susan Marilley
Principal

Science is Alive and Well

Promoting opportunities for student and parent involvement with the sciences is a focus at Roosevelt School.

On Friday, February 3, the school hosted the second “Family STEM Night” from 5–7 p.m. in the school MPR. Teachers, parents, students, and support team members designed the space to accommodate over 25 STEM activities, including Pom Pom Drop,

Balloon Balance, and Engineering Challenge. Guests could choose which activity stations they wished to visit, and all activities were hands-on. Students and parents were encouraged to work together as teams and to use their critical thinking skills.

The Student Council and PTA sold refreshments and provided invaluable support, thus ensuring that a terrific evening was enjoyed by the participants.

Science was the focus again in March when the consultant group S.T.A.R. Inc. facilitated a “Family Science Night” at Roosevelt School called “Faces of Innovation”. Parents and students worked side-by-side as they took part in science challenges while also learning about some of history’s most exciting moments of innovation, including



flight, design, and computer technology.

On April 6, the focus of another Family Science Night will be on “Masters of the Past.” Participants will journey back in time to explore some of the most influential masters from the past. Students and parents will participate in hands-on labs that explore these masters’ contributions and their greatest experiments.

Events such as Family STEM Night and Family Science Night are much more than just fun and educational occasions. They bring our school together and provide our families with the opportunity to become more involved in the life of the school. This is essential to the development of a strong school culture.

Zamboni *Middle School*

15733 Orange Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8048 • <https://zamboni-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Sue Saikaly
Principal

Homework Club

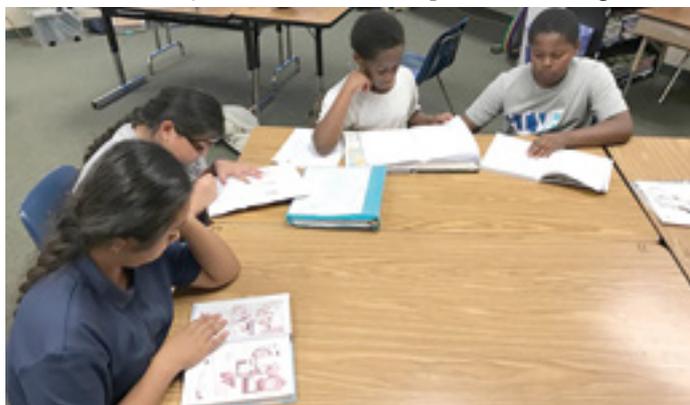
Early this year, the sixth-grade team at Zamboni Middle School took a positive, proactive approach to academic improvement by providing a quiet, relaxing atmosphere for students to work after school. They formed the Homework Club, where students can work on projects, complete homework, study for tests, or simply read.

Hosted by Ms. Aldridge, Ms. Bowman, and Mrs. McCone Praytor and supported by eighth-grade student-tutors, the Homework Club provides sixth-graders

with an opportunity to enjoy a snack provided by Zamboni’s student council and engage in completing their work individually or in a group setting.

“I love Homework Club!” said Sunny. “It’s fun doing homework with my friends. And if I need help, I can get it,” shared Kenyea. And Accelerated Reader Award winner Yaollin, added, “I like it because I can read after I finish my homework.”

Attendance is voluntary, though parental permission is required, and both parent and student responses have been absolutely favorable!



Tanner Elementary

7210 Rosecrans Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8060 • <https://tanner-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Holly Hennessy
Principal

PIQE comes to Tanner

PIQE also known as the Parent Institute for Quality Education is a program that is committed to advancing the education of today's children through parent engagement. Parents participate in a nine-week program that helps them

understand the collaboration between home, school and community, and shows them how what a child feels about themselves, makes a difference in their academic achievement. In addition, the classes promote academic standards that prepare a parent for school conferences, helps parents to understand the school system and lets them become familiar with college requirements.



This program is dedicated to creating a college-going culture and closing the achievement gap for all students. At the close of the nine-week sessions, those who made the full commitment will be treated to a beautiful school ceremony and presentation where they will receive their graduation certificates.

Wirtz Elementary

8535 Contreras St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8068 • <http://wirtz-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



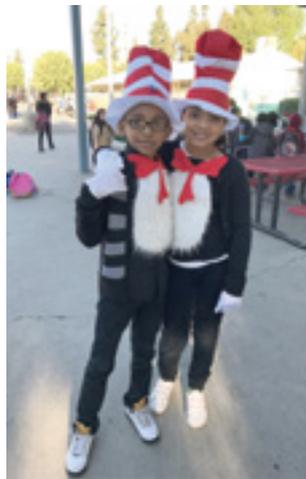
Connie Toscano
Principal

Birthday Celebrations

Wirtz's students spent a week learning about and celebrating the life of Theodor Seuss Geisel. He was an American writer, cartoonist, animator, book publisher and artist best known for authoring children's books under the pen name Dr. Seuss.

The weeklong celebration included a daily homage to Dr. Seuss's most famous books. The principal began each day by reading a passage from a Dr. Seuss book. The first teacher to call in with the correct title won the book for their class. The competition was fierce, as we have many Dr. Seuss experts on campus. The winners included Pre-K and TK—Judy Bruland's Class, *Marvin K. Moonie Will You Please Go Now*; kindergarten/first—Michelle Moreno's Class, *And To Think I Saw It On Mulberry Street*; second/third grade—Laura Valdez's Class, *The Sneetches*; fourth/fifth grade—May Eugenio's Class, *Thidwick The Big Hearted Moose*; and all grades—Jolayna Hodgson's Class, *The Cat In The Hat*.

Students also celebrated this event by having dress-up days based on Dr. Seuss books. The week began with Silly Sock Monday in honor of *Fox in Socks*. Next came Thing One and Thing Two Tuesday in celebration of *How Do You Do?* Wacky Hair Wednesday was in keeping with



Wacky Wednesday. Top Hat Thursday paid homage to *The Cat In The Hat*. The week ended with Red Fish, Blue Fish Friday to recognize the classic *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*.

The week of festivities ended with the support of the Leo Club from Paramount High School. Student volunteers along with their teacher, Joe Lopez, came to read Dr. Seuss classics to our first- and second-grade students. All students enjoyed this activity!

Students ended the week believing what Dr. Seuss famously wrote: "*You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself Any direction you choose. So, you're off to great places*

Today is your day Your mountain is waiting So get on your way."



Book Review by Abbas

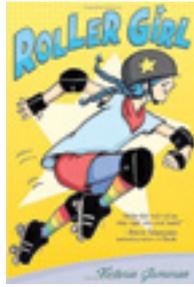
Amazing Graphic Novel



Abbas D.

Roller Girl is a graphic novel by Victoria Jamieson.

This book is about a girl named Astrid and her best friend Nicole. One day the girls go to a roller derby. Astrid later on begs her mom to go to roller derby camp and



her mother agrees by signing her up. Astrid is elated and hopes her best friend will sign up too. Nicole signs up for dance class instead. This turns her summer upside down. Astrid's nemesis Rachel is now friends with Astrid because they're taking the same dance class. Rachel is a mean girl who keeps pressuring Nicole to stop being friends with Astrid. How will Astrid survive the summer without Nicole? This book is an amazing novel because it made me feel like branching out and trying new things can lead to new friendships. This book is great for people who love graphic novels and skating. Will Astrid continue her roller derby fame? I rate this book 5 out of 5 smiley faces.

Abbas D. is a fifth grade student who enjoys cooking in his free time, swimming and loves roasted marshmallows. Abbas will rate the books 1 to 5 smiley faces with 5 being the best.

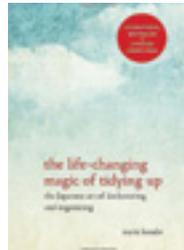
Lucy's Book Review

The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up



Lucy Davis

Author: Marie Kondo
Imagine a life that is simple and uncluttered. In wake of the ever-popular minimalist movement, I read a book that inspired me tremendously. This eye opening book explains



how to purge the unnecessary, and how it can affect your life. She covers every area of thought (and maybe more!) from how to decide what to keep, to understanding what it means to be a minimalist.

In just 224 pages, Marie explains how to take the first few steps in creating that lifestyle.

We live in a world with too much stuff. You only need what makes you happy, like Marie often says. It's time to start living clean, my friends!

I really loved this book, because it explains one of the simplest things in life: how to live simply. With five out of five bookworms, you should really give it a read.

Lucy is a fifth grade student that enjoys theater, playing guitar and singing. She's a Harry Potter fanatic and hopes to one day publish a series of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.

Alana's BookReview

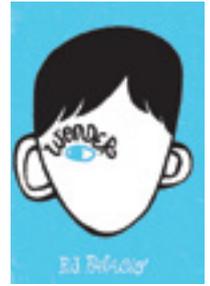
Wonder



Alana F.

By: Raquel J. Palacio

At first, the Pullman family doesn't seem that different. Two kids, mom, dad, drama, fights, Star Wars infatuations- what could be different? The answer is simple- Auggie. August Pullman is the



younger of the Pullman children. Since he was born, Auggie has been different- to put it simply, his face doesn't look "normal". Auggie knows this- in fact, he's known it from a young age. But when Auggie is sent to school with other kids for the first time, will any innocence he has be shattered? Will he only witness from his peers evil and rejection, or will he receive the acceptance he deserves?

I'd give this book five stars because it really speaks to people nowadays. This book is sure to tug at your heartstrings more than a few times, and can teach anyone a thing or two about loving others no matter what

Alana is a student columnist. When she doesn't have a book in her hands, she enjoys playing video games and writing fiction. She rates books on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest.

Book Review By Katrina

A Gripping Crime Novel



Katrina D.

The Naturals by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

is a book about a team of teenagers brought together because of their unique talents. But unlike other books, their talents aren't supernatural. Talents like profiling just by looking at someone, being a human lie detector and managing to



remember stats just to name a few came naturally. Now, this team of teens must solve cold cases that not even the finest CIA members could. Even with an unknown murderer on the loose. This book is filled with snarky comments, obsessive mystery and a writing style that cannot be matched. Honestly I couldn't stop reading this book until the very end, hungry to learn the murderer's identity. The characters are developed, the plot moves at a perfect speed and you find yourself holding your breath with every page. If you're looking from a gripping crime novel, then this is for you! I rate this book 5 out of 5 medals.

Katrina is a ninth grader who loves reading books as much as writing her own stories and enjoys watching anime. Katrina hopes to be an author one day very soon. Katrina will rate the books from 1 to 5 medals with 5 being the best.

Contest!

This student is in a picture in this publication. When you find him, email the page number to:



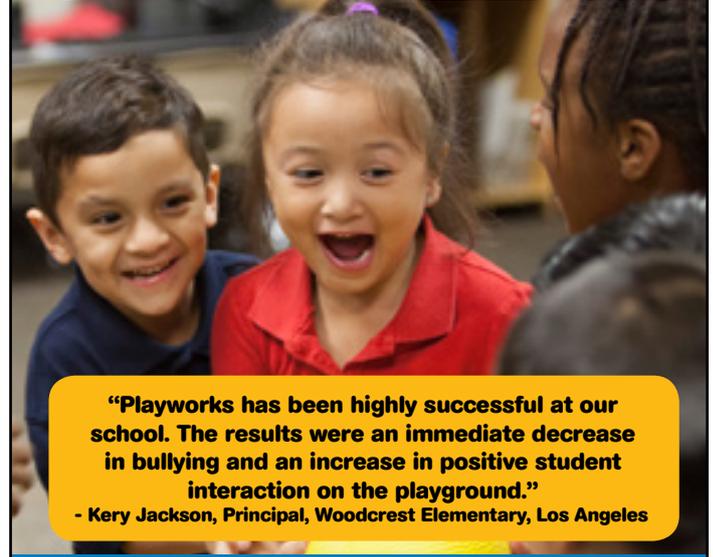
Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
Please put Paramount in the subject line

Your entry must be received by April 15, 2017
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Congratulations to Carla Chavez
winner of our February contest.



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- Kery Jackson, Principal, Woodcrest Elementary, Los Angeles

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ANATOMY OF A DOMINO'S SMART SLICE

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- 33% less fat and 50% less sodium than our traditional pepperoni
- CN labeled

Lean Protein and Vegetables

- We also offer turkey pepperoni and a wide variety of meats, veggies, cheeses and other pizza toppings in our stores. This allows endless customization to meet the needs of your students taste buds.

The Domino's Smart Slice line includes many delicious flavors! Rotate them in your pizza menu to drive excitement in your program. Holidays, Spirit Days or just any old Friday are the perfect occasion to give students a taste of something new and start a lunchroom buzz!



SAUCE

Reduced Sodium Pizza Sauce

- 35% less sodium

CRUST

Domino's Smart Slice Whole Grain Rich Dough

- 51% white whole-wheat flour
- Up to 4 grams of fiber plus vitamins A, E, magnesium and iron

CHEESE

100% Real Lite Mozzarella Cheese

- 1/2 the fat of our traditional pizza cheese
- Reduced the sodium by 100mg compared to standard Lite Mozzarella
- A good source of protein and calcium

TOPPINGS

Pepperoni - Reduced Fat
Reduced Sodium

Recipes available to meet both main line and à la carte meal pattern regulations.

The
REASONS TO SWITCH
your
COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN
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A.

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Just for switching, get a little help building up your higher education nest egg.

Balance amount	Bonus
\$10,000 – \$20,000	\$100
\$20,001 – \$30,000	\$200
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\$40,001 – \$50,000	\$400
\$50,001 +	\$500

B.

Get a highly-rated plan.

With ScholarShare, you get a 529 college savings plan that is highly-rated by Morningstar—scoring five out of five across its rating pillars.*

C.

Get a broad array of investment choices.

Choose from 19 investment portfolios, including low-priced age-based portfolios that become more conservative over time.

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*ScholarShare has received a Silver rating from Morningstar, making it one of the best-rated plans in the nation. In an annual review (10/25/2016) of the largest 529 college savings plans (63 total), Morningstar identified 33 plans that rose above their typical peers, awarding those plans Gold, Silver, and Bronze Morningstar Analyst Ratings for 2016. These forward-looking, qualitative ratings signal Morningstar's conviction in the plans' abilities to outperform their relevant benchmark and peer groups on a risk-adjusted basis over the long term. Morningstar evaluates college savings plans based on five key pillars — Process, Performance, People, Parent, and Price. For more information about Morningstar's overview of ScholarShare, go to 529.morningstar.com. Past performance does not predict future results. Source: 529.morningstar.com



Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the ScholarShare College Savings Plan. Visit ScholarShare.com for a Plan Disclosure Booklet containing this and other information. Read it carefully. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed, and there is a risk of investment loss. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., Plan Manager. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, member FINRA, distributor and underwriter for ScholarShare College Savings Plan. Taxpayers should seek advice from an independent tax advisor based on their own particular circumstances. Non-qualified withdrawals may be subject to federal and state taxes and the additional federal 10% tax. Non-qualified withdrawals may also be subject to an additional 2.5% California tax on earnings. Before investing in a 529 plan, consider whether the state where you or your Beneficiary resides has a 529 plan that offers favorable state tax benefits that are available if you invest in that state's 529 plan. Neither TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., nor its affiliates, are responsible for the content found on any external website links referenced herein. 108476 0175CH028_032817