

FREE

School News



Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Paramount Unified School District

Volume 3, Issue 9

November 2018–April 2019

Enhancing Learning Through Technology



Board of Education



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Dear Paramount Unified School District Families and Friends,

We have completed the first month of the new school year and I am already impressed by the focus and commitment displayed by our students and staff.

Paramount Unified School District (PUSD) has enjoyed a strong attendance record thus far, which speaks to the engagement of the entire community. I want to thank the parents and guardians in the District who have made the education of our children a top priority. Let's continue to ensure we give PUSD students the best opportunity to reach success in college and career by maintaining their attendance in the classroom.

Our new Odyssey STEM Academy has begun to take shape as students experience the endless possibilities of science and technology. Our scholars have enjoyed exploring their creativity through interactive lab sessions that include 3D modeling software and laser-cutting. I would like to thank our Odyssey partners: Big Picture Learning, AltSchool and NuVu Studio for helping us inspire our students with 21st Century instruction.

Speaking of technology, we are continuing to deliver new Google Chromebook laptops to our school sites. This year, we are providing all eighth-graders, juniors and Buena Vista High School students with new Google Chromebook laptops as we move closer to supplying each of our students in grades 3-12 with an electronic device by 2020.

I am also pleased to announce that our Adult School is launching a Cosmetology program that will serve as a partnership with Compton College. The program will allow students to receive college credit toward Compton's program. It is these kinds of real-world programs that prepare our students to achieve great things long after they leave the District.

Additionally, the District has embarked in a year-long indoor testing process to assure the best indoor air quality in our classrooms.

Three waves of indoor air testing have been completed, with the latest round of testing done in partnership with the LA County Department of Public Health. The results of Hexavalent Chromium (Cr 6) from the first two waves of testing conducted at various schools are as follows:

*No airborne Hexavalent Chromium (Cr6) was detected inside any of the classrooms during the days of sampling.

The reports state:

Based on the data collected to date, observations and measurements, in terms of potential exposure to Cr(6), the classrooms are safe to occupy and for continuous use with the air handler in operation during all periods of occupancy.



Dr. Ruth Pérez
Superintendent

Estimadas familias y amigos del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Paramount,

Hemos completado el primer mes del nuevo año escolar y ya estoy impresionada con el compromiso que muestran nuestros estudiantes y nuestro personal.

Hasta el momento, el Distrito Escolar de Paramount ha experimentado un récord sólido de asistencia escolar, lo que muestra el compromiso de toda la comunidad. Quiero agradecer a los padres y tutores, quienes han hecho de la educación de sus hijos una prioridad. Continuaremos asegurándonos de brindar a los estudiantes de PUSD la mejor oportunidad para lograr el éxito en la universidad y en sus carreras profesionales, al mantener una buena asistencia escolar en nuestros planteles.

Nuestra nueva Academia STEM Odyssey ha comenzado a tomar forma, a medida que los estudiantes experimentan las infinitas posibilidades de ciencia y tecnología. Nuestros alumnos han disfrutado al explorar su creatividad mediante sesiones interactivas que incluyen software de modelos 3D y de cortes con rayos láser. Aprovecho para agradecer a nuestros socios de Odyssey: Big Picture Learning, AltSchool y NuVu Studio por ayudarnos a inspirar a nuestros alumnos con instrucción del Siglo XXI.

Y hablando de tecnología, aún estamos entregando los nuevos dispositivos Google Chromebook a nuestras escuelas. Este año, los Chromebooks están siendo proporcionados a todos los alumnos de octavo y onceavo grado y a todos los alumnos de Buena Vista, a medida que nos acercamos a la meta de proporcionar a cada uno de nuestros estudiantes de 3° a 12° grado con un dispositivo electrónico para el año 2020.

Me complace también en anunciar que la Escuela de Adultos está lanzando un Programa de Cosmetología que servirá a los estudiantes en conjunto con el Colegio Comunitario de Compton. Este programa dará a los estudiantes la oportunidad de recibir créditos para el colegio. Son programas como este de la vida real, que preparan a nuestros estudiantes para grandes logros, incluso después que salen del Distrito.

Además, el Distrito se ha embarcado en un proceso de pruebas con duración de un año, para garantizar la calidad del aire en el interior de nuestras aulas.

Al momento, se han completado tres rondas de pruebas del aire interior, y la última ronda se realizó en colaboración con el Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles. Los resultados de cromo hexavalente (Cr 6) de las pruebas realizadas en varias escuelas son los siguientes:

*No se detectó cromo hexavalente (Cr6) en ninguna de las aulas durante los días en que las muestras fueron tomadas.

See **SUPERINTENDENT** • Page 6

School News



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Covering the

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Welcome back to another school year. By now the students are settled into their routines and focused on academics.

This is our third year publishing the excellence from the Paramount Unified School District. There are many changes throughout the years with one constant being dedicated educators.



As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving I'd like to thank our service men and women in the armed forces for their service.

Or next issue is May 8, 2019.



Attention Paramount Unified School District Class of 2019!

ENROLLMENT FEES PAID FOR ONE YEAR!

Enrollment fees for the first year will be paid for eligible full-time students who enroll in the **COMPTON COLLEGE PROMISE PROGRAM**.

To be eligible, Paramount Unified School District high school students must complete the Steps to Enrollment and complete a Compton College Promise application by **April 30, 2019**.

COMPTON COLLEGE PROMISE students receive priority registration, a Financial Fit Plan, access to Summer Bridge classes, and additional support to connect with student success programs and services.

For more information, go online:

www.compton.edu/student/comptonpromise



Early Childhood Education Program

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



Dr. Elida Garcia
Director

Preschool's New Progress System

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program is implementing a new way to track children's developmental progress and to communicate more effectively with parents. The preschool teachers participated in training for use of the Learning Genie Program which electronically documents children's work and student observations to monitor their learning. In the past, the teachers kept the documentation in portfolio binders. Now the documentation will be web-based with easier access and monitoring. The teachers will use the information to tailor classroom lessons and provide individualized support to students. With the Learning Genie Program, the teachers will be able to share evidence of student learning with parents on a consistent basis. Preschool parents will be able to sign up for updates using the Learning Genie app. The preschool staff and parents are excited about this new way of communication and progress monitoring.

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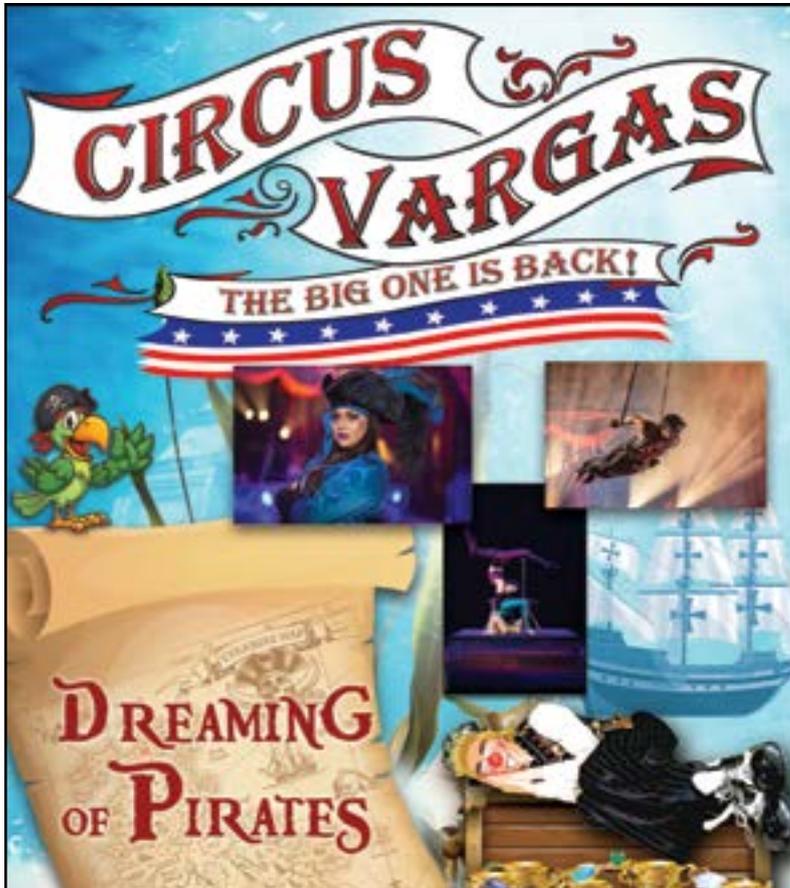
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Alondra *Middle School*

16200 S. Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8004 • alondra.pusdschools.net



Carolynn Butler
Principal

Student Leadership is alive at Alondra!

Alondra Middle School is excited to bring The Boomerang Project's WEB Program to help transition sixth graders into their first year of middle school. WEB stands for Where Everybody Belongs, and our leaders, who applied and were selected for the program, truly embody this idea. Fifty leaders came to campus for two days before school started

for training, and leaders welcomed the 6th grade class to campus on Orientation Day in August. Carmen Rodriguez, a WEB Leader said, "I like being a WEB Leader because I get to help kids get accustomed to school and show them they have a friend." Vanessa Pena, another WEB Leader, added, "I get to inspire other kids." The future of student leadership is looking strong at Alondra!



WEB Leaders smile after leading Orientation Day!

Buena Vista *High School*

3717 Michelson St., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/602-8090 • bv.pusdschools.net



Morrie Kosareff
Principal

Soaring Into The New School Year!

Strive, Organize, Attend and Respect are Buena Vista's Guidelines for Success. Buena Vista is a second chance for many students. Our guidelines allow them to SOAR as Eagles, through high school and beyond to success in college and career.

We start each semester with a series of mini-lessons designed for students to reflect on each guideline and determine how they can implement it in their life. Each guideline was taught for a week. Each week started with a video that starred BV students which taught the 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 shared times in their lives where they faced a difficult challenge and had to recover through hard work. During 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 waste time. During attend week, we asked student to examine how their attendance affects their grades using their report cards. We held class discussions about the importance of attending not only physically but mentally. During respect week, we discussed the ways we respect ourselves, others, the learning environment, and our future. Students participate in an activity that modeled how a person's respect or disrespect ripples through a community. Finally, students identified one commitment they would each make to create a respectful classroom, and these commitments were linked in a chain to show how strong we can become when we respect one another.

Our Guidelines for Success allow for a strong start to each semester. Continuing through the semester we will recognize students that exemplify these guidelines, and will continue using them to support our students.

Collins *Elementary*

6125 Coke Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/602-8008 • collins.pusdschools.net



Theresa Diaz
Principal

Colts are Kind!

Every day at Collins School you will hear, "Colts are kind. Colts are safe. Colts are scholars. And, Colts are winners." This is what we believe, and it is our school mantra. Last year we were awarded the prestigious California School Board Association's Golden Bell Award for our school-wide Safe & Civil programs that highlight safe practices and procedures at Collins School. This year we will continue these practices by developing kindness and character with our new Character First Education program and the Safe & Civil Bully Blocker program.

Our Character First Education program highlights a character trait every month. This program, headed by our counselor, Ms. Ketelsleger, engages our students in activities that are promoted in the classroom, during library time and

at our Monday Morning Assemblies every week. We honor two students from each classroom every month with awards that exemplify the character of the month.

Another way that Collins School is showing that Colts are kind is with our new Safe & Civil Bully Blocker program. This program teaches staff members how to combat bullying, student bystanders to stop the cycle of bullying, targets how to respond to bullying, and student bullies to manage aggression. To support this program, we will hold the Be a H.E.R.O. Assembly on October 15th. This proactive assembly teaches our students how to be a H.E.R.O. by Helping, Encouraging, and Respecting Others.

It is our hope here at Collins School to live up to our mantra every day by being kind, being safe and being scholars so that we can be winners. We strive to promote kindness with our students and are looking forward to developing our students' characters and ending bullying here and in our community. Colts are kind!

Gaines *Elementary*

7340 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8012 • gaines.pusdschools.net



Michael Naruko
Principal

Welcome Back

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year. My name is Michael Naruko. As principal of Wesley Gaines Elementary School, I would like to share some of the great things that are happening at our school. We kicked off the year with our Back to School Night held on September 13. Families visited classrooms to meet teachers and to learn about ways to support their child's learning. During

Back to School Night, our PTA volunteers were busy with their annual membership drive and selling food and school t-shirts. Mrs. Sandra Huerta, Gaines' PTA President shared that parents were eager to join PTA and begin volunteering.

At Wesley Gaines, we take great pride in teaching children the academic and social skills necessary for life-long success. Gaines teachers continually attend

professional development sessions and collaboration meetings to develop engaging and rigorous lessons. Additionally, all staff members teach our students positive behaviors and attitudes through our district-wide Safe and Civil program. Every child at Gaines knows how to learn and play respectfully in a safe environment.

Lastly, we believe that the success of our students is greatly enhanced through a strong partnership with the families that we serve. In order to build this partnership, we conduct several parent meetings focusing on a variety of topics that promote positive family life and help children learn. This year, we are pleased to announce a second session of the Latino Family Literacy Project to promote literacy in the home.

By working together as a team, every child will be equipped with the tools to thrive and collaborate in a diverse and ever-changing society.

SUPERINTENDENT • *From Page 2*

We invite you to visit our air quality website at: <http://bit.ly/PUSDenvironment>

We are very pleased with the results and will continue to monitor the air quality in Paramount Unified School District classrooms.

We are off to a fantastic start to the school year! Let's continue to work together to educate and inspire our students to become future leaders.

Los reportes indican:

- Según los datos recopilados hasta la fecha, las observaciones y mediciones, en términos de exposición potencial al Cr (6), las aulas son seguras para uso continuo con el controlador de aire en funcionamiento durante todos los periodos que estén ocupados.
- Los invitamos a visitar el sitio de internet sobre la calidad del aire en:
- <http://bit.ly/PUSDenvironment>

Estamos muy satisfechos con los resultados y continuaremos observando la calidad del aire en las aulas del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Paramount. ¡Hemos tenido un comienzo fantástico éste año escolar! Continuemos trabajando juntos para educar e inspirar a nuestros estudiantes a convertirse en futuros líderes.

Hollydale *K-8*

5511 Century Blvd., South Gate, CA 90280
562/602-8016 • hollydale.pusdschools.net



Lisa Nunley-Macon
Principal

Project Lead the Way is Buzzing

Hollydale School is excited about expanding our Project Lead the Way program with the addition of new classes and a new teacher. Students at Hollydale are finding the class to be unlike any other they have taken before. Saray Ureña said, “I love that we are learning about ourselves in a medical sense. It was interesting to learn about our body and how it reacts when we exercise.”



The program promotes engagement and illuminates possibilities for their future. At a time when students are figuring out what they are passionate about, they can begin making connections to how these interests relate to who they'll become. As students engage in activities in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, they begin to see a variety of pathways and possibilities for their future.

Jackson *Middle School*

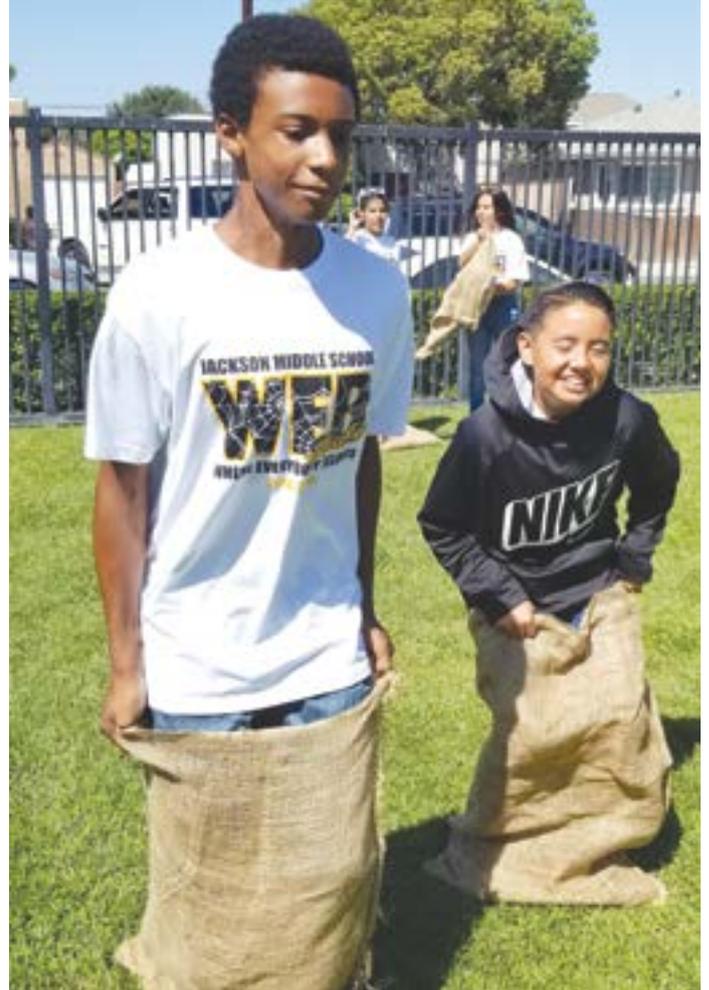
7220 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723
562/602-8020 • jackson.pusdschools.net



Kelly Anderson
Principal

Everyone Belongs!

This year, Jackson Middle School has implemented the WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) program to support their ongoing community-building initiative. Over the summer, 8th grade students were nominated and selected to become WEB leaders for the 2018-2019 school year, serving as campus guides and mentors.



In early September, our WEB team coordinated a Welcome Back event for all 6th grade Knights. Over the course of three days, these students participated in a variety of team-building activities, including relay races and other activities. Led by their 8th grade WEB mentors, the 6th graders enjoyed meeting new peers and building friendships. WEB Advisors, Ms. Ribitzki and Ms. Duran, commended the 8th grade leaders, “They have really embraced their leadership roles and are working hard to assist our younger students in feeling connected to the Jackson campus.”

Jefferson *Elementary*

8600 Jefferson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8024 • jefferson.pusdschools.net



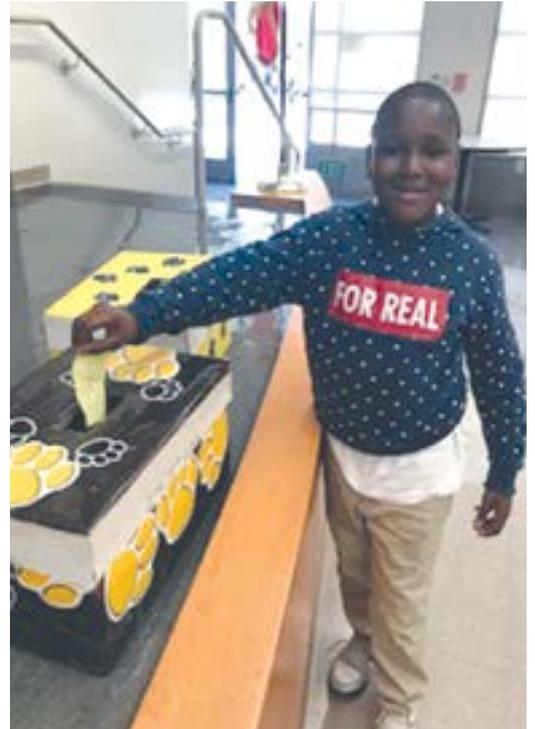
Kelly Williams
Principal

Jaguars Use Their PAWS

The 2018-2019 school year is off to a great start for Jefferson Elementary School. Our Jaguars are ready for the year ahead by using their PAWS.

Being Polite,
Acting responsibly,

Working together, and Striving for Success is represented everyday across the campus. One way students are encouraged to use their PAWS is to work jobs on campus. Jobs range from stacking trays, handing out restroom passes or being a valet helper in the drop off lane. Students earn Jefferson Dollars when working jobs. Dollars are placed in a raffle box specific for their grade level and students eagerly await



their name to be called Monday mornings for a chance to visit our student store. PTA helps keep the Jefferson store stocked with many items so students are able to pick one item of their choice.

Keppel *Elementary*

6630 Mark Keppel St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8028 • keppel.pusdschools.net



Darren Platt
Principal

The Power of Parents

Student learning doesn't just happen inside the school walls. Students learn everywhere and at all times. We also know that guiding student learning takes training and coaching. Professional development for our teachers happens continuously throughout the year. Now, we are reaching out to help develop the skills of our parents so that all groups of our Keppel family are growing as learners.

Keppel Elementary, and many other Paramount Unified Schools, have partnered with PIQE (Parent Institute for Quality Education) to help guide our parent "professional development." PIQE's programs engage, empower, and inspire parents to actively participate in their children's education and strengthen parent-school collaboration in order to improve the academic success of students. Parents and educators collaborate together to help transform a student's educational environment both at home and at school. PIQE is built on the belief that parents are a child's first teacher and schools cannot do it alone.

Throughout this nine-week workshop, PIQE's aim is to educate, empower, and inspire parents to take an active role in encouraging and enabling their children to accomplish four specific goals:

- Stay in school
- Improve academic performance
- Develop healthy and constructive relationships with parents, teachers, and counselors
- Focus and prepare for a post-secondary education.

PIQE understands the barriers to family engagement. Many of our families have limited English, basic educational experiences and demanding work schedules, as a result, are not well-equipped to effectively participate in their child's schooling. PIQE provides in-depth parent trainings that help raise awareness about what is happening in their child's school and gives tips helping move parents from awareness to action.

Once parents understand how to be engaged, how to ask questions, how to advocate for their children's rights to ensure they get a high-quality education, they move into action.

Lincoln *Elementary*

15324 S. California Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8036 • lincoln.pusdschools.net



Dr. Topekia Jones
Principal

New PRIDE Ambassadors

This year Lincoln School created a new leadership opportunity for students to become PRIDE ambassadors to represent the interest of the school in the areas of promoting positive interactions and student advocacy.

Students were identified as candidates for the program based on their leadership potential and/or public speaking ability. The ambassadors are charged with protecting

and promoting the PRIDE Guidelines for Success: Positive Attitude, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Enthusiasm. Their duties will include welcoming new students to the school, speaking at the monthly PRIDE breakfast, leading the PRIDE chant at the weekly general assembly, representing the interest of students to administration, and supporting school events.

We are looking forward to this new adventure at Lincoln School, where we are striving to teach students the leadership and collaborative skills that will prepare them for future success.



Los Cerritos *Elementary*

14626 Gundry Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8040 • loscerritos.pusdschools.net



Hilda Verdugo
Principal

Off to College

Los Cerritos is empowering, educating, and developing our future leaders. This past summer our 5th grade teachers, academic coaches, counselor and principal attended the AVID Summer Institute in San Diego, California. AVID is a college and career readiness program designed to help students learn about organizational skills, note-taking strategies, and collaboration.

School wide, Los Cerritos has established a college-going culture. Each TK through 5th grade class has adopted a college/university to represent. In addition, every Thursday teachers and students are encouraged to wear college gear. Specifically, in our 5th grade classrooms, teachers are using WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading) strategies to ensure college readiness and improved academic performance for all students.

Los Cerritos' mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college and career readiness in order to be successful in a global society.



Mokler *Elementary*

8571 E. Flower St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8044 • mokler.pusdschools.net



Linh Roberts
Principal

AVID Elementary

We are AVID. This past summer, a team of dedicated staff attended training to learn about strategies, skills and tools to support our 5th graders.

AVID is a college and career readiness program designed to help students learn organizational skills,

note-taking strategies, collaboration etc. Students were provided with tools to organize materials and thinking. Additionally, teachers use a variety of WICOR strategies to engage students in complex text and thinking.

AVID extends far beyond the classroom. Stakeholders share responsibility in maintaining the connection between school and home. Students must maintain their binders, write in their planner daily, and communicate learning with their parents. Teachers promote a college and career focused culture, teach

organization and higher-level thinking skills. Parents should check and sign binders daily. Together, we will reach AVID's mission to prepare students to be successful in a global society.



Odyssey *STEM Academy*

3701 Michelson Street, Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/602-8032 • odyssey.pusdschools.net



Keith Nuthall
Principal

Strong Mind, Strong Heart, Strong Will

Acting as bio-inspired engineers, scientists and designers, scholars at Odyssey STEM Academy, take cues from nature to enhance existing technologies and invent new ones.

Learning at Odyssey is hands on and the concept of bio-inspiration anchors the curriculum across disciplines during the first trimester. The challenge? Design a robot that emulates a movement in nature to traverse a difficult terrain.

Working in teams of two, scholars take a deep dive into the inner biological workings of unusual creatures, plants, and processes. There are no kits nor predesigned parts at Odyssey. Scholars brainstorm, research, design, and prototype their ideas quickly with hand sketches. They use cardboard, scissors, and glue to test their ideas and then progress to precise 3D planning using Rhino and Illustrator. Robot parts are created on 3D printers, laser cutters and CNC mills and electronics are programmed

using Arduino. During this process, scholars connect their learning across the disciplines to deepen their understanding and apply big ideas like empirical reasoning to their designs.

Scholars rotate through the Idea Lab twice a week in three-hour increments, immersing themselves in the studio learning model, borrowed from the architectural world. This intensive approach to project-work allows for deep, uninterrupted periods of work and is more conducive to the evolution of a learner's creativity.

"Our scholars are working with the very best tools and techniques taken straight from industry leading practices and top universities," reflects Aaron Laniosz, the NuVu Idea Lab leader and talented architectural designer. NuVu, Odyssey's partner, is an innovative school based out of MIT that specializes in developing creativity through integrated projects.

Learning at Odyssey is demanding requiring scholars to be at their best. Odyssey's commitment to flexible time and space, interest-based learning, and inclusive culture ensure access to all scholars every day.

Paramount *Adult School / Community Day School*

14507 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8080 • pas.pusdschools.net



Yvonne Rodriguez
Principal

Students Seeking U.S. Citizenship

One of the most rewarding experiences for an adult school staff is to see their students pass the U.S. Citizenship Test. Paramount Adult School offers two classes in citizenship; and this past year, had 16 students pass the examination.

The evening citizenship class has proven to be the most popular as many students must work full-time during the day and then come to class. There has been as many as

50 students enrolled in the evening class with extra chairs added on a weekly basis due to its popularity. According to teacher, Daniel Diaz, "Seeking U.S. citizenship can be a very intimidating process for the students. Sometimes at the beginning of the class, students are unable to read a

simple sentence." Diaz goes on to comment that by the end of the class students become confident in their learning.

Lucina Resendez, student, shared that Mr. Diaz is extremely helpful and prepares students to do well on the interview and the test. Resendez also stated, "I enrolled in the class because I wanted to become a citizen of the United States for my family, and so that I can vote." For both Diaz and students, the most rewarding part of the course is when students who have passed the citizenship test and interview come back and share their experience with the class. At that moment, Diaz states that the class becomes a community where individuals can share their hopes and dreams.

The road to becoming a U.S. citizen includes being a legal permanent resident for five continuous years, have a basic understanding of U.S. history and government, as well as have the ability to read, write, and speak in English.

Paramount Park *Middle School*

14608 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8052 • paramountpark.pusdschools.net



Kevin Longworth
Principal

ROARing in the New Year!

Paramount Park Middle School students and staff committed early to make this school year successful. Events took place

before school officially opened and during the first week of school, which fostered

healthy relationships and individual dedication to academic success.

Just before the first day of school, over 100 sixth graders made their middle school debut for a Sixth Grade Kickoff Celebration. The event is



Panther students take the AVID Pledge.

part of WEB – Where Everybody Belongs, which is being developed this year. Students had a great time experiencing team-building activities, meeting their teachers, and enjoying a pizza luncheon.

AVID students also gathered during the first week of school for an AVID Pledge Ceremony. Students and parents pledged their commitment to the AVID program. AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, provides students with the tools and skills they need in order to be ready for college upon graduation.



Team Building in action with the Paramount Park WEB Celebration

Paramount High School - Senior Campus

14429 S. Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-6067 • phs.pusdschools.net



Mike Ono
Principal

Pirates Earn Medals

This summer, five Paramount High School FCCLA club members were invited to compete in the National Leadership Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia. Maximillian Chau, Jaylene Prom, Tania Munguia, Luisa Robles and Giselle Rios led by their dedicated advisor, Ms. Aileen Tanimoto, competed against thousands of other qualifying FCCLA members. The

Pirates enjoyed interacting with fellow FCCLA members from across the nation and offered up their Paramount city pins to engage in the longtime tradition of pin trading.

Gold medal winners, Maximillian Chau and Giselle Rios, participated in a website development competition and presentation. Luisa Robles earned a silver medal as an environmental ambassador by presenting ideas on water conservation. Tania Munguia, delivered a passionate speech about goal setting to a panel of judges and won a gold medal. Jaylene Prom, competed by developing and implementing lesson plans to students at Wirtz elementary. Jaylene earned a gold medal based on the positive impact of her work. Way to go Pirates!



Luisa Robles (2018 graduate), Tania Munguia (2018 graduate), Giselle Rios (Sr), Maximillian Chau (senior) and Jaylene Prom (2018 graduate)



Paramount High School students interacting with Florida chapter FCCLA members

Paramount High School - West Campus

14708 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8073 • phswest.pusdschools.net



Elizabeth Salcido
Principal

Welcoming the Class of 2022

West Campus welcomed 1,059 ninth-grade students where Class of 2022 Pirate Crew will see it through! Our third annual Pirate PRIDE Day was held to connect our students to Paramount High School. After attending all six classes on a modified schedule, students were able to learn the Pirate Way. Our counselors promoted school

spirit by showing students Guidelines for Success. Our administrators shared our schoolwide expectations. ASB hosted students with treats, face painting, and music in the grassy quad.

Learning the Pirate way continued when our students received their Chromebooks beginning September 11. Students are able to use ClassLink to access Schoology for their assignments, grades, and collaboration with others. With the use of technology, Class of 2022 is preparing for college by developing 21st century skills. Way to go Pirates!



Roosevelt *Elementary*

13451 Merkel Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8056 • roosevelt.pusdschools.net



Margie Domino
Principal

Partners with ST Math

Here at Roosevelt, we are in our fifth year of implementing ST Math with our students. We started with our third and fourth grade students in the 2014 - 2015 school year. Over the next two years, the entire Roosevelt student body was able to join in the fun, visual learning ST Math has to offer!

ST Math has offered our students a way to develop their mathematical understandings through the use of playing games with JiJi, their penguin friend. It is a computer based program used throughout Paramount Unified to allow students to work through their math curriculum with the use of technology. It offers students a visual presentation of the math they are learning in class.

Now that the 2018 - 2019 year has begun, so has the

opportunity for Roosevelt's kindergarteners to have a chance to meet JiJi and learn their ST Math passwords! As the kindergarteners logged on for the first time on September 10, 2018, representatives from ST Math came to support our students as they logged in to play with JiJi.

The company that developed ST Math is currently working on a fifth generation version of the program. They are in the process of researching what they will do to improve upon the great work that ST Math already does. They wanted to see what a first time experience for our students was like as they research the adjustments they can make in how the JiJi games are played by students. The ST Math team was also able to see and work with some of our students in first, second and fifth grade.

It was a great day for our ST Math friends and Roosevelt students to work together towards a common goal and make math fun!

Tanner *Elementary*

7210 Rosecrans Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8060 • tanner.pusdschools.net



Holly Hennessy
Principal

Blasting Off Into a New Adventure!

Tanner Tigers are "Blasting Off into a New Adventure" as we focus on maintaining a safe and caring environment that is conducive to student success, high expectations and creating opportunity for parent and community partnerships.

We are also very proud to offer all 5th grade students the AVID program for the first time. AVID stands for Advancement via

Individual Determination and is designed to help close the achievement gap for all students, by helping them develop the skills they need for post high school education and success in the global society.

The program places special emphasis on higher order thinking skills, reading, writing, teamwork and organization. For our 5th grade students, AVID is a foundational component to College Readiness and we can't wait to see our student's accomplishments as the year unfolds.



Wirtz *Elementary*

8535 Contreras St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8068 • wirtz.pusdschools.net



Connie Toscano
Principal

Receiving Great Community Support

Wirtz Elementary school has been the beneficiary of great community support over the years. Both individuals and businesses have graciously made donations in support of our student body. This year is no exception!

In September, through the coordination of our fifth grade teacher, Mr. Erik Caruso,

we received a generous donation of 100 high performance backpacks for our fifth grade students from a local business. This company has also supported our past school-wide mural projects as well as our annual fifth grade Art Showcase.

This donation is greatly appreciated by all students and staff. It serves as a great example of how, as a community, we can work together to support our students and schools.



Zamboni *Middle School*

15733 Orange Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8048 • zamboni.pusdschools.net



Sue Saikaly
Principal

Making Connections from the Start

The 2018-2019 schoolyear is off to an amazing start at Zamboni! A multitude of exciting events have already taken place setting the foundation for students making connections to the Mighty Z!

Within the first three days of school, students participated in grade level assemblies to introduce and reinforce the opportunities available for students to be involved here at Zamboni and how each student can do their part to contribute to a positive Zamboni climate. Teachers supported with strong classroom management and clear expectation messages. Zamboni Guidelines for Success and the new WILDCAT Affirmation Pledge have been rolled out and are impacting the school environment in a very positive way.

Counselors have been making classroom presentations to educate all students in the areas of conflict resolution/restorative practices, social media etiquette, and understanding personal boundaries. In addition, they are

ensuring that students have the necessary “tools” to make the best choices possible for themselves, and to support their peers.

Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) leaders were out in full force on the first day of school connecting with, and helping their mentee sixth-graders have the most positive transition possible as they entered middle school. Peer-to-peer connections build as WEB leaders continue to mentor sixth grade students as opportunities arise. In addition to mentoring 6th grade students, WEB leaders will also be building relationships with 7th and other 8th graders as they support all students daily during after school study hall.

Outside of class, students and staff are making connections as they look forward to, and participate in, Fun Friday (lunchtime) activities. Student Council and WEB leaders are busy planning theme days and future activities designed to strengthen our Zamboni community.

Great things are happening at Zamboni Middle School!
WILDCATS BELIEVE! WILDCATS ACHIEVE!

Jammed Finger. Could It Be Serious?



**Anna Acosta
M.D.**

*pediatric hand
and upper
extremity surgeon,
Orthopedic Center,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach*

Your child just smashed their finger in the door. Or maybe they caught a ball the wrong way. Now their finger is swollen and painful to move. These could be signs of a jammed finger, a condition that occurs when the finger is bent back or compressed at the joint.

As our kids become more active in sports and activities, jammed fingers become more common. When a jammed finger occurs, it can stretch or even tear the tissues around the finger joint, which can cause a sprain. However, if the impact on the finger is great enough, it can cause tendon damage or a bone fracture. Although the bones in the hand are small, a broken (fractured) finger is not a minor injury.

Signs of a finger fracture include:

- Swelling
- Tenderness
- Bruising
- Difficulty moving the finger
- Deformity of the finger

If you see any of these signs in your child, it's important to seek medical treatment to prevent permanent damage. Untreated sprains and fractures in the hand can cause long-term stiffness, loss of motion and arthritis.

There are several treatment options for fractured fingers depending on the severity, including splinting, casting, surgery and rehabilitation.

To determine if your child's finger is fractured, they will need an x-ray. Because a child's bones are smaller and still growing, they will look very different than adult bones. It's important to find a children's hospital and pediatric specialists, such as a pediatric hand surgeons, who are experts in treating kids with conditions affecting the hand, wrist, arm and shoulder.



2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806
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Julia, 12, and Emma, 15,
Sisters and Miller Children's
& Women's Scoliosis Patients

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After a major growth spurt, Emma experienced severe back pain. Her pediatrician, shocked at the sudden onset of scoliosis, referred Emma to the Orthopedic Center at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach, where Dr. Torin Cunningham corrected her severe scoliosis with spinal fusion surgery. As a precaution, Emma's sister Julia, was immediately screened and diagnosed with less severe scoliosis. Today, Julia's scoliosis is managed with a back brace, and the sisters can be found serving up some tough competition.

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