

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Saddleback Valley Unified School District



Volume 2, Issue 6

February / March 2019

Glen Yermo Awarded Golden Bell



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Happy New Year!

I'm hoping all of our families, students, and staff had a joyous holiday season and were able to spend time with loved ones while also having the opportunity to relax and rejuvenate. Now that we are midway through the academic year, I've been reflecting on all the wonderful things SVUSD has accomplished since August, as well as the exciting adventures coming in

2019 as we continue our implementation of SV Innovates: a focus on intentional lesson design, engaging strategies, and the development of innovative practices, all to create successful students now and in the future.

In addition to SVUSD's wonderful neighborhood schools, this fall we opened Santiago STEAM Elementary Magnet School and Linda Vista International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program Magnet School. These two innovative schools offer additional choices for our students. The SVUSD Virtual Academy (SVA) has also been busy with the expansion from K-8 to K-12 this year. SVA supports students by providing a blend of online and face-to-face learning, resulting in a personalized online education experience, and an alternative to the traditional K-12 school setting. All three of these schools are open first to our SVUSD families through school choice.

One way to visit our magnet schools, SVA, and our fantastic neighborhood schools is through our new Showcase events that are now underway. In lieu of the traditional Open House this year, our schools are holding

Showcase evenings that highlight the programs at each individual school and give current parents and students an opportunity to see what has been happening in classrooms and around campus. The Showcases also give those families who are new to our district, or advancing to the next school level, a chance to see the amazing programs and activities that our school sites have to offer. Families may choose to visit one or more campuses and are encouraged to come and see what is unique about our SVUSD schools! In addition, schools are also holding guided campus tours on various dates. You may access a district-wide Showcase and tour schedule by visiting www.svUSD.org and accessing the "Resources" tab.

Another exciting opportunity for our families and students is the implementation of full day kindergarten across the district, beginning with the upcoming 2019-2020 school year! Full day kindergarten increases time for research-based instruction on both developmental and social skills, and has been an ongoing request from our parent community. We appreciate the collaboration with our teachers and value the partnership between SVUSD and the Saddleback Valley Educators Association that allowed for the creation of this opportunity.

We understand that our families have many choices in where they send their children to school, and we know that SVUSD is a top destination in Orange County. Our district vision of SV Innovates, and work in providing innovative choices speak to the commitment of our Board of Education, teachers, staff and administration to provide a superior education for all students.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Happy New Year!

By now you are used to writing 2019 and time marches on. Superintendent Dr. Turner's message above highlights the many reasons SVUSD is a district of choice.

Thank you for your nice comments when you email your contest entries. I am please so many children take time out from technology to put pencil to paper and enjoy the word search. (Of course, the contests are open to all ages including parents.) In this issue we have included several student book reviews beginning on page 22. Enjoy reading on your Spring Break!

Our next issue is April 3rd.

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www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

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Common Sense Media

What should I do if my kid is bullied online?



Finding out that your kid has been cyberbullied is emotional for parents. You or your kid might want to retaliate, but it's best to help your kid defuse the situation, protect himself, and make rational efforts to put a stop to the bullying. Here are the immediate steps we recommend for parents:

- Reassure your child that you love and support him or her.
- Help your child step away from the computer or device and take a break.
- If you can identify the bully, consider talking with the parents.
- Consider contacting your kid's school. If bullying is happening online, it might be happening offline, too.
- Empower your kid with specific steps he or she can take.

Common Sense Media is an independent nonprofit organization offering unbiased ratings and trusted advice to help families make smart media and technology choices. Check out our ratings and recommendations at www.commonsensemedia.org

MemorialCare Medical Group



**Matthew
Coulson, MD**
Pediatrics



Flu or Cold? We know what to do.

Between work and school schedules, you can't afford to get sick – and the flu or a severe cold can set you back days, if not weeks at a time! Your best hope is to avoid either sickness altogether if you can, so here are a few tips from MemorialCare to help:

- Get to bed early
- Drink lots of water
- Wash your hands regularly
- Disinfect surfaces in the house
- Limit contact with sick people

It is important to keep your children home from school if they contract the flu or a severe cold – at least 24 hours until the fever is gone. Your child's school will thank you for not bringing the illness into the classroom.

The best protection, however, is prevention. While there is no shot for the common cold, it is important for you and your kids to receive flu shots in order to avoid sickness during the winter months. Formulated to attack various strains of the flu, the flu shot is the best protection against illnesses during flu season. Most flu shots are free of charge and reduce your change of getting the flu by 60%. Don't let your child fall behind in school due to illness – get the flu shot today.



Leading physicians choose MemorialCare, shouldn't you?

When it comes to choosing your healthcare, sometimes it's hard to know what's best for you. Should you choose convenient care that's close to home or quality care with award-winning doctors? With MemorialCare, you get both.

Choose a doctor with MemorialCare Medical Group. We have leading hospitals, specialists and primary care providers, with more than 200 locations across the Southland, all dedicated to one purpose: **what's best for you.**

Now open in Laguna Hills!

memorialcare.org/medicalgroup



Educational Services

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234



Laura Ott
Assistant
Superintendent

New Prevention Curriculum

Signs of Suicide (SOS) is a prevention curriculum for students that was piloted during the 2017-2018 school year at intermediate schools. This year, 7th and 10th grade students are receiving the curriculum. SOS is based on the Acknowledge/Care/Tell (ACT) model as a way to help students increase help-seeking behaviors in their peers and themselves.

The curriculum is comprised of a 50-minute lesson in which students watch a video with student actors role-playing various scenarios and discussing topics related to depression, self-injury, and suicidal ideation/behavior. The facilitator engages students in discussions centered around recognizing signs and symptoms of depression, how to care for a friend in need, and identifying trusted adults at home and at school.

Students are asked to fill out a rating scale, which screens for signs of depression and/or suicidal thoughts/behaviors. Depending on their responses, they are called to speak with someone from the SOS aftercare team (school/mental health counselors and student services administrators) to assess risk level, develop coping strategies, and link the student and their family to resources.

This curriculum has proven beneficial to many students!

Human Resources

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234



Dr. Terry Stanfill
Assistant
Superintendent

Commitment for Our Students

Saddleback Valley Unified School District is made up of great staff members who service students in various communities throughout the district.

From the custodians who work so hard to ensure our schools are clean and safe, to the instructional aides who work with our special needs students, to our teaching staff who work the front lines of the classroom, to the administrative and classified staff working diligently to support teacher's needs and everyone else between; we are a unified district, committed to working tirelessly to give the very best on behalf of all students.

The latest example of this commitment is the implementation of Full Day Kindergarten for the 2019-2020 school year. Full Day Kindergarten will provide even more opportunities for our children in their first years to enhance our already exemplary program by giving them additional time to address the socio-emotional needs as well as the all-important developmental learning time necessary for students of that age. Full Day Kindergarten exemplifies Saddleback Valley Unified School District's commitment to students and their families.

Business Services

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234



Connie Cavanaugh
Assistant
Superintendent

Innovates Vision

The district has received one-time funding from the State for the last several years.

A three year plan has been developed to spend these one-time funds to support and enhance the learning environment. For the next three years, beginning in 2018-19, 103 classrooms district wide will receive new audio-visual equipment and flexible student furniture to provide spaces that support the District's SV Innovates vision. An annual application process is used to determine the classrooms receiving the upgrades.

Additionally, teachers with computers that were older than four years qualified for a replacement this fiscal year. 996 eligible laptops were deployed by December 2018. Planning for the next phase of eligible laptop replacements in 2019-20 will begin in May 2019.



English Learners

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234



Dr. Rowena Mak
Coordinator

Two-Way Immersion Preschool

The Two-Way Immersion (TWI) preschoolers performed before the Winter break for their parents. Señora Chávez, TWI preschool teacher, and Señora Galvéz, instructional assistant, led the group in several songs. Students sang the popular "Merry Christmas" ("Feliz Navidad") in English and Spanish and "Jingle Bells" ("Cascabel") in Spanish.



Santiago Elementary School's principal, Mr. Howard Johnson, also attended the performance. Santiago houses the TWI Preschool that serves families who are interested in educating their children to become bilingual and biliterate.

Cielo Vista *Elementary*

21811 Avenida de Los Fundadores, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/589-7456 • svusd.org/cielovista



Frances Hansell
Principal

AVID Mindset

Cielo Vista sent staff members, Julia Ibrahim, Trish Carter-Anderson, Dr. Fran Hansell, Anna Tosches and Becky Prickett to the AVID National Conference held in San Diego. The conference focused on Instruction, Systems, Leadership and Culture.

Information was shared regarding current AVID curriculum innovations and how these can move schools toward becoming AVID distinguished sites. Teachers looked at site biases with culturally relevant teaching. This information was shared with the staff as they examined their own viewpoints of the four domains pertaining to Cielo Vista.

Mrs. Tosches said, "I've grown as teacher" and "I have to make constant changes to

help Advancement Via Individual Determination for each student by understanding them and what makes them successful in their environment."

We are proud to have teachers with an AVID mindset at Cielo Vista who take pride in providing 21st century learning for all students.

Join us for our Showcase on March 27th.



Cordillera *Elementary*

25952 Cordillera Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-3400 • svusd.org/cordillera



Deborah Shaver
Principal

New Innovative Classroom Makeover

Cordillera Cougars are beyond excited about our new SV Innovates classrooms!

Mrs. MacLean and Mrs. Snyder were awarded the opportunity for an innovative classroom makeover. They received a large HD screen, projection and sound systems. Classrooms were also given a budget to order flexible seating and storage to create engaging and adaptable classroom spaces to fit the needs of the learning at hand. Students are better focused and engaged when they are comfortable in a room designed for learning. Mrs. MacLean's math students used furniture catalogs and budget sheets to design proposals for their classroom purchases.

In addition, other Cordillera classrooms are experimenting with flexible seating with low tables, standing desks, stools, yoga balls, etc. to give students



options for where they learn best. Flexible seating allows students to easily partner, work in small groups, or discuss as a whole class.

Please join us for our Showcase on April 24th.

De Portola *Elementary*

27031 Preciados Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-5830 • svusd.org/deportola



Brendon Morrow
Principal

Investing Talent

We are proud of the numerous opportunities students have to invest their talents in at our school.

The Patriot Kids News Team creates monthly videos highlighting our school's events, weekly Kindness Challenges, and other timely

news. DP's Student Council leads our Spirit Days and several fundraisers to support local organizations. Our Robotics program provides tech and STEM opportunities for our older students. Led by Mr. Tescher, collaboration and critical thinking opportunities abound in this program.

Our multiple gardens are legendary; not only do students have the opportunities to plant their own seeds, teachers often relate garden projects with NGSS standards and allow for hands-on learning in the area of botany, ecology, and environmental studies. The success, longevity, and sustainability of our gardens would not be possible without the generosity of our Garden Parents who volunteer numerous hours throughout every week to help; our students and teachers.



Del Cerro *Elementary*

24382 Regina St., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-5430 • svusd.org/delcerro



Kristin Thomsen
Principal

Carnival Raises \$811.62 for Charity

The students at Del Cerro Elementary School answered the call to service issued by their community heroes from the OC Sheriff's Department and OC Fire Authority. Nearly every hand shot in the air when the OC Fire captain asked students if they often hear adults say they are "too young," or "too little" to make a difference. This past month the students were mobilized as powerful

community leaders and proved to everyone that they are just the right age and size to change the world. Youth empowerment is the driving force behind the work of Team Kids, an Orange County-based non-profit organization that gave Del Cerro students the opportunity to partner with their local public safety officers on projects that benefit local causes.

Del Cerro students became Team Kids pioneers as they hosted the first pilot program, Team Kids Challenge and

Carnival, in the city of Mission Viejo. Our kindergarten through 6th graders spent an entire month serving as passionate advocates addressing the needs of pediatric cancer patients, the hungry, and abused animals. The students exceeded all three weekly goals presented by the Team Kids Challenge Program.

In addition to the school wide challenges, more than 50 fifth and sixth grade students volunteered their lunch recess to serve on the Team Kids Leadership Team. Students worked with their Team Kids' coach to plan their youth-created carnival games and host the celebration for the younger students. Students learned about teamwork, discussed their favorite charities, and then voted to determine which charity would serve as the beneficiary of the profits. This year, OC Animal Care Center received 100% of the funds students raised at their carnival.

Please join our Team Kids and families at our Showcase on March 20th.

Del Lago *Elementary*

27181 Entidad, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/855-1125 • svusd.org/dellago



Jennifer Televik
Principal

Meet the Green Team

Del Lago Elementary is honored to recognize its Green Team, a group of students and parents who lead recycling and other green initiatives at the school.

Every Friday, this group gathers, in their distinguishable green shirts, to collect cans and bottles from our families and the community. The students help to sort and bag the recycling, which is exchanged for funds that go directly to support our PTA



and student programs. The students also help with other green initiatives around campus, including collecting recycling from classrooms and helping with campus beautification.

Recently, the Green Team has begun to take on other roles in our community as well. The students made and sold crafts and special household items at a Green Holiday Boutique and participated in two community walks to help clean up trash along our local trails.

We are very proud of our Green Team superstars!

El Toro *High School*

25255 Toledo Way, Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/586-6333 • svusd.org/eths



Terri Gusiff
Principal

Science Mural

Mrs. Sieb, El Toro High School art teacher was inspired by ET senior Caroline Calvano's idea of creating murals throughout our campus. Mrs. Sieb commissioned some of ET's most talented art students to design and create thematic murals for each academic building.

Talented, Melise Naragon, a sophomore

planning to pursue a career in evolutionary biology and astrophysics, was excited to use her artistic skills and with the help of her talented peers, Shannon Hancock, Cas Harmon, Lily Laubach, Lea Petersen, Aiden Haywood, and Gillian Suter, they created a mural that celebrates the history of scientific discovery.

Together, they spent countless hours after school and in the summer designing and painting a mural that highlights the importance of a science education.



Esperanza *Special Education*

25121 Pradera Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-5470 • svusd.org/esperanza



Shelly Stewart
*Special Ed School
Site Specialist*

Eagle Accomplishments

Esperanza is ringing in the New Year with many new student accomplishments to celebrate!

One of our students is competing at the 3rd Level of the PTA Reflections Art Competition. Hailey S. drew a self-portrait in ink in the Special Artist category. She won our school's 1st place Award, our district's PTA 1st Place Award in her category and is now competing with over 400 other school's artists at the 3rd level of competition. We will

be celebrating this huge accomplishment at the Orange County Dept. of Education's 4th District PTA award event, January 26th.

Another highlight is our Reading Buddies with La Paz Intermediate. Jennifer Gibbs, La Paz English teacher, innovated this new program by pairing up volunteer readers from La Paz with students from Esperanza. Though literacy and increased interest in reading was the primary focus, friendships have quickly formed. Both schools look forward to this monthly visit!

Our students are also excited about a new volunteer site we've added to our work experience. Students from two of our classes are now working at the Murray Center. One class serves the seniors on Fridays with the Age Well program and the other class assists with organizing and dusting the front office and communal spaces.

We are very proud of the skills our students are acquiring and of the important volunteer work they are doing. Way to go, Eagles!

Foothill Ranch *Elementary*

1 Torino Dr., Foothill Ranch, CA 92610 • 949/470-4885 • svusd.org/foothillranch



Ed MacNevin
Principal

We Dig Gardening

The Foothill Ranch Garden Club has been busy making STEAM and NGSS connections while digging in the dirt. Working in the garden this fall and winter has been fun!

With about 30 kids from grades 1-5, we planted seasonal crops with an emphasis on the plant life cycle. We've also dealt with hungry rabbits, and a few other varmints and have exercised, as a group, our

problem-solving skill set to develop a way to keep our crops growing strong.

We have several compost bins and a big hit with the kids has been the vermiculture... worms! We are raising worms to use their casings and urine as natural fertilizers in the garden while studying the unique life cycle of these organisms! We journal and draw our observations to draw conclusions and make inferences about our hands-on experiences.

It is an adventure for us all!

Gates *Elementary*

23882 Landisview Ave., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/837-2260 • svusd.org/gates



Yvonne Estling
Principal

Inner Engineers

December and January at Gates Elementary have been all about channeling our inner engineers. Our Gators worked eagerly on designing and implementing projects to lead us into the future.

All 5th and 6th grade students diligently gathered scrap materials for the Maker's Cardboard Challenge. Collaborating with their peers, they created innovative design solutions using recycled materials. Utilizing the creativity of some students, and the pragmatic problem solving abilities of others, they developed some truly unique and useful inventions.

Our 3rd & 4th grade students were thrilled to create a Rube Goldberg Machine. Much thought was put into the design and building phase. Solving an everyday task in a multi-step, complex manner has been a thrill for all. Being a Two-Way Immersion program, our students did this all in Spanish!

If you are interested in learning more about our incredible program, we encourage you to attend an upcoming tour on February 13th, February 25th or March 13th at Gates starting at 9:00.

We also invite you to join us for our Showcases this spring. May 15th we will host parents for incoming Kindergarten through 2nd graders and incoming 3rd through 6th grade families are welcome to attend our May 22nd Showcase.

Glen Yermo *Elementary*

26400 Trabuco Rd., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-6766 • svusd.org/glenyermo



Michael Gomez
Principal

We Won the Golden Bell

Glen Yermo Elementary School won the prestigious California School Board Association (CSBA) Golden Bell! CSBA promotes excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and practices of school boards throughout California.

In 2018, 240 entries in 20 different categories were received. Experts from school districts and county offices of education across the state comprised the 17-member judging panel, and after site visits to verify effective implementation, selected 50 Golden Bell award winners.

Glen Yermo Elementary School was one of the Golden Bell Award winners in the category, "Closing the Achievement Gap with LCAP Implementation" for their Circle of Growth, a focused energy approach to school culture and change.

Our Circle of Growth program began with a data team process focused on academics, however, when combined with a Whole Child approach, the staff was able to move from the vision of educating the whole child to sustainable, collaborative action resulting in student success. We have found that nothing moves a school culture and its students forward more rapidly, more passionately, more successfully than coming together with talent, teamwork, drive, and the agreement of why... which for Glen Yermo is the whole child, keeping students at the heart of everything.

Glen Yermo is a special place, we welcome you to visit us on Monday, February 25 or March 11 at 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. for a special tour. Our first ever Showcase will be on Wednesday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you all there!

La Madera *Elementary*

25350 Serrano Rd., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/770-1415 • svusd.org/lamadera



Heather Ramsey
Principal

STEAM Learning Lab

We are proud to announce the opening of a new, innovative learning space at La Madera that supports our SV Innovates Vision.

It has been a goal to open a STEAM Learning Lab at La Madera, and this year we have seen that goal come to fruition!

Our innovative learning space has been named the Next Generation Learning Lab, and that coincides with our Next Generation Science Standards.

It is inspiring to spend time with teachers and their students in the Next Generation Learning Lab! The conversations that take place, as students problem solve together, are academically rich and demonstrate students' critical thinking and collaboration.

This wonderful learning space has been a combined effort between La Madera Teachers and our dedicated La Madera PTA. This invaluable partnership has allowed us to open a space for our students where innovation and engagement thrive!

Please join us at our Showcase May 1st.



La Paz *Intermediate*

25151 Pradera Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-1720 • svusd.org/lapaz



Jean Walker
Principal

Promoting Academic Literacy

La Paz is working in partnership with UCI's California Reading and Literature Project to promote academic literacy.

As students tackle complex texts in their English, science and history classes, their success with the content is impacted by their understanding of tier 2 academic vocabulary, the purpose of various transitions, and the overall message conveyed through complex sentence structures.

Success with academic reading is closely linked to successful academic listening, speaking and writing. As a result, La Paz teachers use a variety of tools: Thinking Maps, Kagan Structures, AVID strategies, conversation starters and sentence frames to support students' literacy journey.

Student Teagan Muller notes, "The conversation stems help me start off a conversation so I am able to express my opinions in a kind way." She also adds, "The academic vocabulary helps me with my writing. When I use these words, I express my ideas in a clearer manner."



Laguna Hills *High School*

25401 Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 • 949/770-5447 • svusd.org/lhhs



Bill Hinds
Principal

Hack A Thon Day

Laguna Hills High School hosted the 2nd annual Hack-A-Thon on December 1st. The twelve-hour event, attended by over 150 participants from elementary and intermediate schools, was part of the Internationally recognized Local Hack Day that took place around the world.

Sophomore Joshua Martinez, a member of our Computer Science Club, organized the Hack-A-Thon which featured topics including 3D Design & Printing, Video Game Design, Coding in Java & Python, App Development, Battlebots Robotics, and an E-Sports Tournament.

Classes were taught throughout the day and into the night which included an e-sports tournament. Many of these classes were taught by our students.



Laguna Hills High School will also be hosting the 3rd annual SVUSD STEAM EXPO on February 2nd from 3:30-5:30 pm.

Go Hawks!

Lake Forest *Elementary*

21801 Pittsford Dr., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/830-9945 • svusd.org/lakeforest



Audra Bailey
Principal

Innovation Excitement

Lake Forest Elementary is all about innovation this year.

The year began with the opening of our Innovation Lab in the Fall. Students spend time in their classroom following the “Engineering Design Process” of identifying the problem, exploring and designing. Once in the lab they work on creating their designs.

In December, students were able to translate these processes adding all of the potential their futures hold with the creation of a STEAM mural on the campus. Students, with the help of local businesses, painted a beautiful mural depicting all of the possibilities brought about by innovation. 5th and 6th grade students are currently working on an innovation challenge and are excited to see what the theme of this year’s science fair will be.

Please join us February 26th and 27th for campus tours and March 27th for our Showcase. See school for details.



La Tierra *Early Childhood Center*

24150 Lindley St., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/707-5276 • svusd.org/schools/elementary-a-1/la-tierra-early-education-center



Marion Springett
*Psychologist on
Special Assignment*

“Best Buddies!”

Best Buddies is a blended preschool program at the La Tierra Early Childhood Center in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District. The class is comprised of typically developing preschoolers and students with special needs.

Best Buddies is team taught, currently by Ms. Susan Evensen, a general education teacher, and Ms. Shelley Grebner, a special education teacher. Ms. Evensen and Ms. Grebner have each expressed a passion for teaching. They have found their students to blend seamlessly with one another and to be enthusiastic, energetic children who are eager to learn.

Our teachers report that what they most love about co-teaching is their ability to facilitate interactive learning through fun, hands-on activities that teach their students: self-regulation, pre-academic and social skills emphasizing creative thinking and problem solving!

Lessons target the California Preschool Learning Foundations and prepare students for future learning!



Linda Vista *Magnet Elementary*

25222 Pericia Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-0970 • svusd.org/lindavista



Suzy McMasters
Principal

IB Primary Years Program

Linda Vista Magnet Elementary School is a Candidate School for the International Baccalaureate

Primary Years Program World School Authorization.

Our mission is to provide rigorous, enriching, and differentiated instruction that empowers globally minded life-long learners to achieve their personal potential. We prepare students to successfully navigate an ever changing world by providing opportunities to excel through collaboration, inquiry, and an atmosphere that promotes curiosity, critical thinking, and integrity. We do this through the six IB PYP Transdisciplinary Themes.

We'd love to show you our scholars in action. Join Linda



Vista Magnet Elementary School for a tour on February 25 at 11:00am, March 7 at 9:00am, March 19 at 9:00am & 11:00am and March 27 at 9:00am.

Please call our school office to sign up, 949-830-0970. We look forward to meeting you!

Calling all Linda Vista alumni and staff! Join us for our 50th Anniversary Celebration, March 7, 2019 at 5:30pm.

Lomarena *Elementary*

25100 Earhart Rd., Laguna Hills, CA 92653 • 949/581-1370 • svusd.org/lomarena



Mona Montgomery
Principal

Happy New Year!

Our PTA is an amazing group of volunteers who bring engaging and educational special events to Lomarena, as well as supply the monetary funds to allow our school to have chrome book devices for each child from second to sixth grade.

The students are preparing for our school play, *The Jungle Book*, running March 7-9th at LHHS.

Our award winning PAL-Peer Assistance Leadership program is thriving. The program, based on students helping students, builds a positive school climate through youth leadership, mentoring, conflict resolution, cross-age teaching, and prevention activities. 21st century skills of leadership, communication, team building and problem solving are supported through the lens of kindness and compassion.

Workout Wednesdays exemplify the unity in our school. The student body congregates learning dances like the 'The Car Wash' and 'The Hokey Pokey'. We laugh, dance, and exercise together every Wednesday.

Lomarena is a true community school and our students ROAR!





Mission Viejo Safe Schools Challenge!

Los Alisos is the proud recipient of the City of Mission Viejo's Safe School Challenge!

Rich Freda
Principal

On Saturday, October 20th, at the City of Mission Viejo's Walk against Drugs rally, we were awarded a check for \$5,000 to be used towards campus safety and security. In order to qualify for the award, students had to arrange a one-minute, student video, on a safety issue.

We had three different groups enter videos. We chose to submit our ASB video which addressed bullying. Video submissions were posted on the Mission Viejo Police Services Instagram and Facebook pages where parents, students and community members could vote for their favorite video.

We won!

The famous tagline from the video was: *Be an Upstander, not a Bystander!* So proud of all of our students!



Melinda Heights *Elementary*

21001 Rancho Trabuco, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/888-7311 • svusd.org/melindaheights



We Give Back

At Melinda Heights Elementary, we have the privilege and responsibility of preparing students for the future. In helping our students become good citizens, we have the honor of supporting our community by giving back at every opportunity.

Our PTA and Helping Hands, the Melinda Staff, Kindness Club, ASB and other exciting groups on campus strive to model leadership and philanthropy.

Melinda's "Operation Bundle Joy" drive collected baby items for mummies-to-be at Camp Pendleton. Staff members and Kindness Club participated in the Jessie Rees Foundation "Santa Stroll" encouraging children battling cancer to "Never Ever Give Up!" Last month, families donated hundreds of toys to our Marines and Sailors at Camp Pendleton.

From PTA-sponsored blood drives to collecting for and assembling NEGU Joy Jars, the Melinda Heights Family is honored to continue to empower our students with responsibility, engage their compassion and offer them the chance to affect the lives of others.



Mission Viejo *High School*

25025 Chrisanta Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/837-7722 • svusd.org/mvhs



Tricia Osborne
Principal

MVHS Safe Schools Challenge Winner!

Mission Viejo High School was awarded \$5,000 for winning the Mission Viejo Police Service's Safe Schools Challenge video contest.

The video was posted on social media and the winner was determined by how many likes on Facebook and Instagram each school received. Mission earned 2,158 'likes'. The prize was awarded to Principal Osborne at the city's Red Ribbon Week Walk Against Drugs event.

Michael Murg, MVHS video student, wrote the script and directed the project which eventually grew into a full-fledged film production. Chandler Sperling, MVHS Senior, created the video and entered the contest on behalf of MVHS.

The students were proud that they created such a powerful PSA and won such a generous cash award for the school. The money will be used for safety and security purchases for the school.



Montevideo *Elementary*

24071 Carrillo Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-8050 • svusd.org/montevideo



Lisa Graham
Principal

We ROCK

The Montevideo school family unites daily with their traditional morning flag ceremony led by students. The principal closes with, "How do I love you?" Students shout, "Just the way you are!"

Unquestionably, Montevideo is a solid school (strong academic instruction, enrichment, intervention), and its school family embraces Responsibility, Optimism, Courage, and Kindness (We ROCK) every day.

However, to prepare students for their today and their future, Montevideo also provides social-emotional education/support. Students learn "Bucket Filling" (that "invisible bucket" within us that holds our good thoughts /feelings) through acts of kindness, are supported as they recognize dipping into others' "Buckets" intentionally or accidentally, and readily "Close the Lid" of their heart and mind should someone hurt their feelings by requesting them to STOP,

WALKing away, or by TALKing to an adult.

Our passion is to educate the whole child with love. Join us! School Tours: February 25 & 28 (8:30/10:00/1:00), 949-586-8050.



Olivewood *Elementary*

23391 Dune Mear Rd., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/837-6682 • svusd.org/olivewood



Alex Perez
Principal

Battle of the Books

Our 4th and 5th graders are participating in the South County Battle of the Books competition. Our Mustangs have participated in this competition for the last two years. We are the only public school represented in this awesome literacy event.

Our students will beam with pride as they recall the intriguing plots and heroic characters from the 20 books they poured over in the months leading to the competition.

The students have caught the reading “bug” this year. The team has grown from 12 students last year to 37 this year. Students are enjoying excellent children’s literature and learning how to communicate their ideas and opinions during book club discussions.



We will compete in our third Battle of the Books competition on March 26th, 2019 at St. Margaret’s Elementary School. Please join us for our Showcase on March 20th to see what is unique about Olivewood!

Portola Hills *Elementary*

19422 Saddleback Ranch Rd., Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679 • 949/459-9370 • svusd.org/portolahills



Dr. Joseph Ledoux
Principal

Multiple Measures of Student Support

We engage in Multiple Measures of Student Support (MTSS).

First, all teachers, both formally and informally, assess the students academically in their classroom. If a student is struggling, or not showing significant progress toward mastering grade level standards, the teacher will provide strategic and targeted interventions over a 4-6 week period. If the

student is not showing progress during these interventions, their progress is evaluated in a Collaborative Academic Support Team (CAST) meeting where a group of general education and Special Education teachers, in addition to the Instructional Coach and Principal, will discuss further supports for the student.

Our CAST Team meets every six weeks in order to determine if further interventions are needed, or if a student may need a referral for a Student Study Team (SST) meeting. During a SST meeting, parents are invited to attend to gather further information about the student and how we can strengthen the home/school connection.

At PHE we firmly believe no students should ever “fall through the cracks”, and it is our job as educators to assist a student who may need some extra supports in order to master grade level standards.

We invite those of you interested in attending Portola Hills to see us in action during campus tours February 25th and March 11th, and ask that everyone join us for our Showcase on April 4th. Go Explorers!

School News

Education+Communication=A Better Nation

The deadline is March 18 to place your ad in our April issue and reach YOUR target market
562-493-31938 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

Rancho Canada *Elementary*

21801 Winding Way, Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/786-5252 • svusd.org/ranchocanada



Dr. Larry Hausner
Principal

Amazing PTA

Rancho Cañada has been known for decades as having an incredibly robust and supportive Parent Teacher Association.

Mrs. Tina Fellers is in her second year as Rancho PTA President. She has led the organization to new heights and recognizes the true collaborative spirit that makes our PTA a success. "PTA is made up of parents, teachers, staff, and community members that want to improve the educational lives of our children," said Mrs. Fellers.

She continued to say, "With hard work and dedication, our PTA volunteers have greatly enhanced our children's school experience."

Examples of successful PTS sponsored events include the jog-a-thon which was a fun and memorable event that provided funding for assemblies, playground equipment, STEAM Lab, Art Masters, classroom and school-wide electronics. Our Book Fair was also a great success, which got our students excited about reading!

Clearly, our PTA is amazing and we appreciate all that they do!



Rancho Santa Margarita *Intermediate*

21931 Alma Aldea, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/459-8253 • www.rsmintermediate.com



James Newton
Principal

Career Technical Education

Rancho Santa Margarita Intermediate School is proud of the extensive courses offered in Career Technical Education (CTE).

- Digital Film Studies
- Video/TV Production
- Advanced Media
- Consumer Family Studies
- Industrial Technology
- STEM – Project Lead the Way

In CTE courses, teachers facilitate engaging, hands-on experiences for our students to learn relevant skills and explore potential careers. Whenever possible CTE teachers host guest speakers to share their experience, lead the class, and provide valuable insight into potential careers.

This past trimester, Executive Chef Jo-Jo Doyle, did just



that, as he taught the students how to make the perfect omelet in their Consumer Family Studies course. It was an invaluable experience for our students to have an accomplished industry professional cooking alongside them in class. This is the type of experience CTE students are fortunate enough to practice within these programs. Please visit our school website for more information.

Robinson *Elementary*

21400 Lindsay Dr., Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679 • 949/589-2446 • svusd.org/robinson



Jonathan Kaplan
Principal

National Kindness Day

National Kindness Day was celebrated at Robinson on November 13th. Assemblies were held for all grades, to hear from teachers Leslie Terry and Ramona Gonzalez, explaining how students would create a Kindness “Rocks” Garden.

their rock. Ideally, students will use the garden when they may not be feeling well and need an encouraging message – perhaps a low test score, or an issue with a friend. A student can go to the garden and choose a rock and be inspired to make a positive change!

Kindness “Rocks” at Robinson Elementary! Please join us at our Showcase, May 22nd.

With hard work and help from our Unified Club and parent volunteers, we painted numerous rocks in a variety of colors with the goal of having every student paint an inspirational quote or positive thought on a rock.

Each class scheduled a time to enter our art room and paint a message on



San Joaquin *Elementary*

22182 Barbera, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 • 949/581-3450 • svusd.org/sanjoaquin



Jim Lee
Principal

Building Relationships

San Joaquin is making a concerted effort to broaden and initiate new community relationships.

Our partnership with the Orange County Sheriff’s department produced our first annual Operation Sheepdog

Awards assembly. The three top classes showing the most acts of kindness to keep bullying out of the school were treated to a pizza lunch provided by a local restaurant.

Our SRO, Deputy Sambrano, noted the dramatic decrease in bullying-related incidents. Through generous grants from local businesses, we provided many opportunities for our students: field trips, improving our school garden, and the purchase of technology.

Our neighbors in a nearby active senior development continually provide invaluable services in our classrooms



Operation Sheepdog Awards assembly on 12/19/18.

by working one-on-one with students, and have created a competitive Robotics team with our sixth graders.

Our goal for the New Year is to continue to flourish with robust relationships and to increase the size of our San Joaquin community family.

Santiago STEAM Magnet

24982 Rivendell Dr., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/586-2820 • svusd.org/santiago



Howard Johnston
Principal

Ignite Night is Hit

Santiago STEAM Magnet Elementary School's vision is to have empowered thinkers and creators positively impacting our global community.

Students have designed three "Ignite Nights" throughout the school year to present their work from current Project-Based Learning units. To understand it is possible to make a difference in the world, it is important for students to share their work with peers, parents, and community members.

The first Ignite Night was amazing! Students shared their work on topics such as, "My Place in the World: What do I need to grow and survive" (Kindergarten) to "Human Impacts on Earth's Systems: Water, Water Everywhere... How do we get it from here to there?" (Sixth Grade).



The next Ignite Night is February 28, please join us. For more information on Santiago STEAM Magnet, please call for a tour or attend an informational meeting. Tours: Feb 25, Mar 12. Meetings: Feb 20, Mar 11 at 6:00pm.

Serrano Intermediate

24642 Jeronimo Rd., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/586-3221 • svusd.org/serrano



David Young
Principal

STEAM Pathway

Beginning in August 2019, Serrano Intermediate School will offer a STEAM program to incoming 7th graders. We are creating a cross curricular experience for our students focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics.

Serrano STEAM Village students will experience an elective program that will include courses in Computer Science, Engineering and Digital Media Arts. Concepts from these courses will be integrated into their core curricular classes--offering a truly interdisciplinary, 21st century education. Students will participate in collaborative projects demonstrating their understanding of STEAM concepts across the curriculum.

This program expands to 8th grade in August 2020. Students who complete the two-year STEAM Village



at Serrano will be prepared for the STEAM pathway opportunities available at El Toro High School.

Whatever their future choices, our students will be better prepared for 21st century college and career opportunities.

Silverado/Mira Monte *Continuation High School*

25632 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-8800 • svusd.org/silverado • svusd.org/miramonte



David Gordon
Principal

Students Reach Out

Great things are happening on our campus! Two classrooms received the latest technology through the SV Innovates classroom makeover process. Our peer tutoring program is thriving, as is our “Fast Friday” program. This innovative program, created by the SS leadership

team, supports struggling learners by providing a tutorial opportunity focusing on courses in which a student is earning below a C-.

Additionally, students earning a C- or above in all courses and who do not require the extra academic support are dismissed from school 30 minutes early.

In November, students and staff participated in a

food drive benefiting South County Outreach, collecting over 1,000 food items!

November also saw the “Pies to the Face” fundraiser, benefiting Homes for Veterans by raising \$142. Our annual Thanksgiving feast closed out the month, providing traditional Thanksgiving meals for the entire student body and sending an additional 500 meals to a local homeless shelter.



SVUSD *Virtual Academy K-12*

21001 Rancho Trabuco Rd., Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/580-3457 • svusd.org/virtualacademy



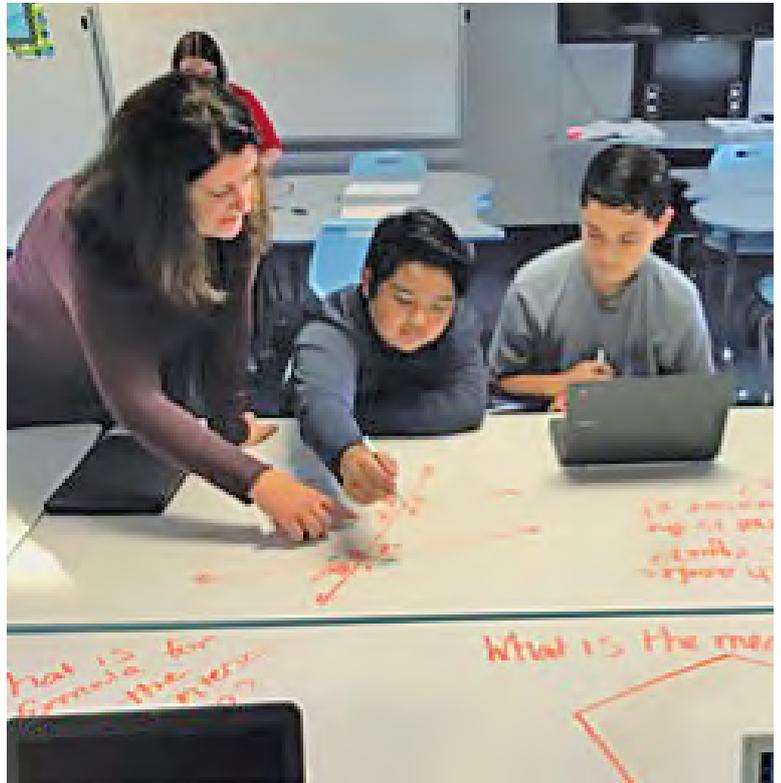
Glenn Giokaris
Principal

Developing Student Community

There are many reasons that students choose to enroll in the SVUSD Virtual Academy (SVA). Primarily, students want the ability to have a flexible academic schedule and/or access to a different learning environment and instructional strategies.

While flexibility and a different model of education is important to help students succeed, we have also found that developing student community and supporting a sense of belonging is vital for students’ well-being and achieving academic success. This is one of the reasons that SVA students attend class twice a week for face-to-face learning sessions with their teachers and peers.

Additionally, not only do these in person meetings help build community and a sense of belonging but the weekly meetings allow teachers to quickly assess student understanding and progress, provide personalized academic support for each student, and engage students in individual and group activities to promote deeper understanding of the content.



Trabuco *Elementary*

31052 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678 • 949/858-0343 • svusd.org/trabuco



Lisa Paisley
Principal

Fall Feast and Winter Sing

For those attending to weather reports, you know it has been a busy rainy season for Trabuco Canyon. The burn scar area in Holy Jim Canyon has kept us all busy watching for heavy rains.

Fortunately, we are a hearty group, still hosting two very important traditions. The rains did not impact our Fall Feast or Winter Sing. Both evening events were attended by a record number of families, community members, and alumni.

The Fall Feast hosted a huge potluck for anyone who wanted to join in on the food and festivities. As always, we held pie baking, donut eating, and seed spitting contests.

At the Winter Sing, all students sang winter songs under the stars and waving oak trees in the cold, crisp air for the delight of their relatives and friends; a night filled with joy and laughter.

Please join us May 30 at 4:30 for our Showcase.



Trabuco Mesa *Elementary*

21301 Ave de las Flores, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/858-3339 • svusd.org/trabucomesa



Caryn McGrew
Principal

Be a SAKstivist

Trabuco Mesa staff are committed to providing a positive and safe learning environment through our character trait program.

Each month we focus on a character word and encourage students to use these traits to positively impact others. Our monthly character words are:

Be Kind, Responsible, Empathetic,

Humble, Determined, Inquisitive, Patient, Cooperative, Resilient, and Proud.

We are very proud of our 6th grade students who have taken building character to a global level by being SAKtivist! (Student Acts of Kindness.) They've taken monthly traits and turned them into a year-long challenge. Students produce and post weekly videos to challenge others to complete specific acts of kindness and highlight students/classes who complete the challenges.

Classrooms around the world have joined our students in their weekly challenges to thank a staff member, helping out at home, thanking first responders, etc. Please join us for our Showcase on May 22nd to learn more.



Trabuco Hills *High School*

27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/768-1934 • svusd.org/thhs



Craig Collins
Principal

Talented Choir

The Trabuco Hills High School Chamber Choir performed at the SVUSD District Administrator's Holiday Breakfast.

The presentation included traditional holiday songs which were performed beautifully, adding to the festivities. The highlight of the performance was "Twa Tanbou", a piece written by Sydney Guillaume.

Director Kenneth Haro shared that Mr. Guillaume came to Trabuco to teach this piece to the choir. It is a very difficult selection but the choir was so taken by it, they insisted in putting in the extra time to learn it.

"Twa Tanbou" translates from Creole to "Three Drums" and it is the story about three drums competing to be the best. In the song, they learn that they are at their best when they all work together.

What a timely lesson for all of us!

A special thanks to Sydney Guillaume for taking time out of his very busy schedule to share his talents.



Valencia *Elementary*

25661 Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 • 949/830-3650 • svusd.org/valencia



Wendie Hauschild
Principal

Differentiation and Inclusion

Differentiation and inclusion are integral to student success at Valencia. As part of Valencia's Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) program, our innovative and caring Kindergarten Team developed a daily STEAM rotation program.

All Kindergarten students from our General Education and Specialized Academic Instruction (SAI) classes join together to form five heterogeneous groups. The groups rotate through science, technology, engineering, art, and math activities that are generally centered on a particular theme.

Additionally, these groups engage in 30 minutes of intervention and differentiation groupings: Designated English Language Development Instruction, Second Step (Social Emotional Learning), and Shared Reading. Kindergarten teacher, Cheryl Rys, shared, "It works

because we are a TEAM. We all care about the progress and well-being of our Kindergarteners and want to give them the best first school experience as possible."

At Valencia, our students come to school confident that the adults here know them and care about them. This rotation practice allows our Kindergarten teachers and Instructional Aide staff to form relationships and interact with each of our Kindergarten students.

It also supports individual learning with a team approach. Students form bonds and friendships with the whole Kindergarten student body, not just their own class. This provides for a better recess experience, widens acceptance of different learning styles and personalities, and builds empathy.

Kindergarten SAI+ teacher, Stephanie Evans remarked, "Our Kindergarten STEAM rotations and intervention promote a strong connection to Valencia and builds a great foundation for these young minds moving forward."

Please join us for our Showcase on March 21st.



B is for Book



Bailey

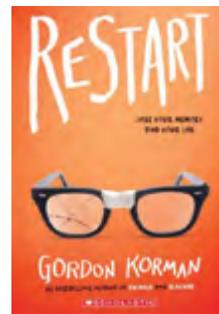
Fantastic to the End!

I just LOVED *Restart*, by Gordon Karman. It made me laugh and kept me interested with the action.

Boom! Chase wakes up in the hospital. What happened? Where's his mother? He can't remember anything, except a blonde girl with a blue dress. With each day that goes by, Chase meets "new" people and finds out

"new" things about him that help bring back the memories of his old life: a cherry bombed piano, a stolen medal of honor, a football star, a cruel bully... Will Chase be able to remember his past? Will he be able to fix it? Or will he remain the rotten kid he was before?

Gordon Karman definitely wrote a great book! I like how the book shows the point of view and opinions from the different characters. I rate this book 4 out of 5 stars.



Bailey is a 7th grader who loves being with her friends and reading. When she isn't doing these things, she's dancing ballet or lyrical.

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CAMPING—Word Search Contest

Rules!

One word in the list is NOT in the word search. When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com Please put SVUSD in the subject line.

Entries must be received by **March 15, 2019**

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble

Sponsored by Barkate Orthodontics
www.BarkateSmiles.com

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| MAP | FOOD |
| BOOTS | SNACK |
| JACKETS | BEDROLL |
| COMPASS | MATCHES |
| GPS | FLASHLIGHT |
| BACKPACK | FLARES |
| THERMOS | CELLPHONE |
| KNIFE | CAMERA |
| TENT | BUGSPRAY |
| BLANKET | COT |
| WATER | |



Congratulations to

Brooke Galasieski and Julien Marteny

Winners of our December Word Search Contest!

Christina's Book Review



Showbiz is Not for Everyone

But I don't Want to be a Movie Star is a bit unrealistic, but entertaining. English girl Katriona (Kat) is a skater from a family with modest means. Due to a series of events she has to stay with her famous actress grandmother Noni Waters in US.



Christina J.

Somehow 15-year old Kat and her very young-looking grandma are a spitting image of each other. Kat gets to spend the summer in a mansion with a swimming pool, but she doesn't appreciate this life of luxury. All she wants to do is go skateboarding with her buddies. Then her grandma sprains her ankle and can't meet with her producer to talk about shooting of her next movie. Kat offers to impersonate her and does so good, that she is offered a role in a movie herself. There is a lot of funny and amazing things happening with Kat being Noni Waters, but in the end Kat refuses all the opportunities because "she just wants to be a normal girl". I give this book a 4 out of 5. I personally can't relate to Kat's choices, but the characters were funny and charming.

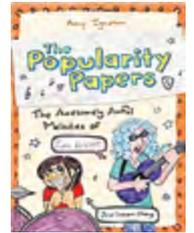
Christina J. is an 9th grader. Christina is an avid reader, who enjoys a good book about some great adventure, mystery or action. She is a hard-working student and a young author herself. In 5th grade she wrote a book *Melody's Stories: I Am a Spy Now*, published by Studenttreasures Publishing (PIN #3582798).

Richard's Book Review



An Unexpected Ending

BFFs Julie and Lydia get inspired to start a band along with their friend Roland and an uninvited drama queen Jane. However, none of the friends can play well (or even anything at all, to be perfectly honest), so it is a rough journey until they are finally somewhat good to play for a birthday party. They realize too late that the birthday party they are booked for is princess-themed for a 7 year-old girl. However, "the show must go on" and the friends perform the best way they know how. But the party turns into a mad riot (guess why?) This piece of disaster news travels back to school with completely unexpected results. The rumor had it that they were so good they caused a riot! Of course, only the "riot" part was true. Interestingly, it boosts the friends' popularity at school, which they were trying to achieve for a long time.



Richard J.

It is a fun story with unexpected ending and I liked reading it. I give it 5 out of 5 stars.

Richard J. is a 4th grader. Richard likes math, playing sports, physical activities like bike-riding, swimming, diving and running. He is a hard-working student who enjoys reading, seeing and leaning new things and spending time with his family and friends.



Educators and Girl Scouts: Stronger Together!

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Rabina's Review



Humor and Suspense

No Talking

This book could be considered a realistic fiction because kids who are currently reading it or kids who have already read it, could relate to

how things are in a school. The book is about a middle school boy named Dave Packer who is a part of a pack of middle school boys, and a middle school girl named Linsey who represent a group of girls in the same middle school. Both of these groups started a competition against each other to stay quiet. They went through a lot of challenges to lead a 'no talking' day in school or at home. For example, the teacher called on Dave to present his project to the class but, since he could not talk, he had to sacrifice his grades for the victory of his team.

I recommend this book to other kids because not just that this book is full of humor but, it also creates enough suspense at times to sure keep you at the edge of your chair. I give this book 10 out of 10 stars.

Rabina is a 5th grader, who enjoys reading historical fiction and biographies. Writing is her passion. Besides, reading books and writing, she also enjoys playing soccer and piano.



Lucy's Book Review



Power of Poetry

The Poet X by

Elizabeth Acevedo

How can a leather book hold your entire life?

What could it be filled with to hold such power? Poetry.

Xiomara's poetry is her secret. It's where she records her observations, channels her feelings and empties her brain.

The notebook probably knows her better than she knows herself.

With every word, she pours emotion and thought from the whirring world around her.

When she first feels love, the notebook is the first person she confesses to.

When she wants to throw a broken rosary in her mother's face, the notebook burns with rage.

And that very notebook helps her find who she wants to be.

The Poet X is a beautiful, thought-provoking novel that will show readers the power of poetry and the struggle of being your authentic self. Five out of five bookworms.

Lucy is a 7th grade student. When she isn't immersed in a book, she loves musical theater, ballet, and singing. She enjoys stretching her imagination by writing short stories of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.



Keira's Book Nook



Death to the Xua

Valiant is a book of true love, heartbreak, and falsities.

In this novel the world is in constant danger, making the book fast-paced and exciting. One obstacle is the world's depleted resources. In addition, there is action at every corner and the author takes the time to exhibit the main character's relationships with her friends.

In an apocalyptic world of aliens called the Xuas, protagonist Sara has watched her friends perish in terrible ways, multiple times. Fortunately, each time this came about Sara was taken back in time to try again. But this time, there is no one to do so. Now, Sara must relieve the world of an alien invasion with the help of her friends and brother.

I can't wait for the second book of the series to come out and will read it as soon as I can! I rate this book 5 out of 5 apples.

Keira is a 7th grader who loves to read. She also enjoys crafts, traveling, soccer and playing with her cats. Her reviews are rated from 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest.



Sophie's Choice



Saving the Seven Seas

Waterfire Saga

Deep Blue is the first

book of a series that I've been wanting to read for a long time since I own the second book. The

Waterfire Saga series is about a group of mermaids who are brought together by the Isle, or water witches. Sadly they are brought together not for a good reason, someone is trying to release a monster that their ancestors had put in prison. Throughout the series, the girls try to stop the bad people from unleashing this monster, because if they don't, it will destroy what they call home, the sea.

Sophie O. is a 6th grader who loves to play soccer and bake. She's an avid reader and writer and is working on writing her first book. She hopes to be an architect one day



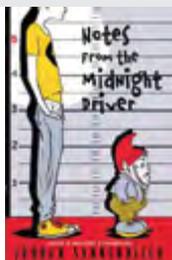
Isabella's Book Review



Isabella A.

One of My Favorite Books

Notes from the Midnight Driver is about 16 year old Alex Gregory. One night, Alex was left alone at home and rampages through his dad's alcohol cabinet that was still full even though his dad no longer lived with Alex



and his mom. He gets drunk and drives to his dad's house. A couple houses down, Alex crashes into a yard. He is taken by the police and passes out. At his trial the Judge decides that community service is better than jail. He's assigned to an old man, Solomon, who is always grumpy and lives in a nursing home.

Gradually they help each other. In the end, Alex is even able to reunite Solomon with his daughter.

I would give this book five stars without hesitation. It is an amazing book with an amazing theme. It's definitely one of my top 10 books.

Isabella is a 7th grader and just published her first short story in a school anthology of young authors after winning first prize with her work. She rates books on a 5 star scale.

Jenna's Review



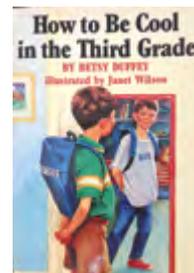
Jenna C.

Being Cool

Title: *How to Be Cool in the Third Grade*

Author: Betsy Duffey

Robbie really wanted to be cool in the third grade. He made a list how to become cool. 1. Get rid of the name Robbie—Rob is better. 2. Get jeans. 3. No



more kisses from mom at the bus stop. There was a boy named Bo Haney, a bully at school. When Robbie got on the bus on the first day of school, he accidentally sat on Bo's lap and Bo made fun of him. The nightmare continued. Robbie got the same class as Bo. Worst of all, Robbie got Bo as a book buddy. Robbie decided to speak up for himself. Will Robbie stop Bo from bullying him? Can Robbie manage to be a book buddy with Bo? Can Robbie become as cool as he wished?

I like this book because the story is about a third grader like me and it tells you how to stand up for yourself.

Jenna is a third grader. She likes art and soccer. She likes imaginary stories and someday she wants to be a book illustrator.

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Meaningful Work-Based Learning Opportunities



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent
Orange County
Dept. of Education

On a recent Tuesday morning, an atrium inside the Irvine headquarters of Edwards Lifesciences offered a glimpse of the transformational shift that's taking place in public education.

Educators mixed with business leaders to talk about meaningful work-based learning opportunities. Student-led exhibits highlighted career paths in critical industry sectors, including health science, engineering, agriculture and hospitality. High-level executives shared their time and their stories with future leaders.

The occasion was the fourth annual OC Pathways Showcase, which on Nov. 27 celebrated partnerships between educators and industry leaders that are creating classroom-to-career pathways that begin as early as middle school.

Led by the Orange County Department of Education, OC Pathways was launched in 2014 with a grant from the state, and it's since expanded to include dozens of school districts, businesses, colleges and local agencies. All are working together to equip students with the competencies they'll need to thrive in an economy that will look very different than the one that's dominated the last century.

Automation, artificial intelligence and other high-tech disruptions are dramatically reshaping how we think about work, inducing varying degrees of anxiety. According to a 2017 report by the McKinsey Global Institute, nearly half of the activities performed by employees in today's global economy have the potential to be automated with technologies that are already available.

Yet, as is noted in a separate analysis released by OC Pathways in partnership with the Orange County Business Council, some jobs will continue to thrive based on the high degree of creative intelligence they require, including civil engineers, lawyers, landscape architects and physicists. Skills such as active learning and complex-problem solving will continue to be in high demand.

In 1965, engineer and businessman Gordon Moore, who would later co-found Intel, famously predicted that computer processing would double about every two years as we figured out how to pack more and more transistors onto a single circuit.

Five decades later, what's known as Moore's Law remains a relevant trajectory. Yet as Moore's own philanthropy will attest, the human experience is not defined merely by our ability to exponentially increase processing power. With education as a key driver, mankind's success will instead hinge on our ability to marry technology with creativity to meet human needs.

It was fitting, then, that the latest OC Pathways Showcase would take place at Edwards Lifesciences, a leading medical equipment company that is literally saving lives with artificial heart valves and innovative techniques for delivering them.

"Our job is to see what's coming," Edwards Lifesciences Vice President of Advanced Technology Jinny Lee told the gathered crowd.

The same can be said of our educational systems, which are increasingly reaching out to industry partners to prepare students to meet an array of human needs, including those we can't yet envision.

This is not easy work, but it is essential. And it's arguably never been a more exciting time to be an educator.



Katie's Review



Katie C.

Confidence is Key

Title: *Inspired*

Imagine being put into two worlds and interchanging between the two with just a mirror. That was normal for Rocket, whose life seemed to be falling



apart. Her aunt was apparently a muse who needed her help immediately. Rocket had just moved to a new house and a new school, and with the chaos going on between the "real" world and the "imaginary" world, she didn't know how she would be able to survive. Everything was just so new to her. But through hard work and lots of love, Rocket learned that she is the biggest person in her own life. I rate this book a five out of five stars. It taught me that confidence is the biggest influence that you can have on your own life.

Katie is a ninth grader. Her passion is writing and she likes finding new ways to structure poetry. She is working on creating a story line with a series of poems. In her spare time, she enjoys soccer, song writing and reading books.



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MISSION VIEJO FRIDAY NIGHT FLAG

HOSTED BY: CITY OF MISSION VIEJO & SVUSD COMMUNITY SERVICES



SUMMARY:

Community Services has partnered with the City of Mission Viejo to bring you MV Friday Night Flag Football in Spring 2019. Games will start 3/15/19.



REGISTRATION:

Registration Codes:
A Div- Ages (12-14) \$175: YFF13
B Div- Ages (10-12) \$175: YFF14
C Div- Ages (8-10) \$175: YFF15
D Div- Ages (6-8) \$120: YFF16



CONTACT INFO:

Registration Line: (949) 460-2777
Youth Sports Line: (949) 460-2731
Communityservices.svUSD.org



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