

**FREE**

# School News

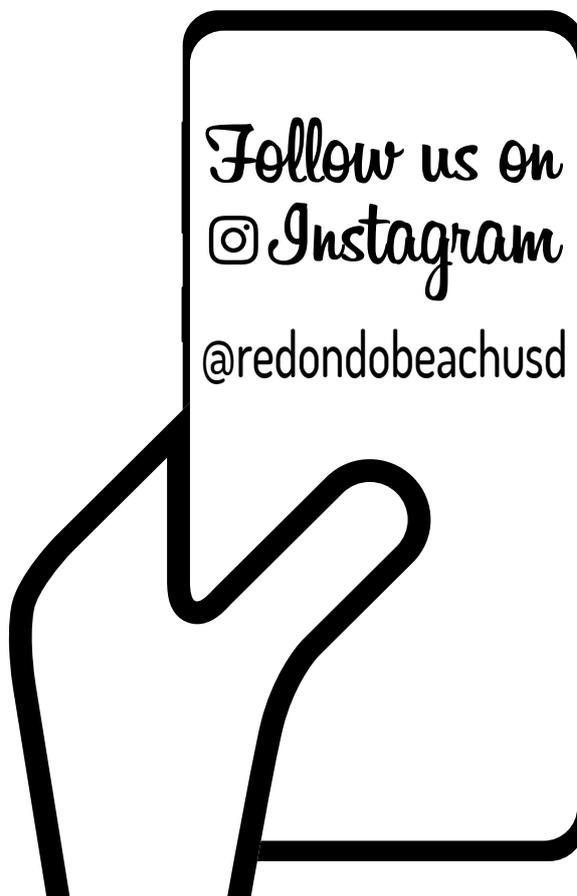
*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Redondo Beach Unified School District**



Volume 13, Issue 166

June 2019



## Board of Education



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## Superintendent



### Follow Us on Instagram!

Indeed, it is true—the Redondo Beach Unified School District has an Instagram account! Please follow us at @redondobeachusd. You may ask, “Why are you doing this now?” The straight answer is, “Why not!” In my position, I hear from plenty of parents, staff members, even children requesting something. In the last five years,

I have been approached maybe six or seven times about embracing a social-media presence. Understandably, the folks asking for a RBUSD social-media account are typically folks who secure most of their daily information via their own various social-media sites.

Our content will be positive, thought provoking and focused on all-things RBUSD. We are proud of our educational successes. We want you to see more of them as well as remind you why you are either paying so much in rent or paying so much in your mortgage to live in Redondo Beach—to have your children attend the finest school district around. Please share these posts, too, with your friends and family. Heck, have them follow us as well!

Outside of RBUSD’s new Instagram account, as I have said for the last several years, I encourage anyone reading this message to remember this—social-media posts do not always accurately report the facts. This is something I have experienced personally; sometimes parents reach out to us with incredibly embellished or completely erroneous information they gleaned from a social-media site. Please, always embrace a little skepticism regarding social-media reporting. My team and I have spent unnecessary time chasing concerns that didn’t exist. Thank you for allowing me to share this paragraph with you once more.

Just a few years ago, RBUSD conducted a parent-communication survey. What we learned is that our parents appreciate the traditional communication approaches like phone calls, texts, emails and providing an information-rich website. Now, we will add the social-media component.

We hope you will follow us. We are developing engaging content from each of our school sites and elsewhere. I want to thank Dr. Bruna, Tulita’s excellent principal, and Derek Kinsey, our outstanding chief technology officer, for their assistance with this new platform. Yes, it’s true—they are both younger than me and lean in to social media better than I do.

One more reminder: please follow us on Instagram @redondobeachusd!

**Redondo Beach Unified School District**  
1401 Inglewood Avenue, Redondo Beach, CA 90278  
(310) 379-5449 • www.rbusd.org

## Board of Education



### Connecting to Our Children

Newsletters like this one celebrate—and rightfully so—the active and engaged parent. The dynamic PTA. The foresighted RBEF. The nurturing garden docent.

I am writing this column, however, for the silent majority: those parents who have not been able to spend much time at their children’s school, helping with homework, or even attending that recital. Let me confess: I am one of you.

Yes, I do have a few hours every other Tuesday to attend Board meetings. When necessary, I make time in my schedule for district issues. But like the silent majority of RBUSD parents, over the last few years, the demands of my day job and domestic duties as a husband and a father have made even me, a veteran School Board member, feel often like a distant visitor at our school sites—even my own child’s. Which is the way to the library, again?

If I feel somewhat ashamed of my own detachment from my child’s educational life, there must be literally hundreds of other RBUSD parents who feel the same way. What are we to do?

I come not to preach but to rally us all and offer four simple suggestions to renew our connection to our children’s school years this summer:

One night a week, for 15 minutes, have your children teach us math the Common Core way and give us a short quiz!

Compose a short story with your children, alternating one paragraph at a time between us and them.

Take a walk around the perimeter of their school with them one weekend. If the gates are open, go in and kick around a soccer ball.

Start a book club with your child and, if possible, his or her best friend and family. Hold meetings at your favorite local lunch spot.

I pledge to report back next fall whether any or all of these strategies helped bring me closer to my child and his education. Until then, happy summer to all! Wish me luck on those math quizzes!

### 2019 Board of Education Meeting Dates

<b>June 11</b>	<b>August 20**</b>	<b>October 22*</b>
<b>June 25</b>	<b>September 10</b>	<b>November 12*</b>
<b>July 16**</b>	<b>September 24</b>	<b>December 10</b>

**\*Due to holiday/local holiday schedule, only one Board meeting in October, November and December.**  
**\*\* Due to Summer recess, only one Board meeting on the third Tuesday of the month in July and August.**

# Redondo Beach Council PTA

1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • www.rbusd.org

# Redondo Beach Educational Foundation

409 N. P.C.H., #310, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/954-2004  
www.rbef.org



**Patricia  
Harris DiLeva**  
*President*

## Avoid Summer Brain Drain

Summer...it's almost here! We're all looking forward to fun and sun and less hectic days. But we don't want our kids to forget all those hard-earned school lessons they learned throughout the year. On average, students lose 2.6 months of knowledge over summer break. Here are four tips to avoid "summer brain drain" provided by Taylor Pittman in an article on the Huffington Post site:

### Baking and cooking:

Cooking is one of the best things you can do for kids because it combines science, art and math. Families can help keep the STEM skills sharp by discussing different measurements and physical processes, such as what happens when the food is actually cooking. If you think about the chemical reaction — liquid goes in the oven and comes out a solid — it's amazing learning for kids.

### Playing video games:

Hear us out. Screen time for kids is a highly debated issue, and there isn't a lot of research on its effects on kids just yet. Hilary Scharton is the vice president of K-12 product strategy at Canvas by Instructure, an educational technology company. She noted that kids shouldn't be wrapped up in screen time all summer, but suggested that parents occasionally lean into their kids' love of video games by talking about the shapes of the characters. "The animations in video games, those are all shapes, changing and morphing," she said. "All of that shape-changing is like algebra and geometry and trigonometry."

### Volunteering:

Research shows that volunteering can teach kids a variety of important skills. According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, volunteering throughout the year can help kids develop leadership skills and become more patient. And as research from Michigan State University shows, working with others in this way can also promote social skills, which can be especially important for kids taking time out of the classroom during the summer. Another benefit? Volunteering can make kids more empathetic and help them understand more about the world.

### "Spectacularly" failing:

You read that right. Anything where kids have a chance to just spectacularly fail. Why? We know from research that problem-solving skills really are one of the most important things that kids need to learn.

Enjoy your summer!



**Hanh Archer**  
*President*

## Getting Ready for the Summer

For some "getting ready for the summer" may involve adopting a healthier lifestyle, printing out the schedule of outdoor concert series or simply planning the much deserved holiday. For us here at RBEF summer is equivalent to learning and ensuring that all RBUSD students have a wide range of opportunities to participate in summer programs which will help them get an extra boost for learning.

Whether you're looking for an exciting and enriching learning opportunity for your child or a taste of what the next grade level will be like, whether your child is keen to free up some space in their high school schedule next year or if they need to improve their academic skills, then look no further. RBEF offers courses at elementary, middle, and high school levels designed to meet all of these goals. For more information about the 2019 RBEF Summer Sessions please visit our website at <https://rbef.org/summer-sessions-2019>.

RBEF welcomes our new Trustees. Ms. Sharon Day is our Treasurer and a partner at Raimondo Pettit Group (RPG) since 1998 leading the firm's not-for-profit practice. Ms. Teresa Klinkner is of counsel to Baker Burton & Lundy and has over 25 years of real estate and corporate legal experience. Ms. Robyn Toth is an ER RN at UCLA Hospital. She is a long-time RBEF committee member. Ms. Doris Donlou-Richmond is a second-generation RUHS alum and has been the Lead Site Advocate at Alta Vista for the past 6 years. As a Trustee, she is the chair of site advocate development.





**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

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**Covering the  
REDONDO BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Here we are at the end of another successful school year.

Congratulations to RBUSD now having an Instagram account. Social media has taken the world by storm. The need for information is instant and at your fingertips. RBUSD has much to be proud of and we at *School News* are privileged to promote their excellence in our printed copies, on our web site for our online readers, on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. We also offer Dr. Keller's message in a podcast on our web site. In case you have missed an issue all of our publications are archived on our site reader friendly on all electronic devices.

This issue is full of ideas to increase the quality of your summer days. Have fun and please remember to include the library among your activity choices.

Our next issue is September 4.

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Dear Lucas,

We couldn't be prouder of all you have overcome and accomplished to date. While this is just one stepping stone in your journey through life, it is a significant threshold to pass. We congratulate you and wish you much continued success and happiness as you continue on your path through life.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Jonathan and Picasso

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**Ali Steward, MPH**  
Director  
Youth Services

## Eat, Sleep, Breathe Wellness

It's not a single program or partnership that establishes all 12 Redondo Beach schools as wellness champions. It's a combination of many innovative efforts that create a culture of well-being that has a trickle-down effect for the entire community.

Through Beach Cities Health District's (BCHD) partnership with Redondo Beach schools:

- Students observed **13,725 mindful minutes** through the MindUP program – equal to 10 consecutive days of being right here, right now.
- Elementary students **grew more than 24,000 fruits, vegetables and herbs** in school gardens through the LiveWell Kids program – nearly 2 pieces of produce for everyone under 18 in Redondo Beach.
- Parent volunteers conducted **more than 42,000 fruit and vegetable tastings** – the same amount of products in the average grocery store.
- Childhood obesity held steady at **6.4%** – significantly lower than state and national averages.

- Since 2017, more than **6,000 Beach Cities parents** have participated in education programs about vaping, mental health and resilience through a partnership with RBUSD, Hermosa Beach City School District, Manhattan Beach City School District, BCHD and South Bay Families Connected.
- Nearly **600 parent volunteers** supported programs that improve nutrition, promote physical activity and support social-emotional well-being.
- A new community-wide coalition has been established, the Beach Cities Partnership for Youth, comprised of more than **200 community partners** working together to address student mental health and substance use prevention.
- An **extra 192 hours of physical activity** were added to the school year through the 8-minute morning exercise program – that's eight days of continuous jumping jacks!

Finally, a number that can't be quantified: the countless hours Redondo Beach administrators, teachers, staff and parent volunteers dedicated to our students and our schools.

Thank you to everyone who has made the 2018-19 school year one for the books!

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## Is Your Child At Risk for Unintentional Drowning?



**Aileen Imai,**  
*Injury Prevention  
Coordinator,  
Injury Prevention  
Program,  
MemorialCare  
Miller Children's &  
Women's Hospital  
Long Beach*

Every day, about 10 people die from unintentional drowning. About one in five people who die from drowning are children 14 and younger. And for every child who dies from drowning, another five receive emergency department care for non-fatal submersion injuries.

These non-fatal drowning injuries can cause severe brain damage that may result in long-term disabilities, such as memory problems, learning disabilities or permanent loss of basic functioning.

### Drowning Prevention

With summer around the corner, it's important to keep water safety top of mind.

Children need a designated chaperone at all times. Formal swimming lessons reduce the risk of drowning. Yet even when children have had formal swimming lessons, constant supervision and barriers, such as pool fencing to prevent unsupervised access, are still important.

Never leave a child in the water without adult supervision, no matter how shallow the water. And at no time should you consider that a flotation device will protect or save your child if you step away or are distracted, even for a moment.

In addition, CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) performed by bystanders has been shown to save lives and improve outcomes in drowning victims. The more quickly CPR is started, the better the chance of improved outcomes. In the time it takes for paramedics to arrive, CPR skills may save a child's life.

The Injury Prevention Program at Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach cares about keeping kids safe. That's why we focus on providing safety education to children and families in our community.



2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806  
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# RBUSD Alternative Education

1000 Del Amo St., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8690 • rshs.rbusd.org



**Anthony Bridi**  
Principal

## Summer Learning Awaits

*By Lissa Watts, Counselor*

Summer is coming! The school year at Patricia Dreizler Continuation High School (PDHS) is winding down, but our staff is gearing up to help our students continue to learn over the summer break.

We have several options available for our students this summer. Some of them will be taking summer courses through the RBUSD/

RBEF summer school, and others will be enrolled in El Camino College (ECC) courses. We are very fortunate to have a very strong relationship with ECC. An ECC educational adviser comes to PDHS weekly to meet with students as needed. Through this partnership, students become informed about the programs offered at ECC, get assistance with enrollment, and can even have an opportunity to tour ECC

ECC provides concurrent enrollment options to high school students, and also provides priority registration to

our graduating seniors. As of mid-April, we have more than two-thirds of our seniors enrolled in El Camino College who are planning on taking courses after graduation. And all of them have applied for the South Bay Promise, which provides free courses for eligible students for two years!

This summer they also have a computer science pathway program in partnership with CSUDH. This is a cohort model for incoming freshmen which provides guaranteed admission and internship opportunities on completion. In addition to the RBUSD and ECC options, students have an opportunity to enroll in the Southern California Regional Occupational Center (SoCal ROC), which is offering several CTE courses this summer.

While the SoCal ROC summer courses are fee-based, they provide our students with a career pathway, and many offer certifications for various professions. Here at PDHS we encourage our students to engage in their educational journey year-round. We are very fortunate that our learning community has a multitude of options available for our students.

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# RBUSD Child Development

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**Theresa Van Dusen**  
Director

## Learning, and Having Fun!

*By Kathy Martens; Site Supervisor  
Washington CDC*

“It’s almost summertime! The RBUSD Child Development Centers and Zone Summer programs are in full planning mode, as we take summer seriously! Students stay busy with fun weekly themes on site and off. Combined, the Child Development Centers has planned over 200 field trips in eight weeks. The elementary sites plan for two to three trips a week, and our Middle School Zone program plans four to five trips a week.

Why do we plan so many trips, and why are they so important for learning? Field trips take learning outside the classroom in fun and unique experiences. They allow students to absorb, interact, and immerse themselves in practical ways. All students learn in different ways. For a visual learner, field trips are particularly important as they allow students to touch, feel, and listen to what they are learning about

Field trips also allow for students to interact with each other in different ways than in a structured classroom setting. Through trips, they gain a new understanding of

the differences among each other, with the adults they are with, and with their community. Field trips present an opportunity to help build tolerance and cultural understanding and provide students with “real-world” connections.

We plan for these connections on field trips for elementary students at farms, museums, observatories, farmers markets, local parks, and beaches. Our middle school students have fun in STEAM field trips by attending workshops on roller coaster production, indoor skydiving, and computer coding, and then they can experience what they have just learned! Middle School students also experience the typical summer outings like bike rides on the strand, water parks, and horseback riding.

We know how students think that summer should be all fun and games. We also know how parents want us to help maintain academic learning. We sneak in academic learning in fun ways, but we also know how to just plain have fun! We visit mud parks, have “Top Chef” competitions with the food we buy from local farmers markets, and we soak in the sun at our local beaches. The staff members at all of our Child Development Centers know how to balance academics with having a blast all summer long!

## Make the Most of Summer!

Six-week courses begin July 1. Apply today at [www.elcamino.edu/summer](http://www.elcamino.edu/summer).



El Camino College



# South Bay Adult School

3401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/937-3340 • www.southbayadult.org



**Dr. Maribel Galan**  
Interim Director

## Celebrating Many Cultures

On May 2, 2019, South Bay Adult School celebrated International Day. International Day is an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the value of cultural diversity and to learn to live together in meaningful ways. Our students performed traditional dances and songs from their homeland. They presented on the distinct characteristic of their country. We took a visual tour traveling from Mexico to France

and enjoyed seeing the cultural artifacts shared by our students. It was a day of meaningful engagement and appreciation.

South Bay adult school represents over 20 languages from all around the world. The energy and recognition is not only celebrated and honored on this one day event, but is appreciated each and every day as we provide the support and opportunities to learn English and participate in our Career and Technical Education Pathways, GED, and High School Diploma programs. If interested in any of our programs, please contact us and register today with our front office and set a meeting with our school counselor, Mr. Ploumen at (310) 937-3340.



Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common. Celebrate it every day. — Author Unknown

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## Adams *Middle School (6–8)*

2600 Ripley Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8636 • www.adamsmiddle.org



**Lisa Veal**  
Principal

### Relax, Refresh and Read!

Now is the time to start giving some thought as to how your children will be spending the summer months. We absolutely want our students and their families to enjoy some down time as they ring in the summer, but we implore you to give thought to striking a healthy balance between leisure and learning.

We recognize that with the increased academic demands of middle school, our students often look forward to taking advantage of the summer to set the books aside and decompress. They absolutely should; however, you can help your children take a break from the rigor of the classroom while also preventing the “summer slide.”

Research shows that children can lose as much as two months of learning over the summer months if they are not engaged in learning opportunities. Finding ways for your children to continue to stimulate their minds while they enjoy some down time will stave off this learning loss in addition to supporting the transition to school in the fall.

We recognize that this may not be an easy feat, so if you have to choose one thing to encourage your children to do during the summer, it would be to simply read.

Reading is critical to a student’s ability to retain information learned in the previous school year. Reading also assists in the growth of literacy and critical thinking skills. Similar to exercising the muscles in the body, reading helps keeps the brain in shape. Failure to exercise results in the loss of muscle, and failure to read results in the loss of literacy skills.

Consider creating a reading challenge for your children. In the fall, Adams will recognize those students who have read and completed a summer reading activity, but we also encourage our parents to find fun and creative ways to incentivize summer reading.

Audio books are also a great way to spark an interest in reading. Check out the first title in a popular series on tape, and then encourage your children to head to the local library to check out subsequent titles. Most importantly, enjoy these months with family and friends! Have a great summer, and we will see you in the fall.

## Alta Vista *Elementary (K–5)*

815 Knob Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8650 • altavista.rbusd.org



**Dr Dale Hillier**  
Principal

### Summer is Here!

*By Andrew Estrada, Assistant Principal*

Can you believe summer is just a few weeks away? Summer is a great opportunity to enhance your child’s knowledge through real-life experiences as well as reviewing the essential skills from the school year. Studies have shown that students may lose up to 60% of reading and math skills over the summer if not engaged with learning opportunities.

To continue being lifelong learners, children and young adults need ongoing opportunities to learn and practice essential skills. Here are some ideas for your child to keep their minds sharp and explore new experiences:

- **Read at least ONE Raz-Kids book a day.** Remember to first listen to the book, read the book aloud to practice fluency, and take the comprehension test.
- **Make visiting the library a weekly event.** The Redondo Beach library has some e activities. Encourage your child to get «lost» in a favorite series, a favorite character or genre. Plan a «book club» playdate with friends that focuses on a common book, or that allows each friend to share a book that they

would recommend to each other. Remind your child that a book recommend gives a “teaser” of a summary and why they believe others would like it too!

- **For grades K-2,** log onto Reading Eggs for 15 minutes daily to complete at least ONE full lesson.
- **For grades 4-5,** download the Battle of the Books reading list (on our school website) and get a jump start for the 2019-20 battle!
- **Visit a museum.** Admission to the Science Center is free. There are lots of great hands on exhibits for kids.
- **Go to a concert** on the Redondo Beach Pier every Thursday or Saturday night from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in July and August. Concerts are free and fun for the whole family!
- **Purchase or create a special “Summer Journal.”** Find 10-15 minutes daily to write about the events of the day. Encourage your child to read their journal daily to allow them to write for a «real» audience.
- **Have your children help prepare a meal** or dish for the family. Before you go to the supermarket, find a recipe, write what you need and how much. At the supermarket, choose the best-priced option.

## Beryl Heights *Elementary (K-5)*

920 Beryl St., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8611 • beryl.rbusd.org



**Karen Mohr**  
*Principal*

### Summertime—Learning Time!

This summer, make time with your child to engage in reading, writing, exercising together, taking a walk, going on a bike ride, or hanging out at our beautiful beach. The Redondo Beach Library provides multiple opportunities for students and their families to read through the Summer Reading Program. We are encouraging all students at Beryl to sign up for the library program and turn in their logs at the beginning of the next school year. Those students will then be recognized in September for reading throughout the summer. Students learn that reading is enjoyable and something that we do the rest of our lives.

Our new Science Program encourages exploration and thinking like a scientist. There are many fabulous places to visit where you can learn about sound and energy as well as animals and their habitats to keep scientific minds

engaged. Many outdoor excursions, hikes and visits to the tide pools and parks can be exciting and invigorating. There, students can learn about nature and how we interact with nature on a daily basis.

In fourth grade, students study the missions as part of their social studies curriculum, and a visit to one of our California missions is always an exciting trip. In third grade, students study Redondo Beach history, so visiting landmarks in Redondo Beach gives families an opportunity to talk about history and discuss the importance of the past with their children. Students also study planets as part of the Next Generation Science Standards, so the Griffith Observatory is always a rewarding trip. There are many summer camps available for children to stay fit and keep active. Visit our website to see the exciting summer activities that are available.

Have a safe and fun summer, and enjoy your time together as a family! School starts Wednesday, August 21—we can't wait to see you then!

## Birney *Elementary (K-5)*

1600 Green Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8626 • birney.rbusd.org



**Mira Baskaron**  
*Principal*

### Summer Activities

Summer is around the corner, and students and staff alike are looking forward to spending time with family and friends. It's important to recognize the need to continue to have students engage in activities that will allow brain stimulation. Studies show that children who don't read or who read rarely over the summer encounter a stagnation or decline in their reading skills. There are plenty of summer activities that students can engage in that are fun and could minimize the "summer slide."

Make reading 30 minutes a scheduled daily activity. For students who are more reluctant to read, attach a reward to the activity, such as going to the park or the beach or participating in other student-selected activities. Family reading time is also a good way to encourage reading. Each person in the family can read his or her own book

or the entire family can read a book together. You might also consider connecting a book to a family activity. For example, a visit to the aquarium could lend itself to reading a book about fish or the ocean.

To continue the learning process at home, help your child set a reading goal and plan to visit the local library. The Redondo Beach Public Library has a summer reading program that all Birney Elementary School students are encouraged to join. Students should track their summer reading, and, when they return to school and turn in their reading logs, they will be recognized for their efforts.

If you are looking for a more structured environment, the Redondo Beach Education Foundation (RBEF) hosts a six-week, fee-based program that provides enrichment classes. Visit [www.rbef.org](http://www.rbef.org) to see class offerings. The Child Development Center (CDC) also offers a program that provides summer-long educational enrichment experiences.

Enjoy your time with family and friends. Happy summer!



## Jefferson *Elementary (K-5)*

600 Harkness Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8631 • jefferson.rbusd.org



**Jeff Winckler**  
*Principal*

### Summer Learning

It's June, and that means the summer break is just around the corner. Summer is a great time to keep both your mind and body healthy and active. Having students take part in a balance of academic and physical activities during the summer gives them an opportunity for greater success in the fall. Doing academic-related activities as well as exercising and relaxing together are also excellent ways to have some family bonding time during the summer.

Jefferson is the place to be this summer in regards to summer learning. Both the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation (RBEF) and the RBUSD summer programs will be held at Jefferson. The RBEF Summer Session offers incoming first- through sixth-grade students enrichment classes which can deepen student learning while also preparing them for their next grade level. For more information regarding this summer school program, please visit [www.rbef.org](http://www.rbef.org).

The RBUSD Summer School is a by-invitation intervention program for students who may benefit from strengthening their foundational skills in core academic areas. In addition to these offerings, the Redondo Beach Public Library offers its Summer Reading Program that provides multiple opportunities for students and families to read. It is a wonderful way to keep your student's reading skills sharp.



### Jefferson is the place to be this summer for RBEF and RBUSD summer learning!

The public library staff came to Jefferson in early June to explain the Summer Reading Program in detail. Additionally, the Internet is a great resource to find recommended reading lists for independent summer reading as well as other academic activities.

For science and social studies, students can visit our local and greater Los Angeles area aquariums, museums, zoos, and historical sites, as these offer many opportunities to learn and explore. Most of these locations provide activity centers which allow students to not only see concepts first hand but also to engage in hands-on activities. These are great places for families to visit.

Have a safe and fun-filled summer, and enjoy your time together as a family. We look forward to beginning another amazing school year at Jefferson in August.

## Lincoln *Elementary (K-5)*

2223 Plant Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8646 • lincoln.rbusd.org



**Jason Johnson**  
*Principal*

### Outdoor Malls and All!

Let me get to the point: go outside! This summer, make it a point to get outdoors with your child as much as you can. No, really—you need to get them outside because the research is stacking up!

The average child spends twice the amount of time playing indoors as they do outdoors. And do not just blame videogames and iPads. Compared with previous generations, parents are consciously making the decision to keep their children indoors because of perceptions about safety. According to a 2017 study, parent perception about possible accidents and outdoor hazards has affected the amount of time they allow their children to play outside, often opting for travel by car and structured activities that tend to keep children indoors.

This does not mean that you need to abandon car rides, cancel ballet class and let your children run the streets

past dark. We are busy people doing what busy people do: making the best of the precious time we have left after work and school. Just be conscious of the uphill battle you and your children face to get outside, so when you can, do so. Here is one example of an easy and semi-free way to get outside: I have worked in this community for over 10 years, and let me tell you, when I ask, most children tell me they never go to the beach! For a city with *beach* in its name, we sometimes forget that it is there! Truthfully, it has been well over a year since I have been to the beach.

Or maybe go farther outside Redondo Beach. California is home to nine National Parks, more than any other state in the country, and each is immensely different from the next. Joshua Tree is only two hours and 29 minutes from Redondo Beach, and to help the trip along, there is a fantastic outlet mall on the way. You will not be disappointed by either the park or the mall, and better yet, it is an outdoor mall! This summer I have vowed to get my child outside as much as I can, however I can, outdoor malls and all. Will you?

## Madison Elementary (K-5)

2200 MacKay Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8623 • madison.rbusd.org



**Drew Gamet**  
Principal

### My New Challenge

For the past six years, I have had the honor of serving as a leader at one of the greatest elementary schools in the South Bay. During this time, I have had the pleasure of supporting a dedicated staff who worked tirelessly to implement schoolwide programs such as Writer's Workshop and Leveled Literacy Intervention as well as other curriculum and technology innovations.

It is no doubt that our amazing staff, supportive families and engaging students have led Madison to celebrate many distinguished honors; in the last six years, Madison Elementary has earned a California Distinguished School award, was named a California Gold Ribbon School and a California Green Ribbon School, and was an Alliance for a Healthier Generation Silver awardee and a Title I Achievement School. Madison, we have a lot to be proud of!

While some would say "All good things must come to an end," I am confident that this is a new beginning for both

Madison and me. I am pleased to announce that effective July 1, I will serve as the new director of the South Bay Adult School. I am excited about the opportunity to take on a new challenge in education and support the needs of adult learners in our community. I know my amazing experiences and lessons learned at Madison will certainly guide me in my new role. The most important core belief that I will take with me is one that has been reinforced every day by the students at Madison: "Every student can learn!"

During my time at Madison, I know I have grown both as a professional and as a person. It is with sincere thanks and humble gratitude that I say goodbye, although, I will be nearby.

It has been a privilege to spend the last six years with you and your incredible children. I look forward to seeing you in the community and at music venues around the South Bay. For our Madison students, I want to leave you with the words from the Roman poet Horace that I have on the door to my office: *Sapere Aude!* (Dare to understand!)

## Parras Middle School (6-8)

200 N. Lucia Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8616 • www.parrasmiddle.org



**Jonathan Erickson**  
Principal

### The Home Stretch

We are here: the final month of school! With state testing and almost all coursework behind us, we have just these last few weeks of June before the 2018-2019 school-year ends. This is always a time of mixed feelings, especially for our eighth-graders. Many of them have been looking forward to their promotion ceremony day for years, and now it may suddenly feel like it is arriving too soon. Meanwhile, the Parras Middle School staff

eagerly looks forward to the new group of students coming in, and we proudly say goodbye to the eighth-graders we have gotten to know so well.

Of all the powerful sentiments that our promoting eighth-graders experience during the critical month of June, we'd like to promote *appreciation*, *gratitude* and *celebration* as especially important. All of you soon-to-be high school students will probably make new friends, but do not forget to show *appreciation* for the incredible

time you spent together and the friendships you built with other Parras students. Also, if you are thinking about how much you will miss your favorite teachers, you can also thank them for the great experiences you had and show your *gratitude* for their hard work. And finally, as you may be ready for classes to end and summer to begin (as soon as possible!), you can *celebrate* your amazing accomplishments in getting to where you are now.

So hang in there and finish strong! We are in the home stretch, and summer will be here before you know it!



**Proud students just after last year's Parras Promotion Ceremony.**

# Redondo Union *High School*

One Sea Hawk Way, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8665 • [www.redondounion.org](http://www.redondounion.org)



**Jens Brandt**  
*Principal*

## Summer is Here

Dear Sea Hawks: We are here, the final month of school!

With A.P. exams and state testing behind us, we have just these last few weeks of June before the school year ends. This is always a time of mixed feelings, especially for our seniors. They have been

looking forward to their graduation day for years and now it may suddenly feel like it is arriving too soon. The RUHS staff looks forward to the new group of freshmen coming in, and we somberly say goodbye to the seniors whom we have gotten to know so well.

Of all the powerful sentiments that our school community feels during the critical month of June, we would like to promote appreciation, gratitude, and celebration as an important triad of ideas on which to focus. As you feel anxious because a friend is moving away for college or some other pursuit, you can also feel appreciation for the incredible time that you spent together and the friendship you built.



**Students enter the stadium for graduation.**

If you are thinking about how much you'll miss your favorite teachers, you can also thank them for the great experiences you had, and show your gratitude for their hard work. And finally, as you may just feel tired and ready for classes to end and summer to begin as soon as possible, you can celebrate your amazing accomplishments in getting to where you are now.

So hang in there and finish strong in your classes for Quarter 4. We're in the home stretch, and summer will be here before you know it!

## Tulita *Elementary (K-5)*

1520 Prospect Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8628 • [tulita.rbusd.org](http://tulita.rbusd.org)



**Dr. Tanaz Bruna**  
*Principal*

## Make the Most of Summer Break!

School is almost out! Summer is one of the most enjoyable times of the year for us here in the beach cities. The weather is great and time spent with family traveling is on the agenda. Without the demands of the school day, homework, and busy extracurricular activities, we get to reconnect. Whether traveling, spending time at the beach, or just relaxing together at home, enjoy the summer

but I encourage you to make time for enriching and fun family learning too.

Research has shown that many students experience learning losses if they do not take part in educational experiences over the summer. We want to strongly encourage students and families to find ways to engage in summer learning opportunities. It is also very important for our kids to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle over the summer; we know that students who are physically and emotionally healthy are more successful in school. You will be helping your child learn and grow as they attend summer school or camp, visit museums, read books at the library, play at the park, or spend quality time with family.

Here are some other ways you can mix some education in with your summer fun.

- Visit one of our local museums.
- Make regular visits to our public library.
- Go for a nature walk.
- Visit a historic California Mission.
- Study maps and guide books to plan a vacation or a weekend trip.
- Work together on a family budget for vacation.
- Write to a pen pal or family member.
- Compare and contrast the book and movie versions of the same story.

Most importantly, I encourage you to read together. Our teachers will recommend books for summer reading and we encourage you to participate in the Redondo Beach Public Library's Summer Reading program or sign up for RBEF Summer Sessions.

As the school year comes to an end, we thank all of the Tulita students, staff, and parents for an enjoyable, rewarding, and successful school year. We hope you enjoy your time together this summer and we look forward to seeing everyone back in this fall!

# Washington Elementary (K-5)

1100 Lilienthal Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8641 • washington.rbusd.org



**Andrea Bittick**  
Principal

## Preventing Math-Skill Loss

According to research conducted at Harvard University, students on average lose approximately 2.6 months of learning in math over the summer. This means that teachers often have to use the first few months of the school year reteaching previously learned skills.

One reason many students demonstrate such a significant regression in math is because many parents and children do not think of math existing outside the classroom in the way that reading does. Parents are less inclined to practice math at home in the same capacity in which they practice reading. This means that students have few opportunities over the summer to engage in mathematical thinking, which can result in students forgetting some of the problem-solving processes and strategies they have spent an entire school year learning.

## Math Outside School

But getting students to remember those procedures isn't as easy as just assigning them summer math homework. A recent article posted on the Harvard School of Education's website shared some different ideas for keeping students' minds engaged in mathematical thinking throughout the

summer months. One suggestion was to highlight math in everyday activities. When shopping, help children calculate change or discounts. When watching a baseball game, talk about what players' statistics mean. When cooking, try halving or doubling a recipe, and assist children in figuring out the new proportions. Reading books focused on math can also help children building their conceptual understanding while at the same time foster a love for numbers. Playing math games can also help students to practice the skills they have previously learned. Games like Yahtzee, Racko, Blokus, Monopoly and Set all rely on skills necessary for math, such as counting, categorizing and building. Even playing with blocks and assembling jigsaw puzzles can help children learn spatial skills and recognize patterns. Problem-of-the-day math calendars are also great ways to practice basic math problems on a small scale.

In April, Washington hosted a Family Math Night to help shift the perspectives on math and also to provide parents with some different tools to support their children's curiosity and overall achievement when it comes to mathematics. As a school, we recognize that just as we encourage students to be readers and to love literature, we need to encourage them to be mathematicians and to love problem solving. Let's make summer 2019 the summer we make math fun and a part of the everyday routine!

## Weather Terms –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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) Please put **RBUSD** in the subject line.

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

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

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| TORNADO    | TSUNAMI   |
| CYCLONE    | CHILLY    |
| EARTHQUAKE | COLD      |
| RAIN       | HOT       |
| THUNDER    | FREEZING  |
| LIGHTNING  | FROST     |
| SNOW       | SANDSTORM |
| SLEET      | THAW      |
| WIND       | FLOOD     |
| STORM      | HURRICANE |
| HEAT WAVE  |           |





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## Ethan's Review



**Ethan H.**

### A Curious Spark

*The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown is a fun and thrilling book that is filled with adventure, action and tragedy. It is about a robot that falls off a ship and gets washed up on a sandy beach on an island.



A curious otter and its otter friends give the robot life. The robot roams the forest on the island with a curious spark in his eyes. The animals on the island didn't know what a robot is, so they were afraid of him. The robot learned that his name was Roz and made new friends with that name. Roz learned about friendship by making new friends on his adventures. He learned about death through a tragic accident involving a family of geese. And he learned about parenting when he adopted a son and started his own family. I recommend this book to people who love adventures!

Ethan H. is a third grader. He likes math, science, reading, playing chess, and physical activities like soccer, basketball and handball.

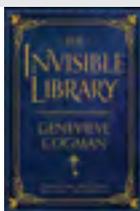
## Book Review By Katrina



**Katrina D.**

### Books Link Worlds

*The Invisible Library* by Genevieve Cogman is a peculiar story centering on a cryptic Library that is filled with millennia of knowledge from hundreds of dimensions. Tending to this massive collection of information is a number of



Librarians whose sole purpose is protect these paperback treasures. They also have to collect new stories from across multiple worlds, whether it's a scroll from Viking times, a novel from a secret society or just a cookbook for trolls, these books all have one thing in common — the library must have them, no questions asked. And for all of her life, Irene has accepted the Library's beliefs. But now, as she seeks out the mysteriously stolen book of fairy-tales, Irene and her partner Kai realize there's more to the Library than meets the eye. With delightful world building, contraptions and a giant centipede, this book is perfect for bibliophiles as a whole. Katrina gives this book four out of five crescent moons.

Katrina is a junior in high school who enjoys sketching, reading and writing as much as she loves watching cartoons. Katrina hopes to be an author, an accomplished biologist and an animator some day very soon.

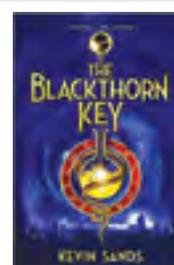
## Lucy's Book Review



**Lucy Davis**

### Immersive

*The Blackthorn Key*  
Who knew cubes could hold adventures?  
Christopher Rowe lives in 17th-century England as an apothecary's apprentice. Remedies and his best friend Tom are all that



seem important. But, when his master leaves behind a trove of secrets, it is up to him to solve the mystery of the Cult of the Archangel. With it comes the archangel's secret substance - something rumored to have power beyond description. Codes, turns, and discovery awaits in the hunt for Blackthorn's key.

I was surprised at how much I enjoyed this book! It's clever, well-written, and simple to follow. Kevin Sands uses masterful storytelling that will leave you excited for more. I'm looking forward to reading the next two books in this exciting series. 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.

## South Bay Hands On Art

### Gargoyles Project Enchants Students

By Co-Chairs Sandi Arthur and Karen Ford Cull

The Notre Dame Cathedral and the fire that recently devastated portions of the building were a timely backdrop for the last project of the school year for SBHOA. "Gargoyles, Monsters in Stone" introduces children to the significance and symbolism of gargoyles in Gothic architecture. (While steeped in myth, keeping water from eroding the face of the building is the creature's primary purpose.)



Children are building gargoyles from air-dry clay, using basic skills like making "ropes" and balls, and then combining, reshaping, adding detail, texture and personality to their creations.

"Children absolutely love sculpting clay. It is great for fine motor skills and is an excellent way to let their imaginations run free," said artist Marianne Coble, who presented the project.

2110-B Artesia Blvd., Box 805, Redondo Beach, CA 90277  
www.southbayhandsonart.com

## Richard's Book Review



Richard J.

### A Scary Read

*Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* is one of the series of short scary stories from Scholastic. If you like ghost stories and enjoy getting spooked with your friends



during a sleepover, then this book is for you. What really make this book scary are the illustrations by Stephen Gammell. You will most likely remember this book because of the illustrations, that, once seen will leave an impression in your memory. The book contains typical scary stories. The scariest one was about a woman who got married, then played hide and seek with her husband in their house, but, sadly, hit her head on a chest in the attic, died and was discovered only years later. Some of the pictures scared me so bad I couldn't sleep afterwards, but I still wanted to read more. I think the stories are worth 4 stars, but in terms of fear factor the book definitely gets 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 learning new things and spending time with his family and friends.

## Katie's Review



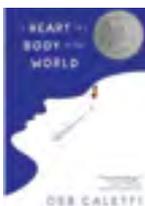
Katie C.

### Running for Her Life

*A heart in a body in the world*

We all have experienced something that has hurt us, whether it's physical or mental. Some of us have found ways to cope with it.

For high schooler Annabelle, she runs to get away from the



pain of losing her best friend. She decides to go with a somewhat nearly impossible feat: she wants to run from Seattle to Washington DC to protest for gun control, the action that might have kept her best friend alive. As she runs across the United States, she experiences many setbacks and obstacles and thinks about giving up. Annabelle contemplates why she started this journey, because it seems that the finish line never appears. But once she arrives in Washington DC, she realizes that it was all worth it. Annabelle taught me that pain doesn't necessarily mean that you have to stop. It just means that you should keep going.

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.

## Tara's Review



Tara Z.

### Eye-opening, Transcending, and Lovely

*Five Feet Apart* by

Rachel Lippencott is one of those wonderful coming of age novels, that will leave you smiling, laughing, or shedding a tear or two at one point or another. The story follows the life of Stella



Grant, a cystic fibrosis patient who is on the brink of becoming 18. Stella is the epitome of order, and her life, like that of many other CF patients, depends on a mixture of factors, but one of the most important is following a medical regime, filled with meticulous patterns of med dosages and activities. For Stella, following her regime, means keeping her shattered family together. However, when Will, another 17-year-old CF patient, arrives at Saint Grace's Hospital, things change for both young CFers, and for once in their lives, they have come to the realization that they will not let cystic fibrosis take away everything they have got.

Tara Z. is a tenth grader. She loves painting, reading, and writing about art and books. She hopes to study medicine and travel through all the world's continents.

## Alana's Book Review



Alana F.

### Different Perspectives

A critically acclaimed book used in countless schools, *The Outsiders* is a novel written by S. E. Hinton about classism and gang violence. Ponyboy, the main protagonist, is



part of a gang called the Greasers. This group is tight-knit despite their poor economic status and home situations, and the Greasers are shown to have much heart. However, tensions are high regarding the Greasers' rival group, the Socials, nicknamed the Socs. Because of the constant attacks and beatings from the Socs, the Greasers are in danger of harm 24/7. Will Ponyboy be able to keep those he loves safe, or will he lose everything to forces outside of his control?

I'd give this book 7 out of 8 triforme shards. The pacing felt very comfortable, and although short, this book almost made me cry on a few different occasions. Eye-opening and thought-provoking, I'd certainly suggest giving *The Outsiders* a read.

Alana is a student columnist and a self-proclaimed "huge nerd." When she doesn't have a book in her hands, she loves to play video games and write fiction. She rates books on a scale of 1-8 triforme shards with 8 being the highest

## B is for Book



Bailey

### Princess X gets an A+!

*Princess X* is an awesome book with a great story line and interesting illustrations.

May's life hasn't been so great since her best friend Libby died in a car accident.

Her favorite memory is drawing comic books with Libby. Their

character was named Princess X. Years after the accident, May sees their Princess X on a sticker! She sets up to find out who else knows about Princess X.

This book is full of adventure, mystery, and even comic books inside! The clues to follow keep you hooked. The author made the situation in the book feel realistic and like it fit in the modern world.

I would recommend this books to upper grade students and middle school kids. I rate it 5 out of 5!

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.



## Jenna's Review



Jenna C.

### The 12 Labors

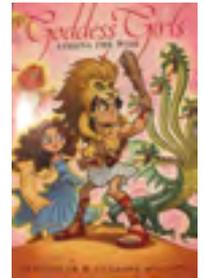
*Goddess Girls Athena the Wise*

Athena was walking in the cafeteria and asked "Who is that?," to her friends. The entire cafeteria at Mount Olympus Academy (MOA) was surrounding a boy.

Aphrodite, one of her goddess girl friends said "You haven't heard? His name is Heracles." A few moments later, principal Zeus spoke on the speaker "CALLING ATHENA!" Athena entered the office. Zeus talked to Athena about how Heracles needed to pass his twelve labors or he would be kicked out of the school. Zeus said that Athena needed to help Heracles succeed. Can Athena help Heracles to succeed for him to stay at MOA?

I recommend this book series to kids who like to learn more about Gods and Goddess's lives. It feels like you are living in the moment.

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



## Justin's Review



Justin K.

### Look, Up in the Sky!

*Captain Underpants and the Big, Bad Battle of the Bionic Booger Boy, Part 2: The Revenge of the Ridiculous Robo-Boogers*

What can you imagine with words like Flying, Powers, and Cape? Are

you dreaming of a superhero? Do you want to save our planet? Well, Captain Underpants was not born to save the earth but he fights against many different enemies with his awesome allies. I love his awesome skills — breaking the walls, fighting villains, flying over the town, and using wedgie power!

In this Epic book, Captain Underpants fights Ridiculous Robo-Boogers since his battle with the Bionic Booger Boy. Are you curious if Captain Underpants could save the earth again with his best friends - George, Harold, Sulu the bionic hamster, and Crackers the Pteranodon?

I rate this book 5 out of 5 stars.

Justin is a first grader. He likes reading, writing and making his own comic books. He also likes playing piano & chess, swimming, baseball and hockey.



## Common Sense Media

### Encouraging Teens to Read for Pleasure



The amount of time that teens spend reading for pleasure has declined a lot over the past few years. Whether this is due to time spent with screen media, or other factors is unknown.

Fortunately, we do know the way to encourage readers of any age: Keep books in the house, set aside daily reading time, and read yourself. For teens specifically, it may help to tap into whatever they're passionate about — if you can name it, there's a book about it. In a world filled with entertaining diversions, it can be difficult for teens to find reading material that really motivates them to read. Check our reviews (you can sort our book reviews by age, genre, and topic). Here are some more ideas:

**Try an ereader.** Ereaders offer your teen a bit more independence, flexibility, privacy — they're great for travel.

**Consider humor.** Some teens just need the funny.

**Draw inspiration from pop culture.** Late-night comedians, musicians, and even software developers (think Steve Jobs) are great subjects (or authors!) for teen reading because they're relevant to teens' lives.

Insist that they read the book before seeing the movie.

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](http://www.commonsensemedia.org)

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