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School News

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Covering the Newport-Mesa Unified School District



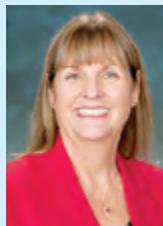
Volume 16, Issue 86

October / November 2019



Welcome Back to School!

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Dr. Fred Navarro

While our families were enjoying some beautiful southern California weather this summer, Newport-Mesa Unified School District facilities and maintenance crews were hard at work to ensure clean, safe and beautiful facilities for students return.

Maintenance Work

Every year, maintenance and operations cleans and maintains more than two million square feet of building space and 13 million square feet of landscape and turf. This summer, they performed critical work at the school sites, including:

- Deep clean classrooms and carpets
- Replace carpet and flooring
- Repaint interior and exterior walls
- Seal coat and repair asphalt
- Repair concrete and sidewalks
- Restripe parking lots
- Field renovations
- Replace playground wood chips with synthetic turf
- General maintenance repairs and inspections
- Preventative roof maintenance
- Preventive maintenance of air conditioning equipment

Air Conditioning

Additional work this summer included the installation of Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) at seven schools. It is anticipated that all schools will have HVAC by 2021.

Special Projects

• Energy Efficient Lighting

Our district partnered with Southern California Edison (SCE) and their School Energy Efficiency Program to replace fluorescent lighting with energy efficient light-emitting diode (LED) lighting. This program provides more than \$700,000 in incentives from SCE and an anticipated annual electricity savings of more than \$100,000.

• Corona del Mar High School

Sports Fields Upgrade: Renovation of the two sports fields at Corona del Mar High School is underway and includes the two lighted synthetic sports fields (one with a rubber track), bleachers for seating for up to 664 spectators, scoreboards, fencing, gates and improved pathways. It is anticipated that the project will be complete by 2020 graduation.

• Estancia High School: 50 Meter Pool

Construction is currently underway for the installation of a new 50 meter pool and support facilities at Estancia High School. The two-phased project includes construction of the pool itself (currently under construction) and the additional improvements, such as locker rooms, concessions and surrounding spaces.

To learn more about these projects, please visit the Construction Projects website. To learn more about our maintenance and operations program, including custodial, grounds, and energy programs, please visit the Maintenance and Operations website.



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



2019 — 2020



School Health Services

2985-A Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-5000



Merry Grasska
MPH, FNP-C,
RN
Coordinator

Our Staff's Mission

The Health Services staff at school sites includes nurses and health assistants. These staff members are available to assist students with their health needs during the school day. Our professionally credentialed school nurses serve as advocates for students. They apply informed science and a caring approach to address student health concerns, including promoting healthy schools. They are focused on building relationships with students and connecting with families to provide health services to students.

Our nurses and health assistants are committed to supporting students, providing outstanding health care, practicing evidence-informed care, making continuous improvement, and contributing to a caring school community. They work tirelessly to provide the best possible care to students and do so with the respect and care that embodies kindness and compassion.

Parents know their children well, and we encourage you to share health information that will help us provide the most appropriate care at school. We want to support your children in the best way possible.

Nutrition Services

2985-A Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-5000
www.nmusd.us/depts/ns/resources_parent.php



Dale Ellis, R.D.,
M.B.A., S.N.S.
Director

Waste Not

By Pam Williams, MPH, RD; Nutritionist

We have wasted more food in the United States than we realize. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), we waste about 30 to 40 percent of our food overall.

Wasted food is the largest component of trash in our landfills. But some of this healthy and wholesome food could have been consumed by American families who are in need. It is for this reason that the USDA is challenging everyone to reduce their food waste.

Here at the Newport Mesa Unified School District's Nutrition Services, we want to do our part to help reduce this waste. One way is to encourage our students to eat what they take. Another is to encourage them to share what they do not eat so that their food will not be thrown away. One additional method is to share unopened packaged foods with our local nonprofit organizations so that other people in the area can have the opportunity to eat more healthy and wholesome food.

Why don't we all pitch in to change this growing problem and help feed our families across the country?

Surrounding You with Expert Mother & Baby Care

The only hospital in LA and Orange Counties where mom and baby receive 24/7 specialized care under one roof.

At 26 weeks, Stephanie's water broke and she was rushed to her local hospital. At the recommendation of her doctor, Stephanie was transported to MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach. Maternal-fetal medicine specialists and neonatologists, who are in-house 24/7, delayed delivery, and Izabell was born at 33 weeks. Izabell was taken just down the hall to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit under the same roof as Stephanie – so mom and baby were never separated during their care.



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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Welcome back to a new school year. This is our 16th year publishing *School News* covering the NMUSD. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

This issue begins with Superintendent Dr. Navarro's message on page 3 bringing you up-to-date on the maintenance and special projects on school sites.


On page 6 the Costa Mesa Fire Chief informs about October being Fire Prevention & Preparedness month and the Newport Beach Fire Chief's article is about Vehicle Fire Safety. On page 10 you will be amazed at all of the library programs being offered for all ages.

Of course, every school article will make you want to be a student again. Enjoy!

Our next issue is December 11.



Happy Halloween



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Heidi B. Starnes, DDS, MS
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School News

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Covering the

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City of Costa Mesa



Katrina Foley
Mayor

October is Special Month

Hispanic Heritage Month ends on October 15. Costa Mesa is proud of its Hispanic heritage comprising 36.5% of our population.

In 2018, we elected our first council members of Hispanic heritage, and two are alumni of Estancia High School. Join us at our new library on October 12 for a book signing with author Victor Villasenor.

October is also Breast Cancer Awareness month. Remind your loved ones to get regular exams, avoid smoking, and a high fat diet. Detecting cancer early increases the chances of survival.

Our first responders will be wearing pink this month. So get your pink on and join us in the fight to end this terrible disease. For more information please visit www.nationalbreastcancer.org/breast-cancer-awareness-month.

October is also National Adopt a Shelter Dog month. Costa Mesa partners with Priceless Pets Rescue, where dogs, and cats, can find their forever homes.

To get the process started, please visit www.costamesaca.gov/residents/pets/adoptable-animals on our city website. You just may find a great new member of your family to care for and love for years to come.

77 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/754-5107
www.costamesaca.gov

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue



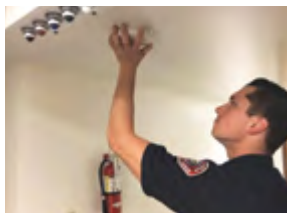
Dan Stefano
Fire Chief

Fire Prevention & Preparedness

October is National Fire Prevention & Preparedness Month! Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue encourages the community to become more prepared for fire and life safety in your home, at school, work, and at play in the event of any emergency.

Here are a few quick tips to help get you started:

- Install, maintain, and conduct monthly tests with your working smoke alarms, which should be located on every level and in every bedroom in your home
- Have a fire extinguisher easily accessible on every level of your home.
- Make a plan (escape or shelter in place) with your family for any emergency; fire, earthquake, or potential threat. And... practice it regularly.
- For more information, please go to www.fpw.org or www.readyoc.org.



P.O. Box 1200, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 • 714/754-5106

City of Newport Beach



Diane Dixon
Mayor

Digital Saturday Free - No Registration

Newport Beach Public Library (NBPL) welcomes community members to enhance their technological literacy at Digital Saturday on Saturday, November 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Central Library, 1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach.

Digital Saturday will showcase the library's digital resources, as well as provide opportunities for exploring the Media Lab, Sound Lab and Tech Toys available for loan. Newport Beach Police Department representatives will give a presentation on internet safety.

Library staff will be available to introduce customers to the NBPL's eBranch and demonstrate how to download eBooks and magazines to mobile devices, and access valuable research materials. A current library card and Google or Apple ID password is needed for one-on-one instruction on downloading eBooks and magazines to personal mobile devices.

The NBPL will host the Digital Bookmobile as part of the event. The 42-foot-long traveling exhibit provides devices, internet connectivity and expert guidance to the local library's digital collection of eBooks and audiobooks.

100 Civic Center Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/644-3004
www.newportbeachca.gov

Newport Beach Fire Department



Jeff Boyles
Fire Chief

Vehicle Fire Safety

A lot of us drive in our vehicles never thinking we can be the victim of a vehicle fire. Your Newport Beach Firefighters would like to share safety tips on preventing vehicle fires and how to act safely if you are the victim of this type of an emergency.

To prevent a vehicle fire:

- Have your car serviced regularly by a trained mechanic.
 - Keep gas cans or propane tanks away from passengers and upright. Drive with the windows down for ventilation.
 - Address recalls with dealers as soon as possible.
- If your vehicle catches fire:**
- Pull over as quickly as you can and safely.
 - Once you have stopped, turn off the engine.
 - Get everyone out of the car. Never return to a burning car.
 - If you think there is a fire under the hood or trunk, do not open it. This could cause the fire to grow.
 - Move everyone at least 100 feet from the fire and well away from traffic.
 - Call 911

P.O. Box 1768, Newport Beach, CA 92658 • 949/644-3104

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Mastering Menopause

Menopause is a normal stage of life for women when the ovaries stop making the female hormone, estrogen, which helps control the menstrual cycle. According to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecology, the average age that women go through menopause is 51, but many women begin to skip periods in their 40s. This is a sign of perimenopause, when the amount of estrogen begins to fluctuate and changes in the menstrual cycle start to occur leading to lighter or heavier periods. Menopause is considered a full year without a period indicating the end of a woman's reproductive years.

Symptoms of perimenopause and menopause include:

- hot flashes
- sleep problems
- night sweats
- vaginal and urinary tract changes

Hormone replacement therapy can help relieve these symptoms, but it's important to discuss benefits and risks with your doctor. Following menopause, women lose bone density more rapidly, due to lower levels of estrogen. This increases their risk of osteoporosis, which increases the risk of bone fractures.

To stay healthy during and after menopause, these three habits are your best bet:

- Eating a balanced diet with calcium and vitamin D to maintain strong bones
- Getting regular exercise to help slow down bone loss, including weight-bearing activities, such as walking and strength training
- Getting routine health care exams and tests
- Limit stress

Learn more at a free seminar: Women's Bodies – Amazing at All Stages on Thursday, October 17 at 2 pm in Fountain Valley. Call 833-288-5012 to register today!



Women's Bodies – Amazing at All Stages

A COMMUNITY BUILT ON WELLNESS

From puberty, to childbirth, to menopause, women's bodies go through some amazing, yet sometimes confounding changes.

Join us as Dr. Mercedes Sayago, OBGYN discusses the transformations a woman's body undergoes, dispelling mysteries and myths, and answering questions you have always wondered about.

Space is limited. Register for this free seminar today by calling **833-288-5012** or visiting FountainValleyHospital.com/classes.

WOMEN'S BODIES – AMAZING AT ALL STAGES THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Founders Village Senior and Community Center
17967 Bushard Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708



A COMMUNITY BUILT ON CARE

Early Childhood Education

2985-A Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-5000



Developing the Whole Child

We are excited to welcome our preschoolers to the 2019-2020 school year. Our preschoolers are immersed in age appropriate research based literacy instruction, explorations in science, math and technology.

Michelle O'Neill
Coordinator

The preschool program carefully integrates teacher directed instruction with structured and independent play activities that promote healthy social-emotional, physical and cognitive development. NNMUSD has 12 preschool sites including tuition preschool, state part day and state full day preschool classrooms.

Our preschool curriculum is based on developing the whole child. The teacher lesson plans foster physical, emotional, social and cognitive growth of each child. A developmental profile is used to assess children in all areas and set goals for their individual growth and development. The preschool curriculum is aligned with

California Preschool Learning Foundations and Curriculum Frameworks.

The classrooms integrate the following research based curriculum: World of Wonders PK (English Language Arts & Math), Bridges PK (Math), Hand Writing without Tears (Fine Motor) and Second Step (Social Emotional).



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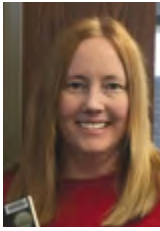
To participate or for more information, contact us:

EMAIL education@sheldrickwildlifetrust.org
PHONE 949-305-3785



Best known for its work rescuing and rehabilitating orphaned elephants back into the wild, the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust is a pioneering conservation organization that works towards the sustainable protection of Kenya's wildlife, habitats, and communities for future generations.

Costa Mesa Public Libraries



Kristina Jones
Branch Manager,
Costa Mesa
Donald Dugan
Library

Books are Just the Beginning!

Costa Mesa libraries are here to serve you! We are part of OC Public Libraries – a system of over 30 libraries.

The new Costa Mesa Donald Dugan Library is open!

Features of the library include a spectacular children’s library, 2 study rooms, 2 community rooms, Teen Room, Laptop Kiosk (borrow a laptop from us!) Our new library has many programs this fall.

- Our Homework Help Center - volunteers will assist students grades K – 5.

- STEAM programs Join us for fun programs featuring science, technology, engineering, art and math. Different topics for each program.
 - Teen programs – Crafts, movies, game days.
 - Weekly storytimes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays!
- Come visit our Costa Mesa Libraries for computers, books, programs, and Teen & adult volunteer opportunities. Our eLibrary features databases and for younger readers we offer BookFlix.

OC Public Libraries www.ocpl.org
Costa Mesa Donald Dugan Library
 1855 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/646-8845
Mesa Verde Library
 2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/546-5274

Newport Beach Public Libraries



Liz Aaron
Children's Librarian,
Newport Beach
Public Library

Corona del Mar is Ready to Read

We are excited that our new Corona del Mar Branch facility is now open! Please stop by to see the new building and meet our Branch Librarian, Annika Helmuth, at 410 Marigold Avenue.

New amenities include stroller parking and the Friends of the Library Reading Porch outside in front of the Library, as well as increased customer parking for cars, a high-efficiency building, and water-friendly landscaping. Inside we have a brand-new book collection! Books, music, and movies are all available for checkout. Laptop computers are available for use during your visit.



CdM Branch hours: Now open Mondays!
 Monday - Saturday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m, closed Sundays.

Upcoming programs at Corona del Mar Library:


- Books & Babies every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.
- Drop-in Crafts the first and third Monday of each month at 3:30 p.m.
- Fairy Tales and Magic Crafts Thursday, October 24 at 3:30 p.m.
- Teddy Bear Crafts Thursday, November 14 at 3:30 p.m.

Remember to check our calendar of events at <http://www.newportbeachlibrary.org/calendar> for exciting craft programs, author visits, storytimes, our annual Halloween Party and more at our four NBPL locations.

Reminder: Closures

All NBPL locations will close for Veteran’s Day on Monday, November 11. All locations will close at 6 pm on Wednesday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday and remain closed Thursday and Friday, November 28 and 29.

Central Library 1000 Avocado Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660
 949/717-3800 • www.newportbeachlibrary.org/kids
 Mariners Branch 1300 Irvine Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660
 949/717-3838
 Balboa Branch 100 East Balboa Blvd., Balboa, CA 92661 • 949/644-3076
 Corona Del Mar Branch 420 Marigold Ave., Corona Del Mar, CA 92625
 949/644-3075



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Adams Elementary (K-6)

2850 Club House Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7935
adams.nmusd.us



Stacy deBoom-Howard
Principal

Kindness, Teamwork and Cooperation

What a great start to the year! Our All-Stars are back working hard and focusing on our theme of “Kindness” this year. Students are smiling at each other, helping around campus, and making great choices in class and around campus.

Students from Mrs. Walske’s fifth-grade class participated in a fun STEM activity called the Spaghetti Tower Challenge.



The challenge was to build the tallest freestanding tower, using 25 pieces of uncooked spaghetti, one yard of masking tape, one yard of string and one marshmallow. Teams quickly realized that this challenge was harder than it looked, and at the end of 35 minutes, only two teams had standing structures! Not only did students learn the importance of creating towers with strong bases but they also learned valuable lessons about teamwork and cooperation.

Roy O. Andersen Elementary (K-6)

1900 Port Seabourne Way, Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6935
andersen.nmusd.us



Dr. Shannon Bray
Principal

Creating a Culture of Kindness!

The Andersen community is continuing to promote kindness on their campus and in their community.

Staff, students and families will be given many opportunities throughout the school year to demonstrate their kindness. Before the first bell rang for the new school year the Andersen staff showed their kindness by visiting the homes of all the new students to Andersen. The staff delivered a personal welcome along with a special gift to each new student.

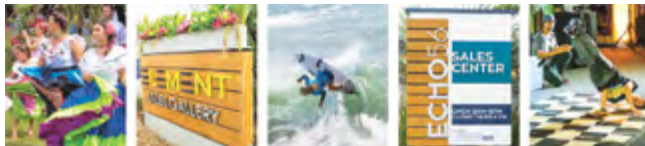


The new families were overwhelmed by this act of kindness and this opportunity certainly made the staff feel fantastic.

I believe we have begun a new tradition at Andersen!

GERALD VILLALUZ PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGN

PROMOTIONAL & EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY



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Back Bay/Monte Vista *High School*

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Mike Wagner
Principal

Great, Fresh Start!

Back Bay and Monte Vista High School have gotten off to a great start! We are excited for the 2019–20 school year! We welcomed several new staff members over the summer, and the installation of our campuswide air conditioning was completed.

As we again focus our efforts on student attendance and maintaining a positive learning environment to support student success, we'd like to thank our PTSA for being such a wonderful partner. They have become an instrumental part of promoting the importance of attendance, including supporting Back Bay students with incentives for making good choices.

On the first day of school, our new assistant principal, Mrs. Ruley, and the PTSA president, Mrs. Strasmann, handed out spiral notebooks, pencils and folders as well as water and a muffin to each student as they entered the gate. With a personal greeting from our PTSA president

and assistant principal, the students and parents who arrived on the first day of school felt welcome and were encouraged to join PTSA and become involved in their children's education. Parent involvement is a strong indicator of student success, and parents at Back Bay and Monte Vista are always reminded that their participation is welcome.

The start of the school year provides students with the opportunity for a fresh start. We are sending out a lot of positive vibes and encouragement to have a successful year by promoting good attendance and school involvement. ASB has made and plastered posters all over campus with positive messages and encouragement, and students with perfect attendance receive a five-minute early-to-lunch pass, an always well-received incentive.

We look forward to another year of supporting students in their efforts to earn a high school diploma. We understand that the challenges our students face are many, but we will continue to work as a team, including staff, students and parents, to make their experience at Back Bay and Monte Vista a positive one.

California *Elementary (K-6)*

3232 California Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7940 • california.nmusd.us



Ryan Longacre
Principal

Encouraging Positive Behavior

And we're off! The California Elementary School staff and students kicked off the 2019–2020 school year with both excitement and purpose. Working collaboratively as a team, our staff

took several steps to ensure students were welcomed back to a purposeful and efficient environment conducive to both learning and discovery.

Expectations in various campus locations are positively stated and prominently displayed. Common language and incentives are being used to teach, promote, and reinforce these desired behaviors, and students are benefiting from knowing exactly what is expected of them.

The work being done by our staff is an essential and foundational part of our wider involvement in Positive Behavioral Interventions

and Supports (PBIS). As we look toward the months ahead, our team will continue to involve students in fostering the type of pride, respect, and inclusivity that makes California Elementary such an amazing place to work, learn, volunteer, and gather.



Sunrise at California Elementary on the first day of the 2019-2020 school year.

College Park *Elementary (K-6)*

2380 Notre Dame Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7960 • collegepark.nmusd.us



Rich Rodriguez
Principal

Increasing Tech Presence

College Park is off to a tremendous start for the 2019–20 school year. Our students have picked up right where they left off last year and continue to impress with their hard work and dedication to learning.

This year, College Park has received new Chromebooks as part of the district's Chromebook initiative, bringing even more Chromebooks to our campus. Chromebooks provide students ample opportunity for individualized practice, dynamic collaboration opportunities, and practice on 21st century computing skills. These machines serve as powerful tools for our incredible teachers to unlock exciting new learning opportunities for the students at College Park. Staff receive ongoing PD from the Education Technology Department along with College Park's own digital fellow, who supports our staff with new innovative software programs.



We are excited about a great new school year ahead of us. We know the College Park Cougars are going to have a terrific school year!

Corona del Mar *High School (7-12)*

2101 Eastbluff Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6000 • cdm.nmusd.us



Dr. Rebecca Gogel
Principal
7–8 Grade



Kathy Scott
Principal
9–12 Grade

Kings Krew

Often struggles and challenges bring about innovation and change. Two years ago, Corona del Mar High School (CdM) took the opportunity to start something big.

For years, Kings Krew was just the name given to the student section at any CdM

sporting event—but now it is a class created to encourage school spirit. Members of the class have said, “Kings Krew works to support activities by generating school spirit and reaching out to as many students as they can to build an inclusive atmosphere.”

Kings Krew is a student leadership class led by Mr. Kevin McCaffrey and Mr. Michael Dobyms. Mr. Dobyms, our Associated Student Body (ASB) director, describes this growing organization as “a way for the student body to support each individual by attending various CdM events in athletics and the arts. Their goal is to embolden our community toward being more inclusive. Kings Krew does so by creating events that serve as a safe space

for students to join in and celebrate the achievements of classmates. Being part of a student body that supports each other, builds confidence that will hopefully extend into other areas of student life.”

As a community, CdM is working diligently to listen and, more importantly, to hear what its students are saying about culture and inclusivity. CdM is taking actionable steps toward changing the culture on campus, and it is exciting to see the improved attendance and school spirit.

Assistant Principal Sam Payne said, “There is a certain buzz around campus that we haven't felt in a long time. These are exciting times to be a Sea King!”



Costa Mesa High School (7-12)

2650 Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-8700 • cmhs.nmusd.us



Dr. Eugene Kwong
Principal
7-8 Grade



Jake Haley
Principal
9-12 Grade

Connecting Together

The beginning of the year provides an opportunity for positive school climate and interpersonal connections. This year our Costa Mesa Middle School ASB Ambassadors welcomed incoming

seventh-grade students with a Camp Mav welcome event. The goal was to provide a road map for student resources, familiarity of campus, and connections with adults.



Staff at Tewinkle Park.



Staff at Centennial Farms.

Students and parents were greeted in the Costa Mesa Performing Arts Theater with an introduction to support staff, shared information on Costa Mesa Middle School, and had school resource officers talk about social media etiquette. Additionally, the Costa Mesa staff participated in a scavenger hunt that allowed for some meaningful collaboration, as well as implemented a command of technology as our school begins the transition to 1:1 Chromebooks.

As a campus, we are committed to educating students of the mind, heart, and body. We are proud of the resources that are available to support students as we commit to overarching health for all children.

Davis Magnet (K-6)

1050 Arlington Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7930 • davisagnet.nmusd.us



Christy Flores
Principal

Learning and Growing

The Davis Magnet School community returned in the fall to discover many completed campus projects. Half of the classrooms received new carpet, with the other half to be completed throughout the next year. Other ground

work included new flooring in the health office, and repairs were completed on the blacktop and concrete across the campus. New benches and bricks were installed in our Learning Garden, and bright, friendly murals were painted, welcoming all to Davis.



The Davis community received other exciting news beyond the campus upgrades. For the first time, Davis Magnet School was named a California Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Gold Medal School! This statewide recognition is the result of the collaboration and commitment of our staff to support student behaviors and social-emotional learning.

One new component to support student wellness is our school-wide theme focused on empathy. Staff and parents will participate in monthly book clubs utilizing the book UnSelfie.

The Davis Ducks are off to a great start! We are committed to helping all of our students learn and grow.

Early College *High School (9-12)*

2990 Mesa Verde Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/241-6108 • earlycollege.nmusd.us



Dr. David Martinez
Principal

A Busy Start

Classes at ECHS began on August 7th, and we welcomed 72 new students.

There were many accomplishments to celebrate. Over 43 percent of our student body earned the Principal's Honor Roll award last semester with a 3.5 or higher unweighted academic GPA. We also had a school-wide GPA of 3.26 during the last school year, which is an all-time high percentage for ECHS. Almost 55 percent of our returning student body also earned the California Scholarship Federation Award.



On the heels of earning both the 2019 California Distinguished School and California Honor Roll Awards this past spring, it was officially announced earlier this month that ECHS was now a 2019 PLATINUM Level PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) School!

This is our first time in receiving this designation, after reaching the Bronze level the last two years. The Platinum PBIS Implementation Award is a reflection of excellence in our efforts to implement the core features of PBIS, which are promoting positive student behaviors and providing social emotional learning experiences.

Eastbluff *Elementary (K-6)*

627 Vista del Oro, Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-5920 • eastbluff.nmusd.us



Cheryl Beck
Principal

PRIDE!

We had a great opening of our 2019-20 school year! Our theme this year is "Kindness." We are going to throw kindness all around like confetti with Eastbluff PRIDE! We kicked off our theme at our first Friday's Flag Deck, launching confetti!

Eastbluff School is so proud to be awarded the Platinum PBIS Award. Our consistent implementation of our PBIS strategies has made such a positive impact for our students' academic and social-emotional success. Eastbluff School is committed to teaching our students strong character traits and displaying scholarly positive behaviors. This is achieved through the focus on our positive schoolwide behavior system (PBIS) and character development through our John Wooden Pyramid Program. Eastbluff students shows PRIDE every day.

PRIDE stands for *prepared, respectful, integrity, determined* and *excellence*. This acronym clearly defines the expected behaviors and procedures in all the different settings on campus. Our PRIDE video models expected behaviors throughout the campus. This is a great way to teach and remind students how to make positive decisions as Eastbluff Scholars.

Friday Flag Decks are celebrations to recognize students for their individual

and class successes. It is so exciting to see our students strive to be the best that they can be and work together cooperatively to achieve their goals. We are so proud of our Eastbluff Students!



Horace Ensign *Intermediate (7-8)*

2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6910 • ensign.nmusd.us



Michael Sciacca
Principal

Multiple Opportunities for Success

The Ensign AVID program is rapidly growing to include a greater number of students from all of the feeder elementary schools. The AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) program's mission is to "close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society."

The Ensign program has a strong focus on utilizing WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading) strategies to help our students develop the skills they need to be successful in all of their classes. Students work with NHHS and college tutors to develop problem-solving skills and learn to lead their own study teams. Both the seventh- and eighth-grade AVID elective classes also visit local colleges and universities.

The AVID site counselor visits each AVID elective class to conduct exploration lessons on student career interests and college research. The eighth-grade AVID class also extends their global learning through the UCI Global Connect program and Spring Symposium.



Estancia *High School*

2323 Placentia Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6500 • estancia.nmusd.us



Michael Halt
Principal

Welcoming the Class of 2023

In late August, Estancia High School's Class of 2023 attended Freshmen Welcome Day hosted by the Link Crew. The nearly 265 ninth-grade students who attended Freshmen Welcome Day were greeted on

the campus through a spirit tunnel of composed

of upperclassmen Link Crew leaders and Estancia faculty members.

The freshmen participated in a series of challenges, received information about how to be successful in high school, and started building relationships with their Link Crew leaders who will meet with them four times a week throughout the school year.

During Eagle Advisory, the Link Crew leaders will help support freshmen academic success and character development, as well as build connections with the freshmen class through social activities designed to increase student engagement and promote a positive school culture.



Eight of the 60+ Link Crew Leaders enjoying lunch after a successful Freshmen Welcome Day

Harbor View *Elementary (K-6)*

900 Goldenrod Ave., Corona del Mar, CA 92625 • 949/515-6940 • harborview.nmusd.us



Carol Furman
Principal

Being BRAVE

The Vikings of Harbor View School are off to a great start for the 2019–20 school year! We are excited to be back for a new school year and are sprinkling kindness like confetti all over our campus!

This year, students will have many opportunities to be BRAVE—bold, respectful, accountable, visionary and empathetic—and will be recognized and honored for their kindness and respect in new and exciting ways! Each week, students will have the opportunity to “brag” to our new principal and share the wonderful work they have done! In addition, staff members will nominate students to be honored with an A for the day!

Our goal at Harbor View is to ensure that every student feels honored on our campus for their effort! Everyone that walks through our doors is part of the Harbor View School family!



Heinz Kaiser *Elementary (3-6)*

2130 Santa Ana Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6950 • kaiser.nmusd.us



Dr. Deborah Granger
Principal

Kindness Rules at Kaiser

Kindness has been erupting all over the Kaiser campus already this year:

“We Love STEM” voted to provide several free admissions to a key family event to ensure that the whole school community can participate.

On “Be Kind to Silverio” Day, students scoured the campus to show our amazing custodian how much they care about him.

Mr. Topete, Kaiser’s new assistant principal, jumped right in and has been spotted playing wiffle ball during lunch. Students are having a blast and practicing excellent sportsmanship!

Pounds of Lego are arriving daily to support Lego building during lunch!

Sixth graders are looking after younger students by helping them find their way around campus.



Everyone’s a winner with Mr. Topete pitching!

Family movie night hosted by the Kaiser-Woodland PFO will bring together families from our school community and allow students to show off their kindness to their parents!

Academics are moving ahead at full speed as well! We look forward to a year filled with all kinds of learning at Kaiser!

Killybrooke *Elementary (K-6)*

3155 Killybrooke Ln., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7945 • killybrooke.nmusd.us



Dr. Lorie Hoggard
Principal

Every Student College Ready

At Killybrooke School, we are a No Excuses University school! We promote a comprehensive model of college readiness to all students the moment they begin elementary school. Killybrooke students, staff and parents are committed to the idea that every child will be highly proficient in reading, writing and math; that positive social-emotional development and building

strong character are important; and that every child will be challenged with enriching learning opportunities across all subject areas

We work diligently to incorporate the message that students are college bound. Every classroom has adopted a university and proudly displays its flag. We start each day with a cheer to reinforce the message that “Killybrooke is college bound.” Our students embrace the goal of going to

college and are beginning to consider which colleges they’d like to attend and their ultimate career goals

Our current sixth-grade class will promote into middle school in the year 2020, and the students are projected to graduate from college in or around 2030. Katelynn is interested in graduating from University of California, Los Angeles, and becoming a brain surgeon. Cesar envisions attending Notre Dame University and becoming a pilot. Christine dreams of pursuing her college education at University of California, Irvine, and becoming a teacher. Sofia plans to graduate from California State University, Fullerton, and become an emergency medical technician (EMT) and a digital artist. Roman envisions playing soccer in college and beyond, and earning a degree in engineering.

At Killybrooke, we are proud to help motivate children to excel in their education today and connect their success to their goals for higher education and careers.

Abraham Lincoln *Elementary (K-6)*

3101 Pacific View Dr., Corona del Mar, CA 92625 • 949/515-6955 • lincoln.nmusd.us



Dr. Kristin DeMicco
Principal

Achieving Gold

We opened the 2019–2020 school year on the heels of the fantastic news that our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program achieved Gold Recognition from the California PBIS Coalition.

We are proud of this accomplishment and excited for the opportunity to build upon this success as we continue to support our students’ academic, behavioral, and social emotional needs.

In addition to our Respectful, Own your actions, Always try your best, Responsible, Show empathy (ROARS) expectations for students and staff, this year we have added a year-long commitment to emphasizing and modeling kindness on campus. Our motto this year is “Kindness—It’s a Lincoln Thing.”

The Lincoln community is committed to working together to teach with the whole child in mind, and our commitment to PBIS has been instrumental in helping us work toward this goal.



Mariners *Elementary (K-6)*

2100 Mariners Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6960 • mariners.nmusd.us



Matthew Broesamle
Principal

A Special Place

Mrs. Nieto-Chaney, our school's Science Lab teacher, has gone above and beyond to build and maintain our beautiful garden here at Mariners Elementary School.

With the help of several students who make up our wonderful

Garden Club, not only is the garden thriving, it is also a beautiful focal point for the entire campus. Our classes are able to utilize their garden throughout the school year as an alternate work space to the science lab to learn additional lessons and gain valuable hands-on experience.

The students absolutely love how they have the opportunity to participate in the Garden Club. Valery, a valued member of the group, recently stated that, "I like the experience I get working in the garden and learning about all the plants." Grace added, "The garden is beautiful, and everything looks so pretty!"



Our science lab teacher Mrs. Nieto-Chaney, along with students from our Garden Club

Both students told us that they love the garden and are so grateful for all of the hard work that Mrs. Nieto-Chaney has put in to creating it.

Newport Harbor *High School (9-12)*

600 Irvine Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6300 • nhhs.nmusd.us



Sean Boulton
Principal

Theater Program Expanding!

Newport Harbor's theater teacher, Joe D'Aquino, arrived four years ago with the idea of bringing his professional experiences and relationship with the Actors Studio to our students and community, with the goal of building a strong academic and artistic program.

This year, his goal of offering a professional/student production to go along with two musicals, a student-only mainstage production, dinner theater and a play in Spanish is in full swing!

Newport Harbor students no longer need to look outside their own high school to get the professional experience that so many of them crave; Mr. D'Aquino is bringing it to them.



Students at rehearsal.

Newport *Elementary (K-6)*

1327 W. Balboa Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6965 • newportel.nmusd.us



Amanda Estrada
Principal

Social-Emotional Learning

The 2019–2020 school year is off to a fantastic start! After the first day, we had a great back-to-school party, where families were invited to enjoy frozen treats, learn about volunteer opportunities, purchase school spirit wear, and celebrate the new year.

At Newport Elementary School,

our aim is to teach students to be “the best on the beach” academically, behaviorally and socially. A big part of this has been character education. We use Coach Wooden’s Pyramid of Success and teach our students to be ready, responsible, and respectful through our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program.

This year we are increasing our efforts in the area of social-emotional learning. We have implemented the Second Step curriculum school-wide. Second Step teaches academic and social skills for learning, empathy, emotion management, and problem-solving. We are excited to be able to provide this opportunity to our students and hopeful that it will have a positive

impact on their growth.

In support of this effort, I am reading a book with a positive message about topics like kindness, friendship, empathy, or teamwork to each class every month. September’s book, *The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors*, teaches about having a growth mindset and the value of teamwork.



Newport Coast *Elementary (K-6)*

6655 Ridge Park Rd., Newport Coast, CA 92657 • 949/515-6975 • nce.nmusd.us



Somer Harding
Principal

PBIS Leadership

Newport Coast is a real leader in PBIS practices and will be recognized at the California PBIS Conference in October for having been granted Platinum status. To reach this highest level of schoolwide achievement, an application was filed to demonstrate the strong systems and goals associated with establishing a Positive Behavioral Intervention System (PBIS).

This school has been working on this continuum approach for using evidence- or research-based behavioral practices organized in a systemic way to help students achieve academic- and social-behavior success. All teachers

at NCE have brought this practice into their classrooms and are leaders in looking at all areas of a student’s day and how best practices can be achieved. An incredibly strong team approach exists here, and we are very proud to have been recognized for our sustained efforts.

PBIS emphasizes data for decision making, measurable outcomes supported and evaluated by data, practices with evidence that these outcomes are achievable, and systems that efficiently and effectively support implementation of these practices.

We are continually teaching and encouraging pro-social skills and behaviors with our students. It is delightful to see the great benefit to our students that these practices provide, and to receive recognition for our efforts is very satisfying.



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Newport Heights *Elementary (K-6)*

300 E. 15th St., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6970 • newportheights.nmusd.us



Terri Clarke
Principal

Kindness and Positivity

I am beyond excited to continue my partnership with the NHES community as the new principal and am grateful to have had the honor of serving the school as the assistant principal over the past three years. From our Shark P.R.I.D.E. to our Walk-to-Learn to our Shark Tank and everything in between, NHES is an incredible place for our students to build friendships, show their creativity, stretch their minds and strengthen their skills, and start their foundations for positively impacting the community and beyond.

This year, a major focus is on kindness and positivity. The first day of school, students were welcomed to campus with signs of positivity and encouragement as well as photo spots. Each week, we promote T-Shirt Tuesdays where students and staff are encouraged to wear apparel that promotes positivity, and we have started Principal Read-Alouds in the classrooms. This month, we read books about kindness and challenged our students to show small acts of kindness every day.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year in which students “achieve great heights!”



Paularino *Elementary (K-6)*

1060 Paularino Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7950 • paularino.nmusd.us



Dr. Amy Nagy
Principal

Off to a Great Start

Paularino staff and students are off to an EXCELLENT start and have already begun working toward our 2019-20 school improvement goals. This year, in the area of ELA, we will continue to implement our school-wide ELD time and utilize new strategies to support all students with their language development. We will also be focusing on helping students to comprehend complex text and use their high-level

thinking skills to analyze text and apply their knowledge and skills in their writing. In the area of math, we are going to continue with our school-wide fluency focus and support our students as they build a solid understanding of the grade-level concepts. Hourly support teachers will be supporting upper-grade students through small group math intervention. In addition to our academic goals, we will be continuing to provide school-wide social-emotional learning opportunities. In future issues, we will highlight that work. Paularino is a GREAT place to learn!

Pomona Elementary (K-6)

2051 Pomona Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6980 • pomona.nmusd.us



Cindy Pedroso
Principal

Ready to Go!

I am thrilled to be the new principal here at Pomona Elementary and joining such a wonderful and talented staff as well as a great community! Students were given a red-carpet welcome as teachers and staff greeted them with warm smiles. Our school mascot was also outside and photo ready.

Our theme this year is creating a culture of kindness! Every small act makes a big difference. All of our staff is committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment for all of our students. Throughout the year, we will be working on various activities, lessons and events surrounding our theme of kindness.

In addition to fostering the climate of kindness, students will continue to be encouraged to be the best they can be. Our student motto is “They key is me. Today, I will be the best I can be!”

I believe the energy felt on day one as students walked through the doors will be felt year long. Go Panthers!



Everett A. Rea Elementary (K-6)

661 Hamilton Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6905 • rea.nmusd.us



Dr. Duane Cox
Principal

Mathematics Team Learning

Rea Elementary School is committed to increased student achievement in mathematics. The staff at Rea has begun a multiyear commitment with Orange County Department of Education to focus on effective research-based mathematics instruction, or CGI.

A tenet of CGI is that all students contribute to the problem-solving process. It is our job to identify each child’s abilities and create a culture where children learn from one another. A schoolwide activity in the 2019–20 school year is counting collections. These collections have as few as 25 items and as many as 1,000 items, and include paper clips, pencils, play money or other objects. The children work in teams to count the items. Teachers are able to ascertain student’s ability to count by ones and tens, to use strategies to count items, and to use multiplicative properties, place value and more.

Rea Elementary School is looking forward to students and staff learning about how to best teach and learn mathematics.



Students explain their thinking as others look on.

Sonora Elementary (K-6)

966 Sonora Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7955 • sonora.nmusd.us



Mia Dodge
Principal

Red Carpet

Sonora Elementary rolled out the red carpet to welcome our awesome students and let them know how special they

are! Gold and silver balloons lined our hallway along with teachers and staff members who greeted students and their families by cheering them on, high fiving them, and welcoming them to the new year.

It was so great to see students' big smiles as they walked the red carpet for their first day back.



Charles W. TeWinkle Intermediate (7-8)

3224 California Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7965 • tewinkle.nmusd.us



Dr. Dipali Potnis
Principal

Working as a Team

TeWinkle is committed to understanding the names, faces, and stories of our staff and students, with the intent to grow as a collective team and understand each other personally, professionally, socially, and academically.

During our first day back as a staff, we engaged in activities that allowed us to get to know one another better. After taking the 16

personalities assessment, we broke up into groups based on our personality types, and as a team we set our intention of the year. By doing this we would commit to supporting one another in personal and professional growth as a unit.

While TeWinkle's staff is already dynamic, and has a strong sense of community, we are aware that as we focus in on this area we can deepen our relationships with students, families, and each other to ensure that we are always doing what is in the best interests of the whole child.



Victoria Elementary (K-6)

1025 Victoria St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6985 • victoria.nmusd.us



Dr. Aaron Peralta
Principal

Be Kind!

Victoria launched its Kindness Campaign on September 11, 2019. We are focused on spreading kindness throughout our classrooms, campus, city, and beyond. The Kindness Campaign is closely linked to our character education. For example, in the month of September our students are focused on the traits of “Hard Work and Skill.”

“I work hard to be my best, and I encourage others to be their best too! Working hard and developing skill for oneself is something to be encouraged...and encouraging others as they do the same

is kindness! If something is easy for you then you can reach out to another student who is struggling and help them be successful. “

Every Wednesday this year our students and staff will wear their “Choose Kind (It Matters)” T-shirts to school. As the year progresses, we will be reaching out by hosting a food drive to provide Thanksgiving meals. In December we will also be focusing on bringing holiday cheer to families in need.

We believe that this holistic approach to character and kindness will significantly change how our students, staff, and families think about interacting with one another and the world around them. Join us this year, and #choosekind!



Whittier Elementary (K-6)

1800 Whittier Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6990 • whittier.nmusd.us

New Programs Galore!

Teri Lyn Schad, Assistant Principal

Welcome back students, parents, staff and community! Whittier Elementary School had a great opening week for the 2019–20 school year. All our students are in their classrooms, and the learning process has begun. As the interim principal at Whittier Elementary School, I am so excited because the school will continue its dual-immersion program, Project Kidz Connect and ROCKS programs.

Students will benefit from the Shoes That Fit organization and participate in the Walk to School Day event this fall. The PTA and the Padres en Acción program

will also continue to support our Whittier students, staff and parents this year. Our PTA's Coin Week fund-raiser program has been very successful, and we ask all parents to join and continue to support our PTA.

Our Back to School Night and Chromebook Orientation were very successful. Teachers and staff are very appreciative of parental involvement and support as they continue to provide outstanding instruction for all students. We look forward to another year of educational excellence at Whittier Elementary School for the 2019–2020 school year. Go Dolphins!

Wilson Elementary (K-6)

801 Wilson St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6995 • wilson.nmusd.us



Jennifer Heckert
Principal

Kindness Begins with Wildcats!

Students and staff at Wilson Elementary School are kicking off the 2019–2020 school year with our theme: Kindness begins with me! Research shows that cultivating kindness can have many positive benefits for students, including promoting positive wellbeing and self-esteem as well as creating a culture of empathy and

compassion.

As we build our culture of kindness, students are engaging in daily, school-wide morning messages focused on kindness, where they have opportunities to learn about, reflect on, and share strategies to be kind to self, kind to others, and kind to the community. Wilson teachers are actively integrating kindness into their daily classroom routines and collaborating to brainstorm further ideas to highlight kindness as our school theme throughout the 2019–2020 school year!

We are thrilled to grow kindness at Wilson and can't wait to see all of the wonderful strategies and traditions that will flourish in our community!



Woodland Elementary (K-2)

2025 Garden Ln., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6945 • woodland.nmusd.us



Tiffany Lewis
Principal

Focus on Literacy

This year Woodland Elementary School kicked off the school year with a focus on literacy. Teachers had the opportunity to preview and select books to read for professional growth and organized small book clubs to learn from one another

throughout the year. Outside of classrooms and around campus are signs displaying what each staff member is currently reading.

We are encouraging literacy through many different avenues. For example, during the first week of school, I had the pleasure of spending time in every classroom reading *The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors* by Drew Daywalt. To conclude the read-a-thon, we held a rock, paper, scissors tournament. The excitement and energy were high! It was a great way to show students how fun reading can be!



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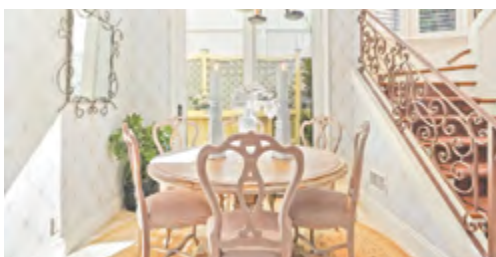
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