

# School News



Covering the Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach City, Ocean View, and Westminster School Districts

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 94

[www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com](http://www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com)

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2020

## Ocean View Takes Hands-On Learning to the Farm

*By Dr. Carol Hansen, Superintendent  
Ocean View School District*

Did you know that there is a farm right in the middle of Surf City? The extraordinary farm is part of the Golden View Environmental Science School and it recently underwent a major renovation. The refurbished 2.5 acre farm provides students with multiple, unique, hands-on learning opportunities and it is the only one of its kind in Orange County.

The special farm has been considered a community treasure since it was established in the early 1970's. Students are able to care for living animals which helps them understand life cycles, the reciprocity between animals and humans, and the importance of making responsible choices. Tending the garden allows students to plant, harvest and cook nutritious food using natural ingredients. Through the recycle, reuse and repurpose program, students learn how to be stewards of the environment.

Key upgrades made to the farm include: new animal enclosures for sheep and goats, an outdoor exercise area for animals, hardscaping, and new interior and exterior fencing.



Members of the Golden View student council in front of the iconic barn.



The official ribbon cutting of the re-opening of the refurbished Golden View Farm

The farm encompasses five essential areas: a garden, a chicken coop, a barn, animal enclosures and a pond. A variety of fruits and vegetables are planted in the garden throughout the year and students just finished planting new harvests of lettuces, beans, squashes, and snap peas.

The chicken coop houses a variety of breeds of chickens and roosters. The eggs laid are used for cooking as well as science and math lessons.

Six new animal enclosures were built for the geese, ducks, sheep and goats. In addition, a new outdoor exercise area was created for the animals along with an eight-foot wide pathway from the entrance of the farm to the animal enclosures.

The pond is home to geese, ducks, fish, and about 15 red-eared slider turtles. It is not uncommon to see wild geese and mallard ducks stopping by for a visit also.

The barn contains the farm's tools, supplies and feed for the animals. Golden View has built great relationships with local Scouts from around the community and they have provided assistance around the farm in a variety of helpful ways. An Eagle Scout recently designed and

constructed a beautiful shed for the garden area and another Eagle Scout is currently working on building new tool racks for the barn. The school highly values this partnership and is proud to support the Scouts.

I encourage you to visit the Golden View Farm and see first-hand the engaging, real-world experiences it provides our students. Golden View students can't wait to get out to the farm each day and their smiles, enthusiasm and inquisitiveness are evidence of the meaningful learning taking place.

In addition to the wonderful farm, Golden View Environmental Science School offers a rigorous academic program with environmental

science integrated throughout the school day. The school offers gifted and talented (GATE) instruction, Chromebooks for all grade levels, art, music and a variety of clubs and after-school programs. To learn more, please visit [www.ovsd.org](http://www.ovsd.org)



Golden View Principal Lori Florgan with student council members that provided tours during the Grand Re-Opening of the farm.

### Superintendents

Fountain Valley



Dr. Mark Johnson  
pages 6-8

Huntington Beach City



Gregory Hauk  
pages 9-12

Ocean View



Dr. Carol Hansen  
pages 13-17

Westminster



Dr. Cyndi Paik  
pages 18-22



Education + Communication = A Better Nation





# Tender care for your special delivery.

## A COMMUNITY BUILT ON **SUPPORT**

When plans for delivery don't go as planned, peace of mind for quality care goes to the top of the list. Fountain Valley Regional Hospital has a Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), so your baby can receive a higher level of care for prematurity, illness or many other conditions. Most importantly, we know that there's more to care than medicine. There's compassion. Attentiveness. And a healthy dose of kindness.

To register, visit [FountainValleyHospital.com](https://www.FountainValleyHospital.com)



**Fountain Valley Regional**  
HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

---

A COMMUNITY BUILT ON CARE



# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)

Covering the:  
**FOUNTAIN VALLEY/ OCEAN VIEW  
HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY  
WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

**FOUNDER/PUBLISHER:** Kay Coop  
562/493-3193 • [kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com)

**ADVERTISING SALES:** 562/493-3193

**CONTENT COORDINATOR:** Barbra Longiny

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION:**

Gerald Villaluz and Emily Ung

**COPY EDITORS:**

Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Nancy Lueder

**Netragrednik** by Neta Madison



@SchoolNewsRC



SchoolNewsRollCall



SchoolNewsRollCall

**SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC**

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740

562/493-3193

[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)

Copyright © 2006, School News Roll Call, LLC  
Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest columnists are their views and not necessarily those of *School News Roll Call*. This publication is privately owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content. The Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach City, Ocean View, and Westminster School Districts do not endorse the advertisers in this publication.



**Kay Coop**

Founder/Publisher



This is our 20th year publishing *School News* and the 15th year publishing FV/HB/WEST/OV districts. During the 20 years curriculum has changed in ways never imagined with the biggest change being technology. We have updated our masthead, but our mission has never changed: Education+Communication=A Better Nation. The one constant has been the focus on academics. It is a privilege to publish *School News* and we have only just begun.

Our next issue is March 11, 2020.

## Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center

17100 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/966-7200 • [www.fountainvalleyhospital.com](http://www.fountainvalleyhospital.com)

### Six Ways to Prevent the Flu

Getting the flu can be more than a miserable experience. Complications can include bacterial pneumonia, ear or sinus infections and worsening of chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes or congestive heart failure. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends a flu shot for anyone 6 months of age and older. In addition, practice six health habits to help protect yourself and others:

1. Keep your distance. Stay away from people who are sick. And if you are ill, stay home.
2. Cover your nose and mouth. If you sneeze or cough, cover yourself with a tissue or the crook of your arm if a tissue isn't nearby.
3. Avoid touching your mouth, eyes and nose. Germs are everywhere – computer keyboards, elevator buttons and door handles are just a few of the places they can be found.
4. Wash your hands frequently. Use soap and water and scrub for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water aren't available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer is an alternative.
5. Stay as healthy as possible to keep up your immune system. Eat a balanced diet, drink fluids, get plenty of sleep and be physically active. As much as possible, manage stress.
6. Keep a clean environment. Flu virus can live for up to 48 hours on surfaces.

When you feel ill, it may be difficult to know if you have the flu or just a cold. Both are viruses, but the flu is worse than a cold. Your doctor may run a test to be certain. Take care of yourself and stay well!

GLOBAL VISION



**Experience Modern Eye Care**

**STUDENTS  
GET  
30% OFF  
EYEWEAR**

*\*does not apply with insurance*

- FREE Retinal Photos for Students
- Comprehensive Eye Exam
- Red/Dry/Pink Eye
- Minor Eye Injuries/FB Removal
- LASIK/CATARACT Consult
- Myopia Management
- Blue light/Computer Glasses
- Glasses/Contact Lenses
- IN-HOUSE LAB AVAILABLE GLASSES READY SAME DAY! (SV, Rx in stock only)
- Corneal Topography & Retinal Photos

*\*We accept most vision insurance plans.*

*No vision insurance, we got you covered, check with us for store promotions*

**STEPHANY VONG, O.D.  
AND ASSOCIATES**

18569 Main St.,  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648  
(Located in the 5 Points Plaza)

**(714) 780-2008**

[www.globalvisionoptometry.com](http://www.globalvisionoptometry.com)



# RAISED ON ROCKVIEW

Rockview Family Farms proudly serves schools throughout Southern California. Choosing local means fresh, delicious, and nutritious milk for your family! Dairy and dairy-free options now at a store near you.



[www.RockviewFarms.com](http://www.RockviewFarms.com)



# City of Fountain Valley Office of the Mayor

10200 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/593-4400 • [www.fountainvalley.org](http://www.fountainvalley.org)



**Steve A. Nagel**  
Mayor

## Retired Senior Volunteer Program

In 1990 the Fountain Valley Police Department established a program utilizing retired volunteers to provide services to our community. This program, designated the Retired Senior Volunteer Program or RSVP, has become an important part of the Fountain Valley Police Department. The program currently has 43 volunteers providing invaluable assistance to the department.

One of the greatest strengths of the RSVP program comes from the variety of life experiences that the volunteers bring.

Our members have come from the ranks of teachers, aerospace workers, secretaries, retail merchandising, truck drivers and airline pilots to name a few. Two of the things they have in common are that they are retired and have a sincere wish to give back to their community.

One of their duties include patrolling our neighborhoods for the identification of community problems which is then relayed to either the police department or the city's code enforcement for corrective action. They also provide other important duties such as checking homes of vacationing residents, interacting with community members, spotting and reporting graffiti and patrolling parking lots for handicapped parking violations.

Another duty that they perform are administrative jobs in nearly every area of the Police Department, including the records department and traffic department. Some of their responsibilities include data entry, filing, fingerprinting, administrative review of parking citations and other duties that help ease the workload of the police department.

If you would like to be considered for the Police Department Retired Senior Volunteer Program, please go to the Police Department's website and fill out an interest card, or for more information on the program, you can contact Crime Prevention Specialist Joanne Minney at 714-593-4526.

# Huntington Beach Central Library

7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/374-5338 • [www.hbpl.org](http://www.hbpl.org)



**Barbara Richardson**  
Senior Librarian  
Programming and Youth Services

## Reading Challenge, Authors Festival and HB Reads

The month of January 2020 is our Winter Reading Challenge. Children age 12 and under are encouraged to read a book every day. Older children may count chapters. Children can earn virtual raffle tickets, a coupon to either Rubio's or Bounce U and those who read 31 books or chapters can earn a coupon for a free book at our used book sale. Register online at [hbpl.beanstack.com](http://hbpl.beanstack.com) or pick up a reading log at any HB library branch.

The Friends of the Children's Library Authors Festival is Tuesday, January 28. The group has arranged for a variety of local authors and illustrators of children books to speak at several nearby schools. Many of the authors will be returning to the Central Library from 2:30 to 5 p.m. to meet with the public. Books

will be for sale during the event. The awards ceremonies for the winners of the "Growing Wild Things" writing and illustrating contest will be held during the library reception at 3:30 and 4:15 p.m. in the Tabby Theater. Winning works will be displayed in the Children's Department the month of February.

HB Reads One Book's annual Author Visit will be held on Thursday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Theater. This is a free event and all are invited to hear author, Dashka Slater, speak about her thought provoking non-fiction book, *The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime that Changed their Lives*. One gender-nonconforming teenager in a skirt. One teenager with a lighter. What happened next altered their lives forever. Was it a prank gone horribly wrong, or a vicious hate crime? The author raises questions as to "what is justice" and "can you forgive?" Winner of the Stonewall Young Adult Literature Award. For more information, visit [hbreads.org](http://hbreads.org).

## PACIFIC MARINE MAMMAL CENTER

### Distance Learning Programs

Explore marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation, science and conservation through our live, interactive video connection.

Your students see and interact with our entertaining and informative experts! Programs include human impact on marine ecosystems and ocean stewardship concepts.

All programs are aligned with NGSS and Ocean Literacy Principles.



Learn more at:  
[www.pacificmmc.org](http://www.pacificmmc.org)



Shift kids from being  
**CONSUMERS**  
of technology to  
**PRODUCERS**  
of technology

*Kids learn how to code through an engaging game-based curriculum*



**(714) 386-9709**

[www.codeninjas.com/locations/ca-garden-grove](http://www.codeninjas.com/locations/ca-garden-grove)  
**9575 Chapman Ave, Garden Grove, CA 92841**



**35 Years of  
Excellent Service**

**GOLD COAST  
AWARDS**



15841 Graham St. Huntington Beach, CA 92649

**714-898-0061**

[www.goldcoastawards.com](http://www.goldcoastawards.com)  
[gold.coast@verizon.net](mailto:gold.coast@verizon.net)



**Get 20% off your order  
when you present this ad.**





## Understanding Concussions



**Peter Hahn, M.D.,**  
pediatric  
orthopedic surgeon,  
Orthopedic  
Center,  
MemorialCare  
Miller Children's &  
Women's Hospital  
Long Beach

As more children and adolescents compete in team sports, practice martial arts, or enjoy pastimes like skateboarding, the number of head injuries among American youth is larger than once thought. Concussions can refer to anything from mild to moderate traumatic brain injury not causing permanent harm because of direct or indirect force to the brain.

- Signs your child may have suffered from a concussion:
- Headache
  - Dizziness or confusion
  - Feeling sick
  - Coordination or balance problems
  - Blurred vision
  - Trouble thinking or remembering
  - Speech problems
  - Changes in sleep or feeling sleepy

In most cases, symptoms happen immediately, but can show up hours or even days later. Treatment involves physical and cognitive rest. Rest is particularly important in the first 24 to 48 hours following injury, with gradual return to activity, first with light aerobic exercise and then full-contact play.

Immediate evaluation is critical. If you believe your child has suffered a concussion. The Orthopedic Center at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach has a care team of leaders in sports medicine and concussion protocols.

Children are continuously growing, which makes them much different than adults. Physicians who primarily care for adults might not be able to adequately treat injuries in children and may even cause further damage, so it is important that they receive specialized pediatric orthopedic care. At Miller Children's & Women's, our orthopedic specialists have received additional training to meet the needs of growing children and teens.

Learn more at [millerchildrens.org/Ortho](http://millerchildrens.org/Ortho).



When You Imagine Their Future...  
Imagine a Beautiful Smile!



We always treat your children like they are our own!

DAMON SMILE INBRACE  invisalign® invisalign | teen

BarkateSmiles.com

Newport Beach • Ladera Ranch • San Clemente

## Kids may think they're grown up. We Know Better.

Being a leader in children's health care means we know how to get the job done. Partnering with more than 40 pediatric specialties, Miller Children's lets patients and families in on calling the shots.

Specialized care. Just for kids.



**MemorialCare™**  
Miller Children's & Women's  
Hospital Long Beach

800-MEMORIAL  
[millerchildrens.org/WeKnow](http://millerchildrens.org/WeKnow)





# Fountain Valley School District

10055 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/843-3200 • www.fvdsd.us

## SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Mark Johnson**

### Choir Program Brings Music to Our Ears!

Over the last several years, Fountain Valley School District has made great strides in bringing back the performing arts, specifically in regard to instructional music. And, we are extremely proud to share that our middle school instrumental music program is one of Orange County's finest, with over 300 students participating!

In addition to this amazing work, we are also thrilled to have been able to hire a dedicated vocal music teacher who works with all three middle schools.

Recently, we had the pleasure of attending the first joint middle school choir concert, directed by Ms. Elena MacDonald, where Fulton, Masuda and Talbert vocal music programs all performed. There are now 125 students in this program and their first concert was standing room only in an event center that holds well over 350 attendees.



It is clear that the performing arts are flourishing in Fountain Valley School District. Our students are brilliant artists with stories to share through music. And whether through instrument or song, these students tell the tale of connectedness with a passion for art, which is truly music to our ears!

## Hisamatsu Tamura Elementary (K-5)

17340 Santa Suzanne St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-6226 • www.tamura.fvdsd.us



**Kathy Davis**  
Principal

### Special Persons Day

November was the month to remember and express our thankfulness for the gifts in our lives. To thank all the special people in the lives of Tamura Elementary School's students, the children invited friends and family to attend Special Persons Day.

Tamura's Special Persons Day was held just before Thanksgiving break. Refreshments were provided for the guests, including coffee, juice, water, donuts, bagels and cream cheese. There was a photo booth to capture the students with their special guests, and we also had a craft tables and an opportunity to purchase Turkey Grams.

All of the students worked hard to practice and perform songs and poems to show their appreciation for their special guests. The grade-level performances began first thing in the morning. After they were finished, the guests were able to visit the students' classrooms.

## Board of Trustees



**Jeanne Galindo**  
President



**Sandra Crandall**  
President Pro-Tem



**Lisa Schultz**  
Clerk



**Jim Cunneen**  
Member



**Ian Collins**  
Member

By Jeanne Galindo, President

### Masuda Middle School Undergoes Transformation

Recently, we toured the campus of our newly modernized Masuda Middle School. By the end of the tour, it became obvious that we were observing benefits on the campus that were unexpected. The former community center, transformed into a K-8 school and then middle school in the 1980's, now truly feels like a middle school campus!

Not only were the air conditioning and new dropped ceilings installed, but flooring appropriate for science, art and home economics classrooms was also added. In addition, open space and facilities for band, orchestra and choir were created.

A beautifully landscaped courtyard outside of the science classrooms was added, with seating for students to gather and connect. Students commented that this new space feels like a college campus.

Complementing the exterior improvements, teachers were inspired to create beautiful classroom environments with bulletin boards and furniture. It is clear that students and teachers have a heightened sense of pride in their school. It showed in the busy, interactive student activities we saw throughout campus.

The community approved of a school bond in 2016, Measure O, which funded these projects. Thus, it is apparent that the community values our schools. In the near future, we plan to invite the community and employees to an open house where they can see the transformation made with their tax dollars.

## Roch Courreges Elementary (K-5)

18313 Santa Carlotta, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4280 • www.courreges.fvdsd.us



**Chris Christensen**  
Principal

### Local Veterans Honored

40 local veterans were honored at Courreges Elementary School on Thursday,

November 7, 2019 in recognition of Veterans Day. 3rd grade singers, under the direction of music teacher Emi Allen, sang patriotic songs and students from Girl Scout Troop 4167 presented the flags and provided gifts to our veteran guests. In the end, over 700 American flags were posted on the school lawn and each veteran was personally recognized during the morning ceremony. Courreges students and staff were proud to honor our local veterans for their service to our country.



**Students get ready to post their flags prior to the morning ceremony.**



# James H. Cox *Elementary (K-5)*

17615 Los Jardines E., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4240 • www.cox.fvgsd.us



**Dr. Patrick Ham**  
*Principal*

## 5th Grade STEM Education

Our 5th grade students are participating in a valuable STEM Robotics education this year. By partnering with local businesses like Code Ninja Garden Grove, Dr. Ham along with our 5th Grade Technology Lead Teacher, Paige Card have brought coding and robotics to life. Students are learning computer program and coding to build and control their robots to perform various tasks such as directional and body movement, block lifting and throwing as well as incorporating animation into their robotics training. This is a first step into a future field for many of our students.



**Students are learning computer programming and coding by building and programming their robots to perform various tasks.**

# Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

18720 Las Flores, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4211 • www.gisler.fvgsd.us



**Teri Malpass**  
*Principal*

## Safety Is a Priority!

In November, the Gisler staff participated in FVSD's Safety Training Day. All staff was included in order to communicate consistency with safety.



The day started with training in a new system of communication called Titan. This system enables staff to quickly report if they "see something" and "say something" with a click of a couple of buttons. The next area of safety was training from Stop the Bleed. Several members from the program trained the staff on how to properly pack wounds and apply a tourniquet in order to save lives. The staff also inventoried Gisler's safety bin and participated in a tabletop activity. This activity allowed for great communication and feedback.

At the end of the day, the Gisler staff knew their strengths in safety and areas to continue to focus attention on.

# Harry C. Fulton *Middle School (6-8)*

8778 El Lago St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-2816 • www.fulton.fvgsd.us



**Erin Bains**  
*Principal*



**Julie Gonzales**  
*Assistant Principal*

## Music in the Air

Fulton is extremely proud of the music program it has developed for its students. The incredible effort of our student body, teachers, and parents has been nothing short of incredible. Our robust program offers advanced band, beginning band, guitars, rock band, advanced rock band, orchestra, and choir.

Mr. La Mantia had two concerts this winter season, one for guitars and rock band and another for band and orchestra. Our guitar students played a rocked-out version of holiday classics, while our rock bands belted out the hits of Ozzy Osbourne, Queen, Twisted Sister, and more! Our band and orchestra were outstanding in holiday classics, with our beginning band members having only three months of instruction!

Ms. MacDonald also led our choir of over 40 students in a variety of classic holiday songs and some new titles. In conjunction with Talbert and Masuda Middle Schools, we performed a finale of over 130 students, all led by Ms. MacDonald.

A huge thank-you goes out to everyone for helping to provide an amazing experience for our students. A big "congratulations" also goes to all of our students on their performances as well!



**Guitar students receiving a well deserved round of applause!**

# Kazuo Masuda *Middle School (6-8)*

17415 Las Jardines W., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4250 • www.masuda.fvgsd.us



**Jay Adams**  
*Principal*



**Matt Ploski**  
*Assistant Principal*

## Ceremony Honoring Veterans

In November, Masuda held its annual Veterans Day ceremony to honor our school's namesake, Kazuo Masuda, as well as all the revered veterans of our country. The entire student body took part in the proceedings, which included the history of Veterans Day, poetry, instrumental and vocal performances, an informative presentation called "What Is a Veteran?" the playing of "Taps" and a moment of silence.



The highlight of the event was our guest speaker, Arthur Hernandez, veteran of the United States Marines. Mr. Hernandez, grandfather of student Setareh Nassiri, was able to reach out and relate to the students in a meaningful and educational way. Special guests at the ceremony included Masuda family members, FV mayor Cheryl Brothers, and district superintendent Dr. Mark Johnson. We were also honored to host many members of the Kazuo Masuda Memorial VFW Post 3670.



# William T. Newland *Elementary (K-5)*

8787 Dolphin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4200 • [www.newland.fvdsd.us](http://www.newland.fvdsd.us)



**Christopher Mullin**  
*Principal*

## Dolphin Dash and Getting Slimed

Newland recently held our annual Jog-a-thon, better known as the Dolphin Dash. Students collected a little over \$45,000 dollars for the PTA. All of Newland students

were running at the same time on three different tracks; which made things a little crazy but a lot of fun. Newland's Jog-a-Thon is a wonderful opportunity to bring the entire school as well as family and friends together. This year, PTA has funded numerous different enrichment programs such as library enhancements, art programs, field trips, new technology, and classroom libraries. Additionally, Newland students reached their donation goal, which meant the principal, Mr. Mullin got slimed! Newland's PTA is an essential part of what makes Newland great!



# Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K-5)*

9800 Yorktown Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4260 • [www.oka.fvdsd.us](http://www.oka.fvdsd.us)



**Erik Miller**  
*Principal*

## Got GATE? Oka Does!

Our Oka GATE students have already been hard at work this school year, and they have taken their learning to a whole new level. Multiple times each month these 20 students in the fourth and fifth grades, led by Principal Erik Miller and parent leader Saleem Aaronas, dive deeper into the various areas of study across the many topics in their curriculum.

A recent project had our students research the various parts of the Mariana Trench and then design an apparatus that they could use to explore the deepest depths of the Pacific Ocean. The students had to navigate numerous challenges, including dangerous terrain, pressure, and darkness, to name just a few.

The results of this project were so rewarding because our students did a fantastic job of next-step thinking while also learning from the past works of explorers. The confidence level of student learning here at Oka is very high, even at the deepest depths of the Earth!



**Students showing off their creations.**

# Urbain H. Plavan *Elementary (K-5)*

9675 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4230 • [www.plavan.fvdsd.us](http://www.plavan.fvdsd.us)



**Julie Ballesteros**  
*Principal*

## Coding Fun for Everyone!

Plavan Panthers from kindergarten through fifth grade loved participating in the Hour of Code, which is a campaign that encourages students worldwide to try coding through various fun and engaging online activities!

Technology plays an enormous role in our everyday lives and will continue to take on an even greater role in the near future.

As various technologies evolve to become more prevalent and accessible, the ability to create, comprehend, and manipulate these tools is becoming a critical, useful and necessary life

skill. Understanding the fundamentals of computer programming will be as important as reading or simple math skills are for our students.



We have started using Codable, Code.org and Scratch. These online programs support computer-programming curriculums for elementary students. Our students are having a blast exploring the coding world! As fun and engaging as these sites are, they also provide full instruction on foundational programming concepts. Programming consists of more than plugging functions into a computer; programming fosters creativity and design while refining logical reasoning, science and math skills.

We are very proud of our students' creativity and passion to challenge their thinking.

# Samuel E. Talbert *Middle School (6-8)*

9101 Brabham Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • [www.talbert.fvdsd.us](http://www.talbert.fvdsd.us)



**Jennifer Morgan**  
*Principal*



**Molly Kuykendall**  
*Assistant Principal*

## Powered by STEAM!

STEAM clubs at Talbert are in full force! The Surfrider Club is researching issues that are impacting local marine life. An educational-awareness campaign for students on campus is in the works! We are so proud of these clubs' commitments to schoolwide activities.

One of the near-future activities will be for students to write new year's resolutions that are focused on what they can do to help the environment. The Surfrider Club is also "making waves" by participating in beach cleanups a few times a year. This is only a small part of what makes this club truly spectacular!

The GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) Club is collecting data and organizing activities to educate the Talbert students about the Earth system and our global environment. The Talbert Fuel-Cell Car Club is busy meeting twice a week to build a hydrogen-powered remote-control car. With the competitions beginning in February, this remarkable club is currently designing, building, marketing, and even searching for sponsors for their car.


Currently, the Robotics club is working on six different robot builds with anywhere between 25 to 30 students attending each week. Seven Talbert students recently competed in the VEX IQ Squared-Away Challenge at Orange County Department of Education. They competed in both driving skills and teamwork-challenge matches.

Finally, one of Talbert's most popular clubs is the Cube Club. Students get together after school every Monday to work together to solve Rubik's cubes of various levels. If you are on our campus at lunch or recess, you will likely find many of these members practicing and challenging themselves.

The Talbert Community is so proud of these T-Birds and all the hard work they are putting into their STEAM clubs! They truly are what makes Talbert "full STEAM ahead!"



## SUPERINTENDENT



**Gregory Haulk**

### Volunteers are Vital to Schools

The dictionary defines a volunteer as “a person who performs a service willingly and without pay”. While that is true, a volunteer at a school is so much more. School volunteers are some of the most dedicated people that you will ever meet. Whatever the service, they are always willing to help. However, it is the service that is the most important part. In our early elementary classes that service just might be reading one-on-one with a student and helping them to develop a lifelong love of reading. It might be helping with glue as students create an incredible masterpiece for one of their parents or it just may be sitting and smiling every time they get one more answer correct on a math worksheet. At the middle school level it may be helping with editing an important paper, helping to create a presentation on the computer or it may be a quiet out of sight job to help the teacher because your middle school student would prefer you not be in the classroom. However, just being there shows that middle school student how important education is to you.

The other important thing to know is how students will compensate you for the time you spend with them. Some of the elementary school students will provide hugs or high 5’s. Middle school students may just give a quick nod of the head to acknowledge the help given, but all students will provide a smile that translated means, thanks, I could not have done this without you. The school and teachers will be incredibly thankful. Volunteers in classrooms when we know they are coming are incredible assets teachers can use to increase, improve and impact their instruction.

So, as we all begin to develop our “To Do” list of resolutions for the New Year, make one of them to volunteer a set number of hours in your local school. The school, the teachers and most importantly the students need you.

## Educational Services

8750 Dorsett Drive, Huntington Beach CA 92646 • 714/962-3348 x2335 • www.hbcasd.us



**Carolyn Wertheim**  
*Director  
Early Childhood  
Education*

### Fifteen Minutes A Day

Reading aloud with your child for 15 minutes a day from the time of their birth will help them grow vocabulary and knowledge, give them time to bond, provide an enriching environment, and foster a love of books and learning.

Children rapidly learn language. They can often quadruple the number of words they know between 12 and 24 months of age. Children also learn best through interactions with others, and thus reading with your child provides an excellent opportunity to support their growth and development.

The HBCSD Early Learning programs incorporate daily reading activities. We recently participated in the 2019 national “Read for the Record” campaign, which promotes reading and the importance of early childhood education. The 2019 book *Thank You Uma* also celebrates neighbors coming together, in this case to make a lovely feast!

In the HBCSD, there were 915 children (of the 61,538 read to in Orange County) who helped make this Read for the Record event one of the largest shared-reading experience to date!



### Board of Trustees



**Ann Sullivan**  
*President*



**Bridget Kaub**  
*Vice-President*



**Dr. Paul Morrow**  
*Clerk*



**Diana Marks**  
*Member*



**Shari Kowalke**  
*Member*

*By Shari Kowalke, Outgoing President*

### So, You Want to be a School Board Member?

As we are entering an election year, I am receiving questions about being a school board member, so I thought I would use my last article to provide a general overview. One school board member cannot do the job alone. Effective school board members contribute their unique talents while collaborating and working as a part of a team. A school board is designed as the principle democratic body that represents local citizens on education and school-related issues. Board members must stay up to date on current educational issues and must be able to understand education jargon. The role of the board of education plays in a school district is vast.

The school board’s primary responsibilities are to:

- Adopt and oversee the annual budget,
- Set the vision and goals for the district,
- Adopt policies that give the district direction,
- Hire and evaluate the superintendent,
- Manage the collective bargaining process,
- Communicate their actions to the community,
- Focus on what is best for all students,
- Advocate at the local, state and national level for public education,
- Work well on a team.

The duties of a board of education are much more comprehensive than those listed above. Board members put in a lot of time in what essentially amounts to a volunteer position. Good board members are invaluable to a school district’s development and success. The most effective school boards are arguably those that have a direct impact on nearly every facet of the school but do so in obscurity rather than the limelight.

Being a school board member provides me the greatest personal pride in my life. You cannot be an individual and be successful. You must be able to survive the slings and arrows and focus on the big picture for the district. There are many ways to provide public service, so find what feeds your soul and not your ego and you will find success.

## Ethel R. Dwyer

*Middle School*

1502 Palm Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-7507 • dms.schoolloop.com



**Christa Glembocki**  
*Principal*

### New Counselor

We are so excited to introduce you to our new school counselor, Miss Kara Kenney. This is the first time in over 10 years that Dwyer Middle School has had a full-time counselor. We are so happy that she will be here to support all of our students. With the rise in social-emotional and mental health needs for youth, Huntington Beach City School District and the Dwyer staff felt it was crucial to have a skilled professional to work alongside our administrators, psychologists, and teachers.

Miss Kenney has already become part of our Gratitude, Responsibility, Integrity, and Tenacity (GRIT) team and is assisting in creating a social-emotional curriculum for our school. She is facilitating classroom lessons for all students, holding small groups for various needs, and leading one-on-one counseling sessions for students.

Her first set of lessons has already taken place with our 8th graders. They learned about self-care skills and how to regulate their mood through these skills. She is also hosting Wellness Wednesdays and Thankful Thursdays for students. She is excited to work with our parent community as well to meet the needs of all.





# John H. Eader *Elementary*

9291 Banning Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-2451 • [www.eader-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com](http://www.eader-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com)



**Carolyn Beck**  
*Principal*

## Family Science Night

In December, the Eader PTA sponsored a Family Science Night! Our Eader families came out on a cold, rainy night to participate in several fun and engaging science projects. There was an “Electricity Magic” station, where the students used balloons, plastic spoons, and wool hats to conduct positive and negative energy. From there they used that energy to separate salt and pepper and make tissue paper stand on end. Our students also learned about the power of air. The children blew up balloons, attached them to a wire, and then let them race one another. Surprisingly, the smaller balloons went the fastest!

Finally, our students used common household items to make bouncy balls, and then compared the bounces. This was the most popular station of the night! Spending time together as a community, and engaging in learning scientific concepts, is a great way to spend a week night.



**Students making bouncy balls.**

# Huntington Seacliff *Elementary*

6701 Garfield Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/841-7081 • [www.seacliff-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com](http://www.seacliff-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com)



**Michael Andrzejewski**  
*Principal*

## Tradition and Leadership

Seacliff School regularly selects five students to serve as officers for its student council. Following the presentation of a prepared speech by each student who wishes to run, and a review of student leadership traits, the students in grades four and five elect a representative for the offices of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and public relations. These officers then lead our student council group, with one representative elected from each classroom.

The student council organizes a variety of activities for our school, including sharing important school-wide information with our classes, coordinating school celebrations, and determining our school's community service projects.



**Treasurer – Braddock Tripoli, Secretary – Katelyn Liaw, President – Sofia Stewart, VP – Shayne O'Steen, Public Relations – Alexis Katter**

These young leaders provide valuable services to our school, while also learning the importance of leadership and stewardship. As a conclusion to the year, the student council also hosts a school-wide talent show to display the many gifts and abilities of our Seacliff student body.

# Dr. Ralph E. Hawes *Elementary*

9682 Yellowstone Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/963-8302 • [www.hes-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com](http://www.hes-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com)



**Julie Jennings**  
*Principal*

## Class Act

For the sixth consecutive year, Hawes Elementary School is a Class Act School! Through the Frieda Belinfante Class Act Partnership and thanks to the support of our PTSA, our students will participate in Pacific Symphony's flagship youth education program. MarlaJoy Weisshaar, a violin player and our resident musician, will share the life and music of a Composer of the Year through standards-based music curriculum. This year our students will be learning about John Williams and the use of symphonic music in movies.

In November, our students experienced a Prelude Assembly, during which they learned about Williams, the use of leitmotif, and how symphonic music can enhance our movie-watching experience. Our teachers spent an afternoon learning about this composer through presentations by Pacific Symphony experts and learned activities to utilize with students in the classroom. Soon, each of our classes will experience an in-depth lesson with our resident musician.

In March, our resident musician will bring a string quartet to school for our Family Night Class Act performance. This year of learning will culminate with Hawes hitting the road with all of our first- through fifth-grade students to hear a Pacific Symphony concert based on the music of John Williams. Our kindergarten students will have a hands-on symphony experience at school. Additionally, all of our students will share their learning at the end of the year through our very own Bravo Assembly.

Participation in this partnership provides our students with opportunities to discover performing arts in another way. We are grateful to our PTSA and the Frieda Belinfante Program for their support!

# S. A. Moffett *Elementary*

8800 Burlcrest Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/963-8985 • [www.moffettschool.com](http://www.moffettschool.com)



**Forest Holbrook**  
*Principal*

## A Focus on CARE

At Moffett Elementary School, we believe that as important as academic success is for our students, the same can be said for their social and emotional development. Last year, our teachers and staff spent countless hours developing a system of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) designed to teach our Moffett students behaviors we believe will help them to be successful both at school and in life.

Moffett students are taught to: be Considerate, Always be safe, show Respect and responsibility, and always strive for Excellence. We call this system CARE—or simply the Moffett Way.



Our concern for the social and emotional development of our students is just another reason why Moffett Elementary is known for being a school where excellence is the expectation and the goal every day.





beautiful.  
smiles  
bright futures



invisalign®

Changing lives, one smile at a time!



Member  
American  
Association of  
Orthodontists



(714) 842-9933

18700 Main St., Suite 112

Huntington Beach, CA

[www.harnerorthodontics.com](http://www.harnerorthodontics.com)



**HARNER**  
ORTHODONTICS

**Dr. Andrew Harner DDS, MS**

President, California Association of Orthodontists







**Dr. Renee Polk Johnson**  
*Principal*

**Recognizing Students**

At the end of each trimester at Perry Elementary School we like to invite our families and community members to come together to celebrate student achievement, as well as showcase the vocal music work that our students accomplish every week with their vocal music teacher.

Our Trimester Awards and Music Performances are held in four different assemblies arranged by grade level clusters: Preppy K/TK, kindergarten and first grade, second and third grade, and fourth and fifth grade. For the awards component, teachers recognize students for their outstanding character and citizenship, outstanding participation in JiJi Mathematics and Accelerated Reader, greatest academic improvement, perfect attendance, and Honor Roll for our fourth- and fifth-grade students.



After the awards are presented, our students assemble on the stage to perform the songs they have been working on all trimester with their vocal teacher, Mrs. Sleeper. It is always wonderful when we are able to come together as a Perry community to celebrate all of the accomplishments of our students, and then hear them sing!

Our first Trimester Awards and Music Performances were held in the beginning of December. The music had a holiday theme too, which was a wonderful way to kick off and celebrate the holiday season.



**Maria Ashton**  
*Principal*

**Campus Activities**

At Smith Elementary School, we take pride in being healthy and well-rounded individuals. We have many activities that focus on being active and developing a variety of skills. Each morning students are invited to participate in the 100-Mile Club. They run laps while listening to music and help their bodies wake up and get ready to learn. We also have monthly recess tournaments for our fourth- and fifth-grade students. Students are organized into teams and compete in a variety of games, including basketball, kickball, softball, and capture the flag. There is a game for everyone! Though these organized games, we teach and reinforce positive playground behavior and sportsmanship.

For students interested in music, our vocal music teacher offers choir practice two days a week before school. The choir room is always full, as this is one incredibly popular program. In addition, this year our keyboarding teacher has started a bucket drumming club, which takes place once a week during lunch. This program exposes students to the basics of percussion in a fun setting with their friends.



At Smith, we provide opportunities for all students to find and demonstrate their gifts, and these extracurricular clubs and activities are just one way of doing exactly that.



**Dr. Kevin Johnson**  
*Principal*

**Inspiring Dolphin Pride**

Student Council elections are held each fall. Our current executive board includes Ethan Gutierrez, president; Reagan Wheeler, vice president; and Lucy Dawson, secretary. Two students represent each classroom.

Leadership advisors Susan Flory and Kimberly Hepburn guide the board to work with classroom representatives to plan the year's activities. Classroom competitions and spirit days promote school spirit. They also plan philanthropic drives and help out during special events and spirit assemblies.

This school year has been incredibly busy. ASB has sponsored monthly spirit days and a food drive. They wrapped up a successful annual pajama and book drive, with several hundred pajamas donated to those less fortunate. Looking ahead, the Peterson ASB plans to coordinate Letters to Troops, care packages



**Reagan Wheeler-Vice President, Lucy Dawson-Secretary, Ethan Gutierrez-President**

for children of military families, an animal-shelter blanket drive, a beach cleanup and a coin drive for cancer research.

Our student body is looking forward to an exciting spring with the many activities our Student Council has planned!



**Dr. Adam Knutsen**  
*Principal*

**Developing Culture and Leadership**

At Sowers Middle School, we are focused on creating connections through mentorship via the Where Everybody Belongs program (W.E.B.). Eighth grade WEB leaders teach our incoming sixth-graders how to transition from elementary school to middle school. Student leaders teach sixth-graders in a fun and meaningful way about topics including cooperation, creativity, attitude, sportsmanship, stress management, study skills, teamwork, friendships, solving problems and the power of questions. The lessons are geared to help students overcome social and emotional situations that arise during middle school, including rumors, bullying and other circumstances that students may not yet be equipped to overcome.



In addition, our WEB students run an after-school tutoring club, a student-run website, and after-school hot-cocoa check-ins to make sure that our sixth-graders feel connected. Implementation of the WEB mentorship program ensures that our students feel safe and grounded here at Sowers.



# Ocean View School District

17200 Pinehurst Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2551 • [www.ovsd.org](http://www.ovsd.org)

## SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Carol Hansen**

**Please see message on the front page.  
Ocean View Takes Hands-On  
Learning to the Farm**

## Early Learning Preschool

17131 Emerald Ln., Huntington Beach • 16692 Landau Ln., Huntington Beach • 8251 Heil Ave., Westminster  
714/847-2551 X 1107 • [www.ovsd.org](http://www.ovsd.org)



**Nicole Baitx-Kennedy**  
*Director of  
Child Development  
Programs*

### Fire Safety

Oak View Preschool students received a special visit from firefighter Randy and his talking engine, “Big John”.

During their visit, they spoke to the children about fire safety as well as when to call 9-1-1. The children completed a stop, drop, and roll exercise, and they got an up-close view of the equipment a firefighter uses.

After the presentation every student received a junior firefighter sticker and they got to take a class picture with “Big John” and Firefighter Randy.



**Firefighter Randy speaking to  
Oak View Preschool students about fire safety.**

## Board of Trustees



**Gina Clayton-Tarvin**  
*President*



**Patricia Singer**  
*Vice-President*



**Jack C. Souders**  
*Clerk*



**John Briscoe**  
*Member*



**Norm Westwell**  
*Member*

*By Gina Clayton-Tarvin, President*

### We Value our Veterans and First Responders!

Honor, courage, sacrifice, dedication. These are just a few of the words we use to describe our veterans and first responders; the brave men and women committed to protecting our communities and country. In collaboration with the Huntington Beach Police Department (HBPD) and Hawthorne Police Department, Harbour View Elementary held its first-ever Veterans Celebration and First Responders Fair to honor these heroes.

A large crowd was on-hand to pay tribute to active duty and veteran members of the military at a special school assembly. In fact, many of the military personnel were relatives of Harbour View students. Following the assembly, the First Responders Fair was kicked off in grand fashion with a HBPD helicopter landing on the school field and Gaby, the talking police car, paying a visit. Students then had an opportunity to rotate through stations and learn first-hand about the roles and responsibilities of military personnel and first responders. Students were able to interact with representatives from the HBPD, K-9 Units, Hawthorne Police Department, SWAT, FBI, DEA, ATF, Homeland Security, Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.



**Harbour View students got an up-close look at the Huntington Beach Police Department helicopter after it landed on the school field.**

Harbour View did a great job recognizing the important work of our military and first responders. Our District is grateful for the strong partnership we have with the Huntington Beach Police Department and HB Police Chief Handy. We are especially appreciative of our School Resource Officers (SROs) that work diligently to help provide safe learning environments in our schools. They work hand-in-hand with staff members to foster positive relationships with our students while developing strategies to resolve problems and protect all students. Thank you to our SROs, first responders and military for helping our students feel safe so that they can focus on learning and reaching their full potential.



# Circle View *Elementary (K-5)*

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5305 • [www.ovsd.org/circle](http://www.ovsd.org/circle)



**Jessica Haag**  
*Principal*

## Celebrating Achievement

We are continuing to celebrate! A special flag assembly was held in recognition of Circle View Elementary officially receiving the U.S. Department of Education's 2019 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award. Superintendent Dr. Carol Hansen, Principal Jessica Haag, and teacher Anne Brasie recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to receive the award.

At the flag assembly, local dignitaries, along with Ocean View School District board members and administrators, recognized Circle View Elementary for its tremendous accomplishment.

Assemblyman Tyler Diep, along with Senator Thomas Umberg, presented Circle View with a Resolution for providing its students with a firm foundation upon which to base their future development.



**Superintendent Dr. Carol Hansen, Principal Jessica Haag, Spirit the Eagle (holding the Resolution), OVSD Board President John Briscoe, and Assemblyman Tyler Diep**

Huntington Beach Mayor Erik Peterson also presented a special commendation recognizing Circle View's outstanding academic performance. This demonstrates what is possible when committed educators hold all students and staff members to high standards and actively create vibrant, innovative cultures of teaching and learning practices.

# College View *Elementary (K-5)*

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • [www.ovsd.org/college](http://www.ovsd.org/college)



**Elaine Burney**  
*Principal*

## Teamwork Makes Learning Fun!

College View students are building relationships across the grade levels with STEM buddies. Ms. Ruark's first-and second-graders collaborate with Mrs. Keller's fifth-grade students. Together, they explore activities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Along with their buddies, students were excited to design, build, and test catapults. As they learned about force, accuracy, precision, measurement and angles, buddies adjusted their design to successfully complete each challenge. STEM buddies

also enjoyed the task of testing different solutions to build a load-bearing bridge using nothing but index cards.



Building relationships is important at College View School. STEM ties into social-emotional learning, as students need to work on cooperative learning skills while they work on a task. This type of learning helps them to set and achieve goals, establish relationships with peers, and make responsible decisions that will affect their team's success. The STEM buddies idea promotes a positive learning environment that enhances our school community while building on social and emotional support.

# Golden View *Environmental Science School*

17251 Golden View Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • [www.ovsd.org/golden](http://www.ovsd.org/golden)



**Lori Florgan**  
*Principal*

## Recycle Rally!

Golden View's Green Team members have been working hard to find ways to be part of the Go Green initiative. Students and families have joined in on the Recycle Rally, which is sponsored by a soft-drink corporation.

Our Green Team oversees the recycling and composting programs here at Golden View along with the help from our fabulous PTO and Student Council representatives. Students bring in plastic bottles and aluminum cans weekly and are working toward making the earth and our school greener. The money raised goes directly to the school and our students.



What a wonderful way to give back to our school and community! Go Green Team

Our Green Team meets monthly to discuss new opportunities to make our school greener and to find ways that we can help the environment around our school community and city. Some projects that we'd like to tackle in the future include helping at beach cleanups, holding farm cleanups at our own school site, and monitoring the energy usage on our campus.

# Harbour View *Elementary (K-5)*

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-6602 • [www.ovsd.org/harbour](http://www.ovsd.org/harbour)



**Dr. Joy Harris**  
*Principal*

## Real Patriots

We recently took a moment to celebrate our veterans, and also learn from the brave heroes in our community, at our inaugural First Responders Fair. Local veterans from the VFW, and active and retired duty military from the Navy, Army, and Marines, were joined by First Responders from the FBI/CIA, DEA, paramedics, K9 unit, mounted police, and SWAT to present hands-on learning stations to each and every Harbour student.

With police dogs, SWAT trucks, and Gabby the Talking Police Car, we had an up-front and personal experience of what all these heroes do to help keep us safe.



In collaboration with the Huntington Beach Police Department, our students even watched a police helicopter land on our field before exploring it in a real-life experience they will never forget. Correlating to the Character Pillar of the Month, Responsibility, our Harbour students learned about how real patriots take care of one another.



# Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • [www.ovsd.org/hope](http://www.ovsd.org/hope)



**Christina Luckey**  
*Principal*

## A Community of Caring

With assistance from our amazing teachers and parents, who continue to inspire our students and help them create memories that will last a lifetime, Hope View continues its mission of being a “Community of Caring.”

Our students really embraced the spirit of giving during the holiday season. We had many wonderful Thanksgiving celebrations throughout the school, with amazing feasts and arts and crafts, but our students’ main focus was on helping others. They went above and beyond by collecting a total of 1,228 cans that were donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank!



In December we had a toy drive that benefited the CHP’s own Kids Toy Drive, which supported the Boys and Girls Club of Huntington Beach. The donated toys were distributed to approximately 500 local children at holiday parties. It is truly inspiring to see our community come together and show just how much they care!

# Marine View *Middle School (6-8)*

5682 Tilburg Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-0624 • [www.ovsd.org/marine](http://www.ovsd.org/marine)



**Sara Schaible**  
*Principal*

## Serve Our City

Recently, Marine View participated in a schoolwide service project. For the past three years, the Huntington Beach Youth Shelter has collaborated with Marine View to implement our annual Kindness Week each spring. This year, we wanted an opportunity to give back to the Huntington Beach Youth Shelter for all their help and generosity over the years.

Our Leadership class, in collaboration with our Anchors students, created a schoolwide service project called Serve Our City. In the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving, these students shared the purpose of the youth shelter along with their current needs with the Marine View student body. When students and families came for their parent-teacher conferences, they brought food and goods to be donated to the Huntington Beach Youth Shelter. With the help of our Marine View Community, we were able to donate over 600 pounds of food and goods to the shelter and provide for students and families in need.



# Lake View *Elementary (K-5)*

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • [www.ovsd.org/lake](http://www.ovsd.org/lake)



**Jamie Goodwyn**  
*Principal*

## Learning About Habitats

At Lake View, our second-grade students recently completed a project-based learning unit focusing on Earth’s biodiversity, world habitats, and the classification of animals.

Our teachers incorporated the elements of STEAM into these student activities in creative ways. Students gathered information online and in nonfiction texts to create habitat presentation boards with information about the animals, plants, weather, and other unique characteristics of each habitat.

The students also engineered 3D models of these habitats, featuring clay and 3D printed sculptures of the various animals who live there. They then wrote both narrative and informative books about each habitat utilizing the website storyjumper.com. Finally, our students showcased their learning for parents and staff by either videotaping a Habitat News Report, utilizing Lake View’s green screen and video editing software, or performing an animal-related Reader’s Theatre.

This was a fun way for our students to demonstrate their learning. As a celebration, our students then attended a field trip to the LA Zoo to see this unit of study truly come to life!



# Mesa View *Middle School (6-8)*

17601 Avila Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • [www.ovsd.org/mesa](http://www.ovsd.org/mesa)



**Jady Grunbaum**  
*Principal*

## Social-Emotional Strategies

Here at Mesa View, the staff has really taken part in engaging students and increasing academic success through our focus on social-emotional learning (SEL). Recently, all OVSD teachers participated in two district teacher-led professional development days on SEL, and Mesa was well-represented as presenters each time! Teachers received training on various strategies to use in and out of the classroom. Our Mesa View staff immediately began implementing new strategies they learned and have already seen many positive results.

At Mesa, teachers have been integrating SEL strategies to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment in all classes, and we have also begun the work of integrated targeted SEL lessons with students. These lessons target things like social awareness, self-regulation, self-management, self-reflection and relationship skills and provide a solid foundation for academic success. Teachers and staff have embraced things like welcoming activities, daily reflection and engaging classroom strategies. These research-based strategies are also supporting our efforts to continue Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies (PBIS) in which we revamped our three R’s this year to incorporate being Responsible and Reflective with being Respectful.



in their lives, and I am so proud to be part of a school embracing these very important and valuable strategies that ultimately support student growth and learning.

We know that students need solid relationships with the influential adults



# Oak View *Elementary (K-5)*

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • [www.ovsd.org/oak](http://www.ovsd.org/oak)



**Jenna Landero**  
*Principal*

## After-School Fun

Electives and fun clubs are in full swing here at Oak View. Our fourth- and fifth-grade students have been enthusiastically working in robotics and art since October.

In November, our fourth- and fifth-grade students also began participating in a book club two times a week during their lunch break. These amazing Owls spent their lunch time reading one of Mrs. Landero's favorite books, *The One and Only Ivan*.

Mr. Landero and our amazing community partners at Huntington Beach High School have started an after-school dramatics program every Friday afternoon. Students are engaging in fun acting games, and are also learning through motion, voice, and dance. They even performed several choreographed routines and songs at the Winter Concert.

The students are showcasing our new core values by being "Courageous, Kind and Confident." They are building confidence through enrichment, showing courage by trying new things, and are always being kind.



# Star View *Elementary (K-5)*

8411 Worthy Ln., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • [www.ovsd.org/star](http://www.ovsd.org/star)



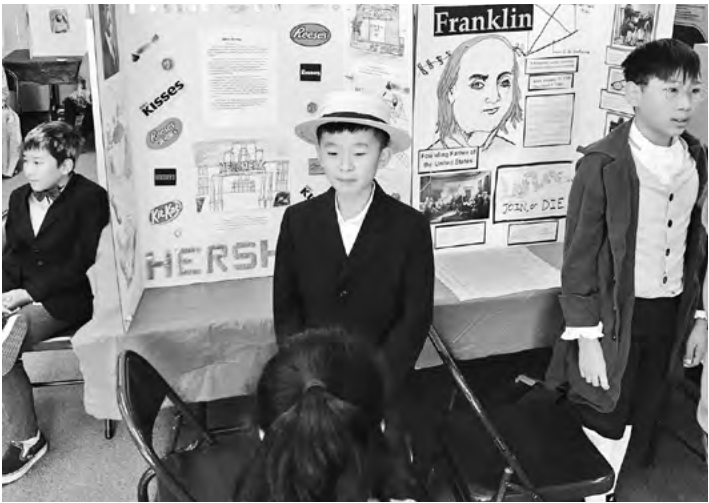
**Paul Kraft**  
*Principal*

## Sparkling Winter Activities

Star View Elementary welcomed winter with many engaging activities for the students. Kindergartners participated in themed arts and crafts activities. First-graders were immersed with activities and lessons designed to improve word recognition, fluency and comprehension. Second-grade students continued to write in many areas of the curriculum, using strategies and tools to enhance their writing. Third-graders spent a morning at the Nix Nature Center participating in hands-on learning and hiking.

Through a partnership with a local sports team, fourth-graders receive weekly training and skills development from their coaches.

Fifth-grade students participated in a wax-museum project in which they researched a famous American. They then presented their information while dressed in character for family, friends and the student body to see. Fourth-



grade GATE students also participated with projects from their Genius Hour on display.

Students, family, friends and faculty participated in a fun skating night that included great music and strobe lights.

# Flowers 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 FHOW in the subject line)

Entries must be received by February 15, 2020  
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win  
a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble  
**Compliments of Barkate Orthodontics**  
[www.BarkateSmiles.com](http://www.BarkateSmiles.com)

ROSE	GERANIUM	GARDENIA
HYDRANGEA	BELLFLOWER	AZALEA
PEONY	GALLARDIA	MOSS ROSE
IRIS	SALVIA	SPIREA
CALENDULA	LILY	AMARYLLIS
PORTULACA	DAISY	FUSCHIA
LAVENDER	COLUMBINE	PETUNIA

Congratulations to **Andy Vo**  
Winner of the November Word Search Contest!

C	A	L	E	N	D	U	L	A	A	U	R	L	A
W	A	I	N	E	D	R	A	G	A	K	Z	E	C
X	H	Y	D	R	A	N	G	E	A	T	A	T	R
K	E	S	O	R	S	S	O	M	Z	Y	V	V	B
U	D	A	L	E	A	T	F	U	S	C	H	I	A
P	Y	L	J	D	C	L	A	I	N	U	T	E	P
E	R	V	A	N	A	X	L	N	H	Y	S	X	N
O	U	I	A	E	L	A	Z	A	D	I	I	E	D
N	S	A	R	V	U	P	Y	R	G	M	A	N	S
Y	Z	I	Q	A	T	K	R	E	I	P	V	C	T
K	P	J	R	L	R	J	M	G	U	H	G	N	J
S	D	U	I	I	O	G	Y	B	D	E	Q	O	F
Z	M	Q	V	L	P	H	B	K	D	J	M	V	C
A	M	A	R	Y	L	L	I	S	Q	K	H	B	V
B	E	L	L	F	L	O	W	E	R	A	I	R	V



# Spring View *Middle School (6–8)*

16662 Trudy Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-2891 • [www.ovsd.org/spring](http://www.ovsd.org/spring)



**Randy Lempert**  
*Principal*

## Intentionality of Spartan Leadership

Teaching the Spartan leadership expectations goes far beyond a one-day lesson at the beginning of the school year. At Spring View, LEAD stands for Learning together, Empowering others, Achieving goals, and Discovering our potential.

Throughout the year, LEAD is woven into the fabric of our daily interactions with students and carried out beyond the classroom walls. With focused intentionality, the Spartan staff is committed to collectively teaching the Spartan LEADership ways through the teacher-created curriculum. Through an extended advisement period that happens twice a month, Spring View teachers intentionally instruct students around themes that include defining success, ethical decision making, growing with grit and being a selfless person. Embedded in the lessons are the use of Thinking Maps, breathing techniques, analyzing poetry and writing letters to our military. Through these lessons, the Spartan way of behaving is taught with intentionality that produces a positive school climate and culture and healthy middle school children.

The LEAD Day curriculum showcases Spring View's ongoing committed effort to make the social and emotional needs of our learners a priority. Spring View looks forward to continuing to promote the competencies of social and emotional learning and being a healthy global citizen. LEAD Day Lessons is another excellent example of how our dedicated staff has adjusted to the needs of the learners within today's changing world.

# Village View *Elementary (K–5)*

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • [www.ovsd.org/village](http://www.ovsd.org/village)



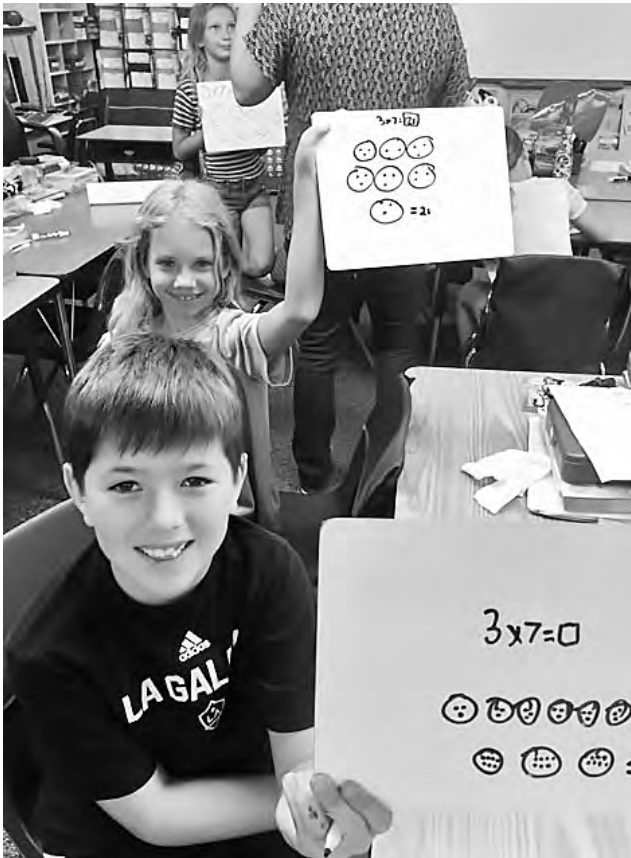
**Francesca Ligman**  
*Principal*

## Leaping into Math Success

With Common Core Math, and our heightened expectations for students, Village View has taken a leap into strengthening math instruction and building effective concepts for our future mathematicians.

We have embraced this goal with a few new directions. To begin with, last year we added ST Math. Jiji, the iconic ST Math penguin, has added critical thinking and conceptual understanding with finite puzzles that engage our students' problem-solving skills. This is balanced with a focus on writing about math. We want our students to be able to explain their thinking and demonstrate their understanding with visual representations.

Our teachers and students are excited to be reigniting our math program, but they cannot do it without parental support. We will soon be proudly hosting our second Family Math Night where students and parents can learn the new math together and the parents will then feel empowered to help their children at home. Together, we will rise to the top in mathematics!



# Vista View *Middle School (6–8)*

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • [www.ovsd.org/vista](http://www.ovsd.org/vista)



**Dr. Rasheedah Gates**  
*Principal*

## PTSO's Color Run

This is a wonderful moment to highlight one of our most prized partnerships: Vista View Middle School's PTSO! This vital stakeholder group at our site works tirelessly to provide opportunities for our students.

One of the biggest events PTSO plans for the school year is the Color Run and subsequent Sliming Assembly. During the Color Run, students run laps, and many choose to do so in a festive and colorful manner. This event promotes physical fitness while incorporating age-appropriate engagement for our middle school students. Students ran and danced to music for a solid 20 minutes. Seeing the smiles on the students' faces created one of those moments where you pause and think; this is why I am in education.



Equally as amazing is our teaching staff. The students voted on staff members they wanted to see slimed as a culminating activity after the Color Run. Everyone was such a great sport about it! This gave

students the opportunity to see staff in a different light. The entire event was designed to build culture and community on campus.

Vista View Middle School, from PTSO to teaching staff to students, is a great community.

# Westmont *Elementary (K–5)*

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • [www.ovsd.org/westmont](http://www.ovsd.org/westmont)



**Sue Broderson**  
*Principal*

## 'Tis the Season for Giving

Westmont believes in giving to those in need. Our Westmont students are caring, generous, and always looking for ways to help others.

Our Student Council sponsors service projects throughout the year. Recently, Student Council representatives voted to participate in the "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF" event. They distributed small orange boxes to our students to collect money for children in need around the world. They also made posters to remind people to donate to this worthy cause.

Tiffannie, a fifth-grade Student Council member, recently shared her feelings about helping others. "Westmont may not be a very big school but we are very generous and giving here," she said. "Every Halloween we donate to UNICEF. We set a goal for UNICEF, and we exceeded that goal this year by donating over \$560. We help out by doing fundraisers and donating the money to help our school community."



"Throughout the year we also help out with Toys for Tots, Products for Pets, and Valentines for Veterans. By donating, we help others who are in need. Just because we are a small community doesn't mean we can't be very giving at Westmont. Everyone at our school is always willing to help others."

Well done, Tiffannie. I couldn't say it any better!



# Westminster School District

14121 Cedarwood Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7311 • [www.wsd.k12.ca.us](http://www.wsd.k12.ca.us)

## SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Cyndi Paik**

### Finley Elementary Promotes Safe Bicycle Riders

Finley Elementary School has partnered with the Westminster Police Department to host a “Bicycle Safety Rodeo” for third, fourth and fifth graders at Finley Computer Science Magnet in Westminster on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

The event featured a safety presentation and bicycle obstacle course. During the assembly, students learned safe practices and bicycle safety laws to use when riding their bikes in the community. The event provided the opportunity for young members of the Westminster community to interact with

Westminster Police Officers in a positive and engaging manner. During the obstacle course, students rode alongside a Westminster Police Officer, who coached each child throughout the activity. At the conclusion of the day, students received a certificate of completion and a new bicycle helmet.



At Westminster School District, we value strong partnership with Westminster Police Department and works together to ensure our students are safe between home and school.

## Board of Trustees



**Frances Nguyen**  
*President*



**Jeremy Khalaf**  
*Vice President*



**Xavier Nguyen**  
*Clerk*



**Jamison Power**  
*Member*



**Khanh Nguyen**  
*Member*

### By Khanh Nguyen, Outgoing President School Resource Officer at WSD

School Safety is a top priority in our district. The School Board of Trustees and Superintendent has been collaborating with the Westminster Police Department to ensure the implementation of a School Resource Officer (SRO).

Since the beginning of the school year, Officer Jason Stouffer has been visiting our middle schools and building trust with staff, students and parents in Westminster as the city’s first-ever school resource officer. This is a trial program for a five year assignment. Warner Middle School Principal Tiffany Harville stated, “I’ve noticed a huge difference in having an SRO’s presence on our school campus already in the short few months.”

Our SRO has been involved in emergency drills to influencing students to make good decisions. His work has been valuable to our students, staff and community and look forward to our continued success for many years to come.



## Anderson *Elementary (K-6)*

8902 Hewitt Pl., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • [anderson.wsd.k8.us](http://anderson.wsd.k8.us)



**Kim Breckenridge**  
*Principal*

### Accessible Playground

Inclusion is a core value at Anderson Elementary School. In striving to include all students in all school activities, we recently upgraded our playground so that it can be enjoyed by everyone.

The wood chips were removed, and a spongy surface was installed. This allows wheelchairs to roll right onto the play area, giving students access that they didn’t have in the past. The

swings were removed, and new ones were installed. They provide extra trunk support for the students that need it. Students enjoy these adaptive swings every recess.

We are so thankful for the support of our superintendent, Dr. Paik, as well as the Westminster School District Board of Trustees for their support of this amazing project. As Mr. Rogers said, “Play is the work of childhood.”





# Clegg School

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218 • clegg.wsd8.us



**John Staggs**  
Principal

## Honoring Those Who Serve

Mrs. O'Reilly, a first-grade teacher at Clegg Elementary School, works with students every November to honor the military with Operation Veterans Day. Students donate items to help fill care packages to support soldiers who are deployed overseas.

This year we packaged 30 large boxes, which were sent to an Army platoon in Iraq. Inside, they will find food items, personal hygiene items, games, letters, and Christmas decorations to add a bit of holiday cheer.

During this drive, students get to practice some wonderful character traits, such as caring, gratitude, patriotism, selflessness, and compassion.



Clegg also erects a Veterans Wall of Honor. This is for anyone who has served or is currently serving in the military. Students are given stars and are asked to have discussions at home about veterans in their families. These family members' names are put on the stars, which are hung up on the wall to honor and admire.

# Eastwood Elementary (K-6)

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • eastwood.wsd8.us



**Jonathan Edelman**  
Principal

## Lessons in Agriculture

Students at Eastwood Elementary School were taken away from their technology-infused curriculum to enjoy some hands-on presentations that helped them to better answer the question, "Where does our food come from?"

Students participated in a mobile dairy classroom experience, where they met a 2,000-pound cow named Milkshake and learned fun facts about dairy cows. Did you know that the average dairy cow produces eight gallons of milk per day and must drink 30 to 50 gallons of water each day to produce that milk? The dairyman then demonstrated how to properly milk a cow, and students were given the opportunity to pet Milkshake's calf.

Students also met a local farmer during Bring the Farmer to School Day. Students sampled various organic produce items and learned about the nutritional value of fruits and vegetables.



In a time when the process of producing the food on our tables is often taken for granted, it was great to see students learning valuable life lessons about the effort required to provide the ingredients used to make our meals.

# DeMille Elementary (K-6)

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224 • demille.wsd8.us



**Shannon Villanueva**  
Principal

## Responsibilities of Library Helpers

By Kevin Le, Pearly Huynh and Ethan Castillo, 6<sup>th</sup>-Graders  
DeMille Dolphins have a plethora of responsibilities, including ball duty, snack sales and Peace Makers. Today, however, we are going to take a closer look at the job of a library helper.

Only sixth-grade students are allowed to be library helpers. They are the biggest, most responsible students on the block.

These helpers shelf books for the librarian on

Tuesdays and Fridays. They shelf books of all different kinds into their respective shelves, using alphabetical order and the Dewey Decimal system. Also, when a season passes by, they have to put last season's books away and put out new books for the new season. When December comes around, the helpers will take all of the green nonfiction books and count them. With all of those green books, our librarian, Mrs. Ferguson, assembles a Christmas tree!

Helping in the library is fun and informative!



**Alejandra and Azul help shelf books in the fiction section.**

# Finley Computer Science Magnet School

13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764 • finley.wsd8.us



**Pam LeMuix**  
Principal

## Bicycle Safety

The Westminster Police Department hosted a Bicycle Safety Rodeo at Finley Computer Science Magnet School in November. The event featured a safety presentation and a bicycle obstacle course.

During the assembly, students learned safe practices and bicycle safety laws to follow when riding their bikes in the community. "Our students are excited to learn ways to be safe on their bikes so they can ride them to school," said Principal Pamela LeMuix.



The event provided the opportunity for young members of the Westminster community to interact with Westminster police officers in a positive and engaging manner. During the obstacle course, students rode alongside a Westminster officer, who coached each child throughout the activity.

At the conclusion of the day, students received certificates of completion and new bicycle helmets. "The Westminster School District values its strong partnership with the Westminster Police Department," Superintendent Dr. Cyndi Paik shared. "We work together to ensure our students are safe between home and school."



# Fryberger *Elementary (K-5)*

6952 Hood Dr., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237 • fryberger.wsdk8.us



**Michelle Scheiber**  
*Principal*

## A Focus on Growth

Fryberger Elementary is a place where our community, families, students, and teachers can feel welcome. We believe in building a positive school culture and climate so that our community feels safe, and that our students will come to school each day and learn.

At Fryberger Elementary, we aim to “soar” as part of our Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS). Our students know how to be safe, organized, accountable, mindful, and resilient in all areas of their day. Each month our teachers and students also focus on a new growth mindset. This year our students know that everyone can learn, that our brain is like a muscle that grows, we are all valued members of our learning community, and that we love a challenge!



Finally, we have an amazing PTA which welcomes all of our families to join in and be an important part of the community. Our Family Night events are quite popular, and are held at least once a month. Fryberger Falcons SOAR!

# Johnson *Middle School (6-8)*

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244 • johnson.wsdk8.us

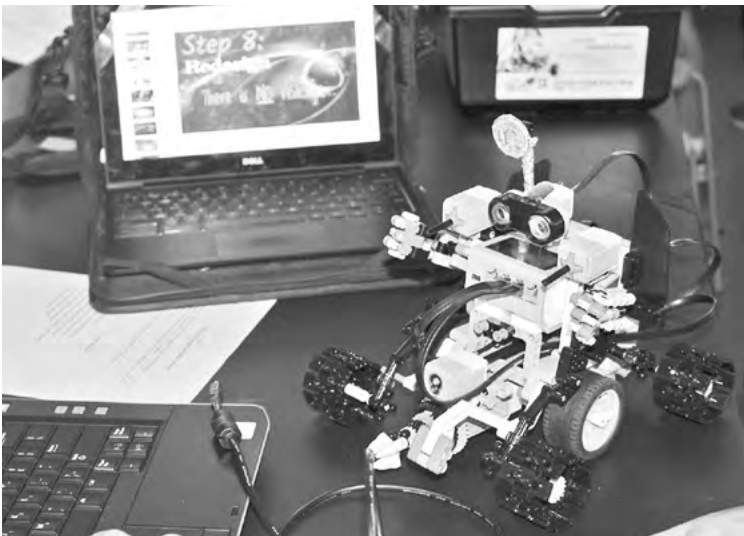


**Daniel Owens**  
*Principal*

## Gaining 21st-Century Skills

Johnson Middle School continues to look for new and innovative methods to allow its students to showcase their skills and talents in a variety of ways. One such way that JMS allows innovation is through our Multimedia Department. The goal of the Multimedia Department is to allow all Johnson Middle School students access to the latest technology to allow them to communicate their ideas, goals, and dreams in the modern world.

Our students are encouraged to develop the skills they need in a 21st-century workforce. They have opportunities in the fields of videography and film production, coding, website design, digital graphics, robotics, 3D printing and design, lighting and stage craft, and digital music, as well as digital promotions.



The skills needed for the future are ever-changing. By giving our students the opportunity to explore and create, they are obtaining the tools they need to tackle these changes.

# Hayden *Elementary (K-5)*

14782 Eden St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7261 • hayden.wsdk8.us



**Mark Murphy**  
*Principal*

## Supporting Reading Skills

Hayden Elementary is always looking for new ways to help support our families and build relationships. This year we are offering special parenting classes called “Family Stories.” This free program gives our parents the opportunity to help their children become better readers.

The classes take place every Thursday for eight weeks on campus. Here our parents have been learning how to establish and maintain a reading routine at home, and how to make reading something that is fun and enjoyable for their children.

The classes also focus on improving their children’s skills in fluency and comprehension.



We are fortunate to have two amazing ladies who present the classes. Marisela Edelbrock and Monica Munoz have done a tremendous job in building relationships and presenting various learning strategies. Some Hayden teachers have already presented to the parents, and the class has also made a visit to the Westminster Public Library to show what the facility can offer our families to help support reading.

# Land School

15151 Temple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us  
714/894-7311 Student Services • 714/898-8389 Child Development



**Beverlee Mathenia**  
*Executive Director,  
Early Education  
& Expanded  
Learning*

## Not Just Entertainment!

Land Preschool classes present holiday performances to audiences of family and friends every year. But these presentations are not just about cute children singing and photo ops in front of the snowscape backdrop. What’s really on display are some hard-earned developmental milestones like physical coordination with dance moves and hand gestures, phonemic awareness through rhyming songs and chants, and self-regulation of feelings and behavior just by getting onstage in front of everyone and following the musical routines.

Drawing on the Preschool Learning Foundations, which are essentially the learning standards for early education that are put forth by the California Department of Education, teachers are



able to make these holiday song-and-dance numbers a learning experience that actually meets state-required expectations for instruction in preschool classrooms.

So, even though it looks like fun and reindeer games going on up there on the stage, those little elves have been hard at work, and their adorably exuberant voices just happen to be entertaining, as well.



# Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • meairs.wsdk8.us



**Kathy Kane**  
*Principal*

## Farm to...School!

In December, the students at Meairs were excited to attend our Bring the Farmer to School assemblies. Lily Baltazar, a local farmer, talked to the students about life on a farm. On Ms. Baltazar's farm grow herbs, greens, mushrooms and aloe vera. The students got to smell, touch, and see all of these things. Ms. Baltazar shared with the students ways to recycle and reuse things into small gardens. The students were able to see how she had used an empty water bottle, a basket purse, and a dish towel and string to make small gardens.

After being good listeners, the students only had one of the five senses they hadn't used. To make sure they used all five senses, Ms. Baltazar brought locally grown mandarin oranges for the students to taste. They were delicious! Many of the students left the assembly thinking of ways that they can become farmers at home.



# Schroeder *Elementary (K-6)*

15151 Columbia Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7268 • schroeder.wsdk8.us



**Carrie Hernandez**  
*Principal*

## Music at Schroeder

Every month our students can receive music instruction from Ms. Meyers, our music teacher! Students practice rhythms using rhythm sticks and other types of drums to help accompany songs. They also learn the musical alphabet of A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and the accompanying solfege Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So, La, Ti, Do. They also learned the Curwen Hand signs to help reinforce their skills.

To help with learning pitch, students use boomwhackers, resonator bells, glockenspiels, Orff xylophones, and metallophones. The students also learn about music and dance from other countries and cultures, and learn about the various composers. We have also begun learning about the orchestra and its four families.

The second- through fifth-graders learn to play the ukulele. The students receive an introduction to the instrument and also learn about its origins, history, parts, and care. The sixth-graders receive a choice of what they would like to study for the year; at the beginning of the school year they can choose between recorders, choir, and musical theater.

Recorders give students the opportunity to play an instrument in a group ensemble and individually. Choir gives students the opportunity to sing together and learn to sing well in an ensemble. They also perform harmony as well.

In musical theater, the students can learn about the different parts of the stage, the terminology used in theater, staging, and what it is like to go through an audition process, along with some acting basics. At the end of the school year the three classes then have the opportunity to perform for each other to show what they have learned.

Our Mustangs definitely love to learn about music at Schroeder!

# Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264 • schmitt.wsdk8.us



**Orchid Rocha**  
*Principal*

## Spelling Bee Champion

We had many brave students compete amongst their peers to spell very challenging words such as: moccasins, pheasant, exaggerate, auditorium, typhoon, and Wednesday. At our site competition, Bella Nguyen, stood out as the best speller over many other great Schmitt competitors. Our first-place champion, Bella Nguyen, moved on to represent us at the Westminster District Spelling Bee. We are all very proud of Bella for her courage in competing amongst the best spellers in the Westminster School District. She did very well, and we look forward to seeing her compete again in 2020.



# Sequoia *Academy*

5900 Iroquois Rd., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7271 • sequoia.wsdk8.us



**April Derr**  
*Principal*

## Welcome!

Mrs. April Derr is proud to be the new principal of Sequoia Academy, a GATE Magnet Elementary School. She is very excited to be working with the staff, students, parents, and community members at Sequoia.

Mrs. Derr has been a GATE certified educator in the Westminster School District for 16 years at the elementary school level. Prior to being named principal at Sequoia, she served as an instructional support specialist working side by side with teachers at every elementary school in the Westminster School District.

In that role, she served as a key member of the adoption committee for ELA and Math Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

She also wrote and modeled CCSS standards-based K-6 lessons that highlighted the key shifts in the state standards. She is a National Trainer for Thinking Maps and Write from the Beginning and Beyond, two important district initiatives that support metacognitive thinking and writing. She has trained over 400 teachers in our district, as well as hundreds nationwide.

In addition, she is an Orange County STEM specialist with Kids@Science. In partnership with them, she wrote Units of Study for the Next Generation Science Standards and trained hundreds of teachers on how to implement these hands-on inquiry based lessons.

Mrs. Derr attended California State University, Long Beach, as well as Concordia University, where she received her master's degree in administration. She currently resides in Orange County and enjoys family time with her husband and son.





# Stacey *Middle School*

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212 • stacey.wsdk8.us



**Heidi DeBritton**  
*Principal*

## Battle of the Homerooms

*By Wendy Baird, Assistant Principal*

Stacey values the importance of school involvement. We prioritize keeping our students engaged by offering structured activities at lunch and after school.

Our ASB students hosted Fall Fest, where students watched a movie with their friends under the stars while snacking on delicious treats. Additionally, we have collaborated with the PTA for Battle of the Homerooms. Every month, students from every homeroom compete in fun and entertaining challenges, vying for the coveted title of Homeroom Champion. For October's competition, students wrapped one another in toilet paper, mummifying their friends. In November, students worked together in a team-building activity in which they had to strategize how to stack cups.

The homeroom winners are awarded the Homeroom Champion banner that they post outside their classroom. Our students are eager for our upcoming homeroom challenges because they always have a blast!



# Webber *Elementary (K-6)*

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • webber.wsdk8.us



**Robert Murdock**  
*Principal*

## Turkey Trot

In the month of November, Webber Elementary School had some terrific events.

Our first event was the Turkey Trot. This was a jog-a-thon fundraiser to support our school student council. Music and exercises were provided by a local martial arts organization. These “ninjas” encouraged the students, and demonstrated the exercises. The event was a great success, and raised a lot of money to support our students.

Our second event was a movie night. We invited members of our school community to come out to watch a family movie on our playground. Families were able to purchase meals and make donations to support our Webber PTA.

I would like to thank all of the terrific volunteers who came out to make it a great night!



# Warner *Middle School (6-8)*

14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281 • warner.wsdk8.us



**Tiffany Harville**  
*Principal*

## Collaboration at its Finest!

Collaboration, inclusion, differentiation, and student engagement. At Warner, this is not just what we do, it is who we are! Warner understands the value of teamwork not only among our staff members but also with our scholars as well.

As we continue with our journey to help all students succeed, we have seen much academic grit and growth in our co-teaching classes. Changing the way we think about

our teaching and learning modalities has allowed us to change our approach to better meet the needs of all Wildcats.

Via the co-teaching process, our students have discovered that everyone brings their own valuable perspective to the education process. Our co-teachers have done a stellar job of creating a flexible classroom environment where they share the responsibility for planning, instruction, and, ultimately, the effective learning of all students. Together, we are truly better, and our recent Wildcat co-teaching labs are a great example of this.



**Scholars working together on Order of Operations with fractions. Preparing to present to class.**

# Willmore *Elementary (K-5)*

7122 Maple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-3765 • willmore.wsdk8.us



**Dr. Nicole Jacobson**  
*Principal*

## Learning About Career Paths

Willmore hosted its first ever Career Day this month. Our school's vision is to engage, equip, and empower all of our students to both pursue their passions and learn to lead in a globally diverse community.

Career Day was planned to help them think at an early age about possible college and careers. The various career exploration opportunities also inspired our students to pursue whatever it is that sparks their interests and passions.

Before the event, Willmore invited family and community members to come and share information about their various careers, including how they chose them, what it takes to get there, and the responsibilities of each. Presenters also stressed the importance of literacy and the need for our students to continue to work hard.



**Presenters shared about their careers to inspire students**

The invited speakers ranged from detectives, firefighters, engineers, musicians, lawyers, and more. The students also used Thinking Maps and note-taking skills to record important information and ask questions. They will soon be presenting thank-you notes to the presenters for taking the time to inspire them!





# Wherever the Year Takes You, We're Here.

You would go any distance to take care of your family, but we don't think you should have to. At MemorialCare, we continue to expand our services to bring you better care closer to you. Having award-winning physicians in your own home neighborhood means getting to appointments faster and enjoying a healthier life.

We're here with care when you need it.

(877) MYMEMCARE (696-3622)  
[Memorialcare.org/MedicalGroup](https://www.Memorialcare.org/MedicalGroup)

  
**MemorialCare**<sup>™</sup>  
Medical Group





# Tutoring Club

MATH | READING | WRITING | SCHOOL SUPPORT

MORE THAN WORKSHEETS.  
REAL CONNECTIONS.

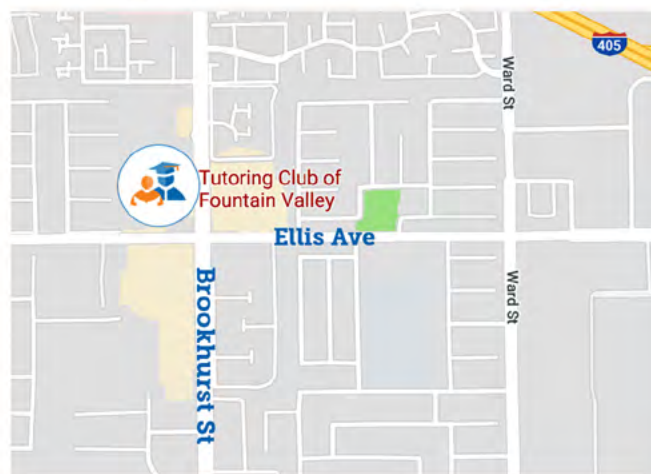


**CALL TODAY!**

**(714) 965-8886**

9985 Ellis Ave, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

[TutoringClub.com/Fountain-Valley-CA](http://TutoringClub.com/Fountain-Valley-CA)



With over 25 years of experience, we know that academic success requires study habits, accountability, and motivation. That's why we believe in:

- ✓ **Providing *mentorship***
- ✓ **Instilling *confidence***
- ✓ **Maximizing *potential***
- ✓ **Teaching *organization* and *study skills***
- ✓ **Tracking *progress* and *communicating* results**
- ✓ **Fostering *self-motivation***

**ALL AGES. ALL SUBJECTS. ALL SKILL LEVELS.**

Show this ad to get a FREE academic assessment test!