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School News



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Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, Magnolia & Savanna

Volume 15, Issue 56

September / October 2021



Superintendent Martinez welcoming Kindergarten scholars.
(Please see Centralia School District pages 8– 12.)



Ribbon Cutting for New Administrative Headquarters
(Please see Cypress School District pages 13 – 15.)



Summer Learning at Robert M. Pyles STEM Academy
(Please see Magnolia School District pages 16 – 19.)



Students were excited to return to in-class learning on the first day of school.
(Please see Savanna School District pages 20 – 22.)



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Covering the
CENTRALIA, CYPRESS,
MAGNOLIA & SAVANNA
SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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Kay Coop

Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik

Welcome back to a new school year. It is wonderful to have a bit of normalcy back in our lives and especially for the children. During the 15 years we have been publishing the school news from these districts there have been many changes in curriculum and technology, but this pandemic was the biggest challenge for everyone.

This is a popular issue when we highlight the superintendents and principals with their bios. Enjoy!

Be sure to enter the word search contest on page 16 and the seek 'n find contest on page 23 (all ages may enter).

Thank you for including *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is November 3, 2021.

School News Roll Call
Welcomes You
Back to School!



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Dispelling Myths About COVID-19 Vaccines for Kids



Graham Tse, M.D.,
chief medical officer,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

Immunizations are one of the best means of protection against contagious diseases, including COVID-19. The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine recently received full approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for people 16 years and older, which means this vaccine met high standards for safety and effectiveness. The CDC continues to recommend everyone 12 years and older get a COVID-19 vaccine, this is especially important as the new school year begins.

There is a lot of misinformation about the COVID-19 vaccinations for kids. Below are answers to common questions you may have.

COVID-19 doesn't affect children as much, so why should my child still get vaccinated?

Anyone can be infected with COVID-19. Fortunately, it's rare for kids to get seriously ill from COVID-19. However, with the highly contagious Delta variant, there has been an increase in cases and hospitalizations in kids. Unvaccinated children also can spread COVID-19 to others.

If my child already had COVID-19, should they still be vaccinated?

Children should be vaccinated regardless of whether they already had COVID-19. Research has not yet shown how long they are protected from getting COVID-19 again after they recover and immunizations have been shown to provide increased immunity from COVID-19 infection even better than an actual COVID infection.

Can the COVID-19 vaccine alter my child's DNA?

COVID-19 vaccines will not change or interact with your child's DNA in any way. They deliver instructions to our cells to start building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19.

Can the COVID-19 vaccine cause fertility issues?

There is no evidence that female or male fertility problems are a side effect of COVID-19 vaccines.



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Parent To Parent



Jodie Lynn

No More Excuses

Q. We have three kids ages 7 to 10 that have weekly chores but are either too lazy to do them or have too many excuses or don't care about them. How can we get them to follow through with their chores?

A. Write chores on "coupons," then fold and place them in a bowl or box. Let them choose a coupon to see who does what. It's a fun way to break the ice and get them

started. Coupons can be worth a certain amount of points. Once they reach a total of a specific amount of points, they can choose an activity, treat or whatever.

Make a chore "spin" chart out of construction board or an old box. Write chores on the chart that you know each child can handle. Add a spinner, which would have a pointer that can be made out of various types of materials. Let each child spin to see which chore they will be responsible for.

Change the passwords on their WIFI for their digital devices until all chores are done.

These ideas will not only teach responsibilities but also math as well as perseverance.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author.
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By Courtney Llaban, Children Services Librarian

ZOOM Storytime

Join us for a variety of fun storytimes, live on Zoom!
 Please sign up at ocplstorytimes@occr.ocgov.com

Tuesday

Baby Lapsit Storytime 10:30am
 (ages 0-2years with caregiver)

Wednesday

Kindergarten Readiness Storytime 10:30am
 (ages 3-5years with caregiver)
 A Chapter at a Time Storytime 4:00pm
 (emergent readers, grades K-3)

Thursday

All Ages Bilingual Chinese Storytime 10:30am
 All Ages Bilingual Spanish Storytime 6:00pm

Saturday

All Ages Music & Movement Storytime 11am

Kindergarten Readiness Resource

Children who enter kindergarten with basic reading, math, and social skills are more likely to achieve success in school, attain higher levels of education, and secure a better future for themselves. OC Public Libraries has compiled resources and designed physical and virtual programs to support families in getting Kindergarten ready. For more information please visit ocpl.org/kindergartenreadiness!

Celebrating 100 Years of Possibilities!

Residents are invited to join our year-long celebration with programs highlighting the library's commitment to the community for the last 100 years. Please visit ocpl.org/centennial to help us "Celebrate the Past, Inspire the Future" as we look forward to serving our communities for the next 100 years to come!

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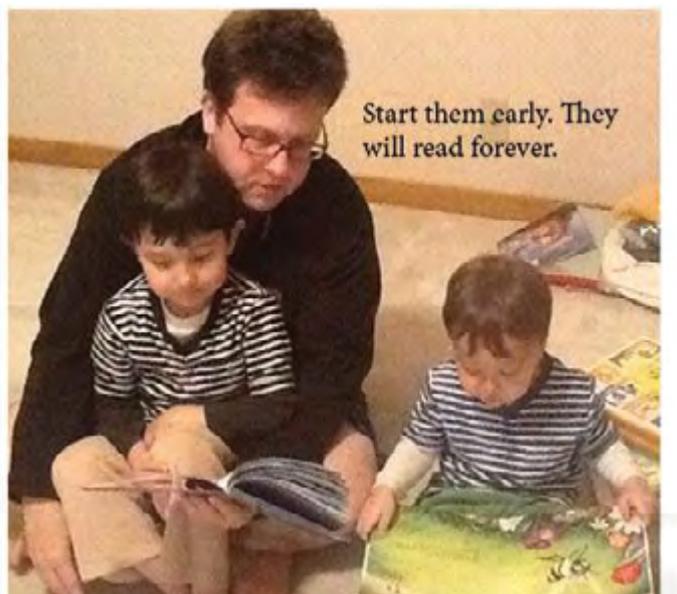
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 (FRI) OCT 29, 2021, 5 PM-10 PM
 (SAT) OCT 30, 2021, 3 PM-10 PM
 (SUN) OCT 31, 2021, 3 PM-9 PM
 Great Food, Many vendors to browse, fun Activities, and Costume Contest...

NOV
TASTE OF GARDENWALK & MUSIC FESTIVAL
 (SAT) NOV, 2021, 3 PM-10 PM
 Food Tasting, Booth, Arts & Crafts, Music & Live DJ Live Performance, Raffle...

DEC 
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- Anaheim House Of Jerky
- Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.
- California Pizza Kitchen
- Casa De Pancho
- Mexican Grill & Cantina
- Cha Plus Modern Tea Room
- The Cheesecake Factory
- FiRE + iCE Interactive Grill + Bar
- House Of Blues Restaurant & Bar
- Foundation Room
- Huckleberry's Breakfast & Lunch
- Johnny Rockets
- King Coffee
- Kip Barry's Magic Cafe
- Cabaret Magic Show
- La Michoacana 1st Ice Cream
- McCormick & Schmick's Grille
- MoMo Tea
- P.F. Chang's
- PokeGarden
- Roy's Restaurant

Fun

- AMC Gardenwalk 6
- Billy Beez
- Bowlmor Lanes
- Flightdeck
- Flight Simulation Center
- Heat Ultra Lounge
- House Of Blues
- Meelples Family
- Mission Escape Games
- NeoFuns
- Rumba Room Live
- UFC FIT

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Centralia School District

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Norma E. Martinez
Superintendent

Ms. Norma E. Martinez' work in education extends to 30 years of service, beginning as a bilingual instructional assistant, teacher, resource teacher, master teacher, vice principal, principal, executive director, assistant superintendent, and now, proud superintendent of the very successful Centralia Elementary School District. A consummate leader, Ms. Martinez leads by example encouraging all personnel to focus

their energies on sustaining a safe, nurturing learning community that works positively to promote success for all students. Under her leadership, Centralia schools have earned many accolades including Gold Ribbon School awards, the Distinguished Elementary Schools, Title I Academic Achievement awards, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze recognition at all schools for California PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support), CBEE Star Schools, Scholar Schools and STEM Schools, and the CSBA Golden Bell Award for our Neighborhood Resource Center which provides support to families in need.

Ms. Martinez grew up in Anaheim, graduating from Anaheim High School and going on to earn her bachelor's degree in sociology with a concentration in child development from Cal State, Fullerton. She now holds a

master's degree in school administration from National University and a bilingual, multiple-subject teaching credential and a credential in school administration. Ms. Martinez is a lifelong learner and has attended various Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Academies, including the Superintendents' Academy.

In recognition of her community service, Ms. Martinez was awarded the Rotarian Leadership Award by Rotary District 5320 for "Service above Self" and the Paul Harris Fellow Award. She received the Leaders in Oral Health Community Award by the Healthy Smiles for Kids of Orange County organization and the Buena Park Soroptimists Integrity of Profession Award. She was also selected as a Woman of Distinction by Assemblywoman Quirk-Silva in 2018. Giving back to community is a passion for Ms. Martinez. She has served on the Police Chief's Advisory Boards for both Anaheim and Buena Park. She is a member of the local Rotary Club, the Centralia Education Foundation, the Centralia Community Collaborative, CSUF College of Education Advisory Committee and the Buena Park Education Committee.

Ms. Martinez has launched this school year with a restorative viewpoint focusing on relationships, opportunities and success as we continue on our CESD journey together – students, staff and families!

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Buena Terra *Elementary School*

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Dr. Dominic Nguyen
Principal

Dr. Dominic Nguyen is honored to begin his eighth year serving as the principal of Buena Terra Elementary. He and his dedicated staff look forward to working collaboratively with the community to provide a well-rounded education to its students. Dr. Nguyen believes in providing students with a comprehensive education that prepares them with 21st Century skills. Buena Terra's Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) focus

has integrated skills such as computer science coding into the curriculum. Buena Terra opened its innovation lab, "The Launch Pad" to provide a place where students explore and engineer solutions that will enhance society. Students learn and apply the engineering design process to solve real-world problems. Buena Terra strives to prepare students to be college and career ready. Our goal is to create more opportunities for them to be critical thinkers and collaborators, as well as provide them more opportunities to use their creativity by communicating their ideas through a variety of mediums. Dr. Nguyen is entering his 20th year in the field of education with the first nine years devoted to teaching at one of the highest performing elementary schools in Southern California. He then served as an administrator at a California Distinguished school nationally recognized as a Model Professional Learning Community and Leader and Me School. He has always found the most rewarding aspect of his career to be the relationships he has fostered with students, families, and the educational community. When not at school, Dr. Nguyen enjoys spending time with family and friends. He enjoys road trips to new places and trying out the local cuisine in true foodie fashion. He always enjoys coming home to the sunshine of Southern California.

Centralia *Elementary School*

195 N. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/228-3210 • ct.cesd.k12.ca.us



Roy Lopez Jr.
Principal

Mr. Lopez is eagerly looking forward to the 2021-22 school year serving as principal of Centralia Elementary School. Mr. Lopez has 20 years of service in education and prior to joining the Centralia School District he performed various duties in two districts: Lennox School District and most recently, Anaheim Elementary School District. During his time in Lennox, Mr. Lopez served as a bilingual and dual language

teacher. He taught first and third grades and was actively involved in leadership opportunities on campus. In the fall of 2008, Mr. Lopez earned the opportunity to serve as Lennox's English Learner Liaison, a Teacher on Special Assignment position, and lead a district level committee in developing and implementing two programs: Lennox's Dual Language Program at Moffett Elementary School and the Newcomer Language Academy at Lennox Middle School. The development of these two programs are a testament to his dedication and commitment to providing quality educational opportunities and beneficial experiences for students. In 2014, Mr. Lopez was offered the opportunity to serve as vice principal in the Anaheim Elementary School District. During his five years of service in AESD, he supported three unique elementary schools: Benito Juarez, Palm Lane, and Betsy Ross. Mr. Lopez's expertise and background in dual language served him well as all three schools housed dual language immersion programs. Mr. Lopez earned his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Anthropology from UC Irvine as part of the millennial class of 2000. He earned his two Masters Degrees in Education from UCLA as part of the Teacher Education Program in 2002 and the Principal Leadership Institute in 2008.

Back to School!



Danbrook *Elementary School*

320 Danbrook St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/228-3230 • db.cesd.k12.ca.us



Erasmo Garcia
Principal

Mr. Garcia has 20 years of experience as an administrator and five years of experience teaching elementary and middle school children in the classroom and in after-school programs. Prior to becoming a teacher, Mr. Garcia earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from University of California, San Diego. While still an undergraduate, he was recognized as a McNair Scholar for his research in behavioral and cognitive

psychology. Continuing his lifelong love of learning, Mr. Garcia completed his graduate coursework in teaching, counseling, and administration at Chapman and Azusa Pacific University. Since then he has held various leadership positions, including middle school assistant principal, high school assistant principal, and middle school principal. This fall Mr. Garcia kicks off his 12th year as Danbrook's principal. Under his leadership, Danbrook has transformed into a Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Academy. Students are able to choose from a diverse selection of fine arts electives. Sculpture, Fashion Design, Improv, Tap Dance and Ballet are just a few of the offerings. This school year brings new energy and refinement to Danbrook's VAPA while continuing to provide a nurturing culture and rigorous academic standards. Danbrook focuses heavily on the use of technology and teacher preparation to ensure that students have a strong fundamental understanding of 21st Century skills. In order to build citizenship and a sense of civic duty, the school provides students opportunities to practice the C.A.R.E. (Courteous, Aware, Responsible, and Eager to Learn) attributes. Parent, students, and educators, together as a community of learners, make Danbrook a great place to learn.

Dysinger *Elementary School*

7770 Camellia Dr., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3240 • dy.cesd.k12.ca.us



Shawn Stuht
Principal

Ms. Shawn Stuht is in her 31st year in Education in the Centralia School District. She takes great pride in being the Principal at Dysinger, where she began her teaching career more than 30 years ago. She has made the Centralia School District her home her entire educational career, beginning in 1991. During her career, she has served Centralia School District as an Elementary School Teacher for 24 years, Teacher on

Special Assignment, District Intervention Coordinator, Teacher in Charge, Administrative Designee, Student Study Team Coordinator, Assistant Principal Intern, and is now and in her 7th year as Principal of Dysinger Elementary School. Ms. Stuht earned an Associate of Arts Degree in Business Administration from Fullerton College, a Bachelor of Science degree in Child Development and a Master of Science degree in Educational Administration at California State University, Fullerton. She holds a Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential from California State University, Fullerton and an Administrative Clear Credential in Educational Administration from University of California, Irvine.

In recent accomplishments, Glen H. Dysinger Sr. Elementary School has been honored with being a California Distinguished School, and is an annual recipient of the California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll Award and PBIS Recognition Medal Awards. Ms. Stuht is passionate about Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), inclusive of Response to Intervention (RTI), and Positive Behavioral and Interventions and Supports (PBIS). When appropriate, Dysinger looks forward to being able to reintroduce the opportunity to experience a range of enrichment activities, leadership, visual and performing arts, and S.T.E.A.M enrichment through our Peer Assistance Leadership Program (PAL, Strings, Dance, Choir and STEAM Club.



Grandma,
Why Do You
Have Cracks
In Your Face?

Please see the back page



Los Coyotes *Elementary School*

8122 Moody St., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/228-3260 • lc.cesd.k12.ca.us



Dr. Vicki Wong
Principal

Dr. Wong is starting her third year as principal of Los Coyotes Elementary. She comes to us from Fallbrook Union Elementary School District in San Diego County where she served as the Assistant Principal of a Dual Immersion and Steven Covey Leader in Me school. Prior to working in Fallbrook Union, Dr. Wong served as a program specialist for grades TK-12 in Saddleback Valley Unified school district and

taught as a classroom teacher in both primary and upper grades. After earning her bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Cal State University Long Beach, Dr. Wong obtained a master's in Education - Administration from Concordia University. Her passion for her students spurred her on to further expand her knowledge in student learning and motivation. Dr. Wong earned her Doctor in Educational Leadership - Educational Psychology from the University of Southern California in May of 2019. Dr. Wong believes that all students have the right to high quality instruction and a nurturing learning environment. At the core of her decisions is the desire to ensure that her students are supported academically, socially, and emotionally. Her focus is to encourage her students to be global leaders in the 21st-century job market while ensuring they develop positive sociocultural attitudes. Dr. Wong was married for 23 years prior to losing her husband to cancer. She is a mother of three young adult children. Her daughter, Amanda, is a 3rd-grade teacher in Irvine Unified School District. Her son, Mitchell is a student at Texas Christian University and is majoring in Global Supply Chain Management. Jacob, the youngest, is a sophomore attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo studying biomedical engineering.

San Marino *Elementary School*

6215 San Rolando Way, Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3280 • sm.cesd.k12.ca.us



Dr. Omaira Lee
Principal

Dr. Omaira Lee is honored to serve as principal of San Marino Elementary School where all scholars are RAMTASTIC. San Marino has received several accolades - California Distinguished School, Title I Academic Achievement School, 2019 California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll and 2021 PBIS Gold Award winner and recently, an AVID showcase school. San Marino staff strive to encourage, inspire,

and support ALL scholars to be self-directed, lifelong learners and contributing members of the community using a variety of strategies. Scholars are engaged, held to high expectations, and set SMART goals for academic success. We cultivate and create opportunities for our RAMTASTIC scholars to be consumers of technology, creative and innovative problem solvers, effective communicators, cooperative collaborators, critical thinkers, productive citizens with conscientious character, and set high expectations for them to display the R.A.M.S. motto (Respectful, Act Kindly, Make Responsible Choices, and Safety Minded). This is Dr. Lee's 17th year in administration and 29th year in education, having served as an elementary classroom teacher, resource teacher/reading specialist, Reading First literacy coach, assistant principal, principal, and Coordinator at Riverside County Office of Education. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, Master's of Science in Reading from CSUF and her Doctorate in K-12 Leadership from USC. Continuing her love of learning, she attends AVID training, ACSA Academies, and other professional workshops. Dr. Lee is committed to supporting scholars, teachers, and the community as we look forward to another RAMTASTIC school year. Finally, when not working Dr. Lee enjoys hanging out with her mother and two older daughters Rachel and Jasmine.

Don't forget to enter the *School News* contests on pages 16 & 23.
From the entries one winner will be drawn for each contest
to receive a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

G.B. Miller *Elementary School*

7751 Furman Rd., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/228-3270 • ml.cesd.k12.ca.us



Robyn Yarbrough
Principal

Mrs. Robyn Yarbrough is thrilled to begin her third year as principal of G.B. Miller Elementary School. Prior to this, she was the principal of Los Coyotes School for eight years. She began her career as a classroom teacher in the Centralia School District in 1998 and has worked as a Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) and Community Liaison at Walter Knott and Danbrook Schools. She is currently the Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) Coach for the district.

Mrs. Yarbrough earned her bachelor's degree in communications and master's degree in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fullerton. She has had the honor of serving as a Mentor Principal and is on the CSUF Education Administration Advisory Board. Under her leadership, her school has won both the California Distinguished School and Gold Ribbon awards. The philosophy that permeates her decisions and actions is that a high-quality education is a fundamental right for every child and is a critical component in raising citizens who can actively and effectively engage in a challenging society. To that end, it is the school's mission to provide the foundational learning upon which students will build. This year, Miller School looks forward to enhancing their Visual and Performing Arts program and augmenting the use of Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI), Project Based Learning (PBL) and enhancing Social/Emotional Learning (SEL).

Ms. Yarbrough lives in Buena Park with her husband of 35 years. They enjoy traveling, and are very devoted Seahawks fans, making an annual pilgrimage (or two, depending on whether they make the playoffs) to Seattle for home games. She has two sons, a computer software engineer and a high school English teacher. Both sons graduated from CSUF as Titans. They share their home with assorted lost and found animals who all claim to be listed on the deed to the house.

Follow Mrs. Yarbrough on twitter @mi_roadrunners

Raymond Temple *Elementary School*

7800 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3290 • rt.cesd.k12.ca.us



Dr. Estela Salas-Sarmiento
Principal

Dr. Salas is honored to be in her sixth year serving as the principal of Raymond Temple Elementary. As a school, Raymond Temple has one goal: To bring a World Class educational program through an opportunity for all mindset. Raymond Temple is proud to have three thriving gardens: TK/Kinder growing and digging area; primary gardens boasting regional plants, edible gardens, and outdoor seating; and our therapeutic gardens lead by our team of mentors known as ATOMS. In addition to our commitment to a world class environmental science program, we are trailblazers in innovative communication. Recently our media team was nationally recognized as a 2018 TechXcellence school for innovative media endeavors. The future is bright at Raymond Temple as we continue to create opportunities for all in both technology and real-world hands-on experiences. We have many opportunities on the horizon: farm to table cooking program, compost lunch program to reduce waste, virtual fieldtrips, and augmented reality immersive learning space. Dr. Salas' 25-year career began in the classroom teaching grades 1st through 5th for Downey USD, piloting the first Sheltered English Immersion class for the district. She was the first teacher in her district to have a BCLAD credential making her highly qualified to teach in two languages. In 2019, Dr. Salas was nominated as ACSA Principal of the Year for Centralia. During the same year she also represented the 39th District of the State of California as one of the recipients of the 2019 Woman of Achievement Award and received the Administrator of the Year Award from California Educators of the Deaf. Dr. Salas earned her bachelor's degree at California State, Dominguez Hills, kindergarten – 9th grade teaching credential and Masters in Multicultural Education. She earned her Doctorate Degree from California State University, Fullerton.

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Anne Silavs
Superintendent

Anne Silavs is enjoying her thirtieth year serving in the field of public education. During the first 10 years of her career, Ms. Silavs worked in the San Bernardino City Unified School District as a middle school English/language arts teacher. Driven to make a greater impact, she eventually transitioned into school administration, serving the district as a middle school vice principal. In 2004, Ms. Silavs moved

to Orange County to accept a principal position in the Ocean View School District, where she enjoyed working with students, parents, and teachers at Vista View Middle School. She was later promoted to Director of Curriculum and Instruction in Ocean View, which enabled her to support teaching and learning on an even larger scale. In 2011, Ms. Silavs was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Instruction in the Fountain Valley School District, where she served that community four years before being selected as Superintendent of the Cypress School District in 2015.

Ms. Silavs earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication from Michigan State University, a master of arts degree in teaching from Wayne State University, and an administrative credential from Azusa Pacific University.

Promoting school success and high levels of academic achievement for all students is the heart of Ms. Silavs' professional work. Over the years, these efforts have been highlighted in The Special EDge newsletter and have earned state recognition. Ms. Silavs was also a contributing author on Administrative Roles for Differentiating Teaching and Learning in Middle and High Schools and has presented at a number of state and national conferences on the topics of response to intervention and differentiated instruction. In 2021, she was named Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators, Region 17.

Ms. Silavs is a proud member of the Cypress School District team. She is committed to working side by side with all district stakeholders to inspire and empower every student and to provide a world-class education that effectively prepares students for success in a dynamic and rapidly changing world.

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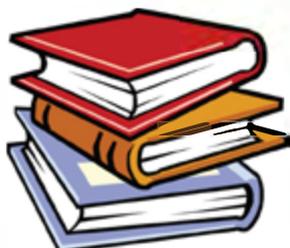


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WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



2021 – 2022



A. E. Arnold *Elementary School*

9281 Denni St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6965 • ar.cypsd.org



Vanessa DeSantis
Principal

Ms. Vanessa DeSantis has been an educator for 16 years. She is looking forward to her third year as principal at A.E. Arnold Elementary School, leading the Lions and empowering the staff, students, and families. Before coming to Arnold, Ms. DeSantis served as principal of Webber Elementary and assistant principal at Johnson Middle School in the Westminster School District. Prior to that, she was an elementary teacher

at Isojiro Oka Elementary in the Fountain Valley School District and Elitha Donner Elementary in the Elk Grove Unified School District. She has been a choir director, track and field coach, and student leadership advisor at the elementary level as well. Ms. DeSantis has a lifelong love for learning and teaching and believes in high-quality education and high expectations for all students.

Originally hailing from Northern California, Ms. DeSantis completed her bachelor of arts in liberal studies at California State University, Sacramento. She then went on to obtain her multiple subject credential from San Francisco State University. After moving to Southern California in 2010, Ms. DeSantis attended Concordia University Irvine to obtain her master of arts and credential in education administration.

On a personal note, Ms. DeSantis is loving life with her 2-year-old daughter, Olivia-Rose, who enjoys the water and going to the park. Ms. DeSantis is an avid dancer and has an appreciation for music. Traveling back to Sacramento to visit with her family and her nieces and nephews is one of her favorite things to do.

Ms. DeSantis is excited about the upcoming school year and looking forward to continuing to work with the staff, students, and families at A.E. Arnold Elementary!

Clara J. King *Elementary School*

8710 Moody St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6980 • ki.cypsd.org



Jacki Teschke
Principal

Jacki Teschke is beginning her thirteenth year as principal in the Cypress School District and her sixth year as principal at King Elementary School. She has extensive training in curriculum and instruction and is passionate about providing a safe, supportive, and equitable learning environment and effective instruction for all students.

Mrs. Teschke strongly believes that her primary mission is to be an advocate for all students. She believes in the concept that each staff member must take responsibility for the education of all students in the school, thus fostering an educational community in which all adults feel an obligation to support the education and development of all students. One of her primary objectives is to support teachers in this endeavor and to ensure the most effective research-based instructional strategies are used in every classroom.

Before becoming a principal, Mrs. Teschke served the Cypress School District in many different capacities. She was a classroom teacher, Title I resource teacher, site program coordinator, Cotsen Foundation mentor of teachers, Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) coordinator, and teacher on special assignment responsible for GATE, staff development, and technology support.

Mrs. Teschke's three grown children attended Cypress schools, and she served as a parent volunteer and PTA board member, including president, for five years before beginning her teaching career. She lives in Cypress and enjoys spending time with her family, pug, and new kitten when she is away from school.

Margaret Landell *Elementary School*

9739 Denni St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6960 • la.cypsd.org



Emma Connoy
Principal

Ms. Emma Connoy became the proud principal of Margaret Landell Elementary School in July 2020. She has been an educator for over 18 years. Prior to coming to the Cypress School District, she served as principal at schools in Orange County and Los Angeles County. Ms. Connoy started her career as a teacher in Los Angeles. During her tenure as a teacher, she was a member of the leadership team in the first elementary

school in Compton Unified School District history to receive Title 1 and California Distinguished School designations. As principal at a K-8 school in Los Angeles County, she implemented a "Morning Math" initiative which resulted in an increase in state math scores over two years.

Ms. Connoy was born overseas. Her family immigrated to the United States, and she was raised in Northern California. She earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Oregon and teaching credential from California State University, San Diego, and went on to earn her master's degree in educational administration and administrative credential.

Ms. Connoy has a "can do" attitude which was instilled in her by her father. She enjoys working collaboratively with teachers, parents, staff, and students and is committed to building positive relationships with the entire school community. She looks forward to continuing the rigorous instruction and high academic expectations with social-emotional support for each scholar at Landell!

Ms. Connoy lives with her 13-year-old daughter and 2-year-old pet Basenji.

Steve Luther *Elementary School*

4631 La Palma Ave., Cypress, CA 90623 • 714/220-6918 • lu.cypsd.org



Doreen O'Leary
Principal

Doreen O'Leary is beginning her twentieth year in public education, and she is excited to be joining the Cypress School District as principal at Steve Luther Elementary School. During the first nine years of her career, Ms. O'Leary worked in Fairfield County, CT, as an elementary teacher and instructional leader for Stamford Public Schools. She led the implementation of a standards-based math curriculum in

the district's 12 elementary schools. She also served as manager of the district's \$25 million Developing Futures in Education grant from GE Foundation.

In 2010, Ms. O'Leary transitioned to school administration, serving first as assistant principal in Weston, CT, and then as principal in Madison, CT, and Chappaqua, NY. As a school leader, she demonstrated her commitment to setting high expectations for all students

and providing the interventions and supports necessary to meet those expectations. She participated in the selection and implementation of social-emotional curriculum resources. She also developed student performance tasks to assess communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills.

Ms. O'Leary is a native Californian, who grew up in Pacific Palisades. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Georgetown University; a master of business administration degree from the University of California, Los Angeles; and a master of arts degree in teaching from Sacred Heart University. She and her husband raised their three sons in New Canaan, CT, where she also served as PTA president and an elected member of the Board of Education. Ms. O'Leary returned to Southern California last year, and she looks forward to working with the students, staff, and families at Steve Luther Elementary.

Juliet Morris *Elementary School*

9952 Graham St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6995 • mo.cypsd.org



Helen Lu
Principal

This will be Helen Lu's ninth year as a principal in the Cypress School District and her fourth year at Morris Elementary School. She has over 20 years of experience working in the field of education. Before serving as an elementary principal, Mrs. Lu was an elementary school teacher, high school boys varsity tennis coach, elementary assistant principal, site administrator for a dual language immersion program, and

SWING (Seniors with Interest in New Generations) district coordinator.

Ms. Lu was born in Hong Kong and speaks fluently in Mandarin and Cantonese. She received her bachelor's degree in child development from California State University, Fullerton, and a master's degree in education from Claremont Graduate University.

When away from Morris, Ms. Lu enjoys spending time with her children, playing pickleball, and traveling with her family. Ms. Lu is excited to continue supporting the high standards and academic success that are associated with Morris Elementary School. She looks forward to working with the stellar school staff to offer the very best to each child so that he or she can reach their highest potential as a learner!

Frank Vessels *Elementary School*

5900 Cathy Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6990 • ve.cypsd.org



Mark Holman
Principal

Mr. Mark Holman is proud to serve the kids, staff, and community as the principal of Vessels Elementary School. He is thrilled to welcome all scholars back to the Vessels campus and looks forward to an exceptional year of learning, growth, and fun!

Mr. Holman begins his fourteenth year as an educator this year and feels blessed to do what he loves every day. Throughout his tenure, he has also worked as a classroom

teacher, Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) lead mentor, and assistant principal.

Surfing, reading, and music are his passions. He also cherishes spending time with his amazing wife, 7-year-old daughter, and 12-year-old English bulldog, Max, and enjoys going on walks, camping, and spending long days at the beach together.

Mr. Holman loves learning and leading, and he is excited about the year's prospects. He describes Vessels as a special place where all staff works diligently to meet the unique learning needs of every student, every day. This year's theme at Vessels is onward and upward, and he, along with the entire school community, will continue to foster a passion for learning, making Vessels a unique place to learn and grow.

Magnolia School District

2705 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/761-5533 • www.magnoliasd.org



Dr. Frank Donovan
Superintendent

Dr. Donovan has a wide range of experience that includes being a classroom Teacher, Principal, and District Office Administrator. He is currently in his seventh year as the Superintendent of the Magnolia School District. Dr. Donovan's educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of California, Los Angeles, a Master of Arts in Special Education from Azusa Pacific University, a Master of Science in Education Administration from California State University, Fullerton, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California. Dr. Donovan continues to work collaboratively at the District, County, State and National level in an effort to bring innovative and current practices to the Magnolia School District. His efforts have resulted in several recognitions for the

District including two prestigious Golden Bell Awards from the California School Boards Association and being named a Positive Outlier by the Learning Policy Institute at Stanford University. Last year he was selected as the Orange County Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators. Dr. Donovan has served as President of the Anaheim Rotary and Anaheim Family YMCA and he continues to serve on the Board of both organizations as well as the Anaheim Police Chief's Advisory Board. He currently serves on the Mayor of Anaheim's Public Advisory Task Force and Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee to the Children and Families Commission of Orange County. Throughout the Pandemic Dr. Donovan has expanded his working relationships with several non-profit and faith-based organizations to bring much needed resources to the students and families in the Magnolia School District.

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Rules! When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put CCMS in the subject line)

Entries must be received by **October 15, 2021**
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

BLACK CAT	GHOST	SPIDER
CANDY	GHOUL	SWAMP CREATURE
CARVE	GRAVE	TRICK OR TREAT
CEMETERY	HAUNTED HOUSE	VAMPIRE
COSTUME	HALLOWEEN	WEB
DECORATIONS	JACK O LANTERN	WEREWOLF
FRANKENSTEIN	MUMMY	WITCH
FRIGHTFUL	SKELETON	ZOMBIE

Halloween Word Search Contest



Dr. Albert Schweitzer *School*

229 S. Dale Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-7761 • schweitzer.magnoliasd.org



Marcy Chant
Principal

Ms. Marcy Chant will continue as the principal of Dr. Albert Schweitzer Elementary School this year. After 6 years as the principal of Maxwell, she joined the Schweitzer staff in 2015 and is now beginning her 7th year as the principal at Schweitzer. Prior to coming to the Magnolia School District, Ms. Chant worked in the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District, and the

Fullerton School District. She taught a variety of grade levels and worked as a Teacher on Special Assignment and an Assistant Principal.

Ms. Chant earned her Bachelor's Degree in International Relations from Stanford University. She earned her teaching credential from California State University Long Beach and her master's in Educational Administration from Dominguez Hills. Throughout her career in education, Ms. Chant has worked in Title 1 schools and taught in a Model Bilingual program. She is fluent in Spanish, which helps her communicate with the school community.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer is a Leader In Me school. We believe that anyone can be a leader, and we teach the students the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Our students are encouraged to find their voice and develop their areas of strength and passion as they become leaders of themselves and others. The staff is working together to provide an environment and culture of Leadership at Schweitzer and to give the students opportunities for choice.

When Ms. Chant is not at work with the Schweitzer Bulldogs, she enjoys spending time with her son and her own dogs, Buddy and Bruce Wayne.

Dr. Jonas E. Salk *School*

1411 S. Gilbert St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-5143 • salk.magnoliasd.org



Katie Brown
Principal

Mrs. Brown is the proud principal of Dr. Jonas E. Salk. She is excited and ready to partner with all of our students and families and cannot wait to dig into what promises to be another fantastic year. The theme this year at Salk is, "Salk is Better Together." This mindset will guide our work together as we continue to develop the whole child.

Mrs. Brown is entering her fifth year as the principal of Dr. Jonas Salk School, but has been in the Magnolia School District for 29 years. Mrs. Brown started her career as a 5th grade teacher at Robert M. Pyles. She taught at both Robert M. Pyles and Juliette Low School where she had the opportunity to teach several grade levels before becoming a Teacher on Special Assignment. Mrs. Brown was an Assistant Principal at both Salk and Pyles Elementary and a principal at Walter Elementary before becoming the principal at Dr. Jonas Salk. Mrs. Brown is now in her 15th year as an administrator.

Mrs. Brown earned a Bachelor's Degree in Child Development at California State University of Fullerton and her Master's Degree in School Administration from Azusa Pacific University. Besides being a principal, Mrs. Brown is a proud mother of a 22 year old daughter and 18 year old son. She enjoys shopping, traveling with her husband and children, and attending sporting events. Mrs. Brown and her family can always be found cheering on the New York Giants.

Mrs. Brown is eager for the new school year to start and is looking forward to providing the best possible teaching, learning, and extracurricular environment for our amazing students and supportive families. Salk will continue to provide opportunities for our students to discover their interests, sense of purpose, and happiness.

Go Seahawks!!!

Dr. Peter Marshall *School*

2627 Crescent Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/527-8821 • marshall.magnoliasd.org



Alma Guzmán
Principal

Ms. Alma J. Guzmán is entering her third year as principal at Dr. Peter Marshall and her 24th year of service within the Magnolia School District. Her career began as a bilingual instructional assistant at Walter Elementary. She supported classroom instruction for eight years before transitioning to teaching 5th and 6th grades for 12 years at the same site. Before being Principal at Peter Marshall, Ms. Guzmán

served as the assistant principal at the site for one year.

Ms. Guzmán grew up in Placentia and attended school in the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District, graduating from Valencia High School. She received her undergraduate degree, teaching credential, and bilingual certification from the University of California, Fullerton.

She completed her master's degree and credential certification in Educational Administration from Concordia University, Irvine, in 2016.

With a solid foundational belief that all students should be allowed to achieve their maximum potential. She is passionate about providing an academically rigorous and engaging educational program. Her extensive training and experience in curriculum and instruction support her vision of student and teacher excellence. Furthermore, following a servant-leader model, Ms. Guzmán continuously strives to meet the needs of her students, staff, and community. Her natural ability to build rapport and positive partnerships with parents and community partners has enriched the Marshall community's experience.

During her free time, Ms. Guzmán enjoys traveling and spending time with friends and family.

Juliette Low School of the Arts

215 N. Ventura St., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/533-2673 • low.magnoliasd.org



Dr. Roger Nguyen
Principal

Dr. Roger Nguyen is proud to be the new principal at Juliette Low School of the Arts. He has served nearly 20 years in elementary education. During that time, he taught for 8 years in general education and the Gifted & Talented Education (GATE) program before supporting teachers as a Curriculum Coach for 4 years.

Dr. Nguyen went to the University of California in Irvine with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Analysis & Design and also a Master's degree in Teaching in Elementary Education. He went on to earn another Master's degree in Educational Administration at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) and has recently finished his Doctor in Educational Leadership last March at the same institution. He currently

teaches a course on community engagement for school leaders at CSUF. This was his opportunity to work with graduate students and share the wonderful experiences he has had with different school communities.

He feels fortunate to be a part of the Juliette Low family! At Low, the goal is to cultivate students' interests and encourage them to explore opportunities in thriving fields that require high levels of creativity and problem solving. There is a specific emphasis on artistic literacy and integration of technology for creative design projects. Sixth grade students have an opportunity to earn the Arts Scholar Honor Seal by demonstrating how participation in the arts have enriched their education. He looks forward to a successful year with the Juliette Low students, staff, families, and community!

Esther L. Walter School

10802 Rustic Ln., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/761-5997 • walter.magnoliasd.org



Rudy Aguila
Principal

Mr. Rudy Aguila is proudly serving his first year as the principal of Walter Elementary School in Magnolia School District. He is looking forward to continuing his career at Walter this year and working with an outstanding group of educators. He wants to be a part of the enthusiasm on the campus that Walter is famous for and is felt by staff, parents and students alike. He is quickly developing positive relationships

with both the students and their parents, which helps to ensure success in the classroom as well as at home. He is will be working to continue strengthening that bond this year.

Prior to joining Magnolia School District, Mr. Aguila was a part of the Santa Ana Unified School District for 18 years. He taught at both the elementary and middle school level and also served as a TOSA, and Assistant Principal at the middle school. He also acted as a Curriculum Specialist in the Educational Technology Department. Throughout his career he been an advocate for all students and been especially fulfilled by his work with at-risk students and their families.

Mr. Aguila received his Bachelor of Science Degree at Cal State University Long Beach and his Master's Degree at Cal State University Fullerton.

He and his wife live in Orange with their two sons who are just beginning their elementary years. The entire family enjoys camping and enjoying the outdoors together as much as possible.

Lord Baden-Powell School

2911 W. Stonybrook Dr., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/761-5442 • bp.magnoliasd.org



Kathleen Chammings
Principal

Mrs. Kathy Chammings is beginning her first year as principal at Lord Baden-Powell and her 18th year of service within the Magnolia School District. Mrs. Chammings began her career as a teacher and had the opportunity to teach several grade levels at Robert M. Pyles STEM Academy and Walt Disney School before becoming a Teacher on Special Assignment at Mattie Lou Maxwell and the District Office. Prior to her principalship, Mrs. Chammings was an

Assistant Principal at Mattie Lou Maxwell, Robert M. Pyles STEM Academy, and Dr. Jonas Salk School. Mrs. Chammings received her undergraduate degree and masters in business administration from Cal Poly Pomona.

"I am excited to work with Baden-Powell's enthusiastic staff, getting to know each of them as individuals and to serve the community supporting our students and families alike in both their academic and personal endeavors." Together with the Lord Baden-Powell team the school-wide focus will be C.A.R.E. (connect, acknowledge, respect, encourage) - a mantra for all on campus and in the community. Mrs. Chammings is eager to start the new school year providing students with the highest quality education and enrichment programs that are the hallmark of Magnolia School District while partnering with a talented team of teachers and staff to support students and their families.

When Mrs. Chammings is not at work with the Lord Baden-Powell Roadrunners, she enjoys any outdoor activity including; paddle-boarding, snorkeling, hiking, and biking with her husband. She is an avid traveler who enjoys experiencing other cultures through their history, architecture, art, and food.

Mattie Lou Maxwell *School*

2613 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-2217 • maxwell.magnoliasd.org



Steve Pescetti
Principal

Mr. Pescetti is excited to begin his 7th year at Mattie Lou Maxwell school. "I enjoy working with a great staff of people who truly care about our students, and the best part of my job is getting to know all of our students on an individual basis." Maxwell School will continue to have high expectations for everyone while providing a positive climate based on kindness.

This is Mr. Pescetti's 31st year in the Magnolia School District. His first job was

as a teacher at Mattie Lou Maxwell School for six years followed by three years at Juliette Low School. He has been a fulltime Peer Assistance and Review teacher, and was an Assistant Principal at Dr. Jonas Salk before becoming principal at Dr. Peter Marshall School. He has been a principal or district administrator for the past 20 years.

Mr. Pescetti earned his bachelor's degree in communications at Cal State Fullerton and his Master's Degree at Azusa Pacific University. He is the proud father of two daughters and loves spending time with his two grandsons. He loves sports, especially the Minnesota Vikings and our hometown Angels, and also enjoys reading and movies.

Mr. Pescetti is looking forward to another great year at Maxwell School. He hopes the Maxwell students will set personal goals for achievement and will have a safe and productive year!

Robert M. Pyles *STEM Academy*

10411 S. Dale Ave., Stanton, CA 90680 • 714/761-6324 • pyles.magnoliasd.org



Dawn Bakker
Principal

Mrs. Dawn Bakker is thrilled to enter her second year as principal of the Robert M. Pyles STEM Academy. She is honored to be a part of the Pyles family, the place where she began her 22 year career at Magnolia School District. Mrs. Bakker began her teaching career at Pyles, where, for twelve years, she taught various grade levels including 4th, 2nd, and 1st grades. Her substantial experience, and all that she learned from

Pyles, brought her to a position as Instructional Practices Coach at Walt Disney Elementary, where for five years, she supported teachers in grades TK-6th. The next step in her career led Mrs. Bakker to Salk Elementary where she served as assistant principal for three years. All of these invaluable experiences in Magnolia have honed her skills as an educator and leader. Being a principal has brought her back full circle to Pyles, and the wonderful staff, students, parents, and community she remembers.

Looking forward to her second year as principal, Mrs. Bakker strongly believes in continuing Pyles STEM Academy's mission: To focus on student-centered learning, facilitating experiences that motivate all students, and providing a rigorous and innovative curriculum enhanced by a unique focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). Along with the high quality instruction students receive during their school day, Pyles STEM Academy also offers a variety of afterschool programs. Some of these programs include; chess, sewing club, Esports, the CyberPatriot program, and foundational academic support. Mrs. Bakker believes that these programs are vital to the students at Pyles, as it gives them an additional offering to explore and thrive toward individual interests. Mrs. Bakker is proud that the CyberPatriot team was awarded the Superintendent's Cup for the 2020-2021 school year. What an accomplishment!

This year, Pyles will continue the theme of Panther Pride! Mrs. Bakker is excited to start a new school year with the amazing students, staff, and families of the Pyles community.

Walt Disney *School*

2323 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804, CA 92804 • 714/535-1183 • disney.magnoliasd.org



Regina Ford
Principal

Regina Ford is excited to begin her fifth year as the principal of Walt Disney Elementary School. Walt Disney School is a California Distinguished School, A Gold Ribbon School, Honor Roll School of the Educational Resources Partnership, and a Certified Kindness School. Ms. Ford believes that this tradition of excellence is attributed to the dedicated and talented staff, students, and involved school community. She

considers it an honor to serve as Walt Disney's principal.

Ms. Ford comes to education as a second career. She earned her Undergraduate Degree in Business with a focus in accounting from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. She spent the first ten years of her career working in both public and private accounting. She transitioned to education seventeen years ago with a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Phoenix located in Reno, Nevada. She worked as a classroom teacher, a coach, and a mentor for 10 years in Carson City, Nevada. During this time, she obtained her second Master's Degree from the University of Phoenix online program in Education Administration and Supervision. She served two years as an assistant principal prior to relocating to Orange County.

Ms. Ford is extremely proud of the devoted staff that provides all students with an excellent standards-based educational program. She takes great pride in the scholarly environment, the exceptional educational programs, and the success of the students. She is also proud of the variety of enrichment programs that are offered. Students have the opportunity to participate in Arts, Theater, Technology, and Computer Science. Ms. Ford is looking forward to an incredible 2021/2022 school year.

Savanna School District

1330 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3800 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us



Dr. Sue Johnson
Superintendent

Dr. Johnson began her career as a teacher in Wrightwood, CA, where she taught third and fifth grades. She served in the position of elementary school assistant principal and lecturer for California State University, San Bernardino. Dr. Johnson began working in the Savanna School District in 1990 as Curriculum Coordinator, and has served in Savanna School District since that time in the positions of Director of Curriculum, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Johnson received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; a Master of Arts Degree in School Administration from California State University, San Bernardino; and a Doctorate in Educational Administration from the University of Southern California.

As a first-generation college graduate, Dr. Johnson is passionate about providing opportunities for all students to succeed and be on the path toward college and career

readiness. She states, "It's very fulfilling to be able to give back to future generations, giving others the same opportunities I've been given. In my current position, I've been fortunate to ensure students have access to the best teachers, the best facilities, the most current technologies, and the best curricula possible, thus ensuring success for future generations."

Dr. Johnson has been married to her husband Keith for 37 years and is extremely proud of both of her daughters. After living abroad for more than four years, her oldest daughter received her Masters Degree at the University of Strasbourg, France and has worked with International students. Her youngest daughter will begin her ninth year of teaching in the fall where she will teach first grade, thus influencing the next generation. Along with her husband, daughters and son-in-law, Dr. Johnson enjoys traveling with the goal of visiting most of America's National Parks. Her advice to others is embodied in the quote by [Confucius](#): 'Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.'



Savanna School District

Full Day Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Programs 2021-2022 School Year

Cerritos School 3731 Cerritos Ave. Anaheim, CA 92804	Hansen School 1300 S. Knott Ave. Anaheim, CA 92804
Holder School 9550 Holder St. Buena Park, CA 90620	Reid School 720 S. Western Ave. Anaheim, CA 92804

Register online at www.savsd.org



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Cerritos School

3731 Cerritos St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3830
www.savsd.org/Schools/Cerritos/cerrhome.html



Lauren Stuart
Principal

Mrs. Lauren Stuart will continue her third year as the principal of Cerritos School for the 2021-2022 school year. Mrs. Stuart has worked in education for seventeen years in a variety of different capacities. She started in the Savanna School District when she was hired as a teacher at Hansen School in 2015. During her time as a teacher at Hansen, she has held the role as a second grade teacher, the Title 1 academic support teacher for grades K-6th and the Title 1 behavior support teacher. In addition to teaching, she also served as the District's Summer Academy Principal for several years, as well as the Lead Teacher for Saturday Academy. These experiences, as well as her dedication to the Savanna community, have prepared her to continue the role as Principal at Cerritos School.

Mrs. Stuart earned her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She went on to obtain her Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education with an emphasis in best practices from National University.

Mrs. Stuart lives in Orange County with her husband Riley and their two cats, Fred and George. She enjoys going to Disneyland, attending movies, hiking, and going on wild animal adventures on her quest to hold as many animals as possible.

Mrs. Stuart is so excited to have students on campus at Cerritos School and to continue all the amazing programs that Cerritos has to offer. This year Cerritos teachers will be not only be focusing on academics but also social emotional learning to help foster a safe learning environment for all students, so that they can be academically successful.

Hansen School

1300 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3835
www.savsd.org/Schools/Hansen/hanhome.html



Nicole Fischer
Principal

Mrs. Nicole Fischer will continue her fourth year as the principal at Hansen School for the 2021-2022 school year. Prior to her selection as principal, Mrs. Fischer enjoyed seventeen successful years in the Savanna School District where she's served in a variety of positions including teaching kindergarten, first, fifth, and sixth grades, serving as the Title I academic teacher, behavior support TOSA, and Summer Academy Principal. These experiences, as well as her dedication to the Hansen School community, have prepared her to continue her commitment to Hansen School as Principal.

Mrs. Fischer earned her Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies, from California State University, Long Beach. During that time she worked as a server at Chili's Restaurant. She went on to earn her Master's Degree in Educational Administration from Concordia University. Growing up and watching her dad's passion for education inspired Mrs. Fischer to follow in his footsteps.

Mrs. Fischer and her husband of 19 years have three children and live in Huntington Beach. They enjoy visiting family out of state, attending their children's numerous sporting events, boating, going to the beach, and going to the river with her family.

Mrs. Fischer is looking forward to continuing the great programs that take place at Hansen, including the Husky Time program for which Hansen School was recognized with the Gold Ribbon Award. She looks forward to another successful year with the new Benchmark Advance ELA Program and will continue to support teachers with the implementation. She will continue to focus on 21st Century skills, fostering a nurturing safe environment for children, promoting the strong PBIS program already in place, using data to inform instruction, and providing exciting and challenging opportunities for all students.



Welcome
Back to
School



Holder School

9550 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/236-3840
www.savsd.org/Schools/Holder/holdhome.html



Jason Blade
Principal

Mr. Jason Blade is entering his third year as Principal at Holder School and the Savanna School District. He has been in education for over twenty-three years, having worked as a teacher, assistant principal and principal in the Ocean View School District prior to joining the Savanna School District. Mr. Blade was born and raised in Cypress and grew up in a family of educators, with his mother being a high school English and

reading teacher and his father working as both a school site and district administrator. Mr. Blade earned his Bachelor's Degree in History and his multiple subject teaching credential from California State University Long Beach. He continued his education, earning a Master's Degree and Administrative Credential at National University and later completing the school business certificate program at the University of Southern California.

After working for 20 years at the middle school level, Mr. Blade continues to feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to move to the elementary level where he completed his student teaching and had intended to spend his career prior to being 'sidetracked' by a job offer at a middle school level. Having an understanding of what it takes for students to be successful in middle school and beyond Mr. Blade feels he can have a positive impact on the students' education.

During the 2021-2022 school year, Holder School will continue to focus on providing a quality education with an emphasis on helping mitigate any learning loss that may have taken place due to the pandemic. By analyzing student achievement data and providing Differentiated Instruction, we can and will meet the needs of all of our students. Technology will remain a priority and will be used to deliver and enhance lessons; students will have access to classroom computers, iPads, Technology Centers and a STEM Center to continue to develop and practice the skills needed to be successful.

When Mr. Blade is not working, he enjoys spending time with his wife and three children. He also loves traveling, surfing and skiing as often as possible.

Twila Reid School

720 S. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3845
www.savsd.org/Schools/Reid/reidhome.html



Dr. Rebecca Lynch
Principal

When school resumes in August, Reid Rams will welcome Dr. Rebecca Lynch as the newly appointed principal of Twila Reid Elementary School! Dr. Lynch is excited to begin building relationships with the Reid Rams and looks forward to having all or our students and staff back on campus this year. She joins the Reid family with 25 years of experience in education. At Reid, we will continue to focus on both the academic as well as the social emotional well being of our students. We will continue to focus on school, both in our use of technology and in our safe and effective learning environments.

Born and raised in Southern California, she received her Bachelors and Masters in Education from the University of Southern California. She taught 5th grade in California before relocating to Missouri. While in Missouri, she taught 5th grade, 4th grade and was a Writing Specialist, allowing her to teach all grades K-5. After 10 years, she became the Assistant Principal of an elementary school of approximately 1200 students. Dr. Lynch served as Assistant Principal for 6 years while she completed her Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership from Maryville University. Upon her return home to California, she worked as a Principal in Culver City. She served as principal for 4 years before being promoted within Culver City Unified to the Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning, where she has spent the last 4 years. Throughout her career she has learned the importance of collaboration, meeting each student at their level, early intervention and the importance of building relationships.

In her personal life, she is married to her husband of 23 years and they have 2 beautiful daughters. In their spare time, you can often find them at dance performances or spending a relaxing day with family at the pool or beach.

Dr. Lynch is very excited to begin working with the students, families and staff at Reid Elementary. She looks forward to meeting everyone in the coming weeks and months.



Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92628 • 714/966-4000 • www.ocde.us



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Ethnic Studies

In July, a panel of eight academic experts convened to share their insights and expertise on a topic of growing national interest — ethnic studies.

Presented by the Orange County Department of Education, the virtual forum titled “With Liberty and Justice for All: A Colloquium on Ethnic Studies” drew an audience of educators, school administrators,

students, parents, school board trustees, elected officials and community members who wanted to separate fact from fiction and learn more about the state’s recently adopted Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum.

Ethnic studies has been defined as the interdisciplinary study of race, ethnicity and Indigeneity, and while it’s not a new field, its relevance has increased exponentially in 2021. Many have staked out positions for or against, and the rhetoric has at times become heated.

Some insist that by examining the struggles and contributions of underrepresented groups, students can expand their perspectives and better see themselves — and their peers — as part of the story of the United States. They point to examples such as *Mendez v. Westminster*, the landmark court case that remains largely unknown even though it ended school segregation in Orange County and paved the way for the Supreme Court to reject the notion of “separate but equal.”

Others see ethnic studies as harmful. They say it will further divide this country along racial lines by categorizing some Americans as oppressors and others as oppressed. Many mistakenly believe ethnic studies is the same thing as critical race theory, which up until recently

was an obscure academic term describing how race intersects with U.S. laws and institutions.

Ethnic studies is not synonymous with critical race theory. In fact, the latter is mentioned only sparingly in the state’s Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum, which was approved by the California Board of Education in March after four years, four drafts and more than 100,000 public comments.

On that note, it’s also important to understand that the state’s Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum is not mandatory for any school or district. Instead, it was designed to provide local school districts with ideas and examples to consider if they choose to develop their own ethnic studies classes — and some Orange County districts already have under the leadership of their locally elected school boards and superintendents.

In California, legislation is under consideration to make ethnic studies a graduation requirement by 2030, but even if the bill known as AB 101 passes, the state will not impose its own ethnic studies curriculum. Again, that authority lies solely with each district’s local school board and superintendent, in partnership with parents and other stakeholders.

As an educational institution, it is not our place to wade into divisive political debates. As a county office of education, however, it is very much our responsibility to host professional workshops, webinars and trainings that elevate teaching and learning in our county while keeping our communities informed about the latest state and federal developments impacting education.

The Orange County Department of Education will continue to do so objectively and responsibly in support of local districts as they make critical instructional decisions on behalf of schools, students and families.

Contest!

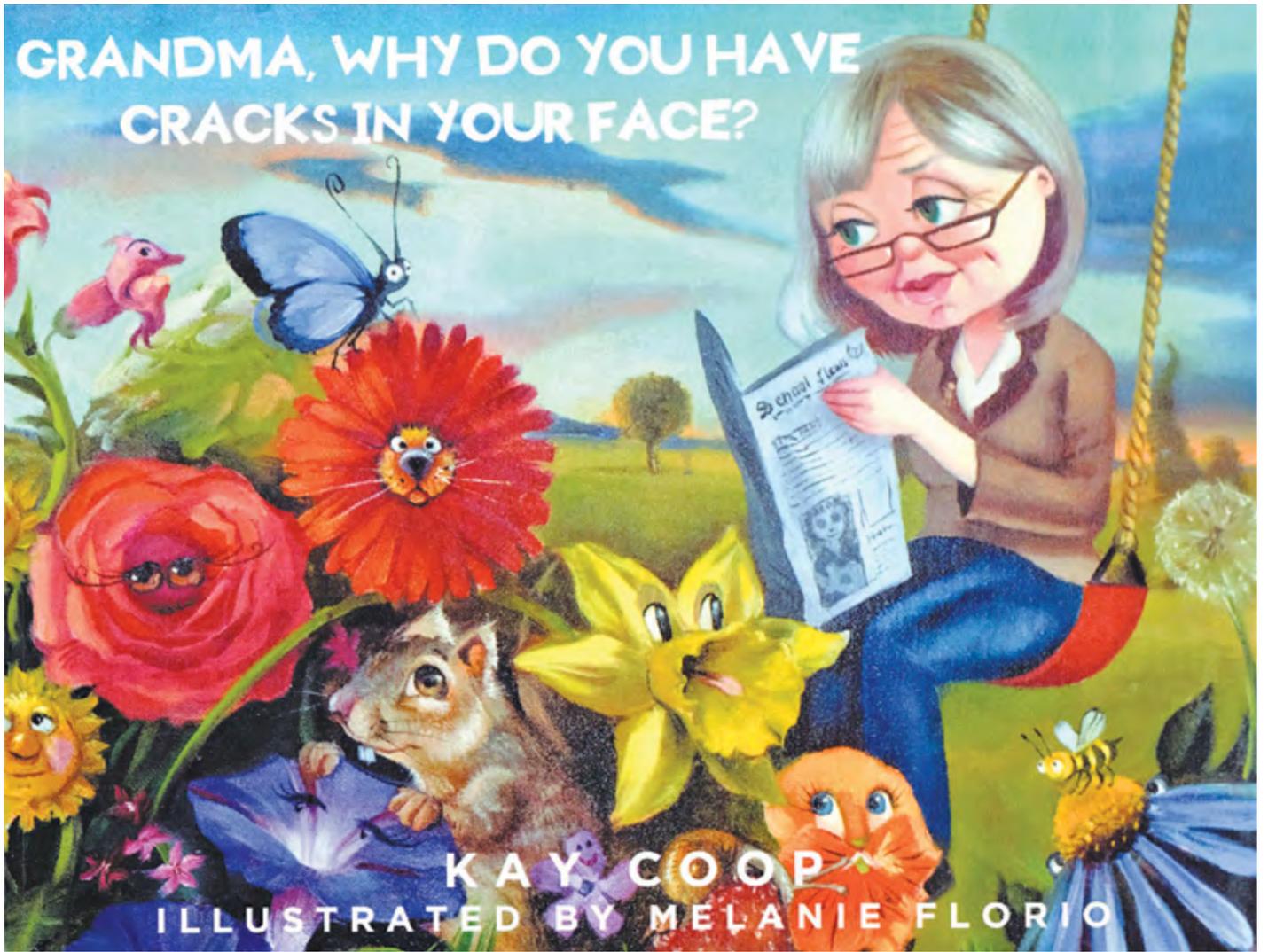
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Please put CCMS in the subject line.



Your entry must be received by October 15, 2021.
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