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Covering the Anaheim Union High School District

Volume 3, Issue 5

January 2022



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(Oxford Academy)



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I am so proud to be part of a family comprised of 29,000 students and their parents and families across five cities in one of the largest urban districts in Orange County and I'm really proud to be part of an amazing team transforming public education.

I want to remind us of our own humanity because much of artificial intelligence is really going to challenge us as we get to know more about it and what it is. AI is a challenge and promise and it's time to really remind ourselves what it means to be human. I would like to start off with a reflection meditation and ask you to please breathe with me. As you focus on the breath, think about how grateful we are to be human, how grateful we are to breathe, how grateful we are to be connected. Feel that connection, the love and compassion and kindness that human beings are born with as babies.

As a former English teacher I was trying to think of metaphors and stories to share so people could really understand what artificial intelligence is all about and I thought of Greek mythology and the story of Prometheus. Prometheus was a Titan who loved mankind so much that he wanted to give mankind a gift, the gift of fire. You can create things or you can destroy things with fire and mankind was very pleased to have fire. However, there was one problem. Zeus, the king of the Gods, when he found out that mankind now had fire that was just too much to bear and he took his wrath out on Prometheus and put him on an island with chains banned from ever being part of civilization. More than that, he sent vultures to eat his liver every night and then he would grow a new liver and the next night the vultures would come again. It's a new type of fire this thing called artificial intelligence, but I look to leaders like you to help us lead the way and develop a new GPS forward and whenever we feel fear, and there is a lot of fear in this country, I think of my good friend, Tom Tait,



who answers with kindness. He often says kindness is not softness, it's about courage.

I'm so proud of what we are doing with all of our partners. We are re-engineering what education should be for young people and together we are transforming AUHSD and AUHSD will transform this country so that the next generation will once again lead this country forward in innovation, job creation, kindness, and compassion because it's needed so much and our kids are hungry for that love. They often say the answers are in the room and more than ever we need all of you working together with us. We are framing artificial intelligence as a new way to create jobs and opportunities for our young people through AUHSD's Career Preparedness Systems Framework.

From Superintendent Matsuda's presentation at AUHSD's Artificial Intelligence Summit at the Anaheim Hilton. The presentation and event can be found on the AUHSD Communications YouTube channel at: <https://youtu.be/STef-ePsNEE>



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik

Happy New Year!

The beginning of each New Year is filled with hope and renewed aspirations to reach our goals. I think we all have one goal in common this year — the feeling of hope for a healthier year. As you read the articles in this issue you will see that even during a pandemic there is much to celebrate. You will read article about: creating a positive culture

on campus & a sense of belonging, high school courses earning college credits, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, ESports, Link Crew Leadership, and so much more...

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Since our next issue isn't until August 24, I must say congratulations to the Class of 2022!

School News

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Covering the

ANAHEIM UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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AUHSD Alternative Education Programs

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Jose Lara
Coordinator

Gilbert High School's Library is Lighting the Way

Imagine walking into the Gilbert High School Library. What do you expect to see? If you pictured fifty plus students flowing in and out, occupying every seat, socializing, listening to music, playing games, and the small space bustling with energy and vitality, you would be correct. This is what the library has looked like since International Games Week (November 8-10, 2021), a

programming collaboration with the eSports Club and College & Career Center. It has become a hub for students on campus. Despite serving a smaller student population, we strive to offer a safe and functional space for students to supplement their learning in the classroom. This includes developing the students' Five C's and cultivating their college and career readiness. Playing games fosters skills like socialization, theory of mind, and systems literacy. Libraries have refused to remain stagnant, adapting to the needs of the communities they represent—and the Gilbert Library is no exception.



Students playing games at the Gilbert Library, challenging traditional expectations of the role of a school library.

Educational Services

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Dr. Jaron Fried
Assistant
Superintendent

Building Mental Health Literacy

These past few years have been incredibly challenging for our staff, students, and families. The pandemic has not only brought a higher awareness about mental health, it has also impacted the mental health of adults and youth. Local district data suggest that there has been an increase in youth depression, complicated grief, self-injurious behaviors, and violent behaviors.

Consequently, according to Mental Health America, over 60 percent of youth with major depression do not receive any mental health treatment.

I am proud of the great work of the AUHSD in this area. We have designed a school-based mental health program that builds mental health literacy in both our teachers and parents. This is an important component in recognizing the signs and behaviors that are related to mental illness. Youth are first identified and given support at school, and the parents are assisted with navigating the mental health care system.

The district is effectively addressing the barriers to good care, which is a key component of both prevention and early intervention. Although we still have much work to do, I know that our comprehensive mental health program serves as a model for Orange County, the state, and the country.

Student Support Services

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Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) Program

A new (2021) Youth Vaping Alternative Program Education (YVAPE.org) offers free

Dr. Vicky Azevedo
*District Project Coordinator
TUPE/Tobacco-Use Prevention Education*

tobacco/vape counseling and education for students ages 13-17 that have been caught vaping at school/continue to vape and already had the opportunity to attend our AUHSD district alternative to suspension program Pathways to Success for 1 to 5 days. YVAPE is intended to provide structure for School Site Administrators to assist with the navigation and utilization of free youth tobacco/vape counseling online/telephone services while providing a positive experience for the students to think through their vaping behavior and at the same time placing the expertise into professionals' hands with the involvement of parents/guardians (outside of the school day).



Youth Vaping Alternative Program Education

Enrollment by Administrator---Initial Call---Videos & Discussion--- Follow-up Call---Survey---Completion Confirmation Certificate

Center which runs the rebranded Kick It California (old California Smokers' Helpline 1-800-NO-BUTTS/1-844.8.NO.VAPE).

Students say they like that the online/telephone sessions were not a lecture, but they learned something and it helped them to make their decision NOT to vape again. Schools appreciated the ease to enroll students and how quickly the process started, while parents liked having a role in the process; feeling like they were part of the solution.

Contact Vicky Azevedo azevedo_v@auhsd.us (AUHSD District TUPE Project Coordinator) for more information. We can make a difference!

These free services are offered to help California students quit vaping, smoking or using other tobacco products sponsored by the California Department of Education (CDE) TUPE Capacity Building Project and the University of California San Diego Moores Cancer

Technology

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The Importance of Student Data Privacy.

There are a myriad of federal and state laws which govern student data privacy and that our school district employees need to be aware of. Most of these laws have provisions for information review, data security, and data retention.

Erik Greenwood
Chief Technology-Officer

There are a pair of federal laws that govern student data privacy. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) focuses on the privacy of student educational records, and parent rights thereof. The Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule (COPPA) defines website and online service requirements for children under the age of 13. The law requires parental consent, and limits the amount of information that can be collected online.

California has a trio of student data privacy laws. The first two are education specific, and the third includes students as part of all California residents. AB 1584 focuses on the restriction of targeted advertising to students. There

are also provisions to limit third parties from using student information. The Student Online Personal Information Protection Act (SOPIPA) adds to AB 1584 in that the law limits the use of data to K-12 purposes, including a research provision. There is also more protection of student data related to governance and in the purchase, merger, or acquisition between organizations.

The final law is the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (CCPA). This law essentially extends the protections of personally identifiable information (PII) for students up to the age of 13, with COPPA to 16 years old.

The District is building systemness in this area by implementing the California IT in Education's (CITE) Privacy Services. Information Technology and Purchasing are working closely with their constituents and CITE to attempt to have a National Student Data Privacy Agreement (NSDPA) for all of their software vendors. The NSDPA ensures that vendors follow data parameters that spell out what data can be used and how. The service also enables districts to leverage collective efforts to efficiently and effectively implement data privacy agreements.

AIME

501 N. Crescent Way, Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/999-3794 • www.auhsd.us



MJ Cooke
Program Director

Accelerating into 2022

The start of the 2021–21 school year was an active one as Anaheim’s Innovative Mentoring Experience (AIME) launched a return to in-person career mentoring, internships and peer-to-peer student mentoring! Students from Walker JHS, Magnolia, Savanna and Western High Schools kicked off AIME’s first in-person career exploration event since March 2020.

The launch, with over 80 students in attendance, took place in October at Reborn Cabinets. The event focused on introducing students to manufacturing-related careers and aligns with AUHSD’s manufacturing, construction and design pathways.

Another in-person career-mentoring return was the AIME event series with Anaheim Public Utilities, focusing on exploring careers in engineering, sustainability and utilities conservation. This year, 40 students from Katella and Loara high schools participated in the sessions. The event was highlighted by student presentations of overviews of their experiences and their impact on their college and career aspirations.

Two other exciting AIME highlights included four-part virtual events with longstanding AIME partner Kaiser Permanente and new AIME partner KGTy. The Kaiser Permanente event series had 178 district students participating and focused on medical-career exploration. Students could engage directly with Kaiser Permanente professionals.

The KGTy series came to AIME this year via their senior designer, who is a Savanna alumnus! This was an exciting, interactive four-part career-exploration event for students interested in pursuing careers in architecture and design that concluded with students designing their dream homes with professional architectural software! Students could thus engage virtually with KGTy professionals both inside and outside their community.

AIME is accelerating into 2022 with in-person and virtual events across the district, with the calendar quickly filling up. Longstanding and new business partners are committed to providing opportunities to empower, prepare and ensure success for our students today and tomorrow.

Additional information on AIME, including opportunities to support the program, can be found on our [website](#). Click on the “Get Involved” tab.



Be Water Smart

- Repair all water leaks in a timely manner
- Use a broom — not a hose — to clean driveways and pavement
- Use a shut-off nozzle when using a hose to wash a vehicle
- Adjust landscape watering time to eliminate runoff
- If it rains, give sprinklers a break for a couple of days

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Scott Reindl
Program
Administrator,
Career Education

District Esports

Esports describes the world of competitive, organized video gaming. Competitors from different teams face off in games such as League of Legends, Overwatch, FIFA and Madden NFL. Over the last few years, the Anaheim Union High School District has worked to expand esports in its schools, including installing new computer labs designed to support esports as well as career and technical-education programs.

You may be asking why students are playing video games at school. There are many benefits for students who participate in esports. First, students are engaging at school in an activity that interests them as well as finding connections to other students, which can support social-emotional health. In addition, because esports involves team games, students are practicing transferable career and life skills, including the 5 C's: communication,

collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and character. For example, critical thinking and creativity are key to developing winning strategies, and communication and collaboration are necessary as players work with their team to win. Character comes into play as well, since students are required to display sportsmanship and act with integrity during esports activities just as they would when participating in traditional athletics.

Students who participate in esports can also benefit by practicing skills related to STEAM careers, such as computer science, media arts and event planning. The esports world represents a rich tapestry of industries and skills, including tournament planning; announcing—*shoutcasting*, in esports; coaching; and event planning and promotion. Colleges are increasingly participating in esports as well, with many colleges offering scholarships to esports players.

The esports world is an exciting place for students to engage in school, learn career and life skills, and participate in competition, and AUHSD is at the forefront in bringing these opportunities to students.

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Dr. Renae Bryant
Director

Seal of Biliteracy and Pathways to Biliteracy 2021

In 2021 Anaheim Union High School District students exceeded both the number of Seal of Biliteracy Awards (senior award) and Pathway to Biliteracy Awards (eighth grade award) given in 2020! These biliteracy awards make scholars even more competitive for scholarships, college admission and career opportunities. We were able to recognize 1,303 scholars for earning the

Seal of Biliteracy in twelve different languages and almost 700 junior high school scholars for earning the District Pathways to Biliteracy Award (ribbons) and/or Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) Pathways to Biliteracy Awards (medals/certificates). Thanks to our scholars, staff and families' diligent work, Seal of Biliteracy awards were earned in the following languages: Arabic, American Sign Language, Bengali, Chinese, French, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese. Forty-one students earned trilateracy awards: earning the Seal of Biliteracy in three languages.



AUHSD scholars earned over 1,303 Seal of Biliteracy Awards in twelve different languages in 2021.



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Anaheim High School

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Roberto Saldivar
Principal

The Associated Student Body Council

The central aim of the Anaheim High School Associated Student Body Council is to create and maintain a positive culture on the campus. This year's ASB council decided before the year began that they wanted to help all of the students on campus feel comfortable, excited, supported, welcomed, optimistic, and spirited. Every event or activity the group plans is focused on one or more of these goals.

The school year began with a week of lunchtime activities designed to make everyone feel more comfortable and excited to be back at school in person. Throughout the year, the council recognizes students and encourages their participation, focusing especially on the arts, academics, and athletics. This includes highlighting upcoming events, supporting senior nights, and planning rallies and assemblies for all of those groups.

Most recently, the ASB council held two philanthropic events. For the first time, they partnered with the Bag of Hope Project, an Anaheim-based organization that gives bags of gifts to children in the community who are experiencing homelessness or are living in



transitional housing. They were able to fill over 100 bags, an astonishing number for a first-year effort. They also continued the annual Winter Wishes event, where AHS students make wishes which are then fulfilled by staff, alumni, and other community members. This year, over 200 Anaheim High School students received their wishes, which ranged from blankets and LED lights to laptops and a bicycle.

Going forward, the Anaheim High School ASB Council looks to hold more lunchtime activities, dances, and awareness events to help make AHS feel like home to its students.

Ball Junior High School

1500 W. Ball Rd., Anaheim, CA 92802 • 714/999-3663 • ball.auhsd.us



Daphne Hammer
Principal

Vandenberg Space Force Base

The U.S. Space Force STEM to Space Initiative connected students from Ms. Berekian's 8th Grade Integrated Science Class and to Lt. Joshua

Santini from Vandenberg Space Force Base on December 14th, 2021. Dec. 20th 2021 marked the 2-year anniversary of the conception of the United States Space Force and they celebrated by connecting communities in all 50 States with a member of the USSF. Ball Junior High School was one of a few schools in all of California that had the honor and pleasure of hosting a USSF Guardian!



Brookhurst *Junior High School*

601 N. Brookhurst Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/999-3613 • brookhurst.org



Gilbert Amancio
Principal

AVID and AVID Excel

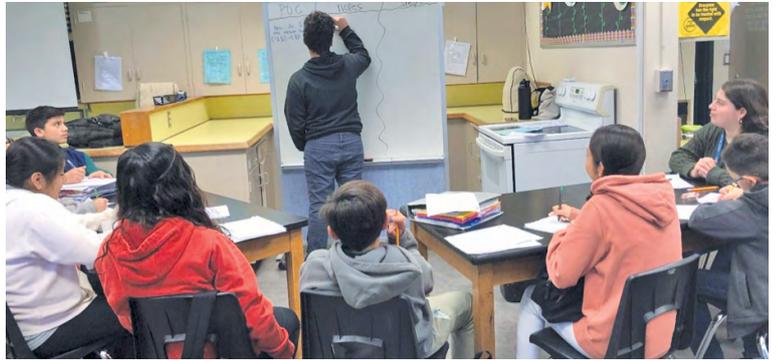
College graduation and college scholarships are what the AVID program at Brookhurst is all about. The acronym AVID stands for “Advancement Via Individual Determination.” This elective class is based upon research-driven “essentials” which, when implemented according to program guidelines, can provide a college acceptance rate of 95 percent for high school AVID graduates nationwide!

In secondary school (grades seven through 12), AVID and AVID Excel, which is the AVID program designed especially for English learners, are elective courses offered during the regular school day. Their instructional methods are based upon writing as a tool for learning, the inquiry method, and collaborative grouping.

The three main components of the program are rigorous academic instruction, tutorial support, and motivational activities. College students, most of whom were former AVID students themselves, tutor our students in learning problem-solving and critical skills.

Students in the AVID program are eligible for multiple college scholarships. Brookhurst eighth-grade students are often the recipients of a \$10,000 scholarship provided by a major local sports team. When in high school, every AVID senior has received some type of financial support for college.

The mission of AVID is to ensure that all students are prepared for a rigorous college experience when they graduate from high school. When your child becomes a part of the AUHSD AVID program, you will have an entire team of people focused on their academic success!



With the help of a college tutor, students use inquiry skills to solve complex problems as a group.

Cambridge Virtual Academy

803 S. Dale St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/999-7757 • cambridge.auhsd.us



Jackie Counts
*Director
Innovative
Programs*

Building CVA Culture and Community in the Beehive

Cambridge Virtual Academy recognizes the universal need for a sense of belonging, of being connected to others, and building close, supportive relationships. This basic need shapes a sense of competence to learn and grow. In these extraordinary times, it is especially important to cultivate community to link students, families, and teachers and to promote a stronger, healthier, inclusive society.

A vital aspect of promoting community is ASB led by President Madhumitha Nandakumar. ASB hosts virtual and in-person events - Spooky Game Night, Servathon at MAAC, Spirit Weeks, and much more. Other valuable activities include AIME mentoring and internships, in-person science labs, student-sponsored clubs, Saturday Academy, peer mediation, RSVP led by Ambassador Kathryn Kuroda, and field trips like witnessing James Webb telescope before it launched and the San Diego Wild Animal Park lab. Through PTA, School Site Council, CVA Counts, parent workshops, and our Buzz newsletter, families connect and foster community CVA spirit.



CVA students making connections with each other at the San Diego Wild Animal Park.

Cypress High School

9801 Valley View St., Cypress, CA 90630 • (714) 220-4144 • cypress.auhsd.us



Dr. Kevin Hodgson
Principal

It's IDEAL Here!

Dual enrollment classes, which are courses that provide high school and college credit simultaneously, have been a fixture at Cypress High School for the past several years. Previously, juniors and seniors have participated in these courses; however, the IDEAL (Innovative Dual-Enrollment Academic Leaders) Program, implemented in fall 2021, seeks to change that mentality.

Grade-level counselor Osvaldo Hurtado recruited a group of motivated freshmen to be a part of the first IDEAL cohort of learners. These students will take a series of dual-enrollment courses each semester of their high school careers. Successful completion of the series will enable students to graduate from Cypress High School with a high school diploma and a minimum of 24 college credits through our partnership with Cypress Community

College. What's most exciting about the program is the diversity of students participating in it. Some students will be the first in their family to graduate from college, some have always had success in school, some students receive special-education services, and all the students come from different walks of life. It truly is a cohort of students that represents all of Cypress High School.

Erika Yi, our programs counselor, has joined the team and works closely with Mr. Hurtado in overseeing the program in practice. We started with approximately 35 students, have retained most of the original students, and were even able to add a few more to the cohort this past week. IDEAL students took two counseling classes, Coun 139 and 140, during the first semester and are now enrolled in Introduction to Criminal Justice (AJ110) for the second semester.

It's amazing to think that we have freshmen who have already earned college credit! These students are off to an IDEAL start.

Dale Junior High School

900 S. Dale Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/220-4210 • dale.auhsd.us



Lorena Moreno
Principal

Coping with the Future

In spring 2018, a group of teacher leaders and community stakeholders from Dale Junior High met to discuss the possibility of transforming Dale JHS into a STEAM-focused school. Several teams of teachers began visiting STEAM academies in Southern California to learn how a STEAM-focused curriculum works at a school site.

Since many of our teachers have been trained in project-based learning, we were interested in using a model in which the entire school focused on a single driving question.

The team decided to capitalize on Perseverance, the Mars lander, since it would be touching down at about the same time as our STEAM showcase. With the date set, our driving question became How can we sustain life on

Mars? Every course on campus tied their activities to the colonization of Mars, and we compiled everything on [this site](#) that went live when Perseverance landed.

This year, we are figuring out how to feed a hungrier, hotter planet in 2050. PLCs are working thematically to address not only the cause but also solutions. Social studies began by leading students into an activity designed to imagine themselves in 30 years and how climate change would affect their future. Math classes are analyzing population growth and proportionate food consumption around the world. Science classes are looking to explain the problem and find alternative solutions. All English students are reading *A Long Walk to Water* by Sue Park and are making Soapbox Speeches encouraging the importance of access to clean drinking water and how to conserve water during one of the worst droughts in California's history. They will be showcasing their work at Dale's STEAM showcase on April 13.



Congratulations Class of 2022!

Hope School

7901 Knott Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/220-4199 • hope.auhsd.us



Louie LeMonnier
Principal

A Gateway to Independence

In order to live a life of purpose and independence, one needs a clear voice. Many of us take our voice for granted, as well as the power it gives us to navigate our world as we desire.

Students with intellectual disabilities often have a very limited ability to speak verbally, or they cannot speak at all. Understanding the critical role that the voice plays in living a life that is purposeful and self-directed, Hope School is dedicated to assisting all of its students in finding their own.

Student voices come in all different and wonderful types. Some voices are verbal, some speak through sign language and gestures, some speak with voice output devices, and some are spoken simply by an eye gaze or the press of a switch. No matter the type of voice, our staff members at Hope School are razor-focused on developing this critical life-communication skill.



Over the years we have developed a school-wide communications program to help hone each student's voice by providing cross-curricular communication opportunities in each course. We also offer mandatory enrollment in a communication class from the seventh grade to adult transition, access to a team of highly devoted and passionate speech and language pathologists, staff development that targets communication technology and strategies, and strong collaboration and coordination

efforts with student families. Our students can also increase their civic skills within the Career Preparedness System Framework (CPSF).

Hope School is committed to empowering its students to develop their voice so that they can live the life they choose.

Katella High School

2200 E. Wagner Ave., Anaheim, CA 92806 • 714/999-3621 • katella.auhsd.us



Dr. Roxanna Hernandez
Principal

Katella Students take AIME with Anaheim Public Utilities

Katella students participated in a four day AIME mentorship event with the Anaheim Public Utilities that focused on empowering students to succeed in academics, career, community and life. Katella students were partnered with professionals currently working in various "Green" careers within the Anaheim Public Utilities. Each day students worked

with their mentors to build the hard and soft skills (5 C's) that are vital to success in their future careers. Activities included collaboration building, resume building, mock interviews, and a culminating group presentation. Katella students were invited to attend a ground breaking ceremony as part of the Ground Water Treatment Program at the Linda Vista Complex, where Katella student, Yosselin DeLaCruz gave a speech on the environmental importance of this program. Students truly had a firsthand view of how developing their 5 C's skills is a necessity for their future career success.



Kennedy High School

8281 Walker St., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/220-4101 • kennedy.auhsd.us



Dr. Adam Hernandez
Principal

IB CARES

Kennedy's exclusive International Baccalaureate Diploma Program is an academic program offering students the potential to receive sophomore standing at UC schools and other universities. IB is committed to experiential learning outside of the classroom through

CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) in order to develop caring, principled, and reflective active citizens.

Each fall, IB juniors design a service project serving an authentic need. Fostering student voice and choice, they begin the process by identifying interests, skills, and areas for personal growth. Engaging in conversations about effective leadership, they evaluate their own leadership styles. Based upon students' interests, they form collaborative groups, write action plans, and delegate responsibilities. CAS groups also closely collaborate with an advisor who fosters reflection along



their journey. Some of this year's projects include providing mentoring for local elementary students, establishing a school recycling program, organizing donation drives for a children's organization, and providing mindfulness training to students.

Lexington Junior High School

4351 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-4201 • lexington.auhsd.us



Daniel Klatzker
Principal

Barriers No More!

Small but great impact! One of Lexington's missions is to build community and relationships coming off a challenging remote year. This the approach Derek Rae, EL department chair and EL coordinator, has taken in empowering our PL (plural language) students this year and working with our staff to build capacity to create an inclusive community across all the

curricula. Our PL students are truly involved in practicing the AUHSD's CPSF (Career Preparedness Systems Framework) by tapping into their voice and purpose, attaining 21st century skills, and learning technical skills in working toward English-language proficiency.

In the words of Mr. Rae, "speaking is a key component, and anytime there are opportunities to get them outside the ELD classroom to do so is great practice!" Throughout this year, our ELD classroom and the PL students have been shining examples of the CPSF by presenting to staff their capstone projects, practicing interviewing techniques with each other and adults on campus, working collaboratively to write essays, participating in college and career presentations and activities, and putting together



care packages that include gloves, thermal blankets and snacks to be donated to Operation Warm Wishes. Mr. Rae has tapped into the power of transformation and has inspired his students who all have language barriers to be involved and active in our Lexington community.

Mr. Rae and our PL students are making a huge impact on our campus, embracing our vision, "At Lexington, we champion a collaborative community."

Loara High School

1765 W. Cerritos, Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/999-3677 • loara.uhsd.us



Gary Brown
Principal

What a Year! (and it's only been a semester)

Loara has made the most of being back for the 21/22 school year. At the invitation of the Mayor, our Environmental science class participated in the ground breaking ceremony for a new water treatment plant. Our athletics have shined with women's tennis making CIF playoffs and our football team winning the Southern Section CIF championship - a feat which had eluded



Loara for 42 years. Loara prepared over 160 bags for Hope for Children in the community. Our community donated over \$6000 for Student Winter Wishes. Lastly, in partnership with North Orange County ROP and Fullerton College, Loara High School has developed an exclusive CTE pathway program. The Drone Tech Academy will provide students with job ready skills, certifications, and even dual college enrollment opportunities so that students are college and career ready in the up and coming field of drone technology.

Magnolia High School

2450 W. Ball Rd., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/220-4221 • magnolia.uhsd.us



Dr. Karen Dabney-Lieras
Principal

Our Esports Program is Thriving!

Magnolia High School's Esports program was founded in 2017, by Anaheim Achieves after-school Program Director Taylor Yazel and teachers Lindsay Paananen and Taylor Thorne. Esports serves over 100 students on our campus and they host a yearly Smash Brothers tournament for all high

schools and middle schools in the Anaheim Union High School District. Our new Valorant competition team was created from a highly skilled applicant pool of gamers and the number of students coming out for Esports continues to grow. Our current Esports advisor Angelita White says "It's a joy to see students with so much energy and passion in a classroom! It's like a family where everyone gets together to laugh and challenge one another in lively games. The excitement

is contagious!" Esports popularity has increased over the years as online gaming has provided opportunities for students to stay connected with one another, especially during the pandemic shutdown.



Orangeview Junior High School

3715 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/220-4205 • orangeview.uhisd.us



Chuck Hernandez
Principal

The Spirit of Collaboration

Ever resilient, steadfast in compassion and caring, and always growing, Orangeview has risen above the challenges of the past year and embraced the spirit of rebuilding in every part of its campus. Taking the lead in creating an environment of academic excellence, and strongly supporting our college and career readiness, Orangeview recently unveiled their AVID Learning Center. Here our AVID students



can work with AVID tutors, collaborate on projects, and build effective student leadership capacity.

Modeling service to the community, Orangeview's Puente students have now produced and donated over 50 crocheted scarves for the Knott's Avenue Church community service project. The Puente students also teamed with the Orangeview ASB and AVID students to lead the OV Annual Servathon in January designing and planting gardens for the school site. They used their creativity and spirit of collaboration for this worthy campus beautification project.

Orangeview has also moved one step closer to becoming an AVID Demonstration School, as it now embraces AVID learning strategies each day across the curriculum. At Orangeview, Panther Pride continues to grow stronger our student body, staff members, and the school community.



Oxford Academy

5172 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-3055 • oxford.uhisd.us



Amber Houston
Principal

Contributions Felt Nationwide

Happy New Year! We have many standouts here at Oxford Academy, but this semester, we are happy to share about Joshua Lou, 10th-grade patriot. He is the 2021 winner of the Congressional App Challenge Competition hosted by Congressman Alan Lowenthal.

"I am happy to announce that you are this year's winner of the [Congressional App Challenge](#) for the 47th District of California!" read the announcement from the congressman's office. "We all loved your app and felt like it addressed a lot of important issues. You can see [your shout-out](#) as well on the congressman's Instagram, @repLowenthal."

The winning apps will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol Building and featured on the House of Representatives' website, House.gov. All winning students will be invited to #HouseofCode Capitol Hill Reception in Washington, D.C.



Joshua has been passionate about e-waste recycling. As part of his endeavors, he created an app called \$ellPhone, which provides a convenient way for cell phone owners to sell, donate, or recycle their used phones to reduce e-waste worldwide. Similarly, the Eco Club students, led by Joshua,

held a battery drive in which they collected a plethora of batteries to recycle rather than putting them into a landfill.

Our Oxford students take what they learn and go to the next level. Joshua and students like him seek understanding beyond the four walls of a typical classroom. Joshua advocates for his educational journey to be relevant and practical by seeking out real-life opportunities to apply his learning. For the last four years, he has devoted time to the Eco Club, iLab Covid internship and cybersecurity internship, and he wrote and presented at the 2021 International Conference on Social Science and Humanities and the 2022 World Conference on Waste Management.

Savanna High School

301 N. Gilbert St., Anaheim, CA 9280 • 714/220-4262 • savanna.auhsd.us



Mike Pooley
Principal

Rebel Relaxation Room

A space was needed for students to come to for some downtime or support and the idea to create a wellness room began. Spearheading the idea was our lead counselor Mrs. Hatzis. The brainstorming began immediately and then CHOC got

involved. We now have a

place we call the Rebel Relaxation Room. It is a well appointed space that is staffed each day by a Restorative Justice specialist, a counselor or other wellness staff.

We are proud to provide a calming space that is available to students when they need time for themselves, to recharge, replenish their energy, center



themselves or simply just be. In the R&R Room, students can take quick, mindful breaks with sounds and supplies to help calm their minds when emotions are running high. Upon entering, students will find QR codes with a brief explanation on how to use each calming and relaxing activity. Students who need more are offered assistance from a counselor or our restorative justice specialist.

South Junior High School

2320 E. South St., Anaheim, CA 9280 • 714/999-3667 • south.auhsd.us



Yolanda Mejia
Principal

Engage Academy

South is proud to highlight our Engage Academy, a rigorous interdisciplinary program uniquely designed to give real-world application to school assignments. Through inquiry-based cross-curricular experiences, students communicate, collaborate, and think critically to create projects that respond to driving questions each quarter.

Students in the program receive specially designed English, history and science lessons that build the foundational knowledge necessary to investigate the question, propose hypotheses, discuss ideas, challenge the ideas of others, and try out new ideas.

Through a collaborative approach, Engage Academy teachers design interactive academic experiences and foster strong relationships with students. A routine grade check-in process offers additional support and delivers individualized feedback to each student and parent. The three teachers plan the lessons and activities together so that students can engage in meaningful problems that are important to them and that are similar to what writers, historians and scientists do in the real world. Through this type of teamwork, the important role of social interaction



Engage Academy Parent Night- Students are presenting their projects on an essential question.

in learning is emphasized, and students become members of high-functioning learning communities.

At the conclusion of each quarter, students build projects that address the driving question and showcase their work to an audience. We are proud of the work of our Engage Academy students.

Sycamore Junior High School

1801 E. Sycamore St., Anaheim, CA 92805 • 714/999-3616 • sycamore.auhsd.us



Enrique Romero
Principal

Santa's Workshop

Sycamore Junior High takes pride in being a Community School and with that comes great joy and responsibility.

This past holiday season, we worked together with various

community partners to help make the holidays a little merrier for over 82 families. We are proud of the strong relationships we have with these community partners who along with our students and staff, were able to help some of our families who needed a hand during these times. Our students and staff alone were able to collect and donate over 300 toys and almost 1000 toiletry items. A small army of students and staff came in on a Saturday morning to help set up Santa's Workshop and wrap hundreds of gifts.

- 24 families through Saddleback Church's Adopt-a-Family
- 11 families (35 children) for our in-house Angel Tree



- 11 families through Project SAY
- 4 families through OC Family Justice Center (referred by Project SAY)
- 33 families through our Santa's Workshop

After the Holidays, the extra toys and toiletry items were donated to women's and children's shelters for the homeless. Not only was our Winter Service Project an amazing success, but also a wonderful experience for all involved. Another example of our community shining bright and coming together. SYCAMORE TOGETHER!

Walker Junior High School

8132 Walker St., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/220-4051 • walker.auhsd.us



Jennifer Brown
Principal

Great Programs

Walker offers amazing, award-winning programs during the school day, but did you know that we have similarly great programs after school? At Walker we believe in leading the way all day, every day and that includes after the bell rings. With a multitude of opportunities available, our students can explore their interests and receive academic support; all are free and open to all students who wish to participate.

- Intramural sports. Every quarter, Walker offers a variety of sports options that are open to all students for the first five weeks. This quarter, we're offering boys' and girls' Cross Country, boys' Soccer, and girls' Basketball. After five weeks, all-star teams are selected to compete in the district intramural tournament. Walker frequently earns the championship title in the tournaments.
- Tiger Woods Learning Center classes. After our successful offerings last quarter (L.E.A.D – Leadership Exploration and Development, and Science and Art of Photography), we have again partnered with TGR to offer two more courses this

quarter: Engineering Construction Design and The Science & Power of the Mind. The classes run for two weeks (January 10-20) from 2:45-4:00.

- eSports Club/Team. Walker's eSports meets after school from 2:30-3:30 Monday through Thursday. Students can come and get their "game on" playing individual or multiplayer video games. Our students compete with other gamers across the country in the Middle School eSports league.
- Homework Club. Offered by the City of La Palma, this drop-in program is available to all students Tuesday through Thursday from 2:30-4:00. Students can come here for a quiet place to work on homework or to get help from the volunteer staff.
- Anaheim Achieves. Run by the YMCA, this program provides a place for students to stay until as late as 6:00. Students are given a snack right after school, homework help and activities from 3:00-4:45, and supper at 5:00.
- Walker Library. Our library is open everyday until 4:00. Students can come to the library to browse and borrow books, do homework, or just have a quiet place to hang out.

Western High School

501 S. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/220-4040 • western.auhsd.us



Hilda Vazquez
Principal

Link Crew Leadership

The Career Preparedness Systems Framework at AUHSD is focused on three essential pillars: youth voice and purpose, technical skills and 21st century skills. At Western High School, our Link Crew Program has been actively putting all of these pillars into practice this year.

Link Crew is a yearlong student-led program designed to reach out to eighth-, ninth- and this year, 10th-grade students to prepare them for the transition into high school. The program also aims to create an inclusive environment with special education students and any others who need a place to feel welcome and supported on campus. Link Crew leaders are trained during the summer and the school year to conduct and lead activities that are centered around relationship building, building social-emotional capacity, creating an environment that encourages positive participation, and hosting school and community events. Link Crew leaders are at the heart of service leadership. Their motto is “Total support—we are here to support all students, staff and programs on campus.” This is one of the many ways in which Pioneers are mentoring,



leading, and practicing the 5Cs: creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, character, and communication.

We are grateful for Link Crew and the positive long-lasting impact the students and advisors have on our school and community.

Leadership Word Search Contest

Rules! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

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

Entries must be received by March 15, 2022

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Accomplished | Organized |
| Caring | Powerful |
| Confident | Responsibility |
| Determination | Role Model |
| Drive | Strong Willed |
| Enthusiastic | Suitable |
| Focused | Teamwork |
| Independent | Trustworthy |
| Initiative | Understanding |
| Intelligent | |

Congratulations to Kelly Argenal
Winner of the last Word Search Contest!

Word Search by Gunnar Coop

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

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