

# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Saddleback Valley Unified School District



Volume 5, Issue 18

June 2022

## Robinson Elementary School Named a Special Olympics Unified Champion National Banner School



# CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHERS!



Free STEM-based science program for middle schools and high schools in the Moulton Niguel Water District service area.

 **Biology**  **Chemistry**  **Environmental Science** 

Explore the Aliso Creek watershed and perform water quality tests to evaluate the health of the creek.



SCIENCE - TECHNOLOGY - ENGINEERING - MATHEMATICS

## WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- 1) Presentation (virtual or in-class) on watershed education & human environmental impacts
- 2) Field trip (virtual or in-person) to perform scientific water quality tests at a local creek

## THIS WATERSHED PROGRAM PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Engaging real-world connections to science
- Discuss point and non-point source pollution
- Encourage students to get involved in their local watershed to help protect local creeks and beaches
- Alignment with **Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)**
- Focus on DCI's (disciplinary core ideas) of **Earth and Human Activity**, plus cross-cutting concepts including cause and effect relationships



# PROGRAM AVAILABLE: AUGUST 2022 - JUNE 2023



## READY TO SIGN-UP?

Educators can register at [bit.ly/MNWDCoastkeeper](https://bit.ly/MNWDCoastkeeper)

## HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact Dyana (OC Coastkeeper)

✉ [dyana@coastkeeper.org](mailto:dyana@coastkeeper.org)

☎ 714-850-1965 x1004



moulton niguel water district

## Board of Education



**Amanda Morrell**  
*President*



**Barbara Schulman**  
*Vice President*



**Dr. Edward Wong**  
*Clerk*



**Suzie R. Swartz**  
*Member*



**Greg Kunath**  
*Member*



**Kaitlyn Heinecke**  
*Student Member*

## Superintendent



**Dr. Crystal Turner**

Every spring in Saddleback Valley Unified School District, in conjunction with CSEA, our school sites and divisions have the opportunity to choose a Classified Employee of the Year. I always look forward to the opportunity to recognize this important branch of employees and the integral work they perform. We appreciate our Classified Employees every day.

### Congratulations to the following Classified Employees of the Year:

Christina Hernandez	Child Care	Amira Hana	Melinda Heights Elementary
Lisa-Anne Angebrandt	dePortola Elementary	Pedro Perez	Maintenance, Operations, and Construction
Estefania Hurtado Pedroza	Del Cerro Elementary	Victoria Jacobs	Montevideo Elementary
Karen Holcomb	Del Lago Elementary	Tam Nguyen	Mission Viejo High School
Heidi Suszek	Esperanza Education Center	Karen Nare	Olivewood Elementary
Dena Maskell	El Toro High School	Guillermo Licon-Arellano	Portola Hills Elementary
Sandra Reyes Portillo	Food Services	Juana Garcia	Rancho Cañada Elementary
Regina Essex	Foothill Ranch Elementary	Jeanne Robles	Robinson Elementary
Josie Hemenez	Gates Elementary	Melva Ventura	San Joaquin Elementary
Joy Williams	Glen Yermo Elementary	Jose Betancourt-Paez	Santiago Elementary
Jody Gerard	Human Resources	Debra Cordero	Serrano Intermediate
Sandra Zavrnick	La Madera Elementary	Patricia McClure	Trabuco Hills High School
Kim Rancilio Showalter	La Paz Intermediate	Carolyn Lohrbach	Trabuco Elementary
Kari Ingrassia	Lake Forest Elementary	Julia Shockey	Trabuco Mesa Elementary
Yvonne Debolt	Laguna Hills High School	Christina Bledsoe	Valencia Elementary
Ana Lara	Linda Vista Elementary	Stephanie Blohm	Virtual Academy
Adriana Guerrero	Lomarena Elementary		
Ann Peacock	Los Alisos Intermediate		

Five honorees, representing different categories, were then selected as SVUSD Classified Employees of the Year. SVUSD Board Members, Executive Cabinet, and I made a surprise visit to announce this good news at each of their schools sites. It was exciting to witness the impact they have on their sites through the excited cheers from students and colleagues.

Each of the five honorees will submit applications for Orange County Classified Employee of the Year. I'd like to congratulate Christina Bledsoe (Food and Nutrition Services), Debbie Cordero (Clerical and Administrative Services), Yvonne Debolt (Paraprofessional), Amira Hana (Security Services), and Pedro Perez (Custodial and Maintenance Services) as 2022 SVUSD Classified Employees of the Year.

**Saddleback Valley Unified School District**  
25631 Peter A. Hartman Way Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • (949) 586-1234 • svusd.org



**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



*Netragrednik*

Congratulations to the SVUSD Employees of the Year!

Be sure to enter our word search contests on pages 24 & 30 (all ages may enter). We have included our popular student book reviews on pages 25-28. If your child would like to be a student columnist reviewing

favorite books, please email me for details. Summer is perfect timing for them to read and write their reviews.

Our next issue is October 5th. Have a fun summer and please remember to include the library among your activity choices.

# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

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

Covering the  
**SADDLEBACK VALLEY  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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

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

**CONTENT COORDINATOR:** Barbra Longiny  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION:** Emily Ung

**COPY EDITORS:** Kate Karp, Anna Zappia

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Nancy Lueder

**Netragrednik** by Neta Madison



@SchoolNewsRC



SchoolNewsRollCall



SchoolNewsRollCall



**SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC**

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

562/493-3193

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

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



Congratulations  
Class of 2022!

# IN A DROUGHT, Help Out



LEARN HOW TO TAKE ACTION AT  
[SMWD.com/SaveWater](http://SMWD.com/SaveWater)



Santa Margarita  
Water District

# Business Services

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234



**Robert Craven**  
Assistant  
Superintendent

## Numerous Facility Improvements

This spring, numerous facility improvements were completed across the District. New scoreboards were installed in Mission Viejo, El Toro, and Laguna Hills High School stadiums. At La Madera Elementary, a new ADA compliant playground with rubberized flooring was installed.

The front entrance to Serrano Intermediate received a facelift including new signage and drought tolerant landscaping. Shade structures, accessible pathways, and concrete repairs were finished at various sites. New HVAC units were ordered for a District wide replacement project with installation slated to begin this summer. The District also completed the architectural planning on modernization projects at Foothill Ranch Elementary, Robinson Elementary, Rancho Canada Elementary and Serrano Intermediate School, all of which are scheduled for the summer of 2023.



 **VANGUARD UNIVERSITY**

**PAVING THE WAY FOR WORLD-CHANGERS**  
Academic Excellence Since 1920

Orange County • Online  
[vanguard.edu](http://vanguard.edu)

# Educational Services

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234



**Liza Zielasko**  
Assistant  
Superintendent

## Program Offerings

As the school year is winding down, we are happy to celebrate several upcoming opportunities for our SVUSD families! Beginning June 13, SVUSD Summer Learning will be in session at Gates and Lake Forest Elementary Schools this summer. Selected students in grades K-6 will have the opportunity to extend their learning in a smaller classroom setting through Summer School, which will be in session June 13 –

July 8, 2022. During the session, students will be provided instruction for Language Arts and Math skills practice,

and our Multilingual Learners will also receive English Language Development.

For Fall 2022-23, we are looking forward to expanding the Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program to ten of our Elementary School sites. In addition, SVUSD will offer an extended learning opportunity program for eligible students, where participants can extend their school day in an afterschool program that will be funded through the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program. We are excited for continued opportunities to serve our SVUSD families. We wish all of our staff, students, and families a wonderful summer!

# Language Acquisition

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234



**Mark Perez**  
Coordinator

## Year End Reflections

As we wrap up the 22-23 school year, it's a great time to celebrate the many highlights and accomplishments of both our multilingual students and staff. The award winning SVUSD Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program continues to prepare our students to be biliterate in academic and professional settings. This year, 39 DLI students took the DELE exam, an official title accrediting the degree of competence and mastery of the Spanish language. This is awarded by the Instituto

Cervantes on behalf of the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training of Spain. Additionally, 50 DLI seniors were recognized and honored on May 23 at the annual DLI Senior Celebration held at the Laguna Hills Community Center. A big shout out to the ALL parent group for putting on such a special celebration. This year, 29 of our Bilingual Parent Advocates and Community Liaisons participated in a 40 hour "Community Interpreter" training provided by the Orange County Department of Education. This training provided our staff with a wealth of information and resources to help support our students and families when interpretation is needed.

# Human Resources

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234



**Dr. Darvin Jackson**  
Assistant  
Superintendent

## Employee Recognition

The District is recognizing the dedication of its employees during the month of May. The Board of Education adopted two resolutions at the April Board meeting to recognize the vital roles of teachers and classified staff. May 11th, 2022 was designated by the California State Legislature as the Day of the Teacher. It is the District's Mission to provide all students with a high quality education in a safe and

nurturing environment, supported by the partnerships of school, home and community, that will instill the knowledge, skills and values necessary for all students to reach their full potential and to become contributing and compassionate citizens in the world community. The

District continues to attract and retain highly qualified certificated and classified staff in its quest to support the District's mission.

May 16th through 20th was designated as Classified School Employee Week. In addition to the many celebrations throughout the week, the District partnered with CSEA leadership through its Annual Appreciating Classified Employees (ACE) Program in which district leadership shadowed and worked with various CSEA members in their respective positions on May 16th. Dr. Jackson stated during the reflections luncheon, "it was a great day to spend with our CSEA members to actively participate and work alongside them in their respective positions." It reinforced the ongoing perspective that it truly takes a team to support the students we serve in SVUSD.

# Cielo Vista *Elementary School*

21811 Avenida de Los Fundadores, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/589-7456 • [www.svUSD.org/cielovista](http://www.svUSD.org/cielovista)



**Dr. Frances Hansell**  
*Principal*

## Teacher of the Year

Patty Reddick exudes warmth and caring, yet holds her young learners to high expectations. Patty has an authentic desire to see every student succeed. She plans lessons to motivate and encourage students to reach early childhood standards. She's an advocate for

mainstreaming students with special needs. Patty serves as liaison with PTA, providing a crucial partnership for our school community. In Patty's own words ... "I truly love TK because every day is a new adventure. Each child gives me an opportunity to grow as an Educator as I navigate how to best meet their needs. I am one of their first teachers and I love that this allows me to develop a love of learning, a positive self-image and social-emotional skills that lay the foundation for future success." Thank you Patty! Best Wishes with your county level recognition!



**FREE Pick-up and Delivery**



24395 Alicia Pkwy., Suite E2  
Mission Viejo, CA 92691  
[www.Five-Star-Cleaners.com](http://www.Five-Star-Cleaners.com)

**(949) 455.9892**

*You can rely on us to take care of your dry cleaning, laundry service, and alteration needs.*

**We Offer  
Discounts for SVUSD Parents & Teachers**

**Invented by an Award-Winning Math Teacher**

**Turn your smartphone into a document camera**



**Capture Thought**

**Made in the USA**

[joe@capturethought.com](mailto:joe@capturethought.com)  
[www.capturethought.com](http://www.capturethought.com)

**RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA HONDA**   
**SALES • SERVICE • PARTS**

*Simply the best!*



29961 Santa Margarita Pkwy, Rancho Santa Margarita, Ca 92688  
949-713-2000 | [www.rsmhondaonline.com](http://www.rsmhondaonline.com)

## De Portola *Elementary School*

27031 Preciados Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-5830 • [www.svusd.org/deportola](http://www.svusd.org/deportola)



**Brendon Morrow**  
*Principal*

### **Our Gardens are Poppin'!**

Spring brings bright colors and abounding vegetation to all three of de Portola's celebrated gardens. Thanks to our amazing PTA, our Kinder-garden, Teacher Garden, and Patriot Garden are all

healthy and looking great this time of year. Sixth grade teachers Mr. Ravetti and Mr. Martin always keep an eye on watering our vegetables and plants, but parent volunteers helped us undergo a recent rejuvenation project, bringing everything new life. For Patriots past and new, de Portola's gardens are a source of pride and memories. They are used to facilitate Next Generation



Science Standards, facilitate group work, and to provide some good old-fashioned fun. Staff and students are well-known to visit, get some work done, or eat lunch for a few quiet moments before getting back to the rigor of their day.

## Del Cerro *Elementary School*

24382 Regina St., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-5430 • [www.svusd.org/delcerro](http://www.svusd.org/delcerro)



**Kristin Thomsen**  
*Principal*

### **Lunch with a Loved One**

Del Cerro students and families had an opportunity to reconnect with one another during our recent Lunch with a Loved One. Families gathered together with their children and friends to enjoy a picnic lunch and then play recess games with them.

We had an amazing turn out and it was so uplifting to see families back on our campus

enjoying time with children and reconnecting with friends.

The Del Cerro staff was treated to a week of appreciation from our PTA, students, and families during Teacher Appreciation Week. With a Back to the Beach theme, staff was treated to a Smoothie Bar, a staff lounge stocked full with healthy snacks and drinks, and beach bags filled with summertime goodies. We are so grateful for our supportive Del Cerro community. We wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer with friends and family.



## Del Lago *Elementary School*

27181 Entidad, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/855-1125 • [www.svUSD.org/dellago](http://www.svUSD.org/dellago)



**Jonathan Kaplan**  
*Principal*

### **Generous Students Pay It Forward**

Our amazing WAVE student leadership team has decided on a spring “pay-it-forward” campaign – reduce science camp costs for all students! Their idea is to sell Ducky-grams every Spring to raise funds to offset costs for science camp students. To do this, we had

to write into our school leadership bylaws this fundraiser to be an annual event. The students coordinated the items, sold the Ducky-grams, and then counted out the proceeds, all under the guidance from our advisor, Mrs. Bishop. After selling 1,074 Duckys, we raised over \$1,300! That reduced the costs for each student by \$25! Families were overjoyed and we sent over 90% of our sixth-grade students to Camp Oakes in the San Bernardino mountains, April 5 through April 9. The new student leadership will now get to design their own “pay-it-forward” fundraiser for next year’s class of sixth-graders. Go Generous Dolphins!



## El Toro *High School*

25255 Toledo Way, Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/586-6333 • [www.svUSD.org/eths](http://www.svUSD.org/eths)



**Terri Gusiff**  
*Principal*

### **Annual Mental Health Fair**

El Toro High School hosted its annual Mental Health Fair on May 4th. ETHS collaborated with ten local community agencies, as well as the

SVUSD Mental Wellness Team, to create an opportunity for students to learn more about the resources available to them and their families and to learn more about how to practice positive mental health in their daily lives.



## Esperanza *Special Education*

25121 Pradera Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-5470 • [www.svusd.org/esperanza](http://www.svusd.org/esperanza)



**Raymund Bueche**  
*Principal*

### The Pancake Breakfast is Back!

On April 24th we were able to once again host our annual fundraiser on the Esperanza Campus. The event that brings together our community while raising money for our program and students. It was a resounding success. We served just shy of 300 breakfasts, had

two great bands and highlighted some of the students' achievements over the year by selling items from our student-led microbusinesses. A highlight of the pancake breakfast is always the t-shirt. This year Ethan designed the art we used. Pictured with Ethan is his teacher Mrs. Mary Margheim and Board Member Schulman. Thank you to all of our great sponsors and staff who volunteered countless hours to make this event happen. The over \$12,000 raised will towards upgrading our sensory room and providing outdoor shade structures and seating.



## Foothill Ranch *Elementary School*

1 Torino Dr., Foothill Ranch, CA 92610 • 949/470-4885 • [www.svusd.org/foothillranch](http://www.svusd.org/foothillranch)



**Deborah Shaver**  
*Principal*

### Spring has Sprung

Our students are harvesting vegetables and venturing out on long awaited field trips! The first grade garden is alive with radishes,

Brussels sprouts, lettuce, carrots, and tomatoes. Butterflies are emerging

from their chrysalises after gorging on the milkweed planted by fifth grade. Students are bird watching as finches visit bird feeders. Several grade levels have taken field trips to Trabuco Science Center to enjoy the outdoors, grade specific science lessons, farm animals and sunny hikes in the surrounding hills. Our Bobcats are so excited to be going on their first field trips

in over two years. The giggles and excitement were so great to hear as second graders loaded buses for the first time ever! Spring has been a great time for renewal and outdoor learning at Foothill Ranch Elementary.



## Gates *Dual Language Immersion Elementary School*

23882 Landisview Ave., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/837-2260 • [www.svusd.org/gates](http://www.svusd.org/gates)



**Diane Clearwater**  
*Principal*

### **Día De Los Niños**

Gates Dual Language Immersion School held its first annual Children's Day Festival on April 22nd. This day also coincides with Earth Day. We welcomed well over 1,000 family members to this huge

neighborhood event. Over a dozen community organizations including the Mexican Consulate were present to provide resources to families. The entire event was organized by parents who worked tirelessly for weeks preparing. The evening included a super fun foam extravaganza in which students were covered in the bubbly white stuff, traditional dances, an earth day parade, a piñata for every class, food, music and more. It was such a huge success we are sure this will become a new tradition for Gates!



## Glen Yermo *Elementary School*

26400 Trabuco Rd., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-6766 • [www.svusd.org/glenyermo](http://www.svusd.org/glenyermo)



**Jennifer Televik**  
*Principal*

### **Staff Standouts**

Glen Yermo is excited to recognize our 2022 Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Nancy Trevino, and our 2022 Classified Employee of the Year, Mrs. Joy Williams.

Mrs. Trevino has been a Special Education Teacher for ten years. Her philosophy is that everyone is on their own journey, and sometimes it requires different routes to get there.

Mrs. Trevino maintains a positive and flexible working relationship with her colleagues and parents to build a strong sense of community. She tells her students that it is okay not to know, but it is NOT okay not to try!

Mrs. Williams has been an instructional assistant in SVUSD for five years. This year, Mrs. Williams developed an educational puppet program that she uses each week as an inclusion activity to help students improve their communication skills.

Congratulations Mrs. Trevino and Mrs. Williams! We are proud to have you represent Glen Yermo!



## La Madera *Elementary School*

25350 Serrano Rd., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/770-1415 • [www.svusd.org/lamadera](http://www.svusd.org/lamadera)



**Jennifer Gass**  
*Principal*

### A Koala-ty PTA

La Madera PTA volunteers go above and beyond to support our koalas. This year they organized events such as our Back-to-School ice cream social, annual jog-a-thon, dine outs, Art Masters and

Imagination Machine assemblies. A highlight was our International Fair in March. Parent volunteers created tables to represent more than 17 different countries. They organized crafts, games and shared food items from each country. Students traveled from table to table to participate in activities and have their passports stamped. It was so much fun learning about so many different countries, tasting traditional foods and playing games. It was also a real treat seeing our students and parents perform songs and dances.



I would like to thank our staff, parents, students and community members for a memorable year. I wish you all a relaxing summer and look forward to seeing you next year.

## La Paz *Intermediate School*

25151 Pradera Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-1720 • [www.svusd.org/lapaz](http://www.svusd.org/lapaz)



**Tiffany Harville**  
*Principal*

### Celebrating Our Differences

The “La Paz Way” has been the only way for our Leopard scholars this year. At La Paz, our students know that Respect, Responsibility and Readiness is how we achieve success. Our students have learned quickly this year that respecting everyone’s

differences is how we can all learn from one another. Our differences at La Paz are what makes us great, and this year we celebrated these differences at our 9th Annual International Festival. This was a great cultural family event where students, families and community members came together and learned more about the cultural heritage of our community. Hungarian food, Posole, South African drummers, Henna artists and dancing are just a few ways we celebrated diversity together. As Leopards, we understand the importance

of diversity, inclusion and belonging. Our goal was to end this year being better than we started, and that goal has been achieved. Congratulations, Leopards.



## Laguna Hills *High School*

25401 Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 • 949/770-5447 • [www.svusd.org/lhhs](http://www.svusd.org/lhhs)



**Bill Hinds**  
*Principal*

### Annual International Festival

Model United Nations was honored to help organize our annual International Festival. Various clubs joined together to celebrate our diversity, enjoy good food, and raise money for clubs, athletics, and non-profit organizations.

The event opened with an Olympic

style flag ceremony and an international fashion show. Students also shared their unique cultural backgrounds on HNN throughout the week. Snack time entertainment included a Quinceañera waltz and a KPOP performance. The highlight was the daily food court where food from all regions of the world were sold at student run booths. Overall, it was a positive

experience - the flags were flying, music was blaring, students were dancing, and the food was amazing. Not only was money raised for various clubs on campus, but part of the proceeds were donated to the International Rescue Committee. This non-profit organization is focused on helping refugees to survive, recover and rebuild their lives.



## Lake Forest *Elementary School*

21801 Pittsford Dr., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/830-9945 • [www.svusd.org/lakeforest](http://www.svusd.org/lakeforest)



**Audra Bailey**  
*Principal*

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Travels

Sixth graders at Lake Forest Elementary just spent a glorious three days at camp. Our students have not been on a field trip in over two years, but this three-day trip definitely made up for it. For many of our students, it is the first time they have

been away from home, and we made sure the experience was beyond memorable. Our students had so much fun, and were able to bond as a grade level. Students learned about different ecosystems, explored mines, and went on beautiful hikes. They were able to taste vegetables out of the garden. However, most of them said their favorite part of camp was zip-lining and archery. Camp is such an amazing experience for our 6th graders, and this one was extra special. Students and classes came back bonded, and ready to finish out the rest of the school year.



## La Tierra *Early Childhood Center*

24150 Lindley St., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/707-5276 • [www.svusd.org/schools/elementary-a-l/la-tierra-early-childhood-center](http://www.svusd.org/schools/elementary-a-l/la-tierra-early-childhood-center)



**Marion Springgett**  
*Principal*

### **Eva the Chinchilla**

This year, the La Tierra Early Childhood Center (La Tierra ECC) adopted Eva, an enchanting, soft, beautiful chinchilla after she was injured while being housed in an improper cage that resulted in the amputation of one of her legs.

The San Diego Zoo describes chinchillas as animals that are “smaller than a house cat, with large, dark eyes, velvety rounded ears, and plush, grayish fur,” and they are “wildly social!” Eva has provided delight for the students and staff alike after she was able to have a customized hutch made for her, thanks to donations raised on “Go Fund Me,” that covered that cost of her food, toys, dust baths, litter, dishes, and medication. Eva has taught students the importance of good housekeeping, healthy eating, and respecting social boundaries, but more, she has provided inspiration as she learned to navigate her environment with her disability!



## Linda Vista *Magnet Elementary School*

25222 Pericia Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-0970 • [www.svusd.org/lindavista](http://www.svusd.org/lindavista)



**Shannon Wyatt**  
*Principal*

### **Linda Vista Is An Officially Authorized International Baccalaureate School!**

We are pleased to announce that

Linda Vista is an officially authorized International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme

School! A few years ago, Linda Vista began its journey to join the International Baccalaureate family. The teachers were formally trained in the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme and then took to the task of creating units of study for our scholars. Implementation began in the 2019-2020 school year and we finally received our accreditation! Now it is time to celebrate! At the end-of-the

year festivities, Linda Vista will be honoring the students, teachers, staff and district office personnel who made this program and authorization possible.



## Lomarena *Elementary School*

25100 Earhart Rd., Laguna Hills, CA 92653 • 949/581-1370 • [www.svUSD.org/lomarena](http://www.svUSD.org/lomarena)



**Dr. Mona Montgomery**  
*Principal*

### California Pivotal Practice (CAPP) Award

Lomarena has been awarded the California Pivotal Practice Award. Lomarena, was recognized in how we, as a school community, came together in order to keep our students engaged and looked out for their social emotional well-being during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

During Distance Learning, we learned to be innovative in using technology in order to keep our students, families, and staff connected and engaged. However, the bigger lesson we learned was that the PRIDE (Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Diligence, Empathy) values and sense of family that makes this school unique are what allowed us to persevere through a challenging time and come out still seeing growth in our students' learning, and loving

one another like a family. Returning to our traditional learning environment, implementing our Pivotal Practice of staying connected has continued to impact how we communicate with each other. We continue to use technology to keep parents informed on classroom events, conferences, and school events. We offer events both online and in person in order to make Lomarena activities accessible to every community member. Our Pivotal Practice has impacted how inclusive our school has become, because now we think about how to engage students and families differently, and on multiple levels. This has allowed Lomarena Elementary to be a stronger PRIDE family, and touch each member of our community in some way, which ensures our students personal growth. We are so proud of our staff, students, and parents. As a school family we came together and we continue to ROAR!!

## Los Alisos *Intermediate School*

25171 Los Lobos Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/830-9700 • [www.svUSD.org/losalisos](http://www.svUSD.org/losalisos)



**Rich Freda**  
*Principal*

### Music Program Comes Back Stronger than Ever

The Los Alisos Intermediate School Music Program has had a fantastic year. After combating the challenges music educators faced due to COVID-19, Ms. Maneewongwathana and the Los Alisos music students have worked hard to bring high quality music to their school and community. Their efforts resulted in a successful year of performances, including the Symphonic Band earning two

Unanimous Excellent ratings and the Chamber Orchestra earning two Unanimous Superior ratings (highest possible) at the SVUSD Music Festival and Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association Music Festival. The Los Alisos Winter Drumline also made their debut this year as the first intermediate school drumline in the district. The Los Alisos Intermediate School Music Program is stronger than ever, with opportunities now for students to participate in six award-winning music ensembles--Winter Drumline, Jazz Band, Concert Band, String Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and Symphonic Band.



## Melinda Heights *Elementary School*

21001 Rancho Trabuco, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/888-7311 • [www.svusd.org/melindaheights](http://www.svusd.org/melindaheights)



**Kathryn Martin**  
*Principal*

### Joy Jars

As the 2021-2022 school year draws to a close, the Melinda Heights Staff wishes to recognize our Mountain Lion Family for all they have done this year. Student effort and achievement has been outstanding. Every day, Melinda Heights students

are enthusiastic, challenged and engaged. They truly care about each other and their school. Academics are a priority for the students and teachers at Melinda Heights; our school offers so much more! Thanks to our amazing PTA and incredible community, Melinda Heights collected thousands of toys for Joy Jars, held a very successful food drive, sent toys and baby items to Camp Pendleton and raised money to support our school. Students grew in music and visual arts. They learned to have a

mathematical mindset and persevere through challenges. Melinda Heights students are authors, scientists, engineers, innovators, problem solvers and good friends! We are already excited for the 2022-2023 school year!



## Mission Viejo *High School*

25025 Chrisanta Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/837-7722 • [www.svusd.org/mvhs](http://www.svusd.org/mvhs)



**Tricia Osborne**  
*Principal*

### MVHS Exceptional Choral Music Program Wins Again!

Under the direction and expertise of MVHS Director of Choral Music, Mrs. Sarah Norris, the program has established itself as one of the top choral music programs in Orange County. Our amazing students compete across the country, receiving top honor awards. Recently, students traveled to Texas for their 2022 Choir Tour to work

one-on-one with the faculty at Texas State University, San Marcos, as well as performing at the San Jose Mission. Students won the award for the class of Division 1 Superior ratings and the Chamber Singers won the coveted Outstanding Performance trophy for the entire competition. According to Mrs. Norris, "The students' respect for one another, and their willingness to immerse themselves in all that San Antonio had to offer made this choir tour all that more meaningful as we blaze a path back to pre-Covid MVHS experiences." Go Diablos!



## Montevideo *Elementary School*

24071 Carrillo Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-8050 • [www.svusd.org/montevideo](http://www.svusd.org/montevideo)



**Lisa Graham**  
*Principal*

### Professional Learning Community (PLC)

We are incredibly fortunate to have a District provided Instructional Coach that leads and supports our grade level teams and an intervention teacher to support students with targeted instruction. At Montevideo, this process begins the first day of school with high-quality instruction and universal screening for all students. Teamwork is a crucial part of student success at Montevideo. PLC teams analyze this data,

set goals, monitor progress and collaborate on intervention, scaffolding, and enrichment to provide rigorous first best instruction. In class, our Mountaineers receive intentional instruction to fine-tune and enrich skills. Additionally, there are opportunities for extra support within small group interventions, extended learning time before or after school, and/or digital pathways based upon student needs. We thank our district for these incredible services. Our Mountaineers are climbing to new heights with PLC teamwork and student support to build crucial learning for success!



## Olivewood *Elementary School*

23391 Dune Mear Rd., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/837-6682 • [www.svusd.org/olivewood](http://www.svusd.org/olivewood)



**Alex Perez**  
*Principal*

### Teacher of the Year Mrs. Gina Chan

The staff and students at Olivewood are

very grateful for our Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Gina Chan. When you step inside Mrs. Chan's classroom, you are walking into a warm, welcoming, and inclusive environment where students can be who they are and have a safe learning environment. She is a positive role model that students and staff look up to. I asked my 4-6 SAI students, formerly Mrs. Chan's K-3 SAI students, to tell me one word or phrase to describe Mrs. Chan, and some of their responses were: kind, nice, cares about us, an amazing teacher, passionate, respectful, believes in us, works hard, funny, best teacher ever!

Needless to say, she is very loved and appreciated by all at Olivewood.



## Portola Hills *Elementary School*

19422 Saddleback Ranch Rd., Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679 • 949/459-9370 • [www.svUSD.org/portolahills](http://www.svUSD.org/portolahills)



**Ed MacNevin**  
*Principal*

### Building Positive Character Traits at PHE (PBIS)

Our PHE Explorers' resilience and commitment to learning was illustrated by their many academic engagements during the last trimester. Student recognition is an integral component of our Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) program at PHE. The system is designed to increase school engagement, to improve academic achievement, and to decrease problem behaviors. We strive to provide opportunities for each student to have the opportunity to shine. Student recognition opportunities are plentiful at PHE:

- Compass Coupons: Students can earn Compass Coupons for making great choices, being respectful, being responsible and being safe.
- Monthly PBIS Explorer Expectation assemblies: The principal brings out the PTA sponsored Compass Coupon Recognition Pencils and recognizes selected students for their efforts.
- Monthly appearances by our school mascot GASPAR. GASPAR helps build school spirit by "high-fiving" students who are recognized each month.



## Rancho Canada *Elementary School*

21801 Winding Way, Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/786-5252 • [www.svUSD.org/ranchocanada](http://www.svUSD.org/ranchocanada)



**Jennifer Kajdasz**  
*Principal*

### New PBIS Program

Rancho Cañada has been in the process of transitioning our mascot to align with our new PBIS program (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) that is being rolled out next year. A school mascot and logo are an important part of this program as we want to have a child-friendly, relatable mascot that students are excited about to represent themselves. The

journey started several months ago with each classroom submitting a mascot choice. The staff and community were also surveyed so they could take part in this process too! After the surveys were sent out and calculated, there was a clear winner....EAGLES! The eagle soared through all the classrooms to announce the chosen mascot and new PBIS core values were introduced. Our eagles will S (stay safe), O (offer kindness), A (act responsibly) and R (respect others). I can't wait to watch us SOAR!



**Watch us SOAR to new heights!**

# Rancho Santa Margarita *Intermediate School*

21931 Alma Aldea, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/459-8253 • [www.rsmintermediate.com](http://www.rsmintermediate.com)



**Tyler Morgan**  
*Principal*

## First Musical

For the first time in over three years, RSM theatre students were finally able to perform their first musical. The RSM cast,

led by Mr. Mendelson, put on an incredible performance of *Matilda Jr.* Students performed 6 shows over two weekends and had the audience mesmerized by choreography, set pieces, costumes, and song. Here is what audience members and staff said about the performance.

“Such a quality show, the kids really shined, that doesn’t come easy -Mr. Mendelson gave them the confidence and guidance to do so!” Mrs. McKeague



“The sets, the crew, and the timing of it all were seamless! The lighting was about as professional as our theater has ever seen! And then there was that cast. They not only belted out those songs, but they truly seemed to be having the time of their lives!” Mrs. Lori Musick

## Robinson *Elementary School*

21400 Lindsay Dr., Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679 • 949/589-2446 • [www.svusd.org/robinson](http://www.svusd.org/robinson)



**Suzy McMasters**  
*Principal*

## National Unified Champion School

Robinson Elementary School is proud to

be the first elementary school in California to become a National Unified Champion School through the Special Olympics.

Robinson received this honor by demonstrating commitment to inclusion by meeting ten standards of excellence, earning a national banner! The ten components and achievement standards encompass Young Athletes, inclusive youth leadership, whole school engagement and sustainability. If you’d like to learn more, please see

the National Standards for Elementary Schools or contact Robinson Elementary School. Way to go Rattlers!!!



# San Joaquin *Elementary School*

22182 Barbera, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 • 949/581-3450 • [www.svUSD.org/sanjoaquin](http://www.svUSD.org/sanjoaquin)



**David Shun**  
*Principal*

## Saturday School

Following San Joaquin's inaugural Cheetah Saturday Academy, students were asked, "Do you still want to go to school on a Saturday?" Students enthusiastically answered, "Yes and can we do this again next Saturday please?" That answer should come

as no surprise because our teachers,

counselors, and staff were very intentional in their lesson designs and created an enriching environment complete with physical education boot camp sessions, lessons on art, and social emotional learning.

Over 75 students attended our two Cheetah Saturday Academies. Students were greeted by teachers and staff, and they were treated to a variety

of engaging activities. One group held a PE boot camp, complete with cardio routines and learning how to jump rope. Another group was testing their logic with digital breakout activities where students had to collaborate, evaluate information, and develop a plan to solve their challenge. Finally, students were learning social emotional strategies and skills.



## Santiago *STEAM Magnet*

24982 Rivendell Dr., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/586-2820 • [www.svUSD.org/santiago](http://www.svUSD.org/santiago)



**Howard Johnston**  
*Principal*

## 50th Anniversary

While Santiago STEAM Magnet is in its fourth year as a magnet school, our school has a much longer history. This year is our 50th Anniversary. As such, a celebration is in order on May 21st. This is our chance to honor the past, present, and future for our all our families. Everything from music and food, to games

and dedications. Families can stroll through our new Pollinator Garden. This is the first of many outdoor learning environments in the works to provide students and teachers unique spaces for interacting with each other and nature.

Here's a first: Santiago STEAM Magnet is the first elementary school to have senior staff from Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) conduct Zoom assemblies with the entire student population. Students learned how STEAM, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and communication is used throughout their teams. They will be joining us in person next school year.



# Serrano Intermediate School

24642 Jeronimo Rd., Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949/586-3221 • [www.svusd.org/serrano](http://www.svusd.org/serrano)



**David Young**  
Principal

## OCSEF Success

Serrano students made a terrific showing at the Orange County Science and Engineering Fair (OCSEF). Serrano students received multiple awards and advanced to the state competition. Adit Shah's locked alarm clock project earned him the Office of Naval Research special award.

Ryan Burgess created a way to sterilize water with UV light, and this earned him first prize in the Cat 800 division as well as the OC Water District special award. Ananya and Aritra (not pictured) Chakraborty garnered first prize in the Category 500 division as well as the Office of Naval Research and Raytheon Asia Pacific special awards for their project bringing assistance to the blind. Hussein Hirani's project preventing drowning earned a Category 300 first prize and Raytheon Asia Pacific special award. In addition, all five students were named to the prestigious Broadcom Masters. Please join me in congratulating these well deserving students.



# Silverado High School

25632 Peter A. Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-8800 • [www.svusd.org/silverado](http://www.svusd.org/silverado)



**David Gordon**  
Principal

## An Eventful Year

Trimester II ended March 4th and 35 Silverado students earned their high school diplomas. Silverado High School has graduated 60 students already this school year! One of our early graduates was our Student School Board Representative, Andrea Mendoza. With her graduation, we welcome our new Student School Board



Representative, Johathan Villareal. The start of the third trimester, Silverado welcomed 70 new students to our campus. Silverado Eagles are SOARing! Silverado students and staff raised over \$2,200 for the



Leukemia & Lymphoma Society during our annual Penny War fundraiser. PBIS hosted the Just Chill'n Ice Cream Truck fundraiser that was very successful! ASB hosted a Blood Drive in which we collected enough blood to save over 51 lives.



**Glenn Giokaris**  
*Principal*

### Kids Run the OC

Last month, the SVUSD Virtual Academy elementary students participated in the Kids Run the OC. Beginning in February our 1st Grade Teacher, Mrs. Dunning coached students through a variety of training activities. Students were able to train in-person during BLD (BLD is our weekly in-person learning and co-curricular day for students to attend on campus) or join remotely online. Over the course of 10 weeks, our elementary students logged a total of 25.2 miles. On Saturday, April 30, the students joined schools from all over Orange County to run their last mile at the OC Fairgrounds. We are very proud of our student runners and grateful to Coach Dunning!



### Trabuco *Elementary School*

31052 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678 • 949/858-0343 • [www.svUSD.org/trabuco](http://www.svUSD.org/trabuco)



**Lisa Paisley**  
*Principal*

### Greenhouse Garden Day

We are so very fortunate to have families who are engaged in our school and PTA goals. This May, families gathered and donated their Sunday morning to preparing the landscape for our new greenhouse. We are pleased to have students joined by siblings, parents, and grandparents alike. Young siblings and students painted the garden benches, and adults and older students leveled dirt, shoveled gravel, and organized wood for assembly. Some even stayed the entire day to build the greenhouse. We look forward to the ecological awareness and scientific opportunities the expanded garden will provide.



## Trabuco Hills *High School*

27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/768-1934 • [www.svusd.org/thhs](http://www.svusd.org/thhs)



**Alicia Foulk**  
*Principal*

### California Pivotal Practice Award

THHS is the proud recipient of the California Pivotal Practice Award. Of the four categories, we submitted and were selected in the category of Social Emotional Well-Being of Students. Our application highlighted all the work our guidance department

and school focused on to address the social and emotional needs of our students in the pandemic. The limited amount of on campus time for students required us to adjust our approach to connecting with families and students. In collaboration with THHS administration, the team critically analyzed grade data in October of 2020 and implemented tiers of support

for our students. Our guidance team is incredible. THHS is the only high school in Saddleback Valley to receive this award. They deserve all the credit for pivoting in COVID and determining new and innovative ways to connect with students and families. Kudos to them, and our entire staff, for this distinguished honor!



## Trabuco Mesa *Elementary School*

21301 Ave de las Flores, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949/858-3339 • [www.svusd.org/trabucomesa](http://www.svusd.org/trabucomesa)



**Caryn McGrew**  
*Principal*

### Meet our 2022 Employees of the Year!

Mrs. Ashley Rose is a fifth-grade teacher at Trabuco Mesa. She has served our community for 3 years and is a strong advocate for all students, serving as our SST/504 Coordinator, ELT Teacher, and on our School Leadership Team. She works with students to help meet their potential, challenges them to be the best scholar possible, and connects with them in a kind and caring way.

Mrs. Julie Shockey is an IBI Instructional Assistant at Trabuco Mesa. She has served our community for 5 years. She does an amazing job building positive relationships with staff and students. She has a strong work ethic and works hard to support her classroom teacher to provide a positive learning environment for all students.

The Trabuco Mesa community is proud and blessed to have both Ashley Rose Holt and Julie Shockey as part of our team.



# Valencia *Elementary School*

25661 Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 • 949/830-3650 • [www.svUSD.org/valencia](http://www.svUSD.org/valencia)



**Carolyn Fries**  
*Principal*

## Classified Employee of the Year

Valencia is so proud of our SVUSD Classified Employee of the Year for Food Services, Christina (Chris) Bledsoe. Chris has worked in the district for over 20 years. She lives in the community and her children attended

our school years ago. Chris helps all students choose a meal they will like and does not give up until they find something. She greets all staff and students with a smile and is always sweet and kind in her interactions. Chris is also a crossing guard for the city, but specifically for our students. She keeps the children safe each morning as they make their way to school. The children are excited to see her on the corner and she knows all of them by name. She is a caring member of our community and our staff and we are lucky to have her at Valencia!



## Summer Fun—Word Search Contest

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

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

**Entries must be received by July 15, 2022**

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

Thank you Barkate Orthodontics for sponsoring our contests.

[BarkateSmiles.com](http://BarkateSmiles.com)

- |          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| BEACH    | CHATTING    |
| HIKING   | ROAD TRIP   |
| WALKING  | HANGING OUT |
| JOGGING  | SWIMMING    |
| RUNNING  | DIVING      |
| READING  | WATCH TV    |
| TEXTING  | IPAD        |
| SKATING  | GAMES       |
| PICNIC   | INSTAGRAM   |
| SURFING  | GEO CACHING |
| SHOPPING |             |

**Congratulations *Mason Beckman & Wendy Ochi* Winners of our March Word Search Contests!**

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

# Daniel's Review



Daniel H.

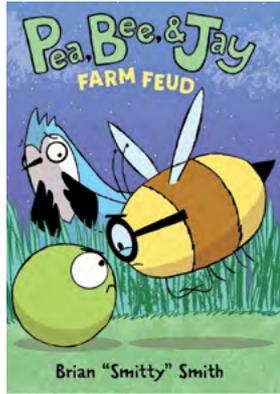
## Best Friends Forever?

Title: *Pea, Bee, & Jay: Farm Feud*

Author: Brian "Smitty" Smith

Best friends

Pea (a pea), Bee (a bee), and Jay (a bird) are back in this fourth book of the Pea,



Bee, & Jay series! Pea and Bee are arguing so Jay decides to go find new best friends. Then Pea and Bee try to find new best friends too. At the same time, there is a hungry snake who wants to eat them all! I really liked this funny book with cute characters who are silly and have good hearts. Read this book to find out what happens to them and also to learn the lesson that you should never forget about the friends you have.

Daniel is in second grade and he likes to spend time with his family playing board games, reading, and playing sports like tennis, soccer, and basketball.

# History Depot

Learn about  
World History  
US History  
Videos • Art • Music  
Study Habits

**FREE  
Enjoy!  
History Buffs  
Teachers  
Students**

**HistoryDepot.com**

## CAMP PINNIPED

A perfect experience for budding veterinarians, scientists and animal lovers! Children witness a marine mammal hospital in action! Campers learn about marine mammal rescue, rehabilitation, and release through fun hands on activities.

Campers leave empowered with ways they can help protect and preserve our oceans. Every summer has new content so campers who return keep on learning!

AGE: 8 to 12 years old Cost: \$350 per week  
**(949) 494-3050**

Sea lion observations!  
Making meals for seals!

20612 Laguna Canyon Road • Laguna Beach, CA 92651  
[www.pacificmmc.org](http://www.pacificmmc.org)

# OVER 180 CAMP OPTIONS

STEM ✦ ART  
CULINARY ✦ SWIM  
SPORTS ✦ & MORE!

## SADDLE UP FOR SUMMER!

**REGISTER NOW!**

949-425-2550 | [RECREATION@AVCITY.ORG](mailto:RECREATION@AVCITY.ORG)  
[CAMPAV.ORG](http://CAMPAV.ORG) | [AVCITY.ORG](http://AVCITY.ORG)



# SUMMER CAMPS 2022



Join us this Summer for our  
signature immersion camps,  
workshops, and more!  
Camps for Ages 3 - 18

Full schedule and  
Registration is live now!  
Visit

[www.CreativeKidsPlayhouse.org](http://www.CreativeKidsPlayhouse.org)

## Kailani's Review



**Kailani T.**

### Who is BOB?

*Bob* by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead is a magical fiction about a girl who helps an old friend find home. Olivia (Livy) is 10 years old when she travels to Australia to visit her grandmother she hasn't



seen in 5 years. Livy doesn't remember much from her last visit to grandma's, but when she sees Bob, she has a feeling she may have known him. Bob is a short greenish creature in a chicken suit. He doesn't know who he is. He doesn't remember anything about his family or where he came from. When Livy was 5, she promised she would help him find home. Bob has been waiting in her closet at grandma's house for Livy's return ever since. Livy and Bob become closer friends as they try to unravel the mystery of where Bob came from.

This book is sweet, emotional, and magical with a touch of suspense. I also learned more about friendship from the book. I give this book 5 stars.

Kailani is a 4th grader who loves to read. When not playing with her brother, Kailani likes to listen to music, ride horses, and play board games. Hope everyone stays well and healthy.

# ANYONE CAN LEARN TO DRAW!

**FREE**  
Introductory Class  
Summer Art  
Camps!

One-on-One,  
INDIVIDUALIZED  
Instruction

Focus & fun for all  
artists, beginning or  
advanced, ages 4-17!



Costa Mesa • Laguna Hills  
Yorba Linda • Online

**714.524.2248**

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

OILS • ACRYLICS • WATERCOLOR • PASTELS • GRAPHITE • CHARCOAL

## David's Review



David H.

### A Tortoise and Love

Title: *Esio Trot*

Author: Roald Dahl

*Esio Trot* is about

a very shy man named Mr. Hoppy and the woman he likes, Mrs. Silver.

Mrs. Silver loves her

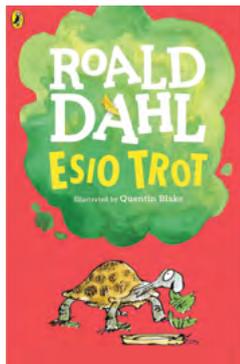
beloved pet tortoise Alfie and will do anything to make him grow.

Mr. Hoppy comes up with a clever plan to make Alfie bigger and have Mrs. Silver fall in love with him.

Read this book to find out what happens and if his plan works.

I liked this story so much that I've read it multiple times!

If you like tortoises and a little bit of love, you should definitely read this book.



David is in fourth grade and he loves to read and play piano. He likes math and outdoor activities such as rock climbing, tennis, and basketball.



# LEARN TO PLAY THE LIVERPOOL WAY

International Academy SoCal

## SUMMER CAMPS

**Ages 5-12**

## JUNIOR REDS

**Ages of 5 -13**

## PRE CLUB ACADEMY

**Ages 6 - 11**

LFCIA SoCal will give players the ability to train under the tutelage of LFC accredited coaches learned in the principles and methodologies that are at the center of what is taught at Liverpool Football Club in England.

### REGISTER & PLAY TODAY

[play.lfciasocal.com/register-2022](http://play.lfciasocal.com/register-2022)

## TEEN INNER STRENGTH CAMP!

### at Newport Aquatic Center

FULL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!





Wow! 6 weeks of water sports, anxiety reduction, goal setting & personal confidence coaching from Olympic champions, mental health professionals & motivational speakers!

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR DETAILS!

or email [iProCounselor@gmail.com](mailto:iProCounselor@gmail.com)

## TALL SHIP ISLAND ADVENTURE 2022

Designed to encourage growing minds to appreciate and explore nature. Campers will explore marine biology, local ecology, maritime arts, star-gazing, and having unforgettable summer camp fun!

Sign up today!

310.833.6055

info@lamitopsail.org

lamitopsail.org/seacamp/






Classes for Adults, Juniors, Little Dragons & Families!

Interested in getting in shape, becoming more disciplined & learning to defend yourself?





## Aliso Hills Taekwon-do may be for you

949-389-0200

www.alisohillstkd.com

27601 Forbes Rd., Suites 21/22, Laguna Niguel  
(In the Three Flags Center)



FAMILY MARTIAL ARTS CENTER

Master D'Ambrosio

40+ Years Experience

Traditional Taekwon-Do 7th Dan

Olympic TaekwonDo 4th Dan

 Aliso Hills Taekwondo

 Alisohillstkd

# History Depot



**Learn about  
World History • US History  
Videos • Art • Music  
Study Habits**

History is about learning and understanding the past. The past does not change, but interpretations do. One cannot erase history and expect to remember the past.

**FREE  
Enjoy!  
History Buffs  
Teachers  
Students**

**HistoryDepot.com**

## Katie's Review



**Katie C.**

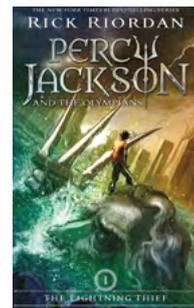
### Greek Mythology—Modernized

Title: *Percy Jackson Series*

Author: Rick Riordan

Looking to find a new series? Learn more about mythology in a modernized, contemporary way?

Read the Percy Jackson series! Sure to be a thriller for all, this book wraps up Greek Mythology into books that are relatable, well written, and captivating. Take adventures down this mystical world—where time can be frozen, powers are held, and the globe is held under the fist of Mount Olympus: the home of the gods. Perhaps you resonate most with the children of the sea god Poseidon, or the goddess of wisdom Athena. This series was my favorite to read and is still just as entertaining. I give it a 5 out of 5 stars



Katie is a senior in high school. She likes reading and writing. She loves to read to younger kids. She provides book reviews to kids who want to find more good books.

## TIME TO SHINE! Summer@Stratford

*Bring out their best this summer!*

Spark curiosity. Discover new skills. Make friends. Stratford offers the perfect summer camp for your child, complete with all the fun, enriching activities that inspire learning and promote independence, in a safe, nurturing environment.

With more options to explore, you can build a one of a kind Summer@Stratford experience for your child!

**Camp Registration Now Open!**  
[StratfordSchools.com/summer](http://StratfordSchools.com/summer)

**CAMPS**  
Preschool  
THROUGH  
Grade 9\*

### DAY CAMPS



**SPECIALTY CAMPS**

**ACADEMIC CAMPS**



### SPORTS CAMPS



**STRATFORD  
SCHOOL**

### Mission Viejo

24741 Chrisanta Drive  
(949) 458-1776

\*Camps offered vary by location. Preschool State License: 304371162.  
Copyright © 2022 Stratford Schools, Inc.





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



We always treat your children like they are our own!

**DAMON** SMILE  
More than straight teeth™

INBRACE

 invisalign®

invisalign® | teen



**BarkateSmiles.com**

*Newport Beach • Ladera Ranch • San Clemente*

## Parent To Parent



Jodie Lynn

### Activities Away from Technology

**Q.** My 10-year-old son only wants to stay indoors, play video games and eat chips and the like. He doesn't like sports. I'm trying to get him outdoors and moving but he complains about the heat. Any ideas on how to get him away from becoming a couch potato and away from the TV?

**A.** There are plenty of programs that your son might like such as swimming, drawing, painting, camping, making pottery, volunteering at a pet shelter, cooking, graphic design for kids, etc. The whole idea is to get him into a scheduled activity three to five days a week. Some of the facilities where the activities take place have lunch served to the kids. It's usually a pretty healthy one at that. They should give you a weekly copy of them. If not, ask for one. Some programs allow kids to bring their lunch. This means that he will be eating less of the bad things and more of the good. He might even decide that eating fruit is a good break from chips. If your son can find something he likes and can participate in it with a friend, he'll be more willing to stick with it, especially if there's no pressure to be a super star. This will also give him less time to play video games or to watch TV.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author. [www.ParentToParent.com](http://www.ParentToParent.com)

## Positive Parenting



Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel

### Are You Disconnected?

This is one of the most difficult times there has ever been to be a parent. The extreme use of media and extended challenges of the pandemic have changed our children; thus, the way they need to be parented. And some needs of children never change.

All children need to feel connected. Can you see the difference between, "You're a good friend!" And "I really needed someone to talk to last night, thanks for being there." Instead of talking at children, talk to them; look into their eyes, be with them and listen. Since children often require constant attention, it is totally appropriate to say, "I want to hear what you have to say, and (cooking) needs my full attention right now. I'm turning the timer for 15 minutes. When you hear it ring, come and I will listen!"

Read to your children every night. Eat dinner together as a family. Play games together. Go on outings together. Don't talk on your cell phone in the car, talk to them. This precious time of being the architect of a child's life is very short. There are no re-runs in the parenting game; connect with your children so they feel valued and appreciated.

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel is an author, taught school, raised two children, worked as a consultant to schools and has worked with children and families for 52 years. Sandy now lives in Meridian, Idaho. [ParentingSOS.com](http://ParentingSOS.com).

## Curious George Goes to the Zoo—Word Search Contest

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

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

Entries must be received by July 15, 2022

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

Thank you Barkate Orthodontics for sponsoring our contests.

[BarkateSmiles.com](http://BarkateSmiles.com)

Amazing	Leaves
Animals	Park
Climbed	Party
Curious	Rhino
Danced	Water
Fun	Wild
George	Wonderful
Giraffe	Zoo
Headquarters	Zookeeper
Hippo	



# Orange County Department of Education



**Dr. Al Mijares**  
*Superintendent*

After moving to a farm in Westminster, Felicitas and Gonzalo Mendez sought to enroll their three children at 17th Street School, one of two elementary campuses in the city.

The year was 1943, and the Mendez children and their parents were all American citizens. Still, they were turned away from 17th Street, then known as “the White school,” and directed instead to Hoover

Elementary, designated for students of Mexican heritage.

That set the stage for the groundbreaking case of *Mendez v. Westminster*, which struck down the legal justification for forced school segregation in California and laid the foundation for the U.S. Supreme Court’s landmark *Brown v. Board* decision.

While U.S. District Court Judge Paul J. McCormick originally ordered local school districts to end discriminatory practices against students of Mexican descent in February 1946, his ruling was appealed to the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. It was upheld there a year later — on April 14, 1947, exactly one day before Jackie Robinson broke baseball’s color barrier.

This past April marked the 75th anniversary of the conclusion of the Mendez case, which had profound ramifications that reached far beyond our county’s borders. Yet the case wasn’t widely known in the decades that followed — even in Orange County. That began to change when Sylvia Mendez, one of the children at the heart of the lawsuit initiated by five families, began raising awareness at her mother’s request more than two decades ago.

Since then, the Mendez case has been the subject of news articles, books and documentaries, and it was even commemorated with a U.S. postage stamp. In 2000, the Santa Ana Unified School District opened Gonzalo Felicitas Mendez Fundamental Intermediate School. The Los Angeles Unified School District also named a high school after Gonzalo and Felicitas Mendez, who became the subject of a Google Doodle.

The family’s story came full circle in 2019, when the Mendez family was celebrated by the Westminster School District, which changed its marquee to read “In Honor of La Familia Mendez.”

“This is such an honor for my father, Gonzalo, and mother, Felicitas Mendez,” Sylvia Mendez said. “My father grew up here in Westminster, and we fought the case and won it. And after it was won, nobody said, ‘Gracias, Gonzalo.’ But look at the wonderful ‘gracias’ we are getting today from this wonderful school district.”

Westminster High School also dedicated its new learning pavilion in Sylvia Mendez’s honor in 2021. Meanwhile, OCDE, which produced a scripted podcast on the case in 2017, has teamed up with the City of Westminster for the creation of an interactive park and trail to recognize *Mendez v. Westminster* and its legacy. Both public spaces are set to open this year.

The Mendez case may still be less known than other high-profile legal battles, including *Brown v. Board*. But it’s a critically important turning point for our nation, with reverberations that extended into all areas of society where separate-but-equal policies stifled equity for all citizens.

Keep in mind that this case was pursued by five regular families who emptied their bank accounts and spent years of their lives working to guarantee access for generations of students they would never meet. For that, we owe them an extraordinary debt of gratitude, and we owe it to them to remember.

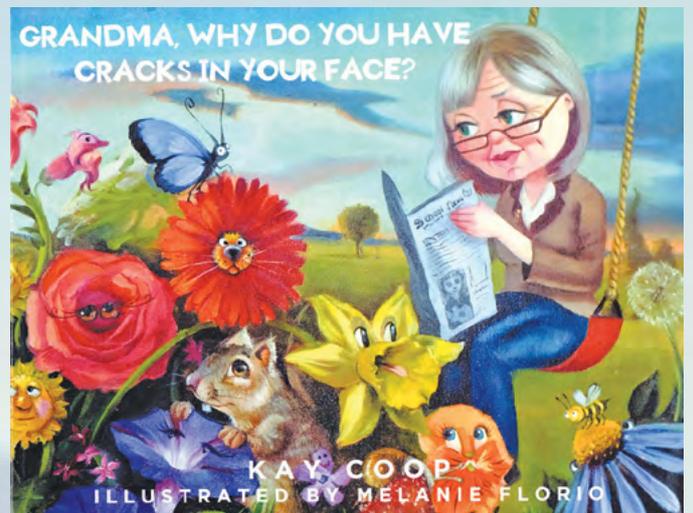
As we mark 75 years since *Mendez v. Westminster*, this anniversary is not simply about acknowledging an historic injustice. It should be celebrated as an affirmation of our shared values, a reference point to measure how far we’ve come, and a reminder that ordinary people can do extraordinary things when they band together behind a just case and put children first

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92628 • 714/966-4000 • [www.ocde.us](http://www.ocde.us)



# Grandma, Why Do You Have Cracks In Your Face?

By Kay Coop  
Illustrated by Melanie Florio



NOW AVAILABLE ON  
**AMAZON &  
BARNES AND NOBLE**

*Grandma, Why Do You Have Cracks In Your Face?* Is a question many grandmothers have heard from their grandchildren. When a grandchild finds her beautiful lost doll, she understands beauty is more than skin deep.