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**Covering the Anaheim Union High School District**



Volume 2, Issue 3

January 2021

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# A New Education Model Addressing the Equity Pandemic



**Michael B. Matsuda.**  
Superintendent

We need to move away from traditional drivers around standardized testing to those focused on the biggest indicator of equity-access: well-paying jobs and careers that connect with student purpose and passion.

This requires a hard look at our educational systems and a new emphasis on preparing students for the changing world of work. Young people will have to be taught how to continuously reinvent, retrain, and upskill themselves.

There is no doubt that unlike most Boomers, Gen Z-ers will likely have several jobs across different job sectors as artificial intelligence, globalization, and the aging of Americans who stay in the workforce increase job volatility for young people.

Upskilling builds on one's soft skills, including emotional intelligence, collaboration, communication, and self-motivation, and also builds on hard skills those specific skills that are industry-specific.

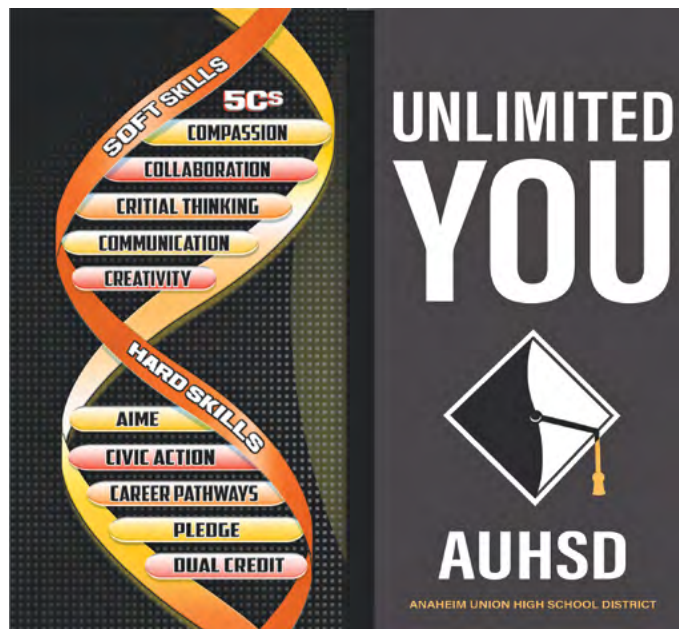
Gen Z workers, especially those "at promise kids" with fewer means and connections referred to in the past as "at risk" will have to learn to upskill to survive and thrive.

The [Anaheim Union High School District \(AUHSD\)](#) has embarked on an ambitious transformation of K-16 education that is blurring the lines and creating a more cohesive and aligned system that addresses job access equity.

Three years in the making, the [Anaheim Educational Pledge](#) involves the elementary and secondary districts; feeder community colleges; California State University, Fullerton; University of California, Irvine; the city of Anaheim; and over 70 corporate and non-profit partners dedicated to ensuring access to achieving college and career goals for all students.

The AUHSD is one of California's leaders in offering dual credit community college courses aligned with career pathways at all of its high schools, as well as career mentoring and paid summer internships with its partners.

Instructionally, the District is focused on soft skills called "the Five Cs" collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity, and compassion and offers hard skills through the dual credit courses, most leading to certificates.



The district is also a leader in civic engagement and Ted Talks, wherein students discover their passion and purpose in life. Additionally, it does not use pacing guides nor interim assessments to prepare for the annual battery of standardized tests required by the state, yet test scores, especially in writing, have steadily risen.

As a result of better alignment with careers, the district is graduating

students like Anthony Gomez, a first generation English learner, who with a high school diploma and two dual credit cybersecurity courses through [Cypress College](#), landed a job with Hulu at over \$60k per year. Through the Anaheim Pledge, Anthony is continuing in community college and strives to transfer to [UCI](#) where he will receive a BS in computer science and likely a big pay raise.

But Anthony additionally has developed a sense of purpose, wanting to "pay-it-forward," and serve as a mentor to other students. His and many other student success stories are resonating with parents and students alike. Anthony's story is about equity and is a result of reframing educational drivers around integrating both soft and hard skills.

There is little doubt that AUHSD is creating a new educational model, one which addresses the equity pandemic by focusing on jobs and the world of work and which embraces the late Buckminster Fuller's statement about change, "You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete."

School districts, like businesses, must be nimble and forward thinking in order to survive and thrive in the post-pandemic world. The stakes are high for traditional educational institutions but even higher for those millions of young Americans, particularly those who have been historically marginalized or outright excluded from accessing all available options, who are depending on those institutions to prepare them for success in an increasingly unstable and uncertain world.



**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



# School News Roll Call

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

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Covering the  
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This is our 2nd year publishing the excellence from the AUHSD. A lot has changed during the year, but the one constant is the focus on academics. We are all anticipating a healthy year and the return to students being in the classrooms.

In this issue you will read articles about Biotechnology, Soap Box Speeches, The Arts, Pathway to Success, Music for All, Project Based Learning, and much more.

Thank you for including *School News* among your reading choices. We converted all of our publications to digital with excellence responses from parents and stakeholders. Thank you for your nice comments when you email your entries to our word search contests. Be sure to enter on page 21 and remember all ages may enter. Our next issue is August 2021.



# INTERNET ACCESS REBATE PROGRAM

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## AIME

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**MJ Elliott**  
*Director*

### AIME's Paradigm Shift

Paradigm Shift means an important change that happens when the usual way of thinking about or doing something is replaced by a new and different way. COVID-19 has created a paradigm shift that continues to realign every system in every industry across the globe. Ten months into the pandemic, Anaheim's Innovative Mentoring Experience (AIME) has embraced this realignment and is thriving amidst the troubles.

The Spring of 2020 brought the AIME program to a screeching halt with the cessation of all career-mentoring events and professional internship experiences. As our nation grappled with the COVID-19 crisis, and the Safer at Home orders, the Anaheim Union High School District's AIME team seized this downtime to collaborate with Superintendent Michael Matusda on different ways to virtually engage our students in the quickly changing social, emotional, and economic landscape.

Fast forward to the start of the 2020-2021 school year, where the AIME program welcomed students back into a new capacity as a fully virtual experience. The AIME program officially launched as a virtual program across all AIME tiers, including career exploration, career mentoring, and professional internships.

Collaborating with our AIME business partners, all of the programming went virtual. Our business partners led the charge by providing the students with increased opportunities to experience telework and upskilling for success in remote work. This gave our students the opportunity to experience first hand the shifts that are occurring in the workforce.

The AIME program also launched a virtual peer-to-peer mentoring program, which provided over 400 students with the opportunity to be hired as virtual mentors. AUHSD mentors worked in pairs to offer virtual mentoring in

small groups, through interactive events, and via how-to workshops that focused on the 5 Cs of Communication, Collaboration, Critical thinking, Creativity, and Character.

Additional information on the AIME program, including opportunities to support it, can be found via the AIME website at [anaheimmentoring.org](http://anaheimmentoring.org), and by clicking the "Get Involved" tab.



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## Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease Can Happen at Any Age



**Roy Nattiv, M.D.,**  
*pediatric gastroenterologist,  
MemorialCare  
Miller Children's &  
Women's Hospital  
Long Beach*

Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) is a digestive disorder that occurs when acidic stomach juices, or food and fluids back up from the stomach into the esophagus.

GERD affects people of all ages, including infants, which may experience this in the form of spitting up, particularly after feedings. This is normal and, in most cases, infants stop spitting up between 6 and 12 months. However, if it continues or you notice these other symptoms, talk to your child's doctor:

- Irritability
- Vomiting
- Refusing to eat
- Problems swallowing or breathing issues after eating

Treatment for gastroesophageal reflux in infants depends on their symptoms and age, but may involve feeding changes, medicines, or very rarely surgery.

Acid reflux happens to everyone on occasion, but if it happens too often, it can cause irritation or damage to the esophagus. Nearly 10 percent of teens and pre-teens in the U.S. are affected by GERD. Symptoms in kids can include:

- Burning sensation in the chest
- Chest pain
- Difficulty swallowing
- Dry cough

Similar to infants, treatment depends on the child's symptoms and age. Most kids with acid reflux can lead normal, active lives with minimal lifestyle adjustments and other treatments.

If you recognize signs in your child, seeking help from a pediatric gastroenterologist like the ones at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach will ensure a proper diagnosis and treatment. It's vitally important that you continue to seek care for your child when needed. Miller Children's & Women's has put extra measures in place to keep you safe. Learn more at [millerchildrens.org/COVID](http://millerchildrens.org/COVID).



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# AUHSD Alternative Education Programs

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**Katrina Callaway**  
*Coordinator*

## Project Hope Partnership

Anaheim Union High School Alternative Education Program is happy to have recently partnered with UCLA Project Hope. The program, which was founded by the UCLA Vietnamese Student Union in 1999, provides opportunities for students to explore potential college and career options while in high school. The program is committed to outreach for youth that are at an educational disadvantage.

Hope's mission is to raise consciousness of and provide access to higher education through holistic empowerment.

The program promotes self-sufficiency and leadership through academic, personal and community empowerment. Its goal is to develop students through peer advising, tutorial, workshops, field trips and high school conferences.

Gilbert High School and AUHSD independent studies students now have access to the many support systems the program provides. In alternative education, we recognize that exposing students to college programs and career opportunities is key to student success. And providing additional resources to students and partnering with our local colleges and universities are key to this process. We are excited to add this program to the list of programs and resources our students already have access to.

## Educational Services

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**Dr. Jaron Fried**  
*Assistant Superintendent*

## Creating Equitable Classrooms

The AUHSD is pursuing a novel approach to teacher learning that we believe will effectively address the challenge of student engagement with lasting impact, even after the pandemic. Our district's teachers use a "fitbit"-style feedback system, called TeachFX, that utilizes voice-activated artificial intelligence to measure student engagement by analyzing discourse patterns in the classroom.

As we've shifted to virtual classrooms in response to

the pandemic, even more powerful data is at our fingertips for achieving equitable talk. Teachers now see complete metrics, and can play back the highlights of each student's contribution to the classroom discussions. Our teachers tell us that these insights help them build a more reflective teaching practice that can meet the needs of diverse learners.

The results back up their statements. Anaheim teachers increased the amount of student voice in their classrooms from 6 percent to 24 percent of class time (as measured by TeachFX). Teachers working with TeachFX data, in collaboration with our district's 5C's coaches, have greatly extended our instructional coaches' reach and impact.

## CTE

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**Scott Reindl**  
*Program Administrator, Career Education*

## Preparing our Future Workforce

In his New York Times article "After the Pandemic, a Revolution in Education and Work Awaits," Thomas L. Friedman explains that both education and the job market will change drastically as we emerge from the pandemic.

Future employees will need to be ready to learn new skills, as previously learned skills will become obsolete. In addition, our current students can also expect to change jobs and professions multiple times during their lifetimes. Given this uncertainty, how can we best prepare our students for their futures as working professionals?

The Anaheim Union High School District is ready to meet this challenge. The district has a world-class, work-based learning program designed to help students understand how the 5 C's of Communication, Collaboration, Critical thinking, Creativity, and Character are applied in

the working world. Becoming adept at the 5 C's ensures that our students are ready to learn new skills, and can adapt to meet the challenges of the future workforce.

To help our students explore potential careers, the AIME program, known as the Anaheim Innovative Mentoring Experience, provides a variety of career experiences. These range from facility tours and guest speakers to an internship program where students can apply for an internship with a local company, non-profit, or government organization.

Students in the internship program are assigned a coordinator who can help them reflect upon the application of the 5 C's in the workplace. In addition, many of our Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways provide work-based learning in their capstone courses.

During the pandemic, the AUHSD has shifted to work-based learning experiences in a virtual setting. Be sure to read M.J. Cooke's article in this issue which highlights a few of the great virtual programs in place for students.



# English Learner and Multilingual Services

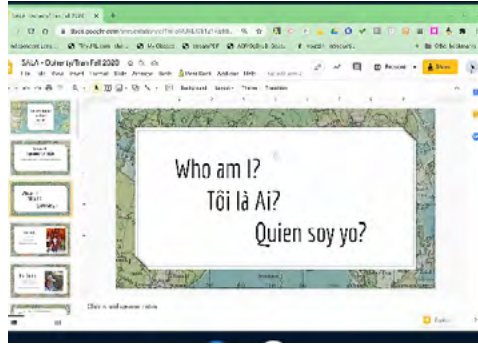
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**Dr. Renae Bryant**  
Director

## Saturday Language Academy

The Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD) Saturday Language Academy (SALA) was created in collaboration with Cal State University Fullerton professors, Dr. Alison Dover and Dr. Ferran Rodriguez-Valls, and is a culturally and linguistically responsive teaching and learning program

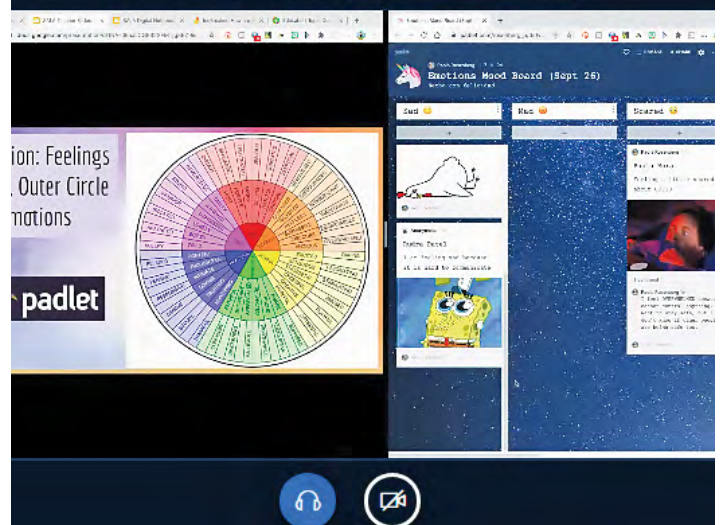
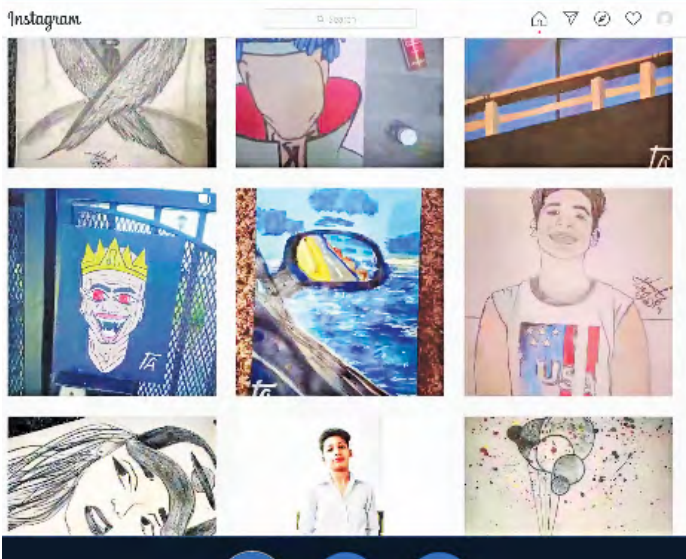
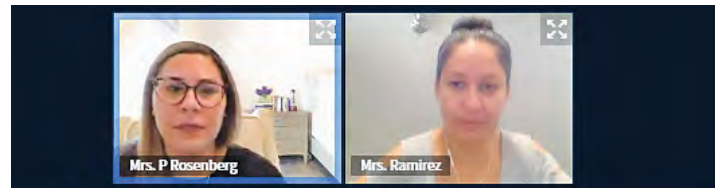
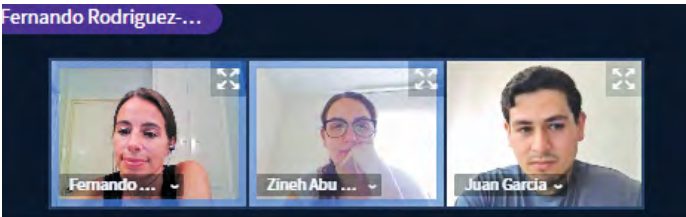


established to meet the needs of the growing numbers of newcomers to this country speaking different languages. The academy helps scholars explore who they are and how to become part of their new communities without giving up their identity, culture and language.



Many newcomer multilingual scholars come to school with great anxiety and the Saturday Language Academy gives these scholars an affirming space where they participate in a low stress environment, build relationships, biliteracy, autonomy and voice in civic engagement and activism towards greater equity and social justice. SALA builds on the AUHSD 2019 Golden Bell Award Winning Summer Language Academy and is held virtually on each Saturday Academy date.

**Saturday Language Academy scholars build relationships, biliteracy, autonomy and voice in civic engagement and activism towards greater equity and social justice**



## Business Services

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**Dr. Nancy Nien**  
Assistant  
Superintendent

### Meet the District Irrigation Team

Each year, AUHSD's District Irrigation Team replaces upward of 30,000 lineal feet of irrigation pipe, and more than 200,000 lineal feet of wiring to connect the irrigation system to the controller. These tasks require hours of effort and diligence as they require the use of landscaping equipment to excavate grounds while ensuring that utility lines remain intact. In addition, this crew is responsible for the replacement of backflows, valves, sprinklers, pumps, motors, as well as addressing any irrigation emergencies throughout the year. We want to thank the team for all their hard work.



### Juan Mendoza

Juan, an irrigation technician, has been with the District for more than 18 years, and has a great talent in repairing and finding solutions to challenging irrigation systems.



### Carlos Garcia

Carlos began his journey with the District in 2001 as a custodian, and became a field worker in 2003. His dedication to providing excellent customer service has enabled him to join the M&O team as maintenance service worker assisting the irrigation team.



### Danny Guerrero

Danny joined the District in 1993, and became an irrigation technician in 2007. He has a landscaping license and enjoys designing, repairing, and installing irrigation systems, as well as landscaping.

## Technology

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**Erik Greenwood**  
Chief Technology-  
Officer

### Wifi 6, Here We Come

In the coming weeks, our network team will begin installing the latest generation of switching and wireless networking equipment. Network technicians Jim Cooper, Danny Nguyen, and Edward Ramirez install more than 800 access points with the newest 802.11ax (also known as Wifi 6) wireless standard and 100 switches at 18 of our 20 physical sites. The upgrade will impact about a third of our network infrastructure. We are really excited about positive impact these enhancements will have on the learning environment. Let's take a look at two.

The new 500 series Aruba access points offer more than a four-fold improvement in throughput speed over the district's existing 200 and 300 series access points. While the speed maximums are theoretical, Aruba states that the new unit has a real-world aggregate data rate of 2.69 gigabytes per second, which should be more than adequate for most uses. Consider the hotspots presently being used by many of our students for remote learning. They typically have throughput of 5-12 megabytes per second, which is less than 2 percent of the horsepower of these new units.

Another advantage of the new access points is resolving client density issues. Client density is the number of devices that connect to an access point. For example, if I visit a classroom, I am potentially making four connections: my laptop, my personal phone, my professional phone, and my smart watch. Three of these devices will generally try to connect and maintain a connection automatically. One common solution to improve speed is to add more access points, but that solution is limited by radio channel constraints. 802.11ax has new channel-sharing capabilities that promise better device communication to resolve density issues. We are confident that these new access points will provide more effective channel management.

We are really excited to equip our classrooms with the latest network technology to provide the best customer experience possible.



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## Anaheim High School

811 W. Lincoln Ave., Anaheim, CA 92805 • 714/999-371 • anaheimhs.org



**Roberto Saldivar**  
Principal

### Entering 21st Century with Light Speed

As part of a 6-year pathway in AUHSD, Anaheim High School launched Biotechnology this year! This exclusive pathway begins at Sycamore Junior High School, with students accessing STEM exploration before transitioning into Anaheim to continue their pathway toward college & career opportunities, both during and after high school.

So, what is biotechnology? Simply, biotechnology is technology based on biology, harnessing cellular and biomolecular processes to develop technologies and products to improve our lives and the health of our planet. Innovation through Biotechnology will allow us to construct a better tomorrow.

Anaheim Biotechnology's focus is pharmaceuticals, which holds the highest industry standard. Anaheim students will be prepared using these standards, through hands-on learning, cutting-edge lab practices, innovative learning and biological research.

When students graduate from Anaheim's Biotechnology Pathway, they will have the skills to prepare them for the pharmaceutical industry, drug discovery/research, biomanufacturing and business regulatory field, including quality assurance.



**Anaheim's graduates will have skills to enter rigorous programs for certifications to be employed in the pharmaceutical industry.**

## Ball Junior High School

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

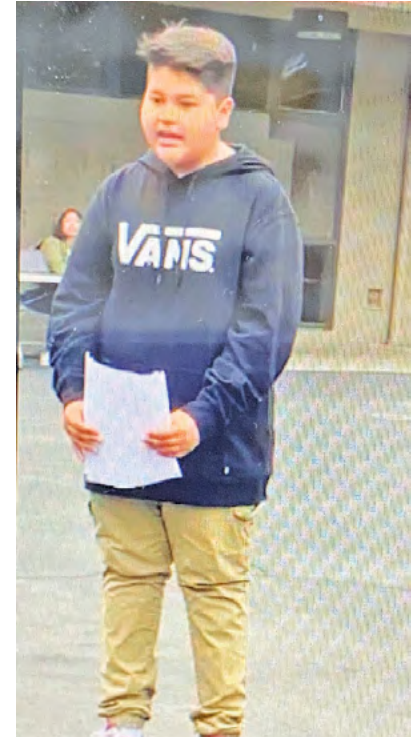


**Daphne Hammer**  
Principal

### Soap Box Speeches

Ball Junior High School is teaming their 7th grade English and science departments to assist students in developing their 5 C's through Soap box speeches. Our science department has been having BallTalks annually since 2014, where students research a topic of interest and present

to their peers. With the teaming of the two content areas, the focus this year for the science department will be on the data collection and surveying, while the English department will take the lead on the writing. Eventually all 7th grade students will be grouped by the theme of their Soap box speech topic. They will then prepare for BallTalks in those groups. A digital talk will be the final product. These projects will support civic instruction on our campus, collaboration between content areas and creativity. Look for more information on our website to view the final products as we get closer to the end of the year.



**Soap Box Speeches by our Ball students at Steamapalooza in 2020**

# Brookhurst *Junior High School*

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



**Hilda Vazquez**  
*Principal*

## The Show Goes On!

You might be thinking, how does one participate in and have a thriving visual and performing arts program during this time? Let me share with you what we have been up to.

No live performances, but the Drama Program made several videos highlighting students as they move, dance, and tell stories. Check it out at our website or on the YouTube channel of theater director Autumn Browne.

In art, Mrs. Sullivan's students are unleashing creativity, turning on cameras. They're excited to share creations. Even siblings are participating in activities!

The Band Program has not missed a beat. Mr. Kraus' students are learning to read music and play instruments. They performed a virtual concert. Students are also making and editing their own music videos.

Extracurricular activities are also taking place. The Debate Team has participated in two county tournaments. The Dance Club struts and slides in videos created for Spartan TV and virtual assemblies. Finally, a faculty paint day brought lots of laughs and happiness.

At Brookhurst, the talents of our students continue to be developed and nurtured. As we say, "The show must go on!"



**The band's virtual concert performance.**

## Cambridge Virtual Academy

830 South Dale St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/999-7757 • www.auhsd.us

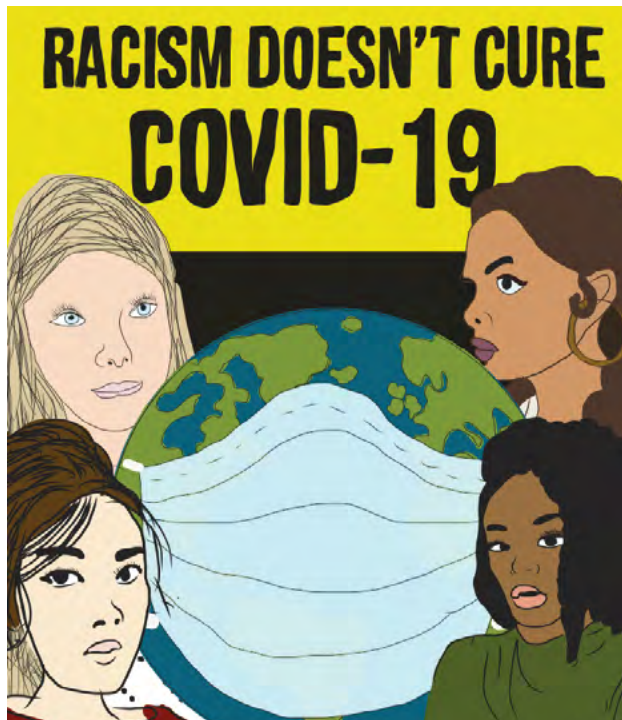


**Jackie Counts**  
*Director  
Innovative  
Programs*

## Making a Difference

Cambridge Virtual Academy students have already been engaged with Project-Based Learning, the five Cs (Critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, communication, and character and compassion), public speaking, and the

Writing Journey in their classes. With great alacrity toward this real world and authentic civic engagement, students in collaborative groups and working individually, utilized the skills they have been developing to create videos, written messages, and artwork. We are proud to see our students, who are in their first year at our brand-new school, already creating a buzz on social media for the purpose of social good.



**7th graders rose to the challenge to create Keystone Projects about treating each other with kindness and respect during the pandemic.**

Many Cambridge students and teachers have partnered with international schools, students, and teachers to connect, build rapport, share, and develop mutually agreed upon activities. These activities will culminate in student-driven keystone projects that focus on universal issues, such as mental health, climate change, equity, COVID, and more. These research opportunities demonstrate that our students are making sense of the uncertainty and confusion with a driving purpose and passion to make a difference in our world.

# Cypress High School

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



**Dr. Kevin Hodgson**  
Principal

## Pathway to Success

Cypress High School is proud of our Managerial and Production Arts Pathway! Led by Mr. Dean Delgado, students take a series of courses including graphic communication and video production before the culminating broadcast media course.

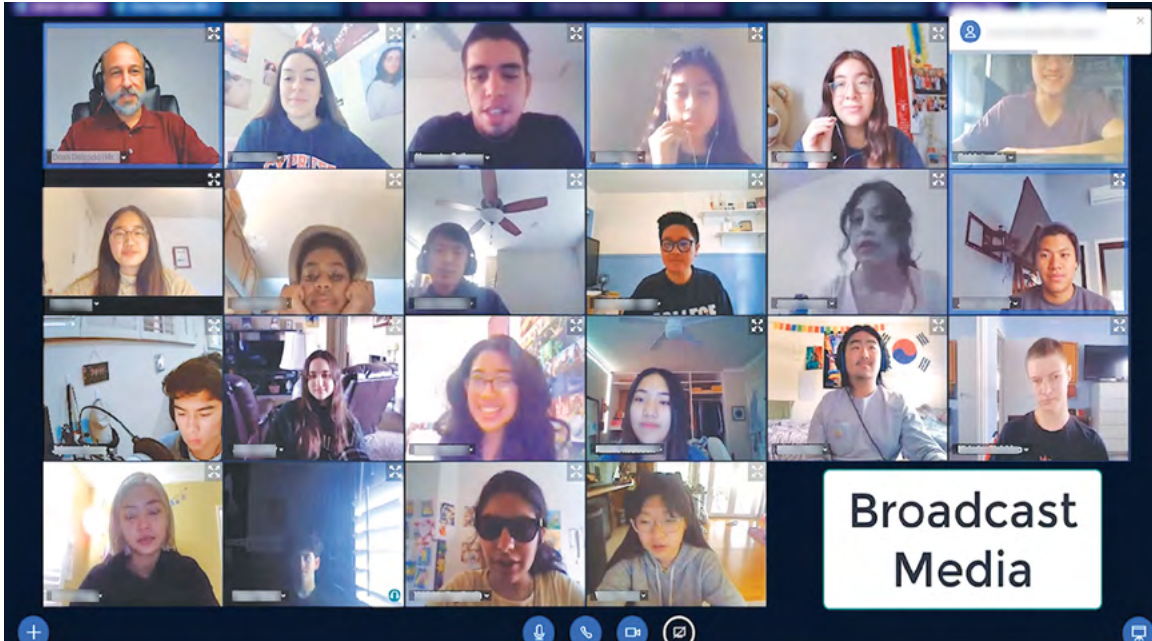
One of the highlights of this pathway is the inclusivity of students. Students from

different academic backgrounds and abilities are able to successfully complete the pathway.

A primary function of the broadcast media course is to present video announcements for our students and community. In the past, our students utilized a state-of-the-art studio in collaboration with our journalism program to broadcast live, daily announcements. However, in the COVID world, the team has developed pre-recorded messages using our online platform.

Other highlights of this pathway include live streaming athletic events, working with Associated Student Body to produce videos, honor students, and create online rallies, and giving our clubs a place to publicize the great things that they do for our school.

We are extremely appreciative of Mr. Delgado and the Managerial and Production Arts Pathway.



**Mr. Delgado's Broadcast Media virtual classroom.**

# Dale Junior High School

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



**Lorena Moreno**  
Principal

## Preparing for the Future

One of the fastest-growing job sectors in the U.S. is cybersecurity. According to reports, this field will have a projected 3.5 million vacancies in 2021. With the endless cybersecurity job opportunities, the industry needs skilled talent.

To meet this growing demand, the AUHSD has developed the Cybersecurity Pathway, an exclusive pathway between Dale JHS and Magnolia HS which is designed for those students who wish to pursue a career in cybersecurity/computer science.



At Dale, students in the Cybersecurity Pathway take courses in business technology, computer science, STEAM, and MESA. They focus on the 5C's, visit local colleges, participate in externships, and have the opportunity to join Dale's Cyberpatriots team where they are trained and mentored by local college students.

Last year, Dale had 26 students accepted into the Magnolia Cybersecurity Institute (MCI). This year there has been a 20 percent increase in applicants. Dale recently competed against other middle schools across the nation in a competition that required teams to discover and fix security vulnerabilities in operating systems.

With the growing demand for cybersecurity careers, and qualified candidates who possess these skills, Dale and Magnolia are preparing their students to meet this need.

## Hope School

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



**Louie LeMonnier**  
*Principal*

### The Arts Bring Us Together

On December 17th, 2020, the Hope School Visual and Performing Arts Department (in collaboration with Hope students and families presented a YouTube Premiere of this year's Winter Program, entitled My House Has Stars. Despite a world pandemic

and being separated from one another, the

Hope community came together and grabbed hold of the show biz motto "The show must go on," and oh did they do it! This pre-recorded ambitious production featured several beautifully choreographed scenes filmed in-home with props then masterfully spliced together to tell a story that artfully celebrates the uniqueness of different

cultures and the wonderful ties that bind us as humans together. A timeless message at such an important time. Kristina Kuroiwa, Hope School's Drama Teacher, eloquently put it like this, "When life gives you a pandemic, we dance, we sing, we rise up and we celebrate each other." Bravo Hope Tigers! Bravo!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEhnnN2cKGQ&t=1s>



## Katella High School

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



**Dr. Ben Carpenter**  
*Principal*

### Bags of Hope

Katella High School's ASB class consists of a group of extraordinarily talented young people. Despite the Pandemic and school closure, our ASB youth continues to keep our students and community engaged. For example, during the last seven years, a committee of students work with the Bags of Hope project

in coordination with a local church, during the holiday season. This group provides a large quantity of empty bags that are pre-assigned to a child in need in our community. Each bag is filled with toiletries, school supplies, and gifts and given to the child in need. School and community members distribute the bags to a preselected child. Our ASB students work tirelessly to coordinate these efforts. Despite limitations with the Pandemic, our students were able to collect 191 bags to give back to the children our community serves, which is comparable to previous years. Katella ASB is truly amazing!



# Kennedy High School

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



**Dr. Adam Hernandez**  
Principal

## Kennedy Journalists Go Digital

For nearly fifty years, the journalists of Kennedy High's The Shamrock newspaper had always published in print. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, printing paper copies was no longer an option. Rather than discontinue The Shamrock's proud tradition, last year's staff decided to move the newspaper online.

"Kennedy High School is a community of students, that does not change based on whether we see each other on the daily," Editor-in-Chief Jaylyn Preslicka said. "It is important to keep that community strong in times like this. Publishing online provides a sense of normalcy."

The Shamrock staff created TheJFKShamrock.com to publish new articles weekly but also house back issues from previous

years. This digital platform allows students to upskill in preparation for careers in journalism, media, and communications.

The Shamrock staff has kept the student-run newspaper alive during these unprecedented times and will for many years to come.



# Lexington Junior High School

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



**Daniel Klatzker**  
Principal

## Making Music Together

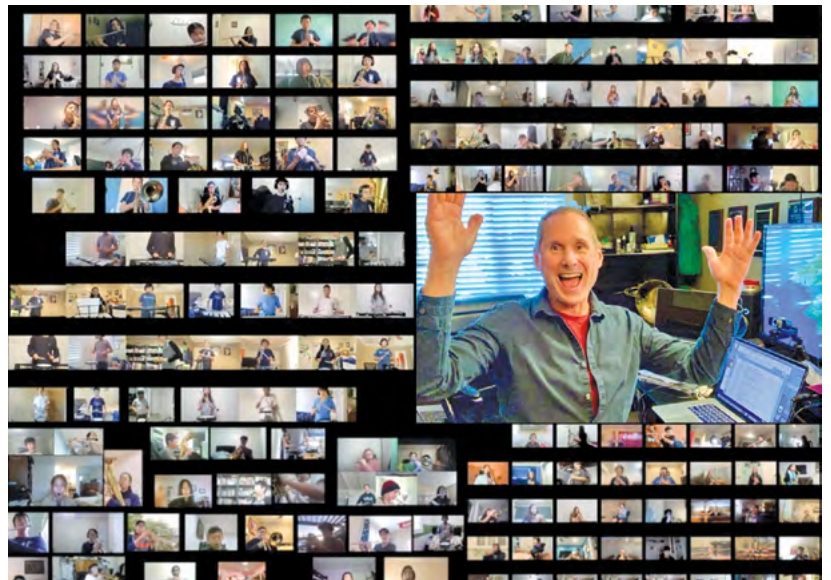
Lexington Junior High School's Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) program is leading the way in Anaheim Union High School District through our band, choir, art, and drama programs. Band director Steve Graves, art teacher Eilis Hind, and choir and guitar director Cherie Batinga have led their students in participating in virtual art shows

and holiday concerts. Recently Ms. Batinga showed off a variety of her students' talents by taking part in the city's virtual tree lighting ceremony.

Mr. Graves, has had to scramble to find ways to show students new to music how to assemble and hold a flute or a trombone via computer screen, evaluate trumpet tone through a bad internet connection, assess students who don't have cameras or microphones, and still make music together through our "virtual band rooms." He has been sharing information about our program through webinars, online conferences, and social media, and now many

bands across the nation are learning from Lexington's example!

In spite of the challenges of virtual learning, our VAPA programs have distributed instruments and art supplies, created virtual lessons, and kept our students learning and making music!





## Loara High School

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



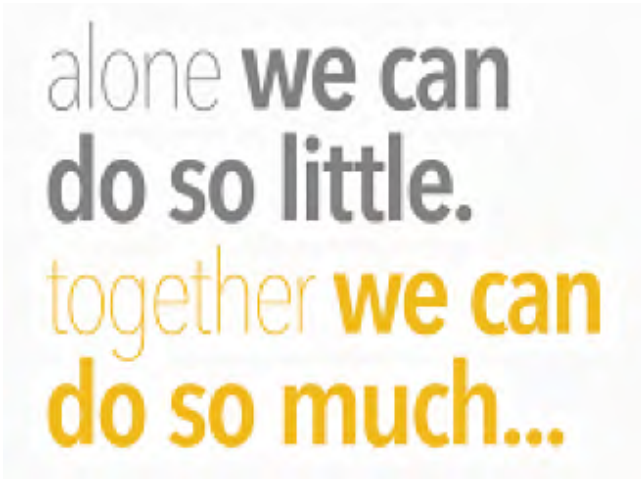
**Jack Jensen**  
Principal

### Life Legacy

What a year 2020 has been and what challenging times our families, students and staff have all gone through. Despite these demanding months and our ever-changing routines, Loara HS has persevered and some shining moments have peaked through these dark clouds.

- Loara HS participated in the first virtual Homecoming Esports Game where they competed in League of Legends. While Loara HS didn't win the Homecoming game, they've been exemplifying good sportsmanlike conduct throughout the entire season and proudly represented the school as well as gaining new fans along the way.
- Our Loara Band put on an exceptional virtual holiday concert on Dec. 17th. The performance included student produced videos as well as large ensemble productions.
- Mr. Richard Martin, our AP Environmental, AVID & Physics teacher was featured on the *Albert.io* platform for his innovations in student engagement as well as a special shout out for Loara HS students for being "Superheroes."

We are proud of our students and families as well as our staff and faculty for all the hard work and dedication to continue to have pride and inspire life long legacy at Loara High School.



## Magnolia High School

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



**Dr. Karen Dabney-Lieras**  
Principal

### Keeping Spirits Bright

Magnolia High School staff and our ASB have done an incredible job of "keeping spirits bright" during the pandemic. Virtual assemblies and Sentinel News weekly announcements highlight the wonderful creativity of our students and include messages of encouragement for all of us. Our ASB also created a virtual cookbook containing favorite family recipes and promoted affirmations for teachers and

staff during our "Week of Thanks." During this pandemic, Magnolia teachers formed a non-profit called Sentinel Assistance Funding Essentials (SAFE). Founder and English teacher Katrina Mundy and fellow teachers made deliveries of grocery gift cards and essential items to over 116 families since last spring. SAFE and ASB teamed up to deliver Winter Wishes with gifts for students and food assistance during the Christmas holiday. SAFE has raised thousands of dollars for our families in need and the spirit of giving at Magnolia will continue long after the pandemic is over.



# Orangeview Junior High School

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



**Chuck Hernandez**  
Principal

## Demonstrating Progress

After becoming a California Democracy School in spring of 2020, Orangeview has taken multiple steps to enhance its curb appeal. Starting with the school's first digital marquee which was installed with the assistance of our district facilities planning and design team this November. In addition, we have worked on new and improved light

poll flags and main office graphics to add energy and school spirit as you drive onto campus. The cafeteria has also received a face lift with new windows, paint, flooring and lighting, to provide a warm and inviting area for students and staff.



Finally, once we can get students back on campus, they will be able to experience the new "Panther Country" gym graphics displayed as our Panthers show their PRIDE when we all return.



## Oxford Academy

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



**Amber Houston**  
Principal

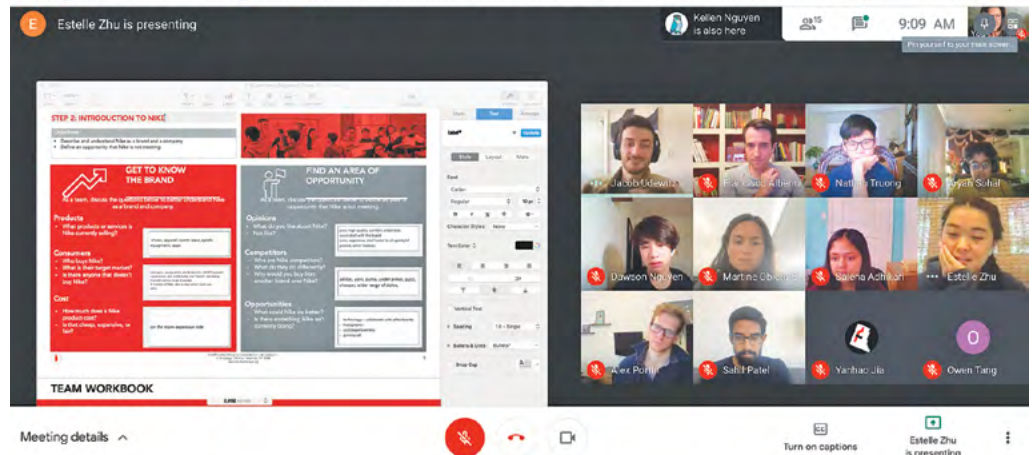
## Learning Together

Virtual learning has provided some innovative and exciting opportunities to connect with professionals and companies across the nation. Our teachers are committed to thinking outside the box, and delivering our curriculum in meaningful ways that will truly capitalize on the distance-learning platform.

With the help of SuitUp, a nonprofit company in New York, teams of eight students acted as CEO's of the week. The teams went through a business case competition. Company coaches also helped them to create a pitch video where they could present their ideas to a panel of judges at the end of the week. The winning teams were awarded bragging rights and a \$25 gift card per team member.

This was not just an awesome project. It also allowed our students to get to know each other, collaborate, work together, and create a positive school culture!

Recently, under the leadership of Mrs. Debbie Hale, our department chair and teacher, students in Oxford's seventh-grade Exploring Entrepreneurship classes worked with real business coaches and mentors to create a new and innovative product for a large international shoe company. They were able to pitch their idea "Shark Tank" style to a panel of business judges as their capstone project last fall.



# Savanna High School

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



**Mike Pooley**  
Principal

## Music for All

Savanna High School has a longstanding tradition of excellence in instrumental music. The Mighty Marching Rebel Band and Colorguard is consistently a finalist in their respective competitive circuits in the fall. Our Drumline and Colorguard groups are also consistently in the top ranks in their respective competitive circuits in the spring.

Our three concert ensembles also receive high ratings at SCSBOA and other music festivals the year-round. Our Mariachi Ensemble provides students with the



opportunity to learn about the Mariachi tradition through the standard repertoire, as well as discussions about its historical and social-cultural connections.

United Sound is a music mentor program where music students have the opportunity to mentor special education students on campus and teach them how to read music and play an instrument. New student mentees then join the ensembles for performances on stage.

Savanna High School is a place where students can flourish, learn, grow, and nurture their music education talents and pathway, all while opening up a world of “Unlimited You” for every student.



# South Junior High School

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



**Enrique Romero**  
Principal

## Staying Connected

During these times of virtual learning, South Junior High School has excelled in reaching out to our students and their families to encourage them and maintain our strong connections. South’s Library Tech developed Virtual Library Tours, online book talks for all South students, and a delivery system for students to check out school

library books. EL Mentors have supported students encouraging positive relationships and offering emotional as well as academic support. Students have had the opportunity to attend Saturday Math Academy sessions. PALS and ASB leadership students have continued building Eagle Spirit with spirit weeks and community outreach; they’ve worked with the City of Anaheim sending virtual greeting cards to our elderly and veterans expressing our gratitude and appreciation. PAL has used Instagram takeovers sharing holiday greetings with students and staff in an effort to build community. No matter the distance between us, South Eagles stay connected...We are South, We are Family!



## Sycamore Junior High School

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



**Gary Brown**  
Principal

### Sycamore Goes Hi-Tech

AUHSd along with its pledge partners are excited to announce the Biotechnology pathways program at Sycamore Junior High School and Anaheim High School.

Biotechnology harnesses cellular and biomolecular processes to develop technologies and products that help

improve our lives and the health of our planet. This exciting, cutting edge program will prepare students for college and careers in the fast-growing biotechnology field. Students will be introduced to biotechnology which is integrated into their science curriculum in junior high along with Sycamore's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) offerings of Robotics, STEM exploration, and MESA exploration (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement). Students can continue with the pathway's offerings

at Anaheim High School which include courses, such as, Biotechnology 1,2, and 3. Students will complete dual enrollment courses and graduate high school with college credits along with continuing education opportunities at Fullerton college and UCI.



## Walker Junior High School

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



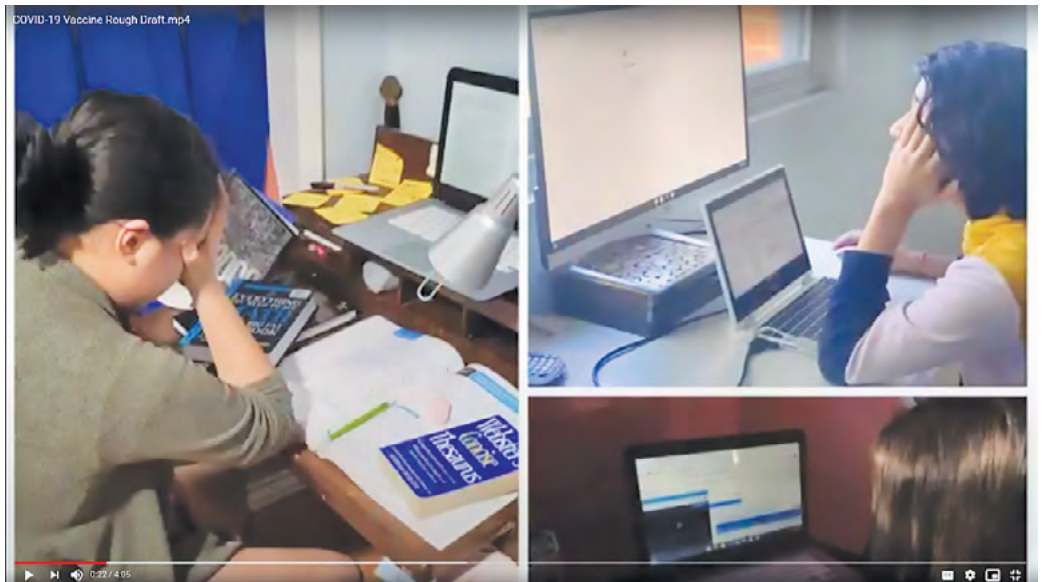
**Jennifer Brown**  
Principal

### Vikings Lead the Way

Distance Learning hasn't slowed learning at Walker. One example is the CORE seventh grade students who've been working on a video documentary on important issues facing the nation and the world. The COVID team's central idea is for the president to combat

COVID and restore our lives back to normalcy. To achieve this, they posit that the new administration needs to educate the public on the safety of vaccines by creating a mass immunization campaign. The team argues that in a mass immunization campaign, our country is more likely to reach the 60-75% immunization rate that we need for herd

immunity and return to a state of normalcy. The team has virtually interviewed experts, found video clips and data to support their central ideas. In their video documentary, they show the effects of COVID, the safety of vaccines, and simultaneously the public's distrust of vaccines. Even remotely, Vikings Lead the Way



# Western High School

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



**Amy Kwon**  
Principal

## Multimedia Campaign Winners

Orange County Human Relations Commission launched an anti-hate initiative: the To Know Better multimedia-campaign contest designed to promote cultural acceptance. With 105 entries representing more than 29 Orange County schools, Western High School's

Commercial Dance Team, led by Maile Eisenbrey, was recognized as a winner with their piece "The Message Behind the Mask."

At the time, students were able to practice on campus, and they had a newfound appreciation for the space they called home. Students choreographed, danced, recorded, and edited the piece. [You can see their final product here.](#)

This is an excerpt from the message that Western students wanted to share with the world: "We entered this contest to remind ourselves how powerful our voices can be—to bring back our voices that have been lost behind a mask. We saw an opportunity to speak our own truth and add to the movement of those who are fighting for equality and justice for all."



## Lacrosse–Word Search Contest

### Word Search by Kai Coop

#### 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 AUHSD in the subject line)

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

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| ATTACK      | MOUTH GUARD |
| CLEATS      | NET         |
| COACH       | PLAYERS     |
| CREASE      | RULES       |
| DEFENSE     | SCORE       |
| FIELD       | SHAFT       |
| GOAL KEEPER | SIDE LINES  |
| HEAD        | STICK       |
| HELMETS     | TEAMS       |
| MIDDIES     | UNIFORMS    |

**Congratulations Maria Marquez**  
**Winner of our August Word Search**

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

## Parent To Parent



**Jodie Lynn**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, often our kids were on their devices upwards of eight hours per day. What can parents do to keep them safe online and on their cell phones? It seems like more than ever, kids are getting spam emails, calls and texts from unknown sources. This is not acceptable, quite scary and exhausting to try to constantly monitor.

COVID-19 has isolated the majority of us and leaves us with levels of uncertainty, unusual scariness and frequent loneliness. Individuals are in a vulnerable place, especially our kids. This is the perfect time for sexual predators to approach them as it can come in many forms.

Give your kids a set of online safety rules that they will understand with explanations that they will believe and take to heart.

It's important for you to know which online games that your kids are playing. Many are multiplayer games where several online players can be together playing at once or just watching. These games have text and voice chat capabilities from around the world. This is highly dangerous because people can pretend to be someone else and of a certain age and can expose kids to unsuitable and unacceptable predatory language and content. These individuals can develop friendships with kids and eventually encourage them to meet in real life. It's important to recognize that each game has specific settings which you should check out and change for better online safety.

Remember not only to talk with your kids frequently about staying safe online, but also explain that anyone at any age can be cyberbullied. If a person or group want them to chime in about someone, tell them to ignore the request and don't return to that area and group. Explain why it's so important to think about what they are going to post at any given time or in any area before doing so, to keep their passwords safe, to always log off and not to click on links from people that they don't know. The right thing to do is to report the cyberbullying to an authoritative figure as well. They may just save a life.

You could also take their electronic devices away for a few hours each day, but for those hours that they're on them, rules and guidelines still need to be in place. Even if your kids seem to have level heads on their shoulders and you feel like you can trust them, they can still be sneaky.

It's easy to hide all kinds of online activities from parents with various apps:

Snapchat is a program where people can send images, videos, etc. to friends which will disappear within 10 to 30 seconds. It's pretty popular among teens. The hidden danger is that those "private" moments are not really deleted. They're hidden in files on most phones. Even more devastating and scary is that if someone takes a screen shot, the message, image or whatever can be posted anywhere.

Finsta is a fake Instagram account where anyone can create photos, conversations, etc., staying anonymous and keeping everything private through sharing with a few close friends and can be hidden on devices. But again, just like anything else, if a screen shot is taken, boom, it can show up anywhere online.

Be sure to read about popular apps and arm yourself with knowledge for options that you as the parent can do to help your kids be safe. Below you'll find a few but there's many others that you can find by doing an online search: Instagram, YouTube, Kik, Telegram, TikTok

There's also several phone apps offered to parents to help them monitor their kids' phone and online activities.

For unwanted calls or texts, it's simple to register landlines and cell phone numbers with the office of your state Attorney General's No-Call list for unwanted calls or texts. It's available online, free and will cut down on both. While it does take a few weeks to actually go into effect, it's best to get that done straight away. Do a little research and you'll also find several other government agencies where complaints can be made. Unfortunately, it's not going to totally eliminate them and that is even truer for robot calls. Learning some basic rules to share with your kids can also help.

For example: Don't answer any calls that are not in your contact list. If it's truly someone trying to reach you, they'll leave a message. If they don't, the number can quickly be blocked. The same goes for unwanted texts. The exception in this situation is going to be from "Unknown" or "Private" numbers, which are really hard to trace because no number shows up. However, there are phone apps to help with this. As far as spam email goes, if it's opened, don't click on any links. Look up how to set up filters and teach your kids how to recognize, delete and block it.

As you are well aware, this whole cyber safety situation is extremely exhausting. But, there's no way of getting around it if you're going to be proactive in protecting your children.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author. Her column Parent to Parent™ ([www.ParentToParent.com](http://www.ParentToParent.com)) has been successful for more than 20 years. She is a regular contributor to several sites including *School News Roll Call* for 20 years and has written four books and contributed to three others, one of which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. She has authored several books including *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having Doing*, and *Surviving it All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* [www.ParentToParent.com](http://www.ParentToParent.com)



**CathyLyn  
Brooks**

## **Does the Real Estate Market Know There is a Pandemic?**

Now that agents are deemed essential workers and can resume work interacting with others, homes can be listed and shown with special considerations made to accommodate the particular needs and desires of the parties.

Are buyers getting bargains due to fear of contaminated properties? Actually, not so much. Some sellers have removed their homes from the market temporarily by placing them on hold, not wanting to have people visit. The net effect of this has been to reduce the available inventory so that well priced, attractive homes sell very quickly, and sometimes sellers entertain multiple offers.

Interest rates are, yet again, at historical lows so people can buy more home or enjoy smaller loan payments. That is if they still have a job. Many in the process of buying a home when the pandemic struck could not verify employment and income to close.

The parties are left with to decide their fates and can choose to extend their escrows or cancel. With lightening fast speed, the California Association of Realtors developed contract addendums to facilitate this unusual situation.

While open houses are verboten, with proper precautions and a signed release, buyers can view homes. Some sellers are requiring evidence of down payment and of pre-approval to enter a property. Virtual tours have become de rigueur and never more appreciated.

Investing in real estate has always been a wild ride considering the ups and downs of the market. And the adventure continues...

## **Should You Submit to Dual Agency?**

In California the representation of both the buyer and the seller is legally allowed. This is referred to as dual agency, and several states do not permit this.

Real estate brokers and agents are fiduciaries, meaning that they are legally bound to place the needs of their clients above their own, especially as it relates to compensation and disclosures. You should understand the ramifications of allowing one agent to act for both parties.

The job of the listing agent is to get top dollar for the seller, among other things. The job of the buyer's agent is to negotiate a price that the buyer is pleased with and assist the buyer to a successful closing. By working with an agent who is expected to serve two masters, be aware that your needs, and protections, may not be fully served.

While you may, or may not, be able to negotiate for the agent to reduce the commission, the lack of an advocate for you during the transaction can cost you more than a little money. Some agents, but not all, love to represent both parties, certainly because they will receive both "sides" of the brokerage fee. It also may make the transaction go more swiftly or smoothly, but clearly there exists a conflict of interest.

Technically, if your agent works for the same firm as a home you see while viewing property with an agent of the same firm, that too is dual agency, but at least with separate agent for each party. While real estate professionals are bound ethically to work together toward the success of any transaction, and the process is not typically adversarial in nature, issues do arise. Home inspections reveal matters to be dealt with, disclosures are required, contract terms may need to be adjusted, and appraisals can fail to meet the mark. When these things occur, it really is best to have your needs and requirements represented so that negotiations can be fair to both parties.

## **Location, Location, Location**

No doubt you have heard this catchy bit of real estate advice. Legend is that this well known phrase was first used in a classified ad run in the *Chicago Tribune* in 1926. The essence of this phrase is still very true today.

But what makes a great location? While somewhat subjective, as what is important to you may be less so to another, here are some basic characteristics that make a great location.

**WALK-ABILITY.** This is a newer concept, and you may see a factor for this in online listings. It measures the amenities that can be found in walking distance of the property. Many people want to take a walk to dine or shop.

**SCHOOLS.** This is one of the classic features of any area. Even if you don't have any children, don't want to have any

children, don't even particularly care for children, a good school system will help to maintain property value and attract buyers when you want to sell

**ACTIVITIES.** Properties located near attractions such as parks, golf courses, dog parks, the ocean, or attractive commercial areas seem to always be in demand. Likewise, being near public transportation and freeways can attract buyers to an area.

**VIEWS.** Water view homes, located near the ocean or on a lake are always at a premium. City light, canyon, and valley views are also considered to be in a prime location and properties are often priced to value this feature. But use caution when buying a view home as in some cities, views are not protected.

CathyLyn Brooks, CRS, GRI has worked as a real estate broker since 1980, is a graduate of USC, the UCI Paralegal Program, and serves FINRA as a public arbitrator. She holds Broker's License No. 00797147 and is affiliated with United Real Estate Professionals in southern California. Consumers should seek legal and tax advice pertaining to their transactions. She can be reached at [real.estate.matters@outlook.com](mailto:real.estate.matters@outlook.com)



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