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# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Anaheim Union High School District**



Volume 2, Issue 4

August–December 2021

**CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PATHWAYS**

**CPST**

- CIVIC PURPOSE INITIATIVES
- SERVICE LEARNING
- CAREER EXPLORATION
- CULTURAL & LANGUAGE DIVERSITY

- ANAHEIM'S INNOVATIVE MENTORING EXPERIENCE (AIME)
- ROBUST DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM WITH COMMUNITY COLLEGES
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- 5 CS APPROACH
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# Career Preparedness Systems Framework



**Michael B. Matsuda**  
*Superintendent*

Generations ago, many Mexicans who immigrated to “El Norte,” made decisions on where to locate mostly by word of mouth; and those decisions were based mainly on jobs, often menial ones, but jobs nevertheless. Thus we often find relatively large numbers of Latino populations from common regions in Mexico. It’s the same phenomenon in the Anaheim Union High School District, home to nearly 30,000 7-12 students, mostly from low income families, where many Latinos

can trace their roots and generational stories from specific communities in Mexico.

The mental models of many first and second generation Latino families are based on the narrative that “any job is a good job,” which has impeded student choices and overall Latino demographic success. Over the past several years, we have attempted to change the narrative by better aligning k-16 educational systems with the world of work, and also preparing students for life as an engaged citizen. In making this shift to align more to the world of work, we have seen the desired phenomenon that students are also becoming more prepared for college.

Although our drivers are not focused on traditional academic drivers, our test scores, especially in reading and writing have steadily risen notably above what demographics would predict. Moreover, our college going rates, persistence and GPAs have also significantly and consistently outperformed college averages.

To accomplish all this, we have spent the last few years building a new educational framework which we call the Career Preparedness Systems Framework (CPSF). For leaders who realize the urgency in shifting drivers to align with the needs of workforce and life preparedness, the framework provides a cohesive and concrete way to implement the new vision. The CPSF encompasses three areas that schools need to focus on: 21st century skills, sometimes called soft skills- development of relational

and emotional intelligence (critical thinking, creativity, communication, collaboration, and compassion); Technical skills (mastery of specific job related skills through certificates and dual credit community college course completion); and development of Student Voice and Purpose.

The “through line” to this integrated approach is consistently cultivating and supporting student voice, identity, and purpose. These skills — often labelled as civic skills — help catalyze young people’s engagement in school, foster positive student relationships with peers and adults, and bring purpose and meaning to students’ academic and career learning. By centering student voice and purpose within career and academic preparation, the learning process becomes unified and community assets from traditionally different arenas can complement student learning and achievement.

Through implementation of the Career Preparedness Systems Framework, we can build a new transformative educational model that will help our country continue to be a world leader in innovation and job creation into the next century.

Proof that we are changing the narrative in the Latino community is the story of Anthony Gomez. A first generation English learner, with only a high school diploma and two dual credit cybersecurity courses through Cypress College, landed a job with Hulu at over \$65k per year. Additionally, through the Anaheim Union Educational Pledge, an articulation agreement with our higher education partners, 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.

*See SUPERINTENDENT • Page 8*

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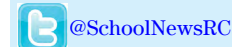
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Welcome back to a new school year. Our world certainly isn't back to normal, but at least some form of normalcy has returned with students in the classrooms.

In this issue you will read topics on subjects ranging from a school based community farm to the important role Food Services has in providing nutritious meals to students. You will also learn new acronyms and terminology: LMS (Learning Management System), TUPE (Tobacco Use Prevention

Education) Program, CTE (Career and Technical Education) Pathway Program, eKadence and iLabs.

Several articles reference the 5 Cs: collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity, and character. It is no longer all about the 3 R's of yesteryear: Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. (Does anyone say arithmetic anymore?)

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

Our next issue is January 26, 2022.

## Welcome Back to School!

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# AIME

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**MJ Cooke**  
Program Director

## Preparing for Tomorrow's Workforce

Anaheim's Innovative Mentoring Experience, known as AIME, is thriving as an integral part of the Anaheim Union High School District student experience. The AIME Program supports AUHSD students by maximizing the District's internal alignment and infrastructure around three essential drivers in preparing students for overall success: 21st century skills, or soft

skills; technical skills, or hard skills; and cultivation of youth voice and purpose, or civic skills. These essential drivers coupled with AUHSD's emphasis on the five C's—collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity and character—are the foundation of the AIME Program.

Growing from this solid and intentional foundation, the AIME Program is entering its sixth year, and it continues to create connectedness between community, industry and the overall student experience. With an intentional focus on workforce preparedness, structured career exploration, and engagement with leading industry professionals,

students are better prepared for success in college, career and life. Aligned with AUHSD's 28 career pathways across 12 industries, including the district's Exclusive Pathways, which comprise cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, biotechnology, the AUHSD iLab—the business incubator, and more, the AIME Program has provided over 13,000 student experiences to date!

As students begin the 2021–22 school year, they can expect to find an enhanced AIME experience, as the program has expanded beyond its signature tiered model of career exploration, career mentoring and professional internships to include peer-to-peer mentoring. The AIME Program will also continue to offer a variety of experience formats from in-person to hybrid and virtual. This flexibility best allows AIME to meet the needs of all students while also offering AIME industry partners a variety of engagement opportunities.

Additional information on the AIME Program, including opportunities to support the program, can be found via the [AIME website](#), clicking the "Get Involved" tab.



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# Educational Services

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**Dr. Jaron Fried**  
Assistant  
Superintendent

## Transforming Education

One of the many silver linings we took from the pandemic and distance learning was the benefit of a centralized platform for learning. As a result of the tremendous effort put into using a learning-management system (LMS), we have created a system and habits for our families, students and staff who have helped us become more efficient and effective in creating and delivering content, monitoring student participation, assessing student performance, and communicating with our community.

The district will begin utilizing a new LMS for this school year: eKadence. EKadence was developed with the input from over 150 teachers across our district and was designed to align with our drivers. Assignments, projects and assessments can now be linked to the five C's, allowing students to receive feedback via a badging system to demonstrate their progress toward mastery of these 21st century skills needed for college, career and life success.

Although our district is in the beginning stages of implementation, this is an exciting opportunity for our students and their education. I'm grateful to the over 900 teachers who have already participated in eKadence training to learn how to meaningfully integrate this platform into their classes.

# Business Services

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**Dr. Nancy Nien**  
Assistant  
Superintendent

## Meeting Every Challenge

The AUHSD Food Services Team embarked on an incredible journey as they addressed the nutritional needs of our community in the middle of a pandemic. As we look back on the incredible work and the amazing dedication of each and every member of

the Food Services Team, we are reminded of the five C's.

It took the collaboration, critical thinking, communication and creativity of a group of compassionate individuals who demonstrated great character and grace as they embraced the importance of their work. Families and children were resolute in their appreciation of what the Food Services Team did each and every day. Children said, "Thank you!," they held signs saying "God Bless You," and though they couldn't hug our employees or shake their hands, their smiles and looks of collaboration filled the hearts of our Food Services employees with joy.

Over the course of the closure, the Food Services staff battled rain, heat, cold, fatigue, masks, gloves and gallons of hand sanitizer. They recognized



the needs of our families, and we are proud of their contribution to the nutritional lives of our students. Food Services director Orlando Griego reported that his amazing team served over 5.3 million meals during the closure!

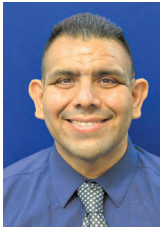
As the Food Services team begins the new school year, they will continue to focus on providing nutritious and delicious meals at all 19 AUHSD schools and 23 AESD schools. COVID-19 has brought each of us many challenges, and it is clear that the Food Services Team is ready to meet every challenge and continue to provide exceptional service for our students each school day.





# AUHS Alternative Education Programs

501 N. Crescent Way, Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/999-3511 • [www.auhsd.us](http://www.auhsd.us)



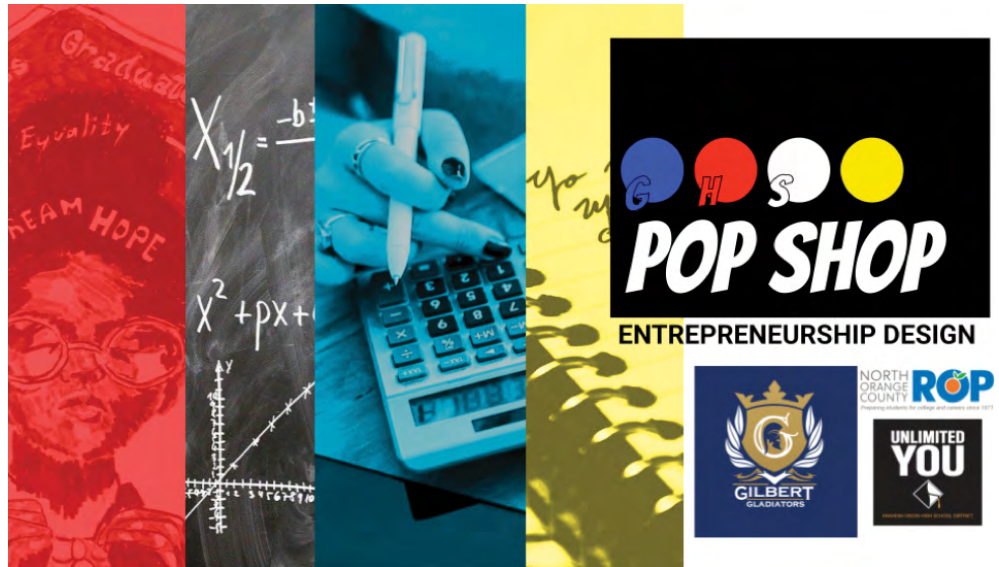
**Jose Lara**  
Coordinator

## Gilbert High School Launches Entrepreneurship Design Pathway

In a unique partnership with North Orange County ROP, Gilbert High School launches the inaugural year of our Entrepreneurship Design Pathway. This pathway provides students the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to start a business as well as cultivates the

creative use of art & digital design in the manufacturing and marketing of products. This is a year-long pathway that culminates in a capstone project which includes the presentation of a business plan required to start a legit business. Some of the pathway courses include, Focus on Business Writing, Analytics (Business) Math, Digital Design, and Entrepreneurship. All students must complete 300 hours to receive a pathway certificate and earn the opportunity to be placed in AUHSD AIME

(Anaheim's Innovative Mentoring Experience) Program. Education becomes alive through real life applications. The Entrepreneurship Design Pathway prepares students to earn a worthwhile certificate which provides the opportunity to gain meaningful employment. Gilbert High School is proud to continue to partner with ROP and help prepare our students with the technical and soft skills necessary to be future-ready entrepreneurs.



## CTE

501 N. Crescent Way, Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/999-3511 • [www.auhsd.us](http://www.auhsd.us)



**Scott Reindl**  
Program  
Administrator,  
Career Education

## Our Pathway Program

The Anaheim Union High School District is focused on preparing students for their future careers. One of the best ways for students to develop the 21st century skills and technical skills needed for success is to enroll in a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway Program. But what is a CTE pathway?

A CTE pathway is a sequence of two or more courses focused on a particular career. The courses build upon each other

and allow students to learn and practice the technical skills needed to successfully land an entry-level job or continue their education following high school in college or at a technical school. AUHSD has career pathways in nearly every industry, including areas such as patient care, computer science, culinary arts, building and construction, engineering and media arts. In addition, each high school and junior high school has an Exclusive Pathway, focused

on a high-demand career and providing the highest level of quality in preparing students for their future careers. AUHSD's Exclusive Pathways include cutting-edge industries such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, biotechnology and entrepreneurship.

Besides coursework to build students' skills, CTE pathways provide students with opportunities to develop their leadership skills both in class and through Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSO). In addition, many pathways provide opportunities to learn from professionals through work-based learning experiences such as guest speakers, mentoring events and, in many cases, professional internships. The district's AIME (Anaheim's Innovative Mentoring Experience) program provides mentoring and internships for all AUHSD students, including offering programs aligned with CTE pathways. In addition, the district has partnered with North Orange County ROP to deliver high-quality instruction and work-based learning experiences for students. We hope you will consider enrolling your child in one of our many exciting CTE pathway programs.

## Technology

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**Erik Greenwood**  
Chief Technology Officer

### Thanks, Tech Team!

The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for all our stakeholders. This has been equally true for our technology team.

Our technology support team facilitated the checkout of more than 32,000 technology items at more than 100 distribution events, not including many ad hoc drop-offs and pickups. Our network team transitioned our data and telecommunications platforms to support remote work and learning

environments. Our application support team fielded over 5,000 learning-management-system work orders in 2020–21 in addition to normal Aeries and CALPADS work. The team also created numerous web and reporting resources.

These 36 men and women provided the technology framework to support remote work, teaching and learning. They put the five C's into action by building solutions for the new remote paradigm and also scaffolding existing systems. This was all done in a time of higher than normal turnover as well as physical and logistical challenges.

Thank you to Jazmin Alba, Juan Alba-Cobarrubias, Mike Bennett, Joe Bui (retired), Joseph Cao (resigned for another opportunity), Matthew Cappeluti, Jonathan Choi, Carlo Coles, James Cooper, Laura De Morneau, William Fields (retired), Paul Gallovich, Chris Johnson (resigned for other opportunity), Jason Jones, Trung Le, Karen Lee, John Lowe, Adolfo Marrero, Max Moine, Larry Molano, Johnny Mora, Bruce Ngo, Danny Nguyen, Trang Nguyen, Ronald Parker, Gabriel Pasillas, Edward Ramirez, Hector Saldivar (retired), Stephen Schickler, Donovan Small, Sandra Smith, Nancy Terriquez, Marco Tran, Reuben Tran, Quang Vo, Peggy Wakeman, Bradley Watrous, Wen Wei, Lori Williamson and Joseph Wong. You all did an amazing job supporting our stakeholders in 2019–20 and 2020–21. I am looking forward to the amazing things you will do in 2021–22!



**Michael B. Matsuda**  
Superintendent

### SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 3

His father initially wanted him to go into construction where he could be a “day laborer,” but now is spreading a new narrative about jobs in cyber security. Anthony’s story is ultimately about equity and access to meaningful jobs, and is a result of reframing educational drivers around integrating soft and hard skills and student voice.

The late educator and civil rights leader, Robert Moses, who founded The Algebra Project, believed that, “The most important social problem affecting people of color today is economic access, ...” He stated that over 40 years ago, and today, in a post George Floyd world,

## Student Support Services

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

### Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) Program

The TUPE program is proud to collaborate with the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA), Cal State Fullerton (CSUF), and University of California-Irvine (UCI) for a Vaping Among Multicultural Orange County Students (VAMOS) Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP) grant funded project named Anaheim AVE (Anti-Vaping Endeavor). This paid research project (\$600/year) provides the opportunity for

20 selected students from various school sites to work with health professionals to conduct a professional-level research project about e-cigarette usage, and promises the development of personal, academic, and community advocacy leadership skills.



**ANAHEIM AVE**  
ANTI VAPING ENDEAVOR

The project meets virtually twice a week on Monday’s and Wednesday’s from 4:00pm until 5:30pm beginning in April - December 2021 and January - June 2022. This past May 2021, some students from UCI taught a 2-week long workshop on Photovoice, which is a method of research that utilizes the use of photos to talk about issues in our communities. The Anaheim AVE program is preparing these students for student-led ethnographic interviews, which is a form of qualitative data collection. The purpose of these interviews will be to determine some of the factors related to youth usage of e-cigarettes and other tobacco related products. The interview data will then lead into student-led surveys in the Fall. Be on the lookout for more coming from this unique project.

where trust in American institutions are ebbing, access to meaningful jobs is more vital than ever in monitoring the barometer of social justice.

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. We need to act with conviction and urgency and embrace the guru of learning organizations, Peter Senge who states, “Through learning we re-create ourselves. Through learning we become able to do something we never were able to do. Through learning we re-perceive the world and our relationship to it. Through learning we extend our capacity to create, to be part of the generative process of life.”



## Anaheim High School

811 W. Lincoln Ave., Anaheim, CA 92805 • 714/999-371 • [anaheimhs.org](http://anaheimhs.org)



**Roberto Saldivar**  
Principal

### Mental Health Focus

We believe that the overall physical and mental well-being of our Anaheim family is a crucial component in maintaining a compassionate and thriving community.

Therefore, it is essential that we prioritize self-care and facilitate the understanding of key components of mental health. In response to new challenges, our team has developed the Mental Health Monday program to support well-being and raise awareness surrounding elements of mental health, including strengths recognition, coping skills, gratitude, communication and self-advocacy. Each flyer features a combination of inspirational quotes, interesting facts about human behavior and



biology, mindfulness practices, creative 'check-ins' and links to additional resources. Our aim is to promote personal reflection, encourage a compassionate environment and educate our AHS family on the social, emotional and biological components of mental health. Here, we pledge to value the overall health of our students and staff because we are family, we are Anaheim.



## Ball Junior High School

1500 W. Ball Rd., Anaheim, CA 92802 • 714/999-3663 • [ball.auhsd.us](http://ball.auhsd.us)



**Daphne Hammer**  
Principal

### First Week of School

Ball Junior High School is excited to welcome students back in person. We have missed our Blackhawk family. Our welcome back festivities included a family scavenger hunt where students and families located places and people across campus. In addition, the social emotional learning of our students and staff is a priority. During the first three days of school, students participated in school wide activities to learn about the 5Cs, the

history of Ball Junior High School, and more. The first day of school ended with a schoolwide pep rally and each student received a Ball water bottle and freshly baked cookie.

At the end of the week, students participated in a motivational assembly by Keith Hawkins where we learned to be BETTER than GOOD.





## Brookhurst *Junior High School*

601 N. Brookhurst Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/999-3613 • [brookhurst.org](http://brookhurst.org)



**Gilbert Amancio**  
*Principal*

### Spartans are Back!

Brookhurst Junior High School has started the school year on a great note. This success can be attributed largely to the site leadership team. As part of our summer leadership

summit, our leaders developed activities to build community with our students. This was the intent of the care opening. Our staff did everything possible to ensure students had a memorable experience. Their contributions included manning booths or supervising a certain area. Among the booths students visited were E-sports, robotics, sports, mindfulness, painting, board games, and of course carnival-themed games. The main attraction was the photo booth and Kona Snowcone Truck. It was evident that students enjoyed their time at their



**Students showing off their skills in the Robotics booth**

new campus as they smiled and laughed during the event. As a result of all students participating in the activity and leaving satisfied, the goal was achieved. What a wonderful way for our students to not only connect, but to show how much we appreciate them coming back to school.

## Cambridge Virtual Academy

830 S. Dale St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/999-7757 • [cambridge.auhsd.us](http://cambridge.auhsd.us)



**Jackie Counts**  
*Director  
Innovative Programs*

### Three Award-Winning Teachers

In our inaugural year, Cambridge Virtual Academy teachers demonstrated the why, the what, and the how of education. The results culminated in two awards -

California Democracy School and California Civic Learning Award. Underpinning these achievements, teachers aligned solid curriculum beyond textbooks, purposeful lesson design seeped in 5 Cs, and authentic assessments. Teachers created multi-disciplinary projects, utilizing experiential learning centered around student voice and purpose. Teams collaborated with international institutions to develop lessons promoting cultural and



**CVA lead teachers -  
Randy Poggio, Kasey Spencer, and Ray Solorzano.**

social awareness. Most importantly, teachers made their courses come alive by establishing relationships with students, personalized instruction, and clear connections between lessons and students' lives.

Moving forward to leverage students' interest for deeper learning, three award-winning teachers, Kasey Spencer, Ray Solorzano, and Randy Poggio will lead grade level teams to refine thought-provoking curriculum, engaging instruction, and transformative assessments. At Cambridge Virtual Academy education works for our students, honors humanity, and strives for a better world.



## Cypress High School

9801 Valley View St., Cypress, CA 90630 • (714) 220-4144 • [cypress.auhsd.us](http://cypress.auhsd.us)



**Dr. Kevin Hodgson**  
Principal

### Opportunity

Welcome to the 2021–22 school year here at Cypress High School! Since the pandemic began 17 months ago, we have stressed the word *opportunity*. While recognizing the pain

and suffering the pandemic has brought to some, we also choose to focus on what we have learned and how we have improved as educators and students. We've learned to use technology in a manner that has enhanced learning and made communication more efficient. Additionally, we've come to cherish the importance of supporting one another physically, socially, emotionally and educationally. Through these trying times, the community remained Cypress Strong and took the opportunity to get better.



**Meet school resource officer, Angus Yu.**

As this year gets underway, our students have the opportunity to return to in-person learning and benefit from the many new faces and resources at CHS. We've hired 17 new teachers, five new instructional aides, an additional school psychologist, an additional social worker, an additional school counselor, a college and career specialist and a new FACES. We are excited to announce that we have partnered with the Cypress Police Department in the hiring of a grant-funded school resource officer, Angus Yu. Officer Yu will provide support and community service to Cypress High School for the next three years.

We are certain that our new members of the Cypress High School family will have a positive impact on our community, especially our students!

## Dale Junior High School

900 S. Dale Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/220-4210 • [dale.auhsd.us](http://dale.auhsd.us)



**Lorena Moreno**  
Principal

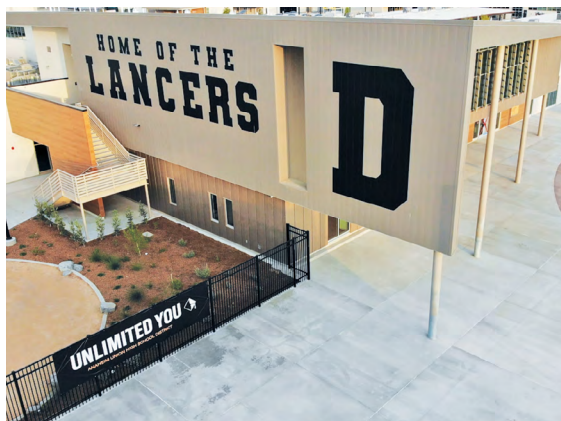
### Brand-New Old School!

It was July 1, 1980, that Dale Jr. High School first opened up its doors to the students of the Anaheim Union High School District. After the passing of a school bond, the Anaheim Union High School District broke ground on the modernization of Dale Jr. High School in 2016.

The school was fully operational and open during the four years of construction, and as it finished, Dale Jr. High School

became a brand-new school with flexible state-of-the-art learning spaces. There is a new, 37,000 square foot, two-story building featuring new science/technology STEAM, cybersecurity labs and a brand-new, state-of-the-art library. The quad was completely redesigned with an outdoor performance stage, and all classrooms were remodeled and upgraded, with many adding bifold doors that open for a healthy and expansive learning environment.

We are so excited to welcome students back into full in-person instruction at the all new Dale Jr. High School!





## Hope School

7901 Knott Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/220-4199 • [hope.auhsd.us](http://hope.auhsd.us)



**Louie LeMonnier**  
Principal

### We are Back!

It has been over 17 months and the doors are now open to the #1 Special Education school in America! Who's excited? First, let me take this moment to share utmost gratitude and strong pride for the entire Hope School community. As a school community, we committed to staying together, staying connected, and stayed

focused on supporting our Hope Tigers while at home...and that is exactly what we did. I am so proud to call myself a member of this amazing community. Now that we are back, it's full steam ahead! Hope School is being intentional and strategic about getting our students back into the rhythm of in-person learning. Also, being together again supports our students' social emotional health and their transition back into school life, which is a joy to see. Welcome back everyone...Let's Go!



## Katella High School

2200 E. Wagner Ave., Anaheim, CA 92806 • 714/999-3621 • [katella.auhsd.us](http://katella.auhsd.us)



**Dr. Roxanna Hernandez**  
Principal

### Thriving Patient-Care Pathway

Katella High School is on its way to having 100 students complete the Patient Care Pathway with CNA emphasis by the end of the 2021–22 school year! Kelly Neal, NOCROP Patient Care Pathway teacher, joined Katella in 2017, and the program has been expanding ever since.

The Patient Care Pathway with CNA emphasis prepares students to take their state boards to

become a certified nursing assistant. Pathway courses include Medical Careers, Body Systems and Disorders, and Nursing Assistant/Long-Term Care (CAN), which is the capstone class. CNA students are required to complete 120 hours of clinical training in assisted living/nursing homes, to be completed after school and on weekends.

Tatiana Morales Ramirez, Class of 2021, was accepted into CSUF's Public Health Program, UCLA's nursing program. She received \$1,500 in ROP scholarships.

"The Patient Care Pathway became the foundation of my academic endeavors and character building throughout my high school experience," Tatiana said. "It paved the way for amazing achievements and introduced me to the passion I have today of becoming a registered nurse! This program was truly an eye-opening opportunity and illuminated my perspective as a future medical professional."





## Kennedy High School

8281 Walker St., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/220-4101 • [kennedy.auhsd.us](http://kennedy.auhsd.us)



**Dr. Adam Hernandez**  
Principal

### Hope, Not Fear

Kennedy High School students are thriving in innovative programs that develop the 5Cs and the technical skills that prepare them for college and career opportunities. Our Photography students are thriving as they discover their voice and purpose. A true testament to this learning experience is Mikayla

Aguilar who exhibited her double exposure photograph titled “Hope, Not Fear” (inspired by the November 2020 Presidential election). She combined a black and white image of her younger brother with another color image of a newspaper article to create this striking double exposure.

Mikayla shares, “I thought it would be cool to have a young Latino boy with the motto ‘Hope, Not Fear’ on his face to represent that the future is changing ... that as young people of color, not to be afraid of politics, but to focus on the changes that will help our future generations.”



**Hope, Not Fear**

## Lexington Junior High School

4351 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-4201 • [lexington.auhsd.us](http://lexington.auhsd.us)



**Daniel Klatzker**  
Principal

### Excited and Ready!

Lexington Junior High is ready and excited for the return of our students! To help celebrate the students' return to in-person learning, we held a seventh-grade and new-student orientation prior to the start of the year.

The campus was alive and full of smiles as students received their schedules, had an assembly, and were given campus tours by ASB.

Additionally, built into the first two weeks of the school year were social-emotional-learning and community-building opportunities for all of our seventh- and eighth-grade students. All of our classes engaged in kindness and relationship-building activities during our SSR time, and throughout the day, campus tours were given by teachers across the curriculum. Our teachers and students have really taken celebrating our return to heart, and we are now more



**New Student Orientation**

than ready to work together toward our Lexington school vision: We champion a collaborative community that excels in student-centered learning opportunities and creative thinking and also embraces diversity. We empower compassionate citizens of tomorrow to meet the demands of an ever-changing global society. Go Lions!



## Loara High School

1765 W. Cerritos, Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/999-3677 • [loara.auhsd.us](http://loara.auhsd.us)



**Gary Brown**  
Principal

### We're Back Saxons

Loara High School is back for the 2021 school year and we're so excited! After a long year of distance learning, Loara was ready to celebrate the return to in person learning. Students were greeted with a "Week of Welcome" that focused on celebrating our return, finding connections, getting to know staff and students, and building our school community. Loara plans to keep the

momentum all year long with the addition of a check and connect period that will focus on building and maintaining relationships and mentoring. Loara will continue to lead the way with new and innovative programs like VAPA (Visual and Performing Arts), computer science, DTA (Drone Tech. Academy), and a one of a kind business opportunity with our unique Union bank partnership all while focusing on our vision of a positive school culture that allows for all students to find their Unlimited you.



**Loara High School cheerleaders perform at the Welcome Back pep rally.**

## Magnolia High School

2450 W. Ball Rd., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/220-4221 • [magnolia.auhsd.us](http://magnolia.auhsd.us)



**Dr. Karen Dabney-Lieras**  
Principal

### Creating a Food Oasis

The Magnolia Agriscience Community Center (MACC) is transforming two acres of undeveloped land on Magnolia High School's campus

into a school-based community farm aimed to alleviate local food insecurity. It will serve as a hub for nutrition and sustainable agriculture education for students and parents and provide agriculture-related career training.

Many families in AUHSD struggle to find affordable, nutritious food and science teacher and Project Coordinator Sabina Giakoumis, Principal Karen Dabney-Lieras and Assistant



Principal Aaron Chau are spearheading this project to bring change to the surrounding AUHSD community. MACC will generate produce annually for our district's central kitchen, enhancing lunch options for students and directly serving our local AUHSD community.

MACC will support ongoing AUHSD initiatives and create synergy with community resources to expand learning and career-training opportunities for students and community members on health, nutrition and sustainable agriculture practices. MACC will also provide much-needed fresh produce for the surrounding community.



## Orangeview Junior High School

3715 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/220-4205 • [orangeview.auhsd.us](http://orangeview.auhsd.us)



**Chuck Hernandez**  
Principal

### Rebuilding with Compassion

Panther PRIDE was on full display as Orangeview teachers and staff gathered together rebuilding with compassion. Orangeview's vision is centered around building positive relationships, collaboration, and design. That is exactly what the

Panther staff commenced to illustrate for the opening

of the 2021-2022 school year. Rebuilding on the solid foundation of incorporating the 5 Cs into every aspect of campus life, Orangeview staff demonstrated just how it's done. Panther Teams focused on developing unique designs of LEGO® race cars for the Orangeview "LEGO® Wacky Races." Everyone was eager to connect with one another as the entire staff

prepared to open our doors, our arms and our hearts for our students and families. Panther Country expanded more opportunities for our students with the building of the Panther entrepreneur and eSports courses alongside the Panther AVID Tutor center. Known for leading with compassion, Orangeview is well on its way to a spectacular year of building hearts and minds.



## Oxford Academy

5172 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-3055 • [oxford.auhsd.us](http://oxford.auhsd.us)



**Amber Houston**  
Principal

### We Rise Together

What is our favorite color? Red, White, Blue! The patriots are back on campus and ready to tackle 2021 with enthusiasm unknown to mankind. With our care opening, we started our first three days with culture and tradition building provided by our ASB leaders with amazing

presence, games, activities and fun! Upon scanning our quad, you saw a sea of red, white, blue showing that #werisetgether. We are still celebrating the honor being named the #1 public school in California, and continue to focus on the 5C's creating the next innovators, scientists, writers, orators, and leaders that vow to make a difference in the world. Post 2020 has only energized our clubs on campus with a Robotics competition win already, athletics tournaments in full force, and Choir/Band camps perfecting choreography and music for the first show. Our OA students and faculty are ready to get back to excellence in our new norm!





# Savanna High School

301 N. Gilbert St., Anaheim, CA 9280 • 714/220-4262 • [savanna.auhsd.us](http://savanna.auhsd.us)



**Mike Pooley**  
Principal

## Together We are Savanna

Savanna High School “Reunited” with students and staff on August 11, 2021 with thunderous cheer and excitement! With the help of The Link Crew, ASB Student Leaders, The Cheer Squad, and several student groups throughout the

campus, they assembled to welcome all Rebels back to school. Our first day of school we focused on our 9th graders and wanted to make them feel welcomed, supported and hopefully connected to our school. Activities were planned, which included a welcome rally, campus tour, panel discussion with college and career partners and a meet and greet with counselors and administrators. Our second

day we focused on our 10th graders with a very similar program. On day 3 we celebrated our 11th and 12th graders with a fun and high energy lunchtime rally. “Together We Are Savanna” is our motto and we wanted to make sure all students and staff felt this from day 1.



## South Junior High School

2320 E. South St., Anaheim, CA 9280 • 714/999-3667 • [south.auhsd.us](http://south.auhsd.us)



**Yolanda Mejia**  
Principal

## Welcome to the Family!

We have a saying here at South Junior High School: “We are South, We are family!” We feel this way about students, parents, teachers, staff and our community.

After our district’s very special WOW Week for so many of our new staff joining our AUHSD family, we also held one at our school for our new teachers. Principal Yolie Mejia, also new to our South family, welcomed

everyone alongside both new and longtime teachers, creating a friendly space to get to know one another.

Activities at our New Teacher Welcome included a friendship-building activity, a Q and A panel, restorative practices, affirmations, a campus tour and even a small gift basket. Later, South will continue to

support our new teachers with Reflective Learning Walks and other spaces where teachers can connect with one another, support one another, share best practices, and continue traditions like our award winning PBIS program and strong civic-engagement work, which earned South Junior High School the Civic Learning Award of Excellence.

Already, our new teachers are finding a place in the family and even stepping up to lead. As we set our new family members up for success, we know they will have a powerful impact on our entire community. We are South, we are family!



**New Teacher Welcome**



## Sycamore Junior High School

1801 E. Sycamore St., Anaheim, CA 92805 • 714/999-3616 • [sycamore.auhsd.us](https://sycamore.auhsd.us)



**Enrique Romero**  
*Principal*

### Goals and Focus

As we return to campus and welcome back students and staff for the first time since March 2020, we have focused our time and energy on reconnecting: as a staff, as a school, as a community, as a family. Our focus as a staff and as a school community will be to build relationships and trust

with our students and our families.

Our first goal we have set is to build a nurturing, safe and healthy environment for not only our students but also for one another. Our student-government leaders have also dedicated many hours over the summer to prep for our grand reopening and supported all efforts to make everyone feel welcome and part of the family.

Although Sycamore Junior High is still going through construction projects and we have experienced some challenges that come when going through renovations, our staff has not let that faze them but instead have come together to support one another, welcome our students back with open arms, and focus on what's important: the people. Proud to be a Buccaneer!



## Walker Junior High School

8132 Walker St., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/220-4051 • [walker.auhsd.us](https://walker.auhsd.us)



**Jennifer Brown**  
*Principal*

### Welcome Back Vikings

We are excited to welcome students to campus. The energy and school spirit have been so high; there is a positive vibe that can be felt by all. As we welcome our Vikings home, we are focusing on a pedagogy of belonging and have even added a "Community Building" period into our schedule. Our goal is to increase the sense of belonging for all students by emphasizing

the importance of positive teacher-student relationships and actively involving all students in the school community. To support our students, return to campus, the first few weeks we will focus on lessons such as growth mindset, mindfulness, wellness, building student voice, and team building, but our plan is much more than a few weeks. We believe in focusing on a sense of love and belonging and building positive interactions into all aspects of our school. Walker is committed to our student's social emotional well-being and success.



# Western High School

501 S. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/220-4040 • [western.auhsd.us](http://western.auhsd.us)



**Hilda Vazquez**  
Principal

## Pathways to the Future

Together, we welcome the 2021–22 school year with hopes, dreams and excitement. The electric energy and enthusiasm that our students, staff and community members have exhibited this year are incredible. We know this year will be filled with memories, academic success and students' reengagement in extracurricular activities.

One of the exciting newly completed spaces on Western's campus is AUHSD's iLAB (Incubate Learning, Accelerate Breakthroughs) makerspace, where students can create prototypes and get mentorship from industry professionals. The iLAB is an essential space to foster ingenuity, creativity and students' entrepreneurial spirit to conceptualize new solutions, services and products. This is all accomplished through Western's CTE pathway that synthesizes business, engineering and technology.



AUHSD and Western High School recognizes that our world is ever changing, and we are preparing students for future jobs that have not been created yet. Therefore, we are committed to fostering students' communication, creativity, critical-thinking skills, collaboration, character and compassion and providing students with meaningful engaging experiences inside and outside the classroom, such as the work through the iLAB and AIME—Anaheim's innovative mentoring experience. Go Big Blue!

## Word Search Contest Words Associated with School

**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 October 31, 2021**

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

Achievers	Focused	Principal
Character	Homework	Recess
Classrooms	Instructors	Reunion
Curiosity	Integrity	Student
Discipline	Learning	Success
Educators	Mentors	Technology
Encourage	Nutrition	Thinkers
Excellence	Parents	Workers

**Congratulations to Winner!**  
**Desare Burdick**

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



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