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School News

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Covering the Brea Olinda Unified School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Thank You for Your Thoughts

We recently took part in an online conversation through ThoughtExchange. More than 2,000

Dr. Brad Mason

people (parents, community members, staff and students) participated and provided us with valuable feedback. Your thoughts have been reviewed by me and by members of our executive team and staff. We are now excited to share the results with you via our Results Website at bousd.thoughtexchange.com.

As you will see, the top priorities from you included the following: Safety and Security, Facilities, Student Wellness and Support and Curriculum and Electives/College and Career Readiness. These priorities are an affirmation of what we have been working on throughout our district, and what we will use to continue to guide our LCAP.

Visit our results website to learn more about the top priorities in our schools, and see the other thoughts that resounded with people. You can also visit the "LCAP" tab on our website to learn more about our LCAP process.

Thank you for contributing to this important conversation. Your participation in this process was invaluable.

Brea Olinda USD Installs CNG Fueling Station to Reduce Fuel Expenses

By Jean Aldrete, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

The Brea Olinda Unified School District (BOUSD) installed a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station a few years ago with the help of grants from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC). The fueling station allows the district to fill seven of their fleet of 19 school buses, reducing fuel costs and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The district purchased the seven CNG buses with a grant provided by SCAQMD to replace seven pre-1987 buses, which no longer met newer emissions standards. Clean burning natural-gas vehicles (NGV) provide a significant reduction in toxic air pollutant emissions compared to diesel and gasoline vehicles. The emissions of primary concern include regulated emission of hydrocarbons, oxides of nitrogen (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO), and carbon dioxide (CO2). Due to ever-increasing emission requirements and regulations, emissions from NGVs over conventional vehicles with modern emissions have been greatly reduced.

The California Air Quality Management District (AQMD) and the Environmental Protection



Agency (EPA) adopted measures that require all diesel vehicles operated within the state to meet specific guidelines to reduce particulate matter in the air by January 2012. The district was operating seven 1986 diesel transit buses to transport students that did not meet those requirements. AQMD offered grants for the replacement of pre-1987 buses, allowing the district to purchase seven new 2013 Thomas CNG buses, which meet the 2007 EPA and California Air Resources Board (ARB) emissions standards criteria of 0.2 g/bph-hr NMHC + NOx or lower and 0.01 g/bph-hr PM or lower. The buses are equipped with Cummins ISLG-280 HDX CNG engines, which put out up to 13 percent less greenhouse gases that conventional diesel engines.

A subsequent grant allowed BOUSD to install a slow-filling CNG fueling station in the bus maintenance yard, which fills all seven CNG buses overnight, reducing fuel costs for these buses by approximately 20 percent annually.

BOUSD is excited about the results of the new CNG station, both as an environmental benefit and a budgetary benefit as well. Continued support of these programs has allowed the district to continue to support the health and safety of our students and the Brea community.



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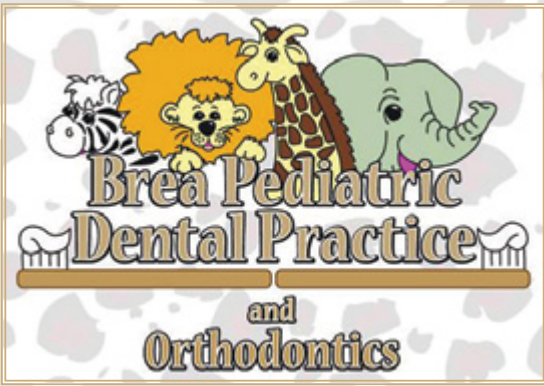


Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Another school year is coming to a close. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. Our next issue is September 19 in time to welcome you to a new school year.

Have a wonderful summer and please remember to include the library among your activities.



David M. Kang, D.D.S
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Fallbrook High School, College and Career Counselor: Tony Morrow '11, M.A.Ed. '12

Arovista *Elementary (K-6)*

900 Eadington Dr., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-2185 • <http://arovista.bousd.us>



Karen VanDine
Principal

Allstar Innovators

This year, Arovista opened the doors of its new Innovation Lab thanks to generous donations from the Brea Rotary Club and the Orange County Department of Education.

The Innovation Lab is a flexible learning environment where students can get hands-on experience in science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Students of all ages perform STEM challenges monthly to help enhance their learning and stretch their imaginations.

Our teachers can go into the Lab and teach a math lesson on walls made of whiteboard where students can work together and share ideas. The students can create and investigate with robotics, a 3D Printer, Snap Circuits, Keva Planks, and Legos. We have also opened up the Lab at lunch to provide a “recess alternative” for those students who want to collaborate and create. The Innovation Lab is now the most popular spot on campus!

Arovista is creating innovators. These are young people who will change the world.



Brea Canyon *High School (9-12)*

689 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7882 • <http://bchs-bousd-ca.schoolloop.com>



Eric Barrientos
Principal

Once a Coyote...Always a Coyote!

With the end of the third quarter, our Coyote den is counting down the weeks for another graduation on Thursday, June 14. The sight of students walking side by side wearing their blue caps and gowns as they enter the field from their gathering place in Room 103 is always the highlight of our year—the culmination of the hard work and determination of both students and teachers all wrapped up in one memorable event.

As our students sit through their commencement, we hope they will remember for the rest of their lives some of the things that happened within the halls of our den. Like the day Mr. Orme got a nasty leg scratch from a slide-tackle gone wrong in our student versus staff soccer tournament. Or perhaps Mr. Horta's World War I reenactment, where his world history class turned into the trenches of No Man's Land. Maybe it will be the ping-pong challenges before school and during lunch...or the chess tournaments of the spring. Will it be the Honorable, Organized, Well-Rounded Learners (HOWL) drawings we started this year? Or the activities of our first You Matter Week? Maybe it will be our first intramural basketball game versus La Vista High School they will remember; we lost by two points in the last seven seconds of the game! Or it could be the Friendship Soccer Tournament held at Hillview High School, where four different schools came together for a day of positive athletic competition. Our Annual Police and Fire Challenge is always an event to remember! Perhaps it will be the prom? Or the senior dinner?

Regardless of the memories that might flood their thoughts at commencement, every graduate will walk away knowing that they are Coyotes of Brea Canyon High School...and they always will be.

Brea *Junior High School (7-8)*

400 N. Brea Blvd., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7500 • <http://bjhs.bousd.us>



Kelly Kennedy
Principal

“PRIDE-ful” Bobcat Year!

Brea Junior High students continued to be successful in our strong academic programs and took full advantage of the extracurricular opportunities that were provided this year. The Bobcat cheerleading program was added this year, and we continued our Color

Guard team, which is a direct pathway to the programs up at Brea Olinda High School. Our student athletes showed great sportsmanship in our After School Athletics Program, and our Girls' Basketball Team earned a first-place finish in the Fullerton League.

Our students really shined in several academic competitions throughout Orange County. We are proud of our Academic Pentathlon Team, MathCounts Team, Spelling Bee finalists, Science Olympiad Team and the Chemistry Challenge participants. In addition, our Club Live, Peer Assistance Leadership (PALS) group and National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) members provided support and service both here at BJH and in our community. Go Bobcats!



Brea Country Hills *Elementary (K-6)*

150 N. Associated Rd., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-3221 • <http://countryhills.bousd.us>



Trish Walsh
Principal

Collaboration is Key

Throughout the year we focus on the 4C's of 21st-century learning: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. We strive to provide opportunities for our students to learn and practice those skills daily.

Recent studies point to collaboration as the top skill that can lead to success in the classroom and the workplace. One way that we are working to improve and increase student collaboration is with a new element incorporated in some classrooms this year. It is called flexible seating.

Providing a different classroom environment with table and seating options, our student space is now more conducive to collaboration. Where we used to see rows of desks and chairs, we now see tables at different heights and seating options such as floor cushions, benches, yoga balls, and swivel chairs.



Students enjoy the opportunity to choose a seat where they can be the most productive, and will have a unique space to work together with their classmates and teacher. Some classrooms may look a little different, but our students are reaping the benefits of the change!

Brea Olinda *High School (9-12)*

789 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7850 • <http://bohs.bousd.us>



Jerry Halpin
Principal

Our Year, in Brief

The 2017–18 school year has been another fantastic year! The following are some of our outstanding accomplishments.

BOHS had two new academic competition teams. The Robotics Team competed in the Orange County Regionals, where they earned Rookie of the Year honors and qualified for the National Championships. Students also participated in the inaugural Esports League sponsored by UCI and did an outstanding job.

BOHS had a very successful WASC midterm visit. The visiting committee was overwhelmed with the great things they saw at the school and enthusiastically supported the school's plan moving forward.

Girls' athletic director Jill Matyuch was selected as the BOHS Teacher of the Year, and Donna Prince, administrative assistant to the principal, was selected as the Classified Staff Member of the Year. Girls' athletic attendant Karen McLeran was the BOUSD Classified Employee of the Year. Congratulations to all of them for their well-deserved honors!

Six school teams captured league championships, and 13 teams qualified for the CIF playoffs. Boys' Cross Country finished third in the state. Abbie Claire Boozer, for golf and water polo; Grant Rutledge, for soccer; and Jasmine Rachal, for basketball earned league MVP honors. Two Girls' Water Polo players—Megan Lopez and Rachel Spadt—earned spots in the all-time CIF records book. BOHS Cheer finished second in the nation.

Marching Band, Color Guard and Drumline had an outstanding competition season. Masquerade and Spellbound captured many competition titles in their Show Choir activities.

During the spring semester, BOHS hosted its second unified sports competition in which able-bodied students participated in a lunchtime cheerleading and indoor soccer match with their special-needs peers. The raucous event, co-sponsored by Special Olympics, featured a packed gym of enthusiastic supporters. It was another great activity that came down to the last few seconds for the second year in a row.



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Theresa Stevens
Principal

Innovator's Museum

Thomas Edison once said, "If there's a way to do it better, find it." Mrs. Lee, a third-grade teacher, explained that the Innovator's Museum stemmed from the students' recent invention/innovation unit in the new English language arts curriculum. It was the perfect opportunity for students to make connections between text and the real world.

Our third-grade teachers challenged students to design and build something that could potentially make a difference in our lives. Their designs were patented by teachers before the students built and presented their products.



On the day of our museum, families, staff and Board members were invited to visit our gallery of innovations, where students presented the prototypes of their designs. The Innovator's Museum allowed our students to think out of the box, be creative, and learn to communicate their ideas with others. It will be exciting to see what these innovators will come up with in the future!

Mariposa *Elementary (K-6)*

1111 W. Mariposa Dr., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-4916 • <http://mariposa.bousd.us>



Daryn Coburn
Principal

Sixth-Grade 'Amazing Race!'

Mariposa's sixth-graders will be reminiscing and making new memories as the end the school year approaches. They compete against each other in their very own "Amazing Race!" Teachers set up 14 different teams of five or six students, all named with a different color. The competition takes students down the memory lane of their seven years at Mariposa. Each team begins at an assigned station and works through all 14 to earn points and hopefully outscore all the other groups. Students are given a riddle, just like in the TV show, directing them where to begin. They report to the station and complete a task or a challenge together to earn points. At the end of the competition, points are totaled, and the top three teams spin a prize wheel to win special rewards.

The tasks take them on a journey of remembering projects, songs, assignments and other things from all their grade levels. Each round lasts 10 minutes. Teams are given a clue at the end of each station indicating where to go next. They must name several states and capitals, since they learned them all in fifth grade.

One of the most popular competitions is making a moon journal, like they did in third grade. However, this time, they will to create it using sandwich cookies. The students also enjoy playing a memory game matching pictures of famous Americans and what they were known for as they remember the famous person they dressed up as and wrote a report about in second grade.

When all 14 challenges are completed, the entire level convenes to hear the winners. Prizes are awarded, but the finale is an outdoor picnic that parents are invited to attend. The students eat one of their last lunches at Mariposa with their parents and their Monarch family!

Laurel Elementary *Magnet School of Innovation and Career Exploration*

200 S. Flower Ave., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-2520 • <http://laurel.bousd.us>



Heather Bojorquez
Principal

Wrapping Up Another Year

As we wrap up this 2017–2018 school year, it's a wonderful time for us as a magnet school to also reflect on the growth and learning of our students. Since we first opened our doors as a magnet we have been setting some specific goals for our school.

Our main goal was to increase enrollment, and we have continued to attract more families since implementation. Prior to implementation our enrollment in TK through the sixth-grade was 331 students. Today our enrollment has grown to 423 students. Student achievement has also improved, as evidenced by our Smarter Balanced test scores. ELA scores have increased an average of 13 percent as well, and math scores have increased an average of 4 percent.

Engagement is another critical measure of success, as we serve as Brea's only school-wide Title I population. Since implementation of our innovation and career exploration program, our overall attendance rate has also increased from 95.66 percent to 96.05 percent.

Finally, continued intrinsic interest for college and career studies is especially valued. Laurel students gravitate towards college- and career-focused electives in junior high. The AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), digital photo, and career studies that include medical careers, marine biology, and forensic science are the most popular.

We are proud of our Leopards' accomplishments, and look forward to even bigger and better growth each year.

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Olinda *Elementary (K-6)*

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Robert Rendon
Principal

Olinda Shines Bright

On March 28th, Olinda School successfully hosted its annual Open House. On this very exciting evening our parents and students had the opportunity to visit each classroom to see all of the exciting learning that is happening at our school. Each grade level contributes to Open House by offering a unique learning experience for all children.

The TK and kindergarten visitors had brand new baby chicks waiting to be greeted, along with creative writing and an exciting activity based on QR Codes. The first-grade students displayed a monthly units of study based on Benchmark Advance, along with math fact projects to illustrate different operations, and the use of QR codes to show creative reading and writing. The second-grade students shared creative writing displays, Oreo cookie writing, and QR Code activities.

The third-graders offered a variety of exciting writing activities, including the 3D diorama book report, science and social studies expository writing projects, creative poetry, and snow globes. Fourth-grade students had computers up and running with the Mission Tour Guide project on screen. Colorful social studies posters and math projects are only a few of the projects that were enjoyed.

The fifth-grade students had National History Day projects on display, and a peek into the future as we are preparing for the 21st-century through computer coding and Sphero robotics. The sixth-grade students and visitors were able to observe Algebra Pyramids, Ancient Greece QR Codes, and a Single Shard Character Analysis in each classroom. Our PTO also hosted our annual Spring Book Fair in the MPR to help parents select reading for all family members.

As you can see, great things are happening at Olinda School, the Home of the Eagles!

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BOUSD's Before and After School programs offer a safe place for students and include homework assistance, enrichment activities, indoor play and outdoor recreation. Programs are located at every elementary school and Brea Junior High School. All program centers open at 7:00 a.m. each day and are open until the start of the school day. Sites reopen at school dismissal and remain open until 6:00 p.m. TK/Kindergarten Connection wraparound programs complement the traditional school day and provide a full day learning program for all of its participants and is also offered at each campus.



Full Day and Part Day Preschool

BOUSD's Early Learning Program was created to provide an enriched environment for early-aged children with benefits to their intellectual, physical, emotional and social development. State Preschool (income qualifying program) and Fee-Based programs are designed for potty-trained 3- and 4-year olds and are held at Arovista, Country Hills, Laurel, Mariposa, and Olinda. Full time and Part time options are available.

Seasonal Day Camps

Full day camp programs are offered during the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer breaks. Weekly tuition includes on site activities and off site field trips.



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