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Covering the Brea Olinda Unified School District

Volume 7, Issue 24

May 2021



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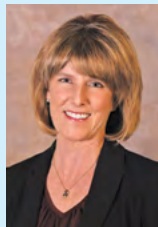
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Focused on the Future



Dr. Brad Mason
Superintendent

Earlier this month Brea Olinda Unified School District successfully welcomed our students back for increased on-campus instruction and our classrooms were once again filled with happy and healthy children eager to learn. We also welcomed additional students to our newest school, Brea Online Academy, for those that want to continue their studies in the comfort of their home.

With the 2020-21 school year coming to a close in a few weeks, we now shift our focus to the future. Governor Newsom recently stated that “schools and institutions of higher education should conduct full-time, in-person instruction, in compliance with Cal/OHSA emergency temporary standards and public health guidelines,” it’s a signal to us that for the fall we will be open for business. Our plan is to return full-time, five days a week, which includes the restoration of academic programs and enrichment activities such as arts, athletics and clubs.

The Online Academy (elementary) and Independent Study (secondary) will remain as options for the 2021-22

school year for families that have made different choices than in-person instruction. Our Online Academy will continue to provide 100% online learning led by highly-trained teachers that are well versed in online teaching and technology. Independent Study for the junior high and high school students allows for a more flexible schedule that includes regularly scheduled academic courses, with some online, and teacher check-ins. Tutoring services will also be available.

To make sure all our students are prepared for the 2021 fall semester, we are excited to announce a robust summer program to assist with any student that may need an academic boost. We are offering both an elementary and secondary program that covers core content areas. The district has also put in place the Extended School Year (ESY) for students with exceptional needs and who have services required by IEP.

While the district moves forward with the implementation of the Summer Boost program and the educational plan for the 2021-22 school year, we will continue to adhere to the safety guidelines set forth by the state in order to #FinishStrong!





Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik

School News

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**Covering the
BREA OLINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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At last a bit of normalcy is returning to our lives and that is highlighted with students in the classrooms. There are many milestones children experience but we would never have predicted removing masks would be a milestone. We will all look forward to celebrating when that day arrives and especially for children.

In this issue you will read about students returning to the classrooms and the excitement of reconnecting with classmates.

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. Our conversion to digital has been very well-received and will be our permanent model going forward.

If your child would like to be a student columnist reviewing favorite books, please email me for information.

Our next issue is September 15. Have a fun, healthy summer!

**Congratulations
Class of 2021!**



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Arovista Elementary (K-6)

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



Dr. Mike Trimmell
Principal

Finishing Strong

We are beyond excited to be back to five-day a week instruction in BOUSD! We welcomed students back with balloons, a huge star

(Arovista All Stars), and a lot of smiling faces. Teachers and

classified staff prepared classrooms and materials for the return. Student safety continues to be our top priority. Each class is equipped with desk shields, an air purification system, and adults and students are wearing masks. While these things are not typical of a “normal” school year, having students back has definitely given everyone a sense of normalcy. Hearing students

laugh on the playground and seeing them play during recess and lunch has been wonderful. Through it all, we are committed to finishing the school year strong! Here's to a wonderful finish to a rollercoaster of a school year.



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Brea Junior High School (7-8)

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



Dr. Kelly Kennedy
Principal

Thanking Our Community

Brea Junior High School's National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) students are committed to giving back to their community. Under the direction of Mrs. Alisa Smith, the NJHS advisor, these students have donated their time and small tokens of appreciation to others this school year.

Both the Brea Police Department

and the Brea Fire Department received snacks, small gifts, and letters of appreciation thanking them for their service to our community during this pandemic. Additionally, every NJHS student wrote and delivered a letter of appreciation thanking the "health care heroes" at our local hospitals and Urgent Cares for their generous and selfless acts of service.

Finally, our students also supported their fellow BJH students by donating hundreds of hours running our peer tutoring program. This program was available every day after school, and provided all students with the opportunity to get help from a NJHS peer tutor in order to maintain their grades and academics this school year. We are so proud of this amazing group of student leaders who are empowered to give back to their community!



Brea Canyon High School (9-12)

689 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7882 • breacanyon.bousd.us/



Dr. Kristin Risberg
Principal

Looking Back

Looking back at the 3rd Quarter of the school year, students had a chance to reflect on their learning and our staff had the opportunity to award the students for their outstanding work and achievements. We recognized 75% of our student population for attendance, grades, high school credits earned, and Principal's Honor Roll at an all-school assembly on Friday, April 23, 2021.

The data from this honor award assembly shows that we have recovered over 100 classes that students were missing. Our students received their honors in front of their peers and staff, with our highest honor, Coyote of the Quarter, going to Jesus Solis. With only the last quarter ahead of the Coyotes, they are more motivated than ever to work hard in their classes and meet their goals. Everyone at BCHS is looking forward to ending the 2020-2021 school year strong by continuing to HOWL to success.



Brea Canyon High School: A Reason to Celebrate

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Brea Country Hills *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Lana Merha
Principal


Welcome Back

Country Hills Cougars came back to school with a ROAR on Monday, April 19! Although students were wearing masks, it was easy to see the smiles in their eyes and the spring in their step as they joined many of their classmates in-person for the first time this year. Anthony Kim, this year's

Student Council President, was excited to return to campus after being a distance learner. He said, "It's awesome to be back in class. I've had fun hanging out with my friends at school." The students and staff at Country Hills agree that it is AWESOME having our Cougars back in the classroom for instruction and they are ready to finish the 2020-2021 school year with a STRONG ROAR!



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Brea Olinda High School (9-12)

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



Dr. Joshua Porter
Principal

Really Close to Normal!

We were thrilled to welcome our students back to four days of on-campus instruction! After starting the year in a distance-learning model followed by the hybrid model, it was wonderful to hear student voices in the hallways and classrooms and feel their energy and excitement to be back on campus.

Many thanks to our amazing team of teachers and staff members who worked diligently to prepare classrooms and other campus areas with increased safety measures to ensure a safe return for all of our students. Student leaders Brylee Denbo and Allison Fong helped coordinate Link Crew and ASB student leaders to assist and welcome our students, as some joined us in person for the first time. Monday started with music and festivities at the entrance to campus and quad, and Link Crew provided treats to welcome the freshmen. In addition to classroom instruction, athletics and performing arts continued to practice and compete throughout the week, making it the closest we have been to “normal” since March 2020.

On Friday, the Class of 2021 celebrated the beginning of their school journey with Senior Elementary Day, donning spirit wear from their elementary schools and listening to songs from their early childhood. As a culmination of the week, the Senior Prom Court was announced on Friday, and final preparations are being put into place for that upcoming event.



First Week of School - Take 4!



Brea Online Academy (TK-6)

689 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7882 • <https://onlineacademy.bousd.us>



Dr. Kristin Risberg
Principal

In-Person Drive-Thru

The Brea Online Academy was so happy to welcome over 200 new students and 9 new teachers to our Online Community, but before instruction started we had the opportunity to congratulate our long term students and welcome our new students at an in-person “drive-thru.” Our whole staff was there holding signs, waving at families, and taking time to answer questions as the

cars drove past. Each student that attended the event left with an awesome bag of school spirit items such as water bottles, pop sockets, door hangers, and masks. It was so fun to see all of our students and families in person because it is not often an online school gets to do that. Even without a campus there is a supportive and resourceful online community for our students, families, and staff. We look forward to building stronger relationships and connections as our school continues to grow and thrive.



Brea Online Academy: Our Online Community

Road Trip—Word Search Contest

Rules!

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

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

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| MAPS | SUNGLASSES |
| BLANKET | WATER |
| GPS | SUNSCREEN |
| PILLOW | CLOTHING |
| MOTEL | CELL PHONE |
| HUMOR | RADIO |
| HOTEL | MONEY |
| CAMERA | FLASHLIGHT |
| CAR GAMES | CREDIT CARD |
| BOOTS | SPARE TIRE |
| SNACKS | |

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

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

Congratulations to Kelly Seidl
Winner of our March Word Search Contest!

Falcon Academy of Science & Technology (K-6)

650 N. Apricot Ave., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-3908 • <https://falcon.bousd.us/>



Karen VanDine
Principal

The Moment We Were Waiting For

The Falcon Academy of Science & Technology welcomed 390 students back to our school campus in April. This was the moment we were waiting for. It was heartwarming to see the students reconnecting with their classmates and friends and to see some of our students meeting their teachers in person for the very first time. The look on the students' faces said it all. We really are stronger together!

This has been quite an eventful year; one we will always remember. We have become Zoom experts for sure! Our students have learned so many life lessons that they will take with them as they move forward. They have learned to be problem solvers, stay positive, be flexible, persevere, and to look at the bright side of a situation. Needless to say, we have all become much more tech savvy! We are finishing strong and looking forward to having all of our Falcon students together again in August!



Returning to Campus and Finishing Strong!

Laurel Elementary *Magnet School of Innovation and Career Exploration (K-6)*

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



Lauren Tovar
Principal

Back Again!

On Monday, April 19th, the Laurel Elementary Magnet School of Innovation and Career Exploration welcomed back its students to campus on a five-day/full-day model. With only seven weeks of school left in the 2020-2021 school year, the entire staff approached this day with the same enthusiasm and energy of a first day of school in August.

Previously, in both the distance-learning and hybrid-learning models, a full reopening required planning and hard work from the entire school staff. Classified and certificated staff members collaborated

to develop new protocols for the integration of staggered lunches, support for additional students at arrival and dismissal, mainstreaming schedules for students in the special education program, new instructional aide schedules, and other details related to student safety, support, and instruction.

The smiles, laughter, and excitement of the children made this work all worthwhile. For students, the first day back included reviews of protocols, social emotional check-ins, a review of our PBIS expectations, collaborative activities to promote team building, and a return to a more robust instructional program. We look forward to the last few weeks of the school year as a springboard for a successful 2021-2022 year.



Mariposa *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Rick Torres
Principal

We're Back!

Staff, parents, and students joked about our back-to-school 4.0 this week as we began our full return to school for a traditional five-day week. It has been such a positive experience, with appreciation shown by all. On a typical first day of school, the excitement of a new year lasts until about lunchtime, but this week has definitely been different. That “glad to be back”

attitude has lasted the whole week long. Parents were heard exclaiming “the traffic doesn’t even matter!” and expressing gratitude to the staff. Getting here has been work, with plenty of challenges along the way, but it is evident our community agrees that it has all been worth it. Classroom rearrangements, additional safety protocols, and schedules with six different recesses and lunches have tested teachers and students, but grit is not in short supply at Mariposa. Put simply, we’re glad to be back, and stronger together.



Olinda Elementary (K-6)

3145 E. Birch St., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/528-7475 • olinda.bousd.us



**Dr. Preetom
Bhattacharya**
Principal

We'll Finish Strong!

Our return to a full school day has provided students with the opportunity to feel the normalcy that comes with being in the school building. The structure and experiences our teachers and staff provide children allow them to grow academically and socially, and being able to do this work in person has been refreshing for our staff.

The in-person interactions between teachers and students have illuminated

many of the teachable moments that were harder to find via Zoom, and it is nice that our students get to have interactions with operational staff members who take the time to make a child's day better. The efforts of our entire community to make this momentous return work effectively cannot be ignored—everyone needed to work together to get campus ready and adjust to new protocols to make the transition smooth.

We are so thankful for the patience and flexibility of everyone involved with our school and are ready to finish the school year strong.



Daniel's Review



Daniel H.

Funny and Silly

Title: *Cat Kid Comic Club*

Author: Dav Pilkey

Do you like funny and silly books? If you do, you will love *Cat Kid Comic Club* because it's about Li'l Petey from the Dog Man series and this book will make you laugh!



Li'l Petey starts the Cat Kid Comic Club where he and his friend, Molly the tadpole, teach their friends how to make comics.

My favorite part of the book is the show and tell party where everyone in the club shows the comics that they created. Everyone agrees that it's okay to make mistakes because you can always improve yourself.

You should read this book because it is a funny book that has no scary parts, no violence, and teaches a good lesson. The author also uses silly words and pictures in this book. I read this book very quickly with a smile on my face and you will too!

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

David's Review



David H.

Funny Mystery Book

Title: *The Boxcar Children #157 – Science Fair Sabotage*

Author: Gertrude Chandler Warner

Would you like to read a funny mystery book? If so, you should read *Boxcar Children #157 Science Fair Sabotage*.



The main characters are siblings Henry, Jessie, Violet, and Benny Alden. Henry is calm, Jessie is curious, Violet likes photography, and Benny loves food.

Jessie is doing a science fair project on pollution and finds that the stream she's studying is shrinking but can't figure out why. The plot is tricky but the kids work together to solve the mystery. You have to pay attention to the story and details, but if you do, it's worth it because you get to solve the mystery and feel good about yourself!

I liked the book because the author wrote the book in a witty and funny way that makes you feel like you're right there with the Alden kids.

If you love puzzles like I do, this is the book for you!

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

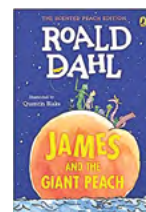
Kailani's Review



Kailani T.

Whoa, a Giant Peach!

James and the Giant Peach is a classic children story written by Roald Dahl. The story is about James, an orphan boy who was forced to live with his wicked aunts after he lost his parents in a horrible rhinoceros accident. One day,



James received a bag of magic crystals from an old man. The man said these crystals would change his life forever. James accidentally spilled the crystals on his aunts' peach tree. The peach fruit kept growing bigger and bigger. It grew big enough for James to fit inside. From that point on, his adventure began.

The story is magical and suspenseful. Reading this book taught me the importance of friendship and having hopes and dreams. I recommend this book for anyone who loves magic and mystery. Since this book is not very warm and fuzzy, it may be best for kids who can separate facts and fiction or younger kids to read with parents.

Kailani is a 3rd grader who loves to read. When not playing with her baby brother, Kailani likes to color and draw. She started taking Spanish lessons while sheltering-in-place. Horseback riding and skate boarding are the new activities she enjoys. Hope everyone stays well and healthy.

Tyson's Book Review



Tyson

Never Give Up

Touchdown Kid by Tim Green

Cory is an awesome football player from the Westside. He is 11 years old and is just moving into middle school, along with his friend, Liam. A



well-known coach from HBS, an elite junior high school, is giving a scholarship to a player he thinks is good enough to play football there. If Cory gets it, he will get to live in a nice neighborhood with a host family in a cozy home, and play football, his passion. His best friend's brother isn't the nicest guy and pulls him into trouble. If he is late, he won't play. What will he do? This is his dream. Find out more about this crazy adventure and read *Touchdown Kid*. This book is great and pulls me in. I can relate a lot to this book and if you're an athlete, you'll love it. I'm not much of a bookworm and I rate it 5 out of 5 stars!

Tyson is a 7th grader who enjoys playing basketball, skateboarding, and video games. His favorite subjects at school are math and PE. The best thing about quarantine was having extra time to play with his dog and meeting new neighborhood friends!

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