

FREE

School News

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Covering the Hawthorne School District

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 9

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

JUNE–AUGUST 2012

Recognition Banquet

The Los Angeles County Bilingual Directors Association held their 36th Annual Recognition Banquet on April 21st in the City of Commerce. Teachers, parents, students and community leaders were recognized for their efforts in advancing the achievement of English learners within their districts. The following individuals were recognized in the category of Outstanding Teacher and Outstanding Parent Volunteer for the Hawthorne School District.

Mr. Angel Santiago is a dedicated father of two sons. He has been actively involved in every facet of his sons' school lives. Mr. Santiago has been a long standing member of the ELAC, and the DELAC president. He has participated in the review of budgets, programs, achievement data, and has served as an advocate for EL students and their parents. Mr. Santiago possesses a profound understanding of the importance of parental involvement and its impact on a child's educational experience and academic achievement. An avid runner, Mr. Santiago currently leads a physical fitness class for parents at one of our elementary schools, and serves on the School Site Council and Booster Club. He is committed to securing a quality education for all students that attend our schools. The Hawthorne School District thanks Mr. Angel Santiago for his dedication to the cause of English Learners and for his commitment to our District family.

Mrs. Yaqueline Amador is the proud mother of one son, and has been heralded as an upbeat force on her school campus for many years. With a background in instruction, Mrs. Amador has assisted in the classroom as a parent volunteer each year. She serves as a member of the ELAC, DELAC and School Site Council. Mrs. Amador has organized fundraisers for her school and has spearheaded countless appreciation luncheons for school staff. Mrs. Amador holds high standards

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**HSD Teachers and Parents Honored at 2012 LACBDA Recognition Banquet
Yaqueline Amador, Angel Santiago, Dr. Helen Morgan, Erika Ayala, Jennifer Annett**

Banquete de Reconocimiento

La Asociación de Directores Bilingües del Condado de Los Angeles llevo a cabo el 21 de abril el 36 banquete Anual de Reconocimiento en la ciudad de Commerce. Maestros, estudiantes y líderes comunitarios fueron reconocidos por sus esfuerzos en el progreso de los aprendices de Ingles en sus distritos.

Él señor Angel Santiago es un padre dedicado de dos niños. Él ha estado activamente envuelto en cada faceta de la vida escolar de sus hijos. El señor Santiago por mucho tiempo ha sido miembro de ELAC y presidente de DELAC. Él ha participado en la revisión de presupuestos, programas, datos relacionados con logros estudiantiles, y ha servido como defensor de los aprendices del inglés y de sus

padres. El señor Santiago posee un profundo entendimiento de la importancia e impacto de la participación de los padres en las experiencias escolares de los niños, y en el éxito académico. El señor Santiago es un ávido corredor, y actualmente dirige una clase de ejercicios para padres en una de nuestras escuelas primarias, a su vez, sirve en el Consejo de la Escuela y en el Booster Club. Él está comprometido a lograr una educación de calidad para todos los alumnos que asisten a nuestras escuelas. El Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne agradece al señor Angel Santiago por su dedicación a la causa de los aprendices del inglés, y por su compromiso con nuestra familia del distrito.

La señora Yaqueline Amador es la madre orgullosa de un niño, y ha sido una fuerza imbatible en la escuela por muchos años. Con su conocimiento en instrucción, la señora Amador ha ayudado en el salón de clases como madre voluntaria todos los años. Ella ha servido como miembro del ELAC, del DELAC, y del Consejo de la Escuela. La señora Amador ha organizado colectas

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Kay Coop
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As this school year comes to a close I would like to thank you for being loyal readers. I appreciate you including *School News* among your reading choices.

I hope you have a wonderful summer. Don't forget to include the library in your summer plans. We are taking a survey of our readers to see what articles they would like to read in *School News* besides the school article. If you would like to take the survey and be entered into our drawing for a chance to win \$100, please log onto our web site by June 30 www.schoolnewsrollcall.com.

Our next issue is September 5.

School News

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**Covering the
HAWTHORNE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Hawthorne School District



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Nonie Smith, Project Facilitator LAUP Preschools • nsmith@hawthorne.k12.ca.us

Bud Carson *Middle School*

13838 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-1908



Patricia Jordan
Principal

Huskies Bring Home Honors

On Saturday, April 14, hundreds of local students built bridges, dropped eggs, and tackled mathematics in hopes of capturing a win at a hands-on math, engineering and science competition hosted by California State University, Long Beach.

The Bud Carson Middle School (BCMS) Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) students had a thrilling day and came away with many honors. BCMS students competed against students from various middle schools and came home with seven awards.

In geometry, eighth-graders Aileen Ho and Kimberly Rivera tied for first place. Seventh-grader Jesse Cortez took second place in algebra. Sixth-grader Brianna

Rivera earned second place as a general math delegate, along with Kamar Godoy, who also took second place in the General Math At Large competition. In engineering, sixth-grader Brianna Rivera took first place in the Bridge Building - Creativity category. In the speech competition, sixth-grader Kamar Godoy took first place.

Congratulations to our MESA champions!



(F) Jesse Cortez and Kamar Godoy.
(B) Aileen Ho, Kimberly Rivera, and Brianna Rivera.

Eucalyptus *Elementary*

12044 S. Eucalyptus Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-3369



Gretchen Janson
Principal

Eucalyptus Student Safety – A Collaborative Effort

An ambitious group of Eucalyptus parents saw a safety need at our school and advocated for change. As a campus that was originally designed back in the 1920's, the school was built on two opposite sides of Eucalyptus Avenue. Fast forward to 2012, and both staff and parents have recognized that the campus division has created potential safety concerns. Our determined parent volunteer group took this project on and garnered the support of the school's neighbors, the Hawthorne School District Board of Trustees, the Superintendent, the Hawthorne City Council, and the Mayor. At the April 24th City Council meeting, the members unanimously approved the use of temporary barriers during school hours to stop the flow of traffic on Eucalyptus Avenue. Our students will be able to safely cross during the day to go to the cafeteria or visit the health office. This will dramatically impact



Proud Hawthorne families celebrate their success with Dr. Morgan at the April 24th City Council Meeting.

the security of our campus and we salute the parents who were willing to speak up to ensure that all city and school resources are focused on the safety of our future leaders.

Hawthorne *Math & Science Academy*

4467 W. Broadway, CA 90250 • 310/973-8620



Esau Berumen
Principal

A Stellar Listing

By Marianne Ramos, Counselor

The wait is over. The senior class of 2012 finally knows where they've been accepted. Students, parents and faculty are excited for the senior class as they move toward graduation and begin their new lives at a variety of colleges and universities across the country. In total, 139 graduating seniors from HMSA will be attending more than 30 different public and private colleges. To date, HMSA's senior class has earned a grand total of 151 college and university acceptances.

CSU Dominguez, CSU Pomona and CSU Northridge each accepted 10 HMSA Aviators. Seven students were accepted into Concordia University; UC Merced, San Francisco State and CSU Los Angeles each accepted six students; and five have the option of study at UC Riverside and UC Irvine. With Aviator pride, four were accepted and may attend the University of La Verne, Loyola Marymount and Occidental College; Northern Arizona, UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis, Sonoma State, CSU Long Beach and CSU Fullerton each accepted three HMSA students. Two have been accepted into each of the following: Cal Lutheran, University of Arizona, Marymount College, University of Dubuque, San Jose State, San Diego State and CSU San Luis Obispo.

We are all ecstatic for our students and their futures. With a rigorous curriculum, we believe that we are offering HMSA students an excellent opportunity to reach their potential, and this shows in their success! We are so proud of our Aviators and wish them the best of luck as they pursue higher education to reach their goals.

Hawthorne *Middle School*

4366 W. 129th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-0167



James Eder
Principal

Taking Care of Business

Hawthorne Middle School (HMS) students in the Business Academy contended with each other in classes to earn a spot at the Network For Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) at the Greater Los Angeles Middle School Competition in May at Santee Education Complex. Individual and teams presentations were limited to eight minutes, during which students present business plans in order to win cash prizes and an opportunity to actually market their ideas, goods, and services.

The students from HMS were there on a mission and really took care of business. HMS winners included Odallys and Hazelleen, who placed first with their delicious marshmallow pops, which earned them \$500. Kevin rolled in with a spicy third place win with \$300 for his vegan burros. In fourth place, Rebecca Nolasco charmed the judges with her Sweet N Counter, a sugar counter for diabetics with \$200. Other HMS participant winners included Emily and Effrain, Alondra, Syvannah, and Cassandra.

While all our competitors may not have placed, they are all winners because they made contacts with people interested in their products and considering producing them commercially. Cassandra, for example actually negotiated a contract to sell her buttons to NFTE for their next event.

Everyone at HMS is proud of the work of Mr. Gaxiola and Mr. Gutierrez with the support of other teachers who participated in classroom competitions. Way to take care of business, Hawks!

Have a fun summer!



Our next issue is September 5th

Jefferson *Elementary*

4091 W. 139th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-9423



Wendy Ostensen
Principal

Student Leaders

By Tomiko Bobo, Counselor

The student council plays an important role and has made a strong impact on Jefferson Elementary School. Our student council involves students in meaningful ways, both in and beyond the classroom. It provides opportunities for students to demonstrate their talents, skills, and interests while continuing to develop new skills. Student council helps share students' ideas and concerns with teachers and principals. Members of the student council serve as positive role models for other students.

The Jefferson Elementary School Student Council encouraged students to help raise funds for school-wide activities and programs. They hosted several events, including the Winter Affair, an egg hunt for kindergarteners and first-graders, and spirit weeks throughout the school year to allow students to dress up

in a humorous fashion. Our committee members will also host an end-of-the-year dance for our fifth-graders. These activities are beneficial in promoting a positive climate.

As summer approaches, we hope our students, parents, and staff reflect upon the fond memories of all of our wonderful activities, which help to make Jefferson so special.



Jefferson Student Council officers and committee members

Kornblum *Elementary*

3620 W.El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/970-4294



Jennifer Beekman
Principal

Award-Winning Authors

Three of Kornblum Elementary School's fourth-grade students recently received recognition for their research papers, which they wrote for a contest sponsored by a sorority which promotes academic support and success of students. The theme of the contest was "Our International Responsibility: Are We Our Brothers' and Sisters' Keepers?" Shelby Nguyen placed first in the contest and received a \$100 award.

Cameron Aaron and Valerie Luna were recognized for their research papers on the topic "Health Care Crisis Around the World." Their essays addressed overeating, junk food, diabetes,

proper nutrition and exercise, anti smoking and other habits and choices that contribute positively or negatively to a healthy lifestyle.

"They all did a wonderful job!" said Ms. Johnson, Kornblum's literacy coach. "I am so proud of our students!"



Contest winners Shelby Nguyen, Camren Aaron and Valerie Luna.

Prairie Vista *Middle School*

13600 Prairie Ave., Hawthorne, Ca 90250 • 310/679-1003



Christine Fagnano
Principal

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

The Prairie Vista Middle School (PVMS) Fine Arts Academy had an outstanding year. It was marked by a number of significant accomplishments and activities.

The school expanded its music program by adding a string orchestra, a band, and piano classes. The art class built stage backdrops for the theater arts performances, designed murals for the school, and designed the school's yearbook. Theater arts classes performed musical numbers from "Little Shop of Horrors," "The Wiz," "Annie," and "Hairspray." Choir and piano students performed every trimester for parents and students.

The boys flag football team and the girls basketball team won their sports league this year. Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement (MESA) students attended competitions at the University of Southern California and California State University, Long Beach. The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) class volunteered in the community, cleaning at Madrona Marsh, Heal the Bay Santa Monica, Sharefest at PVMS, and Tree Musketeers.

Core classes supported the Fine Arts Academy by weaving together academic and fine art standards. Eighth-grade classes read about the Underground Railroad, studied Fredrick Douglas, and designed code quilts, which showed safe routes for slaves in the 1800s. Seventh-grade classes infused AVID strategies into core curriculum, integrating art designs and storyboards. Sixth-grade classes studied ancient Rome and made frescoes, mosaics, and sculptures.

I would like to thank the students, staff, parents, and community for making Prairie Vista's first year as the Fine Arts Academy a successful one. PVMS students are learners today and leaders tomorrow.

Prairie Vista *South Campus*

13928 Kornblum Ave., Hawthorne, Ca 90250 • 310/970-7550



David Mallchok
Site Administrator
Assistant Principal

Meet Our Campus Security Officer

Justin Cole is the campus security officer at Prairie Vista South. He has been employed with the Hawthorne School District for six years.

Justin has a passion for working with youth and young adults both on campus and in the surrounding community. This past spring he even volunteered his time to coach a youth basketball league at the Hawthorne Memorial Recreation Center.

Officer Cole says that, "As a resident of Hawthorne from birth, it is a rewarding experience for me to give back to my community." Justin is also currently a graduate student at California State University Dominguez Hills, studying for a master's degree in education with a concentration in counseling. He hopes to continue in this career path and work as a school counselor in the future.

Prairie Vista South is pleased to have Justin Cole as their school's campus security officer!



Ramona *Elementary*

4617 W. 136th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-7189



Walking Our Way to Health

Research shows that there is a definite link between exercise and success in the classroom. Students who are active three or four times a week are more likely to get better test scores than those that don't exercise at all.

With this in mind, Ramona implemented a walking program this year for our students and parents to increase their physical activity and boost academic achievement.

Michael Collins
Principal

The new walking program provides non-competitive opportunities for students and parents to walk around the campus every morning and receive incentives for doing so. Students can earn "toe tokens" for each 5 miles they have walked, and a certificate at 10 miles.

This year, we have had several students exceed these goals by walking more

than 26 miles (the distance of a marathon). The students who reached this goal received a specialized T-shirt for their accomplishment.

With the new walking program, and a school-wide focus on becoming a healthier learning community, we believe that we are now equipping our students to lead a healthy lifestyle both physically and academically.



York *Elementary*

11838 S. York Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-1189



Active and Healthy Superstars

York Elementary School recently received a surprise visit from the Los Angeles Lakers, the top prize for winning the Lakers Fit for

Life Essay Contest, which asked schools to describe how they keep their students active and healthy. This award comes as a result implementing several changes, which have resulted in healthier students, staff and parents and a National Recognition Award from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. Our healthy changes include morning fitness, the recess-before-lunch program, a 5K running club, Jammin' Minute, a healthy (no food) fund-raiser, and making fruits and vegetables available to staff, students and parents.

The Lakers event was hosted by Food Networks' Extreme Chef Marsh Mokhtari. Also in attendance were the Laker Girls, Simon Majumdar, who is a judge on "The Next Iron Chef," and Lakers players Ramon Sessions, Andrew Goudelock and Darius Morris.

Visit <http://www.hawthorne.k12.ca.us/> for the complete story, including additional photos.



Washington *Elementary*

4339 W. 129th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-3422



Distinguished School Honors

Washington School had another amazing year! The Academic Performance Index (API) grew from 812 to 832 in 2011, enabling the school to apply to become a California Distinguished School. Staff members determined that unit planning/data analysis and parent involvement were the two key areas which enabled Washington's API score to grow from 678 in 2007 to 832 in 2011. The application was prepared highlighting these two areas.

John Rounds
Principal

In January, Washington was notified by the California Department of Education that the school qualified for a visitation to determine if the school would become a California Distinguished School. The staff, students and maintenance thoroughly prepared the students and school for the visitation.

On March 13, the three visitors from the Los Angeles County determined that Washington is indeed a California Distinguished School. The entire Hawthorne community is so proud of the students and staff!



Zela Davis *Elementary*

13435 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/679-1771



Preparing for STEM Academy

By John Paterson, Teacher – 5th Grade

Teaching fifth-graders in Zela Davis Elementary School's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) preparatory program is such a wonderful experience. Students acquire practical learning opportunities to increase their knowledge and ingenuity. Our common vision is to prepare students for the world ahead of them. Our goal is to introduce children to sciences, technology, and engineering. Perhaps they may become inspired to pursue a career in one of these fields.

We are committed to bringing education into the 21st century. I feel very fortunate to have received instructional resources, such as the iPad2 and our

brand new STEM lab. These resources allow us to explore physics, create movies, and develop presentations with graphs and illustrations. To inspire a passion for scientific investigation, our STEM lab is a place where science experiments are accessible because materials are readily available and well organized.

Just imagine all that creativity and possibility within their grasp—literally, in the students' hands. I see it here daily.



SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1

for her son and for all students in the Hawthorne School District. An English learner herself, Mrs. Amador understands the challenges our EL students face. She continually espouses the benefits of a quality education, reminding our students that opportunities are available for those who are willing to work hard. The Hawthorne School District thanks Mrs. Yaqueline Amador for her devotion to the students and families of the Hawthorne School District.

Ms. Jennifer Annett is a veteran educator with 12 years of teaching experience. Ms. Annett received her Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies from CSU Dominguez Hills and earned her teaching credential and Master's degree in Education from Pepperdine University. In 2006, after teaching various grades at the elementary level, Ms. Annett began her work as a Literacy Coach. In this capacity, Ms. Annett has played a key role in improving the quality of instruction at her school, and was part of a team working to make her site a model for achievement. She has served on countless committees focused on improving the academic outcomes of minority students. Ms. Annett was strongly influenced by her mother, Diane Ventura, who was an ESL teacher. She shares her mother's passion for supporting English learners. The Hawthorne School District thanks Ms. Jennifer Annett for her dedication and unwavering commitment to the students of Hawthorne.

Mrs. Erika Ayala earned a Bachelor's degree from Fresno Pacific University with a double major in Liberal Studies and Spanish. She received a Master of Education degree from Pepperdine University, and went on to earn a second Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership from CSU Northridge. Mrs. Ayala is currently working on her Doctorate of Education at Pepperdine University. Mrs. Ayala is committed to inspiring English learners to succeed. A second language learner herself, she recalls as a young girl struggling and lacking confidence. She is resolute in her quest to ensure students have the guidance and academic support necessary to excel. Mrs. Ayala has served as a teacher in both elementary and middle school, as an EL Special Projects Teacher, and as a Mathematics Coach. The Hawthorne School District thanks Mrs. Ayala for engaging our students in the pursuit of excellence and for serving as a positive role model to our students, staff and community.



Dr. Helen E. Morgan
Superintendent

SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1

de fondos para su escuela, y ha encabezado incontables almuerzos de gratitud para el personal de la escuela. La señora Amador tiene altas normas académicas para su hijo y para todos los alumnos del Distrito de Hawthorne. Habiendo sido ella misma una aprendiz del inglés, ella entiende las dificultades que nuestros estudiantes aprendices del inglés enfrentan. Ella continuamente apoya los beneficios de una educación de calidad, recordándoles a nuestros alumnos que las oportunidades están disponibles para aquellos que están dispuestos a trabajar duro. El Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne agradece a la señora Yaqueline Amador por su devoción a los alumnos y a las familias del distrito.

La señora Jennifer Annett es una educadora veterana con 12 años de experiencia en la enseñanza. La señora Annett recibió su diploma en Estudios Liberales en la Universidad del Estado de California Dominguez Hills, y su credencial de maestra y su Maestría en Educación en la Universidad de Pepperdine. En el 2006, después de haber enseñado distintos grados a nivel primario, la señora Annett empezó a trabajar como Entrenadora de Lectura y Escritura. En esta capacidad, la señora Annett ha jugado un papel importante para mejorar la calidad de la instrucción en su escuela, siendo además, parte del equipo que trabajó en hacer de su escuela un modelo para los logros académicos. Ella ha servido en incontables comités enfocados en mejorar los resultados académicos de los alumnos pertenecientes a las minorías. La señora Annett fue fuertemente influenciada por su madre, Diane Ventura, quien fue una maestra de Inglés Como Segunda Lengua. Ella comparte la pasión de su madre de apoyar a los aprendices del inglés. El Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne agradece a la señora Jennifer Annett por su dedicación y firme compromiso con los alumnos de Hawthorne.

La señora Erika Ayala recibió su diploma en la Universidad Fresno Pacific con una doble especialización en Estudios Liberales y Español. Ella recibió su Maestría en Educación en la Universidad de Pepperdine, y obtuvo una segunda Maestría en Artes de Liderazgo Educacional en la Universidad del Estado de California Northridge. La señora Ayala está actualmente trabajando en su Doctorado en Educación en la Universidad de Pepperdine. La señora Ayala está comprometida a inspirar a los aprendices del inglés a tener éxito. Siendo ella misma una aprendiz del idioma inglés, ella recuerda cómo luchó cuando era una niña, recordando también su falta de confianza. Ella está resuelta en su búsqueda para asegurarles a los alumnos la guía y el apoyo académico necesarios para sobresalir. La señora Ayala ha servido como maestra en las escuelas a nivel primario y medio, como Maestra de Proyectos Especiales para los Aprendices del Inglés, y como Entrenadora de Matemáticas. El Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne agradece a la señora Ayala por alentar a nuestros alumnos a perseguir la excelencia académica, y por servir como modelo positivo para nuestros alumnos, personal y comunidad.

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Hawthorne School District

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FOOD SERVICES

Hawthorne
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District

**Starts Monday
July 9th at Noon!**

Almuerzos GRATIS para Todos los Niños de Hawthorne Durante el Verano

Se proveerá el almuerzo a todos los niños en el área de Hawthorne de lunes a jueves, a partir del lunes, 9 de julio y terminando el jueves, 13 de agosto. El Programa de Alimentos de Verano sin fisuras, Es un proyecto financiado por el Gobierno Federal mediante el Programa Nacional de Almuerzos Escolares.

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- Participantes deben dejar la escuela cuando hayan terminado sus comidas.



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At No Charge

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12044 Eucalyptus Avenue

Zela Davis School Escuela Zela Davis
13435 South Yukon Avenue

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday – Thursday

Lunch will be provided for all children in the Hawthorne area Monday through Thursday, beginning Monday, July 9th and ending Thursday, August 13th. The Seamless Summer Food Program is funded by the Federal government, through the National School Lunch Program.

BASIC RULES TO ENSURE A POSITIVE LUNCH EXPERIENCE FOR ALL:

- Children and adults must follow the site supervisor's direction.
- No food is to be taken off campus.
- Guests must pick up and dispose of their own trash.
- Guests must leave the school campus when their meal is finished.
- Parents may purchase a lunch for \$3.50.