

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Hawthorne School District



Volume 9, Issue 49

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Hawthorne School District Board of Trustees



**(Back Row) Luciano Aguilar, Dr. Helen E. Morgan, Dr. Eugene Krank,
(Front Row) Vicente Bravo, Cristina Chiappe, Sergio R. Mortara**

**Every child deserves a chance to succeed!
¡Cada niño merece la oportunidad de triunfar!**

Preschool Program

HSD Preschools offer early childhood educational programs for children who are three and four-years old. Families must meet State income requirements.

Programa de Preescolar

Las Escuelas Preescolares de HSD ofrecen programas educativos de primera infancia para niños de tres y cuatro años de edad. Las familias deben cumplir con los requisitos de ingresos del Estado.



Hawthorne School District Preschool



Reina Robledo
Principal

Dramatic Play Develops Important Life Skills

Pretend or dramatic play not only offers a variety of learning opportunities for children in their early years, it also reinforces the idea that young children learn best through play.

One place for a child to engage in active pretend play is a high-quality preschool program. Our preschools provide an educational and nurturing environment where the teachers incorporate dramatic play to develop a child's cognitive, motor, social and emotional skills. Dramatic play is a tool used to help develop all these skills in a fun and engaging way.

Dramatic Play helps children foster the following:

Social and Emotional Skills, Language Skills, Critical-thinking

Skills, Problem-solving Skills and Empathy.

Research shows that children regularly involved in positive dramatic play will use the skills they have developed throughout their lives.



El Juego Dramático Desarrolla Habilidades Importantes

El juego imaginativo o dramático no sólo ofrece una variedad de oportunidades de aprendizaje para los niños en sus primeros años, también refuerza la idea de que los niños pequeños aprenden mejor a través del juego.

Un lugar para que un niño participe en juegos activos de simulación es en un programa preescolar de alta calidad. Nuestros Preescolares proporcionan un ambiente educativo y enriquecedor, donde los profesores incorporan dramatización para desarrollar habilidades cognitivas, motoras, sociales y emocionales del niño. El Juego dramático es una herramienta utilizada para ayudar a desarrollar todas estas habilidades en una forma atractiva y divertida.

El Juego dramático ayuda a los niños promover las siguientes habilidades:

Emocionales y Sociales, Lenguaje, Razonamiento Crítico, Resolución de Problemas y Empatía.

Las investigaciones demuestran que los niños que regularmente participan en el juego dramático positivo utilizarán las habilidades que se han desarrollado a lo largo de sus vidas.



Welcome, Mr. Bravo!

¡Bienvenido Sr. Bravo!

By Dr. Helen E. Morgan, Superintendent

On January 24, 2019 the Board of Trustees of the Hawthorne School District voted to appoint Mr. Vicente Bravo to fulfill the vacancy created on December 10, 2018 by the resignation of Mr. Alexandre Monteiro.

A total of four submitted applications for the position, with three following through with personal interviews. After careful review of the written applications, an oral interview of the candidates, and deliberation the Board voted on and passed a resolution naming Mr. Vicente Bravo as the appointed provisional Board Member.

Mr. Bravo took the oath of office at the conclusion of the meeting and began his service immediately. Mr. Bravo will complete the term of office which concludes in November of 2020.

Mr. Bravo is an educator and longtime resident of Hawthorne. He and his wife have two children who have attended our TWBI program at Ramona School and Hawthorne Middle School.

I would like to welcome Mr. Bravo to the Hawthorne School District family!



Mr. Vicente Bravo

El 24 de enero de 2019, la junta de sindicatos del Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne votó para nombrar al Sr. Vicente Bravo para cubrir la vacante creada el 10 de diciembre de 2018 por la renuncia del Sr. Alexandre Monteiro.

Un total de cuatro solicitudes presentadas para el puesto, tres de las cuales fueron seguidas con entrevistas personales. Después de una revisión cuidadosa de las solicitudes escritas, una entrevista oral de los candidatos y la deliberación, la junta votó y aprobó una resolución que nombraba al Sr. Vicente Bravo como el miembro provisional designado de la junta.

El Sr. Bravo prestó juramento al término de la reunión y comenzó su servicio de inmediato. El Sr. Bravo completará el mandato que concluye en noviembre de 2020.

El Sr. Bravo es un educador y residente de Hawthorne desde hace mucho tiempo. Él y su esposa tienen dos hijos que han asistido a nuestro programa de la Academia Bilingüe Inmersión de Dos Vías (TWBI) en la Escuela Ramona y la Escuela Secundaria Hawthorne. ¡Me gustaría darle la bienvenida al Sr. Bravo a la familia del Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne!



Free College Classes for South Bay High School Graduates!

Enrollment fees for the first year will be paid for full-time students who are enrolled in the El Camino College **SOUTH BAY PROMISE**.

To be eligible, in-district high school students must complete the Steps to Enrollment and complete a South Bay Promise form by **April 30, 2019**.

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El Camino College

For more information, go online:
www.elcamino.edu/southbaypromise



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



This year is off to a great start. In this issue you will read about

Career Day, learning about science and nutrition with a School Garden Project, Coffee with Coaches, Fitness and Nutrition Night and so much more... enjoy!

Our next issue is May 1. Have a wonderful Spring Break!

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Bud Carson Middle School

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



LaTima Jones
Principal

Zela Davis Collaboration

Tasha McDonald, dean of Zela Davis worked with our dean, Kimberline Smith, to start her Peer Pack peer-mediation program with students from both sites. Students were selected based on their potential to tap into their leadership skills.

The first session was held in the Bud Carson library. Students were introduced to their mentor

partners and created vision boards. Our Peer Pack mediators were excited and engaged in the workshop and were ready for more. They will have three more sessions alternating between the two sites. The students will participate in the following workshops: Differences/Bullying and Resources, Survey of Healthy Lifestyle Choices and Managing Social Media.

The Bud Carson community is looking forward to students learning to resolve conflict in their lives in a positive manner and transferring their knowledge to support their peers to improve the school climate. With this program, we will see an improvement in the positivity on both campuses and deepen the connection between the sites. This program will support the work we have been doing with PBIS and the Olweus Bullying-Prevention Program.



Hawthorne *Math & Science Academy*

4467 W. Broadway, Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/973-8620 • www.hawthornemsa.org



Esau Berumen
Principal

Career Day

By Gifty Atanga, Student – 12th Grade

What do you want to be when you grow up? For generations, this question has plagued young adults. Some have known what they want to be for years. Others have no clue. In order to help students with this dilemma, Hawthorne Math and Science Academy (HMSA) created Career Day.

Coordinated by HMSA Counselor

Ms. Julia Bui, over 50 professionals from all over Los Angeles visited the HMSA campus on February 1.

Presenters included science writers, interior designers, entrepreneurs, and business owners. Students had the opportunity to learn about various aspects of the workforce including educational expectations, career pathways, and job opportunities. HMSA alumni were among the professionals, who also provided insight on life after high school.

The event was a success. Not only were students exposed to different careers, they were also given the opportunity to broaden their academic and social horizons. Thanks to Career Day, answering the longstanding question about career choices will be a bit easier in the future.



Eucalyptus *Elementary*

12044 S. Eucalyptus Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-3369 • www.hsd-ca.schoolloop.com



Mike Goldstein
Principal

Garden Project

If you've been on campus lately or you watch Hawthorne City News, chances are you've heard about the Eucalyptus Elementary School Garden Project. In an effort to increase enrichment opportunities for our

students, we've turned to the garden to learn about science and nutrition.

During first trimester, our students planted, harvested, tasted, and learned about eggplant, kale, tomatoes, cucumbers, corn, zucchini, and cabbage. The local cable station filmed a special segment on our gardening program, including student, parent and staff interviews.

Parent volunteer and district nutritionist Danielle Marquez supervises the program. When asked about the garden, she said, "I love to watch the delight and enthusiasm in our students. They ask questions and enjoy seeing the progress of their plants as they develop from



seed or plant to harvest." She also prepares taste tests, giving students the opportunity to eat the foods they've grown.

Our second trimester nutrition and gardening enrichment program began in February, and we're excited to see the fruits of their labors!

Hawthorne *Middle School*

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



Akila Jones
Principal

Coffee with Coaches

Hawthorne Middle School now offers parents a new way to stay connected with the school. Coffee with Coaches is an opportunity for parents to come and meet the instructional coaches for math and English language arts (ELA). HMS has had two Coffee with Coaches meetings to date with Mrs. Coulson and Mrs. Cardenas.

At each meeting, parents were able to ask questions regarding curriculum, get the answers they need, and meet other parents. Parents were able to walk away with a postcard full of both information and lists of important events that will occur throughout the remainder of the school year. One side of the postcard shows relevant math dates, and the other side shows information regarding ELA. Each grade level was given a different-color card so parents with multiple students can learn grade-level information.

Even though it was raining, we had a great turnout. Parents were very appreciative to have that time with the instructional coaches.



Alicia Cardenas and Anne Coulson

Kornblum *Elementary*

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



Marisa Stewart
Principal

Jiji Visits Kornblum

Students at Kornblum School are focused on academics! As our school crest states, "Excellence is the Standard."

Jiji, the mascot from ST Math, recently came to visit our students in December.

Students in grades TK, kindergarten, and the first, second, and third grades were thrilled to meet Jiji in person.

The students have been working hard on a daily basis to improve their math skills. ST Math is an online program that tracks student progress in math skills. Jiji leads children through various problem-solving activities where they can practice different skills on their way to mastery.

Jiji's visit was very motivational for the students. Every week our students have the opportunity to earn the "Jiji Award" for their classroom.

This award is presented to the class with the highest increased progress in the ST Math application. Students are also able to log into their ST Math accounts from home to continue to work through all of the math skills.

Our Kornblum Cardinals continue to work hard in math, making Jiji proud!



Jefferson *Elementary*

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



Josh Godin
Principal

Art and Academic Achievement

Students love art and parents love art. So let's combine the two!

Jefferson recently held its first school-sponsored family art night. With a lot of help from our teachers, staff members, and parents, we put on a great event for our families. Guests were able to experience art by painting, designing backpacks, using chalk art on the blacktop, creating Picassos,

learning how to draw characters, creating and building designs, and using props from a homemade photo booth to create art with photography. They were also able to help create two murals that are now being put up in the cafeteria.

Art is so important for student growth and expression. Studies show that there is a direct correlation between art and increased academic achievement. Families coming together and experiencing art in a meaningful can look for additional opportunities to incorporate it into their daily lives, which will in turn help to increase student achievement.

In the January issue we ran the wrong content for Jefferson Elementary. Below is the correct article to enjoy.

Quality Family Time

Isn't it nice to get away from all of the technology in our lives and sit down with family members and spend quality time as a family? At Jefferson we make that happen! Jefferson had its annual family board game night. A packed crowd made it through the cold and rainy weather in order to make this night a success. We had over 60 board games, puzzles, and card games for families to sit and have quality time together. All of these educational games helped students practice the many concepts that they have been learning in class, but in fun and exciting environment with low stress and high competition between parents and children. There



is a lot of math that goes into playing board games and communication is a very important skill used in these games. So continue to spend family time playing games at home or at school.



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Prairie Vista *Middle School*

13600 Prairie Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/679-1003 • www.prairievistamiddle.org



Wendy Ostensen
Principal

Fitness and Nutrition Night

*By Wilder De Leon,
Physical Education Teacher*

In January, we celebrated our fourth annual Family Fitness and Nutrition Night. We had an awesome turnout! Guest speaker Kyle Flynn was a fellow football player at LA Harbor College and also played at San Jose State. He found success in real estate and opened his own gym.

This year, we created a Winter Break Fitness Challenge, with 1,000 burpees, squats and push-ups. We had 200 students and staff sign up—32 finished at Fitness Night and received shirts.

During our event, students shared each component of the California Physical Fitness Test with their parents, how the test is performed, and what they need to do pass. Parents were asked to participate! Who better to explain and demonstrate to parents than their children, who take these tests and practice the skills! The volunteers did a wonderful job and had no problem telling adults what to do.

We had a nutrition booth run by our health teacher, Ms. Nixon. She provided information, displays, models and handouts.

Thank you to our amazing staff, participants and volunteers!



PVMS Fitness Challenge Participants

Prairie Vista *South Campus*

13928 Kornblum Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/970-7550 • www.hawthorne.k12.ca.us



Reina Robledo
Campus
Administrator

Hands-On Learning

Hands-on learning at preschool simply means that our children are actively learning as they explore the use of materials while they interact with others. The teachers act as facilitators. They do not tell the children what to do with their materials. Rather, they ask questions that will guide and challenge the children about how to use these items in new and creative ways.

A teacher skilled at hands-on learning will often begin her inquiries with “how.” How many sides does a triangle have? How can we make sure that our classroom plant grows strong and healthy?

Scholars in early childhood development have written about the value of hands-on learning. According to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), “A quality early childhood education is one in which children are given opportunities to learn and develop through exploration and play... materials and equipment spark children’s interest and encourage them to experiment and learn.”

Hands-on learning is not only developmentally appropriate, it is also essential. Young children discover best through their senses, through movement, and through their curiosity about the world around them.



Ramona *Elementary*

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



Patricia Ray
Principal

A Great Team

Teamwork is the theme that has united our efforts toward preventing bullying incidents here at Ramona Elementary School. Last summer all staff members had the opportunity to attend trainings to help them to facilitate our new anti-bullying program. We emphasize that we all can work together to make Ramona a place where all students can learn, grow, and enjoy school.

Teachers presented the school's anti-bullying rules at the beginning of the year, including our newest behavior expectation: Be Kind. We also had a big kickoff event with students in October. Al "The Bull" Ferrara, who played for the Los Angeles Dodgers from 1963 to 1968, stressed the importance of hard work, teamwork, and perseverance when he spoke to our students and teachers.

Teachers have led weekly class meetings with the goal of building community and giving students tools to build healthy peer relationships. Recent meeting topics have revolved around friendship.

We are off to a great start with this new program.



Kindergarten teachers Ms. Luna and Ms. Yeghiayan with Al Ferrara

Washington *Elementary*

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



Maritza Cruz-Brown
Principal

Literacy Night

By Abi Morales, Literacy Coach

Washington School hosted our third annual Literacy Night for students, parents and community members in January. Our Literacy Night's theme this year was "Pirates." The event consisted of eight booths located in different classrooms, with fun literacy-based activities for participants such as rhyming games, reader's theater, writing, crafts, high-frequency-word games, prefix-and-suffix-games, and reading to students.

The Hawthorne Public Library graced us with their participation in our Literacy Night event by bringing information about public library cards and activities and giving away books to students who stopped by their booth. Our Literacy Night event also received a visit from Hawthorne Cable, which showcased our booth activities and interviewed staff, teachers, parents and students.

Washington School's Literacy Night was a great success, and we enjoyed sharing a pirate-themed evening with our Washington families and community members!



York *Elementary*

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



Jennifer Beekman
Principal

Our Own Superstar!

Keeping his eyes out for the safety of our children, staff members, and York School itself is our fabulous security officer, Mr. Becerra!

Mr. Becerra monitors our students and campus surroundings both inside and outside of the fences. He carefully watches out for everyone, and assists with keeping us all safe! Since 2013 he has also come to work in the cold, rain, wet, and hot weather every day.

Mr. Becerra became certified as a campus security officer after having had experience in maintaining



York's Superstar Security

security for private businesses. He has a kind smile and is very approachable. Our students know that they can ask campus security their questions and go to him for assistance. They can report concerns and situations that will help others, and with the trust that Mr. Becerra will listen and follow through with needed guidance and support.

While working as our campus security officer during the day, Mr. Becerra also attended college in the evenings and weekends. His studies are in mathematics, his favorite subject!

Mr. Becerra is the best, and we wish to thank him for being a York Superstar.

Zela Davis *Elementary*

13435 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/679-1711 • www.hsdzeladavis.org



Matt Rohrer
Principal

Our Constant Companion

The families, students, and staff members of Zela Davis would like to celebrate the life of our beloved playground supervisor, Ms. Cecilia Gomez. Sadly, Ms. Gomez passed away during our recent Winter Break.

Ms. Gomez was hired by the Hawthorne School District in 2004 as a substitute playground supervisor at Prairie Vista Middle School. She moved to Zela Davis Elementary in 2007, and was promoted to permanent playground supervisor in 2015.

Ms. Gomez was extremely dedicated to her work. Rain or shine, she rode her bike several miles each day to and from work. Every day during her break period she also worked on crossword and word search puzzles in the lounge, and was everyone's constant companion. She also loved to watch football. Her favorite team was the San Francisco 49ers.

Ms. Gomez will be remembered for her dedication to our students, her caring attitude, and the love of her fellow staff members.

In Memory of



Ms. Cecilia Gomez

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HAWTHORNE SCHOOL DISTRICT

WELLNESS COMMITTEE MEETING

REUNIÓN DEL COMITÉ DE BIENESTAR

**We are looking for parents to join our Wellness Committee.
You must be willing to attend your School Site Council Meetings
and serve as a liaison.**

**Estamos buscando padres que deseen unirse a nuestro
Comité de Bienestar y que estén dispuestos a asistir y servir
como enlace en las Reunionés del Consejo del Plantel Educativo.**

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