

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Hawthorne School District



Volume 10, Issue 56

October–December 2020



Students continue their learning on-line as the 2020-2021 school year begins.
Los estudiantes continúan su aprendizaje en línea a medida que comienza el año escolar 2020-2021.

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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.



The Benefits of Preschool

The most important years of a child's development is in the first five years of life. Children who receive a high-quality educational experience, in their early years, develop the skills necessary to succeed in life.

Children who are involved in preschool:

- Develop pre-reading, early writing, and math skills
- Enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Develop emotional behaviors and social skills

Los Beneficios de la Educación Preescolar

Los primeros cinco años de vida son los más importantes en el desarrollo del niño. Los niños que reciben una experiencia educativa de alta calidad, en sus primeros años, desarrollan las habilidades necesarias para triunfar en la vida.

Los niños que participan en la educación preescolar:

- Desarrollan habilidades en matemáticas, escritura y lectura temprana.
- Mejoran el pensamiento crítico y habilidades en resolución de problemas.
- Desarrollan habilidades sociales y comportamiento emocional.



HSD Preschool

13928 Kornblum Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250
(310) 970-7550 Phone | (310) 970-7555 Fax



Welcome Back!

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. This is a school year like no other. I could have never imagined that we would begin a school year without seeing a single student sitting in a classroom receiving instruction. COVID-19 has created a “new normal” for all of us. I know these are very difficult times for all of us. As we navigate through our new environment, we are encountering challenges and successes each and every day.

I know we look forward to the day we can welcome our students and all staff back to our school sites. I also know many will be apprehensive in a return to school. I want to assure our families that when it is time to return to in-person learning, our cleaning and social distancing protocols will be well established and implemented. In the event a family is not comfortable returning to our campuses, we will have a distance learning option available to them. As we get closer to a return to school, our staff will contact our families to determine the best option for each of them.

I want to thank our entire community for their support during this unprecedented time. It is truly appreciated. Please, stay well, and I look forward to the day I can see all of you in person.



Dr. Helen E. Morgan
Superintendent

Benvenidos de nuevo!

Bienvenidos al año escolar 2020-2021. Este es un año escolar como ningún otro. Nunca podría haber imaginado que comenzaríamos un año escolar sin ver a un solo estudiante sentado en un salón de clases recibiendo instrucción. COVID-19 ha creado una “nueva normalidad” para todos nosotros. Sé que estos son tiempos muy difíciles para todos. A medida que navegamos a través de nuestro nuevo entorno, nos enfrentamos a desafíos y éxitos todos los días.

Sé que esperamos el día en que podamos dar la bienvenida a nuestros estudiantes y a todo el personal a nuestras escuelas. También sé que muchos sentirán aprensión al regresar a la escuela. Quiero asegurarles a nuestras familias que cuando sea el momento de regresar al aprendizaje en persona, nuestros protocolos de limpieza y distanciamiento social estarán bien establecidos e implementados. En caso de que una familia no se sienta cómoda al regresar a nuestras instalaciones escolares, tendremos una opción de aprendizaje a distancia disponible para ellos. A medida que nos acerquemos al regreso a la escuela, nuestro personal se comunicará con las familias del distrito para determinar la mejor opción para cada uno de ellos.

Quiero agradecer a toda nuestra comunidad por su apoyo durante este tiempo sin precedentes. Realmente se agradece. Por favor, cuídense y espero con ansias el día en que pueda verlos a todos en persona.

School News

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Covering the
HAWTHORNE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik

Welcome back to another school year. There have been many changes throughout the years; however, I think we all agree this is the most challenging. Americans are innovative and educators are at the top of the list. Zoom has taken on a whole new meaning to this generation of students. Fortunately, students and educators were proficient with

technology to help with the seamless transition to distance learning. Families stepped up to the challenge.

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

Be sure to enter our word search contests on pages 11 and 12.

Our next issue is January 20, 2021.





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Bud Carson *Middle School*

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



LaTima Jones
Principal

Upgrades and New Additions

By Mytress Middleton, Assistant Principal

We are making positive progress during a pandemic. Bud Carson has enthusiastic and energetic students and staff who are eager to return to campus and provide the best education to its students and the best environment. When staff and students return, they will undoubtedly see a welcome change—upgrades!

Over the summer, major facility projects began. One was the installation of new air-conditioning units throughout the campus. How cool is that? Also, attractive flooring was installed in all classrooms, the cafeteria and the offices. Our office has been upgraded for the safety of all and is open to families daily. Next up, paint for the entire school. We are so excited that we will have improved facilities when our students return!

While Bud Carson is thrilled about these upgrades, we are more thrilled to welcome new staff. Welcome, teachers Shawn Callaghan-Verendia, Sylvia Park, Adriana Rodriguez and Suzanne Cologne! We are also pleased to announce that we have a new computer technician, Gustavo Yepes, to support all of our technology needs.

The Bud Carson students are in excellent hands! Our entire staff is working hard to support our students during these unprecedented times. We will continue to do our very best for our students. Go Huskies!



Hawthorne *Math & Science Academy*

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



Esau Berumen
Principal

Enrichment Courses

By Martha Castellanos, Assistant Principal

In an effort to provide a space for students to connect outside the virtual classroom, HMSA has added enrichment opportunities to the distance-learning schedule. Staff members are facilitating a variety of activities throughout the week for students to learn a new skill, be physically active, and develop leadership skills.

As a result of the spring 2020 school closure, many clubs and other school activities were halted. Ensuring that students had a designated time to continue extracurricular interests was a priority in the development of the new schedule.

Last year, students said this about enrichment clubs: “Love this—it gives me something to do to take my mind off things.” And “It would be interesting if there were to be more fun clubs that could help the kids that are more hands on, as in making clothes or something as in creating something, maybe an art club.”

Enrichment opportunities to promote physical activity include dance, beginner’s yoga and stretching, cross-country training and nutrition, and girls volleyball training. The importance of self-care and creativity are being

explored in enrichments that focus on how to declutter digital, physical and mental space; learning about the science of well-being and happiness; creating to create; and a weekly counseling-support group.

Academic enrichment is being offered through participation in existing clubs such as MESA (mathematics, engineering, science, achievement) and MRI (medical research and inquiry). New enrichment offerings include pathology exploration and programming in Python.

Cultural appreciation is being featured as students explore film, music, games and traditions from around the world. An enrichment featuring Bollywood is new to HMSA. Affinity groups on campus also come together in BSU (Black Student Union) and MSA (Muslim Student Association).

Traditional extracurricular activities such as Aviators News, Great Neighbors, Key Club and Sound Club will also meet during enrichment time. Mentor leadership is being developed through student participation in ASB, Link Crew and peer counseling.

Students also offered suggestions that brought about the Cartoon and Animation Club, Pro Sports Recap, gaming appreciation, movie appreciation and Project LIT Book Club.

Eucalyptus *Elementary*

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



Mike Goldstein
Principal

Koala-ty Upgrades!

As we continue to get closer to our return to campus, I wanted to update you on some projects we've been working on at Eucalyptus during the closure. It's been a busy few months in Koala Nation. In

addition to passing out thousands of meals, we've been fortunate enough to have several improvements to our facilities. Air conditioning units were upgraded and replaced and our playground on both sides of campus was repaired, repainted and re-lined. In addition to that, we have plans to replace all carpet and floors in every room this winter! Although we're still not sure exactly when we can return to campus, I promise you that when the time comes, our school will be clean, cool and ready to welcome you back!



West Blacktop was repainted and re-striped including tether ball, handball, volleyball, basketball courts and emergency evacuation dots, and our map of the United States!

Hawthorne *Middle School*

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



Akila Jones
Principal

Making Improvements

During this time of distance learning, you may be wondering what is happening at Hawthorne Middle School while students are not on campus. The answer is, there are lots of improvements that are

being made to maintain and beautify our campus.

In June 2018, voters residing within the Hawthorne School District passed Measure HSD. Measure HSD is a \$59 million bond measure that authorizes funding for needed repairs, upgrades and new construction projects to the district's schools. Hawthorne Middle School has gotten upgraded windows that are energy efficient and are tinted to block harmful UV rays, providing ultimate safety, security and visibility. New-air-conditioner units and flooring throughout the school are also being installed. In addition, the school's field has been



transformed by leveling the ground and expanding the track with new asphalt.

We are pleased with these schoolwide improvements and are excited to share the results with students and families in the near future.

Jefferson *Elementary*

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



Josh Godin
Principal

Let's Catch UP

Well, a lot has happened since we last were able to have a *School News* edition! Let's catch up on some of the exciting news that has happened at Jefferson.

I am proud to announce that Jefferson was awarded one of the Top Los Angeles County Schools for 2020! Out of 1,000 schools, Jefferson was one of 278 in the county to receive the award. The award was created in partnership with the University of Southern California Sol Price Center for Social Innovation and the Rossier School of Education Center for Education Policy, Equity and Governance. Jefferson made the list because of our strong results in language-arts and math proficiency for low-income African American and Latino students. We will continue to strive to create an environment where all

students can and will thrive educationally and emotionally.

Also, even though we are doing distance learning, Jefferson students are still having a growth mindset! Students understand that mistakes are a chance to learn and everyone can get better by putting forth effort and never giving up. In Ms. Cole's second-grade class, students were able to get Growth Mindset Daily Practice Journals. Ms. Cole was able to get these journals through Donor's Choose, which is a place where teachers can submit projects and individuals donate directly to the teacher's project in order to fund it. We are so proud of our teachers for continuing to promote a growth mindset, even when the students are distance learning.

So, remind your children that your brain is like a muscle: when it is exercised, it gets stronger. Moreover, it's not "I can't"—it's "I can!"

Kornblum *Elementary*

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



Marisa Stewart
Principal

Getting Ready!

We are using this time to get ready for your return ...

As we continue to get closer to our return to campus, I wanted to update you on some projects we've been working on at Kornblum during the closure. It's been a busy few months on the Kornblum

campus. In addition to passing out thousands of meals, we've been fortunate enough to have several improvements to our facilities. We had 47 brand new air-conditioning units installed, and our playground was repaired. In addition to that, we have plans to replace all carpet and floors in every room on campus and are planning to repaint the school! These are



your Measure HSD Bond dollars at work. Although our return to campus still has not been determined, rest assured that when the time comes, our school will be clean, cool and ready to welcome you back!

In addition, I would like to welcome a new member to our Kornblum Cardinals family. Meet our new school psychologist, Elizabeth Tombros. She is a veteran here in the Hawthorne School District but new to Kornblum. We are lucky to have her!





RHIANNON L. AND DAUGHTER
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Prairie Vista *Middle School*

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



Wendy Ostensen
Principal

Wonderful World of Technology!

Welcome to—and back to—Prairie Vista Middle School, home of the Panthers! Meet Mr. Reyes, our telecommunications technician. He usually works behind the scenes, but over the past seven months, he has been front and center in an educational tech world that many of us never imagined.

He responds to support requests from teachers, parents, students and office staff. Although the demand is quite high, he fulfills those requests quickly and efficiently on a daily basis.

Mr. Reyes is also the technology liaison between the school site and the district office. This communicative aspect of his job ensures a consistent and current flow of information that best supports the needs of our school community.

The technology learning curve required in education right now can be very challenging, but teachers and techs like Mr. Reyes are here to help. Let's hear it for our unsung heroes!



Frank Reyes-PVMS Computer Wizard!

Ramona *Elementary*

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



Dr. Patricia Ray
Principal

Welcome, Ms. Adams!

Ramona School is excited to welcome Angela Adams to our staff this year. Ms. Adams, not to be confused with Tami Adams who taught third grade and retired last year, is teaching kindergarten in our Two-Way Bilingual Immersion (TWBI) Program.

Ms. Adams grew up in the San Gabriel Valley, and as a child she dreamed of becoming a teacher and often played school with her stuffed animals. In high school, she volunteered in her mother's classroom, and after graduating from the University of Southern California (USC), Ms. Adams began her teaching career with a class of her own. She began working in the Hawthorne School District in 2013 and taught first grade at Zela Davis School.

Ms. Adams' parents are from Spain, and during her college years, she spent her summers with cousins in Valencia, Zamora and Madrid. She still enjoys visiting her family in Spain whenever possible.



Ramona is fortunate to have Ms. Adams on our team, and we are looking forward to a great year!

Washington *Elementary*

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



**Maritza
Cruz-Brown**
Principal

What's "Roaring," Wildcats?

Welcome back to the 2020–21 academic school year! Our dedicated teachers and staff at Washington School continue to provide our students with a high-quality educational program.

Our teachers and support staff meet with students on synchronous and asynchronous days to provide instruction and support for our young scholars. Our teaching staff is working extra hard to make sure our students receive instruction utilizing our district-adopted curriculum and programs through our distance-learning platform. They are in communication with families and answering questions that come their way.

Mr. Moreno, our computer technician, is working diligently to meet the technology requests that come in on a daily basis. He communicates with families and helps troubleshoot any tech issues that might arise

throughout the day. Our office staff, Ms. Garcia and Mrs. Christofferson, continue to answer questions on a daily basis regarding schedules, enrollment, technology and attendance. They even do one-on-one tutorials on how to access the live sessions with teachers and support staff. They, like all other staff, have been working endlessly to serve our parents and students since the beginning of the school year. Our health clerk, Mrs. Ahmad, continues to make sure that immunization records are up to date. She assists families with scheduling appointments for our mobile medical van. Our custodial staff continues to ensure that our campus is a clean and safe environment for all.

As we continue on this virtual journey, we will always work endlessly to ensure that our students, staff and families are our number-one priority. This journey has proven that indeed, it takes a village to raise a child, especially during such critical times. Thank you to our Washington community for your continued flexibility, support and dedication.

York *Elementary*

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



Jessica Moore
Principal

Summer Support for Superstars!

Who would ever know a doughnut could "talk?" This question is just one of the examples of the engaging questions that grabbed our students' attention as they delved in the world of fictional and informational text during our virtual Summer Academic Student Support program.

In order to continue summer-learning experiences for our students, over 90 of our first- and second-grade scholars were exposed to standards-based instructional support in a variety of core subject areas such as mathematics, language arts, science and social studies, and they participated in a number of enriching virtual field trips as well as art and music activities anchored by an engaging grade-level story. During the span of four weeks,

this instructional support was facilitated by our awesome team of instructional aides who worked collaboratively with groups of eager students to provide this multifaceted support.

When discussing what she enjoyed most about participating in this program, one of our instructional aides, Wendy Flores, said, "We had the opportunity to experience different activities for all children, such as drawing, learning new vocabulary words, counting, sharing feelings, taking turns, math, science, and arts and crafts. I really enjoyed interacting with the students, and I liked planning and having fun activities."

These program sentiments truly underscore the overall response from our instructional aides, students and families. Doughnuts don't actually talk, but for our students, reading and interacting with fun content such as this made for an exciting summer of continuous learning!



Zela Davis *Elementary*

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



Matt Rohrer
Principal

New, Improved School!

Zela Davis has had a busy summer. In addition to passing out student materials and supplies, we have also been busy improving our school facilities. We would like to thank the Hawthorne community for approving the bond funds that allowed these projects to occur.

Zela Davis had two major improvements take place over the summer. New flooring was installed in all of the classrooms and in both cafeterias. This was a much-needed upgrade and helps to create a first-class learning environment for your children.

In addition to new carpeting, Zela Davis also was able to upgrade our air-conditioning system. This upgrade will ensure that students can be kept cool and safe during periods of extreme heat. It will also help the district to save money on electricity and be more ecofriendly.

Zela Davis and the Hawthorne School District would like to thank the community for their support of our local schools!



Novelist –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 Hawthorne in the subject line.

Entries must be received by November 30, 2020

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

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Congratulations to Avrielle Teh
Winner of the March Contest.



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Sean's Book Review



Sean

Crazy Neighbor

Have you ever heard of a horror game called Hello Neighbor? If you have, and are interested in the backstory, *Hello Neighbor: Bad Blood* by Carly Anne West is the book for you.



The main character is a kid named Aaron. He moved to a new place and discovered that his grandparents are very famous. But while he's there, he gets asked questions, which stresses him out, so as a choice, he goes places he should not have. Throughout the book, there is a lot of mystery, action, and suspense that will have you hooked. Want to start off right? Then read the other 3 books in the series before this one. But if you want to jump right in, read this one as all of them make you understand their world more than ever. Overall, this is a really fun book and I would rate this a 10/10 on the 'Awesome Book Scale'!

Sean Cheng is a 6th grader and enjoys speed cubing, playing basketball, and performing tricks on his scooter. His favorite subjects at school are math and PE. He loves teaching tricks to his new puppy and taking care of his 3 guinea pigs. He looks forward to boogie boarding at the beach!



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Halloween Word Search Contest

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

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GRAVE	WITCH
HAUNTED HOUSE	ZOMBIE

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