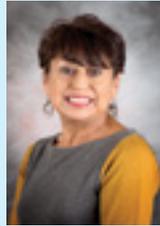




## Board of Education



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## Welcome back to a new school year! Bienvenidos al nuevo año escolar!

We are very happy to welcome back your wonderful children, our students, to a new year of learning, growing, and succeeding.

Please know that in the Paramount Unified School District we value your support as parents and community.

Among the strongest support mechanisms parents and family members can provide is ensuring positive attendance. In order for us to educate our students, we need them to be present. Every day of an absence means significant loss of learning for your child. In the early years, when students miss school, they may easily fall behind in learning how to read and write. Obviously, we do not want them to fall behind. It takes a lot of effort for them to catch up. Good study habits are also learned at this early age. If students are allowed to stay home when they could be at school, they will not feel that 100% attendance is important to their education. They may develop a thought process that their homework and studying is also not important.

This thought process or way of thinking may easily continue through their middle and high school years. We know every parent and family member wants their child to succeed. We want your child to succeed. Your consistency in expectations will benefit them for many years to come from this. Please help them to establish good study habits and complete homework assignments. And please, send them to school unless they are very ill.

Thank you for your support. Together we can ensure that your child is successful.



**Dr. Ruth Pérez**  
*Superintendent*

Estamos felices de darles la bienvenida nuevamente a sus maravillosos hijos, nuestros estudiantes, a un nuevo año de aprendizaje, crecimiento y triunfos.

Es importante que sepan que en el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Paramount valoramos su apoyo como padres de familia y comunidad.

Entre los mecanismos de apoyo más fuertes que los padres pueden proporcionar, está la asistencia escolar. Para poder educar a nuestros estudiantes, los necesitamos presentes. Cada día que están ausentes significa una gran pérdida de aprendizaje para sus hijos. Durante sus primeros años, cuando los estudiantes faltan a la escuela, fácilmente se atrasan en aprender a leer y escribir. Obviamente, no queremos que se atrasen. Toma mucho esfuerzo ponerse al día. Los buenos hábitos son aprendidos a edad temprana. Si a los niños se les permite quedar en casa cuando podrían estar en la escuela, ellos no creen que estar en la escuela el 100 por ciento del tiempo sea importante para su educación. Esta manera de pensar puede fácilmente continuar a través de sus años de secundaria y preparatoria. Sabemos que cada padre de familia quiere que su hijo sea exitoso. Nosotros también deseamos que su hijo tenga éxito. Ser constante en sus expectativas beneficiará a sus hijos por muchos años. Por favor ayúdenles a establecer buenos hábitos de estudio y completar las tareas asignadas. Y por favor, envíenlos a la escuela a menos que estén muy enfermos.

Gracias por su apoyo. Juntos podemos asegurar el éxito de sus hijos!

**Please Drive Safely — Students are Back in School**

# School News

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Covering the  
PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik

We are delighted to publish the excellence from the Paramount Unified School District.

In this issue you will read about students learning through technology, preparing for college, Skyping with AVID, Growth Mindset, JROTC, and so much more...

Education is continually changing but the one constant is the District's focus on preparing students for success. Dr. Pérez writes in her article on the previous page about the importance of attending school regularly.

On page 14 you will find our Word Search Contest, which is open to all ages. On page 15 are book reviews

from students. If you have a child that loves to read and would like to write book reviews for us, please email me. It is fun for students to see their own column in print and it helps other students discover books they might not have read.

Our next issue is December 7.



## Early Childhood Education Program

7340 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-6900 • www.paramount.k12.ca.us



**Dr. Elida Garcia**  
Director

### We Start Early!

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! I'm Elida Garcia, and I'm the director for the Early Childhood Education (ECE) and Transitional Kindergarten (TK) programs.

Each year, the ECE Program welcomes a new group of young children in to our preschool classrooms. The ECE Program offers 18 class sessions at eight preschool sites for four-year-olds. The preschool

curriculum promotes language-rich experiences while learning about literacy, math, science and art. Preschool teachers use hands-on materials during lessons to stimulate problem solving. Teachers also introduce

children to concepts learned later in kindergarten, like Thinking Maps.

We look forward to working with parents as partners in helping the children. Our monthly calendars and newsletters provide parents with ideas on how to promote more vocabulary at home and reinforce the concepts taught in the classrooms. Parents are also invited to participate in the Parent Advisory Committee to assist with program planning.

This year, our staff continues to strive for high quality as they provide a rich learning environment and instruction, using the California Preschool Learning Foundations and the state indicators for program quality.

Feel free to contact the ECE Office for more information on preschool enrollment.

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### This Halloween, Don't Be Afraid of Diabetes



**Mario Brakin, M.D.**  
Medical Director,  
Endocrine &  
Diabetes Center  
Miller Children's &  
Women's Hospital  
Long Beach

Halloween can be a thrilling holiday for children of all ages, but the wide availability of candies with high levels of sugar can prevent children living with diabetes from joining in on the fun.

Diabetes is a condition in which blood sugar levels are unusually high. Inside the body, food is changed into glucose (sugar) that is carried throughout the entire body. Insulin is a hormone that helps the body use glucose for energy.

With diabetes, the body makes little to no insulin. Without insulin, the body's cells are unable to use glucose, and the glucose instead builds in the body's blood stream.

Children with diabetes should be able to actively participate in special occasions and holidays like Halloween. Planning ahead is the key to celebrating these occasions without compromising diabetes control.

This Halloween, you can help your child by:

- Giving your kids money or toys in exchange for their candy (example: a quarter for each piece of candy)
- Participating in the Halloween Candy Buy Back event – local dental offices and other businesses will trade a child's candy for money, prizes or other treats. The candy gets sent to troops overseas and helps kids avoid cavities. Find participating locations at [HalloweenCandyBuyBack.com](http://HalloweenCandyBuyBack.com)
- Planning a party instead of "trick-or-treating" door-to-door
- Visiting a haunted house or renting a scary movie

Enjoying Halloween may be difficult for your little witch or wizard living with diabetes, but it's manageable. For more information on how to help manage your child's diabetes, visit [MillerChildrens.org/Diabetes](http://MillerChildrens.org/Diabetes).

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 800-MEMORIAL  
[MillerChildrens.org/Diabetes](http://MillerChildrens.org/Diabetes)



# Diabetes Family Festival & Classic Car Show

November is Diabetes Awareness Month

**FREE  
EVENT**



**Sunday,  
Nov. 6**  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**2888 Long Beach Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90806**



- Music
- Raffles & Giveaways
- Blood Pressure Screening
- Food
- Family Friendly Activities
- Resources/Support

LONG BEACH MEMORIAL  
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL LONG BEACH  
Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach  
MEMORIALCARE HEALTH SYSTEM

**(562) 933-5043**

## Alondra Middle School

16200 S. Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8004 • <http://alondra-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Carolynn Butler**  
*Principal*

### Rocketing to New Heights!

For six weeks during the summer, Alondra Middle School hosted an enrichment program for middle school students from the Paramount Unified School District.

One of its many highlights was the math and science component of the day. Here students learned about catapults and rockets by using the New Generation Science Standards. For the first half of the program they were engaged in understanding the basic history and concept behind the catapult. The engineering model of designing, building, and testing was implemented. The students created catapults to compete in the areas of accuracy, precision, and force.

In the second half of the program, the students investigated Newton's Three Laws of Motion through rocket science. They studied how the key factors of weight, thrust, drag, and center of mass act upon rockets. Our students were so excited to be creating their own rockets, and making the necessary adjustments to ensure that they soared to the highest point!



## Buena Vista High School

3717 Michelson St., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/602-8090 • <https://bvhs-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Morrie Kosareff**  
*Principal*

### Great Things are Happening!

The 2016–17 school year has gotten off to a great start at Buena Vista High School! With our new principal, Morrie Kosareff, leading the way, Buena Vista is living up to its Model Continuation School title.

We offer students multiple ways to catch up on credits to not only graduate but also graduate on time. The majority of students have a full eight-class schedule to help them start the credit-recovery process. Seniors are also participating in a college-preparation class through El Camino College, which is offered on the Buena Vista campus. This class allows students to gain five high school credits and one college credit. Some students are also taking classes at Paramount Adult School and completing credits through Edgenuity, our online learning and blended education program. As you can see, Buena Vista is a place where students get a fresh start and are provided with a multitude of ways to reach their goal—graduation!

We will also have a brand new College and Career Center, with Sharon Bryant as our college and career counselor. Our focus is to develop a plan that takes Buena Vista students to graduation and beyond. With

the implementation of Naviance and a new computer lab, students will be able to search for information and develop their college and career plans. Buena Vista students will attend job fairs and tour local college campuses, trade schools and local industries.

Buena Vista students are very excited about the creation of an ASB class. The Buena Vista ASB will work to develop leadership skills and foster those skills in others as they provide a variety of activities for our students. The ASB will also collaborate with the Paramount High School ASB in providing activities that are beneficial to all students.



## Collins *Elementary*

6125 Coke Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/602-8008 • <http://collins-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Scott Law**  
*Principal*

### Going to College

Every student at Captain Raymond Collins Elementary School is getting ready for college. This includes the kindergarteners!

We know the importance and positive outcomes of creating a college-going culture at school. To celebrate our students' commitment to higher education, we have adopted a new tradition called "Matriculation Monday." Each Monday all students, teachers, and staff members are encouraged to wear college gear, shirts, sweatshirts, stickers, and pins. Within the classrooms our teachers have also created

bulletin board areas celebrating various universities, often displaying mascots and pennants.

We are also shifting the conversations that our teachers, parents, and students have from, "Do you think you will go to college?" to, "Where will you go, what will you study, and what are the steps to get there?"

Starting in mid-September, our students will bravely walk to the microphone during our Monday morning assemblies and declare, in front of the entire student body, the universities they will be attending and the careers they will be pursuing. We will begin with our fifth-grade classes, who are already preparing for their declaration day by making a prep rally presentation. Great job, Collins Colts!



## Gaines *Elementary*

7340 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8012 • <https://gaines-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Michael Naruko**  
*Principal*

### Learning through Technology

It is our pleasure to welcome you to Wesley Gaines School. At Wesley Gaines, we are preparing our students for 21st century citizenship by integrating technology into instruction and learning.

Every student at Gaines is taught essential technology skills that allow them the opportunity to conduct research, word-process, and problem-solve through computer-based mathematics. In every classroom, teachers use iPads as a tool to engage students through the use of web-based curriculum and educational apps. Language arts has come to life, as teachers now use iPads to model writing and access interactive e-books through Wonders, our new language arts program. Third-grade teacher Annaliese Bishop says, "The interactive technology keeps the students engaged and sparks curiosity on a daily basis."

It is our goal and commitment that every student at Wesley Gaines is equipped with the tools to thrive in an ever-changing society.



## Hollydale *K-8*

5511 Century Blvd., South Gate, CA 90280 • 562/602-8016 • <http://hollydale-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Lisa  
Nunley-Macon**  
*Principal*

### Buzzing with Success

In the Paramount Unified School District, our district's mission is to ensure learning and success by providing each student with a quality education. As a part of our mission statement, we endeavor to develop our Hollydale Hornets into students who are academically, emotionally, and socially healthy. Our expectations are that students excel in an ever-changing

world. And truly, students are rising to the occasion.

Hollydale School received several state and national accolades, which showcase our school's culture of achievement and our students' drive toward excellence. Specifically, Hollydale received the Gold Ribbon Award and the Title I Achievement Award for our innovative math program. Our math program focuses on building students' conceptual understanding through inquiry lessons with an emphasis on solving real-life math problems using the Concrete-Representational-Abstract (C-R-A) strategy.



Through the use of math games, computer technology, and application problems, students' math fluency skills are also reinforced on a daily basis.

In addition to our innovative math program, Hollydale School is continuing its rigorous course offerings for middle school students. Advancement Via Individual Determination

(AVID), Agile Minds, and accelerated math classes are preparing students for college and career because of the focus on critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and discourse. Thanks to the incredible efforts of our middle school teachers to build such a challenging program, our middle school Hornets had the largest percentage of proficient/excelling students in the district on the 2015–2016 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) assessments in both language arts and math.

The Hollydale Hornets are buzzing with excitement and anticipation! While our last school year was spectacular, we truly believe the best is yet to come.

Go, Hornets!

## Jackson *Middle School*

7220 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8020 • <https://jackson-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Kelly Anderson**  
*Principal*

### Skyping with AVID

In September, Jackson Middle School's eighth-grade AVID students participated in an AVID Connect session with PUSD's leaders and staff. Guest speakers included our superintendent, Dr. Perez; our assistant

superintendent Dr. Smith; Dr. Francois, the director of secondary education; and other district staff members. The Skype session allowed our district educators to share their personal experiences while on their pathway to college.

Technology such as Skype has enriched the learning process for our students, making their learning more engaging and meaningful. Through this process, students were able to prepare meaningful interview questions using Costa's Levels of Thinking. Students enjoyed asking questions regarding dorm life, college sports, scholarships and career choices. When AVID students were asked impromptu questions by the guest speakers, they did a remarkable job of restating the question and responding in a professional manner.



As a follow-up activity, students shared their thoughts on Skyping with district educators and reflected on their experience in a quick-write. As student Taylor Tribble stated, "Everyone looked attentive and invested." And AVID student Riche Nichols said, "I learned about their expectations, weaknesses, stressful situations and greatest

achievements as college students."

The Skyping session was a memorable and motivational experience that allowed our students to understand the true commitment and perseverance needed to become a successful college student. It was a real-life connection outside the classroom that is now accessible to them through Skype.

AVID students will continue to utilize technology and apply WICOR strategies that will prepare them for college readiness and success in a global society. We plan to continue Skyping with guest speakers as well as other AVID classes in the future. Jackson AVID students are highly motivated to explore new paradigms that integrate education and technology.

## Jefferson *Elementary*

8600 Jefferson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8024 • <http://jefferson-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



### Growth Mindset is 'Paramount'!

Jefferson School is all about striving for success in a growth-mindset approach this year. Learning is fluid and not fixed! Our students are embracing Common Core Standards with a growth mindset.

**Kelly Williams**  
*Principal*

Our students are engaged in growth-mindset activities in the classroom and during rotation time. Students are setting goals that are not attainable yet but will be with practice, time, dedication and perseverance. Our students know that having a growth mindset means never giving up even when you make mistakes. In fact, mistakes help to strengthen our brains and increase our learning potential. Students are reading books that support having a growth mindset and completing activities that demonstrate their understanding of this thinking.

Our Jefferson Jaguars know that everyone can achieve success by learning something new each day with a growth mindset!



## Keppel *Elementary*

6630 Mark Keppel St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8028 • <http://keppel-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



### Sailing to Success

"Greatness is not in where we stand, but in what direction we are moving. We must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but sail we must, and not drift, nor tie an anchor." –Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

This quote reflects the Mark Keppel School theme for this year: "Our school family is sailing to success with Common Core State Standards, collaboration, and consistency." And the Mark Keppel Pumas are definitely sailing ahead.

This year began with both certificated and classified staff members returning early to plan in collaborative teams. Certificated staff members worked on planning for the new language arts program adoption. Classified staff members planned support services for students and parents. Certificated, classified, and support services staff members are embracing a growth mindset and are eager to learn new things and refine our program implementation.

Our first day was a great success. All of the teachers and our support staff welcomed students, while parents attended our first-day parent reception. At the reception,

Dr. Sanco and our new Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA), Mr. McCullough, gave an overview of our school year and shared all of our parent volunteer opportunities. Our new PTA president welcomed all parents and encouraged them to join PTA and take part in our Puma Parent Center.

We are looking forward to starting one of our many innovative programs for parents, our Parent University. Parent University is separated into 6 workshops designed for parents, grandparents, childcare providers, and others who want to learn additional skills to support students at home. Topics include attendance, academic help at home, preparing children to be college and career ready, and growth mindset. These one-hour sessions will be offered at two different times to accommodate parent schedules. Parents who attend all six sessions can participate in our graduation ceremony.

We are prepared for a year of smooth sailing. Our staff is fully committed to providing our students with the best educational experience possible and fostering equitable classroom environments.

Go, Pumas!

## Lincoln *Elementary*

15324 S. California Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8036 • [www.lincoln-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com](http://www.lincoln-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com)



**Dr. Topekia Jones**  
*Principal*

### State Scores Soar

Third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade students at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School took the statewide California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) test in May and showed exceptional growth in both English language arts

(ELA) and math. Teachers prepared their classes throughout the year for the rigors of the new Common Core State Standards by training students on a variety of effective learning strategies, including Thinking Maps to organize thoughts and conceptual models to examine math problems.

Prior to testing, Principal Dr. Jones and her instructional coaches visited each third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade classroom with a motivational presentation to get students excited about testing and to stress the importance of doing their best. One technique used to encourage students was sharing our Lincoln Lion poster, where Leo



Lion puts on his “tool belt” of academic strategies to get ready to work on the test.

When compared with last year’s CAASPP scores, schools statewide showed an average of four percent growth in ELA and three percent in math. The overall increase at Lincoln was in the double digits: 14.7 percent growth in ELA and 19.3 percent in math. Special recognition goes to Lincoln’s third-grade students, who achieved spectacular advancement in their math scores with a colossal 27.3-percent gain, the highest in the Paramount Unified School District!

This year, teachers and students will build on their successes by continuing to strive for excellence. Lincoln is delving into the newly adopted Common Core-aligned ELA curriculum, which includes multiple resources for differentiated instruction to meet the varying needs of all students. Lincoln will also continue to employ hands-on inquiry and the concrete-representational-abstract approach to teaching math.

At Lincoln, our Positive attitude, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Enthusiasm (PRIDE) is strong! It will guide us to future success!

## Los Cerritos *Elementary*

14626 Gundry Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8040 • <http://loscerritos-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Hilda Verdugo**  
*Principal*

### It’s a Small World After All!

We’ve tweaked Disney’s classic song “It’s a Small World” in the best way! We’re fully implementing small-group instruction through our newly adopted language arts and ELD program, Wonders. A cruise into Mrs. MacNeil’s first grade finds students working away as their teacher provides individualized “tours” of instruction in foundational

reading skills. The journey begins with a review of a detailed flow map that orders two or three things to do, such as journal response and high-frequency words, before moving on to a number of independent area literacy choices.

Students complete tasks while their teacher gathers small groups based on literacy proficiency at a U-shaped table. As groups transition to and from her table, student voices sing songs of differentiation, with early-emergent readers sing songs of differentiation, with early-emergent readers chanting high-frequency words while early-fluent readers independently read text in unison.

Upon departure, don’t be surprised to find yourself humming along to our infectious song as you realize it truly is about small-group instruction after all!



## Mokler *Elementary*

8571 E. Flower St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8044 • <http://mokler-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Linh Roberts**  
*Principal*

### Growth Mindset in Action

The Pilots at Major Lynn Mokler School have been hard at work practicing our Guidelines for Success (P.R.I.D.E.). As Productive, Respectful, Intelligent, Dedicated and Encouraging members of the Mokler family, teachers and students work together to set the stage for a productive year of learning

and growing. The 2016-2017 school year opened with students in every classroom learning about Growth Mindsets and how ones attitudes and beliefs can positively influence their own learning. This dedication to developing a growth mindset begins with the belief that growth and learning require effort and hard work and that mistakes are proof that learning is occurring. Teachers model this belief as they collaboratively plan lessons which are engaging and ensure all students have access to a rigorous curriculum. Students practice through collaborative conversation lessons with their peers to answer inquiry-based questions.



## Paramount *Adult School*

14507 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8080 • <http://www.paramount.k12.ca.us/schools/adulted/index.html>



**Jerry King**  
*Principal*

### Moving Forward

A brand new semester started at Paramount Adult School on September 6. It ushered in a fresh set of opportunities for adult students to move forward in their lives.

The majority of our classes are designed to help students learn English, so if you are having trouble understanding this article, “vengan con nosotros para mejorar su Ingles.” Come on in to improve your English!

But that’s surely not all we offer at the Adult School.

If your goal is to improve your reading or math so that you can take and pass your GED, we certainly can help you do that. In fact, you can not only prepare for the GED, you can also take the test here too. We’re an approved test center for that test, and literally over 100 others.

How else can we help you move forward? Perhaps you have a goal in the medical field. Not only have we added a new Computer for Careers module for our medical assistant class, but we’re also about to launch an electronic medical records (EMR/EHR) class. Later in the year will come medical billing and coding and pharmacy tech, and all for a small fraction of the price you would pay elsewhere.

Need high school credits or diploma? The Adult School

is also moving forward with bringing online courseware into the high school department.

Citizenship? We’ve moved forward into the new requirements there, too.

If you want to improve and move forward in a way that isn’t mentioned here, please reach out to us so that we can put you in contact with one of our partners in the Tri City Adult Education Regional Consortium. They may well have exactly what you’re looking for. Our number is 562-602-8080, and we’re open Monday through Friday.



## Paramount Park *Middle School*

14608 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8052 • <http://p-park-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Kevin Longworth**  
*Principal*

### **Unfinished Business for the Panthers!**

This year's Panther girls' volleyball team has one goal and one goal only, which is to win the district championship. Last year, their season ended with a heartbreaking loss in the championship game to the Alondra Dolphins. The Panthers felt they were the better team that day, but unfortunately, a few costly errors caused their season to end short of their goal. The returners were left with

a bitter taste in their mouths. This year, they've set their sights higher.

"Last year, our goal was just to make it to the finals. This year, our goal is to win," said Christopher Lozano, the Panthers Coach. "When school started this year, the team began practicing four days a week. The girls are extremely committed this season, giving 110 percent effort the minute they step on the court. They understand that losing in the championship game again this season is not going to be an option."

In addition to Mr. Lozano's guidance, a new coach has joined the team. Mrs. Ruiz teaches social studies and is a

sports enthusiast. "Mrs. Ruiz is new to volleyball, but she has a good rapport with the girls on the team," Mr. Lozano said.

Mr. Lozano said that the team is mainly working on passing and being ready for the ball, but he added that his outside hitters are strong. With all the coaching, training and practice, Mr. Lozano boiled his success down to one key ingredient, "not letting the ball drop." Sounds like a simple plan!



## Paramount *High School - Senior Campus*

14429 S. Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-6067 • <http://phs-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com>



**Dr. Greg Buckner**  
*Principal*

### **JROTC Excels in National Competition**

Congratulations to the Paramount High School Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), whose members placed 13th in the nation this summer in the Army JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl held in Washington, D.C. This marks the second year in a row that the Paramount JROTC has finished top in the nation, an improvement from their 25th-place ranking in the summer of 2015.

Melissa Chavez, Gabriel Garcia, Ashley Hernandez, and Joanne Robielos began the competition with two online tasks, competing against 1,320 schools in the nation. Paramount was one of only 40 schools to advance to the JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl championship.

The JROTC team spent five days on the campus of the Catholic University of America on an all-expenses-paid trip. By participating, cadets learn the values of citizenship, academic competition, and college opportunity. The competition allows the cadets many opportunities to demonstrate leadership and their academic abilities.

During the trip, the Paramount cadets were able to tour many historic sites. As a part of the JROTC's 100th anniversary, Melissa Chavez was chosen to help lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington

National Cemetery. This was a great honor that Chavez and the other cadets will always remember and hold as a dear memory in their hearts.

The JROTC program started in 2007 at Paramount High School under the guidance of Colonel Robert Guild and has grown to include nearly 200 cadets. They have contributed immensely to the greater good of community and continuously volunteer to support Paramount city events, including the annual Halloween carnival, Breakfast with Santa, and the health fair, and they always lend a hand to clean up Paramount. Additionally, they perform the presentation of colors at many of city events and all school events. Most of all, they regularly collaborate to reach their academic, physical, and post-secondary goals.

Keep up the great work, Paramount High School JROTC!



# Paramount High School - West Campus

14708 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8073 • <http://phs-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/WestCampus>



**Elizabeth Salcido**  
Principal

## Learning the Pirate Way!

The future has been clearly set for the Class of 2020 as PHS West Campus welcomed 1,229 ninth-grade students through our front doors. From the first day Elizabeth Salcido entered West Campus as our new principal, the vision for the 2016–17 school year started with excitement and pizzazz.

Christina Cunningham, our ASB advisor, guided our students, faculty and staff through our inaugural Pirate Pride Day. The purpose of our first day back to school was to connect our ninth-grade students to Paramount High School through spirited rotations in the gym, auditorium and grassy quad. We were on a modified schedule in which students had the opportunity to locate their classes and meet their six teachers. After lunch, our students returned to their first-period classes and teachers to obtain their wristbands and learn about the different locations for our Pirate Pride Day.

## Arrr! What a Great Day!

With the support of Senior Campus principal Dr. Greg Buckner, marching band director Angel Carmona, and cheer advisor Lourdes Aguayo, one-third of our students were greeted in the gym to the fight song performed by the marching band and our ninth-grade cheer squad. Our counselors promoted Pirate Pride by showing students

the CTE Media Video “We are Pirates,” leading students in the spirit clap and advising them about whom to see for information and how to get involved in athletics, clubs and intermural sports.

Mrs. Yates led another third of our students through our schoolwide Safe and Civil School expectations. Mrs. Cunningham hosted the last third of our students in the grassy quad where they were able to sign up for clubs, get to know one another, and listen to music with ASB students performing as our DJs. Our students visited each of the three rotations and learned about what it means to be a Pirate on their first day of high school.

Our inaugural Pirate Day was a tremendous success thanks to the hard work by our entire faculty and staff who assisted in the coordination and monitoring of the different locations. Our students participated and were engaged in the various activities as they quickly learned our school’s motto, “Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!”



## Roosevelt Elementary

13451 Merkel Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8056 • <http://roosevelt-push-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Susan Marilley**  
Principal

## Roughriders Are in CHARGE!

The establishment of a school culture that promotes learning is key to student success. Theodore Roosevelt School is a community that focuses on learning and the achievement of goals. Through the establishment of school-wide Guidelines for Success, an integral component of the Safe and Civil Schools program, expectations are clear to all stakeholders. These guidelines serve as the foundation of our school culture.

At the beginning of the school year all students attend Safe and Civil Schools assemblies designed to support the Guidelines for Success. The Roosevelt Roughriders are Cooperative, Honest, Ambitious, Responsible, Goal-Oriented, and Enthusiastic (CHARGE). These guidelines are reinforced daily by the principal during morning announcements. Students who demonstrate outstanding

Roughrider behavior choices earn CHARGE cards, which are placed in a weekly prize raffle. The Guidelines for Success are visible throughout the school: from banners and student folders to student and staff attire—even mouse pads in the computer labs!

The importance of regular, daily school attendance is a focus point during the Safe and Civil Schools assemblies. If students are not in school, they cannot learn. Grade levels

are presented with banners for students to sign, indicating their commitment to come to school every day, on time, and ready to learn. The banners are displayed in the library. Positive school attendance is also supported via weekly acknowledgement of the classes in each grade level with outstanding attendance for the week. Those classes receive trophies, and the students earn the privilege of being first in line for lunch!

As the principal reminds the students each morning, “Roosevelt Roughriders, you are in CHARGE of the choices you make each and every day!”



## Tanner *Elementary*

7210 Rosecrans Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8060 • <https://tanner-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Holly Hennessy**  
*Principal*

### Off to a ROARING Start!

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Howard Tanner. This year Tanner Tigers will “ROAR to the GOLD” as we focus on creating a safe and caring environment, conducive to student success and high expectations. Parent involvement and promoting the connection between home and school will be a key component in helping our school succeed. On the first day back,

parents enjoyed “Coffee with the Principal.” Over 100 parents were introduced to the common core Math and English Language Arts curriculums, our PTA president, staff members, and a number of special programs that will be coming to Tanner throughout the year. Parents learned about Tanner’s Guidelines for Success: Respect, Outstanding, Achievement, Responsible, the “ROAR” of the school that all students know and are held accountable for on a daily basis. Great things are happening at Tanner this year.



## Wirtz *Elementary*

8535 Contreras St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8068 • <http://wirtz-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Connie Toscano**  
*Principal*

### I’m Going to College!

Wirtz Elementary School has a new goal for the 2016–2017 school year: to create a college-going culture among its students. We believe that it’s important to expose students to the idea of college attendance at an early age so that by the time they’re in high school they are already planning their college career.

We are implementing several new programs this year in order to meet our goal of college awareness. First, we are spotlighting a local college or university in our cafeteria each month, as well as including an “I’m Going to College” corner in our school newsletter. Next, all students and staff members are being asked to wear a college t-shirt every Thursday.

Teachers are also leading by example, as they have created a college display in their classrooms, which includes the universities they attended, their majors, and the other important information they have shared with their students. The cafeteria has also become our “university common room.” As students enter the cafeteria they are greeted with banners and pennants of universities from across the country, as well as a map indicating where our staff members went to school.

We are also planning college trips for our upper-grade students so that they can experience life on a college campus first hand. They will view academic buildings, residence halls, the student center, the library, dining facilities, etc.

With these experiences and opportunities, it is our hope that, upon graduation from high school, all of our students will be saying, “I’m Going to College!”



**Assistant Counselor, Erica Figueroa, shares her college experience with students inside the counseling office.**

# Zamboni *Middle School*

15733 Orange Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8048 • <https://zamboni-pusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Sue Saikaly**  
*Principal*

## We Are Zamboni WILDCATS

The Zamboni Wildcats are off to a great start this year as they roll out their Guidelines for Success. Using the letters that spell WILDCATS, the Guidelines for Success provide students with specific information about attitudes, traits and behaviors that will help them succeed in school and throughout their lives. Seventh grade student, Donald

Webb says, “My two favorite letters are the ‘I’ for Innovative Thinker and the ‘T’ for Taking Responsibility because they help you to be successful in life and remind you that it’s important to take responsibility for your actions.”

To support the Guidelines for Success, every teacher turns in a weekly nomination of a student who has demonstrated a WILDCATS trait. On Fridays, a student is selected from each grade level to be recognized during the announcements and receive a gift card.



## Halloween 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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put Paramount in the subject line)

**Entries must be received by November 15, 2016**

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

- |              |                |                |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| BLACK CAT    | GHOST          | SPIDER         |
| CANDY        | GHOUL          | SWAMP CREATURE |
| CARVE        | GRAVE          | TRICK OR TREAT |
| CEMETERY     | HAUNTED HOUSE  | VAMPIRE        |
| COSTUME      | HALLOWEEN      | WEB            |
| DECORATIONS  | JACK O LANTERN | WEREWOLF       |
| FRANKENSTEIN | MUMMY          | WITCH          |
| FRIGHTFUL    | SKELETON       | ZOMBIE         |

Jensen Coop created this Word Search

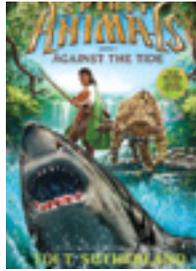


## Alana's Book Review



### Spirit Animals—Against the Tide

By Tui T. Sutherland  
Travel across Edras alongside Meilin, Rollan, Conor, and Abeke as they make their way to the Hundred Isles in an attempt to retrieve yet another talisman



- the Coral Octopus. However, after a demoralizing encounter with the enemy in Arctica, it is apparent that a traitor is in their midst. Will the team be able to put aside their emotions, or will their mistrust for one another be their downfall?

As a story centered around Abeke, I was prepared to be bored while reading this but upon closer inspection, I realized that Abeke is a completely different character than I had initially thought. I would give this book four stars because there wasn't much action or combat however, this book managed to completely change my perspective on a character, (it's harder than it sounds) so I'll give it credit for that.

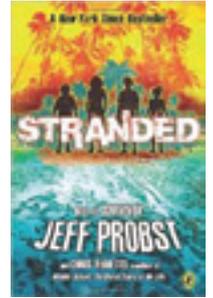
Alana is a student columnist. When she doesn't have a book in her hands, she enjoys playing video games and writing fiction. She rates books on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest.

## Isabella's Book Review



### Get Lost in the Pages of Stranded

*Stranded* is the first book and the best in the series. When Carter and Jane's mother marries Vanessa and Buzz's father, uncle Dexter a boat captain takes the new four siblings on a bonding trip. However, it doesn't exactly turn out that way. A storm sinks the boat. They try to get in the life boat, but Dexter gets in first. The storm takes the life boat away from the young kids. Fortunately, they make it to a close by island that is rocky and full of jungle. They were starting get along and now they are in the middle of the South Pacific! This could be good or horrible. Will these kids survive each other?



I give this book three and half stars because it can be fun, exciting and adventurous, but also a bit long in some parts.

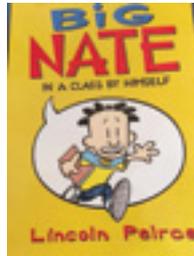
Isabella is in fifth grade and continues to enjoy writing fictional stories based on true events, which she looks forward to learning how to publish when she is older. She will rate the books 1 to 5 with 5 being the best.

## Michael's Book Review



### Big Nate in A Class All By Himself

Nate knows he is destined for greatness. When a fortune cookie confirms that, he is very excited. The fortune reads "Today you will surpass all others." He soon learns that trouble seems to be



following him everywhere. Instead of something good happening, bad things happen. He receives detention slips from all of his teachers. Confused by it all Nate tries to figure out, how it all went wrong.

Later he realizes that although he did have a really bad day, his fortune cookie was correct. He surpassed all others by establishing a new record. He was the first person to get 7 detention slips in one day! Nobody could believe it, but Nate was happy because his fortune came true.

I give this book 5 stars because it kept me interested the whole time. His adventure made me laugh and Nate didn't give up until he made his fortune come true. I may never want to come close to that record, but reading about it was fun.

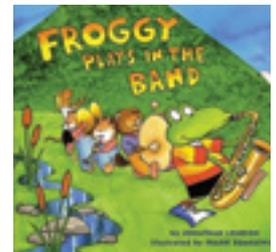
Michael H. is a 4th grade student. Besides his love for reading, he also enjoys Karate, playing guitar and sharing new adventures with his mom. He will rate the books 1 to 5 stars with 5 being the highest.

## Richard's Book Review



### Follow Through Pays Off

The book, *Froggy Plays in the Band* by Jonathan London, is one of the series of books about Froggy by this author. Froggy and his friends wanted to be in a band, but



they weren't good at it, so their music teacher told them they had three weeks to practice until the march, and if they did good they might win a prize. At first Froggy and his friends didn't play well, but after they practiced hard for 3 weeks they ended up sounding very good in the marching band and got a Golden Trophy in the shape of a saxophone as a reward.

I liked how the story is that in the beginning Froggy and his friends were discouraged, but practiced hard anyway, and all their hard work had paid off, because practice makes perfect, and everyone should stay determined and work hard to follow through to reach their goal. I also liked many fun illustrations in the book by Frank Remkiewicz.

Richard J. is a second grader who likes math, coloring, fun activities, playing on the playground and reading. Richard rates the book 5 out of 5, with 5 being the best.

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Balance amount	Bonus	Balance amount	Bonus
\$10,000 – \$20,000	\$100	\$40,001 – \$50,000	\$400
\$20,001 – \$30,000	\$200	\$50,001 +	\$500
\$30,001 – \$40,000	\$300		



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\*ScholarShare has received a Silver rating from Morningstar, making it one of the best-rated plans in the nation. In an annual review (10/20/2015) of the largest 529 college savings plans (64 total), Morningstar identified 29 plans that rose above their typical peers, awarding those plans Gold, Silver, and Bronze Morningstar Analyst Ratings for 2015. These forward-looking, qualitative ratings signal Morningstar's conviction in the plans' abilities to outperform their relevant benchmark and peer groups on a risk-adjusted basis over the long term. Morningstar evaluates college savings plans based on five key pillars — Process, Performance, People, Parent, and Price. For more information about Morningstar's overview of ScholarShare, go to [529.morningstar.com](http://529.morningstar.com). Past performance does not predict future results. Source: [529.morningstar.com](http://529.morningstar.com)



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