



**Raul
Maldonado**

Palmdale PROMISE

I want to congratulate the eighth-grade students who are promoting this year. They persevered through closed schools, distance learning, masks and social distancing, and they continued to pursue

their education. As a result, they are poised to step into high school and move forward into their future.

The Palmdale PROMISE vision states, "Every student leaves ready for success in high school and beyond: college, career and the global world." Helping students realize their full potential has always been the mission of the Palmdale School District. The Palmdale School District magnet school pathways allow students to explore where their interests may take them. Palmdale students are exposed to engineering, art, aerospace, medicine, film, dance, music, law and government. Plus, some of our students become literate in two languages. All of these opportunities help to create independent, successful adults. It is exciting to see a student grow from the first day of kindergarten to the last day of eighth grade. But it is more satisfying to see a student who went beyond the boundaries of the Antelope Valley return and give back to the community as an adult.

Each year at the new-teacher academy, at least one new teacher stands up and says, "I was a Palmdale School District student." Every time I hear that, I know Palmdale School District and the Palmdale PROMISE are working. I can honestly say with pride Palmdale leads!

Finally, I want to wish everyone a great summer! We are looking forward to planning an electrifying start of the new school year 2022-23.

Competitions are Back!

*By Candace Craven MA Ed.,
Coordinator Extended Learning and
Community Outreach*

Palmdale School District students jumped into competitions this spring. Teams from schools across the district demonstrated their knowledge and creativity in two events. Cyberquest, and Black Knowledge Bowl were held in person. Parents and staff came out to support and cheer for the students.

Cyberquest teams were given real-world problems and were tasked with finding a solution, creating a budget for their solution, and presenting the information to a panel of judges. The competition was hosted by SAGE Magnet Academy and boasted hands-on exhibits and demonstrations that included a radio-controlled plane demonstration. The competition had both elementary and middle school teams. In the elementary competition, Ocotillo Cyber Squad took first, Cimarron Tech Stars took second, and Golden Poppy Grizzly Snaps took



David G. Millen team jumps up to collect their first-place trophy.

See **COMPETITIONS** • Page 3

President's Message

By Simone Zulu-Diol, Board President

As this year ends, I am looking back over the school board members' actions and am proud of our decisions for the good of students in the Palmdale School District. At the beginning of the school year, we made many significant decisions as a school board. The one thing we are very proud of is bringing back our students in person, and all of us are very happy to see our students in our teachers' classrooms. In addition, I am excited about the learning gardens at some school sites! These gardens support the next-generation science standards and allow students to expand their practical hands-on science experience.

In addition to seeds and planter boxes, the gardens are supplied with a shed to hold garden tools and supplies and a shaded seating area for an outdoor classroom.

Students will get a great deal of use from these gardens. We have upgraded the internet service to many sites to allow faster and more reliable connections for students and staff. Schools have future learning environments where the classroom is flexible and can be configured to allow small groups to work on projects or whole groups for direct instruction. Makerspaces are established, and students have had the opportunity to create projects utilizing the makerspace at their site.

See **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** • Page 3

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Counselors Corner

39139 North 10th St. East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • bit.ly/PSD_SchoolCounseling

It's Not a Sprint, It's a Marathon

With summer break on the horizon, PSD's school counselors are hard at work trying to get their students across the proverbial finish line. Not only do our eighth-graders now move on to high school, but our fifth-graders are also making the big transition to middle school.

Studies show that if students have a positive experience during their first year in middle school, their chances for success will increase dramatically. By going to the feeder elementary schools, school counselors have the unique opportunity to begin the transition process and make it as smooth as possible. For many students, this will be the first time that they get to work with a school counselor, and so it is a golden opportunity for us to make a lasting impression.

The school counselors are tasked with working with the eighth-grade WEB leaders. WEB stands for "Where Everybody Belongs." It is an amazing program that welcomes incoming students and makes them feel comfortable throughout their first year of the middle school experience. These eighth-grade leaders will soon be empowered to help our newcomers overcome the unique challenges that come with middle school.

Once this whirlwind of a process is completed, the school counselors will proudly see off their eighth-graders, turn the page, and then line up for next year's "marathon" all over again.

WEB stands for

"Where Everybody Belongs."

It is an amazing program that welcomes incoming students and makes them feel comfortable throughout their first year of the middle school experience.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Superintendent Maldonado begins this issue with his message on the front page highlighting the success of the Palmdale School District and the Palmdale PROMISE. It is wonderful when PSD students return to teach in the District.

Our next issue is October 5. Have a wonderful summer and please remember to include the library among your summer activity choices.

Congratulations
8th Grade Students.
Enjoy High School!

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Social Emotional Connections

Creating Family and Foundation

By *Lyndsie Williams, LCSW-Social/Emotional Learning Specialist*

The social/emotional learning specialists (SELS) of Palmdale School District are the licensed mental-health professionals on our elementary campuses, including our newest member, Denika Chacon at SAGE Magnet Academy. As mental-health professionals throughout our campuses, we identify the social and emotional needs in our students and families, with the goal of promoting mental health, positive social skills and personal growth.

As SELS, one of our target populations comprises our foster and homeless youth students. We support foster students and families and serve as the liaison between DCFs, students, parents and guardians, and educational staff. We understand the unique challenges and educational needs of students in foster care. Our students in foster care experience high rates of trauma, including but not limited to the instability and sense of security that are lost with the continuation of moving schools and home placements. This trauma can significantly impact learning. When working with our foster-youth students, we strive to support school stability, initiate any academic and counseling support as needed, and create a sense of community and safety within the school setting by addressing the trauma and the behavioral and social-emotional needs of those students. The SELS meet with our foster youth students at least once a week in a group setting and one-on-one as needed. In the foster-youth groups, a sense of belonging, safety and community is

established and understood as each student is able to understand the emotional processes of the others. It is a unique group led by the SELS, as these groups are truly student led, as they share their experiences, share their needs, and express empathy for one another. Many of the foster students share that their weekly group is their favorite time of the week, as it is the only time that they are surrounded by peers that fully understand what they are going through no matter what step of the process they are in.



As a continued effort to support our foster-youth students to be successful not only on their academic journey but also in life, Palmdale School District has partnered with the Fostering Dreams Project. This program is designed specifically for our foster-youth population as a way to help inspire them, build social skills, gain self-confidence, and participate in the world of arts and music. Additionally, some campuses provide the opportunity for their foster youth to go on field trips with their assigned SELS to allow the students to have experiences they may not otherwise have while promoting personal and social development. The students of Tumbleweed Elementary will be going to the Los Angeles Zoo for their end-of-the-year field trip.

As we all know, each student on our campuses is a pillar of success, waiting for their moment to shine. Our role as social/emotional learning specialists is to ensure that our foster-youth students have that understanding and self-awareness. Our foster youth are loved, are important, and will change the world!

Child Nutrition, Health & Physical Well-Being

Tasty Treasure

By Alecia Woods, Director Child Nutrition

Despite the many menu-related challenges in the year, we are committed to serving fresh fruits and vegetables every day. In partnership with the Department of Defense Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, we have recently been able to offer some tasty treats for our students to try. Selected schools have had the opportunity to receive avocados, organic blueberries, kiwi, blood oranges, organic strawberries, and more. Our students at David G. Millen had the opportunity to taste Underground Candy, also known as rutabaga. While it had mixed reviews, we were grateful that the students had the courage to try something new. We are hopeful that the supply chain will stabilize in time for the 2022-2023 school year. In the meantime, we look forward to our Summer Meal Programs.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES • From Page 1

Each school is unique, and each project rolls out to the schools on a timeline. It is hard to be patient and wait, but know that the upgrades are coming! Some are big and dramatic, with new paint jobs and logos, and some are hidden, like upgraded internet service. But throughout the year, your board has worked to improve the students' experience at school.

Work on the sites continues over the summer. We look forward to welcoming you back with some new surprises. For now, I want to wish everyone a great summer!

COMPETITIONS ARE BACK! • From Page 1

third. In the middle school competition, David G. Millen Tech Masterminds took first, SAGE Text Squad took second, and David G. Millen Storytellers took third.

The Black Knowledge Bowl teams were given a study guide—all the information was in the study guide. Teams from elementary and middle schools competed in the same competition. Teams demonstrated their knowledge of countries, flags, cuisine and inventors, to name a few categories. During each of the five nights of competition, the scores were very close—sometimes, one question determined the winner. At the end of the final round, the winners were Palm Tree Elementary in first place, Dos Caminos in second place and Palmdale Learning Plaza in third place.



Ocotillo team runs to collect their first-place trophy.

The spirit and sportsmanship shown by all the teams, winning or not, were outstanding. Teams stood and clapped, cheered, and supported one another in all the competitions. Palmdale students show true maturity in all aspects of competition. Palmdale Leads!

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Barrel Springs *Elementary TK-5*

3636 Ponderosa Way, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/285-9270 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4452



Rena Thorogood
Principal

Noon Duty Supervisors

Ask anyone that is in the field of education and they would agree that this 2021-2022 school year has been filled with excitement, as well as many challenges. At Barrel Springs, our Noon Duty Supervisors have taken the challenges of this school year as an opportunity to build and create an environment that is safe, nurturing, and exciting. The Barrel Springs Noon Duty Supervisors collaborated with each other early in the school year and set a framework for making Barrel Springs a fun and happy place for students to gain knowledge and enjoy learning. Our

Noon Duty Supervisors made it their mission to know every students' name and establish a rapport with our scholars that promoted a successful first step for students to enjoy and appreciate their school. That dedication and commitment has continued throughout this school year.



Buena Vista *Elementary TK-5*

37005 Hillcrest Drive, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-4158 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4453



Dr. Alusine Conteh
Principal

Buena Vista Raises \$10,993 During Kids Heart Challenge!!

The Buena Vista Pandas participated in the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge during the month of February. Under the leadership of Buena Vista's Physical Education Teacher Ashley Sharp, Buena Vista raised a total of \$10,993! This was the highest ever for Buena Vista, the highest in all of the Palmdale School District this year and the highest amount raised by any school EVER! Buena Vista's participation in the Kids Heart Challenge program helped our students focus on whole body wellness by inspiring them to improve their own

health and better their character while raising life-saving donations for the American Heart Association to help kids and adults facing heart-health issues. Congratulations to the Top 3 classes: 1st Place: Mrs. Lake- \$2,357 2nd Place: Mrs. Carlos- \$2,347 3rd Place: Ms. Gonzalez - \$1,529.



Cactus *Medical Health / Technology Magnet Academy 6-8*

3243 East Avenue R-8, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/273-0847 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4454



Michelle White
Principal

Congratulations to Our Artistic Students!

Cactus Magnet Academy is known for our medical and technology pathways, but Cactus also has some extremely talented artists! Working in the arts helps our scholars develop creative problem

solving skills, fine motor skills, and boosts critical thinking. Our art teacher, Ms. Riha, submitted some of our students' artwork into the local Council for Art Education (CFAE) art competition for Youth Art Month and they placed! Dahlia received 2nd place overall in 2D artwork and the honor of being displayed on the website's home page. Brisa received 3rd place overall in 3D artwork. We also had 3 honorable mentions. Dahlia and Brisa's pieces moved on to the Southern California Regional Art show and Brisa received an Honorable Mention! Their work is currently displayed at the Riverside Art Museum. More of our students' fabulous work will be on display at the Palmdale School District Art Show. We are so proud of our Coyotes!



Brisa - Cactus Magnet Academy



Dahlia - Cactus Magnet Academy

Chaparral *Prep Academy TK-5*

37500 50th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-9777 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4455



Roxanne Dashti
Principal

The EXCEL Model

Here at Chaparral Prep Academy, we are working on becoming a Capturing Kids Hearts showcase school. One of the ways that we are accomplishing this is by practicing the EXCEL model during every meeting that is held.

EXCEL stands for engage, x-plore, communicate, empower and launch. We engage by starting off on a positive note with both students and parents. We then "x-plore" by identifying the needs of the group. We must learn what our students need and how they learn to best serve them. Communication is an essential part of the process. This is not just the teacher communicating with the student but also listening to the students, parents and the community with the intent to truly understand.



It is only when we truly understand that we can then fully empower anyone to achieve their full potential. We finally launch our students into becoming what they are meant to be.

At Chaparral, we strive to EXCEL at everything that we do!

Cimarron *Elementary TK-5*

36940 45th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-9780 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4456



Chris O'Neill
Principal

CyberQuest Competition

There was excitement in the air at SAGE Academy on Saturday, April 9th. Many schools had teams there ready for the CyberQuest competition. Cimarron sent our Tech Star team consisting of Ryan Perfetto, Nathalie Guzman, Johanna Rivera, and Emmalinn Rafferty. Their topic was Cyber Bullying and the pros and cons of technology. They made a two minute video skit which they created and edited themselves on Cyber Bullying. After the first round, they announced that Cimarron made the finals! After a short break, and a quick trip to the SAGE Planetarium, our Tech Star team competed again. They did a great job and came in second place in the district!



We also brought our third grade GATE girls, Annabelle Perfetto, Erika Arellano, and Annalise Dorado who brought their presentation board with the topic of Pros and Cons of Technology. They also did a great job and are hoping to compete next year!

Desert Willow *Fine Arts, Science, Technology Magnet Academy 6-8*

36555 Sunny Lane, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/285-5866 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4459



Timothy Howell
Principal

Molecules in Motion

Have you ever wondered what happens to the molecules of air inside of the Pringles can as it sits in the sun? I have done so many times and I have found out the answer, thanks to Ms. Farmer and her science classes. Students were able to increase their understanding about temperature and molecular motion by using online simulations to heat and cool molecules while observing the motion of the molecules. They built solar ovens using a Pringles can and marshmallows. They used the information they gathered from the simulation to discuss why the marshmallow became softer and stickier after being in the solar oven. This lesson taught them the ins and outs of temperature change and molecular motion. Our determined scholars were about to see the correlation between molecular motion and kinetic energy. This sticky situation proved to be a fun and engaging activity.



Desert Rose *Elementary TK-5*

37730 27th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/272-0584 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4458



Melanie Pagliaro
Principal

Art Contest

At Desert Rose, we strive to provide students with opportunities to be creative and use their imagination. Last month, our student council decided to have an art contest. Students in grades 2-5 were able to create different artwork to display in the hallways. Some of the paintings incorporated various science concepts they learned, while others incorporated different hobbies they enjoy. All our students were able to vote on their favorite. The artwork created was developed in our makerspace. The top 3 winners earned different prizes and were able to take a picture with their artwork. Some students entered their art work in the District Art Show! We look forward to seeing it displayed at the District office. Our student council leader Bambi Pahl has done a wonderful job in providing our students with ways to make our school a better place for everyone. Desert Rose Leads!



Dos Caminos *Dual Immersion Elementary K-8*

39066 Palm Tree Way, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-1849 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4459



Dr. Sarah Zepeda
Principal

Spotlight on Our Health Aide/LVN: Araceli Barajas

Of course, no one enjoys feeling ill or getting injured, but at Dos Caminos we all know that, on those occasions, our Health Aide/LVN Araceli Barajas is going to help brighten our day. Whether she is tending to a bruised knee or a bruised ego, communicating with students or parents, or making sure we have all of the health and medical supplies we need--Araceli always gives 150%. And, during this challenging year of managing the impacts of the pandemic on our site, Araceli Barajas has been a real-life Superhero! Each day, puts on her magical cape of knowledge, skill, care, and compassion as she comes to the rescue of those in need.

We don't even want to imagine what we would do without her.



Golden Poppy *Elementary TK-5*

37802 Rockie Lane, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-3683 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4459



Sandra Salas-Rodriguez
Principal

What a Season!

Can you hear that? Well, it's our Grizzlies roaring all through the district! The Grizzlies have had an amazing year, and it is only going to get better!

Our staff and students have been working hard. This year we were able to begin with a music program that will continue into next year. Our awesome ASB put on some great charitable events too, and this month our PTA will also be opening the Grizzly Store so that students with earned Grizzly Great tickets can use them to purchase items. There is something for everyone at the Grizzly Great Store!



We have also been implementing Capturing Kids Hearts throughout the school year. Social Contracts are being implemented, and students are greeted every day when they come to school. We also had a wonderful turnout for Read Across America. Our community members came in and read several stories to the students throughout the day.

It has been an exciting year at Golden Poppy, home of the Grizzlies, the best school in the district!

Joshua Hills *Elementary TK-5*

3030 Fairfield, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/265-9992 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4463



Alicia Garcia
Principal

Jackrabbit Best Behavior Incentives

We started a new behavior-incentive system at the start of this school year to encourage positive student behavior and reward our Jackrabbits for their efforts in being safe, respectful and responsible students both inside and outside their classrooms. We are near the end of the school year, and these efforts continue to be praised by families, students and staff.

Students are able to earn Jackrabbit Tickets from any staff member on campus to use in our Jackrabbit Best Behavior Store. Our noon-duty coaches help set up our store and, together with our amazing teachers, help our Jackrabbits trade their tickets for items that have values ranging from five to 200 tickets.



In addition to our store, teachers have the opportunity to award the top three or four students that excel in being safe, respectful and responsible with a Golden Jackrabbit Best Behavior Ticket each month. These students join me in a celebration with a surprise treat. Being safe, respectful and responsible does not go unnoticed at Joshua Hills!

Innovations Academy *K-8*

37230 37th St. E., Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/265-8908 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/5403



Melissa Garcia
Principal

ELPAC Testing Team

Innovations Academy is celebrating our ELPAC Testing team. A team of 10 awesome teachers worked together to bring students onto campus and ensure they were tested! Our amazing team reached 100% testing completion! We are so very proud of our team! As we transition between this year and next, we are now enrolling for the 2022-2023 school year. Families will be able to enroll in a Traditional Independent Study Model or a Virtual School Model. Families who are interested in learning more about the two pathways a student can enroll in our encouraged to attend one of our Parent Information Sessions. We host 3 each week! Call our office today to learn more and how we can support your student in the virtual platform!

Parent Information Sessions for New & Returning Families:

Zoom Link: <https://palmdalesd.zoom.us/j/99809168985>

Monday, May 2 at 12 p.m.

Wednesday, May 4 at 12 p.m.

Thursday, May 5 at 10 a.m.

Monday, May 9 at 11 a.m.

Wednesday, May 11 at 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 12 at 2 p.m.

Monday, May 16 at 12 p.m.

Wednesday, May 18 at 12 p.m.

Thursday, May 19 at 3 p.m.

Mesquite *Elementary TK-5*

37622 43rd Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-8376 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4466



Ken Young
Principal

Mesquite's Dramatic Play and SEL Room

Mesquite Elementary School is proud to announce the opening of Mesquite Village, our new dramatic play and SEL (Social Emotional Learning) room! Mesquite Village is another tool that we will utilize to improve the social emotional learning of our TK - 1st grade students in a fun, engaging, creative, and interactive manner! Mesquite Village contains the following 8 dramatic play areas in a village themed atmosphere: Mountain Lion Veterinary Center & Animal Hospital, Mesquite Market Grocery Store, Golden Mountain Lion Cafe, Mesquite Medical Center & Nursery Clinic, MQ Auto World, Mountain Lion Construction Company, Mesquite Post Office, and the Mesquitewood Theatre! These fun and engaging SEL dramatic play areas will give the children the opportunity to assume various roles as they use creative play to actively interact with each other while building their social emotional learning skills!



Los Amigos *Dual Immersion K-8*

6640 East Avenue R-8, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/285-1546 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4464



Dr. Yesenia Diaz
Principal

Somos Número Uno!

This school year, whether it be early in the morning, after school, or on any given day, you will notice students and teachers working diligently on many different projects and activities. Our students are either training for sports in the field or courts, learning robotics, doing Project Lead the Way assignments, Mathletes, Science Olympiad, Latino Literacy Knowledge Bowl, Black Knowledge Bowl, or ASB.

Our students' enthusiasm and effort is evident. Our teachers have dedicated much of their time to working with the students this school year in preparing them to represent Los Amigos in many different events. We are proud to share that our Los Amigos Dragons have won first-place trophies in the girls' varsity and junior varsity volleyball division, and second-place in our varsity basketball.

We also won the silver medal in the Science Olympiad competition. Furthermore, our students placed first and second in our seventh-grade team Mathletes, and third place in the sixth-grade team Mathletes' competition at Shadow Hills. Some of our students also placed third and fourth in individual Mathletes competitions. We can't wait for our students to participate in the upcoming Sumo Robotics Tournament, soccer, and track and field events, either.

Los Amigos is a place where stars are made: future scientists, athletes, and leaders. We are proud of our students! Los Amigos son Número Uno!



Summer Fun 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 Palmdale in the subject line)

Entries must be received by July 15, 2022
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble!

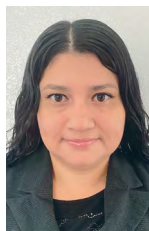
- | | | |
|---------|-------------|------------|
| BEACH | SKATING | SWIMMING |
| HIKING | PICNIC | DIVING |
| WALKING | SURFING | WATCH TV |
| JOGGING | SHOPPING | IPAD |
| RUNNING | CHATTING | GAMES |
| READING | ROAD TRIP | INSTAGRAM |
| TEXTING | HANGING OUT | GEOCACHING |

Congratulations to
Nelva Alamillo & Jasmine Sierra
Winner of the March Word Search Contest!

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

Manzanita *Elementary TK-5*

38620 33rd Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/947-3128 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4465



Parent Connections at Manzanita

At Manzanita making family connections is very important. This year, our Manzanita parents had the opportunity to participate in a parent engagement program presented by the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE). PIQE engages, empowers and transforms families by providing the knowledge and the skills to partner with schools and communities to ensure their students achieve their full potential. The parent engagement program consisted of 8 virtual sessions, each focused on a variety of topics such as collaboration between home, school, and community, self-esteem and academic achievement, and understanding the school system. The last session was an opportunity for parents to share their experience and receive a certificate of completion. The best part was being able to connect with other parents and continuing those connections. Parents really enjoyed this learning experience and are grateful for having this opportunity.

Carmen Saenz
Principal



David G. Millen

*Law and Government
Magnet Academy 6-8*

39221 22nd Street West, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-3075 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4457



Staff Spotlight: Michael Butler

Is that a bullet? Is that a train? No, it's super...er... Michael Butler, teacher extraordinaire! There is no better way to describe Mr. Butler. As a teacher of 32 years, he still maintains the energy level and pace

of a new teacher. He defies the laws of nature. He currently is serving in multiple leadership positions at David G. Millen and the District. He coaches competitive sports teams at DGM (volleyball, basketball, and sometimes soccer), swiftly fulfills the duties of Athletic Director for the district, and serves on the School Leadership Team (SLT) as the English Language Arts department chair. As Athletic Director, Michael has spent countless working hours preparing and organizing every detail of the highly competitive Promise Interscholastic Sports League. This year, he introduced an amazing website to be a one stop location for all things PSD sports. The site is located at: bit.ly/psdsports. Mr. Butler is a true district asset.

Jason Deaville
Principal



Oak Tree *Community Day School K-8*

38136 35th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/285-1548 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4467



Fredrick Gatlin
Principal

Great Things Happened at Oak Tree in 2021/2022

It's been an amazing, full year for Oak Tree! Our middle school students participated in weekly field trips to the Wolf Connection in Acton, a program that uses rescued animals to challenge students as they build self-esteem, mutual respect, and teamwork while practicing the Wolf Principles. The empowering team of Ms. Margaret Hicks and Mrs. Staci Jordan led our young women in a unique weekly support program which included some crafts and relevant discussions. Additionally, these two teacher leaders

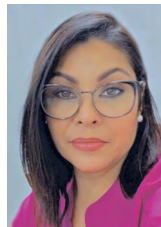
collaborated to organize a Career Week for students, 4th grade and up, to meet a diverse mix of community members from a variety of career paths for an in-person on-site conference. Finally, we will soon be wishing our best to the transitioning 8th graders as they take the next step in their lifelong learning journey to high school and beyond.



Ms. Hicks and Mrs. Jordan

Palmdale Academy Charter School

3838 East Avenue R, Palmdale, CA 92550 • 661/234-4800 • <https://www.palmdalesd.org/pachs>



Dr. Kathya Arriaran-Buono
Principal

African American Showcase

On February 25, 2022 we had our first African American Showcase right here in our own school. Our teachers Mrs. Jackson and Ms. Lopez orchestrated the whole event. We had several performances from the wonderful students. The drumline, step team, cheerleaders, folklorico and dance team performed. They did such an amazing job bringing forth African American culture to our students and parents.

On March 11, 2022 we had our very first Spring Concert which was led by our music teacher Ms. Lopez. The staff, students and families were able to watch a wonderful performance by her orchestra and mariachi classes who did an exceptional job with their instruments. The orchestra class has only been playing for a few months and that did not show because they did an amazing job. The students and staff here at PACS work very hard every day to make this school a great place.



Ocotillo *Elementary K-5*

38737 Ocotillo School Drive, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-9987 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4468



Dr. Beverly Martin
Principal

Field Trips and Assemblies, Oh My!

At Ocotillo we were adamant that our students would have the experiences that they had missed out on at the beginning of the pandemic. Our teachers and staff found places that followed the same DPH and PSD COVID protocols as us and made field trips and assemblies happen for many of our students this year. Our Kinders restarted their pumpkin patch tradition, our upper grades got to experience live history at VT Ranch, while others had an iMax journey. We also brought assemblies back and have enjoyed Higher Impact, Griot B, BMX, and Mad Science, all while maintaining COVID protocols with our staff and students. The light in our students' eyes came back and they loved every minute of it. We'd like to thank our community partners for creating safe experiences for our students to enjoy again.



Palmdale Discovery Center *Pre-8*

39174 Palm Tree Way, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-0181 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4470



Colleen Sawyer
Principal

Year of Enthusiasm

It has been a fantastic year for Palmdale Discovery Center! As we enter the last part of our school year, I would like to recognize the commitment and enthusiasm of our staff members who have continued to lead our program with positivity and enthusiasm.

We were all very grateful to have a school year in which the majority of our students were back on campus learning. Though we still faced some challenges related to the coronavirus pandemic, we moved through the year with success and positivity! Our students proved that they can overcome any obstacles that they are faced with.

For the past five years, Palmdale Discovery Center has been a showcase school for Capturing Kids' Hearts! We are excited to be nominated once again for this great title, and we hope to be honored to represent Capturing Kids' Hearts again for the next year.

April was Autism Awareness Month. During April, we saw the international community come together in recognition of those who have autism. At PDC, we were excited to fill the month with activities planned to increase awareness and acceptance. The ultimate goal of Autism Awareness Month is to foster worldwide support for those who have autism.

I would like to thank all of our staff members for their hard work and dedication. They are the driving force responsible for the positive learning environment we have at PDC.

Have a wonderful summer!

Palmdale Learning Plaza *K-8*

38043 Division Street, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/538-9034 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4471



Susan Summers
Principal

S'More Reading

Reading has benefits across a student's academic journey. As students improve their ability to read, they open doors to other subject matters, creating opportunity to chase a passion and immediately reflected in student performance. And now at PLP, reading tastes good, too!

As part of PLP's Read Across America celebration, classes participated in a door-decorating contest. Up and down the hallways of PLP, classroom doors were adorned with student-

made art to represent some classroom favorites such as *Harold and the Purple Crayon* and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. A judging panel of student representatives from PLP's ASB walked the halls and selected winners from each participating age group: kindergarten through first grade, second grade through third grade and fourth grade through fifth grade.

And what did they win? S'more sandwiches made by the Palmdale School District Lunch Box food truck made their way to Palmdale Learning Plaza to celebrate the winning classes! So now at PLP, reading makes the student days just a little bit sweeter, too!



Palm Tree *Elementary TK-5*

326 East Avenue R, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/265-9357 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4469



Laura Cervantes
Principal

Congratulations, 2022 Black Knowledge Bowl Champions!

After three consecutive years of hard work and commitment, Palm Tree scholars won the Black Knowledge Bowl Championship! Our grade 3 through 5 team was challenged to compete against middle school teams, and our scholars represented themselves with pride. Heading into the championship, the team set realistic goals of improving their team score to secure and achieve a well-deserved win. In fact, the team's accomplishment is a testament of the great sportsmanship shown by this courageous and hard-working group of kids. This successful path was supported by our Palm Tree families and inclusively led by Palm Tree's dedicated staff: Mr. L. Lemons & Mrs. E. Darbeau.



SAGE

*Space and Aeronautics Gateway to Exploration
Magnet Academy 6-8*

38060 20th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/537-6101 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4473



Larry Lueck
Principal

6th/7th Grade Boys Basketball Championship Team

Almost every day this school year, before the first bell, during lunch, as well as, after school you can find our 6th/7th grade basketball boys practicing. Their official

practice began on January 17, 2022, but their unofficial practice began on August 5, 2021, the first day of school. Besides being on the same team together, these boys seem like they are in the same family. The individual respect they have for themselves and each other is hard to duplicate. Their coaches, Mr. Vincent Smith and Mr. Bobby Brown, teach more than just basketball. On game day each player comes to school dressed for success and it carries over to the court. Our entire site is proud to call these boys CHAMPIONS!



Quail Valley *Elementary TK-5*

37236 58th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/533-7100 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4472



Carol Black
Principal

Aloha at Quail Valley's Family Luau

This year planning family events on campus has been challenging with Health and Safety protocols imposed due to the pandemic, so when PTO asked about having a family Luau we were all in. Students and their families came in their Hawaiian costumes and everyone received a lei upon entering the courtyard. There was lots of food, games, and family fun for everyone. Activities included a Limbo contest for kids and a separate one for adults, a dance contest, a best dressed contest, cornhole, and a ring toss. There was also a Hawaiian backdrop for guests to take selfies. It is great to have our families back on campus making memories with their children while at Quail Valley.



Shadow Hills *Engineering & Design Magnet Academy 6-8*

37315 60th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/533-7400 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4474



Kathleen Moshier
Principal

Student Achievement is RISEing at Shadow Hills!

It is that time of year when students have many opportunities to show off all they have learned and worked on this school year. Our Falcons had two opportunities in the past weeks with the first one being the district Mathlete competition. Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders across the district competed in the Mathletes contest, hosted at Shadow Hills with our 6th grade team take first place and our 8th grade team taking second!! Shadow Hills's Alantis Vinson taking the top score for individual 6th graders and Michael Ramos and Benjamin Torres taking 3rd and 4th respectively for the 8th grade individual scores.



Shadow Hills also represent well at the CyberQuest competition with our Dominator Team of Camila Hernandez, Cameron McGriff, Nfongo Athj, and Alexis Soriano putting together a great PSA on how TicTok is addictive and can be unhealthy. This team of 6th and 7th graders was strong and are already planning on what next year will look like!

Summerwind *Elementary TK-5*

39360 Summerwind Drive, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-3863 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4475



Marginese Streeter
Principal

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

We have all heard catchy phrases about teams: "There is no I in team", "Teamwork makes the dream work" and the list goes on, but what does it mean to be a team? A team means: to come together as a group to achieve a common goal. The Special Education Team at Summerwind does just that; the individual members come together to make sure every case manager is able to meet the challenges inherent in the Special Education realm. The SW SpEd Team not only supports each other to complete IEP documents and meet deadlines, but they also lean on one another through the tough times. No matter what the common goal is, this team bands together to support and encourage one another until the goal is reached. They embody the quote by Phil Jackson, "The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team."



Our awesome team members are Inette Tucker, Jill Clifton, Jose Perez-Gomez, Carole Gilmer, Wendy Meyer, Dana Cheney, Lindsey Macneil, Jodi Bateman)

Tamarisk *Renaissance School TK-5*

1843 East Avenue Q-5, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/225-9647 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4476



Dr. Regina Tillman
Principal

Dance Team

The high energy, empowering and uplifting dance team of Tamarisk Elementary, stood in front of hundreds of our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders and used their energy to uplift our students. This performance was unlike any other, as this was our Testing Pep Rally. Led by our rhythmic psychologist, Dr. Amber Willis and our dependable Ms. Rhonda Davis, our dance team put on a show that focused on doing their best in the state exams and reminding our students of how proud we are of them. We are expecting great results from our students, and we know this is in part to the culture that has been created at Tamarisk Elementary.



Tumbleweed *Elementary TK-5*

1100 East Avenue R-4, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/273-4166 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4477



Misti Larrick
Principal

Total "Immersion/Transformation" Lessons Make a Difference

Our 4th grade teachers are creating enriched classroom environments that balance learning with lifelike experiences. This immersive sensory and lifelike experience can create enlargement of neurons and growth of dendrites. They immerse the senses while teaching the content standards; it is academically rich instruction. It is about creating bonds and magical learning moments for students that will remain in their hearts and minds forever. That is exactly what happened when



they turned a classroom into the "Tumbleweed Surgical Center." Students "operated" on patients by solving math problems. They had to work collaboratively, discuss and problem solve, and got to use all of the "surgical equipment" available to assist them. The excitement, joy, and engagement by the students and teachers was immeasurable and the parents sent lots of personal messages to the teachers letting them know how much their child enjoyed this experience.

Yucca *Elementary TK-5*

38440 2nd Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/273-5052 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4479



Terrie Dowling
Principal

Yucca Welcomes Ms. Cindy!

Yucca is proud to introduce our new LVN, Ms. Cindy Daggon. Ms. Cindy started at Yucca in November of



2021 and has made a positive impact on our students and staff. She demonstrates kindness in all she does. She has been a licensed nurse for 13 years. She was born and raised in New York and still misses the subway. In her free time, she spends every moment she can with her INCREDIBLE grandson. She also enjoys doing anything outdoors: biking, hiking, camping, zip-lining, fishing, swimming, martial arts or just exploring new places. Ms. Cindy states that the best part of being a school nurse is that although the students are here to learn, she learns something new from them every day! She is thrilled to be a part of the Yucca Ravens Family and we are thrilled to have her. Welcome, Ms. Cindy!

Yellen *Learning Center K-8*

37015 Goldenview Way, Palmdale, CA 93552 • 661/456-1600 • www.palmdalesd.org/Page/4478



Gia Greaux
Principal

37th Year of Music in Our Schools Month

March 2022 marked the 37th year of Music in Our Schools Month across the nation. In March, music educators and music students celebrated music education in their school communities. For the 2nd semester of the 21-22 school year, Yellen Learning Center embarked on a new journey towards bringing music education into our school and to our students. This semester, Yellen contracted out with Mr. Tony Capko, a local drumming instructor in the Antelope Valley with decades of experience working with schools, to introduce our students to the art of drumming, music rhythm, and rhyme. Music education is an important aspect of providing children with a well-rounded education. Musical training helps to develop language and reasoning and master of memorization. This music program will help our students grow in self-esteem, build essential skills, and prepare them for bright futures. Yellen students and staff are extremely excited about the future of its music program.



District Office (661) 947-7191 • Emergency (888) 474-8107
39139 North 10th Street East, Palmdale, CA 93550
www.palmdalesd.org

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|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Welcome and Enrollment Center | 789-6707 (8am-3pm) |
| Child Nutrition | 789-6565 |
| Educational Services | 789-6755 |
| Health Clinic | 789-6766 (8:30am-11am, 1pm-4pm) |
| Special Education | 789-6746 |
| Student Services | 789-6744 |
| Superintendent's Office | 789-6502 & 789-6503 |



Students are Winners. . .
Must be Present to Win!
Closing the Attendance Gap!