



**Raul
Maldonado**

One of the key tenants of the Palmdale P.R.O.M.I.S.E is the partnership of families, students, teachers, and the district. Distance learning has given partnership a new meaning as parents work side by side with students, teachers, and support staff. Many parents have taken advantage of the tech coaches' training videos and classes to support students at home. The computer technicians at each site have a direct phone line for students and parents to use in case of difficulty.



The PSD Foundation gave away desks and chairs as parents and teachers indicated a need for students to have a dedicated workplace. Students and their families have faced challenges as we all anticipate the time to come back to school. Hybrid or face-to-face, it will be different from a year ago, but we will keep our students on target together. Palmdale families, students, and schools lead.

Happy Holidays
our next issue is
March 3, 2021

First Steps Special Education Preschool

*By Dr. Rondale D. Cooper
Director- Special Education*

Our littlest learners are now on campus for their Initial Assessment for Special Education Services

First Steps Special Education Preschool has transitioned to in person assessments. We are excited to be able to work with our prospective students and their families to make sure that they experience a seamless transition from the North Los Angeles County Regional Center Early Start to School Based Early Childhood Special Education. We have utilized the district provided PPE, and have set up a safe assessment environment for our youngest students and their families to participate in the preschool evaluation process for special education. Our dedicated team of professionals are working diligently to ensure that all students'



educational needs are met. Pictured is our hearing and vision clinic where students receive an educational health evaluation including hearing and vision screening. Our District Nurse Helen Frederickson and Audiologist Dr. Jamie Ross use advanced technology to complete this portion of the assessment.



Plans Becoming Reality

By Dennis Trujillo, Board of Trustees President

This fall has seen multiple examples of plans becoming reality. When school facilities were examined to determine what upgrades were needed, 2020 seemed to be the distant future. I am proud to say the future is here. The ribbon cutting ceremonies for a new Makerspace at Desert Rose, the future high school facility, and the opening of Chaparral Prep Academy, are evidence of the hard work of the board and staff to upgrade the learning environment of the Palmdale School District.

Chaparral Prep Academy demonstrates a student-centered philosophy in design and furnishings. Studios replaced classrooms, sliding walls of floor to ceiling glass replace doors and walls, and hallways create workspaces not walkways are changing the face of schools. Across the district Makerspaces, student friendly seating and work areas, plus colorful walls and floors are ready to welcome students. Everyone involved in that planning long ago should be proud of the result.



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Early Childhood Education

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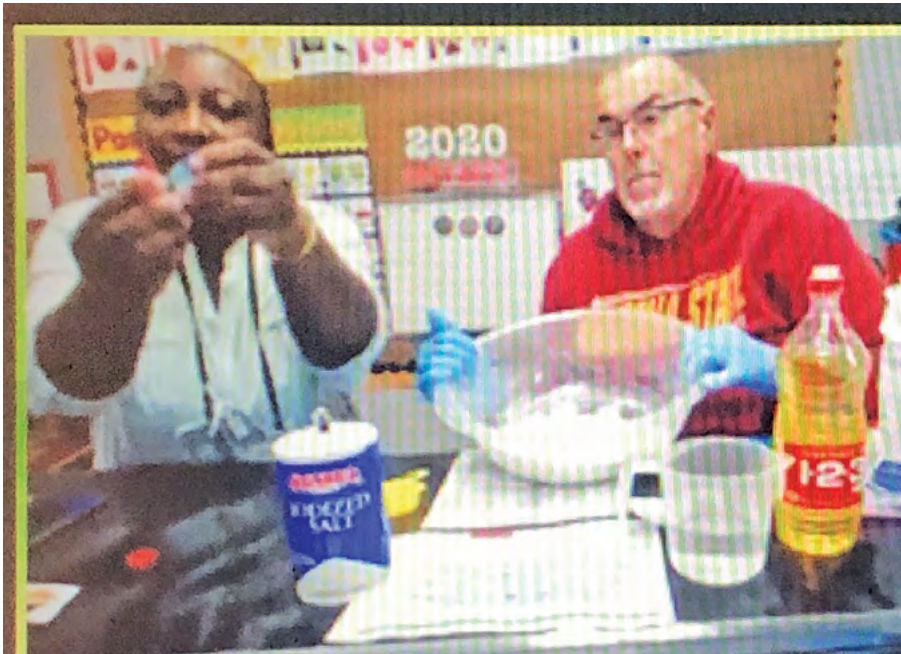


Melanie Culver
Director

Technology Leads the Way!

By Lisa Fowler and Chris Burton

In order to meet the needs of children and families during the pandemic, our Early Childhood Education (ECE) program has increased the technology available in classrooms. This provides teachers with the necessary tools to create virtual-learning opportunities for students. This shift allows teachers to continue working toward achieving student outcomes and becoming 21st century learners. Almost every ECE classroom has received an interactive Promethean smartboard with user-friendly software tools to help teachers design creative learning experiences; support our adopted curriculum, Creative Curriculum; and make progress on school-readiness and program goals. Teachers have also received laptops and iPad stands to further aid in instructional delivery. Over 1,500 student iPads with educational software were purchased, so each student has the necessary tools to stay connected and engaged.



Now enrolling! Spread the word! Early Childhood Education is working diligently to increase our enrollment in our Head Start and state preschool programs during the pandemic. ECE has 14 locations throughout the Antelope Valley. We have openings in Palmdale, Lancaster, Lake Los Angeles and West Palmdale. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are currently accepting registration online. Required eligibility documentation can be sent to ecceforms@palmdalesd.org, or you can contact our receptionist at (661) 273-4110 or text (661) 429-0859 for support between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, I would like to take this time to thank you for your commitment to education and for supporting your children and teachers. This is an unusual time that has required innovation at home, school and work.

Our motto is Education+ Communication = A Better Education. We have collaborated with the district for digital issues and the response has been excellent.

On page 12 are several student book reviews to enjoy and a word search to enter on page 11.

Our next issue is March 3, 2021.

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

**Covering the
PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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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!

Child Nutrition, Health & Physical Well-Being

The Evolution of Child Nutrition

By Alecia Woods, MS, SNS, CDM, CFPP, Director of Child Nutrition

As we continue to evolve and improve to meet the needs of our students and the community, the Child Nutrition Department has further expanded program offerings.

In addition to evening meal service and delivery options, we have been providing weekend meals. Even though we already serve over 10,000 meals per day, our staff continues to work hard to ensure every child has the opportunity to receive healthful meals.

During the month of November, meals were provided for 25 of the 30 days. Traditional turkey and gravy with pumpkin pudding, was carefully prepared



and served the week before Thanksgiving. The PSD lunch guys and gals spared no effort to ensure this fan favorite was still available despite the incredible amount of work. Our dedicated staff also handed out 16 meals on Friday, November 20 to ensure no child would be without meals during Thanksgiving week.

SELebrations! Social Emotional Connections

Mental Health Matters!

From the Special Education Department

During this unprecedented time, addressing the mental health concerns of students has become more important than ever before and a major focus within the Palmdale School District. Even though schools are closed, Social Emotional Learning Specialists (SELS) are still hard at work, connecting with students and caregivers. During this time of school closures, SELS provide daily support groups, meet with students via Zoom, connect families with needed resources, and much more. Groups offered at both the elementary and middle school levels include, but are not limited to, Anger Management, Mindfulness for Relaxation and Decreasing Anxiety, Grief and Loss Support Group, Second Step for Social Skills, and Foster and Homeless Support Groups. Many campuses are also hosting Parent Support Groups. SELS also assist homeless students and Foster Youth by providing case management, referring families to housing resources and providing emotional support, as well as addressing barriers to online learning and enrollments.



Counselors Corner

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

New Website

By Carol Radigan-Burkes,
School Counselor
Cactus Magnet Academy

The Palmdale School District counselors are pleased to announce we have completed a website to offer a plethora of information and resources for our students, families, and staff! The main page of the site offers parent resources covering topics such as managing distance learning, community resources, wellness, crisis information, developing a growth mindset, social/emotional learning, and attendance. The main page also includes links to connect with each of the middle school counselor's site pages. The information on the counselor pages include the counselor's vision and mission, schedules, contact information, social/ emotional support, crisis information, academic support, and college and career information.

We are all in this pandemic together. The counselors created the website to allow us to reach out to each and every member of our Palmdale School District family.

Please do not hesitate to contact us. http://bit.ly/PSD_SchoolCounseling



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Barrel Springs *Elementary TK-5*

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



Yesenia Diaz
Principal

A Full Schedule!

Our Barrel Springs staff and teachers know the importance of connecting with our students. Research indicates that when students feel connected with their school and the staff, they achieve academic success. It is for that reason that our staff is conducting various activities to connect with our students.

We have started the weekly student shout-outs where teachers and staff refer students for their academic, behavioral and improvement accomplishments. We have also started the Lunch Bunch with our student interventionist, Mrs. Jones.

During the Lunch Bunch, students can socialize with their peers and Mrs. Jones. Furthermore, we have conducted social-emotional learning (SEL) Zoom sessions with our students and Mrs. Jones. During the SEL sessions, the focus is on social-emotional learning skills through which students develop healthy practices, wise decision-making skills, empathy and healthy relationships with other students.

Also, every month, we honor our student of the month by giving them a certificate and having lunch with the administration team via Zoom. Our staff also came together to donate candy to hand out Harvest goodie bags for all of our students. During the week of October 26, we celebrated Red Ribbon week. We had fun doing spirit activities such as Mustache Day, Crazy Outfit Day, Crazy Hat Day and wearing our costumes as we did our Barrel Springs Community Harvest Parade.

We are very proud of all of the students' accomplishments during this distance-learning time.

Cactus *Medical Health / Technology Magnet Academy*

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



Jorge Maldonado
Principal

Celebrating the FIERCEness!

One of the ways Cactus Magnet Academy has decided to help our school community stay connected during distance learning is through celebrating and recognizing students. Our latest celebrations and recognitions have centered around weekly teacher nominations of students who demonstrate the traits of our F.I.E.R.C.E. Coyote mascot: friendly, inclusive, engaged, respectful/responsible, creative and educated. Each week, nominated students are broadcast on our Cactus New Network (CNN) as part of the morning announcements. Then, at the end of the month, all of the weekly F.I.E.R.C.E. Coyotes are placed on

a digital wheel of names, where a grand-prize winner is chosen. The winner, dubbed our most F.I.E.R.C.E. Cactus Coyote for that month, receives a medical tote bag filled with Cactus Magnet Academy themed prizes, certificates and coupons from community-based eateries, and several other treats they can enjoy at home.



At Cactus, we wholeheartedly believe that, even without being face-to-face, we can still connect as a school community and help students to participate and engage in various aspects of campus life.

Buena Vista *Elementary TK-5*

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



Dr. Alusine Conteh
Principal

Celebrating Buena Vista Staff

According to an old educator's joke – there are only three reasons why teachers teach: June, July, and August. The real story at BV that I have come to know very well is that - the real reason why our dedicated teachers teach is because it is not a job – it is a calling for all of them. During these unprecedented, and unpredictable times, the BV staff have championed to inspire our students every day and know that their success doesn't lie in pushing their charges through lesson after lesson, but rather on instilling in their students a hunger to learn. BV teachers are like candles – they consume themselves to light the way for our students. The influence of our teachers on students can never be erased. Additionally, this group of fabulous educators consistently take a hand, open a mind, and touch the hearts of all students.



Chaparral *Prep Academy*

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



Roxanne Dashti
Principal

"Chaparral Prep Academy Ribbon Cutting Event"

October 23, 2020 parents, staff, and community members joined Principal Roxanne Dashti and the Palmdale School District Board in the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate the new Chaparral Prep Academy. This \$12.9 million modernization project completely transformed the 32-year-old campus into one of the most innovative and modern campuses in California.

Superintendent Maldonado said, "This project started with that vision that we can do something special for the students and staff at this campus. I want to celebrate that vision and courage

to do something out of the box because that is what it takes."

The school has new learning hallways, flexible furniture, and collapsible walls allowing students an opportunity to work together. "From the beginning we knew that our school had to include an environment that would promote collaboration among our students," Principal Dashti said during her speech. "This is truly the work of the Palmdale Promise!"



Ribbon Cutting

Cimarron *Elementary TK-5*

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



Chris O'Neill
Principal

Meet Dr. Imoisili!

Cimarron is pleased to introduce our new assistant principal, Dr. Hana Imoisili. Dr. Imoisili was born in Michigan—her mother is a famous Nigerian singer, Dr. Joy Nwosu Lo-Bamijoko, who worked for the United Nations. Her father is Native American.

At five years old, Dr. Imoisili moved with her family back to Nigeria. Her mother traveled extensively for the UN and took Dr. Imoisili with her as much as possible but did not interfere with her education. At 12, Dr. Imoisili and the family moved to London for two years before moving to New Jersey. She started college at 16 at Rutgers University and graduated with a journalism degree. She then married her high school sweetheart. They have three children and one on the way!



Assistant Principal Hana Imoisili

Dr. Imoisili got her master's degree at University of Phoenix and her doctorate at USC. She began her teaching career at Green Dot public schools in South Central LA teaching language arts, intervention and English language development in the high schools. She came to PSD four years ago to teach seventh-grade English at PLP. She then got her administrative services credential and became an administrator. And now, she has landed at Cimarron, and we are so lucky!

Desert Willow *Fine Arts, Science, Technology Magnet Academy*

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



Timothy Howell
Principal

Power of Power Calling

At the core of our goals and hearts are our children, and we are not letting the distance disconnect us! Our amazing staff continues to raise the bar when it comes to making those necessary connections with students and families. We recognized very early in the year that we were going to have to commit a great amount of effort to attendance. A plan was put in place immediately, and we have seen our attendance numbers improve as a result. We formed the MIA team, which comprises two teachers per grade level as well as a list of students who had not reported. We doubled down on our efforts and instituted Power Calling.



Power Calling is setting everything aside and focusing on making connections with our students. Along with our MIA team, we partnered our fifth-period teachers with another teacher to specifically focus on that group of children. Our staff divided and conquered! Through phone calls and emails, we have reached nearly 95% of our students!

Desert Rose *Elementary TK-5*

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



Melanie Pagliaro
Principal

Maker Space

October 16, 2020 was an exciting day at Desert Rose! This was the day our beautiful new Maker Space was unveiled to the community. The ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by Superintendent Raul Maldonado, members of the board and cabinet, Tom Lackey, Scott Wilk and many members of the Desert Rose staff and families. We even had a former student return to sing the national anthem to open the festivities.

The new maker space is beautiful and we can't wait for our students to return to school so we can begin using this room to its full potential. We have already received LEGO kits and LEGO robotics for each grade level. Desert Rose also has a large supply of art paper, paint, clay, chalk and crayons so students can create art like never before.



Dos Caminos *Elementary K-6*

39175 Palm Tree Way, Palmdale, CA 93551 • 661/947-1849 • www.palmdalesd.org



Dr. Sarah Zepeda
Principal

Staying Connected

Dos Caminos has continued to stay connected with parents and the community during distance learning! We remain committed to supporting families, students and our community by providing Wellness Wednesday tips, Morning Messages via Parent Square, student-incentive mailings, Virtual Hour with administration, and other engaging activities that allow us to stay connected.

Our Wellness Wednesday tips offer parents ideas for how to cope during these trying times. Morning Messages go out every morning to start our school day. They offer parents and students positive messages and well wishes for a successful day in distance learning. We have also mailed all of our students at DC bookmarks, stickers, certificates



and collectibles. Our Virtual Hour replaced our Coffee with the Principal with a virtual forum to keep parents informed as we navigate distance learning together.

All these activities have made it possible for us to engage our students and families in the challenges of distance learning, and they have made us stronger and kept us connected. Go Dos Caminos Explorers!

Golden Poppy *Elementary TK-5*

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



Dr. Stacy Williamson
Principal

One Thing

At the beginning of the school year, Mr. Maldonado asked each school site to focus on “one thing” this school year. At Golden Poppy, we believe that the most important thing to focus on this year is the social-emotional well-being of all of our students.

With this focus in mind, Golden Poppy applied for a grant through Project Tomorrow Social-Emotional Learning for Young Learners. This organization is a national education nonprofit organization that is committed to helping elementary schools nationwide by providing access to high-quality social-emotional learning materials that can be used in school or at home to support young learners.



We are very happy to announce that Golden Poppy is one of 50 elementary schools that has been awarded 10 classroom program sets with lesson plans, fun games and resources to support social-emotional learning. We are excited to use this program to meet the needs of our students during this demanding and trying time in their lives.

Los Amigos *K-8*

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



Sandra Salas-Rodriguez
Principal

Hello Dragons!

As we continue with distance learning, we are reminded of how much we miss having our students on campus. But while you are not on campus, we have had some amazing things happening! We are in the process of getting a PLTW room and a Science Room. Our teachers continue to reach out to our students to provide them with the best instruction possible. I also want to take a moment to spotlight our amazing noon duties who have been a huge factor in making sure that students receive their supplies and materials, to continue with learning at home. Thank you to all our wonderful noon duties for your support!



Joshua Hills *Elementary TK-5*

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



Michelle White
Principal

Lifting Spirits

Over the last couple of months Joshua Hills’ staff has been creating uplifting events for students and their families to share in while we continue with Distance Learning. At the end of September, we held our first virtual BEST Assembly celebrating our hard-working students. The Wheels of Names were filled with students who have been attending and participating regularly and some awesome prizes were given out. In October we had our Coco-Halloween Spirit Drive-Thru at lunch. Staff dressed up as characters from the movie and we played music while passing out lunches. Families participated by decorating their cars and showing off their costumes as they drove through. It has been a challenge to bring JH Spirit to life virtually and at a distance, but our staff continues to come up with wonderful ideas to bring a little excitement to our students and their families.



Manzanita *Elementary TK-5*

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



Susan Summers
Principal

Red Ribbon Week at Manzanita

Manzanita had a fun time celebrating the fight against drugs during Red Ribbon Week. Manzanita students and staff participated in a week full of spirit wear. On Monday, Red Ribbon Week was spearheaded by students and staff wearing red to show their commitment against drugs. On Tuesday, crazy hair was seen throughout each teacher’s Zoom classes. On Wednesday, Manzanita staff drove around the neighborhood in a parade of decorated cars while students showed off their costumes as they waved hello. On Thursday, crazy hats big and small were seen through the virtual land of distance learning. Finally, on Friday, Red Ribbon Week culminated by showing Manzanita Pride. It was delightful to see the school and community come together to celebrate such a powerful cause.





Ken Young
Principal

“Trick or Treat at Mesquite”

On Halloween, Saturday, November 31st, Mesquite held its first annual “Trick or Treat at Mesquite” event! The front of the school was decorated in a festive Halloween theme. Luminarias lined the front entrance sidewalk and staff were dressed in various costumes to welcome students and their families. There were treat bag stations set up along the front driveway entrance, so that we could quickly and safely accommodate vehicles. Each student received a bag of treats and Halloween-themed items. In fact, we handed out over 700 bags of Halloween goodies! This was a fun, safe, and “spooktacular” opportunity to spread holiday cheer and get a chance to see our students and their families! We are already planning for next year’s “Trick or Treat at Mesquite” event!



Dr. Beverly
Martin
Principal

Welcome Mrs. Tia Yates to the Panther Family!

My name is Tia Yates and I am excited to be learning new things with my fifth-grade class here at Ocotillo Elementary School. This is my second year with the Palmdale School District, and I have had the opportunity to conquer the challenges of teaching both Kindergarten and Fifth Grade. The learning curve has been vast and I appreciate the challenges and learning opportunities, as well as all of the support I have had within the district. I earned my BA and my preliminary teaching credential at California State University; Bakersfield and I look forward to clearing my credential this year. This is an extraordinary time to be a new teacher and I know that the things I have learned will be invaluable in the future.



Tia Yates



Jason Deaville
Principal

Tradition Continues

The tradition of clubs continues at DGM! Parents and students rave about the many after school clubs DGM offers. Students of all interests and backgrounds can find something on campus to engage and extend their connections at DGM. Club offerings this year range from online games, cheer squad, mock trial, and even Bible club. Recently, STEAM Queens, a club focused on encouraging girls to explore their interests in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics held one of their family nights. The highly attended ‘Freaky Friday’ event was led by the club members and had families completing science experiments and builder competitions. Among the activities, students made slime, kraken butter slime, and butter from scratch! STEAM Queens was started about three years ago and is still going strong. This year the club has several sixth graders that will hopefully continue this awesome opportunity for other young girls in our community.



Colleen Sawyer
Principal

First Semester Success!

It has been an exciting first half of the school year at Palmdale Discovery Center! Our teachers and staff have worked hard to make sure that students are being provided with all the tools they need to work within the distance-learning model. Teachers have set up weekly schedules in which parents can come and pick up notebooks with each student’s individual curriculum and also boxes of manipulatives to support that curriculum. Classes are still making Capturing Kids’ Hearts part of their daily routine by discussing their social contracts and



sharing good things. Our preschoolers at First Steps are also successfully learning through the virtual format. Teachers are providing models, fun videos, songs and pictures to accompany their lessons to keep learning fun and engaging for students. We are excited to see what our second semester of the 2020–21 school year has in store for us at Palmdale Discovery Center!

Palmdale Innovations Academy

38136 35th St. E., Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/265-8909 • <https://www.palmdalesd.org/Page/5403>



Christine Jones
Principal

Continuing to Grow

Innovations Academy continues to grow and we could not be more excited about it! We currently have 210 students enrolled and are

adding more students all the time. We are also excited to move to our new school site, located at 37230 37th St. East, Palmdale, CA. The site library is currently undergoing renovations and new furniture should be arriving soon. When we are at the new location we will be able to host most of our students on campus at the same time. We, of course, are looking forward to being able to have students back on campus soon. We miss our students so much, and we can't wait for them to see our new school.



Palmdale Learning Plaza *K-8*

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



Dr. Kimberly Wright
Principal

Staying Connected

Staying connected during distance learning can be challenging, not to mention starting middle school itself! In a traditional setting, a student would move from having one teacher and one desk in elementary to now six, seven or even eight teachers and just as many classrooms. Then, add distance learning, Google Classroom codes and Zoom links on top of that transition!

Well, the middle school teachers at Palmdale Learning Plaza International Baccalaureate School found the one-stop-shop solution. They created an MYP (Middle Years Programme) website at the start of the 2020–21 school year that houses all the necessary information that PLP's middle school students need to be successful during distance learning.

What do seventh-graders do when they can't find the Zoom link to their fourth-period math class? They just need to click on the Zoom Links to All Classes tab on the website and see an easy-to-read calendar of all classes, find their teachers and click their names.

What do eighth-grade students do when they need to reach out to their English teacher to make an appointment for support during office hours? They can click the eighth-grade tab, click on their teacher's picture, and email a message directly to them to set that appointment.

The MYP website at Palmdale Learning Plaza, created by the teachers, is an amazing resource for the middle schools' students, their families and the PLP office staff that is helping all members of PLP's Middle Years Programme to not only find academic success but also stay connected to our school during distance learning.



Palm Tree *Elementary TK-5*

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



Laura Cervantes
Principal

Every Student, Every Day...

Palm Tree Elementary, a proud 2020 CA PBIS Community Cares recognized school, is a family of students, parents, staff and community, where every student belongs and everyone is committed to our school's expectation of inclusiveness and our ONE thing: our commitment to student engagement-every student, every day. We could not keep our school going without the important work of our kind, efficient and awesome, cafeteria staff under the supervision of our cafeteria manager, Katie Troncoso. Preparing and distributing between 100 to up to 250 meals on any given day, our lunch superheroes work diligently at ensuring none of our students go hungry and all of our families who look forward to the meals, leave campus with a smile. We Parrots are amazing!



Cafeteria Mgr. & Staff

Quail Valley *Elementary TK-5*

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



Carol Black
Principal

Harvest Fun for Families

Our harvest fun started off with a virtual pumpkin-carving contest. Families were encouraged to carve pumpkins at home and send us a picture to enter the contest. The response was tremendous! We have a lot of creative people in our Quail Valley community.

Also, it's been our tradition the past few years to have a QV Trunk or Treat community event the last Friday of October ... but not this year. With safety restrictions for COVID-19, we have had to think outside the box to make Halloween memorable for our students and their families. So this year, thanks to PTO, we had a drive-through treat giveaway for our QV students. Our curbside treat-pickup area was decorated complete with spooky music playing in the background! Families were encouraged to decorate their cars, and students wore their costumes as they came by for their treats. It was a fun time for all!





Larry Lueck
Principal

Space & Aeronautics Pathway

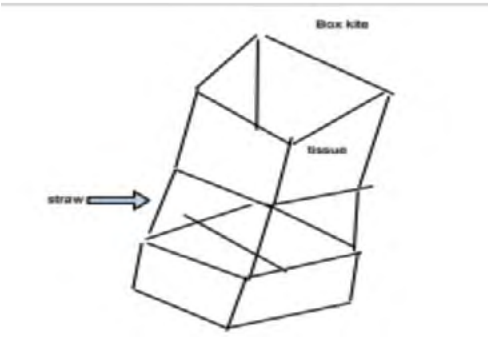
Students at S.A.G.E. are learning about our magnet theme pathway in Space & Aeronautics elective courses. Project Lead the Way(PLTW): Space & Flight is one of our newest additions to this pathway. In this class students learn about the engineering principles as it relates to flight. They plan, design, build, test, modify and reflect on their projects. This month their challenge was to design and build a kite...check out what our students created!

Box Kite Design

“I choose it because it looks really cool and I liked it, when I went outside to fly it this part came off. I got a piece of straw and attach some string to it and I put it inside like this straw that is in here... The flight went really well, I had to run for it to go up and it went pretty well, my dad recorded some videos of it and pictures... What I like about this project is that the building and testing. This actually did fly, it’s so amazing, it actually flew. I like the designing and building part.”
— Joseph G. (8th grade) PLTW - Flight & Space

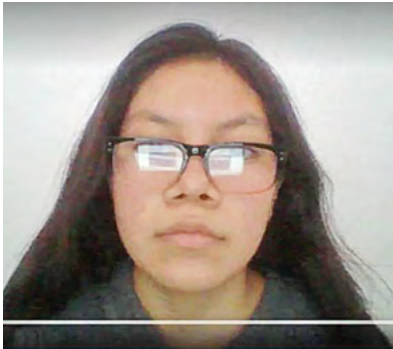


Joseph and His Sketch.



Diamond Kite Design

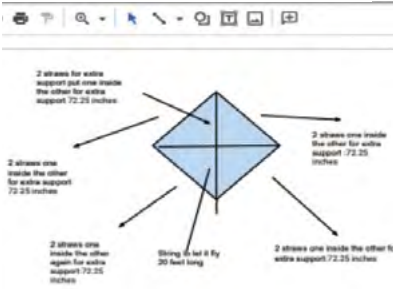
“I chose a diamond kite because it was the easiest and it was the most popular kite. One issue that I had was connecting these straws together so I put glue on the straws to connect them and I waited one day to let the glue dry and it worked. I flew my kite and it went pretty well. I didn’t have to make any adjustments. What I liked about this project is making a kite and also knowing how to build one. And yeah, it was pretty fun that’s all.”
— Jullen L. (7th grade) PLTW - Flight & Space



Jullen



Jullen’s
Sketch Result (above)
Diagram (left)



Next month’s challenge is a
Hot Air Balloon, way to go Eagles!



Kathleen
Moshier
Principal

Students RISE at Shadow Hills!

At Shadow Hills Engineering and Design Magnet Academy there is a new DESIGN focus this year!! As Yearbook Advisor, Ms. Mary Brown has challenged her students with finding a way to use technology in a fresh and interesting fashion to get fellow Falcons plugged in. Introducing- RISE Magazine!! An exclusively online magazine created, edited and published ALL BY STUDENTS!!

There are seven sections that are written by students for students. These sections were thoughtfully incorporated with their peers in mind to get information to them on topics from why you should care about your grades, how to get help in your classes, to self-care. It also has standard magazine essentials such as pop culture, sports and comics.

RISE Magazine has been a huge success here at Shadow Hills and we encourage you to check it out as well~ bit.lyRISEmagazine.



Summerwind *Elementary TK-5*



Marginese
Streeter
Principal

Summerwind Welcomes the PSD Food Truck

On Wednesday, October 14th Summerwind hosted a Pop-Up Food Truck Event between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Palmdale School District Board Member, Sharon Vega, welcomed families and students as they visited the truck for a delicious lunch and healthy snacks. Thank you to Alecia Woods, our Child Nutrition Program Administrator, and her team for making the event a success! Summerwind is always willing and ready to serve the community!



Tamarisk *Renaissance School*

1843 E. Ave. Q-5, Palmdale, CA 93550 • 661/225-9647 • www.palmdalesd.org



Dr. Regina Tillman
Principal

Favorite and Most Important Tech

Where would you find a former NCAA Volleyball star, a small business owner, a furniture maker, a world traveler, scholar and a bohemian? You would find that person at Tamarisk Elementary when you enter our tech's office, Ms. Kelli Michalski. Ms. Kelli as she is referred to, is the most valuable player on our campus due to her dedication and willingness to go the extra mile for our students.

Ms. Kelli's phenomenal work ethic and ability to foresee upcoming issues prepared our campus in passing out Chromebooks to our students within days of starting distance learning. Ms. Kelli's dedication is key to helping usher the success of the students of Tamarisk. In her calm happy go lucky demeanor lies a fierce competitor, willing to help others be the best that they can be. The staff at Tamarisk are proud to call Ms. Kelli our favorite and most important Tech.



Yellen *Learning Center K-8*

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



Gia Greaux
Principal

Moving Ahead

Yellen Learning Center continues to lead courageously when it comes to serving the unique needs of our students, staff, and school community. There's no denying that school closures across the nation have been especially difficult for students with disabilities. With recent efforts by the county to scale back COVID related restrictions to public schools and its special education programs, Yellen Learning Center was ready to once again open its doors for in-person related services. These services included occupational therapy, physical therapy, adaptive

physical education, speech and language and counseling services. Students have returned to campus safely to complete important assessments allowing teachers and support providers to gather the data required to update and adjust

educational plans as needed. Thanks to the professional and dedicated service of our teachers and staff, Yellen is moving ahead in these uncertain times to provide the best education possible for our students and their families.



Tumbleweed *Elementary TK-5*

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



Misti Larrick
Principal

Together We Will

Tumbleweed's school-wide theme, Together We Will, is in full swing. Our theme has united us with our families in new and exciting ways during distance learning. Together we have created Parent Circle, an ongoing weekly support meeting that brings parents and staff together to talk about current topics such as self-care, mental health resources, and student support for learning at home. Together we provide weekly technology support meetings with parents and staff members to help our families navigate all of the technology demands. Together we celebrate our families with our monthly baskets that bring them together to engage in fun family activities. September's basket was Together We Will Cook, October's basket was Together We Will Carve Out Some Fun, November's basket is Together We Will Count our Blessings. We have a family basket planned for every month of the year. Together Tumbleweed is living the Palmdale Promise!



Yucca *Elementary TK-5*

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



Terrie Dowling
Principal

Club in a Box

Yucca was fortunate enough to receive 80 Club in a Box Home Activity Kits donated by the Boys and Girls Club of the Antelope Valley. Half of the boxes were designed for TK-2nd grade students and the other half for 3rd-5th grade students. Students were selected at random to receive the activity boxes. Each Club in a Box includes a variety of academic, athletic, social, recreational, and enrichment activities. Half of the upper grade boxes also include STEM activities. Through these challenging times, we feel honored to be able to offer our students opportunities to have hands-on academic experiences at home. Thank you to the Boys and Girls Club program for continuing to support our Yucca students even through distance learning.



The Yo-Yo

Some believe the yo-yo originated in China. However, the first mention of the yo-yo is in Greece around 500 B.C. It is also found in pictographs in Egyptian-temple wall art. Philippine hunters used a rock with a 20-foot string to hit their prey in trees in the 16th century. Wherever the yo-yo originated, it has become a global fascination.

The yo-yo is said to be the second-oldest toy in the world, next to the doll. It is a toy that has a calming effect on the user. The French court played with the yo-yo (*joujou de Normandie*). Marquis de Lafayette toyed with the yo-yo. Napoleon and his troops played with it before the battle of Waterloo as well, as it was a favorite of the Duke of Wellington. There is a National Yo-Yo Museum in Chico, and wooden parts can be found online.

This country saw its first patent in 1866 by an Ohio company, but the toy remained obscure until 1916 in an article in *Scientific American* titled "Filipino Toys." When Pedro Flores, an immigrant from the Philippines working at a hotel in Santa Monica as a bellhop, played with his yo-yo during his lunch break, a crowd would gather around and watch. He started making yo-yos and had two factories by 1929.

A businessman named Donald F. Duncan on a trip from Ohio to California saw the yo-yo and bought Pedro's company in 1929. Then in 1932, Duncan was

given the trade name yo-yo, forcing competitors to use other names for the toy. It was Duncan who introduced the slip-string that allowed the yo-yo to "sleep." He set out on an advertising campaign with the Hearst newspaper company that increased paper circulation and sales of yo-yos.

Then in the 1960, with television and mass advertising, the yo-yo had a resurgence in sales and interest. However, the Duncan family lost a trademark case in 1965 and sold the company. Yet between 1960 and the 1990s, the yo-yo saw many innovations with the new technology that saw another resurgence in the 1990s. On April 12, 1985, the yo-yo went to space on the Discovery Shuttle. The toy needs gravity to work—you can guess the result!

Today, the yo-yo is providing more than entertainment for young enthusiasts. It is also a way for our troops to relax and take their mind off the stress of the job they have been sent to do. In 2008, Senator John McCain asked for people to send yo-yos and stress balls to the troops. There are several organizations that send yo-yos to the troops. As we get older and can no longer do what we used to do, there is still something that we can do that will make a difference.

D.H.Coop is a retired fire/paramedic and retired teacher having taught IB and AP World History 30 years. He continues to substitute, tutor and consult. www.HistoryDepot.com

Toy Store Items 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 Dec 30, 2020
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

BIKE	BUBBLES	COMPUTER
DOLL	CROQUET	DOLLHOUSE
TRIKE	BLOCKS	BUGGY
BOOK	KITES	KITCHEN
LEGOS	MARBLES	TEA SET
SOLDIERS	CRAYONS	BAT
BALLS	PENS	BALL GLOVE

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

Students do you love to read?

Want to be a student columnist and review your favorite books?

Please have your parent email me for details:

kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com



Tyson’s Book Review

Poems, Poems, Poems!



Tyson

“Everything On It” by Shel Silverstein isn’t really a book, but is a collection of wacky poems. He is a creative writer with a very strange sense of humor. Some of his poems are funny, most are strange, and almost all are unrealistic! Look at this poem called “Housebroken.”

The puppy’s housebroken at last?
Lord only knows when he was needin’ it.
You’ve trained him to go
On the newspaper? Fine.
But please-not while I’m readin’ it.



See what I mean? The puppy is finally house trained, but Shel Silverstein twists the poem by questioning why the puppy is doing his business on the newspaper while the person was reading it! Shel Silverstein thinks out of the box and brings unexpected ideas to his poems. Not all books need to have a storyline. A book of poems can be just as enjoyable! Read this one and you’ll like it too!

Tyson is an athletic 7th grader who loves basketball and skateboarding. His favorite subjects are PE and math. He is a gentle pet owner and loves taking care of puppy, Chewie, and 3 guinea pigs. He enjoys going out to eat and trying different foods.

Book Review By Katrina

Fantastic Fanfiction



Katrina D.

Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell is a novel about a college freshman named Cather who has loved three things in her life. Her twin sister Wren, her dad and her Simon Snow (an ongoing story suspiciously similar to Harry Potter) fanfiction *Carry On*. But now that that Wren wants to blaze her own trail, problems with love begin and the end of the Simon Snow story nears, Cather must reevaluate herself and her life to keep it from falling apart before its even begun. On the cover this story may appear a bubbly tale of fanfiction, college loves and creative writing. But within the pages this book deals with separation, the fears and struggles of college and tribulations broken families face as they try to start fresh. This is a great book for all audiences because we all know the terror of ending one story to start a new one.

Katrina gives this book five out of five crescent moons.

Katrina is a senior in high school. She spends her time drawing, writing and reading whenever her APs let her. When she isn't creating something, she's known to watch cartoons like OK KO let's be Heroes, Star vs. the Forces of Evil and Steven Universe. When asked what she wants to be, her reply is simply, “Everything”.



Katie’s Review

A New Inspiration



Katie C.

Title: *Love That Dog*

Author: Sharon Creech

Jack is a second grade boy who has no interest in writing poems. When encouraged to do so by his teacher, he feels that he has no business to do however, once he writes a poem, it is clear that he has talent in writing poems. His poems make it to the classroom’s blackboard, where his teacher anonymously wrote one of his poems. As he continues developing his love for poetry and grows to enjoy writing them, he reveals a heartbreaking secret through one of his poems: the death of his beloved dog. As this poem attracts attention from his teacher and classmates, Jack writes to a poet to come to the school. Jack is surprised when the meeting is arranged and his love for poetry is inspired even more. I recommend this book to people who like reading poetry, as the book is written in a poem format.

Katie is a junior in high school. She likes reading and writing. She loves to read to younger kids. She provides book reviews to kids who want to find more good books.



Jenna’s Review

A Tough Camp



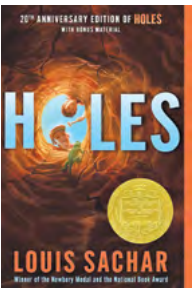
Jenna C.

Title: *Holes*

Author: Louis Sachar

Have you ever been to camp? A boy named Stanley has. But it’s not your typical camp. The camp he went to was brutal, and they had to dig holes everyday. It was hot and in the blazing sun. One of the other kids there was a boy named Zero. He was one of the nicer people there who befriended Stanley. One day Zero escaped camp and ran off. Stanley decided to go after him. He had been warned on how hard it was to survive out there. Can he survive? Will he be able to find Zero? This book covers hardships and friendship and I recommend this book to people who love a detailed storyline.

Jenna is a 5th grader. She enjoys playing soccer and painting. She likes to read fiction novels. Someday she wants to publish a book.



Sean’s Book Review

A Bad Decision



Sean

Twerp is a humorous book by Mark Goldblatt about a 6th grader in 1969 named Julian Twerski. Julian is a good kid who makes bad decisions, which makes him seem like a “bad kid.” When his English teacher, Mr. Selkirk, tells him that if he does a journal on his crazy life and decisions, he can get out of writing a report on Shakespeare (which Julian hates). Throughout the book, interesting stories are always being told by Julian. Some of the incidents include hitting a bird with a rock, helping out his BFF by writing a love letter for his best friend’s crush, and accidentally burning off his friend’s eyebrows! A middle schooler could relate to Julian’s point of view on life. In conclusion, *Twerp* is a very fun and suspenseful book that can be enjoyed by all types of readers.

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

