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School News

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Covering The Redondo Beach Unified School District

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 44

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

JUNE–AUGUST 2011

SUPERINTENDENT

Summer Learning



Dr. Steven Keller

It is still important to provide enrichment ideas during the summer months off. There are several museums, centers, and observatories within the greater Los Angeles area, but learning at home is also invaluable. Here are some ideas for South Bay families, close to home!

Before Summer Begins:

- Talk with the student's teacher and inquire if it is possible to get materials or websites to continue to improve on respective focus areas. Next year's teacher may even have assignments to start over the summer months, especially in middle and high school.
- Review the student's standardized testing scores and district common assessments to find

SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 15

Summer Learning Can Be Fun



Go to the library.



Go for a hike.



Take aim in RBUSD summer school.

In this issue Dr. Keller and each principal have offered ideas and information to help make your child's summer days fun, physically and academically challenging to better prepare them for the classroom in the Fall. Have fun and congratulations to the Class of 2011!

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Enlightening Experience

By Paul Levchenko, Student Member

It has been an honor to serve as student member of the board, and to represent all of the students in the Redondo Beach Unified School District. Everyone at the district office is so great and helpful, which has made my term enjoyable and interesting.

My experience on the school board has been enlightening and fun because I got to see firsthand how our wonderful school system works and meet the people who make it happen.

Coming into my term I did not know exactly what to expect. At first I thought the board meetings were going to be rigid and humorless. But I soon learned that everyone is very personable. At the same time they maintain the seriousness that is necessary to make each meeting productive.

Another pleasant surprise was that the members actually cared about what I had to say about our schools and their students. It is simply amazing that, in our district, we have such a high level of cooperation and communication between the students and the adults.

SEE BOARD OF EDUCATION • PAGE 15

Board of Education Meeting Schedule for 2011/2012

2011

July 26	October 11
August 23	October 25
September 13	November 8*
September 27	December 13*

**(Due to holiday schedule, only one Board meeting in November and December)*

2012

January 10	April 3*
January 24	April 24
February 14	May 8
February 28	May 22
March 13	June 12
March 27	June 26

**Organizational Meeting)*



Jane Diehl
President



Anita Avrick
Vice-President



Todd Loewenstein
Presiding Officer



Laura Emdee
Member



Drew Gamet
Member



Paul Levchenko
Student Member



Inside:

**South Bay Adult School page 3 • RBUSD Student Svcs/Special Education page 5 • Schools pages 5–7, 13–15
RBUSD Child Development and RBUSD Alternative Education page 4 • Contests pages 10 & 12 (see who won the May Contest)**

Splash into summer reading!



If you are looking to buy, sell or lease, please give us a call.



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Kay Coop
 Founder / Publisher



As the school year comes to a close and thoughts turn to school being out the question being asked in every household is, "What are we going to do this summer?" Fortunately, Dr. Keller and the principals know the importance of an active body and challenged mind during the lazy days of summer and this issue is full of ideas.

Thank you for all of the entries in our Word Search Contest. (The winner is announced on page 10.) We have two contests for you in this issue.

Our next issue is September. Have a wonderful summer and congratulations to the Class of 2011!

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We Never Close



Megan Cassette
Director

Want to learn something new this summer? South Bay Adult School continues to offer high quality instructional programs and special fun activities during our 5-week summer term for all members of our learning community. Here's just a sampling of what's going on:

ESL (English as a Second language) classes will be offering specialized lessons focusing on improving conversational skills for beginning and intermediate level learners and a "Grammar Tune-up" for more advanced English learners. Citizenship and Distance Learning classes will also be offered.

In addition to our traditional classes, our award winning Parent Education program will have family activities such as Singing Under the Stars; The Rain Forest Through Art and Science; and a unique 2-week summer camp August 2-11.

Community Education classes have something for everyone! In addition to our long time favorites like Spanish, web design, digital photography, yoga, swimming, and weightlifting, there will be new classes such as Physical Poetry, Capoeira de Angola, Fashion Design, Asian Cooking, Selling Online, Wine Tasting: Wines of California, and Journey to Health—to name a few.

So catch your wave this summer at South Bay Adult School, where learning is fun!



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Roll Out the Summer!



Theresa Van Dusen
 Director

Summer is here in a few short days, and our teachers are ready! At the Child Development Center, our teachers have been planning a summer program that is fun, interesting, challenging, fitness related and even educational—shh, don't tell!

What a great way to spend your summer—having fun while learning in the process! Our teachers have been developing a curriculum with weekly themes, building summer trips, planning activities and contacting visitors to emphasize those themes. One theme is “High in the Sky,” with trips to the Flight Path Center and Columbia Space Museum and the building of their own plane or kite to fly at the center. Another theme this summer is “Our Solar System,” with a trip to the Jet Propulsions Laboratory in Pasadena. Other trips may include the Marine Mammal Care Center, Griffith Observatory, Discovery Science Center, The Queen Mary and Olvera Street. Local trips include Madrona Marsh, Farmers Market, libraries and, of course, the beach. Every class will have its own exciting trips and themes.

Our teachers realize that when children come to CDC in the summer, they need a change of pace from their school year. Our program is designed to ensure that we meet the academic, emotional, social and physical needs of every child. With all the hard work and great planning from teachers and parents, we are able to achieve a fun, exciting summer for all children.

Check in with your CDC program and ask about the summer adventures in your child's classroom or call our main office to find out what is going on at the CDC near you.



Water Balloon Toss.



Lincoln CDC, Mr. Epps class at Griffith Observatory.

The World's A Classroom



Stephen Edmunds
 Principal

What are you doing this summer? If you are in Alternative Ed (ISP, Shores or RBLA), then we encourage you to get a job, do volunteer work or try your hand at a community college course. Summer is a time to also reconnect with family, take a look at short- and long-term goals and, for new or returning students to Alternative Education in fall 2011, to develop a realistic plan of action to successfully complete the required courses to graduate.

Alternative Education believes that learning takes place beyond the classroom walls as much as it does in school. Family vacations provide a chance to tie social studies topics into family history and make the U.S. history more than just a paragraph in a book. Mock interviews only go so far; sitting across from a real boss who has a real job is a tremendous learning experience even when you don't get that first or second job. Walking on a community college campus with 20,000 other students can be frightening even for the 4.23 honors student, and taking a class in a lecture hall



Justin encourages students to explore the creative side.

with 1,200 students gives you a real taste of what it means to be truly responsible for your learning. A reminder: RBLA begins the 2011–12 school year on July 5, and ISP and Shores start on August 30. Families will be contacted about registration, enrollment and schedules prior to the start of school.

Have a great summer!



Kylie, Sarah and Shezan say if you are going to spend the summer on a couch, do it with a good book!



Michelle invites students to travel and make government come alive.

RBUSD Student Services / Special Education

Student Services: 1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/937-1231
Special Education: 1107 Vincent St, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8683 ext. 1301
www.rbused.org/specialeducation/

Summer Sessions



Frank DeSena
Asst.
Superintendent
Student Services

Dr. Aaron Benton
Director Special
Education

This summer, for the very first time, the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation (RBEF) will be running a summer school program in Redondo Beach.

The program will offer classes to our current kindergarten through twelfth-grade students. Current kindergarten through seventh-grade students will be located at Jefferson School, and current eighth-grade through twelfth-grade students will be at Parras Middle School. Construction issues prevent us from using RUHS as a summer school site.

The Elementary Summer Enrichment and Elementary Summer Intervention programs will include familiar and nurturing faces to our students. The Redondo Beach Educational Foundation gives preference to instructors who are currently employed by the Redondo Beach Unified School District in filling any available summer teaching positions.

The purpose of the Elementary School Summer Enrichment Program is to prepare students for the next grade level. Students enrolled in the enrichment program should be at grade-level proficiency in both English language arts and math standards.

The purpose of the Elementary School Summer Intervention Program is to support students in meeting current grade-level standards. Students enrolled in the intervention program are those who need extra support in the summer courses to work towards meeting their grade-level standards.

Middle school classes are available for current fifth-, sixth-, and seventh-grade students. RBEF will have middle school classes for math, English/language arts, social science, science, technology, visual performing arts and foreign language. The RBEF Web site includes specific information about each course.

High school classes are available for current eighth- through twelfth-grade students. Courses in visual and performing arts, math, sciences and Spanish are available for all students. RBEF is also offering online courses. Online core courses are for grade improvement and credit recovery, and elective courses are for any student.

For the RBEF to run a summer school program is such a win-win proposal. RBEF gets paid, the students receive great instruction (enrichment, intervention, credits), RBEF gives funding to the RBUSD, and our students receive the benefit!

Please go to www.rbef.org and sign up today! Thank you.

Adams Middle School (6-8)

2600 Ripley Ave, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8636 • <http://www.adamsmiddle.org>



Dr. Nicole Wesley
Principal

Keep Cognitively Fit In Summer

By Robert Briggerman, Assistant Principal

It's that time of year! Summer is a great time to relax and enjoy going to the beach, camping, barbecuing, and spending time with family and friends. It's also a great time to keep the middle school brain active. Take a book with you to the beach. Spend some time at local museum while visiting with family out of state. Practice a foreign language when traveling abroad. There are all types of fun activities to keep the mind active when relaxing during the summer months.

If you're looking for more formal learning activities, you may want to consider the following: This summer the Redondo Beach Education Foundation (RBEF) is offering a summer school program for all students. Enrichment as well as developmental courses will be offered to kindergarten through seventh-grade students at Jefferson Elementary School. Advanced credit and credit recovery opportunities will be available to eighth- through 12th-grade students at Parras Middle School. Please contact RBEF for specific programs.

Many classes also require summer reading. Check our school or the district's Web site for summer reading opportunities and/or requirements.

Endless learning opportunities are available for students through parks and recreation classes and individual student camps. In addition, many local colleges and universities provide summer learning programs for middle grades students. This is a perfect time for students to explore curricula of specific interest to them.

No matter what your summer plans are, keeping students cognitively active as part of your routine will support a healthy transition to the next grade level.



Daniel and Lars take aim in RBUSD Summer School.



Adams has a summer reading assignment in order to encourage reading over the summer.

Keep looking. There are two of me somewhere with words written in red. You need those two words to enter the Contest on page 12.

Good luck!



Alta Vista *Elementary (K-5)*

815 Knob Ave, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8650 • <http://altavista.rbusd.org>



Anthony Taranto
Principal

Summer Learning

Summer vacation can be time for children to spend countless hours watching television or playing video games, but it can also be a learning paradise. The National Center for Summer Learning at John Hopkins University reports, on average, students who do not engage in summer learning lose the equivalent of two months' worth of grade-level math and reading skills. Therefore, the summer can be used as a time to stretch the mind and build on skills learned during the school year.

Whether you are traveling or staying in the community, worksheets are not the only option. Summer learning should be fun and can happen anywhere. Here are some activities to get your child started on a summer of learning fun:

Write about your family adventures. Creating a scrapbook of the places your family visited is a lasting souvenir of the family adventures. Encourage your child to be descriptive in their writing of the places visited.

Visit the library. Ask for a suggested book list and see if the library has a summer reading incentive program or provide your own incentives at home.

Build something. Toy stores and craft stores are filled with kits for children to make things. These projects teach children to read and follow directions.

What's on the menu? The next time you are at a restaurant, hold on to the menu and play some math games. For example, what is the least/most expensive item on the menu? What is the total cost of three items on the menu?

Grocery store math. The grocery store is a great place to practice estimation, total cost, and general number sense.

Avoid the summer brain drain and help your child discover that learning can be fun beyond the classroom.

Beryl Heights *Elementary (K-5)*

920 Beryl St. Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8611 • <http://beryl.rbusd.org>



Karen Mohr
Principal

Summer Learning Can Be Fun

During the summer months, it is important to keep your mind healthy and involved with extracurricular activities. Most importantly, families should read together, spend time exercising together, and relax together. The Redondo Beach Library provides multiple opportunities for students and their families to read through the Summer Reading Program. We are encouraging all students at Beryl Heights Elementary School to sign up for the library program and turn in their logs at the beginning of next school year, when they will be recognized for their summer learning. The incentives are fun and worthwhile, and students learn that reading is enjoyable and a lifelong process.



Keep your mind active.

In regards to science, the Sea Lab is open down by the beach, where students can explore and learn about our ocean and the animals that live in it. There are many fabulous places to visit throughout Redondo, where there are all types of different animals to see, and our students can keep their scientific minds working. Many outdoor excursions, hikes, and visits to the tide pools and parks can be exciting and invigorating, and students can learn about nature and how we interact our environment on a daily basis.



Go out on a hike.

In fourth grade, students study the missions, and a visit to one of our California missions is always an exciting trip. History lessons while visiting landmarks in Redondo Beach gives families an opportunity to talk about history and discuss the importance of the past with their children. There are many summer camps available so that students can stay fit and keep active. Fliers are available in our office, if you would like to come by Beryl and grab one.

Have a safe and fun summer and enjoy your time together as a family!



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Have a great summer!! airplane

Jefferson *Elementary (K-6)*

600 Harkness Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8631 • <http://jefferson.rbusd.org>



Kara Heinrich
Principal

Summer Learning Fun!

Children can lose key learning over the summer break without daily practice and repetition to cement skills. What can you do to not have your child stuck in the summer reverse mode? Below are simple and fun tips to kick-off a learning filled summer:

Fun Summer Math Activities: Take a supermarket trip as a fun way to incorporate addition, subtraction, percentages, tax and money! For example, have your child record the price of items on your list and figure out the total, for the older child, have them include tax! Or, sharpen math skills on trips around town. While at the gas station, ask your child how much gas you need and the cost per gallon. Estimate distances between cities, check estimates on a road map.

Reading Activities: Encourage lifelong reading and read with your child daily. A free library card together with joining our local library's summer reading program will go a long way!

Writing Activities: Picture stories are one fun way help your child further develop imagination and creative written stories. Use pictures from magazines and newspapers to put together, tell about, and then write a wonderful story! Another fun activity is exchanging notes with your child—writing instead of speaking time or sharing a daily journal to respond to one another's entries.

Opportunities all around us to teach learning! These activities may sound easy, but make no mistake; they work and keep the summer lull from draining the brain!



Story time at Jefferson.

Are you looking for me for the contest on page 12? You need this word **Reading**



Birney *Elementary (K-5)*

1600 Green Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8626 • <http://birney.rbusd.org>



Jacqueline O'Sullivan
Principal

Summer 'Schooling'!

With summer vacation around the corner, your young Bobcats may be tempted to plunk themselves down in front of the television till the end of August. To avoid this brain-numbing fate, your team at Birney Elementary has a few suggestions to keep your children learning all summer while still having fun.

First, make reading an exciting everyday activity. Have lots of your children's favorite reading material available as an alternative to electronic sedation. Tape poems to the back of cereal boxes and on the back of the bathroom door. When you're in the kitchen, have them read recipes with you while you're cooking. Have your children participate in the Redondo Beach Library summer reading program.

If your children love movies, have them read the book before watching the film. Afterward, discuss the differences between the two. Visit museums, art galleries and the zoo, but when you get home, have them write a page describing the highlights of the day.

Are you going on a summer road trip? Before you go, talk to your children about what they'll see and hear. Have them keep a travel journal that keeps track of what they experience.

Check out the Birney Computer Lab website for fun math activities that will keep them sharp till school starts.

Most of all, have fun on summer vacation! But don't forget to work in some learning so that when our Bobcats return in September, they'll be ready for new challenges and the success that comes with a Birney education.



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Summer Sandals



Dr. Doug Richie

As summer approaches, foot doctors in California will begin seeing a surge of patients suffering from ailments attributed to wearing flip flop sandals. The classic inexpensive rubber flip flop is a flat sole design with no heel elevation and no arch support. This flimsy shoe will pre-dispose people to Achilles tendon injuries and strain on the plantar fascia, which is the primary arch supporting ligament of the human foot. Achilles tendinitis and plantar fasciitis are two of the most difficult overuse injuries to treat in the foot and are easily prevented by wearing proper shoes, particularly during the summer months.

Properly designed sandals are almost as supportive and equally healthy as good athletic shoes. If sandals have adequate wedging or elevation under the heel, strain on the Achilles tendon is significantly reduced. Many sandals now incorporate arch support in the foot bed which can reduce strain in the plantar fascia. Whether the sandal has a "flip-flop design" or has other strap closure systems, the foot bed will dictate the overall support and comfort. The ideal sandal will have multiple straps which cross over the top of the foot and around the heel to prevent slippage from side to side.





One benefit of sandals is the prevention of moisture build up on the foot. Athletes foot, fungus toenails and other conditions improve with the use of sandals. At the same time, the skin of the feet may dry out excessively with continuous use of sandals, so the use of moisturizing creams at night time is recommended to prevent callusing and cracking of the heels.

Dr. Doug Richie is a sports podiatrist who has practiced in Seal Beach for 28 years. He is president-elect of the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine and serves as a medical advisor to U.S.A. Track and Field. 562/493-2451

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Rolling Hills Montessori is thrilled to be adding a Toddler classroom to their program in the Fall of 2011.


The Toddler program offers both full and half days Monday through Friday, and accommodates children from 18 months - 2 ½ years old. Toilet training is provided.

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Rolling Hills Montessori
26825 Rolling Hills Road
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274
www.rollinghillsmontessori.com



Football Word Search Contest



NEW 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 is the word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put "RBUUSD" in the subject line)

Entries must be received by July 15, 2011
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

Clipping	Interference	Safety
Coach	Kicker	Scrimmage
Conversion	Linebacker	Special Teams
Cornerback	Loss of Down	Super Bowl
Defense	Offsides	Tackle
Downs	Personal Foul	Tailback
Field Goal	Possession	Touchdown
Flanker	Quarterback	Yardage
Goal Post	Roughing	

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

Congratulations to Reni Huang
Winner of the May Word Search Contest.



Hermosa Beach Chevron Surf Camp

- *For kids ages 7-17. Join over 8000 successful students. Our 20th year!
- *You will learn about ocean safety, paddling, standing and tricks like the switchfoot.
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- *There is always a teacher on duty that is a Lifeguard and California Certificated Teacher.
- *Try different size BZ softsurfboards. You are guaranteed to ride a wave your first lesson!
- *Location: South of the Hermosa Pier at the 10th street L.A. County Lifeguard Tower.

---- 1 1/2 hour class (5 days, M-F) Fee: \$134./\$124. resident discount. Two different times: 9:00-10:30am or 10:45-12:15pm
 ---- 3 hour class (5 days, M-F) Fee: \$209./\$199. resident discount
 One time: 9:00-12:15pm. Start Dates: June 27, July 5, July 11, July 25, Aug 1, Aug 8, Aug 15, Aug 29.

- *To register: HB Community Resources Department 310-318-0280 or www.hermosabch.org
- *More Information: Vince Ray 310-370-1918, surferjay@losangeles.usa.com or

www.hermosasurfcamp.com



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE SURF CAMP

Surf camp for children and adults with special needs (ages 7+). Surf classes have a 2:1 teacher-to student ratio for safety. Surfboard provided.

Please call Jill Jensen at the Friendship Circle before registering or for more information: 805-807-1732. Start Dates: July 18 and August 22. The class runs for 5 days (M-F) for 1 1/2 hours. Fee: \$159.

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Music Rhapsody

Note-ables

All Together Now, Little Monster Records



Kate Karp

I'm old enough—I might add “proudly”—to remember when the four mop tops known as the Beatles stepped off the plane at JFK Airport and made their debut on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. There, they set a record for the largest TV audience in history—73 million to Elvis Presley's 60 million.



That record setting is one of

the 12 fun facts in the cardboard booklet accompanying *All Together Now*, a Beatles music collection aimed at families with children up to age 8. Songwriter/musician Kevin Salem's production and accompaniment by professional musicians, among them singer and guitarist Marshall Crenshaw and the Bangles of “Walk like an Egyptian” fame, successfully avoid cutie-pie renditions of favorite songs. Included are 12 of the Beatles' most child-friendly creations—and there have been plenty to choose from.

Each song has its own illustrated page in the book, along with a poem having to do with growing up. The rhyme accompanying “I Want to Hold Your Hand” talks about all the things hands can do. “All Together Now”—with the lyrics ever so slightly edited—invites a romping exercise session. “Hello Goodbye” cleverly teaches not only opposites but contrariness between children and grownups. “Happy Birthday” is, of course, happy birthday, with a nod to the dangers of a sugar rush—ah, adults have to spoil everything!

The Beatles' legendary creativity has given them wide appeal throughout three generations. This collection makes it easy to pass their music on to the next one.

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.

Contest!!

This drawing is hidden two times in this publication. Email me the two words you find that are in **red**.

Good luck!

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
(Please put “RBUSD” in the subject line)



Your entry must be received by July 15, 2011. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

Lincoln *Elementary (K-5)*

2223 Plant Ave, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8646 • <http://lincoln.rbusd.org>



Jeff Winckler
Principal

Summer Learning

During the summer months it is important to keep your mind and body healthy. Students have greater success come fall if their summer reflects a balance of academic and physical activities. Families should read together, spend time exercising together, and relax together.

This summer the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation (RBEF) is providing summer enrichment and intervention classes. For more information on these offerings, please visit www.rbef.org. Also, for additional RBUSD-approved summer programs, please visit the “current news” tab on our school Web site, at <http://lincoln.rbusd.org/wp>.

Here in Redondo Beach, the public library provides multiple opportunities for students and their families to read through the Summer Reading Program. The incentives are fun and worthwhile, and students learn that reading is an enjoyable and lifelong process. Additionally, school staff and the Internet are good resources to find recommended reading lists for independent summer reading as well as other academic activities.



Lincoln students visit the public library.

Science Studies

For science, local and greater Los Angeles area aquariums and zoos offer opportunities where students can explore and learn about our ocean and the animals that live there. These are fabulous places to visit. They have all types of different animals to see and interact with and the employees are friendly and encourage students to volunteer their time to help these animals.

There are also a number of science activity centers to visit that allow students to not only see scientific concepts at first hand, but also let them engage in hands-on activities.

For social science, there are a number of historical museums and sites in the Southland that give families many lessons in history and help them discuss the importance of the past with their children. For incoming fourth-grade students who will be studying the Missions, a visit to one of our nearby California Missions is always an exciting trip.

Have a safe and fun summer, and enjoy your time together as a family!

Madison *Elementary (K-5)*

2200 MacKay Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8623 • <http://madison.rbusd.org>



Joseph Ledoux
Principal

Get Out of the House Into Adventure

Summer time is a perfect opportunity to take some time to relax and unwind. The days are long and there is a lot to do. I encourage all our Madison students to get out of the house and jump into adventure! There are so many learning opportunities here in the Los Angeles area. For example, aquariums can be a great way to cool off on a hot day and take in some of our local sea life. Here in the LA area, we also have a plethora of natural history museums, science centers, public parks and hiking trails.

Here in the South Bay we also have some terrific summer school camps and learning opportunities. I want to encourage you to look for some exciting information going home in the immediate future through our weekly packets or the e-mail blasts. Furthermore, I want to encourage our Madison families to visit our local public libraries which can be a particularly valuable resource during the summer months.

Have a wonderful summer; August 30th will be here before you know it.

Redondo Union *High School*

631 Vincent Park, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8665 • <http://www.redondounion.org>



Mary Little
Principal

The Significance of Summer Learning By Dr. Erin Simon

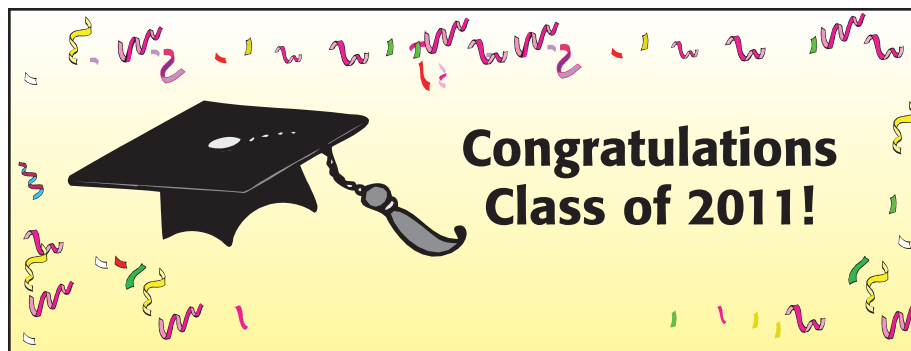
Students and parents—and teachers, too—eagerly anticipate the summer break; it gives them time off from the school year routine and can be filled with fun. For some students, summer vacation means educational camps or sports camps, family trips and a myriad of enriching activities. Other students find that, when schools close for the summer, engaging learning activities are out of reach and they are unable to partake in additional summer learning that can ultimately strengthen academic achievement.

The benefits of summer learning programs are well documented. In fact, research indicates that students often experience a significant decrease in academic knowledge after a summer with little to no learning.

The most beneficial summer programs address the needs of the whole child and offer innovative approaches to learning. These programs should not only boost student achievement but also improve self-esteem and confidence. Moreover, well-designed summer learning programs should increase achievement, enhance motivation for and engagement in learning, and further develop old skills and nurture new ones.

Examples of successful summer programs can include, but are not limited to, summer reading and math interventions, summer-school acceleration programs, educational camps, and hybrid youth-development/academic-enrichment programs. RUHS also encourages all students to engage in summer reading, both for personal enjoyment and completing reading assignments for special courses. Check your local library or bookstore for reading suggestions.

Summer programs have the potential to help reverse summer learning loss and increase educational equity. They are good for students and can help make schools even more successful. Investing in summer learning can definitely pay off in innumerable ways.



Parras *Middle School (6-8)*

200 N. Lucia Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8616 • <http://www.parrasmiddle.org>



Dr. Lars Nygren
Principal

Summer Learning Opportunities

While there are many students who need additional support during the summer to help them become more successful during the academic year, others would like to pursue studies for enrichment purposes.

The Redondo Beach Educational Foundation (RBEF) has combined efforts with the Redondo Beach Unified School District to create an RBEF summer session. This will offer a curriculum that has been designed by credentialed RBUSD teachers and administrators to help students reach their fullest potential before entering the next grade level. The courses will be six weeks long and will provide academic intervention as well as enrichment.

Most of the courses will be taught by teachers from our dedicated RBUSD staff. There will also be an on-site CDC extended camp for those families who desire a full-day program. This will be provided at a discounted price to make the summer enrichment experience more affordable for everyone.

Please visit www.rbef.org for more information. Summer school will last from June 21 to July 29 at 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Our local El Camino Community College has been a popular choice for many students. It will also be offering summer academic classes for middle school students in many different subject areas. They do charge a fee for their courses. Please visit www.ECCommunityEd.com for more information.

It is important to note that students cannot skip a regular academic year of math in middle school by taking a prealgebra or algebra course through the RBEF summer school, or at El Camino.



Parras students hard at work learning.

Are you
looking for me
for the contest
on page 12?
You need this
word **Rules!**



Tulita *Elementary (K-5)*

1520 Prospect Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8628 • <http://tulita.rbusd.org>



Danielle Alphin
Principal

Summer Fun and Learning

Every year, summer vacation brings the opportunity to spend extra time with our families. Without the demands of the school day, homework, and busy extracurricular activities, we get to reconnect. Whether traveling, spending time at the beach, or just relaxing together at home, enjoy the summer. I encourage you to make time for enriching and fun family learning too.

There are many ways you can mix some education in with your summer fun: Visit one of our local museums. Make regular visits to our public library. Go for a nature walk. Create a family history album. Study maps and guide books to plan a vacation or a weekend trip. Work together on a family budget for vacation. Write to a pen pal or family member. Compare and contrast the book and movie versions of the same story.

Of course I encourage you to read together too. Whether you read picture books, chapter books, new books, or old favorites, reading together is always a great way to spend treasured time together and encourage ongoing learning. Our teachers will recommend books for summer reading and we encourage you to participate in the Redondo Beach Public Library's Summer Reading program.

As the school year comes to an end, we thank all of the Tulita students, staff, and parents for an enjoyable, rewarding, and successful school year. We hope you enjoy your time together this summer and we look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall.



Student Malia, experimenting with the control panel at the California Science Center.



Fourth graders enjoying a visit to the Natural History Museum.

Washington *Elementary (K-5)*

1100 Lilienthal Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8641 • <http://washington.rbusd.org>



Vivian Ibarra
Principal

Pump Up Your Summer

Did you know that according to the National Center For Summit Learning “Students who don’t engage in summer learning lose the equivalent of two months’ worth of grade level math and reading skills.”

To succeed in school and life, children and young adults need ongoing opportunities to learn and practice essential skills. Summer is an exciting time for families filled with vacations and relaxing activities but it can also be a fun time to practice all of those hard learned skills from last year. We would like to give you some great summer ideas.

- Start a summer Journal. Take pictures of fun trips and have your child write each day about what they do during the summer.
- Take time to read every day and join the Summer Reading Program at the Public Library. The program is free and children can attend free shows during the summer. Encourage your child to check out books every week and read something fun.
- Go visit a museum. Admission to the Science Center is free. There are lots of great hands on exhibits for kids.
- Go to a concert on the Redondo Pier every Thursday or Sunday night from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Concerts are free and fun for the whole family.
- Go to Farmer’s Market. You can buy healthy fruits and vegetables and give your child a chance to practice counting money and weighing food.
- Wear your pedometer. Make it a family habit to go for a walk everyday and stay healthy. Visit vitalitycity.com and join a Moai Walking Team.

The most important thing you can do is start planning now for a great year. Parents who are involved in their child’s education have successful children.



Ready to learn on the first day of school.

Sit with your student now and plan what you want to do to be organized next year. Students in grades 3-5 will have an agenda book for daily homework communication. Visit the Explorer Links tab on our school website at washington.rbusd.org for great educational sites for students. Our success starts with our families and we are looking forward to a great year next year.

Have a great summer!



Family Fitness Night with Mr. Morlock.

SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1



Dr. Steven Keller

“strands” in subject areas that may need fine-tuning. Strands or Clusters are the divisible areas in a specific discipline that are tested through multiple grades (i.e. word analysis). The patterns may indicate a student’s continuing developmental need.

- Meet with other parents within the student’s grade-range and plan mentoring activities. Students are skilled in various areas and are experts at instructing one another. Capitalize on another child’s strength and encourage students to “teach” one another.

Summer Months

- Get students outdoors. The mountains, beaches, and gardens are excellent, real-life sources of inspiration for history, science, and language arts. Determine the height of a tree, velocity of a swell, or distance to plant various seeds. Encourage students to keep a daily journal about learning or experiences.
- Enroll students in camps. Not only will the student learn some self-sufficiency skills, but will also be able to practice interpersonal communication, group dynamics, and team building. Several independent organizations run athletic, nature, beach, or learning camps within the greater South Bay.
- Plan family game time. As silly as this sounds, some good competition and nay-saying never hurt anyone! Play traditional games like Monopoly to encourage the capitalist spirit, Clue to create calculated hypotheses, and Taboo to explore word choice. Remember that most games even require basic arithmetic to keep score!
- Visit a teacher store. A parent can find resources beyond imagination that are grade-level and skill appropriate for any child. Many of these activities will actually tie directly into material covered in the classroom.
- Remember the public library. Book reports and outside reading are not reserved for the months between September and June. Start a family or neighborhood book club and design group discussions, quick writes, projects, or written assignments to practice for the next school year.

Too, there are many organizations that provide special instruction in Redondo Beach (or nearby) for students who already have a passion for arts, fitness, acting, or just talking! Check out the Parks and Recreation Department, Music Rhapsody, Redondo Beach Playhouse, Adventure Plex, or even the Friendship Circle. Summer is a great time to support local businesses that support the development of the city’s youth. The important part of summer learning is to have fun and practice honing in skills. Students and families deserve time together, but remember that learning can be enjoyable and rejuvenating. Be creative!

Redondo Beach Unified School District
1401 Inglewood Avenue, Redondo Beach, CA 90278
(310) 379-5449 • www.rbusd.org



Paul Levchenko
Student Member

BOARD OF EDUCATION • FROM PAGE 1

Budget Woes

The major issue that has been on everyone’s mind during the last couple of years has been the state budget and how it will affect our schools. This is no new problem, because I remember hearing about the money crunch in elementary through middle school, and up until now.

But I know that our district will be able to pull through the financial crisis because of the dedication, talent and intelligence that I have seen, at each meeting, from each person who sits on the school board.

I will never forget the experience and knowledge that sitting on the school board has given me. Being so close to all of the action has made me very conscious of the many challenges that our district faces. But it has also reassured me that the Redondo Beach Unified School District will always be a great place to get an education.

I would like to thank the RBUSD for granting me and every other one of my classmates a superb and well-rounded educational journey.

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The Importance of Summer!

What Students Should Know Upon Entering Each Grade

Elementary School

Kindergarten – Students should be familiar with all letters and many basic sight words.

1st-3rd - Early elementary students need to become proficient readers and memorize all basic math facts. Any issues with comprehension and phonics can be worked on with our summer reading programs (If students are still counting on their fingers by the end of third grade they will be overwhelmed with the amount of math covered in later grades).

4th & 5th - Extremely important years for future academic success.

Students should understand fractions and decimals, and be able to interpret word problems. Students need to draw conclusions when reading and be comfortable writing structured paragraphs.

Middle School

6th - Come October, we will have more 6th graders than any other age.

The jump from the friendly confines of an elementary classroom to having more than one teacher leaves many preteens shell-shocked. Most of our sixth graders are overwhelmed with the amount of math covered, and lack the study skills for the transition to middle school. If your student has struggled with any area during elementary school, these deficiencies will become amplified in middle school.

7th & 8th - Writing and Algebra are the two areas 7th and 8th graders tend to struggle with the most. If your child passes into Algebra 1 for 8th grade, it is important to master all core math concepts, as there will be no time for review.

High School

9th & 10th - For some reason all high school students think summer means brain freeze. Maybe we should tell them summer break is three months because most children used to work on the farms for their parents. Now, we allow them to spend endless hours on the beach and hang out playing PS3 and Xbox. Our athletes spend countless hours practicing for the upcoming sports season, but do nothing to help themselves academically. Summer is a great time for course reviews and previews, especially in math and science courses.

11th - Junior year is the most stressful for students planning to go to a four year college. Unfortunately, many 11th graders try to cram for the numerous standardized tests at the end of the year when their classes are the most difficult. The Tutoring Club has individualized test prep for both the ACT and SAT standardized tests. Students who take our classes during the summer can devote all their attention to the tests, and not worry about sports and academic obligations.

12th - If students have not taken any of their standardized tests they have until November of their senior year to complete them. Students should use the summer to prepare for the exams so they can focus on college applications in the fall.

If Tutoring Club can be of assistance,
give us a call today!

Redondo Beach

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