

FREE

School News

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Covering the Redondo Beach Unified School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Steven Keller

Attending College

There is an expectation in our home that my daughter, Sloan, will go to college. Just ask the soon-to-be four-year-old, and she'll tell you—this has always

been the expectation. (Of course, she thinks that some university buildings look a lot like castles.) I feel this same way about the 9,200 students in the Redondo Beach Unified School District (RBUSD). All students should have the right, be prepared, and feel the support to attend college or university and to continue their education. RBUSD believes this is the right of each child, though realizing some parents may feel otherwise.

Today, students face an ever-changing future that is much more difficult and intense than the world in which we now live. The workplace is uncertain, jobs are fragile, and our now-recovering economy may further impact each young individual's ability to secure the livelihood to promise dreams. Our students will be released into a job market after high school that requires much more skill and expertise at entry level than ever before. Students who have four-year degrees compete for these entry-level positions and are often still lacking in the critical-thinking proficiencies to excel. 21st-century learning is a priority at RBUSD, and we hope to instill these required abilities, not only for attending college, but for achieving success in the workplace.

Students must be socially and emotionally prepared for college, as well as academically ready and physically healthy. This is quite the task to take on! This is a transitional

See SUPERINTENDENT • Page 15

Coming Soon to a Classroom Near You



Fourth grade students from Alta Vista Elementary collaborating on a writing project.

Dr. Annette Alpern

Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services

During the month of October the RBUSD is planning to distribute over 7,000 Chromebooks, one to each student in grades three through twelve. The reason is simple. Unlike their parents and guardians, today's students are digital natives; none of them can recall a time in their lives when cellphones, iPads and laptops were not a part of their daily world.

Just last weekend my son and his friends, all fourth-graders, were telling me that some of the information in their science and social science textbooks was not accurate. We talked about how traditional textbooks usually do contain accurate information, at least up until the time of publication. However, with reputable online Web sites right at their fingertips, students can easily ascertain important changes in the world. In this case, they knew that Pluto is no longer designated as a planet!

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BOARD OF EDUCATION



Laura Emdee
Member

It Was the Best of Times...

The warm September days and the students newly enrolled in zero period gave a few of us moms the opportunity to take early morning walks at the beach before work. In a happy coincidence, I saw my middle school physical education teacher riding her bike. After a few memories shared, we were parting ways when she said, "Ladies, keep up the exercise. It is good for you." My long-retired teacher is still encouraging, teaching and modeling. Teaching really is a calling, not just a profession.

Evidence of this calling is apparent every time I tour a Redondo school. Teachers face many challenges, yet their primary focus is teaching our students well. In the worst times, everyone in the district valiantly pulled together for the good of all. For example, our Maintenance Department kept the trucks running with junk-yard parts and lots of creativity. Now, in this school year, times have changed for the better, yet the primary focus remains.

Your Redondo Beach Unified School District School (RBUSD) Board and administration are being fiscally conservative. We have doubled the reserve for economic uncertainties and set up a long-term maintenance fund to keep our schools beautiful and safe. Even so, we are replacing some of the oldest trucks and managed to give a small raise, the first one in years!

See BOARD OF EDUCATION • Page 15

Board of Education 2014 Meeting Schedule

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| October 14 | November 18* |
| October 28 | December 9* |

(Complete schedule on page 15.)



Please see RB Educational Foundation page 2

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Walk for Fun, Friendship, & Education



Ted Craddock
President

The Redondo Beach Educational Foundation is making big waves at all the RBUSD schools this year. The Skechers Pier to Pier Friendship Walk is a family centered event that benefits children with special needs and education. To help RBEF make more waves at your school, please register now to join RBEF at the Skechers Friendship Walk, taking place on Sunday, October 26th. Go to www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com to register today. The cost is \$25 per walker, if you register in advance, and \$30 the day of the event. Please remember to join your school team and select the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation to benefit from your contribution. The funds raised go directly back to the schools for site-based needs. Funds earned by RBEF are distributed to the schools proportionately according to the number of people registered for each school team. Virtual walkers are counted as well so even if you can't attend the actual event you can still contribute.



Last year, we earned \$55,000 at this event for Redondo Beach schools. Those funds helped schools purchase programs and materials of their choice, supported the RUHS Friendship Circle, and much more. See you at the beach to make more RBEF waves on October 26th!



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



As always Dr. Keller's message is positive and focused on academic goals and excellence. His message this issue: Preparing students to be socially, emotionally, academically and physically healthy for college. All too soon we will be congratulating the Class of 2015!

The chalkboards were replaced with whiteboards and smartboards and now technology is moving at such a rapid pace that Chromebooks are now part of the classroom. I abandoned my DVR while it was still blinking 12:00 without mastering

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School News

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Covering the
**REDONDO BEACH UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Enjoy this one-of-a-kind event that includes beautifully decorated holiday trees, boutique, food court and local entertainment. Funds raised by the Holiday Festival support the new Lundquist Tower.

Public Exhibit and Boutique Shopping Hours

- Tuesday, December 2.....1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 3.....10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- "Senior Day #1" - Free admission to seniors 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Thursday, December 4.....10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- "Senior Day #2" - Free admission to seniors 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Community Service Group Night - Special Rate \$2..... 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Friday, December 5 - **Closed to the Public**
- Saturday, December 6 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Community Appreciation Day / Free admission
- Sunday, December 7 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\$5 General Admission - Children 2 and under are free.

Special Event - Reservation Required

Santa Lunch - \$10 per person - Sunday, December 7, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.



3330 Lomita Blvd., Torrance, CA 90505 • www.TorranceMemorial.org/HolidayFestival • 310.517.4606

Prepare for Flu Season



Dr. Lisa Santora
Chief Medical
Officer

Last year, our community experienced the death of a pregnant mother and her unborn child as a result of influenza A (H1N1). Los Angeles County confirmed 101 influenza-associated deaths, and 65 percent occurred among adults between 18-64 years old. Many of these individuals had high blood pressure, were overweight or obese, or were current or past smokers. Among Intensive Care Unit (ICU) hospitalizations, 15 percent had no other medical condition besides obesity.

To help prevent the flu, it's highly recommended that everyone 6 months and older receive the flu vaccine. In addition, below are everyday preventive tips, as well as special flu-related information for our most at-risk populations.

Everyday Preventive Tips

- Wash hands regularly with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Do your best to avoid sick people.
- Practice good health habits – eat nutritious meals, exercise, manage stress and get plenty of sleep.
- Sneeze and/or cough into the crook of your arm.
- If you are sick, stay home. And especially avoid children/infants, pregnant women and older adults.

Children and Infants

Children are at a greater risk for the flu because their immune systems are underdeveloped. Children with chronic illnesses are at an even higher risk of contracting the virus and experiencing complications.

- Children 6 months and older should be vaccinated.
- The nasal spray is recommended for children 2-8 years old.
- Parents and caregivers should all be vaccinated against the flu and wash their hands regularly.

Pregnant Women

Pregnancy changes a woman's immune system, which increases her susceptibility to the flu. Contracting the virus is potentially dangerous to you and your unborn child, so take preventive measures to avoid it.

- The flu shot is the only approved vaccine for pregnant women, so do not get the nasal spray.
- Receiving the flu shot during your pregnancy provides some protection to your baby once he or she is born.
- Breastfeeding your child is the best way to keep him or her healthy during flu season. Breast milk contains crucial antibodies that help fight off infection.
- If you contract the flu, do not stop breastfeeding.

Older Adults

Adults 65 and older are at a higher risk for contracting the flu due to declining immune function.

- Get the flu vaccination as soon as it's available in your area.
- Older adults have two options: the general flu shot or a higher-dose flu shot designed specifically for adults 65 and older. Talk to your health care provider about which shot is best for you.
- Flu often causes pneumonia in older adults, so talk to your health care provider about also getting the pneumonia vaccine.

Visit bchd.org for a list of sites offering flu vaccines in the Beach Cities, as well as other tips and resources.



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RBUSD Alternative Education

1000 Del Amo St., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8690 • <https://rshs-rbusd-ca.schoolloop.com>

New Members of the Team

Sue Hall, Principal

The students have arrived with a new approach to their education, and the seniors are motivated more than ever to graduate with their class. Our goal now is to maintain this momentum and to support the students in the pursuit of their ambitions. The staff is committed, and we welcome three new educators to our team.

Our new campus supervisor, Laura Gallardo, is a South Bay native who comes to us with many years of experience. She has worked for the city of Torrance as a specialist at the ATTIC Teen Center, and she plans and organizes special events throughout the city. Laura started out as a daycare provider and preschool teacher and earned child development certificates in college. Laura easily connects with students, and we are happy to have her on our staff.



Laura Gallardo, our new Campus Supervisor.

Our new Redondo Beach Learning Academy (RBLA) teacher, Alayna Albert, grew up in Southern California and returns to us after earning her master's degree in education from National University. Alayna previously worked at Redondo Shores High School and RBLA as an instructional aide and has experience teaching at a high school in Long Beach and at an alternative charter school in Watts. Alayna pursued teaching after realizing that "teachers had the biggest impact on youth and that education has the power to change lives and communities." We are thrilled to have Alayna back, and she has big plans for RBLA. She has high expectations for students and will provide the instructional rigor necessary for our students. Look for an upcoming spotlight issue on RBLA.



Alayna Albert, our new RBLA Teacher.

Also returning to our campus is our school psychologist, Kelly Six. Kelly earned her bachelor's degree from University of California, Berkeley and her master's degree from Loyola Marymount University. Kelly has worked at Shores and Redondo Union High School, and she already knows many of our students. Kelly is exceptional, and we are excited to have her back.



Kelly Six, our School Psychologist.

Redondo Beach Council PTA

1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • www.rbusd.org

"Believe, Dream, Inspire"



**Lisa Christensen
President**

National PTA believes every child deserves a quality arts education. The Redondo Beach PTA Council of PTA's are pleased to fund arts education in our schools. PTA volunteers in conjunction with South Bay Hands on Art bring quality art projects to our students throughout the school year. We believe participation in the arts develops the whole-child. It nurtures creativity and teamwork. The arts connect families and schools to one another and to their communities.

Since 1969, the PTA Reflections program has encouraged millions of students across the nation to explore artistic talents by creating art for fun and recognition. We encourage all students in Redondo Beach to participate in the Reflections program. Reflect on the theme "Believe, Dream, Inspire." Create an original work. Be Recognized! For complete guidelines and rules please contact your local PTA and visit www.PTA.org/Reflections.

RBUSD Educational Services

1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/937-1221

Coming Soon to a Classroom Near You



**Dr. Annette Alpern
Deputy
Superintendent,
Educational
Services**

From Page 1

This may seem like a silly example, but our school district is now making a commitment to all of our students and their families that they will be taught appropriate digital citizenship skills, 21st-century research techniques, and the difference between online collaboration and plagiarism.

If you have any further questions about this Chromebook implementation in the classroom then I would encourage you to speak with your child's own teacher or principal. Also, please plan to attend one of the many parent education events scheduled at your school during the months of October and November.

Coming up next: student tablets for the transitional kindergarten through second-grade classroom!



**Third grade students from Washington Elementary
working on math practice skills.**

Pediatric Gastrointestinal Issues



Barry Steinmetz, MD
Associate Medical Director, Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition Center, Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

Thousands of children in the U. S. are living with pediatric digestive and nutritional disorders because symptoms aren't always recognized.

Pediatric gastrointestinal conditions involve a child's gastrointestinal tract, or organs of the digestive system, which include the esophagus, stomach, large and small bowel, liver, gallbladder and pancreas.

There are more than 50 different common gastrointestinal conditions. One of the most common conditions in babies and kids is gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD).

GERD is a chronic disease which occurs when stomach acid or stomach contents flows back into the food pipe. Some of the most common symptoms of GERD are a burning sensation in the chest, chest pain, difficulty swallowing and dry cough. GERD often runs in the family and children with chronic lung problems are more likely to have GERD.

Five common signs of gastrointestinal problems:

- Vomiting
- Recurrent abdominal pain
- Picky eating
- Burping and heartburn
- Alternation of routine bowel patterns, such as constipation or diarrhea

If your child persistently displays any of these signs, call your pediatrician or a pediatric gastroenterologist.

The Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition Center at Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach provides a multi-disciplinary and multi-specialty approach for consultation, diagnostic testing and medical management of children ages birth through 21-years-of-age with liver, nutritional and gastrointestinal conditions. **MillerChildrens.org/GI, (800) MEMORIAL**

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Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

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Our specialists are the leaders in children's health care.

Born at 25 weeks premature, Kelli-Jain developed necrotizing enterocolitis – a serious intestinal disease common in preemies. Necessary surgery to remove a significant amount of her small bowel left Kelli-Jain with short gut syndrome and unable to absorb nutrients. She was referred to the Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition Center at Miller Children's, where she received treatment by a specialized care team. Today, Kelli-Jain is on track to a full recovery so she can guide her own train and enjoy the ride.

From tip-top head to itty bitty toes, Miller Children's is the leader in getting kids better.

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MillerChildrens.org/GI **800-MEMORIAL**

Our specialty:
Pediatric Gastroenterology

Kelli-Jain's specialty:
Train Conductor

Kelli-Jain, 6-years-old,
Miller Children's
Gastrointestinal Patient

Adams *Middle School (6–8)*

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



Anthony Taranto
Principal

Becoming 'Middle Grounded'

Often, being “in the middle” gets a bad rap. Middle school is a time of change for students; people get taller, they have new interests, and their social lives change. The transition to middle school is an adjustment for students and parents alike. However, research indicates that if students have a positive experience in the first year of middle school, their opportunities for success are greater. Adams Middle School is now in its third year of implementing the student-led initiative called WEB, which stands for “Where Everybody Belongs,” to assist students in their move to middle school.



WEB Leaders welcoming new students to Adams Middle School.

WEB welcomes new students to Adams and helps them feel more comfortable on a much larger campus. Eighth-grade WEB leaders are empowered to become mentors and positive role models to their fellow students. They provide the guidance and support students need to make connections with their peers as well as their new school environment.

WEB leaders facilitate team-building activities and workshops on social and emotional growth, academic success and problem solving while enhancing character development and creating an anti-bullying environment, thus making the “in the middle” years a more positive experience for all.

Alta Vista *Elementary (K–5)*

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



Susan Wildes
Principal

Get Ready to ROAR!

Are you ready to ROAR? The teachers and students of Alta Vista Elementary School—but not in the way you might think. Responding respectfully, Owning your own behavior, Acting safely, and being Ready to learn (ROAR) is a program teachers have developed this year to help teach and cue our students regarding the successful, positive behaviors that are expected throughout the Alta Vista campus. The idea is simple; we teach the behaviors we want to see and then celebrate when students demonstrate them.

Teachers and students have worked to identify and label the appropriate behaviors expected in various areas across the campus. Next, our teachers have explicitly modeled and taught these behaviors over time, allowing the students ample opportunities to practice. Next, adults throughout the campus look for students exhibiting the appropriate behaviors and “catch” students in the act, overtly praising and rewarding them. This praise is extremely important in increasing the reoccurrence of such successful behavior from all of our students.

Research and experience tells us that the best way to combat unwanted behaviors from our students, such as violence, bullying and the like, is by being proactive and changing the whole school environment. Teaching behavioral expectations and rewarding students for following them is a much more positive approach than waiting for students to misbehave and then distributing punishment. At Alta Vista Elementary, teachers and staff have established a school climate where successful and appropriate behavior is the norm.

Beryl Heights *Elementary (K–5)*

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



Karen Mohr
Principal

Construction Update: Our Students are Moved In!

After almost a year of construction at our school, the Beryl Heights Elementary School staff is proud to say that our students are moved in! Beryl Heights wants to thank the Redondo Beach community for their support of modernization and their dedication to our students and staff. We are putting the final touches on the new classrooms at our site and our fifth-grade students are enjoying their new rooms. Our staff has been thrilled with the upgrades and the new technology that has been available to them. Our new restrooms on the playground give students and staff easier access to the facilities, so that they don't have to go up the playground ramp, definitely enhancing student safety. The new landscape

with beautiful shrubs, fruit trees, and new grass has made the campus look amazing.

We would not be in such a beautifully constructed and modernized facility if it were not for the generosity of our Redondo Beach community. We are thankful every day that we attend school in Redondo Beach, and our staff and students are happy and thriving in this wonderful environment.

Don't forget to check out our Beryl Web site and see all of our upcoming events and activities in the next few months. We look forward to seeing you on campus or at our events! If you ever want a tour, please contact the office, and we will be happy to show you how beautiful our school is!



Principal Karen Mohr with students on the first day of school.

Birney *Elementary (K–5)*

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



Lisa Johnson
Principal

The Path to Success

The start of the school year is the perfect time to establish good study habits. Parents play an instrumental role by providing the necessary materials and encouragement and ensuring an environment conducive to learning is in place in order for their child to thrive.

Having a dedicated work space to study and complete assignments is the first step on the path to success. All children need their own personal place at home to work, an area that is free of noise and interruption.

Well-established routines for studying, meals and bedtime provide structure and ensure children have a clear sense of what to expect on a daily basis. A good practice is to schedule appointments and other activities in advance, so they do not interrupt your daily routines. Established routines benefit families by lowering the level of stress and guaranteeing all are well-prepared.

Developing good organizational skills is another key ingredient for success. Strategies parents can utilize to help their children gain and keep order include: using agendas and checklists; establishing a dedicated time each day to complete homework; teaching them to maintain neat and orderly backpacks and materials; and preparing each evening for the day ahead.

Lastly, have ongoing, daily conversations with your children. Ask questions regarding their day and take the time to really listen. A routine part of your evening should include conversations regarding school and learning.

With these strong work habits and effective systems in place, your child can be successful in school and life!

Lincoln *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Jeff Winckler
Principal

Getting to the Core of Common Core

Common Core State Standards provide a clear understanding of what students are expected to learn from kindergarten to 12th grade in English language arts and mathematics. They have been aligned to college and career readiness expectations, with the goal being to ensure students are properly prepared for college and beyond. As California moves into fully implementing the Common Core, the Lincoln Elementary School staff has been committed to clearly understanding what the standards are and how to best deliver them.



Lincoln in getting to the Core of Common Core.

Jefferson *Elementary (K-6)*

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

Dr. Oryla Wiedoeft, Principal

Raising Healthy, Eco-Conscious Children

At Jefferson, we believe it is important to raise our children to take care of themselves and maintain a healthy lifestyle. We also believe in guiding our children to think beyond themselves, and take care of our planet. These ideals often go hand in hand! At Jefferson, our PTA sponsors a Green Committee and our students lead a Green Ambassador program. Jefferson is in the 4th year of promoting health for our individual students, and health for our planet. On Tuesdays, we encourage 'Trash Free Tuesdays' and hope that our children will bring their food in reusable containers and generate no trash. On Wednesdays we promote 'Walk to School Wednesdays' which lowers the amount of emissions from cars as well as increasing the amount of physical activity for our children and encourages a healthy lifestyle. We hope these activities are just the beginning of raising healthy and eco-conscious children.



Jefferson students recycle!

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Tulita *Elementary (K–5)*

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

Dr. Tanaz Farzad, Principal

Three Ways to School Success

We all want to see students succeed. This is the reason that being an educator is so exciting. Watching a student develop, grow and succeed academically, emotionally and socially is the most rewarding feeling for teachers everywhere. Teachers plan and provide daily experiences for students to practice communication skills, collaboration and resiliency. But how can parents help nurture these same skills and ensure that their child has a successful school year?

Here are three ways that educators across the world agree will help children be successful in school. First, know that education is a partnership. Learning and achieving forms a joint process that takes the effort of the student, the teacher and the parent. This triad must be in place to help students succeed. Go ahead—get involved at Tulita. Your child will love it!

Second, it's okay to make mistakes. Encourage your children to learn from their own. These mistakes are opportunities for important life lessons; they build resiliency in children—it is how they learn and grow. Making mistakes and learning from them teaches students to be self-reliant and that mistakes are not the end of the world.



Tulita parents, Laura MacMorran and Jean Toale get involved by volunteering time to help with a 5th grade fundraiser at Tulita.

Finally, communication is key. Keep the lines of communication open between yourself and your children's teachers. It is okay to not agree with a method a teacher is using in this changing academic environment, but trust him or her and know that you both want the same outcome. Ask your children's teachers to clarify when there is confusion, and keep them in the loop about what's happening in your children's lives when necessary.

We know you love your children. We love them, too. We just ask that you trust us, support us, and work with us, and we will work even harder to give your child the best education possible!



Madison *Elementary (K–5)*

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



Drew Gamet
Principal

Blueprints for Successful Learning

As anyone who has come by Madison in the last few months can see, our new construction is in full swing! Thanks to all of you in the community of Redondo Beach, through your support of all the school bonds passed over the last decade, Madison is truly transforming into the ideal school site. Soon, we will have three brand-new classrooms that will be emblematic of a school that has been chosen as a California Distinguished School three times.

To go along with the new and enhanced facilities that we will have before the end of this school year, many of our teachers spent their summer with the same idea but related to how mathematics instruction is delivered to our students. We are now implementing an instructional technique called Cognitively Guided Instruction, or Math Workshop. If this sounds familiar, it is because it is an instructional process that is similar to the Readers and Writers Workshop instructional technique that has already been implemented at Madison for over six years. This is to ensure that all Madison students are well prepared for the coming assessments in the Common Core.

Parras *Middle School (6–8)*

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



Dr. Lars Nygren
Principal

Where Everyone Belongs!

The Parras Middle School counselors determined that there was a need to help transition the elementary school students into middle school. To address this need, the counselors recently wrote a grant to the Redondo Beach Education Foundation to help start an outreach program. In a short time they found out that they would be receiving funding from the RBEF!

The program we started at Parras Middle School is called WEB, which stands for "Where Everybody Belongs." It is a middle school orientation and transition program that both welcomes sixth-graders and makes them feel comfortable during the first year of their middle school experience.

Built on the belief that students can help other students succeed, the program trains mentors from the eighth-grade class to become WEB leaders. As positive role models, WEB leaders are mentors who guide the sixth-graders into discovering what it takes to be successful during the transition into middle school. They help facilitate sixth-grade success. Both school counselors also attended training in May and are now certified WEB coordinators.

The program started in August with a bang! For two days we had 75 eighth-grade students come in during their summer break and train to be mentors. The students learned leadership skills and how to get a group of sixth-graders to work together through team building, name games, and activities.

On Friday, August 22, these new WEB leaders held an orientation for all incoming sixth-graders. The turnout was amazing! Our WEB leaders worked with the students on getting to know new people, strategies for success for middle school, and how to work hard at bonding and making lasting relationships with their fellow sixth-graders.

Other things that WEB will be doing throughout the year include academic follow-ups, where WEB leaders can support sixth-grade academic success and character development through classroom visits. They will also organize social follow-ups, where the leaders and sixth-graders can connect at social events outside the classroom to help increase student engagement and promote a more positive school climate.

They will also be performing leader-initiated contacts, where WEB leaders can connect with their sixth-graders on a more individualized basis.

Parras Middle School is excited to have this program, and we look forward to expanding it throughout the coming years!

Redondo Union *High School*

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



Dr. Nicole Wesley
Principal

Google Chromebooks!

By Jens Brandt, Assistant Principal

Thanks to the generous support of the Redondo community, Measure Q is funding every student at RUHS and in RBUSD with a device to enhance their educational experiences, and we are sincerely grateful!

When we think of Chromebooks at Redondo, two words come to mind: opportunity and responsibility. As the educational and professional worlds continue to evolve at an ever-increasing pace, our students will explore and collaborate in order to become not

just technologically literate but also technologically savvy! Our students will be the future innovators of a job market that not only requires a college education or technical training but also the ability to effectively integrate technology into their workday. However, with opportunity comes responsibility. As we expand the use of technology in our classrooms, we ask for your commitment and support in raising responsible “e-citizens.” Digital citizenship is paramount in both educational and professional settings. The ability to appropriately and respectfully manage the laptops and access to the Internet will define our students as 21st-century learners and contributors.

As our staff prepares for the rollout of the Chromebooks, we first ask for your patience and support, as this will be a learning process for all. The logistical and instructional challenges will certainly exist; however, we will not let them dissuade us from integrating technology into our classes. Some students and teachers who may be more technologically confident will be our leaders. We see this as a wonderful opportunity to collaborate on a large scale. We also know that many of our parents are involved in various fields of technology. We invite you to participate in this process as well!

So, what will technology look like in our classrooms? First and foremost, our students will be connected! Teachers will have the ability to share lessons and assignments with students daily. Students can check out tutorials like Khan Academy, conduct research, collaborate on assignments via Google Docs, create and present projects, and securely take assessments online, just to name a few things! We also understand that the opportunity to use technology can never replace the phenomenal teachers we have at RUHS! In other words, the Chromebooks are simply a tool to enhance instruction and create responsible and effective e-learners.

So, what is digital citizenship? According to teachthought.com, digital citizenship comprises “the self-monitored habits that sustain and improve the digital communities you enjoy or depend on.” The key is self-monitored. Technology, while connecting us with others, can ironically be quite an individualistic experience. Therefore, our students must be self-aware and self-reflective when engaged in laptop and Internet use. Some key ideals that will be discussed this school year are respecting others, analyzing Internet credibility, and limiting time on technology. We would also like to take this opportunity to mention that all school laptop use, both at school and at home, can be monitored by our IT Department.

We look forward to your support and participation as we embark on this journey of technological opportunity and responsibility!

Washington *Elementary (K-5)*

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

Kristen Holm, Principal

Got Culture?

Washington Elementary School is off to a great start! We welcomed 769 students in Transitional Kindergarten through fifth grade. Our school has seen continual growth over the last three years and is expecting even more growth in the years ahead, thanks to our successful Spanish Dual-Immersion Program, the Washington Language Academy (WLA). This year we accepted 50 students into our dual-immersion kindergarten and opened two second-grade dual-immersion classrooms. Each year we will add a new grade level, until our inaugural class enters the fifth grade in 2017.

As part of the WLA Master Plan and in alignment with the Common Core State Standards, students in each grade level will study a variety of Spanish cultures to develop an appreciation and understanding of diverse cultures. Students will work collaboratively in groups, researching, creating, and presenting projects using technology and resources available in the classroom.

For this reason, kindergarten students will study and experience the culture of Mexico through dance, art, assemblies, and guest speakers. First-graders will study Guatemalan, Honduran, Nicaraguan, El Salvadorian, and Costa Rican cultures. Our second-graders will be given the opportunity to study the cultures of Columbia, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Peru. Once students reach the third grade, they will study the cultures of Chile, Argentina Paraguay, and Uruguay. In fourth-grade, students will study the Caribbean culture, and fifth-graders will study the culture of Spain.

WLA is just one example of the excellence that Washington can provide for its students. We are so proud of all of our students, and we are looking forward to a terrific school year!

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Welcome Back to School!



Vivian Ibarra
Director

This fall many families in our community sent their children back to school, and South Bay Adult School was no different! One of our most popular programs is the South Bay Family Tree (SBFT). This is a unique program that provides a place for parents to meet and learn different parenting techniques while sharing a preschool experience with their child. SBFT is an award-winning preschool program for families with children from birth to age five. SBFT believes in introducing academics through play-time activities. Each class is age-appropriate, with story time, arts and crafts, music, and play activities. The program prepares

children to learn and adapt with a creative, flexible approach to a rapidly changing world. Parents participate in teacher-led discussion time and can make lifelong friends as they prepare their children for school.

We believe that parents are a child's first and most important teacher. This might seem obvious, but it is a very important statement to us here at South Bay Adult School-SBFT. Come and visit a classroom and you will see parents leading activities at tables, supervising outdoor play, serving snack, reading to a small group of children, or sitting with the teacher in a discussion group.



A Parent Ed mom shares a book.

Families experience hands-on learning activities where parents and children laugh and learn together. We know that involved parents also play a key role in student achievement, and can help develop a child's positive attitude towards learning. We also know that our involved parents stay involved parents when their children enter the elementary schools.

South Bay Family Tree prepares families for the future. Through play-based learning, and hands-on academic experience, children develop the skills they need to become confident and successful learners ready for kindergarten. So join us in a supportive

parent-participation program where parents can learn along with their children. South Bay Family Tree: where families nurture and grow together.



Water Wonders fun.



Playing in the sand table with bird seed.



An Exciting Summer Program

Bu Renata Huang, Parras Zone Teacher



Theresa Van Dusen
Director

This summer flew by for all of the students enrolled in the RBUSD's new Zone Summer program! The Zone Summer program is exclusively for the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders from both the Adams and Parras Middle Schools.

The students' weeks were packed with trips to many local amusement parks. Eliana Pomfert, an eighth-grader at Parras Middle School, said that, "I really liked this camp because we went on cool field trips like Disneyland, Boomers, the beach, and much more."

Some of the highlights included new experiences for our students, such as rock climbing, go-kart racing, hydro-biking and kayaking through the Venice Canals in Long Beach, and horseback riding at Griffith Park. In addition to the field trips, the students also participated in various classroom activities.

Tara Bidarian, an eighth-grader from Parras, said: "My favorite activities were the Top Chef competition, the Just Dance competition, and making our own music videos." Kendall Robinson, an incoming sixth-grader at Adams Middle School, said that, "I met people at the Zone Camp and it made it easier for me to start middle school. There is no other camp that does the fun things that the Zone Camp does."

Kelsey Tochihara, a seventh-grader at Adams Middle School, said: "The Zone Summer was a blast! I got to experience new things that I have never done before. I met new friends and I got to go on rides with them at California Adventure. It was really fun! Hopefully next year Mrs. Reni and Mr. Epps combine schools, because I loved sharing the experience with them. Hope to see you next year, Parras Middle School!"

We are all looking forward to next summer's adventures at the Zone, and we hope your middle school student can join us.

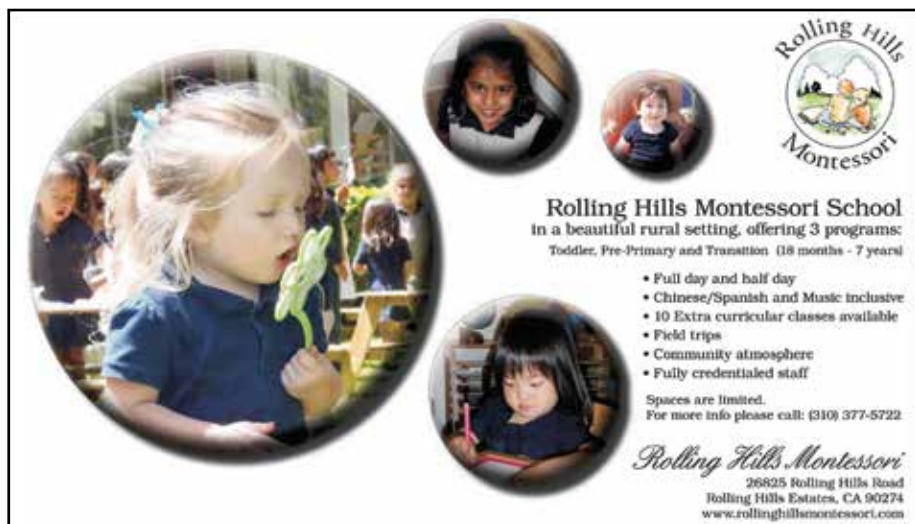


Hydro biking at the Venice Canals in Long Beach.



Go Kart racing at K1 Speed.





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Remember When?

Technology...Things of the Past



Charlene Ashendorf

"I've got gadgets and gizmos a-plenty. I've got whozits and whatzits galore. You want thingamabobs? I've got twenty! But who cares? No big deal, I want more". If you are not familiar with these lyrics, you might just have to ask a little girl! Most likely she is familiar with Ariel and "The Little Mermaid."

Doesn't it seem that young people are bombarded by "must have" stuff? I remember a simpler time. I can remember the words as if I uttered them yesterday: "Mom, It's lovely and it lights up and every one of my friends has one." Yes, I had to have one too... that turquoise princess phone. Of course, today, every nine year old has a cell phone; and landlines, well, kids may not be familiar with that word.

When the Brownie Bullet camera (in the yellow box) was introduced, I had to have one! Photos, film and processing (all terms dropped from our vocabulary) cost me my weekly allowance time and again. But just anticipating the results of my photo shoot was exciting!

At the age of nine I had already written my first short story. The operative word here is "written" as in pen and paper written. The tale of a young girl and her elephant growing up on Mount Kilimanjaro when a chasm in the earth separates the two was one I couldn't write fast enough. I begged my parents to buy me a typewriter. That dream became a reality in 1961 with the release of the IBM Selectric. What a fabulous invention, it was. No longer would the typewriter use the typebar that moved up with great force to strike a ribbon. This mother of all inventions used a typeball that actually pivoted. And what's more, it could be removed and changed which introduced a multitude of fonts! The Selectric changed my life. More coveted than the television, the Selectric was every writer's dream. Now granted it was not a computer with spell check, but ultimately a self-correcting feature became life changing to this young writer. Enrolling in a typing class in middle school added confidence, speed and accuracy to my budding interest in writing.

The history of technology includes many wonders, we never dreamed of: the computer, a PC, the MAC, a tablet, a chrome book, kindle, and the iPad. However, looking back, nothing can compare to the imagination one was forced to unlock with the IBM Selctric. Yes, Growing up with "technology" means many different things for many of us. Most of them, like us... obsolete.

Charlene remembers growing up in Chicago with hot and humid summers, leaves that turned colors in the fall and endless winters. She is the executive director of Laurel House, a shelter for at-risk teen girls. She is active in her church and community. Her hobbies include reading, writing and visiting art galleries. Charlene resides in Costa Mesa with her husband, Dennis who is a teacher in the Newport Mesa Unified School District. <http://about.me/cmash>

HOME ROOM • From Page 2

how to program it. I know our six grandchild can help my husband and I with any technology problem we encounter. When we do ask for help, we always remember to say please and thank you. Fortunately, no matter how advanced

Los Angeles County Office of Education

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Celebrating Educational Excellence



Arturo Delgado, Ed.D.
Superintendent

I recently had the opportunity to meet the Los Angeles County winners of the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Golden Bell Award, which promotes excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs.

It's the most prestigious award a school district can receive, and I'm extremely proud that 13 programs in our county were among the awardees this past school year.

To honor these awardees and highlight the successful initiatives in our schools, we recently held a special event, "Celebrating Educational Excellence," in Downey.

We also wanted to recognize the important role schools and programs play in educating our children in LA County.

We wanted to share with others the story of extraordinary passion and dedication by students, parents, teachers, administrators and school board members who were behind the success of each of the award-winning programs.

As advocates, motivators, volunteers and leaders, their efforts to promote educational excellence in their communities are truly inspirational.

For example, some of our awardees talked about the importance of showing love and support to young people, especially those who are struggling.

Others encouraged our students to tell their stories and dreams so that adults can get a better idea of what works for them.

Some of them spearheaded mentoring programs, motivated students to read, and provided opportunities for students to explore their talents outside the traditional classroom.

Many of them prepared our students for college and addressed the achievement gap among English language learners and socio-economically disadvantaged students.

Their work and involvement have played a key role in helping our young people thrive and succeed in their schools and communities.

The Golden Bell winners truly inspire us to see that all of us in the education community can make a huge difference in the lives of our students.

I'd like to invite you to see for yourself how our Golden Bell awardees are helping our students succeed by watching the short videos we posted on our website and on the LACOE/ETN Channel on YouTube.

Arturo Delgado, Ed.D., was appointed superintendent of the Los Angeles County Office of Education in July of 2011. With headquarters in Downey, the Office is the nations largest regional educational agencies, providing a range of programs and services to support the county's 80 public school districts and 2 million preschool and school-age children.

we become with technology good manners will always be the core of civility common to all of us.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving! Our next issue is November 5th.

Don't Bring Negativity to Homework



Dr. Shari Sweetnam

My son has a hard time in school and I don't feel equipped to deal with it. I get so frustrated and angry when he misses silly questions on a test or does not understand when I explain things for the third time. Homework ends in fights and tears.Can you please help?
—Trae R., Newport, Calif.

Trae, We miss the fact that the emotion or “energy” around homework time plays a vital role in learning capacity and emotional stability. Frustration around homework time is common, but make no mistake, it is damaging.

Bringing negativity to homework time makes a child “dislike” it. People usually do not succeed at things or activities that they dislike. A child who is beaten down (by being “scolded” for not understanding) or who has to end up in a “fight” with parents over homework is being seriously compromised. Not only does this form of interaction damage his academics, it diminishes his self confidence, motivation and willingness to endeavor in other aspects of life, as well.

Trae, the good news is that you can turn all of this around. Instead of being emotionally reactive to frustration. Simply ask yourself, “What does my child need at this moment?”

- Then...
1. Explain in different ways.
If your child does not understand something you have explained three times, then you need to find a new way of explaining it. Every child and every adult has a different formula for learning and you need to find your child's path. That is a parent's role when it comes to their child's academics.
 2. Be very conscious of the emotional atmosphere
Always stay calm and supportive, during homework time, even when your child has tremendous difficulty understanding something....even when you are frustrated. When faced with roadblocks, ask for help from the teacher, a tutor, but never punish your child for not understanding.
 3. Help your child to calm down.
Once you are reliable in your commitment to positive energy, you can be a model of self control and focus. When children get to a point of “I CAN'T DO THIS!” You need to walk them through, and remind them that their attitude toward their work will affect how they learn.
 4. Know when your child needs a break.
Allow him to race around the block to clear his head, talk about his frustrations or fears or “reset” their brain in some way. As you become consistently calm, your awareness of when this is necessary will improve.
- Hang in there Trae, you can do this. You can make very positive changes that will enhance your child's level of motivation and success!

Motivational Speaker, Founder of *The Brainpower Programs for Schools*, Author, Consultant, Radio Host contact: info@doctorshari.com, www.doctorshari.com, twitter: DrShariS, Youtube: Dr. ShariS, LinkedIN: Dr. Shari Sweetnam

Women Welcome Women World Wide



Bonnie Blanchard



Musicians in Dublin.

Hello, again! To continue the saga of 5W/Women Welcome Women World Wide (www.womenwelcomewomen.org.uk), my very first visitor in Dublin (May 2003) was dynamic Ingrid from Austria. We met in front of Bewley's Café on Grafton Street & enjoyed an information exchange over lunch (with, of course, some Bewley's tea). This lady wanted to see everything, so during her visit we did starting with the sights of Dublin City Centre: Trinity College & the Book of Kells, the Guinness

Storehouse, Dublin Castle (town hall), St. Stephen's Green (HUGE city park), the Literary Museum, St. Patrick's Cathedral, etc. We explored the coastal towns along Dublin Bay and the villages of nearby County Wicklow. Of course, a visit to Dublin must include a Dublin Pub Crawl in Temple Bar even if you don't imbibe, the good craic and lively music are well worth this adventure!

Eventually, Ingrid's visit was extended to 4 weeks so she could enroll in a Dublin English-Language course; this was a special arrangement outside of her 5W stay. It was nice to have the company & to hear about her lessons – particularly with the instructor's thick Irish brogue!

Shortly after Ingrid returned home, her niece Tina & Tina's boyfriend Thomas arrived for a long weekend. They had tickets to see the Black Eyed Peas in Phoenix Park (a block from my flat) but no affordable lodging, so I met some more lovely Austrians! How lucky I am!

Bonnie Blanchard was an Executive Assistant at an international IT company until her retirement in 2012. Having promised her Mom she'd obtain her Irish citizenship and visit Ireland, the “visit” lasted for over 7 years and included many adventures throughout Europe and Russia. Since her return to California she has continued her travels abroad, supplementing travel expenses by housesitting in her “bucket list” of locations. Welcome Women World Wide (www.womenwelcomewomen.org.uk)

No School Today



Kate Karp

With such a title as *No School Today*, there's plenty of education integrated into this CD, in one form or another. Grammy-winning composer Danny Weinkauf, whose writing credits include They Might Be Giants and a number of popular TV shows, has written a few theme songs for regular people both young and not so very.

The title song puts to music the decades-old saw that goes something like “I'm too sick to go to school—oh, what, it's Saturday?” and there are also theme songs for those of us who dragged ourselves to class even when we were sick unto death. “Champion of the Spelling Bee” has been featured on telecasts of the Scripps Spelling Bee as an expression of a young contestant's insecurity, hard work and pride in being a

winner. In the Did You Know? department, there are 260 species of marsupials, as disclosed in the song of the same name. “Cast Your Vote” stresses the importance of expressing your choice at the ballot box, and in a philosophy that will no doubt delight anyone who's either taught or learned about the food pyramid and its positive effects on health, there's a number that hails the importance of food making you feel good—“Ice Cream.” Strawberry has two food groups, you know.

In the short but clever “Ambivalent,” Mr. Weinkauf sings, “I'm so ambivalent—or maybe not.” No matter how any of the tunes make you feel, you'll surely find a theme in them for yourself.

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

Halloween Costumes for Little Girls



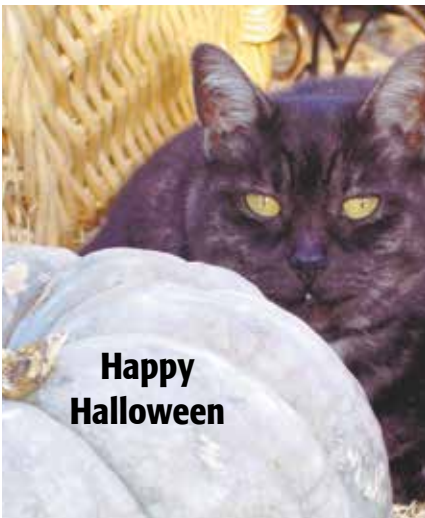
Jodie Lynn

Q. Halloween is right around the corner and of course, the stores are pushing like crazy for parents and kids to buy early for the best costume, candy and etc. We have eight-year-old twin girls and it's crazy to see how many inappropriate outfits there are for their age group. Will it harm little girls to pick out something that is sort of flashy and glamorous or are we setting ourselves up for similar requests in everyday attire?

A. It can sometimes be difficult to find age-appropriate Halloween attire for little girls. However, this year princess dresses seem to popular, thanks to movies like Frozen. Shopping early may actually help, especially if it's going to be store-bought as opposed to being made at home. Some stores are better known for a larger variety of styles. Thus, the costumes do seem to fly off the rack sooner. As long as your daughters understand that the costume is just for fun, and sort of like a more relaxed dress up day, there's probably not any real concern for future requests for similar clothing for their everyday wear. That's not to say that the envelope may not occasionally be pushed as they get older. Being a little flexible always helps in certain situations and helps them develop into their own individuality.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author. Her column Parent to Parent™ (www.ParentToParent.com) has been successful for more than 15 years. She is a regular contributor to several sites and has written four books and contributed to three others, one of which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. She has authored several books including *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having Doing*, and *Surviving it All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* Check www.ParentToParent.com for details on new radio talk show, Inside Parenting Success.

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Word Search Contest—My Awesome ArtBox!



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 RBUSD in the subject line)

Entries must be received by Nov 15, 2014

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$25 gift certificate to be applied to a classroom subscription to My Awesome ArtBox! (see ad on the back page)

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...and They Are Gone!



**Sandy Spurgeon
McDaniel**

Remember those days when you would trade this kid to anyone who made an offer? Rushing towards you like a speeding train comes the day when that precious child leaves for college. You've trained yourself to watch him or her every minute, to let go a little at a time. Now the letting go is serious. Your job is done (that's an illusion, and for the moment it feels done.) Your baby (whether it is your first or fifth) is going out in the world without your handy hints for a happy life. How will that child survive?

In my book, *Leave Your Baggage at The Door*, there is a chapter describing the release of my two children to college life: "Letting Go" is appropriately the title.

Though I wanted to hold on just a little longer, I knew the time had come to let Kathleen go. Slowly I opened my hand, put my cheek next to the hovering wing, whispering, "I love you Darling Kathleen." Raising my hand, I opened my palm and spoke, "Now fly!" And my beautiful butterfly flew away. One book has ended another one begins. It seems if parenting is a continual process of letting go.

Just about the time I had adjusted to Kathleen leaving it was time for Scott to go off to college. "He sits beside me on the couch. He says nothing. Then his hand reaches out, I slip my hand into his and hear him say, "Thank you!" Squeezing his hand I ask, "For what?" Familiar brown eyes meet mine, "For everything." Tears begin flowing from his eyes and mine. "Thank you," I sob. "For what?" he whispers. "For most of it!" I snicker. Tears turn to rolling, howling laughter. We hug and say goodbye.

I have, over the year bemoaned that I didn't do a better job of parenting. It is such a difficult job with no specific tools to for handling the myriad of challenges that arise. I have tried to help other parents with my *Don't Feed The Dragon* book, which I didn't have when I was parenting. There are no re-runs in this game and the truth is I did the best I could with what I was given to be a parent. Finally I have come to terms with, I need to let that best be good enough.

I now have four precious grandchildren and my two children are plowing the fields of life the best they can with the tools they were given. One of them is 44 and the other 42, and I still remember when they went off to college.

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel has written four adult books, and a new children's book: *Believe You Are Beautiful*. She has taught school, raised two children, worked as a consultant to schools and has worked with children and families for 52 years. Sandy now lives in Meridian, Idaho. ParentingSOS.com, Amazon and Kindle

College 4 Less

Falling in Love



**Susan D.
Marshall**

My mom used to always say, "Date men you would be willing to marry." She wanted me to set certain standards and expectations based on who I was and who I wanted to be. Wise advice.

Follow this advice when selecting the "perfect college" or "your dream school" Who do you want to be? Start with the end in mind. First start with your career path, followed by your major, and then the colleges that will speak to your future.

There is no question your "Heart" should play a role in the decision process. You are going to live the next 4 – 6 years there. You are going to spend a lot of money. You need to love it.

There is a school out there for you. There are over 4,000 colleges and universities. Narrow down your list then... Go on a date! (Warning: do not eliminate schools based on sticker price. This could be a mistake.)

To go...where to go...when to go...why?



Nancy

What a lot of decisions we ask of our youngsters when they leave the safety of our local school systems. Do they know what they wish to study right now in order to move into a career they have chosen? Are they facing several questions: what do I want to do for a job/career; what school will offer me the best preparation; do I want to attend a local junior college and get my basics out of the way hoping by that time I will have decided what career I want to enter?

Hopefully our schools have provided counselors to help answer some of these questions as well as offer guidance toward a school or preparation program that will be appropriate for the youngster, his/her pocketbook and that of his/her parents.

Many choose to get their basic education satisfied in the junior college arena, saving their big dollars for the continuation of their education. If this is the choice being made, it does offer some breathing room to decide what course of study you will pursue. Few of us really know what we want to do the rest of our working lives when we are 17 or 18 years of age. Junior colleges offer a good basis for further education and opportunities to explore different avenues of interest.

For those who know what they want as a future career or who can afford the expense of a 4 year college or university while they explore their opportunities, the next decision will be where to go. Do you want to take advantage of the residency tuition at colleges within your state or relocate to a different state and assume the additional expense required of out of state students? Will you receive scholarships to help meet the expenses required of the college or university you have chosen? Have you applied to several colleges or universities offering the course of study you desire, knowing there is no guarantee you will get your first choice or even second? Have you applied for all the appropriate scholarships, including the ones in your community as well as the field of study you have chosen to pursue?

In actuality, students need to be making many of these decisions their Junior year of high school and securing scholarship and admission information from their high school counseling offices. The more time you can allow yourself to ponder, peruse and question the easier your ultimate decision will be, and the more you and your parents can be properly prepared.

Many feel only high academic achieving students have entrée to colleges or further study, however there are trade schools, specialized schools and training for most every field a person could possibly want to enter for employment. There are oft times scholarships available to assist in these areas.

Publisher's note: Nancy is a rancher in Northern CA. I don't think I have ever known anyone quite as appreciative of nature as Nancy. She can stand in the middle of a field of weeds and find beauty in the gentle swaying of the tassels. At the end of her busy day, rather than settle down for a much needed rest, Nancy is preparing sugar water to not disappoint the hummingbirds the following morning. After much arm twisting, I convinced Nancy to share with our readers a few tidbits of her days on the farm. Enjoy!

When you visit, reflect on what is important to you. Picture yourself living there. Consider if you will be able to handle the weather or the big city. Ask yourself what else attracts you. Is it the valuable opportunities such as internships, or travel abroad? Is it the big name basketball or football team?

Visit if possible when school is in session: Go to a game. Attend a concert, a play, or another event. You will begin to get the feeling of what it is like to be a college student.

In the end, ask yourself the hard questions. Why do I want to go there? Is it only because that's where everyone in the family has attended for generations? Is it only because of my boyfriend or girlfriend?

Be wise in making your choice. This is YOUR Future! Apply to a number of schools. Wait for letters of acceptance, evaluate financial aid award offers. Then go for it! Select the school that you want to marry. To your future success!

Susan both educator and advisor specializes in college planning. She helps families save for and pay for college. If you have questions you would like answered in a future article contact her at Susan@College4Less.com or on her Web site at www.college4less.com

Board of Education



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Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule

2014

October 14

October 28

November 18*

December 9*

2015

January 13

February 24

April 14

May 26

January 27

March 10

April 28

June 9

February 10

March 24

May 12

June 23

(April 14 – Organizational Meeting)

SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 1



Dr. Steven Keller

time for young adults, and the guardians in their lives must assist with this change. The college application process is daunting. Students are asked to “know” themselves, to select a major or course of study for life, and to define themselves as the future adults they wish to become. With the previously mentioned future so uncertain, children need support in becoming able to meet the expectations of these higher-learning institutions and complete their application requests. This is the responsibility of parents, guardians, and educators. Going to college is our hope; this message must be consistent. At RBUSD, this is our message; obviously a percentage will not attend, but all students should have the chance. I’m certain that, when Sloan is 18 years old, she will agree.

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BOARD OF EDUCATION • From Page 1



Laura Emdee
Member

The Common Core State Standards curriculum begins officially this year, and we are preparing for the switch to computer-based testing. We have asked a few computer savvy teachers to help with the netbook rollout. These teachers on special assignment are great liaisons since they are experienced teachers, plus they can speak fluent technology to the Information Technology Department. RBUSD teachers have gone to several professional development trainings. They have embraced the changes with a professional, can-do attitude.

Perhaps the rollout of Common Core and one-to-one computers will not be perfect, but it will be successful. The community, administration and staff will provide support, the principals will be the instructional leaders/models, and the teachers will do what they were thankfully called to do, teach our children well. In Redondo, everyone is working together beautifully for your students, in good times or bad.

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