

FREE

# School News



Education + Communication = A Better Nation

**Covering the Redondo Beach Unified School District**

**Volume 9, Issue 82** **October 2015**



### Board of Education



**Michael R. Christensen**  
*President*



**Anita Avrick**  
*Vice President*



**Brad Serkin**  
*Presiding Officer*



**Brad Waller**  
*Member*



**David Witkin**  
*Member*



**Chris Paludi**  
*Student Member*

[www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com](http://www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com)

# Host a Goodwill Fundraising Donation Drive at Your School!



## Earn Cash For Your School! We Make it Easy to Earn \$1,000\* or More!

Goodwill provides an excellent opportunity to raise funds that are so desperately needed during these challenging economic times. Schools are given the opportunity to earn funds through turnkey donation drives that make it easy to participate. Plus, it's a great way to encourage student involvement with a minimal time commitment.

Goodwill provides everything that you need for a successful event:

- Donation events are typically 9am-1pm or 10am-2pm
- Two (2) attendants to be on-hand to take donations
- Donation bins delivered to your site on the scheduled event date
- Schools earn \$50 per bin\* filled with gently used items
- Distribution of tax receipts at the event

All you need to do is promote the event—the more you promote, the more you earn!

\*Schools typically earn \$1,000 by simply filling 20 bins. Goodwill SOLAC will provide you with details on what can be donated.



## Together We Can Make a Difference.

### Getting Started is Easy!

Just contact the Goodwill SOLAC Donations Manager to set up an appointment, and we'll do all the rest! We'll even come to you!

See just how easy it is to do good, be green and earn money for your school!

#### To Get Started:

Call **562.435.3411 x267**

Or Email us at

[CashForSchools@GoodwillSolac.org](mailto:CashForSchools@GoodwillSolac.org)



# Superintendent



## What is Success?

Preparing a child for success encompasses many jobs and proposes many answers to childhood's numerous questions. The first, most important task to help a child to thrive is to try to define success itself. What exactly is the goal to be reached? How is "success" defined?

**Dr. Steven Keller**

Answers to the above questions are subject to influence from countless sources:

culture, faith, community, etc. It is truly tenacity that is critical to success. Teach your children, through your own example, to set goals and go after them. These goals can be related to one's career, athletic participation, healthy lifestyle, or self-presentation. This modeling will demonstrate a commitment to accomplishment that will translate into your child's social, emotional, academic, and physical aspirations.

All parents want their children to enjoy and do well in school. It is important to let your son or daughter know this desire. If a child believes that he or she can be successful, he or she will be. This strong bond at home will give a child the necessary confidence and self-reliance to meet and overcome the challenges faced at school. With a positive sense of self, achievement will also extend to other avenues, such as relationships, college pursuits, and careers.

With a well-built system of support at home, a child will learn that cultural and societal differences are not an excuse for hard work, even before entering school. Parents should maintain school involvement and celebrate the diversity of a child's learning community. It is important to discuss with your child his or her homework, academic ambitions, and social pressures—often and with ease. As a child's first teacher, parents must encourage strong language skills and appropriate study habits; these are proficiencies that will further an individual through all facets of life.

Every situation is an enriching learning experience that can be used for the benefit of your child, who actually thirsts for your guidance. Set high expectations, follow through with commitments and consequences, be honest, laugh frequently, and, parents, try to remember that, while a child is a unique individual, don't spend more time trying to perfect him or her than you do on trying to perfect the relationship you share!

In closing, to help the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation, please join us for the Skecher's Pier-to-Pier Friendship Walk on Sunday, October 25. Last year, the Redondo Beach Unified School District earned \$104,000! Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com) to register today. Remember to join our school team and select the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation to benefit from your contribution.

# Board of Education



## Healthy Habits

School is in full swing, even though the first couple of weeks were challenging with the heat wave we had. I want to thank all of the teachers, administrators, staff, and students for keeping their sense of humor during the heat. Although the cost of putting air conditioning in all of our schools is astronomical, we were able to supply fans for everyone.

**Anita Avrick**  
*Vice President*

Remember healthy lifestyles start at home. The American Medical Association says that obese children and adolescents are five times more likely to have higher psychological and social issues than healthy children. Obese youth are more likely to become overweight or obese adults than those youth at a normal weight.

Food is commonly used to reward children for good behavior. It is an easy and inexpensive way to bring about short-term behavior changes. Using food as a reward can interfere with children learning to eat in response to hunger and could teach children to prefer unhealthy foods.

When we surround our youth with healthier options, it leaves them little choice but to eat better foods. If you differentiate between snacks that children can eat freely (fruits, vegetables) and those that require permission (cookies, candy) children will learn to make better choices. Here are five things to help with better choices: reduce fats and sugars; eat more fruits; reduce portion sizes; reduce the number of snacks; and eat together, as it is a chance to model good behavior. Remember—what we teach them at home, they will take with them for the rest of their lives.

## Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule

2015

October 13  
October 27

November 17\*  
December 8\*

**\* Due to holiday schedule, only one Board meeting in November and December.**

2016

January 12  
January 26  
February 9

February 23  
March 8  
March 22

April 12\*  
April 26

**\*4/12/2016 – Organizational Meeting**

**Redondo Beach Unified School District**  
1401 Inglewood Avenue, Redondo Beach, CA 90278  
(310) 379-5449 • [www.rbusd.org](http://www.rbusd.org)



**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)

Covering the

**REDONDO BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**FOUNDER/PUBLISHER:** Kay Coop

562/493-3193 • [kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com)

**ADVERTISING SALES:** Valerie Reid • 310/874-2716

[valerie.schoolnewsrollcall@gmail.com](mailto:valerie.schoolnewsrollcall@gmail.com)

**CONTENT COORDINATOR:** Barbra Longiny

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER:** Meshel Negrete

**COPY EDITORS:**

Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia



@SchoolNewsRC



SchoolNewsRollCall



SchoolNewsRollCall

**SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC**

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740

562/493-3193

[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)

Copyright © 2006, School News Roll Call, LLC

Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated.

Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest

columnists are their views and not necessarily those of

*School News Roll Call*. This publication is privately

owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content.

The school district does not endorse the advertisers in this

publication.



Fall is in the air and school is in full swing. This issue takes you inside the classroom to see what the students are focused on to begin their school year. Lisa Veal, Principal of Adam's Middle School, says it best as she begins her article with "Goodbye Chalkboards." I still have a green chalkboard in my office and am mindful it is a thing of the past!

It is so nice to read of the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation's support of the schools through the community contributions. Not every school district is fortunate to have community support. Don't forget the Skechers Friendship Walk is Sunday, October 25.

This issue I have included two contests. (All ages may enter.) Last issue I introduced Cheeseball, our office tortoise and he is included in one of the contests.

Lucy has another book review on page 17. Real Estate Matters brings us up to date on the most recent disclosure laws on page 18.

As I am driving it is discouraging to see drivers texting. We seem to lecture teens about driving and texting, but parents need to set an example. **Please don't text and drive.**

Our next issue is November 4. In the meantime, have a fun Halloween.

## UCLA Extension

### Become a College Counselor

Launch or advance your career with our 7-course College Counseling Certificate—offered entirely online!

Get the skills you need to counsel students and help them identify their post-high school options.

#### Ideal for:

- Teachers & administrators working with secondary students
- High school & junior/middle school guidance counselors
- Private & independent college counselors

Learn more.

Visit [uclaextension.edu/snCollege](http://uclaextension.edu/snCollege) or contact us at (310) 983-1181.



17212-16

## UCLA Extension

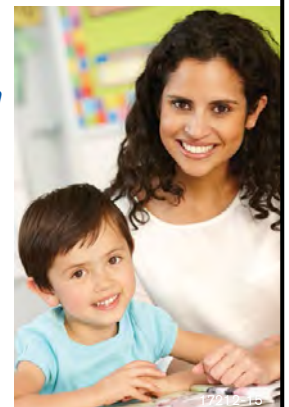
### Early Childhood Education

#### The World's Most Important Job

Enhance your teaching career with our Early Childhood Education Certificate

- No application—enroll any quarter
- Competitive tuition
- Taught by working professionals
- Courses offered in Spanish
- Classroom or online courses

Visit [uclaextension.edu/snTeach](http://uclaextension.edu/snTeach) or contact us at (310) 825-2960 for more info.



# Redondo Beach Educational Foundation



## Walk for Support!

The Redondo Beach Educational Foundation is making big waves at all the RBUSD schools this year. The Skechers Pier to Pier Friendship Walk has now become a South Bay staple! It is a family-centered event that benefits children with special needs and educational needs. To help RBEF make more waves at your school, please register now to join RBEF at the Skechers Friendship Walk taking place on Sunday, Oct. 25. Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://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.

**Ted Craddock**  
President



**Dr. Wesley representing RUHS and supporting RBEF, with a wagon full of cuties, at last year's Skechers Walk.**

Last year, we earned \$104,000 at this event for Redondo Beach schools, with almost 1,400 virtual and actual walkers. Those funds helped schools purchase programs and materials of their choice, supported the RUHS Friendship Circle, and did much more. Let's see if we can do even better. See you at the beach to make more RBEF waves on Oct. 25th!

409 N. P.C.H., #310, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/954-2004  
[www.rbef.org](http://www.rbef.org)



The funds raised go directly back to the schools for site-based needs. Funds earned by RBEF are proportionately distributed to the schools according to the number of people registered for each school team. Last year, RBEF was able to turn your \$25 registration fee into \$50 per walker, which was donated back to each school. Virtual walkers are counted as well, so even if you can't attend the actual event, you can still contribute to the cause from the comfort of your own bed!

## Torrance Memorial Physician Network Providing Comprehensive Women's Care

At Torrance Memorial Physician Network, we consider it a simple fact of life that every woman should have personalized, attentive gynecological and obstetrical care focused on her unique needs and stage of life. We know you take care of everyone around you – we're here to take care of you.

We are proud to have an expert team of OB/GYN specialists providing compassionate care of the highest quality. Our physicians, all board-certified obstetrician/gynecologists and office staff are warm, experienced and dedicated to our philosophy of caring for the whole woman.

### OFFICES LOCATIONS:

#### Redondo Beach:

510 N. Prospect Avenue, Suite 320 • 310-376-2716

#### Manhattan Beach:

2809 N. Sepulveda Boulevard • 310 545-1247

#### Carson:

824 E. Carson Street, Suite 203 • 310-543-5448



**Soha Elgharib, M.D.**



**Ricardo Huete, M.D.**



**Cheryl Sanders, M.D.**



**Barbara Schulz, M.D.**



**TORRANCE MEMORIAL**  
PHYSICIAN NETWORK

## Communication is Key

By Raymur Sweeney, President

Strong interaction, teamwork and partnership between families and teachers creates the optimal environment for student success. California State PTA offers parents easy communications tips this back-to-school season:

- Approach interactions with a positive attitude and an open mind. Listen to others' viewpoints.
- Share your child's strengths, talents and interests with your child's teachers.
- Share expectations and set goals together for your child. Understand and reinforce school rules and expectations at home.
- Make appointments as needed to discuss your child's progress or concerns.
- Participate in informal opportunities to talk with and get to know school staff and educators. Attend back-to-school night and parent-teacher conferences with specific questions you want to ask.
- Address concerns or questions honestly, openly, and early on.
- Attend PTA or parent meetings regularly.
- Read classroom and/or school newsletters.
- Visit your school's web page. Know school staff's extensions and office hours. Read and know your school's handbook.
- Request that information be available in all relevant languages.

Working together, parents and teachers can make sure children have a great school year. The lines of communication must be open, strong and frequently used in order for our children to truly succeed.

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



**Our office tortoise, Cheeseball,  
carved his first pumpkin!**

**You need this page number to enter the contest on page 16.**



**Dr. Denise Bevly**  
Youth Services  
Senior Manager

## Free Mindfulness Workshop

Beach Cities Health District (BCHD) is hosting a free mindfulness workshop on October 15 at Mira Costa High School in Manhattan Beach. The workshop, which starts at 6 p.m., is open to the public and will be led by holistic educator and stress relief expert Gloria Kamler, of the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center.

Mindfulness can be defined as paying



attention to the present moment – a practice that has been proved to reduce anxiety, depression and stress in people of all ages, even kids. Mindfulness also dovetails nicely with the

Blue Zones Project Power 9 Principle “Downshift” – which encourages people to unwind and de-stress for increased longevity and overall health.

With that in mind, here are the top five reasons you and your kids should add mindfulness practices to your daily lives.

- 1. It lowers stress.** Research published in the journal Health Psychology shows that mindfulness is associated with “feeling less stressed” as well as decreased levels of the stress hormone cortisol.
- 2. It can make your grades better.** Researchers at UC Santa Barbara found that students who practice mindfulness score better on verbal reasoning and have better memory recall.
- 3. It could lower your health care bills.** People who practice meditation incur fewer medical bills, compared with who don't practice the mindfulness technique, according to the American Journal of Health Promotion.
- 4. It lowers depression risk among teens.** A study at the University of Leuven shows that teens who practice mindfulness experience less stress, depression and anxiety. It helps you sleep better. Mindfulness training can not only help us better control our emotions and moods, but it can *also* help us sleep better at night, according to a University of Utah study.

Pre-registration for the workshop is required. Sign up today at [bchd.org](http://bchd.org) to secure a seat.

514 N. Prospect Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/374-3426  
[www.bchd.org](http://www.bchd.org)

# Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/933-KIDS • MillerChildrens.org



**Divya Joshi, MMM, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer

## Onset of Mental Health Conditions Start Early

Mental illnesses are not just an adult issue. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, approximately 11 percent of adolescents have a depressive disorder by 18 and half of mental health problems begin in childhood or early adulthood.

Depression is a mood disorder that causes a persistent feeling of sadness and loss of interest. It can affect the way your child feels, thinks and behaves. It can lead to a variety of emotional and physical problems that make it difficult for your child to function and enjoy life like they once did.

Your child's brain chemistry, hormones, biological differences, inherited traits and life events, like experiencing a loss in the family, can lead to depression.

Depression often presents differently in children and teens than it does in adults. Common signs of depression in children include:

- Difficulty with relationships
- Increased irritability, anger or hostility
- Extreme sensitivity to rejection or failure
- Low self-esteem and guilt
- Social isolation and poor communication
- Experiences boredom often; low energy
- Hopelessness
- Decreased interest in activities; or trouble enjoying previously favorite activities
- Frequent sadness, tearfulness, crying
- Complaining often about physical illnesses, such as headaches and stomachaches
- Missing school often or struggling with school work
- Trouble concentrating
- Major change in eating and/or sleeping patterns
- Feeling or talking about wanting to run away from home
- Thoughts or expressions of suicide or self-destructive behavior

If you feel that your child is suffering from depression, seek help immediately or talk to your child's pediatrician about a referral to a psychiatrist or psychologist.



**Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach**  
MEMORIALCARE HEALTH SYSTEM

**Miller Children's...  
Long Beach's  
Children's  
Hospital**

**750**  
pediatric physicians,  
including pediatric  
specialists,  
sub-specialists,  
hospitalists and  
intensivists

**1,000**  
high-risk babies  
treated each  
year

**6,000**  
births each  
year

**4,500**  
surgeries performed,  
including  
congenital heart

**Treating your children's unique  
health needs for 40+ years!**

MillerChildrens.org 800-MEMORIAL

## RBUSD Alternative Education



### In This Together

I am sure that most of you have heard the saying, “It takes a village to raise a child.” Here at Redondo Shores we pride ourselves on being a part of that “village.”

When your children come to Redondo Shores, we spend the time to make sure that they will grow not just academically, but also socially and emotionally. Our hope is that when they leave us they will all be equipped with a high school diploma for college or work. Unfortunately, our time with them is limited, and so we still need your support to see that each student can reach his or her goals.

I am not only the counselor for alternative education, but I am also a mother to three boys. So I know how busy life can be when it comes to working full time and supporting my children in their endeavors. This year my oldest child started the eleventh grade, and as an independent teenager he doesn't always want my support, advice, or encouragement!

As a mother, I want him to spread his wings and fly, but I also know that my involvement in his school life is still just as important as it was back when he entered kindergarten. I also know that many of you can relate to my experience.

So how can you stay involved, but also give your child the space they need to spread their wings? Join our village!

First, join the PTSA. This year we have partnered with the Redondo Union High School PTSA so that we can become bigger and better. If you haven't already joined it's not too late. You can go to the RUHS website to download the form. If you need help, please email Terri Boyle at RedondoUnionPTSA@gmail.com.

Second, support RBEF with a tax-deductible donation by going to [rbef.org/donate](http://rbef.org/donate). And join us for the Skechers Friendship Walk on Sunday, October 25. Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com) to register today.

Remember to join our school team and select the “Redondo Beach Educational Foundation” to benefit from your contribution. Your donation helps provide teacher grants and programs that can directly benefit your child.

Last but not least, stay in touch with us. Check our school website (at [rshs.rbusd.org](http://rshs.rbusd.org)) for upcoming events. Some of these include Back to School Night, SSC/ELAC meetings, and Parent Education Nights. You can also check the “Infinite Campus” parent portal to view your child's attendance record and transcript. You can even communicate with teachers and staff to check on your child's progress towards meeting their graduation goals.

Now is the time. We are in this together, and together we are a village!

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

## RBUSD Child Development



### Great Start to Learning

“The Redondo Beach Unified School District Child Development Center is dedicated to providing preschool and school-age children with a safe, nurturing and enriching environment that promotes educational and social growth.”

– CDC Mission Statement

At the Redondo Beach Unified School District Child Development Centers (CDCs), we are dedicated to enriching children's lives through support, education, and comprehensive family services. We consider the students and their entire families to be our customers, and together we work to provide a great school experience for our children.

From a child's first day of enrollment, our program welcomes parents and treats them as a valuable asset to our program. Our orientation for preschool requires that parents visit the classroom first and bring their children for a few short visits as a transition before the first day.

For parents of school-aged children, there is a fall orientation at each center for our new families, where we answer any questions, introduce the staff, and review procedures. Every family is also invited to two individualized parent-teacher conferences each year to discuss their child; they are also encouraged and welcome to visit at any time.

Most recently we had our Strategic Planning Meeting, which we began in March 2010. These meetings are a way of looking to the future and finding ways to improve our program. This past July, we held our annual full-day meeting, which included parents, teachers, teacher assistants, site supervisors, principals, the deputy superintendent, and a Board member. We all worked together and provided input in order to set some great goals and objectives for our program.

We would like to invite all of our families to become involved at their CDC sites and help us reach our goals. Parents are always welcome to volunteer in classrooms, join us on field trips, or become part of our Parent Advisory Group. Talk to your child's CDC teacher about ways you can become involved.

The Redondo Beach Child Development Program recognizes the importance of helping your child get a great start to learning and development. Come visit a CDC at your local elementary school and learn more about our programs.

1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278  
310/798-8683x1312, 1321 • [www.rbusd.org](http://www.rbusd.org)





# RBUSD Educational Services



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

## It's Never Too Early to Save for College

For many families with young or school-age children at home, the thought of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on a college education can seem daunting. The RBUSD wants to help our students and families realize that their college dreams can come true, but the planning and timing are critical.

Our message is simple: save early and save often for college. William Elliott III, an associate professor at the University of Kansas who has written extensively on children's savings accounts, reports that young students who have even a small account are seven times more likely to attend and graduate from college than those who do not.

The percentage of high school graduates who now enroll in college is at an all-time high for poor, middle-, and upper-income students. However, many students who initially enroll in college full time after high school don't actually complete their degree within six years. According to the U.S. Department of Education, 59 percent of full-time students who began seeking a bachelor's degree at a four-year institution in the fall of 2007 actually completed it by 2013. While there are a number of reasons that account for this statistic, one of them is certainly the high cost of attending college.

Whether you feel overwhelmed when thinking about this

topic of college savings, or fairly savvy, please check out the [savingforcollege.com](http://savingforcollege.com) website. There are a variety of tools to help you start thinking about college affordability, including funding calculators, developing 529 savings plans, special savings accounts, information for grandparents, and more. Student loans, work-study, scholarships, grants, part-time jobs and many other sources of help can all become part of a future plan to pay for college. But saving your pennies cannot be ignored!

Remember, it is never too late or too early to start saving for college.



**RBUSD Elementary Schools Provide an Early Focus on College Readiness.**

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

# South Bay Adult School



**Dr. Anthony Taranto**  
Director

## Family Tree Program

This past spring, the South Bay Family Tree celebrated its 63rd-year anniversary in the community. As part of the South Bay Adult School, the South Bay Family Tree Parent Education Program annually provides lasting learning experiences for families in the South Bay in a safe and

fun learning environment. As their child's first teacher, parents actively participate in the classroom and learn child-development techniques as well as practice effective parenting skills in both the classroom and during monthly parent seminars. Our highly qualified staff works collaboratively with one another and with families to deliver learning experience that meets the needs of the whole child.

Classes are offered for infants all the way to transitional kindergarten (TK). Classroom activities are

designed to enhance hands-on fun, exploration and learning. Through play-based learning, children develop the skills necessary to become confident, successful learners and learn cooperation and other social skills to enhance their school experience. TK follows the RBUSD

curriculum in language arts, math and science. Additionally, TK and preschool students participate in the Handwriting Without Tears writing program and the Beach Cities Live Well Tots program. Handwriting Without Tears aims to make legible and fluent handwriting a skill that students can easily attain. The Live Well Tots program aims to impact the overall well-being of preschoolers and lower BMI levels by educating children on both nutrition and mindfulness.

The South Bay Family Tree Parent Education program offers the opportunity for friendships and family connections. Join our caring teachers and supportive parent community where you will learn along with your child. Register for classes at [www.southbayadult.org](http://www.southbayadult.org).

3401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278  
310/937-3340 • [www.southbayadult.org](http://www.southbayadult.org)



Where families nurture & grow together!

[www.southbayfamilytree.org](http://www.southbayfamilytree.org)

**SBAS Family Tree.**

## Adams Middle School (6–8)

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



**Lisa Veal**  
Principal

### Goodbye Chalkboards

Today's classroom looks vastly different from that of previous generations. Gone are the days of perfectly lined rows, or lessons inspired by lectures.

Instead, teachers today are now seen as facilitators, and the students are actively encouraged to explore,

question, and participate.

Technology has changed the teaching and learning process considerably. New programs and web-based tools provide access to content that was once based upon paper and chalkboard. Teachers are now able to use these platforms to extend the classroom community by sharing homework, posting assignments, or encouraging peer collaboration.

Another welcome change is in the cooperative learning opportunities that our students are now afforded. These experiences allow them to share their

strengths while also developing areas of growth. They even strengthen interpersonal skills, as students can also learn to resolve conflicts and advocate for themselves.

At Adams, we are excited to be part of a great educational shift that is shaping our 21st-century learners and thinkers!



**Adams students collaborating on an assignment.**

## Alta Vista Elementary (K–5)

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



**Susan Wildes**  
Principal

### Who Let the D.O.G.S. Out?

Bright and early at Alta Vista Elementary, students are greeted by a dog giving high-fives and cheers. No, not a real canine, but a member of the WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program. The WATCH D.O.G.S. program, started in the fall of 2014, became a runaway success with fathers logging more than 1,600 hours on campus and students excitedly announcing, "My dad is a WATCH D.O.G. today!"

Positive male role models make a difference in the lives of children. Students with positive male role models in their lives are more successful on their educational pathway. There's nothing new or controversial about these ideas. What's far less clear is how schools, especially elementary schools that are traditionally female led, staffed and supported, can provide greater access and increased exposure to positive male role models on a daily basis. WATCH D.O.G.S. is a program that does just that.

### Just Be 'Dad'

WATCH D.O.G.S. is put forward by the National Center for Fathering to reverse the cultural trend toward fatherlessness. WATCH D.O.G.S. is the initiative that organizes fathers and father-figures to provide positive male role models for students and to enhance school security. Fathers, grandfathers,

stepfathers, uncles and other father figures volunteer at least one day a year in a variety of school activities as assigned by the school principal. Activities include volunteering in their child's classroom for a minimum of one hour, carpooling, encouraging morning exercises, facilitating recess play, spotting and rewarding positive behaviors, facilitating lunchtimes, and campus cleanup.



**Fourth Grade students welcome their WATCH D.O.G. for the day.**

So come join us at Alta Vista Elementary, and just be Dad!

To help RBEF fund our school's site-based needs, join us for the Skechers Friendship Walk, taking place on Sunday, Oct. 25. Last year, we earned \$104,000 at this event for Redondo Beach schools. Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com) to register today. Remember to join our school team and select the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation to benefit from your contribution.

## Beryl Heights *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Karen Mohr**  
*Principal*

### Keeping Physically Fit

Childhood obesity rates are finally declining, thanks to all of our school's many wonderful activities, morning exercises, Live Well lessons, and after-school programs. We know that physical activity can produce overall physical, psychological, and social benefits, and that inactive children are more likely to become inactive adults.

In order to change these negative statistics, it is Beryl Heights's mission to get our children up, moving, and educated about their physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing. Our eight-minute morning exercises before instruction are just one way we have to get our students moving!

We also have volunteers who come and teach Live Well lessons to each grade level. Our four amazing Walking School Bus routes also actively promote walking to school. Over 50 students now walk with each other to socialize and get that much needed exercise to help start the day.

Our Running Club takes place three times a week. Students run miles around our new track, and also keep a good written record in order to reach their

100-mile goal for the year. Beryl also offers several after-school programs that engage students in sports such as tennis, basketball, and soccer.

We believe that incorporating these practices into the daily routine will help our students become more active. It will also encourage them to improve their own nutritional and healthy living practices at home.

For the rest of their lives, we want all of our 502 students to get moving and get involved with both exercise and healthy choices.



**Third graders gardening.**

## Birney *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Mira Baskaron**  
*Principal*

### Birney's Buddy Bench

Helping students understand the importance of caring for and being a good friend is one of our goals here at Birney. Our Bobcats are always looking for new ways to make their school a place where everyone belongs.

As we begin another fantastic school year, it is important for our students to foster friendships and eliminate loneliness. The "Buddy Bench" was adopted from an original idea by a third-grade student from Pennsylvania named Christian. He wanted to spread the spirit of inclusion and kindness at his school. In an effort to promote a similar climate of acceptance and friendship, our Birney Bobcats have now embraced their own Buddy Bench!

The Bobcats are always on the prowl for students who are sitting on the bench and might need a friend. They ask them if they would like to play, or sit, or walk and talk. Having an area that is easily identified also allows children to practice becoming excellent citizens who are more aware of those who might need a friend.

In an effort to provide a safe environment, our teachers, staff, and parents are helping spread the word that their Birney Bobcats are making a huge difference on the

playground by including and valuing everyone. I am excited to observe what a great impact the Buddy Bench has had on our Bobcats, and I look forward to a year full of new friendships!

As a side note, to help the RBEF fund our school's site-based needs, please join us for the Skechers Friendship Walk, which will be taking place on Sunday, October 25. Last year we earned \$104,000 at this event for the Redondo Beach schools.

Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com) to register today. Remember to join our school team and select the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation to benefit from your contribution. Help Birney have the most participants this year by registering today!



**Students gathered around the popular Buddy Bench.**

## Jefferson *Elementary (K-6)*

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



**Jeff Winckler**  
Principal

### Feeling Fit!

Jefferson School is committed to maintaining a strong physical fitness program as part of our whole-child education. Our commitment is shown through the experiences our students have on a daily and weekly basis as well as in a number of activities that take place on campus throughout the school year.

Every morning, first-through-fifth-graders participate in 8 Minutes Exercises to start the school day. These exercises are intended to get students moving prior to the first few hours of in-class instruction. On a weekly basis, all students also engage in standards-based physical education taught by classroom teachers. Additionally, we are fortunate to have district PE teachers who work with all students in grades one through five weekly.

There are several special events that take place during the school year that promote physical fitness, including the Skechers Friendship Walk and the PTA sponsored Jog-a-thon. The Skechers Friendship Walk takes place on Sunday, Oct. 25. The walk helps RBEF fund our school's site-based needs such as teacher training and instructional materials. Last year, as a district, we earned \$104,000 at this event for Redondo Beach schools. Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com) to



### Jefferson students on the move!

register today. Remember to join our school team and select the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation to benefit from your contribution. Later in the fall, on Nov. 20, our Jog-a-thon will take place. This event is put on by our PTA and will be an event in which students have fun exercising and help raise funds for our school.

With all these amazing efforts provided by our staff, parents and community partners, Jefferson's students are receiving a well-balanced physical fitness education, making them ready for success and feel fit.

## Lincoln *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Jane Tasker**  
Principal

### Staying Connected

Our fast-paced digital age is full of new ways to stay connected through technology. But developing human interaction and connectedness is far more important than just valuing the tools that we have become accustomed to use each day. Our recent RBUSD "Staff Welcome Back Rally" was an inspiring one, with the concept of "Connectedness" being introduced as a foundation for starting out the year.

At Lincoln, we have already begun weaving new ways to help our students connect with their peers. For example, on the first day of school, our fourth- and fifth-grade teachers began writing quotes on the outside door and window near the playground. The purpose was to spark student conversations about kindness, treating others with compassion, and staying connected to your peers in positive ways. This effort has definitely caught on. Students in all grades are now stopping and saying to their friends, "Did you read this one?"

This year, each K-5 teacher will also be implementing "MindUp," an evidence-based curriculum designed to foster social and emotional awareness, enhance psychological wellbeing, and promote academic success. The program's

components include deep belly breathing and attentive listening, which help pave the way for age-appropriate lessons that make learning joyful and fun. It will be exciting to watch the benefits of MindUp unfold over the course of the school year!



### Inspiring quotes around the Lincoln campus encourage students to stop and think.

Another way to Stay Connected is to participate in and support our community events, such as the annual Skecher's Friendship Walk. To help RBEF fund our site-based needs, please join us on Sunday, October 25. Last year the district earned \$104,000 at this event for all Redondo Beach schools, with \$7,950 going directly to Lincoln.

Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com) to register. Remember to join the Lincoln Elementary School-Redondo Beach team, and then select the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation to benefit from your contribution.

## Madison *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Drew Gamet**  
*Principal*

### Exploring Science

Now that school is underway, Madison Elementary School students will soon be receiving new personal electronic devices. Last year, students in third through fifth grades were connected with netbooks for the first time. Now students in kindergarten through second grade will be receiving devices as well. This paradigm shift has allowed for the conversion of our computer room into a science

lab and music room. This new dedicated science space will allow our science teachers, who are funded by the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation (RBEF), as well as our Hands On Science docents to provide students with new and even more engaging science labs.

None of this would be possible without the support of our community with the approval of the Measure Q School Bond in 2012. This \$63-million bond was passed with 63-percent voter approval, and its effects are especially felt at Madison. Our new netbooks for students in second

through fifth grades, our new tablets for kindergarten and first-grade students, our solar panels, our new classrooms (rooms 16-18), and freeing up the old computer lab for use as a science/music room can all be connected to Measure Q. If you would like to see a video about how Measure Q has impacted our site, just go to <http://madison.rbusd.org/> and see the video on our home page.

The impact of our new facilities on our students means nothing without making sure that we have amazing teachers in the rooms. Thanks to RBEF, we have science specialist teachers to teach laboratory science, music specialists to teach vocal and instrumental music, and funds to make sure that both have the materials for amazing lessons. To help RBEF with funding these projects, we invite you to join Madison at the Sketchers Friendship Walk on Sunday, October 25. Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com) to register today. Remember to join Team Madison and select the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation to benefit from your contribution.

## Parras *Middle School (6-8)*

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



**Dr. Lars Nygren**  
*Principal*

### Caught Up in WEB

This is the second year of implementing our outstanding Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) program at Parras Middle School. As many can attest, middle school can be a challenge, both socially and academically. WEB is designed to help alleviate some of those challenges.

WEB is an orientation and transition program

that helps to make sixth-grade students feel comfortable and excited about middle school. The program utilizes eighth-grade students who received training over the summer. This training prepares eighth-grade WEB leaders to be mentors for the younger students. During registration, WEB leaders did their WEB orientation alongside Associated Student Body to deliver Camp Parras, complete with super-hero-themed tours of the campus. The turnout was amazing! The WEB leaders helped students get to know new people, taught personalized strategies for success in middle school, and developed lasting relationships with our sixth-grade students.

Thanks to the generous support of the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation (RBEF), two counselors and two teachers were able attend a three-day training over the summer to learn how to effectively implement the program and build upon its past success. We had over 90 eighth-grade WEB leaders trained, and they in turn have been able to reach out to several hundred sixth-grade students. The positive results of WEB can be seen in the smiles of our new sixth-grade students!



**WEB Leaders dress as super heroes when giving tours to sixth grade students.**

# Redondo Union *High School*

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



**Dr. Nicole Wesley**  
*Principal*

## RU Connected?

Believe it or not, research shows that achievement in school activities is a greater predictor of success in life than GPA and ACT scores. In fact, students who are involved in extracurricular activities such as athletics, clubs, the arts and academic programs are more likely to develop leadership traits, coping-skills persistence and the ability to self-advocate. In addition to enhanced academic achievement and useful life skills, RUHS students who are connected to school report a greater level engagement while attending school. So, Sea Hawks, how are you connected at RU?

Redondo had the pleasure of hosting Kyle Scheele as our Back to School guest speaker. His message was loud and clear: Take advantage of opportunities your school and life have to offer rather than watching them from the sidelines. He challenged our Sea Hawks to get involved, make a difference, overcome adversity, stretch themselves beyond their comfort zone, and be a part of their school experiences. RU has so much to offer!

We know four key factors that can increase school connectedness: adult support, like our coaches and club

sponsors; belonging to a positive peer group like a team or program; commitment to education, like engagement between students and teachers; and a positive school environment—a result of student involvement and school pride. Whether you are in ASB, participate in Teen Court, or are on an athletic team, our nationally recognized High Tide staff, in a club or two, or involved in a school program that connects to your passion and purpose—band, advanced ceramics, engineering or biomedical science—you are on the road to success!

Students who are connected to their school, peers and teachers are happier, healthier and more successful! So, Sea Hawks, “RU in?”



**Club Sign up – RUHS students have an abundance of options when signing up for clubs.**

## Tulita *Elementary (K–5)*

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



**Dr. Tanaz Farzad**  
*Principal*

## The Growth Mindset

At Tulita Elementary, we are well on our way to becoming a growth mindset school, which incorporates the belief that intelligence can grow. Our aim as a school will be to build the growth mindset in our students and avoid the fixed mindset, which is the belief that intelligence is fixed, and which can trap students into a premature plateau and cause them to fall short of their full potential.

At Tulita, we want our students to learn from challenges, overcome them, and thrive!

How can parents encourage a growth mindset? The following are five quick ways you can help develop a growth mindset in children.

### Five Quick Steps

Ask open-ended questions to solve a problem or achieve a goal. Focus attention on the effort and strategies that might help your child succeed. Ask questions like “Why do you suppose...?” or “What steps do you think you’ll need to take...?” These questions build logical-thinking skills and often lead to rich discovery.

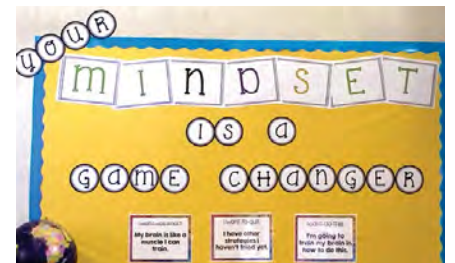
Use specific feedback that identifies what the child accomplished. What small steps led to a larger outcome?

Be supportive when your child attempts something new. Skills that build persistence allow children to feel confident and independent. When frustration arrives, offer an encouraging word about what steps worked well.

Encourage children to take achievable risks. Watch and listen to your child so that you can take cues about what else they are ready to tackle. By offering small but achievable challenges, confidence and persistence emerge.

Be persistent and growth oriented yourself. Narrate your thoughts as you try something new or are frustrated. Your child may even be able to offer some helpful tips. This allows children to see that we all work hard to solve problems and that we can learn new things.

Don’t sweat the small stuff. Accidents and mistakes are bound to happen. Show your child that there’s something to be learned when we don’t achieve what we set out to accomplish. Talk about what worked, identify the emotions involved, and offer encouragement for the next time.



**Tulita teachers encourage a growth mindset in the classroom.**

# Washington Elementary (K-5)

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



**Kristen Holm**  
Principal

## Calling all D.O.G.S.!

Washington Elementary is excited to announce a new program focusing on the positive influence of fathers and father-figures called Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students). The goal is to have men spend at least one day a year at the school to get a glimpse of students' everyday world, gain a greater awareness of the positive impact they can have on the students' lives (academics, self-esteem, social behavior) and, in return, receive smiles and high fives in the hallways. Today more than 2, 610 schools in 42 states participate in Watch D.O.G.S and now Washington Elementary will be added to the list.



**Zach Baird, father of Washington student**  
"Flexes" his Watchdog abilities as Zero the Hero.

Who are the Watch D.O.G.S.? Watch D.O.G.S. are fathers and father-figures such as grandfathers, uncles and other male adults who are asked to spend at least one day a year volunteering at school.

What do Watch D.O.G.S. do? Watch D.O.G.S. can help with a variety of tasks during school hours by reading in classrooms, helping out with homework, shooting hoops during lunch time, and serving as sports referees.

Why should I become a Watch D.O.G.? Committed involvement of fathers and father-figures in students' lives makes a difference! If you can donate one day a school year, one day a month or one day a week, your child will be happy to see that you care about their school.

How do I join Watch D.O.G.S.? The Watch D.O.G.S Kickoff Night Pizza with Pops will be held on Wednesday, October 28 at 6:00 p.m. in the Washington Cafeteria. There will be a calendar available for Watch D.O.G.S. sign up.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Skechers Friendship Walk, taking place on Sunday, October 25th. Last year, we earned \$104,000 at this event for Redondo Beach schools. Go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com) to register today. Remember to join the Washington Elementary School team and select the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation to benefit from your contribution. Go Explorers!

## Los Angeles County Office of Education

9300 Imperial Hwy., Downey, CA 90242 • 562/922-6360 • [www.lacoe.edu](http://www.lacoe.edu)



**Arturo Delgado, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent

### Paying Tribute to Our Teachers

I was delighted to once again host the annual Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year Awards Luncheon on Sept. 18.

It's one of my favorite days on the academic calendar because it gives me a chance to acknowledge our teachers and let them know that we see how hard they work and how they are making a difference in their students' lives.

We highlighted a special annual salute to our Top 16 County Teachers of the Year, and wished them well as they went on to the state competition.

Joining us at this special event were two of last year's Top 16 who made us extremely proud when they became California Teachers of the Year: Maggie Mabery and Lovelyn Marquez-Prueher.

We also recognized each of our 75 district nominees at the 2015-16 award luncheon as a treasure and an exemplar of the highest standards of a distinguished profession.

And even though we could never really thank teachers enough, the event was a chance to offer them a small token of our appreciation for all the years they have devoted to educating and inspiring our county's young people.

Teachers care for their students well after the school day ends. They put in long hours finding new ways to make lessons come alive. They work hard to build relationships with the students' families to make sure the students have the support that they need at home.

Some of them even reach into their own pockets to pay for school supplies. These are just a few examples of how teachers go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the best education for their students.

As one of our past Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year, Rebecca Mieliwocki, who went on to become the 2012 National Teacher of the Year, said: "A schoolteacher is the best tax-dollar bargain you will ever get. If you want to see tax dollars hard at work, come into a classroom and see what's going on."

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 nation's largest regional educational agency, providing a range of programs and services to support the county's 80 public school districts and 2 million preschool and school-age children.

**Rolling Hills Montessori School**  
 in a beautiful rural setting, offering 3 programs:  
**Toddler, Pre-Primary and Transition (18 months - 7 years)**

- Full day and half day
- Chinese/Spanish and Music inclusive
- 10 Extra curricular classes available
- Field Trips
- Community atmosphere
- Fully credentialed staff

**Spaces are limited.**  
 For more info please call: (310) 377-5722

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

*Peaceland Music & Repair*  
**GUITAR LESSONS**

**Guitar, Piano, Voice, Bass, Drums**  
 Also: Ukulele, Banjo, Mandolin

**James Musser**  
 Nominated Best LA Band '96  
 Best Guitar '97 LA Music Awards

**All Ages, Levels & Styles**  
 Days, Evening & Weekends

**(310) 650-4201**  
 www.peacelandmusic.com  
 peaceland@peacelandmusic.com  
 23706 Crenshaw #105 A&B,  
 Torrance, CA • (across from Hof's Hut)

Visit us on:  
 MySpace.com/PeacelandMusic • YouTube.com/PeacelandMusic

## Contest!!

Cheeseball has carved his pumpkin. When you find him 2x's in this issue, email the **page numbers** to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) Please put RBUSD in the subject line

**Congratulations Missy Buss  
 September Winner!**

Your entry must be received by November 15, 2015  
 From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

# Halloween Word Search Contest

**Rules!** One word in the list is NOT in the word search.  
 When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put RBUSD in the subject line)  
 Entries must be received by November 5, 2015 From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

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

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

Congratulations to **Julia Hoffman**, Winner of the September Word Search Contest!



# Lucy's Book Review



**Lucy Davis**

## Magical!

*The Land of Stories – Beyond the Kingdoms*

Author: Chris Colfer

The Masked man uses a portal potion to jump from story to story to recruit a powerful army of the worst fairytale villains!



Alex has been ungodmothered, so she and Conner are in trouble. No one believes her except Mother Goose. Conner, Alex and Mother Goose along with a few other friends they make along the way, follow the Masked Man through some of literature's most loved fairytales. Meanwhile, Bree discovers a family secret that you just won't believe.

The author delivers another MAGICAL book, while using different fairytales than the first three books of the Land of Stories series. The book jumps back and forth from one setting to another so you must pay attention to what's happening. For those that haven't read the first three, I encourage you to do so before reading this book.

Another FIVE bookworms out of five, it's a brilliant read!

Lucy Davis is a 4th grade student at Beryl Elementary in Redondo Beach. Besides reading, she enjoys riding her bike, theatre, and playing guitar. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.

**Catch up, get ahead, or try something new... all while earning class credit.**

Always wanted to try a guitar class? Need to catch up in biology? Want advanced credit in English? We can help!

- Tutoring
- Art & Music
- Yoga
- Mentoring
- Test Prep
- Classes for Credit
- Homework Cafe®

Fusion South Bay  
310.376.5139  
FusionSouthBay.com

**fusion**  
A REVOLUTIONARY WAY TO SCHOOL

**AFTERSCHOOL**  
*Open up their minds to the world before it is too late!*

**SAVOIR FAIRE**  
LANGUAGE ♦ INSTITUTE

Classes available for adults & children

|        |          |         |         |
|--------|----------|---------|---------|
|        |          |         |         |
| FRENCH | MANDARIN | ITALIAN | SPANISH |
|        |          |         |         |
| GERMAN | JAPANESE | ENGLISH | ARABIC  |

**Redondo Beach Students Special**  
★ Offer Ends 10/31/2015  
Not valid for preschool  
\*minimum 8 weeks registration\*  
[www.sfli-ca.com](http://www.sfli-ca.com)

**Call Now!**  
**310.379.1086**

**\$100 OFF GROUP CLASS WITH THIS AD\***

**Piano Instruction**

All styles of music  
Kindergarten to adult  
Torrance studio with easy access to major streets

**Bob Bommarito**  
310-329-5474  
[bommaritomusic.com](http://bommaritomusic.com)

Proud Sponsor of  
Your School for Over 20 Years!

**South Bay Driving School**

**\$20 off**  
One coupon per student  
Online and Classroom Available

**(310) 791-1111**  
3614 Pacific Coast Hwy.,  
Torrance, CA 90505  
[Southbaydriving.com](http://Southbaydriving.com)

## South Bay Hands On Art

### Get your ART SWAG on!

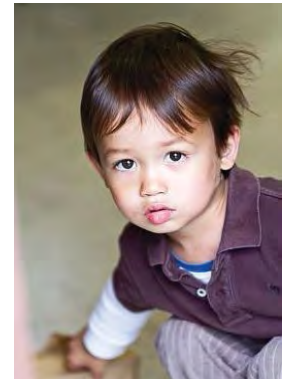
By Co-Chairs Gina Clancy & Erika Snow Robinson

We are on our way to having a tremendously exciting SBHOA 2015-16 school year. We have met with all of our wonderful School Chairs and they are all very excited and ready for our workshops. Our theme for this year is "Get your ART SWAG on!", inspired by our first project. We will have a booth for the children to do art projects at this years POWER of ART held at the Redondo Beach Main Library on October 17 and 18th. You can also see the new wall art inside the children's section painted by our very own Erika Snow Robinson and the RB leadership class of 2014. For more information, you can visit our updated website.

2110-B Artesia Blvd., Box 805, Redondo Beach, CA 90277  
[www.southbayhandsonart.com](http://www.southbayhandsonart.com)



**Within the child lies the fate of the future.**  
—Maria Montessori



Serving children ages 18 mo. – 6 yrs.

- Extended day care
- Potty training support
- Enrichment curriculum

*Peninsula Montessori School  
Redondo Beach*

**(310) 540-9742**

**907 Knob Hill Ave.**

[www.peninsulamontessori.com](http://www.peninsulamontessori.com)

# Real Estate Matters



**CathyLyn Brooks**

## Disclosure Laws Help or Hurt?

Effective October 1, 2015 (unless delayed again; this was originally set for August 1) another portion of the Dodd-Frank legislation will take effect. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has revised the forms that disclose mortgage financing information to consumers.

Overall this is a good thing. Legal forms and contracts should be in easy to read language.

This is the trend and it is helpful to the public. They have also made some other changes that cannot be fully covered in the space here.

The CFPB did a good job of simplifying and re-styling the materials that lenders must deliver to buyers throughout the loan process. However, they may have not realized that the sale of a piece of real estate in California is a "team sport" and everyone has to really stay on track or delays are caused.

In their infinite wisdom, they have decided that the new Closing Disclosure must be delivered to the loan applicant no less than 3 days before the actual closing date. And further, that any subsequent material changes to this disclosure will re-start the 3 day time period and delay the closing by that same period of time.

Do people need 3 days to review these simple documents? Doubtful. If you are reading this column, you are capable of reviewing and asking any questions in, I would guess, maybe as little as a few hours - 24 to 36 hours, if you have a really a hectic life. The documents are simplified, after all.

As closings are planned months ahead, moving trucks are ordered, utilities are set to be shut off, and belongings are packed away, a delay of 6 days at the last week is sure to throw a rock into that wheel of progress. Not to mention that if it is a chain of sales where a series of homes are sold and people are moving in a large procession from one home to another, what a mess that could create. This could cause some real unhappiness and it can be stressful enough just buying the home and packing to move.

For any loan originated prior to the implementation date of October 1, the new regulations will not apply. Escrows in process on that date will not be affected. Buyers and sellers can now expect to have escrow periods of at least 38 days, and that is if everything goes smoothly unless the buyers are truly pre-approved by an underwriter.

Also any change in the buyer's choice of loan program will require other changes and delay the process. Your broker or agent has likely attended a class on this new protocol. You will be able to spot them. They leave the class looking depressed and frustrated. If your agent has not taken the class, I suggest further discussion with your lender and escrow provider to ensure an efficient escrow.

CathyLyn Brooks has been a local real estate broker since 1980, earning the advanced credentials of Certified Residential Specialist and Graduate Realtor through advanced education and sales volume. She has completed the American Bar Association's approved Paralegal certification and is an instructor at UCI in the Paralegal program. She also teaches real estate related courses in the extension program. The NASD, the NYSE, and the National Futures Organization have appointed her as a public arbitrator. Her degree is in finance and marketing from the University of Southern California. CathyLyn is affiliated with Main Steet Realtors and can be reached at: 562/719-2530 or cathylyn@earthlink.net Consumers should seek legal tax advice from professionals in each field.

[www.southbayadult.org](http://www.southbayadult.org)

**southbayadultschool**  
Classes for lifelong learning!

California Adult Schools  
LEARNING FOR LIFE

# Save a life...

Earn **CPR certification** in **one hour**

Learn Adult-Child-Infant Two Rescuer CPR/AED Choking & Drowning in ONE HOUR. Instructors are nationally certified and trained according to the 2010 American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care. Students are trained to remain calm and respond appropriately to medical emergencies on the job or at home. CPR certification is valid for 2 years. Proper procedures and techniques for EPI pen usage will be covered.

**Instructor SafetyNet Staff**

Thursday  
**October 22**  
4:00-5:00pm  
Edison Center Conference Hall A  
3401 Inglewood Avenue, Redondo Beach

**\$40**

Preregistration required. Register online at [www.southbayadult.org](http://www.southbayadult.org) or call 310.937.3340 x 3300 for information. Walk-in registration (Mastercard, Visa, or check) is on space available basis.

[www.facebook.com/southbayadultschool](http://www.facebook.com/southbayadultschool)

Pick up your free brochure at your neighborhood school office!



**Our office tortoise, Cheeseball, carved his first pumpkin!  
You need this page number to enter the contest on page 16.**

# Grow up **strong** with us.

Choose Providence when  
your family needs care.

As parents, you want what's best for your kids: great schools, great experiences and especially great health. But we all know that children aren't invincible. When your kids need care, you can count on Providence Medical Institute. Our pediatricians have been helping South Bay kids and their families grow up healthy and strong for many years.

We're not just here when your children are doing fine. We're here to help make sure they stay that way. It's how we care.

## **Axminster Hawthorne**

11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250

Maureen O'Neill, M.D.  
Jessica Ramirez, M.D.  
Louis Smolensky, M.D.

## **Madrona Pediatrics**

21311 Madrona Ave., Torrance, CA 90503

Gary D. Anderson, M.D.  
Emily Curran, M.D.  
Carl N. Muchnick, M.D.

## **Manhattan Beach Primary Care**

1010 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Pitchaya Pam Chitamitara, M.D.

## **San Pedro Pediatrics**

1294 W. Sixth St., Suite 104, San Pedro, CA 90731

Pitchaya Pam Chitamitara, M.D.  
Julie Chow Lin, M.D.  
Genesa R. Wagoner, M.D.



Call 866-909-DOCS or visit  
[california.providence.org/pmi](http://california.providence.org/pmi)  
to learn more about our  
pediatricians and office locations.



## The more she grows, the more you **SHARE.**

Her bright future is coming fast. Share more by investing with ScholarShare, California's 529 College Savings Plan. You'll take advantage of low fees, plus tax-free growth potential and withdrawals to be used at most colleges, universities and trade schools—and you can start with just \$25.

**Open a ScholarShare 529 College Savings Account for your child today.**



Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the ScholarShare College Savings Plan. Visit [ScholarShare.com](http://ScholarShare.com) for a Plan Disclosure Booklet containing this and other information. Read it carefully. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed, and there is a risk of investment loss. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., Program Manager. The ScholarShare 529 Twitter and Facebook pages are managed by the State of California. The tax information contained herein is not intended to be used, and cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties. Taxpayers should seek advice from an independent tax advisor based on their own particular circumstances. Non-qualified withdrawals may be subject to federal and state taxes and the additional federal 10% tax. Non-qualified withdrawals may also be subject to an additional 2.5% California tax on earnings. C16908



**SCHOLARSHARE**

CALIFORNIA'S 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN

[scholarshare.com](http://scholarshare.com)  