

School News



Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, & Savanna

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 19

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

NOVEMBER 2011–FEBRUARY 2012

All Kids Will Be Successful

By Dr. Diane Scheerhorn

Superintendent Centralia School District

Nothing you do for children is ever wasted. They seem not to notice us, hovering, averting our eyes, and seldom offer thanks, but what we do for them is never wasted.

–Garrison Keillor

The Centralia School District professional learning community comprised of teachers, parents, certificated and classified staff, management and administration are narrowing their 2011–2012 Vision: “All Kids WILL Be Successful.”

To achieve that goal, it takes the entire team working together. We understand that in every minute of our job there has to be a purpose in what we do, a purpose that positively influences children’s learning.

Ever-increasing levels of academic progress have become a yearly goal that measures student mastery of grade-level standards. Helping students



Together We Will Succeed!

reach their potential requires planning, individualization, and teaching strategies that reach all children. Specifically, our staff has been trained in Explicit Direct Instruction, Universal Access, Response to Intervention, and Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support. The aforementioned teaching and learning strategies have already had a significant impact on our student achievement. The reason for the success is because the strategies focus on building blocks to the goals each student must master with rigorous implications for practical use and problem solving that are needed as learning continues throughout a child’s education life.

Our steps toward student success are simple, but demand dedication and hard work. These steps include working as a team, keeping the vision, using proven teaching strategies, letting data of student achievement drive decisions, using proven systems of intervention, and communicating clearly and concisely.

In the words of Lady Bird Johnson, children are apt to live up to what you believe in them.

Combining successful team strategies and believing in ourselves, our colleagues and our students, Centralia Students Will Be Successful!

Students Actively Involved in School Activities



Buena Terra Elementary students Brianna, Emily, Gabby and Kaenin leading the flag ceremony.

Cypress Library Programs

By Susan Pina, Children’s/Teen Librarian

Homework Help Program

Elementary and Middle School students can drop in for free homework help on most Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00. Our new Homework Help program is made possible by local High School volunteers. Students can receive help with their homework on a first come/first served basis, (subject to seat availability and available homework helpers). Please call the Library at 826-0350 for more information. (There will be no Homework Help on 11/7).

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Sundays—Senior Days: Seniors \$10
Fridays—Jr. & Sr. High School Days: Students \$10 (with ID)

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Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher



Fall is officially here and winter is just around the corner. The students have settled into a routine. The articles in this issue continue to show the districts commitment to academic excellence.

We had a record number of entries in our Word Search Contest in the last issue. The winner is announced on page 10, where you will find the new contest. Remember there isn't an age limit to enter so make this a family fun time and enter for each one participating.

Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! Our next issue is March 7, 2012.

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**Covering the
CENTRALIA, CYPRESS,
AND SAVANNA
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Recipient of the
**2008 ACSA
Region XVII Award**
for Outstanding
Media Coverage
of Public Education

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SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL
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www.schoolnewsrollcall.com
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Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92628
714/966-4000 www.ocde.us

Redesigned Web Site!



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent

The Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) is pleased to announce the launch of its newly redesigned website: www.ocde.us. Designed to be user-friendly and easy to navigate, the new website allows visitors to quickly access department web pages and information regarding OCDE services, products, events, and programs. From the home page, visitors can learn about OCDE, visit department pages, browse news and hot topics, watch videos, and explore featured links. The new site also offers a calendar to connect visitors with events happening in and around Orange County.

The site provides our main audiences with specific landing pages that will help them find services and resources that may be of value to them. In addition, visitors can enter a search term in the upper right hand corner of the home page which will direct them to pages that match their interests. Through the new website, OCDE will continue its spotlight on customer service while focusing on the needs of Parents, Educators, Students, and Community/Partners.

Parents

The Parents page contains information regarding academics, child care, college and career readiness, health and safety, best practices, and a calendar of family friendly events.

Educators

The Educators page includes information on curriculum and instruction, leadership and professional development, learning and health support, school and district improvement, special student populations, and student and family services.

Students

The Students page provides information and links on academic events, college and career readiness, health and safety, learning resources, and youth development and leadership.

Community/Partners

The Community/Partners page provides links to our business and community partners, data sources, community reports, and education resources.

In many ways the newly designed website is an extension of the OCDE mission of providing excellent customer service. The website is dynamic, user friendly, and provides our different audiences with the information they want quickly and easily. I invite parents, students, educators, community, and business partners to explore the new website, and since the site will continue to evolve and expand, visitors are encouraged to check back often for updates.

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Centralia School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Diane Scheerhorn
Superintendent



Together We Will Succeed!
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Buena Terra *Elementary*

8299 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3220



Peter Cole
Principal

Activities and Involvement

Buena Terra School has many activities that are focused on keeping students engaged and parents involved in their children's activities.

At Buena Terra, the day begins with the involvement of students at the flag ceremony where announcements are shared, academic progress is celebrated, and respect for the school community and the nation is reinforced. Every student involved in student leadership has a chance to practice public speaking by reading the announcements before the entire student population.

Parents are informed of events through weekly phone messages; the bimonthly PTA newsletter; the school website, which is updated weekly; and classroom Web pages.

Events for parents range from schoolwide PTA family events such as Family Movie Night, Mother/Son and Father/Daughter nights, Carnival and Walk Your Child to School day to more academic grade-level family nights such as Math Nights and

Back to School Night. Buena Terra is proud of its many activities.

Centralia *Elementary*

195 N. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/228-3210



Norma Martinez
Principal

A Laser Focus on Achievement

At the beginning of last year, all of our teachers were given a pair of glasses from a local party supply store. These were intended to be symbolic of our need to focus like a laser beam on what we teach.

With these glasses we wanted to remind our teachers that when they artfully teach with the use of explicit direct instruction strategies, their lessons can translate into bigger gains on the California Standards Test. Apparently, the 59 point gain on our recent API score shows that we are able to focus on the right power standards!

This year our goal of focusing on knowing what to teach continues. Every one of our teachers is being given a laser pointer to use with their BrightBoard and SmartBoard technology. It is another symbol of how we want to narrow our focus on teaching the power standards to achieve a higher level of student mastery.

Our teachers are also becoming familiar with the importance of the California Blueprints as a guide in determining just what to teach. The addition of a common formative assessment will help them pinpoint the specific strategies and materials they can use to help our scholars become more successful in school.

Building student learning capacity is achieved by having the kind of staff members who are willing to work together, share test results, and talk openly and honestly through such tools as a Professional Learning Community. At Centralia School we know how to make success happen!

G.H. Dysinger *Elementary*

7770 Camellia Dr., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3240



Randy Helms
Principal

Maintaining Focus

Educators are basically a very optimistic group. Because we are, the new school year always starts with enthusiasm and high hopes for all of our students. As the blush of the new year wanes, it becomes imperative that we maintain the focus on our primary goal, which is the academic growth of our students. To do this, we have several processes that we put in place for the year. First, teachers have planning time built into the schedule on Thursdays. They use this time at each grade level to review what has taken place, discuss the progress of individual students as well as each grade level as a whole, and then plan their next steps, based on the data they have so far.

We also conduct academic conferences. These are half-day sessions during which the entire grade level meets with the principal and our resource specialist to examine data, set goals, and plan instruction, including enrichment and intervention programs. In this way, we keep our eye on the big questions and on the goal of success of all our students—the goal our entire community shares.

San Marino *Elementary*

6215 San Rolando Way, Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3280



Maria Poulin
Principal

Commitment to Academic Excellence

Every morning at San Marino School we start the day by gathering together as a school to affirm our commitment to academic excellence at our flag ceremony. Students are encouraged by the principal to work diligently and model their behavior based on the school motto: "Behaving Respectfully, Acting Kindly, Making Responsible Choices and Being Safety Minded."

We announce daily birthdays and significant historical facts, and faculty and student achievements are shared. Together we say the Pledge of Allegiance, and then students are reminded to be active participants in the daily learning activities by completing all assignments, honing in on the learning objective, and using academic language.

At the close of the ceremony, students are given a positive statement to repeat to their teachers to solidify their academic purpose. Two of my favorites are: "I want to learn" and "Today, I will do my best." When the students are dismissed to their teachers, they turn and repeat the positive statements.

It's an awesome way to start the school day!

Danbrook *Elementary*

320 Danbrook St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/228-3230



Erasmo Garcia
Principal

Club CASA

Danbrook Elementary School's Club Centralia After School Activities (CASA) goes beyond the traditional after-school program into the realm of investigation and discovery. Club CASA provides a wide range of opportunities from sports to professional workshops and community-building activities. Most importantly, it offers students the opportunity to improve their academic skills and become young scientists.

Club CASA's Kidzlit is designed specifically to help students develop a love of reading while building comprehension and vocabulary. The structured curriculum is a five-part process, including discussion and hands-on activities. Kidzlit strives to help students develop their capacity to think critically, express themselves on issues, and increase their understanding of peers.

Club CASA's math program also makes math meaningful and enjoyable. The goal is to build students' confidence and skills in math and develop their ability to work as a team. Math lessons consist of cooperative games that go beyond the traditional curriculum. Through these engaging games, students experience success as they work together to achieve a common goal.

Club CASA has also turned our students into "mad scientists." The Science Explorer program is a collection of experiments that blend academic content with curiosity-building activities using ordinary household items. These activities investigate how things work and how they change.

Through these programs, Club CASA has proven itself to be more than your ordinary after-school program, creating a bridge between highly engaging activities and learning.

Los Coyotes *Elementary*

8122 Moody St., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/228-3260



Fit for Fall

At Los Coyotes School, the beginning of fall brings exciting opportunities. While our focus is always on academic excellence, becoming a well-rounded individual is also of critical importance. To that end, various after-school programs are available to Los Coyotes students.

Robyn Yarbrough
Principal

To develop and encourage physical fitness, the La Palma Fit N Fun program operates three days a week through June and is open to all students in grades one through six. To inspire the artistic and creative sides of our students, the Young Rembrandts program conducts art

training and focuses on improving core art and fine-motor skills as well as increasing attention to detail.

Beginning in October, Chess Masters is back at Los Coyotes School. This program is designed for chess players of all ages and ability levels and helps to build strategic-thinking skills. Students can also participate in a chess tournament or be part of team chess.



G.B. Miller *Elementary*

7751 Furman Rd., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/228-3270



Jeanette Salinas
Principal

Back-to-School Night

Back-to-School Night is the most anticipated event of the school year for our teachers, students, parents and administrators. It is one of the best ways that we can begin to build that all important home-school connection.

A growing body of research also shows that successful parent involvement can improve not only our general student behavior and attendance, but also lead to positive academic achievement.

Miller's Back-to-School night was held on September 22, and about 80 percent of our families were in attendance. Miller has a very strong PTA, and they even sponsored a book fair during the evening's activities. The students and parents were able to purchase books for themselves and for their teachers to use in our classrooms.

We also had the City of La Palma's after-school program, "Fit N Fun." They were on-site for student sign-ups. We had our Boy Scouts and PTA committees in attendance as well.

One of our school's goals is to provide a number of different opportunities for parents to get involved in their children's education. This will ultimately help students achieve their greatest potential. After seeing the great turnout we had that night, it is clear that Miller parents are dedicated to becoming involved in their student's academic lives.

Way to go, Miller Parents!

Raymond Temple *Elementary*

7800 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3290



Sara Pelly
Principal

Yes We Will!

As we enter the home stretch of No Child Left Behind, we must remember to keep to our goals with a laser-like focus. We must change our "Can Do" attitude to one of "Will Do!"

Attaining a 78.4 percent proficiency for English language arts, and 79 percent for math, requires reaching every child, every day. But with budgets and staff shrinking, and class sizes expanding, this appears nearly impossible to do. Or is it?

This year Raymond Temple is taking on its ever-increasing AYP targets with a "Will Do" attitude. We will focus on Superintendent Dr. Diane Scheerhorn's vision that, "All students will achieve!" And so we are implementing an RTI where every student can receive targeted, small-group intervention or enrichment.

Each grade level will have 40 minutes of protected ELA time. This is when the resource teacher, special education instructional assistant and bilingual assistant will group students on instructional need and focus on standards. The involvement of Resource Teacher Elizabeth Martinez is key, since she serves the resource students and those who have scored "Far Below Basic" or "Below Basic" on their last CST.

But this method of "divide and conquer" requires teamwork. It could not happen without the direct support of our superintendent and school board. The substitutes that are provided by the district allow our school principals to meet with each grade level for academic conferences three times a year and discuss intensive data analysis and planning.

"To believe is to achieve." At Raymond Temple we know that with good teamwork, anything is possible!



Cypress School District

9470 Moody St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6900 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT



Beverly M. Hempstead
Superintendent

Learning and Leading for Results!

John F. Kennedy once said, "Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." In preparing for the new school year, I have found this to be true while learning in-depth about the great accomplishments in Cypress School District and working with the dedicated Board of Trustees, staff and community members to prepare for our exciting 2011–2012 school year.

As we focus on the year ahead, we will be guided by three key words: Learning; Leading; and Results! There will be opportunities to learn more about our data-driven curricular initiatives along with the new technology innovations, including

SMARTBoards, Student Response Systems, and document cameras. With these tools, we will showcase and share through professional learning communities the best practices and programs that will provide leadership throughout the district. As we learn together and lead with best practices we will continue to achieve results!

During our August Board and Management Planning Seminar, the Board of Trustees, along with the entire Educational Leadership Team and associations, met to begin a discussion of priorities for the school year. Out of that session, the district has identified targeted focus areas through five key strategic goals that will be addressed this year: Communication; Student Achievement; Technology; Budget; and Modernization/Asset Management, as appropriate. These goals will guide our focus over the next year and be the framework from which results are achieved.

One notable achievable result is the completion of the modernization of King School. Through the hard work of staff, it reopened in August. Work on the site was completed on schedule and on budget! The grand reopening took place on October 14. Modernization of the Morris School campus is ongoing, and staff and students are meeting at their interim site at Dickerson School. Construction will be completed by June 2012, and the newly modernized Morris School will open for the 2012–2013 school year.

Leadership and learning appear to be indispensable in each of the Cypress School District's six California Distinguished Schools. We are well under way to a successful year of Learning and Leading for Results!

Arnold *Elementary*

9281 Denni St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6965



Denine Kelly
Principal

Intervention and Support

Great things are happening at Arnold School this year. Our PTA has been working hard on the PTA fall fund-raiser and our Camp Arnold Family Night was a huge success. PTA also sponsored our first assembly of the year, "The Bully Game." We are so fortunate to have such a great group of parents to support our students.

Arnold grade-level teams are hard at work. Teachers continue to use data to plan instruction that will help all Arnold students make progress. We will continue to look at how we can target specific groups of students that are not making as much progress as their peers, while also providing challenge to students who have met or are already exceeding grade-level standards.

One way we are addressing individual needs is Response to Intervention (RTI) blocks. Each grade level has a block of time when students are grouped for intensive instruction and/or enrichment. This allows us to provide additional support for all students, above and beyond the core curriculum. Whether a child needs an intensive reading intervention or academic enrichment, his or her needs are addressed. It is our ultimate goal to ensure that all of our students are successful in reaching and exceeding the standards!



Valeri Wagner
President

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King *Elementary*

8710 Moody St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6980



Carol Erbe
Principal

The Club is King!

King School is fortunate to host Club King! This special after-school program is in its fifth year and is funded by a Prop 49 grant. It provides a low-cost highly academic and interactive program for 90–100 qualifying students. Since the Boys and Girls Club runs this program, our Club King program has established community partnerships, including an educational garden sponsored by a national home and beauty products company in partnership with Boys and Girls Clubs. This initiative aims to increase both knowledge and consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables. Club members build community gardens and harvest their own produce, with hands-on educational activities related to this garden curriculum.

The Club King after-school program also includes Kids in Control, a program covering safety at home, at school and in the neighborhood; NetSmartz, which teaches Internet safety skills through engaging multimedia activities; SMART Girls, which offers health, fitness and prevention/education lessons and is a self-esteem enhancement program for girls; and Cooking and Nutrition Education, a partnering with the Cypress School District. We are able to offer students a weekly nutrition and cooking lesson. Members also have opportunities to participate in classes including Hula-Hooping, dance, football, theater and photography.

Fridays are Fundays! Members participate in fun activities such as Wii Sports, Wii Fit, Wii Just Dance, Dance Dance Revolution, SingStar, and outside games and competitions.

We continue to be proud of the many opportunities offered by King School, both within the school day and after the instructional day ends. King School is a great place to grow!

Landell *Elementary*

9739 Denni St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6960



M. J. Beatty
Principal

Students and Staff Celebrate New Program

The P.A.C.E. program is produced in partnership with the Cypress Police Department, the City of Cypress and local school districts, including the Cypress School District. The program is based on the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Fairness, Respect, Caring, Responsibility, and Citizenship.

Students have weekly lessons with Cypress Police Department Officer Jeffrey Wong. They anxiously anticipate his weekly visits. Lessons are all based on current issues that directly affect our young students. Our hope is that through introducing a topic—for instance, Gangs and Drugs—and having discussions, our students will be armed with the tools to make good choices.

In September, Landell sixth-grade parents held an ice cream social to thank all the Cypress Police Department for all its support. It was nice to see the many police officers enjoying an ice cream sundae with our sixth-graders!



Morris *Elementary*

10051 Bernadette Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/220-6995



Jeannette Lohrman
Principal

Moving Mustangs

The Morris School staff members believe that all students can learn. We firmly feel that the individual student should receive an appropriate education based upon the experiential background of that child, regardless of race, creed, disability or socio-economic background.

The teachers met during the summer to work as a team to find ways to strengthen our language arts programs at all grade levels. The team decided to have an hour a day dedicated to working with students in a Response to Intervention (RtI) model. Students at each grade level were tested and placed in groups according to their abilities. All the specialists at our school are also working at various grade levels to support the program, which allows for a smaller adult to student ratio. Our RtI time is now called Moving Mustangs because we know that we can move every child to a higher level in language arts and that all students will succeed.

We hope everyone will join us for our jog-a-thon on Friday, October 28 at 8 a.m. This event is sponsored by our PTA to raise funds for our students. Our PTA works very hard to give our students additional enrichment opportunities, such as Meet the Masters, educational field trips, assemblies supporting our anti-bullying program, instructional materials for the classrooms, and new technology tools to support the education of all students.

Luther *Elementary*

4631 La Palma Ave., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/220-6918



Jacki Teschke
Principal

Engaged in Learning

Student engagement occurs when students make a psychological investment in their learning. They take pride not simply in earning good grades but also in understanding the material and incorporating or internalizing it in their lives. One of our goals at Luther School is to find ways to encourage all students to become engaged in learning. Teachers are learning and implementing structures in the classroom that enable all students to take part in the learning and take pride in participation.

One simple, inexpensive tool to encourage student participation and engagement in their learning is a response board. Every student at Luther School received a response board this year and also received instruction in how to use it effectively. Teachers notice that students—especially reluctant learners—are more engaged in their learning this year than they have been in the past.

“Response boards are good for teachers and students because everyone is actively participating in the learning and I can circulate throughout the classroom and check for understanding,” said kindergarten teacher Julia Moore. Additionally, teachers can quickly assess which students may need additional help with a concept and which students have mastered it.

The teachers at Luther realize how significant student engagement is as a component of successful learning and student achievement. With this in mind, they are committed to using response boards on a regular basis as one of a number of structures that they are using to ensure that the students in their classrooms are engaged in their learning.

Vessels *Elementary*

5900 Cathy Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6990



Jane Snyder
Principal

Supporting Students and Staff

The Frank Vessels School PTA has been working hard and has an exciting 2011–2012 school year planned. There are fun events for the entire family and enriching activities for students to support their curriculum.

Some of the family events PTA hosts are Kindergarten Tea, Jog-a-thon, Harvest Night, Pancakes for Pops, Muffins for Moms, Bingo for Books, and the Loved Ones Luncheon. All of these family events are free for our families to come and enjoy!

Our Vessels PTA members are strong supporters of the fine arts. They fund three weeks of Meet the Masters each year. Students learn about different artists and then have hands-on experiences creating similar artwork. This year PTA is supporting our first choral experience for students. The students practice every Wednesday morning before school and will have their first performance in December. In April, PTA will be instrumental in the production of the Talent Show.

In addition, our PTA supports student fieldtrip costs, helps with the replacement of playground equipment, donates funds for the purchase of library books, and covers the cost of student planners and folders. They also fund the Imagination Machine assembly, which is one of the favorite assemblies because it showcases our own student authors. Not only do our students benefit, but the entire Vessels staff feels pampered with the luncheons, staff appreciation week and the extras PTA hosts to support them.

The entire Vessels community is very fortunate to have a strong, hardworking, and generous PTA!

School News 
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Savanna School District

1330 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3805 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Sue Johnson
Superintendent

The Best is Still Yet to Come!

What an exciting year 2011–2012 is shaping up to be for students and staff in the Savanna School District with our philosophy of “Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!” Because we hold great expectations and believe that the best opportunities are yet to unfold, wonderful things are happening and will continue to happen for students throughout the school year. With the support of the Savanna community, we completed our first comprehensive modernization project this past summer, which has already made a significant impact on the instructional program. Cerritos School’s modernization project is well underway also. These projects are made possible because of the general obligation bond that was passed by our local community (Measure N) to fund capital improvements at each of our four elementary schools.

Also during the summer, Savanna’s certificated staff members participated in a full-day inservice on Explicit Direct Instruction. This, coupled with teacher inservices on Student Engagement Strategies, has begun to transform teaching and learning in our schools. These inservices and projects and more will impact our children’s education and our community for generations to come, demonstrating “The Best Is Yet To Come!”

Our great expectations for student learning can be evidenced in student achievement on last spring’s state test scores. Eighty seven percent of our fourth-graders at Cerritos School were proficient or advanced in math and 80 percent of our sixth-grade students scored proficient or advanced in math at Hansen School. In addition, 71 percent of our fifth-graders were proficient or advanced in math at Holder School and 70 percent of our fourth- and fifth-grade students scored proficient or advanced in math at Reid School.

Our Great Expectation that full-day kindergarten would benefit students has yielded tremendous results for our children who were part of this program. We are now in our fourth full year of providing a full-day kindergarten program for all students and have just undertaken a Transitional Kindergarten program. Savanna School District’s Transitional Kindergarten Program is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program designed to prime young kindergartners for school success. The Transitional Kindergarten program follows the kindergarten curriculum while adding a developmental focus taught at a pace designed to meet the children’s individual social and emotional needs. It is an option for those students who turn age five between July 1, 2011 and February 1, 2012, and whose parents believe their child is not ready socially or academically for an academic kindergarten program. It is designed specifically for children with birthdates between July 1 and December 2, 2006. Children with birthdates between December 2, 2006 and February 1, 2007 are considered as space allows. This program provides students with a strong educational foundation by giving children a stimulating environment that fosters physical, social-emotional and intellectual development. The Transitional Kindergarten curriculum, daily schedules, report cards, and art projects are all different than those students experience in the academic kindergarten program. Some students just require more time than others in order to be ready for academic kindergarten. Transitional Kindergarten is one more example of “The Best Is Yet To Come!” for our kindergarten students as they enjoy the benefit of increased instructional time.

Another indication of “Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!” is our continued focus on reading fluency and comprehension. Teachers continue to utilize frequent assessments in reading and language arts at all grade levels during the 2011–2012 school year to ensure that the instructional program is appropriate to students’ needs. These assessments will assist teachers in determining whether students are meeting or exceeding standards. Fluency is the ability to read a text accurately and quickly. When fluent readers read silently, they recognize words automatically. They group words quickly to help them gain meaning from what they read. Fluent readers read aloud effortlessly and with expression. Fluency is important because it provides

a bridge between word recognition and comprehension. This commitment to having Great Expectations for our students will indeed continue to result in incredible success!

Our Great Expectation that the use of a variety of technological tools will enhance the instructional program has provided wonderful opportunities for students and teachers alike. Document cameras, ceiling-mounted DLP projectors, voice-enhancement systems complete with microphones for teacher and student use, the implementation of the use of the Web-based Accelerated Reader program for students, a Web-based library catalog accessible to all students as well as tablets and student response systems in several classrooms are a few of the tools which have had a significant impact on the instructional program. Teachers are utilizing a Web-based attendance system, allowing them to take attendance online; we are piloting a standards-based, online report card with about half of our teachers with the intent that all teachers will transition to the standards-based, online report card in the 2012–2013 school year. Our updated district Web site allows parents to deposit funds electronically into their child’s lunch account and provides contact information for teachers, allowing parents to e-mail them questions or concerns, demonstrating indeed that “The Best Is Yet To Come!” as we continue to infuse technology into all areas of operation.

The difference between a good school district and a GREAT school district is people: people like the Savanna School District staff who are committed to do everything they can daily to demonstrate that “The Best Is Yet To Come!”; people like our parents who provide the home support for our students so that they can meet our Great Expectations; and people like all those in our community who contribute to our successes in so many ways. Our successes are YOUR successes. We’re excited to be well on the path toward demonstrating Great Expectations... The Best Is Still Yet To Come!



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Cerritos *School*

Corner of Holder and Orange Aves, Buena Park, CA 92804 • 714/236-3830 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Cerritos/cerrhome.htm



Dr. Jerry Friedman
Principal

Business as Usual

This year, Cerritos School has been relocated to an interim site while our regular campus is undergoing its Measure N renovation.

However, we are conducting business as usual at our temporary location. The students arrived on the first day of session, found their classrooms, met their teachers and started the new school year. We also had many parents attend our Back to School Night, too, and so the new year is now officially underway.

We had a busy summer. Before the school year even began, all of our Cerritos teachers participated in a DataWorks professional development in-service. Our goal this year is to focus on research-based strategies and techniques that will help to fully engage each student. Ultimately, we feel that this new emphasis will result in higher overall student achievement.

We will also be assessing our students' progress much more frequently throughout the year. To do this, we will be using the district's new benchmark assessments that were created over the summer.

Of course, we like to focus on student achievement, but we also find time to provide fun and enjoyable experiences. We had a "Family Day" at the end of October during which our family members came to school and enjoyed a picnic lunch. We are also planning to have several more fun and educational assemblies throughout the school year.

Our students are now looking forward to writing stories for the Imagination Machine assembly. They are excited about the idea of seeing their own work performed by real professional actors!

Holder *School*

9550 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/236-3840 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Holder/holdhome.htm



Ona Sandi
Principal

Partnership Makes A Difference!

Holder students are enriched and benefit from the wonderful partnership we have with California State University at Long Beach (CSULB)! Throughout the year, we have University students who work with Holder students one-on-one or in small-group settings in reading and math. They provide extra help and intervention in a positive and supportive manner to struggling students. Our students also benefit from having well-prepared student teachers from the CSULB credentialing program. This year, our student teachers are part of the Urban Teaching Academy, whose focus is to provide a yearlong teaching assignment in an urban school. This model places two student teachers in the same classroom for a semester. Finally, Holder is an off-site location for a CSULB Math Methods course. College students are on our campus every Thursday, working with small groups of students to improve their math skills. We feel so fortunate to have this partnership with CSULB!

Holder School is very privileged to have collaborated with the Cypress Police Department and other schools within the city of Cypress to create the P.A.C.E. Program—Positive Action through Character Education. This program replaces the previous D.A.R.E. program. The P.A.C.E. program supports character development by fostering positive values and qualities that will help students become successful, productive citizens. Lessons focus on peer pressure, Internet safety, and strategies to resist drugs and violence. Every Monday afternoon, Officer Wong instructs, guides and mentors Holder students. On Dec. 12, the Holder sixth-graders will attend their P.A.C.E. promotion. We are grateful to the Cypress Police Department for providing Holder students with the P.A.C.E. program and instilling in them lifelong strategies to resist drugs and alcohol!

Hansen *School*

1300 South Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3835 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Hansen/hanhome.htm



Shannon Wyatt
Principal

Hansen's API score soars to 803!

Hansen School's API score increased by 42 points over its 2009–2010 result, and we can't help but let our Husky Pride show! We had already set a district-wide goal for each school to focus on scoring at least 800 points on last year's test, and our own slogan was "801, Let's Get it Done!"

We undertook many changes to help our students increase their academic progress. For instance, last year saw the implementation of "Husky Time," a daily individualized language-arts hour for each grade level. Our teachers worked with the students in homogeneous groups to target the skills and content standards specific to each grade.

We also did a lot of goal setting, and empowered our students to believe in themselves academically. At the beginning of the school year, each child sat down with their teacher and looked at their previous year's STAR score to decide upon a goal for improvement. The Hansen staff also made a point of educating parents about content standards and standardized tests. They encouraged parents to work with their children to help set personal goals.

This score is a reflection of how hard our teachers have been working, and how well our students are rising to the occasion. I know we'll continue to move forward, and that our students will work towards meeting their standards. The teachers will be sure to be creative in their efforts to help them achieve their personal best.

The best is yet to come!

Twila Reid *School*

720 S. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3845 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Reid/reidhome.htm



Dr. Bob Pipes
Principal

Celebrates Success


The Twila Reid School staff, parents and students are very excited about our recently announced Academic Performance Index (API) score. Our API score of 812 is a reflection of the emphasis that was put on improving reading and math skills during the 2010–2011 school year.

The teaching foundation at Twila Reid has always been solid. One hundred percent of our teachers are fully credentialed. We are focused on teaching to the state standards. Teachers begin teaching the first day of school and continue until the last day of school, maximizing on all of the instructional time available to help students progress. We continually analyze state test data, isolating specific skills by grade level to target areas in need of improvement and teaching to those specific areas. These practices have resulted in improved learning for students and improved test scores.

Our focus on reading during the 2010–2011 school year made a very positive difference. Students were assessed frequently throughout the year to determine their progress, and action plans were developed to meet the needs of all students. Staff development focused on research-based strategies that improved reading fluency. These strategies have provided much support to students, enabling them to become more fluent readers.

The significant increase in our API score has validated the accomplishments of our students and teachers last year. We are greatly pleased—and looking forward to even greater success this year!





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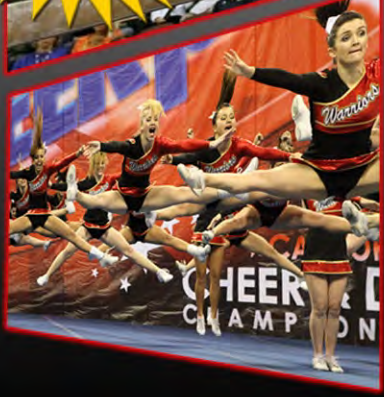
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5331 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/826-0350 • www.ocpl.org

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Toddler and Preschool Story Time Schedules

Fall Story time sessions are underway. Story times take place in the Community room most Wednesday mornings. Call 826-0350 for specific dates. Toddler Story time for ages 18 – 35 months begins at 9:30 a.m. and Preschool story time ages 3 to 5 years begins at 10:30. Story times include stories, music, rhymes, and a simple craft. No registration is required.

Read to Bodey, the Australian Shepherd Dog

Come and read to Bodey in the Children's area on select Saturdays. He's a great listener! Please call the Library at 826-0350 for dates and time.


Teen Book Club

Teen Book Club meets once a month from 3:00-5:00 for a book discussion and snacks. Call 826-0350 for the titles we'll be discussing. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 17. All teens are welcome!



NEW Rules!!!

Football Word Search Contest



One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that is the word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put CCS in the subject line)

Entries must be received by January, 15, 2012

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

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

Congratulations to Miok Park
Winner of the September Word Search Contest.

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

All Together Now, Little Monster Records



Kate Karp

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



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

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

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

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

RELIEF FROM HOMEWORK FRUSTRATION



Many children experience anxiety, frustration and feel overwhelmed when asked to complete basic classroom and homework tasks. Parents are often baffled as to the cause of their child's struggle in school. Parents may be told that their child is unmotivated, lazy or has a learning disability, but these labels don't help find a solution to their child's problems. The hours spent on homework are painful and frustrating and frequently accompanied by tears.

The cause of these struggles may be due to poor vision processing skills. Children lacking vision processing skills experience difficulty copying information from the chalkboard, are unable to complete assignments quickly, do poorly on timed tests, often have poor spelling skills and suffer from poor reading comprehension.

The Vision Improvement Program (VIP) is a program designed to attack these underlying vision processing skills. Students average 3.1 years growth in visual processing skills during a 10 week treatment program.

Symptoms of poor vision processing skills include:

- Losing one's place or skipping words or lines
- Forgetting what has just been read
- Reversing letters (b,d, p,q) or words (was and saw)
- Making “careless” errors
- Poorly spaced or “sloppy” writing
- Always “daydreaming” or not paying attention
- Moving entire head when reading
- Failing to complete assigned work
- Working slower than their peers

Does your child or someone you know have these symptoms? If so, Dr. Wilkins is providing a **free** screening to identify children with vision processing learning problems.

**Please call for screening time and appointment:
(714) 995-4571**



Pre-Kindergarten School Readiness Programs

Now available in Savanna School District.
Children must be 4 years old by December 2, 2011.

Cerritos School

(714) 484-4603
Corner of Holder and Orange, Buena Park
One full-day session from
6:30 am to 6:00 pm
(includes before & after school childcare)

Hansen Child Development Center

(714) 484-4607
1300 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim
Three sessions from
7:30 am to 10:30 am
8:15 am to 11:15 am
10:45 am to 1:45 pm

Reid Child Development Center

(714) 821-8474
720 S. Western, Anaheim
Three sessions from
8:00 am to 11:00 am
8:30 am to 11:30 am
12:30 pm to 3:30 pm


SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOOK DRIVE

November 1 – December 2, 2011

**HELP US COLLECT BOOKS
FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN!**

Types of Books Needed:
*Picture books
*Infant Books
*Toddler Books
*Preschool books

Please bring any gently used preschool children's books to any Savanna School District school or to our District Office.



Donated books will be cleaned and distributed to preschool children in our District. Research shows that children need at least 25 books in the home to greatly increase their chance of academic success!

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- and
- **Math**
- Algebra & Geometry**



Raising grades.

- **Homework Support**
- **Study Skills**



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- **Praise**

"I want to express my sincere gratitude for the academic support you and your staff have provided to my son during the past year. I can attest to the significant impact the Tutoring Club experience has made in his life. As a result, he has earned A's and B's and is less frustrated when given difficult homework assignments. Beyond this, he has developed the academic self-confidence needed to be successful. I attribute a great deal of my son's academic success to the team at the Tutoring Club. Thank you for making a difference!!"

Paul R. de Dios
Dean of Cypress College

"My son always fought me to do homework, and this would be an all night thing. I tried everything, then I found Tutoring Club. Putting him in the Tutoring Club is the best thing I could have done for him. It has boosted his confidence and he is reading on his own."

Judy Karr-Mugica
mom of a 9 year old
Luther Elementary School, Cypress

"Our goal was to get our son ready for Kindergarten, and the program exceeded our expectations. We are very pleased with choosing the Tutoring Club."

Tracy Blaylock
mom of student at
Landell Elementary School, Cypress

"Expert and caring teachers, an organized system, flexible hours, reasonable prices and a welcoming environment. That is what helps my grandsons and can help your child too!"

Cynthea Vanasse
Grandmother of students at
Miller Elementary School, Centralia

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