School 32ems Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, & Savanna

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 24 MARCH / APRIL 2013

Savanna School District Celebrates Reading!



Reach the Reader family night: Board Member Mr. John Shook, Clifford, The Big Red Dog and Board Members Mrs. Chris Brown and Mr. Ed Erdtsieck

By Dr. Audrey Lambert, Assistant Superintendent

The love of reading is fostered throughout the Savanna School District by teaching and encouraging students to read in classrooms, at school sites with school-wide events, and at district-wide events. From the first day of school until the last day, teachers encourage and foster a love for reading through a variety of activities, such as reading contests, daily silent sustained reading time, reading aloud to the students, and assigning nightly reading homework. Each of the four schools in the Savanna School District encourages reading through classroom, grade-level, and school-wide contests. Principals sometimes get into the excitement of rewarding students for exemplary reading achievement by participating in some crazy antics when students reach a school-wide reading goal. Two principals have promised students the opportunity to slime them in front of the entire school as a reward for the students reading 120,000,000 words!

Savanna School District runs a book drive each November, collecting gently-used, preschool books. A local Boy Scout troop cleans and repairs the collected books, which are then donated to all of the preschools within our district boundaries for children to take home, giving them a jump start for reading in kindergarten!

All of the schools participate in Read Across America Week, in conjunction with Dr. Seuss' birthday. Community members,

See Savanna Celebrates Reading • Page 13

Literacy Project Foundation Graduates Reading Super Stars

By Sue Tucker, President/CEO Literacy Project Foundation

At the end of February, Literacy Project
Foundation (LPF) hosted a series of special
ceremonies to acknowledge the Savanna School
District graduates from our 30-hour reading
program. In addition to receiving a certificate of
completion to recognize their achievement, each
student received a book donated by Disneyland
Resort and the Molina Foundation who collectively
donated more than 2,500 books to inspire students
to utilize their new reading skills and continue on a
literate path to fulfill their future dreams.

Upon graduation, documented pre-post testing results proved significant measureable growth in reading skills levels of 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders who were performing well below English proficiency standards. We are proud to announce that Orange County Department of Education's recent statistical evaluation of the impact of our program concluded that our students experience an average growth of half of a grade level over the course of the program.



Students at Cerritos Elementary School proudly display their certificates of achievement with LPF Master Teacher Martha Burke

See Literacy • Page 13

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Our next issue May 1 Enjoy!



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Covering the CENTRALIA, CYPRESS, & SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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Kay Coop Founder/Publisher



Spring is here! The new growth on the trees and plants are a reminder of the wonderful change of seasons. It always reminds me of a child learning something for the first time and how they continue to grow and blossom into our future leaders.

This issue is also a reminder that learning reaches beyond the classroom as the students learn the importance of community involvement, field trips, sports, concerts, family nights, and much

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MillerChildrens.org/kohls-cares

Centralia School District

6625 La Palma Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3100 • www.cesd.us

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Diane Scheerhorn

Centralia School District = Academic Excellence

Centralia School District staffs have a laser-like focus on quality education for students, which requires the effort, time, and talents of all members of our team. Our teachers, principals, and instructional leaders are key players in that effort to ensure the success of all students. Our Instructional Guidance Team. made up of teacher leaders, puts educators at the center of professional development, shares leadership responsibilities, brokers an exchange of knowledge, and builds a group learning, knowledge-based collection of best practices.

Our teaching staff uses IntelAssess, a tool that allows us to develop complete formative assessments using data to drive student achievement. We have several certified SMART trainers with extensive handson training providing the skills necessary to deliver high-quality training for interactive SMART technology.

All team members do their part, whether it is: providing assistance in the classroom, on the playgrounds, or after school; keeping our campuses clean, safe, and secure; providing nutritious meals for students; transporting students safely; keeping the business of the district running smoothly; or providing staff with needed tools and support.

Congratulations to all of our schools for the academic growth of our students last year and continued growth this year. Special congratulations to Danbrook School for the 81-point Academic Performance Index (API) gain last year, which placed them at 45 in The Orange County Register 2013 school rankings, earning them a bronze medal. Buena Terra and Miller Schools also earned bronze, and Los Coyotes School was named a silver medalist. Our Special Education program also deserves congratulations for an impressive growth of 161 API points last year.



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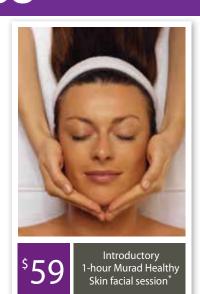
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Buena Terra Elementary

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



Peter Cole Principal

Developing Tomorrow's Leaders Today

Several years ago, our student leadership advisors, Mr. Tod Hackett and Ms. Michelle Kamhi, decided to move beyond making student council just a popularity contest. Rather it was decided to have students who were interested in becoming leaders learn leadership skills.

To join student leadership, students must complete applications including teacher recommendations and agree to be actively involved in the sponsored events. Only students who have earned the opportunity to participate in leadership can run for an elected office.

The advisors work with students on writing speeches and creating posters for their campaigns. The potential officers present their speeches before upper-



Student leadership officers holding a meeting before school. (Back) President, Lolani Campos, Vice president, Hailii Campos, Publicity, Nevin Valenzuela (Front) Publicity, John Sy; and Secretary, Noah Soria.

grade students, and the students then vote.

Leadership students learn to plan and follow through on student activities. Public speaking is another major skill they learn. Most importantly, however, they learn to take on responsibilities and be active members of the Buena Terra Elementary School community.

Danbrook Elementary

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



Erasmo Garcia Principal

Club CASA

Danbrook Elementary's after-school education and safety program, Club CASA (for Centralia After-School Activities), continues to help students improve and increase their academic

This year the program has also incorporated some enrichment activities that take academic skills and use them in the real world. After studying nutrition and physical activity, our students were able to take a walking field trip to a local sandwich shop. There they were able to taste different meats and vegetables and learn about making healthy eating choices. They were also able to

participate in various clubs, including cheerleading, jazz dance and running.

The students are planning future projects too, such as painting murals that reflect positive character development, creating empowering messages on designated areas at school, and collaborating on an activity that combines a classroom composting project with a school garden.



By offering a balance of academic activities, including daily access to the computer lab, and enrichment activities that focus on life skills, our students in the Danbrook Club CASA program will continue to improve their knowledge, their test scores, and their preparation for the real

Centralia Elementary

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



Norma Martinez Principal

Extending Learning Beyond the Classroom Walls

As budgets diminish, many schools have been faced with the prospect of eliminating or reducing field trips. At Centralia School, our teachers believe strongly in the positive aspects of these study trips. We are resourceful in soliciting donations, fund-raising and applying for grants to give our young scholars an opportunity to experience learning beyond the classroom walls.

This year, our sixth-graders spent a week at Outdoor Science Camp. Our fifth-graders will be attending the Tiger Woods Learning Center for one week during the month of March,

experiencing STEM education! Grades K-4 will have opportunities to attend musical concerts, the zoo, the farm and the Gene Autry Museum.



By participating in study trips, students have the opportunity to enrich their academic language and make connections to learning that is taking place inside the classroom, and we are proud to carry on the tradition of providing our young scholars memorable experiences!

G.H. Dysinger Elementary

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



Randy Helms Principal

The Best Place to Learn!

A key element in a child's education is the learning environment. We work hard to keep the school clean, grounds maintained and rooms neat and functional but not sterile. This is what parents and students see when they walk through our

Another key aspect is campus safety. There has been a lot in the news lately about school safety. Without downplaying its importance, we should keep in mind that school is still one of the safest places for a child. That is not an accident. Everyone in this district, starting with Supt. Scheerhorn and our school

board members, take the safety of our children very seriously. We have regular drills to ensure that staff and students know what to do in an emergency. Our campus is monitored closely, and we stop individuals without appropriate identification. We recently changed to a one-gate, one-door policy, locking all but one gate during the day with one door open to the office. We also require that all classrooms keep their doors closed and locked during the day. This is a little inconvenient for everyone, but we believe it keeps our children safer.

In addition, staff is being trained by local police agencies for specific situations because we know a well-trained staff is our best defense in any crisis. We are committed to doing everything in our power to keep your children safe while they are in our care. We appreciate your confidence in us and your ongoing support.

Los Coyotes Elementary

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



Yarbrough

Community Involvement

Los Coyotes School has a long-valued tradition of community involvement. Our students learn about important life concepts such as gratitude, generosity and community pride through their involvement in various local events. They also learn what it is to be an involved citizen in their community.

In October our students participated in the La Palma Red Ribbon Week Challenge. Here they were asked to donate their time on a Saturday morning to help decorate the La Palma Central Park. Over 180 students turned out to demonstrate their support and add a little red décor to anything that didn't move.

For their efforts, Los Coyotes took home the Red Ribbon Week Challenge trophy for the fifth straight year.

In November, the Los Coyotes students, parents and staff members participated in the annual La Palma Days parade, complete with our Student Spirit Squad and Student Council officers as honored guests.

In December, students also participated in two food drives, both of which were organized by our PTSO. As a classroom, the students put together special holiday dinner buckets that enabled the school to help approximately 20 families. They also collected over 100 bags of sugar and boxes of cereal to assist the Helping Other People Every Day organization, a group that distributes food twice monthly to families in our community.

Los Coyotes also has ongoing recycling drives to both help promote a greener planet and raise funds for technology. Our students are learning that there are many different ways to give back to the community; one need only look around to spot the chance.

San Marino Elementary

6215 San Rolando Way, Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3280 • www.cesd.us



Maria Poulin Principal

Reading Leads to All Roads

As spring approaches—often, along with state testing—good attendance matters even more. Students who arrive on time and are prepared with plenty of sleep, a full breakfast and their homework have a much better chance to do their best in school. A daily dose of reading is critical, too. After all, most tests involve reading. Our school's commitment to reading and fostering a joy in reading lead directly toward our focus of all students making academic growth.

San Marino School celebrated Read Across America in March. Read Across America is a celebration of reading to commemorate

the birthday of Theodore Geisel, also known as Dr. Seuss. What better day to encourage reading than on the birthday of a man who did so much to promote a love of reading with his wacky characters and amusing rhymes? We plan to celebrate literacy with guest readers and a California Standardized Test (CST) rally.

We ask that parents help foster this joy for reading in your children by spending at least 10 minutes a day listening to your child read.



G.B. Miller Elementary

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



Jeanette Salinas Principal

A Lunch Shelter for Miller

Miller School prides itself on its "TEAM" spirit. We have the attitude that we will do whatever it takes to do what is best for our children.

Due to declining budgets, it has been difficult to upgrade and/ or make improvements to our school campus. Miller has been in need of a shade structure to help provide a place for our students to eat lunch while being sheltered from the sun and extreme weather. So our parents and staff members have joined together to "think outside the box" and make it possible.

By working together, we have been able to bring this project to fruition! Project funding has been secured through a joint effort between the Centralia School District, the City of La Palma, and the Miller PTA



Our PTA has currently been holding monthly fund-raising dinners. It will also be holding a Jog-a-thon in March, with the proceeds going for the lunch shelter. We are keeping everyone updated on our progress towards this goal.

Raymond Temple Elementary

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



Sara Pelly Principal

Sporty Students

Raymond Temple Elementary School students are learning new things every day, but this year, in addition to academic learning, they playing a variety of sports, including tennis, golf, hockey, and even lacrosse, thanks to some fantastic local organizations and volunteers.

For the third year, the Anaheim Ducks have offered their Scholastic Curriculum of Recreation and Education (SCORE) program to our fourth-graders. The physical education component of the program includes street hockey lessons and a complete set of gear for the school!

Our fifth-graders are learning to play golf, thanks to the Tiger Woods Learning Center. In addition to exposing students to the game of golf and teaching them basic golf skills, the program also helps students build selfconfidence and character.

Adrenaline Lacrosse coaches will be teaching our sixth-graders the fundamentals of lacrosse, as well as giving them a bit of a history lesson about the Native American origins of this quickly-growing sport.

Our deaf and hard-of-hearing students are getting their exercise with help from Roy Trafalski, the executive director of the Deaf and hard of hearing Educational Athletic Foundation (DhhEAF), who teaches weekly tennis lessons. Because tennis is a sport that doesn't require hearing, many deaf students excel at it, and in turn it makes them better students.

Sports have always helped children develop self-discipline, perseverance, good sportsmanship, and a sense of teamwork. Hopefully being introduced to new sports will offer more opportunities for our students to acquire important skills that will last a lifetime!

Cypress School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Hempstead

Cypress School District School Modernization Success!

In support for the District, in 2008 residents in the Cypress School District passed the Measure M facilities bond measure to upgrade the 40 year old schools in our District. On May 5, 2009 the initial series of the authorized general obligation bonds and bond anticipation notes were sold.

Since that time, Cypress School District has completed modernization at the Vessels, King, and Morris school sites. Morris was the most recent completion, with the school reopening on schedule for this 2012/13 school year. The school celebrated its grand reopening on October 4, 2012, with over

100 distinguished guests touring the newly renovated classrooms. This fall, as scheduled, Cypress School District began the modernization and expansion of Luther School, with Luther students attending school this year at their interim site on the closed Swain School campus. Work at Luther is proceeding on schedule and students and staff will return to their completely renovated and modernized school to begin the 2013/14 school year. Additional information concerning the modernization process and our general obligation bonds can be found on the District website at www.cypsd.k12.ca.us by clicking on the gold "Measure M" box.

Highlights of modernization include a new computerized checkout system in each library, new playground equipment for each school, new infrastructure, updated computer labs, and new classroom furniture. Other projects completed using Measure M bond funds include a Districtwide Voice-Over-IP phone system including an automated parent notification telephone software system called "School Messenger," which will allow an individual teacher to send a message to an entire class; the principal to send a message to the entire school; or the Superintendent to send a message to the entire District, both by phone and e-mail, and a Districtwide SMARTBoard project. In addition, new Student Response Systems have been purchased for every classroom in the District. The SMARTBoard project and Student Response Systems provide a more interactive experience for students and help to support the District's goals for technology and a distinguished educational program.

The complete modernization schedule is below:

- 2009/10 school year Vessels expansion and modernization successfully completed
- 2010/11 school year King modernization successfully completed
- 2011/12 school year Morris modernization successfully completed
- 2012/13 school year Luther modernization in progress
- 2013/14 school year Arnold modernization
- 2014/15 school year Landell modernization and contingency projects

The passage of the Measure M General Obligation bond by our Cypress community will provide the Cypress School District with approximately \$53.6 million over the life of the bond, to be used to rehabilitate and upgrade classrooms and school facilities. The District is proud to offer programs at all schools that are recognized by the State Department of Education to be outstanding, as evidenced by the state's designation of each of our six schools as a California Distinguished School.



Vessels Elementary modernization.



King Elementary modernization.



Morris Elementary modernization.

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Giese Member

Arnold Elementary

9281 Denni St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6965 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us



Denine Kelly Principal

Making It All Add Up

Arnold students and staff are working hard to develop 21stcentury math skills. Earlier this year, we received a \$4,000 grant from the Cotsen Foundation to train all of our kindergartenthrough-third-grade teachers in Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI.) Additionally, we have four teachers participating in the Collaboration for Leadership and Improvement in Math Education (CLIME.) CLIME teachers are sharing what they have learned and providing demonstration lessons for their colleagues in grades three through six.

Both CGI and CLIME strategies help teachers organize their math instruction to foster the development of mathematical thinking and



problem-solving skills. While there are essential skills that students must learn in mathematics, it is also important that we teach them how to use those skills to solve realworld problems. We know that these instructional practices are essential to ensuring that our students are prepared for college and careers.

Landell Elementary

9739 Denni St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6960 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us



M.J. Beatty Principal

Implementation of Common Core Standards

We are very proud of the hard work and efforts of our very talented sixth-graders. Under the direction of teacher Mindy Pfafflin, we have a new student newspaper, The Landell Ledger. Students do everything from determining the feature articles to editing, creating bylines, and interviewing. Writing skills are sharpened, and students have come to appreciate the importance of good communication.

Another group of sixth-graders is working on the weekly production of "Landell TV News." Under the supervision of teacher Brian Gary, students produce a televised program for

students and staff to enjoy. The show includes activities on campus, special events, weather, fashion trends, and the weekly lunch menu.

These are just a sampling of our efforts to promote the objectives of the California Common Core Standards. Students are developing skills relevant to the real world in order to prepare them for success in college and future careers. The list of activities and instruction designed to support our transition to the core curriculum goes on and on. Students are challenged to think, create, analyze, evaluate, and apply what they have learned. The emphasis is on the learning process, not just on the answers. This shift in instruction will also require a shift in assessment to determine our success. According to the timeline set by California Department of Education, we are planning for full implementation of our new testing program by 2014–2015.

King Elementary

8710 Moody St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6980 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us



Carol Erbe Principal

A World of Opportunity

At King School, we offer enrichment opportunities to all students. Class Act, through a partnership with the Pacific Symphony, allows all students to participate in concerts, family nights, performances, and class lessons taught by professional musicians. Primary-grade students are fortunate to also have a series of hand-on music lessons, allowing them to explore various instruments and music styles while learning curricular connections to the music. Fourth-graders learn to play the recorder, read music, and perform for an audience. Fifth- and sixth-graders may take free after-school instrumental music

classes taught by high school volunteers to prepare them for the junior high band program—or just for fun. They choose between flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, piano, and violin and use district-owned instruments. Our most well-known performing arts program is our annual school musical, and this year's promises to be another spectacular show, with a cast of over 60 students who will sing, dance, and act in "School House Rock!" Watch for our next article for more information about the students' upcoming performance.

In addition to our multitude of fine arts opportunities, students also participate in academic enrichment programs. Student council, peer and crossage tutoring, and Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) classes are always available. An exciting new opportunity this year is sixth-grade pentathlon, which allows students to study science, history, math, and literature and compete against other schools in Orange County. The pentathlon is open to all sixth-graders, and we currently have about 35 percent participating!

These special opportunities, added to our school-wide positive behavior plan, our nutrition program, and Club King, provide enrichment opportunities to capture nearly every student's interest!

Luther Elementary

5851 Newman St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6918 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us



Jacki Teschke Principal

21st-Century Learning Tool Luther sixth-grade teachers Molly Chang, Elizabeth Elmgreen

and Margi Sanchez are using Edmodo, an educational tool, to streamline assignments through the use of technology to enhance student learning. Edmodo is a free and secure learning network for teachers, students and schools that provides a safe way for students to connect, share content, access homework, participate in discussions, and receive class information. Edmodo is accessible online and through any mobile device with Internet capabilities, and it includes free apps for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch and Android devices.

Sixth-grade students can access their accounts from any mobile device or computer and set up notifications within Edmodo to receive alerts and reminders via text or e-mail to create an organizational system to keep them on track with school and homework. Edmodo is not able to be used to access a social network such as Facebook. The tool is used strictly for educational purposes and requires students to use correct grammar and formal language instead of texting language, and it requires that they use appropriate online behavior set forth in the guidelines established by the website. Parents are also able to create an account that enables them to view direct messages between their children and teachers as well as any messages the teacher sends to the parent group.

"Our sixth-graders really enjoy utilizing this site, and we appreciate being able to 'expand' our classrooms outside of the actual building," Mrs. Sanchez said.





Our next issue is May 1st getting ready for summer!







Morris Elementary

9952 Graham St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6995 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us



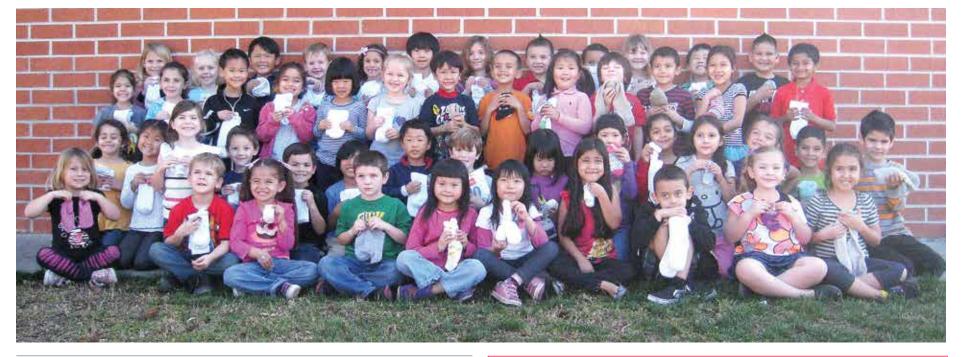
Jeannette Lohrman Principal

Making a Difference by 100

The kindergartener and first grade students at Morris Elementary celebrated 100 days of school by collecting socks and packs of gum to donate to local charities and troops overseas. The kindergartens counted the socks and shared why they were bringing them. The children said, "We are making a lot of toes warmer" On the 100 day of school a loud cheer could be heard. "We did it! We collected over 200 pairs of socks!" The first graders wanted to collect 100 packs of gum to send to our troops overseas as a way of saying "You

guys are doing a Hubba Bubba of a great job". They also sent letters to the troops.





Vessels Elementary

5900 Cathy Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6990 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us



Jane Snyder Principal

What's Your Lexile Score?

Second-through sixth-graders are becoming more aware of their Lexile scores, are setting goals, and are excited to see them rising. Students take computer-lab assessments that are linked to the Lexile Framework every couple of months. Their results are then reported as Lexile measures. This means, for example, that a student whose reading ability has been measured at 500L is expected to read with 75-percent comprehension a book that also is measured at 500L. When reading a book within his or her Lexile range—50L above his or her Lexile measure to 100L below—the reader should comprehend enough of the text to

make sense of it while still being challenged to maintain interest.

The Vessels library, with the help of our library clerk and volunteers, is color-coding all of its books so that students can quickly find text at their Lexile range. Students also can go to www.Lexile.com and use FIND A BOOK to identify nearly any book's Lexile score. Research has indicated that 60 minutes of reading per day can lead to 4,000,000 words read at fifth-grade level. This in turn could add over 1,000 new words to a fifth-grader's vocabulary.

After students read a book, they're encouraged to take a Reading Counts quiz to check comprehension. If they pass the quiz, they earn points, which accumulate. Students are positively reinforced for meeting their goals and reading for enjoyment.

One of the principal's favorite sayings at Frank Vessels is to Read! Read! Read!





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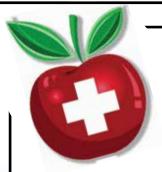
Dr. Sue Iohnson

Fulfilling Our Great Expectations

What an exciting, eventful school year this continues 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 throughout the district that support and enhance learning for our students. The combination of a rich, well-rounded curriculum, a highly qualified and caring staff, and a longstanding commitment to excellence is continuing to provide our students with the opportunity to be prepared and successful 21st-century

citizens. This is what Savanna has been and what we strive to be for every child every day. Parents, students, and staff take great pride in the Savanna School District's Great Expectations. They have high expectations that the children who attend our schools will be challenged to learn and grow to their full potential and achieve to the highest standards. Our recently redesigned benchmark assessments will allow us to continue to ensure that students are learning; these assessments will also provide teachers with valuable information on areas where re-teaching is necessary. We have seen remarkable growth in students' reading comprehension and fluency. This commitment to having Great Expectations for our students and the community's ongoing support of and belief in our students has resulted in incredible success as just one example of "The Best Is Yet To Come!"

Another indication of "Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!" is our continued focus on student health and safety. Our Food Services Department has redesigned the breakfast and lunch programs in order to provide students with nutritious meals that complement our nutrition education program and



Savanna School District Community Health Fair

Saturday, April 20, 2013 • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm **Hansen School** 1300 Knott Ave. Anaheim, CA 92804

Sponsored by the Children & Families Commission of Orange County

- Free Immunizations
- · Prizes!
- · Free Dental Screenings
- · Activities for children
- Information on free and low cost health services
- · Much, much more!



encourage lifelong healthy eating habits for students. "The Best is Yet To Come" as we offer a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, reduce fat and salt in school meals, and provide whole grains whenever possible, which will result in enduring habits for our students. Combined with our district-wide SPARK Physical Education program, we believe that healthy eating habits will significantly contribute to student academic achievement and health-conscious students for generations to come. Our upcoming Community Health Fair will provide the Savanna community with an opportunity to access a wide variety of health-related services, including dental and hearing screenings, blood pressure checks, immunizations, child safety information, and more; this is one more example of "The Best Is Yet To Come." Our Great Expectation that all of our schools are safe, orderly, and positive learning environments has resulted in ongoing enhancements to the physical security measures on each of our campuses. Increased perimeter fencing has been added to school sites over the past several years, with closed campuses throughout the school day and while students are on campus for before- and after-school daycare programs. Through school modernization projects, security cameras have been added to monitor activity on and around the campuses, as well as school-wide paging and emergency alert systems. As part of each school's modernization program, classroom doors are able to be locked from the inside, teachers are able to open lines of communication directly to the office or local law enforcement agencies, and staff training on emergency preparedness continues to be a priority, demonstrating that "The Best Is Yet To Come."

Our Great Expectation that we must continue to partner with parents to support students both at school and at home was evidenced during our 21st annual Reach the Reader family reading night. Throughout this funfilled evening, parents and children were involved in activities that focused on literacy. Parents participated in a keynote session led by Dr. Catherine Maderazi, a noted professor at California State University, Fullerton and an expert in the field of reading, with national and international acclaim. Parents learned strategies they could use at home to help support their children in reading while children were involved in a variety of reading-related activities. With nearly 1,200 parents and children in attendance, it was apparent to us that our school community is eager to learn how they can help children become better readers, how to motivate children to read for fun, and how to instill a lifelong love of learning in children! This annual event would not have been possible without the tremendous support of the entire Savanna School District staff, with over 100 volunteers who generously donated their time to present student sessions, provide infant care, assist with parking and serving dinner, and much, much more, demonstrating once again that through "Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!"

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 doing 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!"

Savanna School District Board of Trustees



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Cerritos School

3731 Cerritos Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3830 • www.savsd.org/Schools/Cerritos/cerrhome.html



Dr. Jerry Friedman *Principal*

Our API Goal

The Cerritos staff members and students were pleased to reach and surpass last year's API goal of 800. But this year we have raised the bar and set a new goal of 850, which is a 49-point jump! To encourage and remind everyone on campus about this aim we have created a new logo with the slogan, "Eight-Five-Oh! Go Cheetahs Go!"

Cerritos staff members recently spent time collaborating with the Anaheim, Buena Park and Cypress Police Departments to closely review our existing school safety procedures. Our newly modernized campus provides a variety of enhanced

safety features, including security cameras, perimeter fencing and schoolwide notification systems. We are fortunate to be able to maintain open lines of communication with all of our local law enforcement agencies.

Cerritos was also fortunate to receive a grant that enabled us to participate in several outstanding programs offered by the Ocean Institute of Dana Point. The fifth- and sixth-grade students were able to travel to the Institute to participate in a half-day boat trip to learn about and see the many wonders of the ocean

The students saw hundreds of dolphins swimming and jumping alongside the boat. One class even spotted a whale! Although the kindergarten through fourth-grade students did not go on a boat, they did participate in some hands-on learning activities when the Ocean Institute came to visit our school. The students were able to touch and feel a variety of sea creatures during classroom assemblies.

We are grateful for this partnership with the Ocean Institute!

Hansen School

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



Shannon Wyatt Principal

Watch DOGS

Hansen School is proud to bring the Watch Dads Of Great Students (DOGS) father volunteer program to our school. Watch DOGS is an innovative program of the National Center for Fathering, focusing on prevention of violence in our nation's schools by using the positive influence of fathers and fatherfigures for a two-fold purpose: to provide constructive presence in the school and to be positive and active role models for students

By engaging men in various roles at Hansen, the Watch DOGS have already begun to inspire students, reduce bullying and

enhance the learning environment. This program offers the opportunity for dads, uncles, grandfathers, and other father figures to spend one day during the year helping at the school. These Watch DOGS perform various jobs throughout the day, such as greeting children in the morning as they arrive, monitoring recess, and assisting in a classroom. After school, they help students on the bus and at the parent pick-up area.

Students have been very excited to see the dads, uncles, and grandfathers on our campus as they provide strong adult role models for children. The pride children have felt as they've seen the men in their lives serve at Hansen has been exhilarating! Most importantly, fathers and father figures are spending meaningful time with their children in the school setting and gaining a greater awareness of the positive impact they can have on their children's lives, just by being dads!

Holder School

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



Ona Sandi *Principal*

Outdoor Science School

Holder School's sixth-graders recently spent four days at Outdoor Science School (OSS) in the San Bernardino Mountains at Creekside, sponsored by the Orange County Department of Education. All four schools in the Savanna School District attended OSS during the same week, giving students the opportunity to make new friends. The great outdoors replaced their classrooms, and the trails became their textbooks.

So many fun, educational and engaging educational activities were packed into the four days! Based on individual interests, students selected and participated in structured science

sessions that focused on California standards for student achievement. The topics included physics and engineering, compass and direction orientation, outdoor survival skills, art in nature, and early society and its technology. Each session was structured to provide the students a cooperative hands-on science experience that promoted student leadership, critical thinking and communication

Students also participated in a number of hikes. The four-hour life and earth-sciences hikes provided students the opportunity to explore established trails, investigate geological features, observe wildlife, and compare plant adaptations. Students even had lunch each day in the great outdoors. During the evenings, students studied the night sky through telescopes and went on a night hike. While at camp, the students took pictures and kept a journal of what they were learning. The culminating activity focused on students creating a PowerPoint presentation that was shared with their classmates and the fifth-graders.

While the students spent just a few days in the mountains, the experiences shared have left memories that will last a lifetime.

Twila Reid School

Corner of Holder and Orange Avenues, Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/236-3845 www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Reid/reidhome.htm



Dr. Bob Pipes *Principal*

Music Master Strings Lessons

Reid students in the fourth- through sixth-grades have the opportunity to learn to play a string instrument. Ms. Julie Metz, a concert violinist, has taught for the Music Masters program at Reid for nearly 20 years.

Our students can learn to play the violin, viola or cello. Each May the string players from the four schools of the Savanna School District (Hansen, Cerritos, Holder and Reid), along with the Orangeview Junior High and Western High School students, all hold a concert for our families, teachers and interested community members.

If you would like to hear how well our students have progressed in their ability to play their instruments, I encourage you to attend our spring concert on Monday, May 6.

Each year the Philharmonic Society of Orange County also presents, free of charge, a special music program for students called "Meet the Musicians." The purpose of this program is to introduce children to professional musicians. Each year Reid School has the opportunity to hear musicians from one of the four sections of the orchestra: strings, brass, woodwinds or percussion.

The Orange County Philharmonic Society also provides concerts at the Orange County Performing Arts Center or at a local high school auditorium. This year our second-graders attended the "Disneyland Resort Salutes the American Band" show. This event is always a special treat for our students.

Through these concerts our students are exposed to the different genres of music. They also learn about concert etiquette. We are grateful that music education will continue for our students!



Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss



Welcome to the Village!



Kate Karp

No man, woman or child is an island. Award-winning musician Aaron Nigel Smith illustrates our interconnectedness through his One World Chorus, combining the voices of children from the United States with those of residents of the Cura Rotary Home, an orphanage and school in Kenya. The vocals and instrumental musicians combined produce a

collection of African folksongs, contemporary pop, blues and scat—world music especially for children.

The CD welcomes in listeners with "Fanga Alafia," a traditional Nigerian morning song, and closes with a Zulu marching song,

"Siyahamba." In between is a world of good. "Grateful" sums up childhood joy and invites a celebration of life and our planet, "Mother Nature's Spirit" is an obvious choice for a group performance, and "Che Che Cole" and "Copy Cat Scat" are spirited activity/movement numbers. The standouts, however, are the treatments of songs familiar to anyone who's listened to pop radio in the past few decades: "Banana Boat Song," which has all the spirit and soul of the original, and then some; a goose-bump-raising version of Jewel's "Hands"; and a marvelous version of Bob Dylan's "Man Gave Names to All the Animals." I'm a Dylanophile from way back, and I can tell you that that number should have always been a children's song. With a change in lyrics approved by the Great Man himself and an added rap bridge, it now is.

A portion of proceeds from the sale of the CD will help build a music program at the Cura orphanage.

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

Friendship

I have great memories of friends coming over after school. We'd play in my room or outside and just have fun. As I got older, I remember how important it became to have those friends around when we had to study together, attend school events, or even wish one another a great summer.



Preschool is the opportune time for our children to learn how to be good friends, to make friends, and most of all, to play. In elementary school, things get busier. Homework, sports, dance classes, piano—I remember when a friend of mine let her children play outside and they couldn't find anyone to play with. She finally realized they were all at after-school activities! She immediately decided to make sure she didn't overschedule her own children. Her experience has stayed with me for years.

Our son, who's in first grade, just started basketball, and he loves it. But the highlight of his week occurs on Wednesdays, when one, two or three friends from school are invited to play. Word has spread, and the number of children waiting to play is quite something! The laughs, joy and spontaneity remind me of when I was their age.

Open-ended play is extremely important as our children get older. They play ball, run—and the laughs! Truly the best part!

Spring is here—the perfect time to invite friends over to play. Whether outside or inside, you'll help create great opportunities for your children to develop lasting and meaningful friendships.

Lauren Perelmuter, President/Founder of Art To Grow On Children's Center, Inc. www.art2growon.com 310/625-6028

Kules!!! One word in the list is NOT in the word search. When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put CCS in subject line)

Entries must be received by April 15, 2013

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

Flippers	Paddles
Freestyle	Pool
Goggles	Pulleys
Headcap	Race
Kickboards	Relay
Kicking	Strokes
Lane Lines	Surfacing
Medley	Times
Meets	Underwater
	Freestyle Goggles Headcap Kickboards Kicking Lane Lines Medley

Congratulations to Sergio Correa Winner of the December Word Search Contest!

Word Search by Gunnar Coop

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Literacy Project Foundation

3334 East Coast Hwy., Suite 177, Corona del Mar, CA 92625 949/721-1319 http://literacyprojectfoundation.org

Foundation Graduates Reading Stars



Sue Tucker President/CEO

From Page 1

Not only do students become better readers, but their attitudes about reading also improved and data indicated over 80% of the graduates were more positive. LPF Master Teacher Martha Burke at Cerritos Elementary School shared, "After the six-week program, all of my students graduated



with improved reading skills and greater selfconfidence--two critical attributes of successful readers!"

Our Foundation has served the Savanna School District for the past two years. This winter we serviced a total of 228 struggling readers at no cost at 12 schools throughout the Anaheim, Capistrano and Long Beach unified school districts.

Literacy Project Foundation was founded in 2009 with a vision to bring the gift of literacy to children as a foundational learning element to help achieve their personal dreams. Our mission is to enable at-risk and disadvantaged youth to increase their reading skill levels. The goal of the Foundation is to enable these children to become self-sufficient, productive and contributing members of our society. To learn more about our program, visit www. literacyprojectfoundation.com.

Cypress Library

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

Upcoming and Ongoing Events



Helen Richardson Branch Manager

By Susan Pina, Youth Services Librarian

Toddler Story Time is a fun, interactive session of stories, music and rhymes for children 18-35 months old; and your preschoolers will love Preschool Story Time, with stories, music and play for ages 3-5! Both activities are held in the community room. Please call the library for current dates and times for both story times.

Cypress Library has a homework help center open Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-5 p.m. Elementary, middle school and high school students are welcome to drop in for free homework help from teen volunteers or for quiet study. The Homework Help center is in the Cypress Library community room.

We also present free movie matinees every second Saturday of the month at 2 p.m. No registration is necessary; call the library for movie titles.

Read to a therapy dog—it's fun! Bodey, an Australian shepherd who loves children, visits Cypress Library each first and third Monday at 6:30 p.m. Studies have shown that children can improve their reading skills and boost their selfconfidence by reading to a licensed therapy dog. No registration is required. Bodey welcomes readers ages 5–9.

Teens who need volunteer hours or simply want to be involved are invited to join the Teen Activities Group (TAG) at 3:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month. Teenagers who like books, music or both can drop in to Titles & Tunes at 3:30 p.m. on the last Thursday of the month. Free snacks are offered at both activities.

As always, please call the library for more details or to confirm scheduling.

Savanna Celebrates Reading • From Page 1

including police officers, firefighters, parents, grandparents, and the district's School Board members read aloud in classrooms during this special week. Students are served "green eggs and ham" through our school cafeteria on Dr. Seuss' birthday. The week culminates with reading parades at some schools. At one school, students wear billboards they created to display the covers of favorite books, and at another school all students wear Cat in the Hat hats as they parade through the hallways, admiring the classroom doors that are decorated with reading themes.

For the past 21 years, the Savanna School District has held an outstanding community event, called Reach the Reader. This annual event provides an opportunity for the families from all four schools in the Savanna School District to come together to celebrate reading. At Reach the Reader, parents have the opportunity to listen to a renowned speaker, learning techniques to help foster the love of reading at home. Parents come away from this 75-minute presentation with a renewed enthusiasm for working with their children to reinforce reading at home. With support from our business community, parents have the opportunity to win wonderful door prizes at the end of the evening as well. Meanwhile, the students participate in reading-related activities. The activities include storytelling, dramatic plays, read-alouds, reading and following directions for making ooblek, and a visit from Clifford, the Big Red Dog! Every child who attends receives a free book and a packet of materials, including certificates and reading awards. Approximately 1,200 people attend this event each year. This is an educational and memorable night for all involved!

Reach the Reader and all of the reading events that take place at the schools support the mission of the Savanna School District: Savanna School District will provide a quality education program, building academic, physical, social, and emotional growth in an environment that will be stimulating for learning in cooperation with the parents and the community and developing all students to their individual capacity to prepare them for future learning experiences.

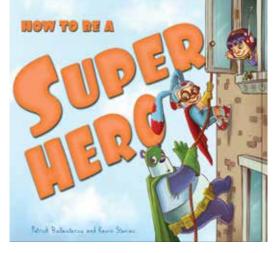
Savanna School District is a place where reading is celebrated every day!

Tree House Bandits

How To Be a Super Hero

Look up in the sky. Is it a bird? Is it a plane? Why no, it's a SUPER BUNNY! We all love being our favorite super hero—the good guy who has superhuman feats of strength, speed, and flight, and of course saves the day.

This is a story that reveals the secrets of what it takes to be a super hero and pushes the imagination. Join us as we take a unique look into characters as they learn about confidence, creativity, and most of all teamwork.



Creators Patrick Ballesteros and Kevin Staniec will embark on a book tour in 2013 to share with kids how they made their characters come to life and how they wanted and still want to be super heroes.

How to be a Super Hero is their third book, following How to Catch a Cloud and the Adventures of Super Bunny and Giant Cat Bear and Charlie, available on Amazon.com.

If you'd like Kevin and Patrick to visit your school and share their inspiration please send an e-mail to annie@paperfarms.com. You can read more about this book and its creators at www.treeshousebandits.com.

Books are available online and in your local bookstore, library, and children's retail shops. www.treehousebandits.com

Nutrition Update

Life Without Technology



Kent Kawaguchi

"What would you do if you didn't have Internet, a cell phone, text messaging, video games, or Facebook?" This was the first question author, columnist, and ESPN sports analyst, Mike Lupica asked his audience as he began his presentation to young readers, teachers and parents. He explained to his attentive loyal fans in Newport Beach, California that he didn't have all of the technology that is available today. Instead, he stated that "books can transport you into the life of another."

Mr. Lupica is known for writing many young adult sports novels such as Travel Team, Heat, Miracle on 49th Street,

Summer Ball, and his latest novel True Legend. As a TV anchor for ESPN's "The Sports Reporters," columnist for multiple newspapers and magazines, and author of national bestsellers and award winning novels, Mike Lupica inspires others to use their time to read and learn life lessons through his two passions: sports and reading.



Kent with Mike Lupica

Mike Lupica originally wrote for adults, however it was his son who inspired him to write for adolescents. His son was cut from a basketball travel team due to his short height. Because of his son and many other kids who were told they weren't good enough to make the team, Lupica decided to make a basketball team comprised of all of the kids whom were cut from other travel teams. As the season progressed, Lupica's team started upsetting teams that were beating his team earlier in the season. Mike Lupica noticed a boost in confidence and self-esteem in every single one of his players. He witnessed player's renewed perseverance and drive to overcome failure as they learned to fight their way to the

top. These are life skills and topics Mr. Lupica enjoys writing about. Mr. Lupica said that his "books do not contain vampires, wizards, or werewolves, yet kids love to read them. They are about friendship and kids trying to do something great in sports through teamwork and loyalty."

In Mr. Lupica's novels, his characters portray qualities of being a good teammate and persevering toward their ultimate goal. Through his writing and his characters, he hopes his young readers will be inspired and learn from what they read and apply it to their own life. He said, "Playing sports is more than just throwing or hitting a ball. It's about learning how you get up after getting knocked down and that is truly the measure of your talent, heart, and character."



A Perfect Pantry for Hungry Teens



Carol Berg Sloan, RD

When your 10th grader crashes through the door after soccer practice what do you throw their way for snacks? I see too many kids munching on chips, cookies, candy, one because that's what's readily available to them and secondly, because they don't know what constituents a healthy, satisfying, and tasty choice.

When families come to me for nutrition advice I start simply: a grocery list! I tell them to visualize the layout of the typical grocery store and divide it into four corners. Let's start with produce. Best bets are the usual apples, oranges, bananas, and baby carrots, but don't forget about tangerines, grapes, kiwi, and the dried fruit section which have raisins, dried apricots and my

favorite, dried cranberries. Many produce items come in single serve packs for grab and go, but they can be expensive. Opt for bulk items such as celery, pineapple or sugar snap peas and put in snack size storage bags.

Next corner: dairy. Usual staples are nonfat yogurt, string cheese, and chocolate milk. Try Greek yogurt, cottage cheese singles (some have fruit or granola as sides) and if you check out the frozen section, you can find frozen yogurt bars and lower fat ice cream sandwiches.

In the third corner you find the bread section. There are many high fat choices here but look for whole grain items such as bagel or sandwich thins, whole wheat rolls or bran muffins. Read the labels so you know fat, sugar and calorie content.

The final section of the store contains processed and mixed items such as canned foods, crackers cookies and the like. These items are easily placed into a healthier meal plan...it just takes some time and knowledge. Crackers: look at the labels to be sure they are whole grain and lower fat. One of my kids favorites is graham crackers. Canned foods are great and many come in single servings. Fruit cocktail, applesauce, and soup are all great choices to tide appetites over until the next main meal

Even if you work full time you can still make time to bake snacks that will hold up and be available when the hunger monster comes around. Try these "cookies" from King Arthur FlourTM which store well and provide fiber, healthy fats and dried fruits.

Oatmeal and Flax Cranberry Cookies

1 cup soft butter

3/4 cup brown sugar, lightly packed

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 large egg

1 1/2 cups King Arthur White Whole Wheat FlourTM

1 1/2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats (not instant or quick cooking)

1/2 cup King Arthur whole flax mealTM

1/4 cup King Arthur whole flax seedsTM

1 1/2 cups dried cranberries or raisins

1/2 to 1 cup chopped nuts, optional; walnuts or pecans are tasty Directions

- 1) Lightly grease two baking sheets, or line them with parchment.
- 2) In a large bowl, beat together the butter, brown sugar, cinnamon, vanilla extract, baking soda, salt, and egg until fluffy.
 - 3) Mix in the flour, oats, flax meal and seeds, dried fruit, and nuts.
- 4) Let the dough rest for 30 minutes or so at room temperature, for the oats to soften. Towards the end of the rest period, preheat the oven to 350°F.
- 5) Scoop the dough by rounded tablespoonful's onto the prepared baking sheets. Flatten each ball of dough slightly.
- 6) Bake the cookies for 10 to 12 minutes, until golden brown. Cool them on the baking sheets for 15 minutes or so, to allow them to set. Move them to a cooling rack to finish cooling.

Yield: 3 1/2 dozen cookies.

Carol Berg Sloan, RD is a nutririon therapist in Long Beach. She can be reached at: cbsrd@verizon.net

Orange County Department of Education

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

Promoting Student Success



Dr. Al MijaresSuperintendent

Research shows that healthy children are more likely to have positive outcomes in school as well as improved physical fitness and mental health. Recent data at the national, state, and local levels raise much concern about obesity and the overall wellness of American citizens. Since 1980, obesity among children and adolescents in the United States has almost tripled. According to a recent study by Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the number of obese adults has also grown dramatically in California over the past fifteen years, and is expected to grow significantly in the next twenty years. In 1995,

the adult obesity rate was under fourteen percent, and by 2011, it had increased to almost twenty-four percent.

In Orange County, only thirty-nine percent of fifth, seventh, and ninth graders passed California's Physical Fitness Test in 2011. In addition, economic disparities have the potential to negatively impact the health and academic success of an alarming percentage of students in our county. Among fifth graders whose families have low-incomes, fifty-four percent are overweight or obese, compared to twenty-nine percent of non-economically disadvantaged students. Almost forty percent of low-income fifth graders are at high risk for Metabolic Syndrome (the precursor for Type Two Diabetes), compared to seventeen percent of their non-economically disadvantaged peers.

The economic implications can also be felt statewide. A study published in 2005 by the California Department of Health Services described the economic costs of obesity and physical inactivity and their collective impact on health care expenditures and worker productivity. The study found the total annual estimated cost to California for obesity and physical inactivity was \$41.2 billion. For Orange County alone, the estimated cost was \$3.3 billion.

It is clear that we have a lot of work to do to improve the health and fitness of our residents. Researchers propose using evidence-based strategies to improve nutrition and increase physical activity in our schools, neighborhoods, and work places, in order to significantly reduce obesity-related diseases and health spending in California. The school environment is one of several settings that can influence positive nutrition and fitness habits, and the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) is committed to collaborating with schools and community members to address these important issues. Earlier this year, OCDE formed the Center for Healthy Kids and Schools which has staff dedicated to the areas of student health services, physical education and fitness, youth sports, nutrition education, and school-based mental health.

This year, the Center has established the Focus On: Obesity campaign which aims to prevent and reduce childhood obesity through programs such as Move More, Eat Healthy OC Schools!, a county-wide campaign designed to identify and spread solutions for improving health and fitness; Healthy for Life, a revolutionary approach where Healthy Classroom Fit Kits are being distributed and teachers are being trained to integrate physical fitness into their daily routine; and Kids Run the OC, which provides free training, tools, and resources to start an after school running program for students ages 6-12.

These are just a few of the programs available to support schools with implementing health and fitness activities on their campuses. I hope you'll take advantage of the many tools and resources available through the Center for Healthy Kids and Schools. We are committed to helping create cost-effective, sustainable partnerships and programs leading to systematic changes in school health environments that will produce healthy, fit kids who are ready to learn.

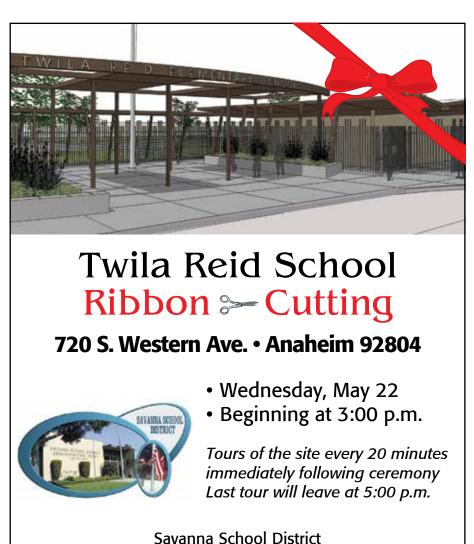
For additional information, visit

www.ocde.us/healthykids

www.ocde.us/healthyschools

http://www.ocmarathon.com/kids-run-the-oc/registration-kids-run-the-oc.aspx





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Grades 2-12

With focus on the fundamentals, the Amazing Math program builds the skills necesary for success in basic math. Jumpstart your year in Algebra I & II by taking our Algebra program this summer.



Grades 2-12

From outline to essay, the Write Way course covers sentence structure, grammar, punctuation and spelling.



Grades 9-12

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