

# School News



*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, & Savanna**

**VOLUME 6, ISSUE 22**

**SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2012**

## Cerritos School Modernization Completed and Celebrated



**Cerritos School Ribbon Cutting**

(l to r) Director of Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation Mr. Jim Harris; Board Members Mrs. Linda Weinstock, Mrs. Chris Brown, Mrs. Carol Sundman, and Mr. John Shook; Superintendent Dr. Sue Johnson; and Board Member Mr. Edward Erdtsieck.



The new front entrance to Cerritos School.

*By Dr. Sue Johnson, Superintendent—Savanna School District*

Savanna School District is celebrating the grand re-opening of Cerritos School. The newly modernized site reopened for students and staff in the fall. Over 400 parents, children, staff, and community members attended a ribbon-cutting celebration and were excited to tour the school office, kitchen, classrooms, student restrooms, and several other areas throughout the site to see first-hand the many improvements made over the past year.

Presentations by Superintendent Dr. Sue Johnson and Board President Mrs. Carol Sundman highlighted the many changes to the site. Representatives from the city of Stanton, Senator Lou Correa's office, and Assemblyman Chris Norby's office presented special recognitions to Cerritos School Principal Dr. Jerry Friedman to celebrate the occasion. Dr. Del Smeltzer, the superintendent of the Savanna School District from 1958–1981, who was responsible for acquiring the land for the site, as well as overseeing the original construction of the school, returned for the event. Also recognized was the family of long-time Board Member Patrick Ochoa, whose dedication and commitment to the children of Cerritos School throughout his 42 years on the Board of Trustees was instrumental in ensuring that the modernization project was a priority for the district.

In addition to enhancing classrooms and office spaces with new furniture, plumbing, roofing, electrical, fire-alarm systems, energy-efficient, dual-paned windows, and energy-efficient heating and air-conditioning units, some older portables were removed and replaced with more updated ones in a new location for preschool and kindergarten classes. This was also done for before- and- after-school child care programs.

Each classroom has been equipped with a ceiling-mounted digital projector to interact with each teacher's laptop computer, which will be connected to a wireless server that provides teachers with access to technological tools to use in the instructional program. Document cameras and voice enhancement systems were also added to classrooms to enhance teaching and learning. Each classroom was equipped with eight Internet drops for student computers, as well as a paging system, which can be utilized for individual classrooms, groups of classrooms, or school-wide announcements.

*SEE CERRITOS SCHOOL MODERNIZATION • PAGE 11*

### Superintendents

**Centralia**



**Dr. Diane Scheerhorn**  
Superintendent

**Pages 4–6**

**Cypress**



**Beverly M. Hempstead**  
Superintendent

**Pages 7–8**

**Savanna**



**Dr. Sue Johnson**  
Superintendent

**Pages 9–10**





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# School News

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Covering the  
CENTRALIA, CYPRESS, SAVANNA  
SCHOOL DISTRICTS



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## SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL

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**Kay Coop**

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The golden days of summer have come to an end and it's back to school. Kindergarten students are entering the academic world and seniors are focusing on becoming the graduating class of 2013. Regardless of the grade level it is an exciting time meeting new friends, saying hello to old friends and getting into the groove of a new school year.

This is our sixth year publishing the excellence from these districts and we thank you for including *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is November 7.



Neta Madison

## Cypress Library

5331 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/826-0350 • [www.ocpl.org](http://www.ocpl.org)

## Events for Children and Teens



**Helen Richardson**  
Branch Manager

### By Susan Pina, Children's/Teen Librarian Homework Help

Need help with your homework or a quiet place to study? Beginning October 15, 2012 Cypress Library's homework help center will be open on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3 to 5. Elementary, middle school, and high school students are welcome to drop in for FREE homework help from teen volunteers, or just to come in for a quiet place to study. The Homework Help center is in the Cypress Library community room.

### Story Time

Join us for music, rhymes, and stories on Wednesdays mornings at 9:30 (toddlers) and 10:30 (preschoolers).

Fall dates are:

9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26

10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14

11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19

### Teen News

The Teen Advisory Group (TAG) meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month for a fun event.

Book Club: Teen Book Club meets on the last Thursday of the month.

Drop-ins are welcome!

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



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# Centralia School District

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

## SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Diane Scheerhorn**  
*Superintendent*

### Strength of Conviction

Centralia School District surveyed its entire staff in June with a goal of determining job satisfaction, safety, communication, use of technology, visibility of administration, and professional development needs. The overall result was constructive and helpful to the Governing Board and administration in setting meaningful goals for all for the academic success of our students.

Our Governing Board defined its 2012–2013 goals to foster an environment for students to meet or exceed state and federal academic standards, maximize district resources to ensure fiscal solvency and quality instruction, maintain welcoming, safe, and healthy environments for all, and develop an engaging process that encourages communication among all district stakeholders with a two-way communication network enhanced by the use of technology.

A key is our symbol to remind us that communication, in all its various forms, will unlock the door to the success of our goals. Communications “blasts” will keep employees current. Board members will adopt a school and attend events and meet staff on school visits. Our teacher Instructional Guidance Team will prepare a common core curriculum and work with their peers. A needs assessment of our facilities will take place to maximize the use of deferred maintenance and capital outlay funds, and professional development opportunities will be offered to enhance the use of technology as an instructional, management, and communication tool for students, staff, and parents.

Communication will be our key to success when it is used to open the doors to the responsibility of listening, sharing, and working together for the success of all.

## Centralia School District Board of Trustees



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*Member*

## Buena Terra *Elementary*

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



**Peter Cole**  
*Principal*

### The Million Word Club

Buena Terra Elementary School students love to read. From their love of reading will come future success in school and in their future careers. After providing excellent instruction in kindergarten and first grade, the next step is to get students to work on becoming fluent readers. Like in learning any skill, practice makes permanent; however, practice needs to be at the appropriate level. Reading that is too difficult discourages students. Reading that is too easy does not challenge students to reach the next level of excellence.

One of the most effective techniques in getting students excited about reading and to ensure they are reading at the most beneficial level is Accelerated Reader. It is a computerized program that assists students in selecting books at their level and in areas that interest them. The program also gives the teacher feedback on how carefully the students read the books. Parents assist by making sure their children read nightly and encouraging them to do their best.

Students set their own goals and are publicly recognized when they meet these goals. Last year over 20 Buena Terra students made the Million Word Club, having read over one million words during the course of the school year. Good readers make good students, and we are proud of the outstanding students who soar like eagles at Buena Terra School.

## Centralia *Elementary*

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



**Norma Martinez**  
*Principal*

### Setting New Standards for Success

Welcome to the start of the 2012–13 school year! As I write this, California has not yet released the test scores for the California Standards Test. Rest assured that as we get this information, my staff and I will go over the data, celebrate our progress, and set goals for any areas that need a boost. However, there is a new accountability system in the near future.

The new Common Core State Standards were adopted by 40 states, including California, as a way of providing clear, consistent expectations for what students should be learning in each grade level in order to prepare for college and career. The Common Core is set to be fully implemented by the year 2014–15. This gives us just two years to ensure that we are trained on the new standards so that we can better prepare our scholars for the rigors of this new accountability system.

The National PTA has come up with Parent Guides for each grade level K–12. These guides give parents tips for supporting their children at home to succeed academically at school. To access a Parent Guide for your child’s grade level, please log on to [www.pta.org/4446.htm](http://www.pta.org/4446.htm) and print out a Guide in either English or Spanish.

On behalf of the entire Centralia School Family, I welcome you all back, and I know that success will again be possible for each of our scholars because we have the best recipe for success: a great staff + supportive parents + awesome scholars = Centralia Power!

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# Danbrook *Elementary*

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



**Erasmo Garcia**  
Principal

## Achieving Success

As we said our final goodbyes to the sixth-graders, and reflected upon their seven years of preparation for the middle school years and beyond, I was proud of the well-orchestrated and rigorous educational program that our school had provided for them.

As we now prepare for the 2012\_\_2013 school year, we recognize that we must also continue to ensure this same level of commitment for the future. But at the same time we must also reinvent ourselves in order to continuously improve instructional delivery, parental involvement and student motivation.

There is no defined formula or program to help guarantee student success. Instead, it will be achieved through true collaboration, the kind that helps us define our strengths. There must also be honest conversations that will allow us to address our weaknesses.

We will continue to work hard to provide teachers with the tools and support they need. Our teachers will continue to teach from the heart, and our students will rise to the challenge.

# Los Coyotes *Elementary*

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



**Robyn Yarbrough**  
Principal

## Communication

The beginning of a new school year can provide an opportunity to create fresh challenges or build upon past successes. At Los Coyotes School, our students, families, teachers and staff members are all integral parts of a community of learners, the kind who make the return to school a successful, exciting and crucial time.

To start the year off right, all students in grades four through six were given daily planners to help them stay organized and accountable. The students also have greater connectivity in our computer lab, thanks to the installation of increased memory in each computer. This will allow them easier access to our online, standards-based programs "Study Island" and Accelerated Reader. In addition, several classrooms also received new teacher computers to enhance the staff's ability to work effectively.

Communication between all stakeholders will be a primary focus for the upcoming school year, too. Los Coyotes has several communication tools that will go forward, and indeed, be enhanced during the coming year.

Our school-to-home weekly telecommunications message will include an email option, and the school's Web site will undergo a complete overhaul. The principal enjoyed meeting the kindergarten parents on the first day of school, and we will continue our weekly Monday morning assemblies in which all parents are invited.

With the entire community working together, Los Coyotes School looks forward to another excellent year. Perhaps Abigail Adams said it best: "Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence."



# G.H. Dysinger *Elementary*

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



**Randy Helms**  
Principal

## No Excuses

My boss is tough. If I have heard it once, I have heard it a thousand times: "No excuses!" She expects a lot, and because of that, she gets results.

Here at Dysinger School, we take a similar tact. We look at the circumstances that may be keeping a student from being successful either academically or socially, and we look for ways to remove those "excuses" and give the students an opportunity to take control of their lives and reach their potential. Of course, as everyone knows, schools do not operate in a vacuum. Outside circumstances do affect a child's performance at school and their ability to achieve at the very highest levels. In many cases, parents have an opportunity to remedy that at home. If your child is having difficulty with his or her schoolwork, do not wait until report cards are due to get involved with that. Check with the teacher early. Send an e-mail once a week to ask for an update, and check with your child on a daily basis.

Remember, children are children, and they need our guidance to succeed. Expect a lot from them and from us. If we all hold one another accountable for the education of our students and accept "No Excuses," we can make this the best year your child has ever had. Hope your summer was all you wanted it to be, and I look forward to an outstanding school year.

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# G.B. Miller *Elementary*

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**Jeanette Salinas**  
*Principal*

## School-Parent Partnership

All parents want their children to be successful in school, but most parents don't realize that their involvement and support in their child's education is one of the most critical factors in determining whether their child will be successful in school. Parental influence has a great impact on student success. Parents are a child's first teacher; therefore the partnership between them and their child's school is an important link to ensuring a child's success in school.

Centralia School District works to be accessible to all families in the community. Parents can be notified of information through e-mail, text, Web sites, and phone calls. There are many opportunities to join school groups, such as PTA and School Site Council, or volunteer in the schools.



Make it a priority to get involved in your child's school. You won't be disappointed. We look forward to working as partners with our families and community to keep our students moving forward in their education.

# San Marino *Elementary*

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



**Maria Poulin**  
*Principal*

## Great Classroom Expectations

The new school year starts with great classroom expectations from students and teachers. San Marino School teachers use the first few days of school to teach their students lesson norms or expectations to ensure academic success. These expectations are student behaviors which show student learning in real time as the teacher is teaching.

To introduce a new concept, teachers use one of the following strategies: read with me; track with me; or repeat with me.

Engaging all students to use the vocabulary of the lesson helps children learn new words and their definitions, as well as the concept of the lesson. Students also use individual white boards when answering questions aimed at the whole class. This creates an expectation that all students participate in generating a response and allows the teacher to see the response of all of the students. It also shows the teacher which of the students understand the lesson and who requires additional support. Making sure all students participate in the learning objective is crucial to academic achievement.

Requiring students to use academic language, complete sentences, and pair share further supports the expectation that all students participate in the lesson. Using academic language and complete sentences challenges students to stay focused, interact with the lesson, and apply what they have learned into a unique response in a conversation with their peers. Lesson norms bridge the expectation from teachers and students that every student will learn from every lesson. And that is a great expectation!

# Raymond Temple *Elementary*

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



**Sara Pelly**  
*Principal*

## New Options for Parent Communication

Writing notes to teachers, or calling up by telephone, used to be the main ways to communicate with your child's school. But things have changed thanks to 21st century technology!

As a result of the Centralia School District's efforts to "go green," our flyers and announcements are now posted on both the district and school Web sites, at [www.cesd.us](http://www.cesd.us) and [www.cesd.us/raymondtemple](http://www.cesd.us/raymondtemple). Kiosks are available at every school site for those parents who do not have internet access at home.

As an alternative to sending home weekly bulletins or reminders, many teachers are using email to instantly notify parents of field trips, homework projects or even student discipline. The Raymond Temple PTA has a link on our school Web site, and parents can also visit the Facebook page for the latest PTA news, at [www.facebook.com/raymond-temple-pta](http://www.facebook.com/raymond-temple-pta).

The "School Messenger" is an automatic messaging system that is being used to connect with parents, students and staff through voice message, SMS text, email and social media, including Twitter. Raymond Temple also has a Twitter account, @rt\_eagles, so our parents can receive tweets directly from the school to remind them of meetings, schedule changes or even emergency information.

With safety always a top priority, our parents can be assured that as long as they keep their contact information updated, they will receive the latest information from the school at all times.

While technology may have brought us a long way, old fashioned face-to-face meetings are still the best way to stay involved with your child's school!

## Contest!!

This drawing is hidden somewhere in this publication. When you find it, email the page number to:

[Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com)  
(Please put CCS in the subject line)



Your entry must be received by October 15, 2012. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.



# Cypress School District

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

## SUPERINTENDENT



**Beverly M. Hempstead**  
*Superintendent*

### Learning. Leading. Results!

On behalf of our Board of Trustees and all employees of the Cypress School District, I would like to welcome everyone to a new school year. We are excited about the 2012–2013 school year and believe this will be our best year yet for our students!

Every moment of every day presents an opportunity to grow and improve and to succeed and achieve. This could not be truer than right here in Cypress School District, where we will continue to place emphasis on enriching the instructional program and making every classroom a place for 21st-century learning for every student. Together, teachers and parents will foster an environment that embraces technology and integrates the four Cs (critical thinking and problem solving; communication; collaboration; and creativity and innovation) into all academic core content taught in our classrooms.



**Newly Modernized Morris School.**

We are delighted to announce the re-opening of Juliet Morris School. If you have driven anywhere near this school during the past year, you have seen the extensive and continuous construction. Thanks to the passage of Measure M, the \$53.6-million bond measure approved by generous Cypress voters in 2008, the district can now say we are halfway through the task of modernizing our six California Distinguished Schools. This next 2012–2013 school year, we are excited to begin modernization and expansion of Luther School. During this time, Luther students will be relocated to their interim site at the Swain School campus.

If you have been listening to the news, you know that the economic crisis facing our schools still looms large. If the governor's tax initiative fails in November, Proposition 98 (school funding) will lose about \$5.5 billion. This equates to a reduction of approximately \$441 in Average Daily Attendance (ADA) per student or \$1.7 million to Cypress School District. This "trigger" reduction would become effective January 1, 2013. Due to the uncertain outcome of the tax initiative election, districts are being advised by county offices to budget accordingly and have a contingency plan in place. As a result, Cypress School District is working collaboratively with all stakeholders in preparing for the worst-case scenario.

Thank you in advance, everyone, for the contributions you will make this school year, in ensuring a high-quality education that addresses the unique potential of each student in a safe, engaging environment, where we all learn, lead, and have positive results!

## Cypress School District Board of Education



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*Vice President*



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## Arnold *Elementary*

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

### Setting New Standards

Welcome to all of our new and returning Arnold students and their families. It is a pleasure to be back at school and have the opportunity to work with all of you again this year.

What's new for this year? You will likely begin to hear us talking about the new Common Core State Standards. Over the next few years, California and the nation will phase in a more uniform set of standards designed to better prepare our students for their future. The Common Core State Standards will contain fewer standards along with the expectation that students develop a deeper understanding and can apply their knowledge in other subject areas and real-life situations. The focus at all grade levels will be critical thinking, creativity, communication and collaboration. The Common Core State Standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers.

We are also excited that in order to support our transition to the new standards, the Cypress School District has purchased new core materials for reading/language arts in grades K–6 and new math materials for our sixth-grade students that include a prealgebra curriculum for students who are ready. These new materials, along with our great teaching staff, will help us meet the needs of all of our students at Arnold School!



**Denine Kelly**  
*Principal*

## King *Elementary*

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

### Music for All

From the Class Act Symphony Program to our annual school musical, students take part in music and performing arts enrichment programs every year at King School. Class Act, a partnership with the Pacific Symphony, provides focused music instruction with curricular connections and performance opportunities for all. Each year, students study a different composer and are guided by professional musicians, who discuss and perform music by that composer during class lessons. Families are treated to a professional concert at our Class Act Family Night, and students show what they learned by performing at our year-end Bravo Assembly.

Our fourth-grade students learn to read music and play several songs on the recorder. Each year they learn additional songs to coordinate with our Class Act program. Our featured composer this year was Aaron Copland, and our students learned music in the style of our composer of the year.

Additionally, all upper-grade students are encouraged to participate in our annual musical as actors, singers, dancers, sound technicians, or stage designers. The musical incorporates song, dance, and drama in a Broadway-style production. This year's performance was *Willie Wonka Jr.*, and our cast of over 60 students performed for audiences totaling over 1,300!

All King students perform for an audience every year, either on the recorder, in their class Bravo performance for Class Act, or in the King School musical. All are also involved in numerous music enrichment lessons and activities throughout the school year. The King community believes in fine arts opportunities for all of our students.



**Carol Erbe**  
*Principal*



# Landell *Elementary*

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



**M. J. Beatty**  
*Principal*

## Together We Can, and Together We Do

Welcome back to all of our students and their families at Landell School! We are all excited to return from a fun-filled, relaxing break. We opened our doors to 730-plus students, many of them new to Landell. Everyone is already busy working together to ensure that our students will have another successful school year.

In an effort to nurture our students' individual differences, Landell offers a variety of before- and after-school enrichment classes that include the parent-orchestrated Math Club, which was a medalist in numerous events; music classes; art classes; Spanish- and Chinese-language classes; science classes; a student garden club; Landell Studio TV Broadcast Student Club; and GATE, in which gifted students participate in learning activities based on student interest.

New to Landell this year is the Cypress School District Transitional Kindergarten Program, which is designed for students who will turn five years old between Nov. 2 and Dec. 2. This program is designed to meet the developmental needs of those students who, because of the new kindergarten age requirements, cannot start regular kindergarten until next year. Transitional K is the first of a two-year program. After the first year, students will enter traditional kindergarten at their home school. Parents must sign early-admittance and two-year-agreement forms. Students who enroll in transitional kindergarten must still complete a year of traditional kindergarten during the following school year.

We are very proud of wonderful opportunities and programs we provide for our students, and we look forward to a great school year.

# Morris *Elementary*

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



**Jeannette Lohrman**  
*Principal*

## Making an Impact

We have all heard the old adage "out with old and in with the new," and such is the case at Morris Elementary School this school year, with the support of Measure M and the modernization of the school. It took one year to the date to complete the beautification of the site, with upgraded classrooms, air conditioning, SMART Boards, new furniture, a state-of-the-art technology lab, and many more upgrades to better service our students.

Along with our modernization, teachers have been working on collaborating together in summer meetings to implement strategies to meet the needs of all students by reviewing tests scores and determining appropriate ways to address curriculum. Students across all grade levels are grouped for language arts. This program, called Moving Mustangs, is provided to support student learning. Students are grouped according to ability levels to help support their individual goals. Teachers in all grade levels collaborate to meet the needs of all students.

A new student leadership program called IMPACT will create more positive role models on campus and support all aspects of the school. The concept was created by two teachers who wanted to involve all students to create a school culture that showed pride in their school and community. They are excited to make a positive difference in our school and community. We are looking forward to a very successful school year!

# Luther *Elementary*

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



**Jacki Teschke**  
*Principal*

## Lifelong Learners

Luther Elementary School teachers spent more time in high-quality professional development last year than in recent memory. This year's schedule of professional development is even more intense. Our entire teaching staff agreed to spend a non-working day in June to attend a full-day professional development training from Thinking Maps. This is a testament to their dedication to be lifelong learners and their desire to embark on a journey to understand the new California-adopted Common Core State Standards so they can facilitate higher-level understanding and critical thinking in all students. We are planning extensive Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) training for the fall.

Furthermore, we were thrilled to be able to offer a free, seven-week academic program for our students this summer! Five of our teachers, led by third-grade teacher Sean Kennedy, piloted this course of study for students who qualified for remediation. A book study and writing course was also offered for our advanced students. This program was possible because of our teachers' dedication and desire to educate and enrich students, even during the summer months. We are looking forward to expanding our academy to offer these programs during winter break this year.

# Vessels *Elementary*

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



**Jane Snyder**  
*Principal*

## Paws-itive Behavior

Frank Vessels Elementary School is entering its third year of the School-Wide Positive Behavioral Intervention Support (SWPBIS) grant from the Orange County Department of Education. As research supports, schools that create positive cultures school-wide also experience increases in academic performance. The data from our school improvement goals indicates our efforts in both of these areas. Students at Frank Vessels have had an increase in academic performance in both math, and English language arts and a significant decline of 37 percent in minor and major discipline referrals.

Prior to the students' first day of school, staff members reviewed and made minor changes to the school's expectation matrix, which clearly establishes the guidelines for students to be respectful, responsible, safe, and ready to learn at all locations on campus. All staff members are responsible to help explicitly teach these expectations and reinforce students for demonstrating these behaviors. During the first week of school, students went to various locations on campus to learn the expectations, and they were then reinforced with verbal feedback and "Paws-itive" coupons for demonstrating these behaviors throughout the year. Students who need more practice with the social skills are provided with opportunities.

We are looking forward to educational excellence and promoting a positive social culture, where all students and staff thrive, during the 2012-2013 school year.

## Please Drive Safely Students Are Back In School





# 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 2012–2013 will be for students and staff in the Savanna School District with our philosophy of “Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!” We firmly believe that the best opportunities are yet to unfold, with wonderful things happening for students in the coming year as we move forward with leaving a legacy for the future. We are so very grateful and fortunate that the Savanna community supported and passed Measures N and G. Because of this funding, we have completed our first two comprehensive modernization projects: the first at Hansen School and the second at Cerritos School. The third modernization project is planned for Reid School during the 2012–2013 school year. Reid School students and staff will move to our Interim Campus during the coming school year, while their home school undergoes capital improvements. These capital improvements will affect our children’s education and our community for generations to come, truly allowing us to leave a legacy of 21st-century learning environments. It is the goal of the Savanna School District to provide the most exemplary educational opportunities for children, both now and into the future, demonstrating “The Best Is Yet To Come!”

Our great expectations for student learning can be evidenced in the district’s commitment to offering a transitional kindergarten program. We are very excited that our youngest students will have the opportunity to participate in a full-day Transitional Kindergarten program with increased instructional time; this program will follow 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, 2012 and December 2, 2012 and whose parents believe their child is not ready socially or academically for an academic kindergarten program.

Another indication of “Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!” is our continued focus on reading fluency, comprehension, writing, and student engagement. Teachers will continue to utilize frequent assessments in reading and language arts at all grade levels during the 2012–2013 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. Our teachers will expand on their use of Thinking Maps throughout the coming year as we undertake a new writing program, Write From the Beginning. This program will help staff establish a plan for continuous writing instruction with a focus on increasing students’ writing abilities. Engaging all students in lessons is essential to ensure student achievement. This commitment to leaving a legacy of student success will indeed leave an indelible mark on our community!

“Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!” can be seen in the infusion of technology throughout the instructional program and into all areas of operation.

Classroom sets of updated Macintosh computers, document cameras, ceiling-mounted digital projectors, voice-enhancement systems complete with microphones for teacher and student use, the use of the Web-based Accelerated Reader program for students, a Web-based library catalog accessible to all students, tablet computers, and student response systems in several classrooms are a few of the tools which will continue to have a significant impact on the instructional program. Throughout the 2012–2013 school year, students will continue to learn computer literacy skills through daily, small-group instruction on classroom sets of computers to enhance and support the instructional program and core curriculum. Teachers will continue to utilize a Web-based attendance system, allowing them to take attendance online; we will implement a standards-based, online report card during 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 prepare to leave a legacy for tomorrow’s generation through 21st-century learning.

It is the goal of the Savanna School District to provide the most exemplary educational opportunities for children both now and into the future, leaving a lasting legacy for generations 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. The entire Savanna School District staff and Board of Trustees welcomes you to the 2012–2013 school year and looks forward to fulfilling “Great Expectations...The Best Is Still Yet To Come!”



## Savanna School District

### Full Day Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Programs 2012–2013 School Year

**Cerritos School**  
3731 Cerritos Ave.  
Anaheim, CA 92804  
8:05 am – 2:35 pm

**Hansen School**  
1300 S. Knott Avenue  
Anaheim, CA 92804  
7:50 am – 2:20 pm

**Holder School**  
9550 Holder Street  
Buena Park, CA 90620  
7:40 am – 2:00 pm

**Reid School**  
Corner of Holder St. & Orange Ave.  
Buena Park, CA 90620  
8:30 am – 2:45 pm

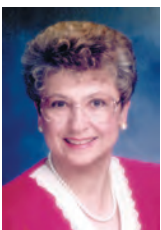
For registration information,  
call Savanna School District:  
**714-236-3800**



### Savanna School District Board of Education



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# Cerritos *School*

3731 Cerritos Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3830 • [www.savsd.org/Schools/Cerritos/cerrhome.html](http://www.savsd.org/Schools/Cerritos/cerrhome.html)



**Dr. Jerry Friedman**  
*Principal*

## Our New Home!

Welcome back, Cheetahs! After a year at the Interim Campus we are excited to be back at our new home! Cerritos School looks fantastic! We now have upgraded electrical, plumbing, roofing, lighting, air conditioning/heating, security, and more! All of the classrooms look great, and thanks to our wonderful PTA we also have a brand new tile wall in the center of our campus. We are truly grateful for all of the residents of our community for continuing to value and support education – thank you!

## Instructional Program for 2012-2013

At Cerritos our mission is to assist students in acquiring the skills needed to be successful, life-long learners, prepared to accept responsibilities and challenges of our culturally diverse society. Cerritos staff members focus on providing our Cheetahs with the highest caliber learning experience in a caring and nurturing environment so that students feel valued and respected. We desire that all of our students develop and maintain a love for learning!

## Attendance and Punctuality

All students benefit when they come to school every day and arrive on time. Daily attendance increases academic achievement. Regular attendance and punctuality teach students work habits that are necessary for their entire education and work careers. Finally, student attendance is essential to ensure each child receives access to the high caliber educational program provided by our highly qualified teachers. There are many occasions at Cerritos School where we acknowledge, reward, and reinforce good attendance and punctuality!

# Hansen *School*

1300 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3835 • [www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Schools/Hansen/hanhome.html](http://www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Schools/Hansen/hanhome.html)



**Shannon Wyatt**  
*Principal*

## Welcome Back Hansen Huskies!!!

I want to officially welcome all of you to the 2012-2013 school year! Summer has come and gone and now it is time to continue with the excellent traditions of Hansen School. Fresh off of a banner year of increased student performance, we are ready for another amazing year! We will continue to raise expectations for all of our students, while providing the support needed to meet those goals. Academically, we will continue “Husky Time”, with leveled, skill-specific instruction where students’ individual needs are addressed. Students in grades four through six will be homogenously grouped for math instruction in a program designed for students to excel.

I am pleased to announce that this year Hansen will begin an elective time for fourth and fifth grade students. Recognizing the need to develop the entire child, fourth and fifth grade students will choose from choir, drama, art, club soccer or Pilates and yoga. We are also pleased to continue our strong partnership with the Anaheim Police Department. The Jr. Cadet program, along with GRIP, will be back on Hansen’s campus.

At Hansen our mission is to assist students in acquiring the skills needed to be successful, life-long learners, prepared to accept responsibilities and challenges of our culturally diverse society. I firmly believe that a strong home/school partnership is the cornerstone of student success. I invite you to fully participate in your child’s education by joining the PTA, School Site Council, or volunteering in your child’s class. I look forward to the opportunity of working with each and every one of you.

# Holder *School*

9550 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/236-3840 • [www.savsd.org/Holder/holdhome.htm](http://www.savsd.org/Holder/holdhome.htm)



**Ona Sandi**  
*Principal*

## Welcome Holder Hawks!

Welcome to our Holder School learning community for the 2012-2013 school year! We believe that all students can achieve success through a supportive, nurturing, and rigorous academic environment and look forward to providing a challenging educational program for students this year. We have many exciting programs to help our students master their grade level standards-based curriculum in partnership with parents and the community.

This year we will continue to focus on Math and Reading/ Language Arts standards, with a specific emphasis on reading comprehension and writing strategies. We are implementing a new writing program called “Write from the Beginning” that will provide our students with the necessary skills to become proficient writers. We are continuing our Hawk Walk block scheduling in reading for first through fifth grades in order to match instruction to the range of diversity among our students. Intensive reading interventions are a key component of this program. Mastering academic vocabulary, becoming a fluent reader with analytical thinking skills, and learning to communicate through writing are critical to a student’s continued success in their education journey! These skills will be stressed in all classrooms and at all grade levels as we continue to equip our students to build for their future educational success.

We believe quality education can be achieved through high expectations of student performance and behavior, strong family/school/community partnerships, and a dedicated, enthusiastic staff committed to providing the best education possible for the students at Holder School. Our Holder Hawks will indeed be soaring to success this year!

# Twila Reid *School*

Corner of Holder and Orange Aves, Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/236-3845 • [www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Reid/reidhome.htm](http://www.savsd.k12.ca.us/Reid/reidhome.htm)



**Dr. Bob Pipes**  
*Principal*

## New Location for the 2012-2013 School Year

Welcome back Reid Rams! We are excited about all the things planned for the 2012-13 school year! Over the summer, Reid School was relocated to an interim site for the 2012-2013 school year while our campus undergoes renovation as a result of Measure G. Because of the support of our community, Twila Reid School will be modernized this year. The interim site is located on Orange Avenue between Holder Street and Knott Avenue, behind Holder School. Parking is available in the church parking lot. The entrance is on Orange Avenue, just east of the campus.

Change will be the word of the year for Reid Rams, their parents, and teachers! We are facing the many changes that await us in 2012-13 with new energy, creative ideas, and one goal: That every student will have an outstanding educational year!

This year Reid School staff will continue to focus on providing our students with the highest caliber learning experience possible. We will continue to use and refine strategies that engage all students in every lesson throughout the entire school day. We will continue to use and refine all components of Explicit Direct Instruction and to ensure that all students are being taught in accordance with the California Content Standards. All of this will happen in a caring and nurturing environment so that students feel safe, valued and respected, and continue to refine their love for learning.

At Twila Reid School we are excited and ready for the adventure of 2012-13 to begin!



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Launch our Web App  
from your Smart Phone  
[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)



The remodeled student restrooms are now environmentally friendly, with installed hand dryers replacing the use of paper towels. In addition, enhanced lighting and a comprehensive security system were added to the campus to ensure the safety of our students and staff. The school kitchen received an upgrade, too. This includes a “speed line” with both hot food and a salad bar available on a daily basis. Last, but not least, an enlarged and separate staff parking lot was also added to free up much-needed parking spaces for parents and visitors.



The new Cerritos School tile wall.

Those who visited the school expressed excitement upon visiting the new commemorative tile wall at the modernized site. It was created in honor of the school’s 50 years of educating children, with 200 tiles representing Cerritos School students, staff, and community members.

Over the summer, Cerritos students and staff were moved “home” from the Interim Campus; they will begin the 2012–2013 school year in a newly renovated school!

These projects and more will impact the education of Cerritos School students and the community for generations to come, demonstrating “The Best Is Yet To Come!”

## Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 • 714/966-4000 [www.ocde.us](http://www.ocde.us)

## Welcome Dr. Al Mijares



**William M. Habermehl**  
*Superintendent Emeritus*

It is with great pleasure that I introduce your new Orange County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Al Mijares. Dr. Mijares was appointed by the Orange County Board of Education to complete my term, which ends on January 5, 2015. I am very pleased with the appointment and am confident that an excellent selection has been made.

Al has been a dedicated educator for 34 years, and he is excited to begin working on behalf of the students and families of Orange County. A native of California born in Pasadena, Dr. Mijares graduated from Simi Valley High School in 1971, and he received a scholarship to California State University, Northridge where he earned his Bachelor’s degree in Child Development/Special Education. While working in the San Francisco Bay area as a project specialist for physically handicapped children in public schools, Al earned his Master’s degree in Social Welfare from the University of California, Berkeley. He earned his doctorate from the University of Southern California.

Al’s distinguished career includes several years of successful teaching experience in K-12 classrooms as well as serving as a principal in the Moreno Valley Unified School District and as Superintendent of the Bakersfield City School District and Coachella Valley Unified School District. He has held faculty positions as an adjunct professor at Chapman University and taught part-time at both Pepperdine University and Compton College. Since August 2006, Dr. Mijares served as Vice President of the Western Region for the College Board. Before that, he served as Superintendent of the Santa Ana Unified School District for more than eleven years.

Dr. Mijares is the recipient of several honors, including the American Association of School Administrators Leadership for Learning Award, the Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce’s 2005 Educator of the Year Award, the League of United Latin American Citizens’ 2004 Excellence in Education Award, the Association of California School Administrators’ Diversity Award, and the California School Board Association’s Merit for Outstanding Leadership.

I am confident that our youngest citizens will continue to receive outstanding educational services under the leadership of Dr. Mijares. He has the background and leadership skills needed to support the Orange County Department of Education’s vision of world class education where every student succeeds. I wish Al the best as he takes on this new and exciting challenge.

## Magic Book Garden

## Family Reading Time



**Rozanne Lanczak Williams**

Would you set aside just 20 minutes a day for a special family activity if you knew this would greatly increase your child’s reading skills and overall enjoyment of reading? A friend of mine, Lisa, is a second grade teacher and she and her high school teacher husband have a kindergartner and a second grader. Lisa was concerned because she couldn’t get her son, the second grader, to read on his own. So she and her husband decided to begin Family Reading Time, a quiet time for each family member to read something of their own choosing. Since both parents work full-time and the kids have lots of activities, this was no easy feat. But Lisa, being a teacher herself, understands the power of modeling in the learning process.

**The rules are simple:** Turn everything off! That means no telephone calls, TV, iPods, electronic games, etc. Everyone in the family chooses something to read. Even pre-readers can enjoy a book by looking at the pictures. That’s what Lisa’s kindergartner did before she started to bring little books home from school that she could actually read on her own. Don’t be concerned if your child picks books that you think are too easy. Practice with easy books will increase confidence and improve fluency.

Set a timer to begin. 20 minutes is a good start, but you can adjust the time that fits your schedule. You might have your kids help you make a sign for your front door that says, Shhhh! Family Reading Time is in Progress.

Relax and enjoy your reading time! As a parent, this might be the only time you get to read the newspaper or an actual novel.

Remember, Family Reading Time should not replace Read-Aloud Time. This is the irreplaceable warm and fuzzy time, usually around bedtime, when you read to your children, typically from books slightly harder than their reading level.

Family Reading Time models your interest and love of reading. And because you value reading, your children will too.

Rozanne Lanczak Williams, a former teacher, is the author of more than 200 books for beginning readers, parents and teachers. Visit her Web site: [www.magicbookgarden.com](http://www.magicbookgarden.com)



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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, and then found the Tutoring Club. Putting him in the Tutoring Club's the best thing I could have done for him. His 2011 California Standards Test was proficient in everything!!!!"

Mother of student at  
Landell Elementary, Cypress

"I am the mother of 3 children and my oldest son was having reading problems. The Tutoring Club helped my son and myself to learn new reading strategies. With Tutoring Club's help my 6 year old son was able to sound out words and read. He is very proud of himself and I am so happy and proud of him as well. He couldn't have made the growth without the Tutoring Club. Thank you Tutoring Club for giving my son the help he needed."

Mother of 1st grader – SES Student  
Norwalk-La Mirada School District

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