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School News

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Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, & Savanna

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There's Music in the Air in the Cypress School District!

By Superintendent Anne Silavs, Cypress School District

The Cypress School District Board of Trustees, teachers, and staff are committed to providing the children of our community with a well-rounded, high-quality educational program. As an example of this commitment, two years ago the Board approved construction of dedicated classroom space on each school campus to support STEM and arts... and thus, a new district music program was born!

With the ultimate goal of building a strong instrumental and vocal music program, we began laying the foundation by providing all students with general music instruction. Students in transitional kindergarten through sixth grade participate in weekly music classes during the school day that are taught by credentialed music teachers. The program also includes an annual spring concert at each school site which showcases our students' musical accomplishments. These experiences are designed to cultivate deeper student interest in music. However, even if students choose not to pursue further instrumental or vocal music study, the general music education they receive helps to develop cultural literacy and an appreciation for the complexities of the musical art form.

This year, the district began expanding its music program to include opportunities for students to participate in specialized music performance ensembles. Two district choirs were formed which enable students to explore vocal music to a greater degree. Students learn various vocal techniques and perform songs in rounds, canons, and multi-part harmonies. Each district choir is comprised of students from three schools so that students from all six campuses are represented in the two vocal ensembles. These musical groups come together as one large choir to perform at district and community events, such as the Cypress Council PTA Holiday Luncheon and the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in La Palma.



In the World Music ensemble, students explore world percussion instruments. They learn about the role these instruments play in different cultures, and they perform a World Music repertoire. Students experience music through the oral tradition of listening and repeating rhythmic patterns. They also learn to adjust and improvise in the process. The music they create as an ensemble has a West African and Caribbean flair as it is influenced by the traditional music of these different cultures. Students in the World Music ensemble recently participated in a Family Music Night, during which they performed for their parents and taught them some of their drumming techniques. A fun time was had by all!

Beyond the value of the musical experience itself, students who participate in these ensembles develop a strong sense of community. These budding musicians and vocalists have the opportunity to see how their individual efforts contribute to the accomplishments of the larger group. The synergy that ensues further fuels their creativity and passion for music. The outcome is nothing less than magical.

Cypress Library has Fun for All Ages!

By Yuka Kobayashi, Library Assistant

Traveling Naturalist—3:30-4:30pm Thursday, 3/22—Ages 5-12

Nature stories and live critters

Earth Day Crafts—3:30pm Tuesday, 4/10—Ages 5-12

Celebrate mother earth

Baby Lapsit Storytime—10am Wednesdays—Ages 0-2

20-minute program for babies & their caregivers, followed by independent playtime.

Toddler Storytime—9:30am Mondays—Ages 18-35 months

Stories, songs, and fun! (Enter through the north parking lot door.)

Preschool Storytime—10:30am Mondays—Ages 3-5 Stories, songs, and fun!

No Baby, Toddler, Preschool Storytimes 4/2-4/11

3/19 Special musical harp storytime.

Read to a Dog—6pm 1st & 3rd Wednesdays—Kids & Families

Read to or pet our furry friends.

Family Storytime—10am Saturdays: 3/17, 4/21—Sensory or bilingual Spanish stories, songs, and crafts.

Homework Help—3:30-5pm Mondays & Wednesdays—Grades K-8

Free help with homework. Bring all supplies and materials.

Rookie Readers—5:30pm Wednesdays—Grades K-5, 1-on-1 reading practice.

S.T.E.A.M.—3:30-4:30pm Thursdays: 3/8, 4/12—First 50 kids ages 5-12

Hands-on technology and engineering fun.

Capstone Project—9am-5pm Saturday, 3/3

Join Oxford Academy students and create disaster relief care packages.

Teen Volunteer Opportunities—Grades 8-12

Regular and flexible programs available. Apply in person.

Tabletop Games—1-4pm Sundays: 3/18, 4/15—Adults, teens, kids ages 9+

Talk About TED—2pm Sundays: 3/11, 4/8—Watch and discuss

Gentle Yoga—5:30pm Tuesdays—Teens and adults. Register in person.

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

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 1.800.MEMORIAL • millerchildrens.org/stramski



Gary Feldman, M.D.,
medical director,
Stramski Children's
Developmental
Center,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

Working Toward Quality Sleep for Children with Special Needs

Getting quality sleep is a challenge for many families, especially for families who have children with special needs. Sleep deprivation impacts mood and behavior for children with special needs, ultimately setting kids, and families, up for a rough day.

Establish Healthy Sleep Hygiene:

- Avoid using electronics close to bedtime as that can overstimulate kids and make falling asleep a challenge.
- Practice relaxing activities, like reading and listening to quiet music before bed to help cue the body that sleep is coming.
- Adopt a pre-sleep routine that includes washing their face and hands, and brushing their teeth to help kids know that it's time for bed.
- Keep bedtime routines consistent. All kids thrive on routines. Predictable habits can ease kids into sleep.
- Keep their bedroom cool, quiet and dark. Many children with special needs are hypersensitive to light and sound. Adjust their environment to their unique sensory sensitivities to keep them comfortable and encourage sleep.

If you or your child's doctor has concerns about sleep deprivation, your child may benefit from a polysomnogram, known as a sleep study, which is the most accurate test used to diagnose a sleep disorder.

The Stramski Children's Development Center at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach provides comprehensive care for children — from birth to age 21 — for behavioral and developmental conditions, including behavioral sleep conditions. Miller Children's & Women's offers pediatric sleep specialists, sleep studies and a family centered environment where our care team partners with families to identify and manage sleep disorders.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Happy New Year!

The new year is well underway and the students are focused on their academic goals. In this issue you will read topics such as Visual and Performing Arts, Innovation and Imagination, Celebrating Diversity through Art, Developing Computational Thinking Skills, and more. Enjoy!

Our next issue is May 2. In the meantime, have a fun Spring Break!



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**Covering the
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Centralia School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Norma E. Martinez

The 2017-18 school year continues to be a year that shines a light on all of the good things happening in our district's schools.

Strong Academic Program

CESD teachers continue to prepare our scholars for the upcoming State test in Language Arts and Mathematics. We anticipate that our efforts to assist our students to gain mastery of valuable skills will result in improved test scores for all of our students. We are proud to continue to outperform both the State and the County on these rigorous tests! As a way of personalizing learning for our scholars, our teachers use software program such as Accelerated Reader to set goals for reading and ST Math for learning conceptual mathematics. This year, our district is in the process of securing 1:1 devices for all students in Grades 3-6. Already, San Marino and Danbrook are two schools who are fully equipped with this 1:1 technology!

Enhanced Facilities

Students in all eight schools are benefitting from enhanced outdoor learning spaces. Whether adding a soft cushion surface or replacing an entire playground, our students' imagination with play extends into the recess hours. All eight multipurpose rooms are now air-conditioned, leading to improved environments for our indoor assemblies. Because safety is of utmost importance to us, our District is moving forward on a plan to update school offices so that they become a single point of entry location for all school visitors. We anticipate starting the office remodels at Raymond Temple and Miller Schools this summer. Additionally, after a six-month committee study, we look forward to modernized 21st century classrooms for all 5th and 6th graders when they return to school at the start of the school year. Our students will benefit from mobile furniture and flexible seating, with digital screen displays in each room as well as an enhanced learning space that is more conducive to collaboration and creativity.



The Arts

One of the most remarkable transformations for our District is taking place this year, with the addition of a strings music program available for all students in grades 4-6. Families who wish for their child to learn music can use one of the available instruments. Music education enhances our curricular program since it helps to develop discipline, fine motor skills, teamwork, patience and perseverance, attributes which are useful across all disciplines. Because CESD is interested in developing the creative side of our students, each school uses this block of time

to implement an enrichment elective. We are very proud to boast that CESD is one of very few elementary school districts in which scholars can select an enrichment elective for study. These choices vary by school and many schools offer multiple opportunities to try something new. Such choices include visual arts, sewing, singing, dance, sculpting, drawing, etc.

We at CEST are proud of the amazing programs available to our students and we know that these programs will enhance and enrich the educational lives of our students. We do this great work with the support of an amazing team, our staff, and the great partnerships with our families and our community. We are proud of our award winning schools!

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Buena Terra *Elementary*

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



Dr. Dominic Nguyen
Principal

Visual and Performing Arts

Buena Terra is proud to offer an Instrumental Music Strings program for our fourth, fifth, and sixth graders. Students may select to play violin, viola, or cello. In a group setting, students participate in 45-minute instruction that takes place weekly during the instructional day. Led by Mrs. Metz, our students learn the basic skills to play their string instruments. Their work and dedication culminates in a Spring Strings Concert.

Students who choose to not participate in strings have an opportunity to participate in visual or performing arts electives.

Students enrolling in the electives will rotate through different visual and performing arts classes such as kaleidoscope, string art, music appreciation, drama, play writing, Art Masters and more. Electives vary from year to year.



Danbrook *Elementary*

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



Erasmo Garcia
Principal

VAPA

This school year, Danbrook embarked on a journey that allows students to “choose their own adventure” through our Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Academy. Our team of dedicated teachers offers students an opportunity to select an elective of their choice.

Among the most popular offerings is Fashion Design and Merchandising. In this class, students learn about the art of design, using fashion trends and the arts. In Sculpture class, students use materials such as clay or soap to create

three-dimensional masterpieces. In Origami class, students learn the ancient art of mobile sculpture. The Strings program offers students the option to learn to play a violin, a viola or a cello. Other choices include Tap, Dance, Drawing 101, Theater and Drama, and World of Color and Art. Every student promoting from Danbrook will learn how to read and play music through our Piano program, which is required for every fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grader.



Centralia *Elementary*

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



Tia Belt-Brown
Principal

Well-Rounded Scholars

It has been said that arts education helps build academic skills, increases academic performance, and presents alternative opportunities for children who learn differently.

Centralia Elementary understands that the demands of the 21st century require a new approach to education in order to fully prepare our students for college, career, and citizenship. Instead of narrowly focusing on academic achievement alone, our goal is to educate the “whole” child.

We proudly offer a cache of visual and performing arts options for our young scholars. Our fourth- through sixth-grade scholars have the opportunity to learn to play the violin, viola, or cello through our strings program. We additionally offer visual and performing arts courses through our teacher-generated elective wheel. This includes Readers Theatre, public speaking, choir, dance, and directed drawing.

Coupled with academics, the visual and performing arts strengthen skills in problem solving and critical thinking, which adds to the overall academic success of our scholars.



G.H. Dysinger *Elementary*

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



Shawn Stuht
Principal

Arts and Performance

Dysinger focuses on educating the whole child, which gives our students the opportunity to experience a range of visual and performing arts activities.

All of our students receive quarterly instruction through the Music Man and Meet the Masters programs. Students in the fourth through sixth grades also have weekly enrichment in various visual and performing arts activities.

In the Strings Instrumental Program, students learn how to play a musical instrument with choice of cello, violin, or viola.

Choir students are learning basic music theory, rhythm, melody, harmony, proper posture, breathing, articulation, and how to read music. Dance production students learn a wide variety of choreography, including, ballet, jazz, contemporary, and hip hop.

The students are trained in proper technique, counting music, and showmanship. The Hip Hop Dance Group works on hard-hitting movement mixed with flexibility, isolation, and syncopated footwork. Choir, dance, and strings also have the opportunity to execute their performance skills with culminating performances before an audience.



Mrs. Shirley's Enrichment Dance Class rehearsing for Dysinger on Broadway!

Los Coyotes *Elementary*

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



Robyn Yarbrough
Principal

Opportunities for Creativity

Los Coyotes School is pleased to offer students several ways to experience Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) instruction. All students participate in the Meet the Masters program, which introduces them to three exemplary artists through grade-level specific assemblies and then engages them in hands-on projects that align with the artistic concepts exemplified by that artist.

Upper-grade students have an opportunity to select their VAPA instruction. Over 120 students chose the strings program, where they are learning to play viola, violin, or cello. Others elected to receive classroom instruction on a variety of topics, including origami, graphic design, improvisational theater, directed drawing, and dance. If students wanted to share their skills, they were provided with the opportunity to take part in our annual PTSO-sponsored talent show. This wonderfully inclusive after-school activity, which has close to 100 participants, concludes with final performances for students and families in March.



Caption: Mrs. Croff's 5th graders display their artistic creations in the style of Jacob Lawrence as part of the Meet the Masters program.

G.B. Miller *Elementary*

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



Dr. Stacy Chang
Principal

Arts for All

G.B. Miller Elementary School is proud to offer a stellar, well-rounded education that includes the arts for all students. Research has shown impressive benefits of arts education on the entire school culture, especially student motivation, attitudes, and attendance.

At G.B. Miller, all students in kindergarten through sixth grade participate in the Meet the Masters art program. As part of this program, students learn about master artists from around the world, including Picasso, Van Gogh, and Matisse, and create their own projects in the artists' styles. Our fourth- through sixth-graders participate in enrichment every week, where they learn to play string instruments or participate in arts electives, including choir, dance, art, and more.

In addition to a strong academic program, we are excited that our young scholars are able to experience the arts during the school day. Students will have the opportunity to showcase what they learned at upcoming school-wide events.



Our scholars in the Music Strings Program engage in weekly lessons to play the violin, viola, or cello during the school day.

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San Marino *Elementary*

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Dr. Omaira Lee
Principal

The 'A' in STEAM

San Marino continues to expand our art education on by focusing on more culturally diverse artists through the Meet the Master's program. Focused on the A in STEAM, Meet the Masters provides an engaging, well-researched art curriculum to schools. All 35 artist units come in standards-based art lessons on multiple grade levels. They include an assembly, student worksheets and student art projects.

Meet the Masters is a schoolwide program serving grades K through 6, as we know the impact that arts education can have on students. With the help of our parent teacher association (PTA), parent volunteers prepare and organize the art supplies. Teachers appreciate that parents do all the prep work to make it possible.

Meet the Masters provides students with a significant historical perspective of each artist, provides a variety of media, and helps develop well-rounded students, which is San Marino's goal.



Raymond Temple *Elementary*

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



Dr. Estela Salas-Sarmiento
Principal

Celebrating Diversity through Art

Raymond Temple Elementary School is passionate about creating opportunities that inspire innovation, curiosity, and personal expression. This year, our students all participated in creating a school-wide art gallery in celebration of Deaf Awareness Week (DAW), with the theme of embracing our diversity. Students from Transitional Kindergarten through sixth grade created original works of art and participated in a school-wide art gala event, complete with formal attire and a guided tour provided by our Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) program docents.

A famous artist once said, "Art is not what you see but what

you help others see." The picture shown here is an example of the stunning original work created by our scholars. This painting of the American Sign Language sign for "friends" is one example of the over 100 art pieces that helped all of us at Raymond Temple to see the beauty of our diversity through the arts.



Counselors Unlock True Potential

Tony Morrow has one goal for the students of Fallbrook High School—graduate ready for what comes next. With his guidance, young scholars and families put their plans for the future into action.

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Fallbrook High School, College and Career Counselor: Tony Morrow '11, M.A.Ed. '12

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SUPERINTENDENT



Whether you are the parent of a school-aged child looking to enroll or simply a resident who understands the link between strong schools and quality of life in your local community, student enrollment is an important topic on which everyone should be informed. The Cypress School District strives to answer some of your frequently asked questions.

How do I enroll my child in kindergarten or transitional kindergarten?

Anne Silavs

“Kindergarten Roundup” in Cypress begins in February. Enrollment packets are available at your school of residence. The district website has a school locator to help you find your home school. We highly encourage parents to return enrollment paperwork as soon as possible so we can begin planning for next year.

What is the status of student enrollment in the Cypress School District?

In the 1950s, the district served less than 1,000 students. In the 1960s, enrollment spiked to almost 8,000 students. However, by the early 1980s, the number of students dropped by more than 50 percent. Today, we serve 3,973 students in transitional kindergarten through sixth grade on six school campuses.

Are new housing developments impacting student enrollment in the Cypress School District?

Student enrollment in the district has remained steady over the past five years, so the short answer is that they’re not. If anything, new houses may be stabilizing our enrollment despite declines throughout Orange County. The State Allocation Board publishes a student-per-dwelling ratio to help school districts plan. The average for elementary school districts is 0.5 students per household, which means a new development of 50 homes would bring approximately 25 new students of various elementary school ages to the district over time.

How important is student enrollment to a school district?

It’s big. Educating students is what we do, and providing a well-rounded, high-quality program that prepares students for success in college and career costs money. A decline of just 50 students is a loss of close to half a million dollars. The district has taken a number of steps to protect its educational program from this kind of volatility. Dating back to the 1990s, district leaders worked to develop local income sources, independent of Sacramento, and we continue those efforts today. The Cypress Park Senior Community, located on the former Cypress Elementary School campus, is one such example of a local revenue stream. Another strategy the district uses to lessen the impact of declining enrollment is the acceptance of interdistrict transfer requests. Currently, 311 students are here on transfers from other districts. These students help stabilize the state revenue we receive, supporting a stronger program over time. Of course, such transfers are allowed only after all local resident students are successfully placed.

How can I keep up on things happening in the Cypress School District?

We encourage community members to visit our district website often for news and announcements. You can also sign up for our monthly e-newsletter to learn more!

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



Carol Erbe
Principal

Innovation and Imagination

Our Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) lab is a hub of activity! Inside, students are building, observing, recording, experimenting, designing, and refining.

Teams of fifth-grade students are building cars fueled by a mixture of baking soda and vinegar. Through experimentation, they are working to find the best proportion to power their cars.

On a shelf in the lab, we find an aquarium equipped with filters and coolers to provide the right environment for trout eggs, which will be hatching any day now. With the assistance of their teachers and a dedicated grandparent volunteer, students will observe their stages of growth until the trout are ready to be released.

Third-graders are using interactive microscopes to observe and identify

specimens, while kindergarteners are programming robots to accurately move through a maze. Whether students are studying chemical reactions by making slime or building structures within given parameters using building planks, innovation and imagination are abundant and always evident in our STEM lab.



Fifth graders Ava and Gautham working on their car project.

King Elementary

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



Jacki Teschke
Principal

On the Path to Social and Emotional Learning

Following an analysis of school data, the staff at King School determined that students would benefit from a research-based program to support their social and emotional learning. Staff selected a program comprised of age-appropriate strategies that promote positive peer relations, problem-solving, conflict resolution, empathy, and responsible decision making. In November, teachers completed an in-depth questionnaire that enabled them to identify specific areas for growth and develop goals for student achievement. Teachers report that students are

applying what they have learned to help monitor their feelings, and they are responding to situations that arise during the school day in a more appropriate manner. We are excited observe their continued growth as we support their social/emotional development.



King kindergartners learn about emotion regulation with some help from Twiggles the Turtle.

Landell *Elementary*

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



Dr. Rena Gibbs
Principal

Developing Computational Thinking Skills

Computational thinkers know how to problem-solve, recognize patterns, and generalize their learning. Computational thinking is a necessary skill in today’s world, and is vital to the future success of our Leopards.I

At Landell, we intentionally provide all of our Leopards with the opportunity to hone these skills through a continuum of coding experiences. Beginning in kindergarten, our Leopards work to “code a route” for their Bee-Bots to follow. They collaborate to revise the routes based upon the data collected and lessons learned.

In the primary grades, our Leopards use visual coding and the drag-and-

drop technique to interact with Dash and Dot robots. Given specific parameters, the students work with partners to master coding challenges. These Dash and Dot interactions provide a strong foundation for upper-grade interactions with Lego WeDo and Sphero coding devices.

Our Leopards are developing important career skills, and having fun while doing it!



Our youngest leopards coding their Bee-Bots

Morris *Elementary*

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



Lori Hernandez
Principal

The Coding Connection

At Morris, our transitional kindergarten (TK) children represent our youngest and most eager students. These students have just recently turned 5 and are always excited to learn and try new things as they develop foundational skills.

Students take part in daily centers where they frequently use coding with robots called Bee-Bots and Dot and Dash to reinforce foundational reading skills. Our TK teacher, Miss Moore, created mazes with letters and numbers for the students to follow,

reinforcing letter and number recognition as they code the robots to move. To differentiate, some students are working on letter sounds or sight words with robots. Students can code the robots to make words on the mat as well.

Students are learning the essential components of coding while also reinforcing basic reading, math and collaboration skills. Robots have been an exciting addition for the eager TK students.



Morris transitional kindergarten students are coding to practice letter sounds.

Luther *Elementary*

4631 La Palma Ave., Cypress, CA 90623 • 714/220-6918 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us



Denine Kelly
Principal

Luther Students “Grow” Their Understanding of Science

Luther’s transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students are getting excited about science during their regular visits to the Luther garden. Students are learning what plants need to survive, how plants change the environment, and how humans impact the environment. Hands-on learning opportunities in the garden allow them to develop an understanding of science concepts while practicing skills like asking questions, making observations, and gathering information. The garden also allows them to experience science first-hand and learn about the important roles that sunlight, water, and soil play in plant growth. The Luther garden was developed last spring through a partnership with the Orange County Department of Education and Boeing.



Mrs. Robledo’s kindergarten students work in the garden alongside the Orange County Department of Education’s Inside the Outdoors staff.

Vessels *Elementary*

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



Helen Lu
Principal

Student Council

The Vessels Student Council is comprised of fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-grade students who are interested in representing their class on important school issues.

Twice a year, two students from each classroom are elected by their peers. Student Council members participate in a range of activities, including the exciting job of making Monday morning announcements, which are broadcast throughout the entire school. This year they are asking a weekly trivia question, which initiates many conversations on campus!

The Student Council also plans and organizes philanthropic projects throughout the year. This winter, the students collected and donated hot cocoa mix and socks to homeless veterans and families in need. The Council was responsible for advertising, collecting, organizing, and presenting these donations to a local charity during a school flag ceremony.

For the spring trimester, our Student Council members are busy planning their next Career Day and philanthropic project!



Teacher Mrs. Vento-Wilson and Vessels Student Council at the flag ceremony

Savanna School District

1330 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3800 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Sue Johnson

Preparing Students for the Future

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 continues to provide our students with the

opportunity to be prepared as 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. This commitment to having Great Expectations for our students and the community’s ongoing support of and belief in our students have resulted in incredible success—which is just one example of “The Best Is Yet to Come!”

We’re excited to share the success of our students as they utilize a variety of technological tools on a daily basis. It’s amazing to see how proficient even our youngest students are on iPads and computers; these children are indeed digital natives using technological tools to support their learning! As we visit classrooms, it’s easy to see students know how to use a wide variety of programs and apps, including ABCya, ABCmouse, TeachMe, Epic!, Kahoot, Popplet, iReady and Accelerated Reader; they are also becoming proficient in creating their own videos and QR codes. As they begin planning for Open House, students are creating digital portfolios that can be accessed via QR codes or on their iCloud accounts. It’s a new world our children are growing up in, with access to tools never imagined a few years ago. I’m so proud that they have risen to the challenge! The continued focus on infusing the use of technology into the curriculum will help ensure that students are held to the same level of Great Expectations as students in the world’s highest-performing countries and that they gain the knowledge and skills to prepare them for success in postsecondary education and in the global arena. Indeed, “The Best Is Yet to Come!” for our students!

Our Great Expectations in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) have allowed students to embrace basic engineering lessons, where they’ve built bridges and roller coasters, designed air pressure cars built out of plastic bottles, straws and balloons, and created mechanical hands. They’ve learned basic computer science skills, such as coding tiny pint-sized robots and programming other robots to respond to voice, navigate objects, dance, and sing. Our students are doing more with robotics than ever before possible. These students are indeed the dreamers, designers, and architects of tomorrow; we know “The Best Is Yet to Come!” for them as they continue to excel in the STEM fields!

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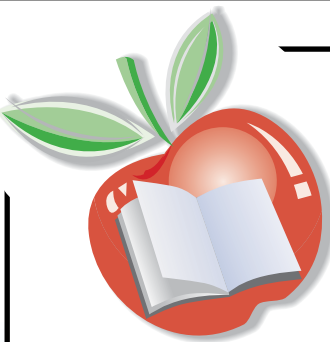
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Our Great Expectation that we must continue to partner with parents to support students both at school and at home was evidenced during our 26th annual Reach the Reader/Reaching Savanna Scholars family night that was held recently. Throughout this fun-filled evening, parents and children were involved in activities that focused on STEM activities. Savanna Teachers on Special Assignment, Ms. Brooke Petruzzelli and Mrs. Phoenix Pineda, shared information with parents on how students are being challenged to embrace and grow in the 4 Cs—collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking—through Common Core State Standards curriculum and STEM projects. Parents were provided with a live STEM challenge demonstration, where a total of eight students from all four schools were tasked with building a structure using only index cards to a specific height in front of the audience. The types of questions and encouragement that a teacher or parent can use to foster the 4 Cs were also demonstrated. Each family was given a STEM challenge to complete at home. With nearly 600 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 problem solvers, how to motivate children, 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 do everything they can daily to demonstrate that “The Best Is Yet to Come!”, people like our parents, who provide the home support for our students so that they can meet our Great Expectations; and people like all those in our community, who contribute to our successes in so many ways. Our successes are YOUR successes. We’re excited to be well on the path toward demonstrating Great Expectations...The Best Is Still Yet to Come!



Savanna School District

Full Day Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Programs 2018-2019 School Year

Cerritos School
3731 Cerritos Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92804

Hansen School
1300 S. Knott Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92804

Holder School
9550 Holder St.
Buena Park, CA 90620

Reid School
720 S. Western Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92804

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Cerritos *School*

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



Briana Schnitzer
Principal

Excited About STEM

With the addition of a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Center on campus this year (STEM), our Cerritos Cheetahs are excited about digging deeper into their STEM-based lessons. From transitional kindergarten all the way up to the sixth grade, our students are actively participating in a variety of lessons centered around STEM subjects.

This year each student has had the opportunity to participate in coding-based lessons through the use of Ozobots. Utilizing optical sensors, Ozobots are pocket-sized robots (also known as bits) that can be programmed in a variety of ways. At the basic level, students use colored markers to write code and program the bit. At the advanced level, they use the OzoBlockly app to write programs. At any level the Ozobots are fun, engaging, and require our students to think critically about the entire coding process.

In our Gifted and Talented Education Program (GATE), the students have taken coding to the next level. Currently the GATE students are working on programming and developing computer games. Using code blocks and JavaScript, they are even able to create games from scratch.

Through a recent grant from a local school credit union, Cerritos will soon be receiving a tech center pack of Dash and Dot Robots. Dash and Dot Robots come with cross-curricular, project-based lesson plans that cover the areas of math, science, ELA, social studies, and art. Through the use of apps that introduce the fundamental concepts of coding, these Dash and Dot robots can bring coding to life in a variety of ways.

As education and technology are continuously evolving, our Cerritos Cheetahs are excited to be applying their 21st-century skills to real-world applications. With an emphasis on the four C's of communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity, our students definitely enjoy digging deeper into STEM.

Holder *School*

9550 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/236-3840 • www.savsd.org/Schools/Holder/holdhome.html



Dr. Jerry Friedman
Principal

Two Magnificent Programs!

In May 1997, the National Education Association (NEA) came up with a big idea. "Let's create a day to celebrate reading," the group suggested, according to the NEA's website. "...Why don't we do something to get kids excited about reading? We'll call it NEA's Read Across America, and we'll celebrate it on Dr. Seuss's birthday."

And so was born on March 2, 1998, the largest celebration of reading this country has ever seen.

At Holder School, we celebrate Read Across America with a week of activities that encourage students to read and that promote school spirit. For example, we may have a Hats Off to Reading Day in which students wear hats, or Crazy About Reading Day in which students come to school with crazy and creative hair styles. We also recruit community members, district office staff members, school board members and other guests to visit a Holder classroom and read a story. A schoolwide assembly where students perform is also held in conjunction with Family Reading Day, when family members are invited to bring some books to school and read with their children around the campus. Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!

This year at Holder School, students are using the iReady software program. IReady is an adaptive diagnostic for reading and mathematics that pinpoints student needs down to the subskill level; it provides lessons and practice at students' instructional levels. Students can even access the program from home!

Students recently completed the second diagnostic, and teachers are collaboratively looking at the data and designing lessons and interventions to best meet student needs. We are optimistic that this new instructional tool will ultimately increase student achievement and assist with ensuring that all students' academic needs are met—keep up the hard work, Holder Hawks!

Hansen *School*

1300 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3835 • www.savsd.org/Schools/Hansen/hanhome.html



Tracy Goodspeed
Principal

Practicing Kindness

Our sixth-grade students at Hansen Elementary School had a wonderful opportunity to partake in an anti-bullying workshop. Our sixth-grade students started by writing hurtful words that they had heard, either words that they had overheard being spoken to someone else or words that had been spoken to them. They then shared these words aloud. The students had a great discussion about the impact of these hurtful words.

The students and teachers also had a conversation about social media and their potential to cause hurt. It was powerful for the students to hear, "If you wouldn't say it to a person's face, then don't type it on social media." They then brainstormed positive words that they could say to a classmate or friend instead of hurtful words.

Each group of students was given a scenario of a student who was being bullied, and they created a skit to act out on how to be kind instead of hurtful in that situation. The skits were engaging to watch, and the students did a great job with their acting!

There were meaningful conversations about the difference between joking, a conflict, a one-time comment, and bullying. Many students had a learning moment when they realized that some of the things they thought were just joking really weren't. The students also learned how to practice kindness, signed a pledge, and created kindness postcards to start practicing kindness immediately.

Overall, the workshop was a success, and our Hansen students are showing kindness even more!

Twila Reid *School*

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



Erin Helenihi
Principal

Meeting Student Needs

Twila Reid School has an outlook that's refreshing. While we continue to focus on the established goals and successes of our students, our teachers and support staff are also working together to look at a new way of reaching these goals.

We actively support our school community with a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). We know that our students will be successful if they have consistent attendance to hear instruction and practice concepts; the opportunity to receive instruction at their level of need (whether remediation or enrichment); and, a stable, positive environment where they can feel safe and secure.

We are specifically focusing on the areas which can affect positive growth. As such, we have effective attendance-incentive programs, and also make regular contact with our families to improve student attendance. To ensure instruction at every area of need, we also have a "Walk to Read" program called "Reading Round Up" in which our students receive leveled instruction.

In addition, our students and teachers continue to focus on positive behaviors through our Positive Behavior Intervention System. By focusing on positive behaviors, and creating a positive atmosphere, we are making strong improvements every day.

We have also added a new position in order to further support our teachers and students. This year we have two Title I teachers. Our Title I teachers have always provided support in academics, but this year we are now addressing the needs of those students who struggle in school because of negative behaviors.

These new Title I teachers can provide behavioral and social/emotional instruction in a proactive way. By addressing the behavioral, social, and emotional needs of these students, we are able to help them make greater gains in academics.

Our Twila Reid teachers and support staff are focusing on the needs of the "whole" student, which allows our children to reach their goals more effectively.

Fun Story



Richard J.

The Popularity Papers The Awesomely Awful Melodies of Lydia Goldblatt and Julie Gram-Chang is written by Amy Ignatow



After the break the BFFs Julie and Lydia get inspired to start a band along with their friend Roland and an uninvited drama queen Jane. However, none of the friends can play well (or even anything at all, to be perfectly honest), so it is a rough journey until they are finally somewhat good to play for a birthday party. They realize too late that the birthday party they are booked for is princess-themed for a 7 year-old girl. However, “the show must go on” and the friends perform the best way they know how. But the party turns into a mad riot (guess why?) This piece of disaster news travels back to school with completely unexpected results. The rumor had it that they were so good they caused a riot! Of course, only the “riot” part was true. Interestingly, it boosts the friends’ popularity at school, which they were trying to achieve for a long time.

It is a fun story with unexpected ending and I liked reading it. I give it 5 out of 5 stars.

Richard J. is a third grader. Richard likes math, playing sports, physical activities like bike-riding and running, reading and spending time with his family.

Interesting Problematic Cycle



Christina J.

The Secrets to Ruling School (Without Even Trying) by Neil Swaab



The story is written in third person, and plays out as smoothly as a movie. You are a new student at William H. Taft Middle School and are approached by Max Corrigan, your life coach, who will help you to become popular among the cliques at school, so you start by trying to join into the Class Clown table that won’t let you in, unless you can get them a good artists for their comics, so you go to a good artist who agrees to help you, only if you get the Band geeks away from their table at the cafeteria, so she can display her graffiti on that wall, they agree to leave, but only if you help them raise money to save their Music program, so you ask a rich girl for money, she agrees to help, but only if you rig the football team to lose, so she could win a bet... and this interestingly problematic cycle continues on and on, until you reach your goal. I really liked reading this book, so I will give it 5 out of 5 stars.

Christina J. is an 8th grader. Christina is a hard-working student who did a community service project “Quilts for the cold” last school year. She is an avid reader, who enjoys some peace and quiet with a good book about some great adventure. Christina is a young author herself. In 5th grade she wrote a book *Melody’s Stories: I Am a Spy Now*, published by Studenttreasures Publishing (PIN #3582798).

Adventures - Word Search Contest

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

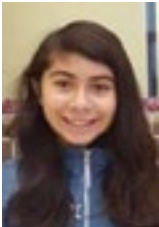
Entries must be received by April 15, 2018
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| CRUISE | CLIMBING | SIGHT SEEING |
| JET PLANE | SURFING | MUSEUMS |
| HIKE | GEOCACHING | GALLERIES |
| MINING | BIRDWATCHING | RIVERBOAT |
| RAFTING | SCUBA DIVING | SAILING |
| FISHING | SNORKELING | ROAD TRIP |
| HUNTING | THEME PARK | ZIP LINE |

Congratulations to **Shane Lockridge**
Winner of theNovember Word Search Contest!



An Emotional Book



Isabella A.

My Secret Guide to Paris is a marvelous book written by Lisa Schroeder.

I would recommend having a box of tissues nearby because it is a very emotional book. Nora's grandma is always talking about taking a trip to Paris.



The author shows the picture of the loving relationship Nora and her grandmother Sylvia have and of the trip they plan to take to Paris. The first chapter is very emotional as Nora feels like she is walking on clouds when suddenly they disappear along with her grandma after a tragic accident. Grandma created a treasure hunt for Nora and she decides to go to Paris to find the treasure her grandma left her. So, will Nora's mom come on the trip? Will Nora find the treasure her Grandma left? What will it be?

The author is very good at creating feelings for the characters and making them very sweet. I would rate this book five stars. It is a great book and I loved it.

Isabella is a 6th grader who loves to read, write, volleyball and plans on becoming an author of children's books. She rates books 1-5 stars with 5 being the best.





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