Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, & Savanna

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 37 MAY 2016

By Norma Martinez, Superintendent Centralia School District

As I reflect on my first year as superintendent in this dynamic district of ours, I must gush with pride. We are a district dedicated to excellence in all areas of our programs, and our achievement is evident in our work. It is appropriate to pause and celebrate the achievements of our young scholars, the support of our parent community, and the dedication of our staff!

We began the school year celebrating our students' achievement on the new California Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) test. Our baseline data reaffirms that we continue to provide a quality instructional program that sets a strong foundation for our scholars for the academic rigors of high school and beyond.

I am proud to announce that two of our schools, San Marino and Los Coyotes Elementary Schools, will be receiving the 2016 California Gold Ribbon Award. The California Gold Ribbon Award is similar to the California Distinguished School Award. This award is a testament to the cohesive vision of excellence that is supported by each school's administrator, staff, community, and



students. Congratulations to San Marino and Los Coyotes!

These awards are added to a host of recognition already enjoyed by our schools: California Distinguished Schools—Los Coyotes Elementary School, San Marino Elementary School, and Miller Elementary School

California Title I Achieving Schools—Centralia Elementary School and San Marino Elementary School

Campaign for Business and Education Excellence Star Schools—Buena Terra Elementary School, Centralia Elementary School, Danbrook Elementary School, Dysinger Elementary School, Miller Elementary School, San Marino Elementary School, and Raymond Temple Elementary School

Campaign for Business and Education Excellence Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) School—Dysinger Elementary School

Campaign for Business and Education Excellence Scholar School—Los Coyotes Elementary School

California Human Relations Commission Distinguished School—Centralia Elementary School

In March, Centralia School District hosted a Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math (STEAM) Innovation Day for approximately 200 gifted and high-achieving students, who attended a Saturday session at San Marino School. The district offered more than 13 enrichment sessions, thanks to the efforts of the presenters, who volunteered their time to deliver dynamic, hands-on presentations to our students in topics as diverse as pet ownership, self-defense, robotics, electrical circuitry, theater arts, stained glass art, American Sign Language, and more. We appreciate our partnership with the Orange County Animal Rescue Coalition, California State University, Fullerton, Young Rembrandts, EMarie Designs, and our parents and staff who volunteered their time! Following is a code to allow you to view a video from the conference.

Centralia School District is also proud to announce that we have joined the Orange County STEM Ecosystem Institute. This partnership will increase our collaboration with the Tiger Woods Learning Foundation and will help our district move forward in the next phase of implementation for STEM.

See Centralia • Page 4

Summer Fun At the Cypress Library

By Stephanie Anson, Children's Librarian

Here are our upcoming summer programs at the Cypress Library for children aged six to twelve.

We will be having a Prescriptive Pets Story Dogs activity. Come read to therapy dogs on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 6-7 p.m. Program dates are June 1, June 15, July 6, July 20, August 3, and August 17.

Avoid the "Summer Slide" by joining the Library's Summer Reading Challenge either online or at the site. Read books, earn badges, and come to great events! The activity runs from June 13–31.

Our Great Race Magic Show is on June 13 for children from age six to twelve. Come enjoy a comedy and magic show. Our Wild Wonders animal show is also for children age six to twelve on June 20, at 2 p.m.

Our Field Day will have an obstacle course, races, and much more! It will be held outside of the Library on July 11 at 2 p.m. for children age six to twelve. California Joe will also be using his magical talents for exploration on July 18 at 2 p.m.

Our Fantastick Patrick "One Man Circus Band" is a juggling/comedy/circus act that will be held outside the Library on July 25 at 2 p.m. And from August 1-31, the children will get a free meal at a local restaurant for reading five books!

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Covering the CENTRALIA, CYPRESS, & SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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Kay Coop Founder/Publisher



Here we are at the end of another school year. In this issue you will read about the eventful year beginning with the Centralia School District Superintendent's article on the front page. Each district has much to be proud of and they are already planning for next year as the students plan their summer break.

Thank you for including *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is September 7. Until then have a wonderful summer and remember to include the library among your activities.

Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 800-MEMORIAL • MillerChildrens.org/Kohls-Cares

The Importance of Bike/Helmet Safety



Aileen Imai Injury Prevention Coordinator, Kohl's Cares Injury Prevention Program, Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

At Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach, pedestrian-automobile incidents are the number one reason kids are rushed into the trauma center. This ranking could be lowered, and accidents prevented, if individuals follow proper safety protocols when walking or riding their bike.

California law requires anyone under 18-years-old wear an approved helmet when riding a bicycle. Many children ride bicycles, skateboards or scooters without the appropriate helmet, and something as simple as a fall to the ground can be life changing.

The Kohl's Cares Injury Prevention Program at Miller Children's recommends important pedestrian, bike and helmet safety tips, including:

- Wear a helmet that is buckled and fits
- Helmets should bear a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) label certifying that it meets or exceeds the safety standards
- Ride on the sidewalk
- Obey all traffic signals
- Wear bright colors and reflectors
 Avoid riding at night or in the rain
- Check brakes and ensure your tires have air
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing the street
- Cross streets only at traffic lights, stop signs or cross walks
- Stop, look both ways, and listen before crossing the street

Although some tips might seem obvious to you as a parent, they may not be obvious to your child. Making sure your child knows proper helmet and bike safety is important, and can help prevent a major fatality in an accident.

Kohl's Cares and Miller Children's care about the children in our community. For more information on pedestrian, bike and helmet safety, visit MillerChildrens.org/Kohls-Cares.



Centralia School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Summer: A Time for Learning

By Norma E. Martinez, Superintendent

Our Centralia School District (CSD) students will be on vacation from May 30 to August 9. Though school may be closed, the mind remains open and ever ready to continue to grow and expand. We wish to support parents who are eager to have their children continue their learning during this time.

Norma Martinez

Extended Learning Opportunities

Online learning: Centralia School District will continue to maintain the current online programs for the duration of summer. Students can log onto our Web site at www.cesd.us, select their school, and click on the "Educational Websites" tab to access instructional programs they have been using all year.

Partnership with the Buena Park Public Library: CSD enjoys a strong partnership with the Buena Park Library. They have an exciting summer learning program and many free programs for children of all ages, toddlers to

Parents who wish to enroll their children in our kindergarten or Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program may continue to do so at the district office.

Tips for School Readiness

Summertime is the perfect opportunity to get your preschooler ready for kindergarten! It will be a great time to support your child by spending a little time at home with some of these activities.

Start by visiting your local library to introduce children to books. Reading to your child for 15 minutes each night and at the same time is an easy way to practice and introduce the sounds of the letters. This builds the concept of print, and children begin to understand that letters form words.

Another activity you can do at home is math. Help your child count from one to 100. You can also use objects in your home to count, add, and subtract. For example, if we have two apples and we buy three more, how many will we have?

An additional activity to help your child to prepare for kindergarten is writing. Help your child to practice printing his or her name. This can be done by having your child practice signing greeting cards given to friends or

These simple activities give your child a great kick start and will help your child to be prepared for kindergarten before the school bell rings!

Summer Feeding Program

This summer, Centralia School District will open the doors to three of our school sites to provide free meals to children throughout the district and surrounding communities.

Children dining at the Summer Food Service Program can expect to find several made-from-scratch options at every site as well as cold sandwiches, salads, fresh fruit, whole-grain snacks, 100-percent fruit juice, and ice-cold milk. The Food Services Department also uses this program to test new recipes and solicit feedback from participants in the program. In a way, the diners from the Summer Food Service Program assist in shaping and refining the menu for the upcoming school year.

For more information, please visit www.cesd.us/summerfood.

In March, Centralia School District hosted a Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math (STEAM) Innovation Day for approximately 200 gifted and high-achieving students, who attended a Saturday session at San Marino School.



This QR code allows you to view a video from the conference.

Centralia School District Board of Trustees











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Art Montez President Clerk

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Henry Charoen Member

Dennis Salts Member

Celebrating Student Success • From Page 1

Student Winners

Every year, our teachers select art competitions for their students' participation. We have many thriving artists in our district, and it is fantastic when our teachers offer them the opportunity to participate in contests, so their art skills can be recognized by others. Congratulations to our young winners who received recognition this year:

Orange County California Association of School Transportation Officials (CASTO) Bus Poster Contest—Paulina H., Centralia Elementary School

Buena Park Elementary Art Show—Caleb H., Jaden K., Krishna P., Sean H., and Jayden V., Los Coyotes Elementary School

2016 Metropolitan Water District Calendar—Sujit K., Miller Elementary School

Employees of the Year

Annually, the Centralia School District recognizes two individuals who epitomize the best attributes of our classified and certificated staff. These employees are secretly nominated, and we have a stringent process to review the applications and observe, interview, and select the individuals. Congratulations to our winners:

Patty Jansen, a data Analyst in the Student Services Department, was selected as the Centralia School District Classified Employee of the Year. Patty is a true team player, providing support to her department, her colleagues, and parents. She is empathetic and caring and epitomizes the classified spirit of helping and supporting others.

Amanda Ocampo, a teacher at Dysinger School, was selected as Centralia School District's Teacher of the Year. She is a truly exceptional and inspirational instructional leader with students and staff, an innovator of pedagogy and instructional technology, and an overall extraordinary classroom teacher.

Strong Parent Support

Each of our schools benefits from strong and vibrant parent leadership. Whether in our Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs), Parent Teacher Student Organizations (PTSOs), School Site Councils, English Language Advisory Councils, or District English Language Advisory Council, our parent volunteers work collaboratively with our site principals to provide strong enrichment programs and activities for our students at each school. A huge thanks to each of our PTA, PTSO, School Site Council, and English Language Advisory Council presidents across the district this year. With their support, our students have opportunities to participate in special assemblies and field trips. This year, our parent groups have also donated funds to our schools to augment our technology integration initiative.

I encourage our families and community members to log onto www.cesd. us regularly to tour the Web site to learn more about our district and schools and keep current about happenings at our schools and around the district. As you read about the celebrations that each of our principals has highlighted in this issue, I hope you agree that the Centralia School District is...Dedicated to Excellence!

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, our staff members, and myself, I wish all of our families a wonderful end to a successful school year and a great summer! The first day of school for the 2016–2017 school year is August 10. See you then!

Buena Terra Elementary

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



Dr. Dominic Nguyen *Principal*

Join the Fun

Buena Terra Elementary has been serving the families of our community since 1957. Many of our students' parents remember attending Buena Terra, and they now walk their own children to school for the daily morning flag assembly.

Our faculty and staff members pride themselves on providing students with rigorous yet well-rounded, academic instruction. Our artistically inclined students have the opportunity to express themselves through Meet the Masters, Young Rembrandts, and the Reflections programs, as well as a choir that has served the community for the last 20 years.

In addition, every April the faculty leads our young athletes to compete in the Buena Park Track and Field Meet. This year our PTA has hosted Movie Night, Trunk or Treat, the Daddy/Daughter Dance, and Mother/Son Date Night to help bring the community and the school together. All are welcome to join the family fun at Buena Terra.



Danbrook Elementary

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



Erasmo Garcia Principal

Millions of Words!

Danbrook has had an amazing year with a lot to celebrate. Our tiered Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program is stronger than ever, with students earning CARE cards and exchanging them for meaningful community-building activities. Our parent-involvement program has grown to where we constituently have over 40 parents taking advantage of our biweekly workshops and meetings.

Meanwhile, our students have learned that an education is something that you seek out and own. Our Reading Olympics has

brought out the love of reading in our students. Sixth-grade student Irmalulu Corona has read over 2.3 million words since the beginning of the school year and successfully passed the Accelerated Reader tests on the books containing those words. Schoolwide, we have read nearly 114 million words with two months of school left. We will certainly reach our 150 million word challenge by the end of the school year.



Centralia Elementary

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



Tia Brown *Principal*

Partnerships with Parents

As the year draws to a close, Centralia is excited about the work we've done, and we celebrate our success. We are abuzz about the wonderful opportunities created through collaboration. Our teachers continue to receive and provide training and professional development in ELA and math to better prepare our scholars for 21st century learning. Centralia has created opportunities to further learning by building partnerships with parents for students' academic success.

This year, teachers led parent-student workshops to address how to use technology to help their children with school. Additionally, workshops were held to address positive approaches to accountability and motivation, and the importance of ongoing home-school communication



Teacher, student, and parent working together (Home- School Connection)

to students' academic success.
These workshops have cultivated relationships because students are developing necessary skills to ensure success in the classroom while parents build their skills to support them.

Great job, Centralia Bees! We are looking forward to celebrating more successes next year.

G.H. Dysinger Elementary

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

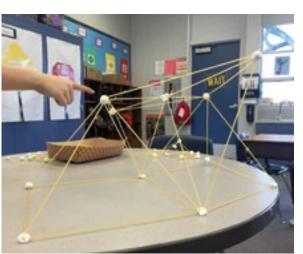


Shawn Stuht
Principal

STEAMing Things Up!

As an Honor Roll and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) school, Dysinger Elementary School has made the decision to progress and dedicate ourselves as a Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math (STEAM) school. All kindergarten through sixth-grade students participate in Common Core STEAM instruction, engaging in rigorous, handson lessons integrating disciplines and preparing students for college and careers in STEAM.

Some ways students prepare for college and careers are by: using geometric shapes to create still life paintings; constructing boats with foil and experimenting with buoyancy thresholds; designing an assembly line using industrial engineering and experiencing productivity, efficiency, and the quality of the end product; designing and building multi-level, earthquake-



proof structures; translating real problems into programs and practicing communicating ideas through codes and symbols; modifying balloons filled with helium to hover at a designated height; and experimenting with marshmallow launchers to determine how the weight of an object and the force applied determine the trajectory.

Dysinger students are ready for their future!

Los Coyotes Elementary

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



Robyn Yarbrough Principal

Community Recognitions

Los Coyotes School looks upon several accomplishments with PRIDE (Positive, Respectful, Integrity, Dependability and

The first year of the CAASPP/SBAC testing results provided an excellent foundation on which to build. Our students successfully scored higher than the state average by 35 percent in ELA, and 44 percent in math. We strive for growth in this area, and look forward to improving on our current 79 percent proficiency rate in ELA, and 77 percent in math.

Of special note are the many well-rounded after-school programming and special events enjoyed by our students and families. For students, Los Coyotes offers music, art, and chess instruction as after-school programming for a fee. The students can also become involved in our annual Talent Show or Kids Run the OC event.

Additionally, there are always ways for families to enjoy a sense of community here at Los Coyotes, with events such as movie nights, bingo night, our community carnival, astronomy night, parent workshops, book fairs, Santa Shop, the La Palma Days Parade, and the Red Ribbon Week Challenge in the Park.

This year our school was also honored with the California Department of Education's Gold Ribbon Award, a new award in its inaugural year for elementary schools. It is similar to the California Distinguished School Award that Los Coyotes won in 2014, and we look forward to receiving it this month.

We were also pleased to receive the California a row.



Business for Education Excellence Scholar Award (for high-performing schools) for the fourth year in

G.B. Miller Elementary

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



Gerald Shaw Principal

Exchange Between Generations

This year, Miller staff implemented a "Reaching the Aged Community through Education" (RACE) program in which our students connect with residents of a senior-living complex.

"We are hoping that the students gain a sense of community, sense of appreciation for their elders, and gain pride in helping others by sharing their time with them," said teacher Angela Larzo. "The students read books, sing songs, and interview residents in order to write informational essays using Thinking

Through continuing education and professional development, we find and implement exciting new strategies and innovative, creative ways to expand our students' horizons. We believe that all students can learn, and it's our goal to give them a positive learning environment.



Our parents take an active role in educating our students. We appreciate them greatly for their dedication and countless volunteer hours. Our parents, business partners, teachers, staff and students are all key components to our successful learning community

San Marino Elementary

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



We are RAMtastic!

San Marino Rams are having a RAMtastic year moving toward being identified as a Gold Ribbon School without a site validation visit as a result of receiving an exceptionally high score on the Gold Ribbon School application. This accolade is the result of the hard work and dedication of the students, staff and families of the school

Dr. Stacy Chang Principal

San Marino is being recognized for making great progress in implementing academic content and performance standards for all students through the Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) that provides an integrated, comprehensive framework that focuses on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), core instruction, differentiated learning, student-centered learning, individualized student needs, and the alignment of systems necessary for academic, behavioral and social success.

As a part of MTSS, San Marino is implementing PAL, Peer Assistance Leadership and Peer Conflict Managers in collaboration with Orange County Department of Education. Students are trained to be leaders now and are encouraged to be RAMtastic community members who are Respectful, Act Kindly, Make Responsible Choices, and are Safety-Minded. Go RAMS!



San Marino PALs with PAL Advisors Vivian Martin, Melissa Chavez, and Katherine Mosier.

Raymond Temple Elementary

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



Sixth-Grade Swan Song

This time of year is bittersweet for our sixth-grade students. As junior high approaches, they realize that they have reached the end of elementary school.

Although it can be a sad time to leave a place that many have called home for so long, it is a good time to celebrate their various accomplishments.

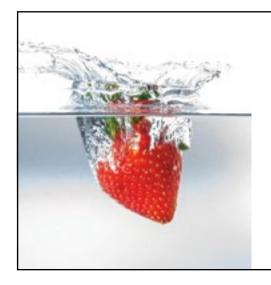
Sara Pelly Principal

The sixth-grade promotion ceremony provides an opportunity for family and friends to celebrate student success. Through the President's Education Awards Program, students are chosen for their educational excellence, for which they must maintain a high grade point average from the fourth through sixth grades.

The Award for Educational Achievement is given to students who show growth and leadership. Our Raymond Temple Outstanding Student and Achievement Awards recipients also give a speech to accept the recognitions in front of their peers.

It is a time to celebrate the successes of our wonderful sixth-graders!





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cademic Tutoring Program available for K-6th Mon & Wed Cost: \$35 (2 sessions/wk)

Cypress School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Anne Silavs

Recognizing Resilience, Perseverance, and Student Success

Each year, the Association of California School Administrators sponsors the Every Student Succeeding program, which recognizes students across the state who have overcome adversity or other life challenges to find success in school. In the spirit of this program and through the generous support of our local Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs, the Cypress School District hosted its first annual Every Student Succeeding Breakfast, at which we honored students from throughout the Cypress community who have succeeded despite personal obstacles.



First annual Every Student Succeeding Breakfast

The event was held on April 7, 2016, at the Cypress Community Center and included Cypress School District schools as well as private schools and schools in the Anaheim Union High School District that are located in the city of Cypress. In addition to family members, teachers, and school administrators, who were all present to show their support, a variety of city leaders were in attendance, too. Following the breakfast, students were individually recognized for their personal successes and then awarded medals in celebration of their accomplishments.

It was truly a very moving and inspirational event. We look forward to hosting the second annual Every Student Succeeding Breakfast in our community next year!

Cypress School District Board of Trustees



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Arnold Elementary

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

Denine Kelly Principal

Math Team Shows Its Stuff!

Students from A.E. Arnold School in Cypress recently competed in the Math Olympiads Tournament held in Culver City. Over 150 "Mathletes" competed, representing 28 schools from the Los Angeles and Orange county areas.

Arnold students earned third place in team competition. Individual student winners from Arnold included Shreyas Koppula in second place and Peter Park in third place. Arnold School is extremely proud of these students and our entire math team. Under the direction of teachers Katie Pham and Jan

Wright, they worked countless hours after school in preparation for this event. Arnold's Math Team will compete in the Orange County Math Field Day on May 14, where they will compete against schools from across Orange County and hope to repeat their 2015 Rubik's Cube Challenge title!



Bell Tran, Brian Kim, Evan Huang, Peter Park, Alex Do, Shreyas Koppula

King Elementary

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



Carol Erbe Principal

Music Appreciation

King School has participated in the Pacific Symphony's Class Act program for 10 years. This year our students have explored the theme of "Forces of Nature" through the music of Vivaldi, a famous Italian composer.

A highlight of this program is our annual Family Night, which brings our school community together to learn more about our composer of the year and elements of his music. On February 25, Mike Hoffman, our professional musician/instructor, and his brass quintet provided an hour-long concert. Although the focus

was Vivaldi, the four seasons, and the forces of nature, the quintet touched on so much more. Parents, students, and staff members were able to enjoy each other's company, share their love for music, and meet other musicians from the Pacific Symphony. Students were able to identify some of the music, patterns, and history and share with their parents what they learned about the composer of the year.



Mr. Yoon, parent representative, and Mrs. Milkes, teacher representative, flipping a sign to advertise the concert.

Landell Elementary

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



Dr. Rena Gibbs *Principal*

Leopards Give Back

The Landell community recently came together to make a difference in the lives of children with cancer.

Our Student Council sponsored a three-week "Pennies for Patients" drive to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The group made signs and dropped off donation boxes in each classroom to encourage our students to contribute to this worthy cause

The third week of the drive coincided with Landell's Random Acts of Kindness Week, so the school combined the two worthy



Student Council gathering the donation boxes

causes. To increase unity and continue to raise funds for the drive, they also decided to sell paper hearts for a Kindness Tree. For just 25 cents the students could buy a heart, write a message about a friend or staff member on it, and then attach it to the Kindness Tree.

These efforts helped raise our school spirit, and also raised \$2,600.40 for children with cancer. Way to go, Team Landell!

Luther Elementary

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



Jacki Teschke Principal

Coders Compete in Hackathon

Partnering with Oxford Academy's National Honors Society, students from several Cypress Elementary Schools competed in a "Hackathon" at Luther School's STEM Fair. The purpose of the competition was to allow students to have an authentic opportunity to apply what they learned in their coding class provided by Oxford Academy students to create an interactive computer program.

Students were invited to code an original Scratch project



Luther Students Lanna Gale and Jillian Penaredonda use their coding skills to compete in Luther's first Hackathon.

based on a given theme. The winning projects were selected based on how well the program performed against a rubric that measured the team's ability to program movements, create a scorekeeping system, write clean code, and use sound, among other criteria.

"The competition was challenging because we had to think up an original idea for a program and then code it so that it worked," Luther student Lanna Gale said.

Morris Elementary

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



Lori Hernandez *Principal*

A California Green Ribbon School

Juliet Morris Elementary School has been recognized by the California Department of Education as a 2016 California Green Ribbon School, Silver Level, because of its excellence in resource efficiency and environmental education.

The award is based on demonstrated progress towards three pillars: reduced environmental impact, improved health and wellness, and effective environmental education, which incorporates STEM instruction (science, technology, engineering, and math).

Teachers and staff at Morris develop environmental literacy

through a variety of school programs and hands-on experiences, which include recycling, gardening, and composting. We have a Kid Fit indoor workout room and a partnership with the U.S. Tennis Association to improve student fitness.



Kindergarteners, along with their teacher Mrs. Bell, work to help maintain the Morris garden.

Working with both parents and the community, our staff is committed to empowering and educating responsible 21st-century learners who will become tomorrow's engineers and policy leaders. This award represents the hard work of innovative teachers and committed parent volunteers who always go the extra mile for our students.

Vessels Elementary

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



Helen Lu *Principal*

Building Compassion, Confidence, and Caring

Vessels Elementary is a unique school in the Cypress School District. Our population includes over 30 students from the Greater Anaheim Special Education Local Plan Area Regional Autism Program.

For several years the school staff has coordinated the Bulldog Buddies Program to provide opportunities for our students from all grade levels to socialize and develop friendships. The program promotes respect, provides inclusion opportunities, and helps to develop leadership, communication, and social skills. The parents

assist with fundraising, and the community supports the program by providing additional funds, games, and materials.



Students participating in the Bulldog Buddies Program

The students look forward to spending recess with one another playing with dolls and cars, building magnetic towers, and playing kickball and other games. It is our hope that students will maintain positive relationships throughout their years at Vessels, as well as when they see one another in the community.

Savanna School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Sue Johnson

Letting Our Pride Show

As we look at our accomplishments during the 2015–2016 school year, we cannot help but let our pride show! When a school district holds great expectations and believes that the best opportunities are yet to unfold, wonderful things can happen for students. We have much to celebrate; our strong academic progress and laser-like focus on student achievement is yet one more example of how the combination of a rich, well-rounded curriculum, a highly qualified and caring staff, and a longstanding commitment to excellence is continuing to provide

our students with the opportunity to be prepared and successful 21st-century citizens. This is what Savanna has been and what we strive to be for every child every day. We are very proud of all the hard work and dedication to learning on the part of all of our students and staff!

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. We can't help but let our pride show with the selection of Mrs. Amy Slevcove as Savanna School District's 2017 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Slevcove has taught kindergarten at Cerritos School for the past eight years, helping to mold the next generation of children into contributing, productive citizens of the future. She is an integral part of Cerritos School's vertical team as well as the district's kindergarten team. She has recently been instrumental in the pilot of new math materials, assisting with the recommendation of new curricular resources for teachers. We're proud that Mrs. Slevcove is representing all of the outstanding teachers we have, demonstrating that Savanna truly is a special place to teach! This is certainly a cause for celebration; with teachers like Mrs. Slevcove and many more like her, our children will truly become our next generation's successful leaders.

We can't help but let our pride show in the selection of all four of our schools as Gold Ribbon Schools by the California Department of Education! Savanna School District is the only district in Orange County to have 100 percent of its schools receiving such an honor. It is because of the dedication, commitment, and expertise of our staff that each school has been honored with such a distinction. From Cerritos School's vertical teaming, where teachers work together to learn from each other, to Hansen School's Husky Time, where children receive additional support as a regular part of the school day and from Holder School's peer-to-peer lesson study to Reid School's Reading Roundup leveled reading program, each school was selected for this distinguished award based on their exemplary practices, which continue to focus on student success.

"The Best Is Yet To Come" can be evidenced in the way our students and staff have embraced the use of technology for both instruction and student learning. At our school Open Houses, visitors will be able to witness children demonstrating their proficiency using a variety of technological tools: from kindergartners who have learned to use the Popplet application to create thinking maps to first-graders who are able to demonstrate their typing skills to parents; from second-graders utilizing keyboarding skills on their reports, importing photos from various sources, and adding text boxes to fifth-grade students creating Explorer Want Ads on iPads; from students excited about sharing stories they create on iPads to classrooms with QR codes for visitors to use to listen to reports, read more about a topic, or view PowerPoint presentations; and from state reports in PowerPoint, complete with imported photos, transitions, and unique backgrounds, to children teaching their parents about the applications they use on the iPads, technology will be showcased throughout our schools during the Open House! We would love to share all the wonderful examples of student learning with our community and welcome you to attend any of the Open Houses scheduled during the month of May, where you will see firsthand why we are so proud of our students and staff!

Our pride also shows in the partnerships our schools have cultivated with our local community, providing a myriad of student support programs, demonstrating that "The Best Is Yet To Come." Our schools' commitment to exemplary programs that create safe and inclusive environments for all students can be evidenced at each site, some similar and others to meet the unique needs of the students, parents, and staff. Each school has completed their second full year of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) implementation, ensuring positive behaviors throughout the campus. Partnership programs have involved parents in school activities, from serving as greeters in the parking lot to assisting children at lunch, from volunteering in classrooms to reading with children throughout the school day, from welcoming dads as Watch Dads Of Great Students (DOGS) to a schoollevel VIP Club, our students are demonstrating good citizenship along with social and emotional growth, which will help them to become the leaders of tomorrow. Through partnerships with the city of Stanton and the Anaheim Police Department, we've been able to expand the Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (GRIP) program, offer parenting skills classes, provide high school aged "big brothers and big sisters," enhance counseling and anger management classes for students and families in need, expand after-school tutoring and homework help, provide free Boys and Girls Club memberships as needed, and recognize students for perfect attendance. Partnerships such as these are essential in providing our students with the support of the entire community to ensure their success!

Our partnerships with the Tiger Woods Learning Center, Ocean Institute, and California Polytechnic University, Pomona have provided additional interactive, hands-on experiences from highly skilled and credentialed staff committed to the success of every child, once again demonstrating that "The Best Is Yet To Come." The Tiger Woods Learning Center provides our fifth-grade students with the opportunity to explore careers in the sciences, including interactive, teacher-directed science experiences targeting an engaging career, Crime Lab 101. Our partnership with the Ocean Institute provides students at all grade levels with hands-on experiences in oceanography, with our fourth-through sixth-grade students being able to experience the ocean "up close and personal" aboard the R/V Sea Explorer. Once aboard, students study the effects of plate tectonics through the investigation of sea floor geology, sediment cores, microfossils, underwater archaeology, and underwater seismology as they take part in scientific sampling and exploration. Through our ongoing partnership with Cal Poly Pomona, we will once again be able to offer our Summer Academy, with a focus on science, technology, English-language arts, and math. Taught by teacher credential candidates, this program provides a hands-on focus for students to meet or exceed grade level standards in each of these core subjects over the summer. Partnerships such as these truly allow our students access to enhanced handson experiences in science, technology, and math! Truly, our successes are YOUR successes; it takes a village to raise a child, and our children are so very fortunate to be part of this great community and the many partnerships that support them. These partnerships demonstrate that "The Best Is Yet To Come!"

When I reflect on what makes a good school district a GREAT school district, I recognize that it is people: people like our staff, who are committed to what they do each day to ensure student success that we can be proud of; people like our parents, who provide the home support for our students so that they can reach their potential; and people like all those in our community, who have contributed to our successes in so many ways. Because of all of the support from a wide variety of people in our community, the 2015–2016 year has been a successful one in which we take tremendous pride, and..."The Best Is Still Yet To Come!"

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Briana Schnitzer Coordinator

Getting Ready for Summer

We are looking forward to another exciting summer in the Savanna School District! While most school districts have cut the funding for their summer programs, we will once again offer a Summer Academy program for our students.

Our summer program has continued to flourish for the past 11 years as a result of our ongoing partnership with Cal Poly Pomona. Through this distinct partnership, our Summer Academy classes are taught by teacher credential candidates from Cal Poly Pomona. These candidates are supervised by an

outstanding group of highly qualified master teachers from the Savanna School District.

Placing a strong focus on the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math, the students attending the program will receive highly engaging instruction to assist them in developing their college- and career-readiness skills, while also meeting the Common Core State Standards. Students will benefit from attending our Summer Academy by having daily access to a technology centered curriculum. Through the integration of technology learning centers, and access to student computers and iPads in each classroom, our Summer Academy Program will be infused with technological tools and resources. Students will have the opportunity to utilize and explore technology through a variety of project-based learning opportunities.

In addition to focusing on academic skills, the Summer Academy program will also concentrate on maintaining a positive school environment through the implementation of PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports). PBIS will uphold our efforts to provide school-wide systems of support that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors. In order to recognize students for appropriate and positive behavior, each student will have the opportunity to earn incentives and rewards during the summer. By implementing PBIS into our Summer Academy program, our students will be held accountable for exhibiting positive behavior just as expected throughout the regular school year.

Of course, we could not have a summer program without adding a splash of fun. Students enrolled in the Summer Academy will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of fun activities, such as weekly spirit days, field day, open house, and more! Knowing that good attendance is important to academic success, those students who finish the summer with perfect attendance (meaning no absences or tardies) will get invited to our end-of-the-summer perfect attendance celebration. This summer, each student with perfect attendance will also have the opportunity to be entered into a special drawing to win various prizes, including a tablet! With so much fun and excitement, your child will not want to miss out on this great opportunity.

Our Summer Academy Program is being offered to students who are currently enrolled in the first through fifth grades in the Savanna School District. For more information regarding our Summer Academy Program, please contact our District office at (714) 236-3800, or visit our website at http://www.savsd.k12.ca.us/AcademicSupportPrograms.html.

First Day of School August 8, 2016



(714) 236-3800 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us



2016-2017 Online Registration will open on June 13th

Returning Students and New Students

Registration for the new school year will be online. Additional information on how to register your child can be found by going to the Savanna School District website (www.savsd.k12.ca.us) and selecting the 2016-17 Registration tab on the left upper hand column.

If your child is entering either Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten

in 2016-2017, registration is now open. Additional information on how to register your child can be found by going to the Savanna School District website and selecting the 2016-2017 Kindergarten & Transitional Kindergarten Registration tab on the left upper hand column.

Cerritos School

3731 Cerritos St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3830 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us/schools/Cerritos/cerrhome.html



Shannon Wyatt Principal

Talking About Numbers!

Many students feel completely comfortable talking about letters, words, and sentences with their classmates, teachers, and families. From a very early age, parents and teachers are reading to children and helping them decode words and explore the world through language. Parents are continually talking about word meanings, word choices, and their connotation.

But something different is happening at Cerritos School: our students and teachers are having in-depth conversations about numbers!

One goal of the Common Core State Standards is for students to have a deeper conceptual and mathematical understanding. Previously, our students had been focused on using procedures correctly and getting the right answer, whether or not the procedure made sense to them. "Number Talks" now help students reason mentally with numbers. The goal is for students to develop a strong sense of the meaning of quantities and operations while gaining proficiency with mathematical practices.

Although it may not come naturally at first, our parents can develop the habit of talking about numbers as often as they talk about letters and words.

Here are some simple ways to work numbers into the conversation. Note numbers on signs when you're walking or driving with children. Ask children to count how many toys they're playing with, how many books they've pulled out to read, or how many pieces of food are on their plate. Use numbers when you refer to time, dates, and temperatures, such as how many hours and minutes until bedtime, how many weeks and days until a holiday, or the high and low temperatures the weatherman predicts for that day.

Working together, we can make math talks a regular part of our day!

Hansen School

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



Tracy Goodspeed Principal

Running for Fun

This year Hansen Elementary School's transitional kindergarten through sixth-grade students participated in our first annual Fun Run. This event was more than just running around a track. Our students prepared by training for weeks in advance. Our Fun Run committee spent hours planning, preparing, and setting up the event the morning of the big day. Students began by running from a designated starting point to a preselected station, where they had to do 10 repetitions of a specified activity before they could run to the next station.

Students participated in great exercises at each station, such as jumping jacks, burpees, toe touches, push-ups, side twists, sit-ups, and more.

The event started bright and early in the morning for our third- and fourthgraders, with even the sleepiest students out on the field exercising. All of the teachers were cheering on the students and even participated themselves! The music was playing to help keep everyone motivated and inspired. The event continued throughout the morning, with two grade levels participating at a time. Our small but mighty transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students really showed off their spunk and energy! Hansen students had prepared for weeks to give it their best effort, and it definitely showed! This event was proof that exercise and fun are a great combination. Great job, Hansen Huskies!

On May 12, Hansen School will host a talent show beginning at 4:30 p.m., followed by Open House at 6:30 p.m. Open House is a time for teachers and students to share with parents and community members all the hard work, time, and effort that goes into a school year. The classrooms will feature a plethora of student projects and work samples. Please join us for this special event!

Under the Sea – 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 June 15, 2016

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

ABALONE	CRAB	KRILL
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BARNACLE	DOLPHIN	PUFFERFISH
CLAM	HALIBUT	SPONGE
CLOWNFISH	EEL	SQUID
CORAL	FUGU	ZOOPLANKTON

Congratulations to Jacob Avila Winner of the March Word Search Contest!

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Е	L	٧	٧	R	Α	E	Р	1	Υ	В	L	Ν	Α
S	Н	C	L	0	W	N	F	1	S	Н	0	0	Н
В	Q	Х	Т	D	R	L	K	F	J	Н	Α	L	D
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Holder School

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



Dr. Jerry Friedman *Principal*

Helping Those in Need

Holder School recently applied for the California Gold Ribbon Award. This recognition was created to help honor our schools while the California Distinguished Schools Program is on hiatus, as our state is now transitioning to a new assessment and accountability system.

Although Holder recently received the California Distinguished School Award, we are so proud of the efforts of our students and staff members that we once again applied to be recognized for our outstanding achievement and instructional

practices! Upon completion of a site validation visit, we were informed that we would be recommended to receive the award. So in April, we received the official announcement: Holder School will be a recipient of the Gold Ribbon Award!

Upon hearing about the destructive impact that Cyclone Winston had on the island nation of Fiji, leaving 53,000 people homeless, we were all very devastated. When a Holder parent came into the office a few days later and informed us that her family has relatives who were severely affected there, our Holder Student Council went into action.

The Council created a flier that requested donations of gently used clothes, shoes, school supplies, and basic hygiene items. After only a week of collecting, we were able to prepare a number of bags that our parents could personally take or ship to help out those in serious need.

We are very proud of our Holder School students and staff members for going above and beyond to help others. It was very honorable and kind!



California Gold Ribbon Schools

A program for 2015-2016 which honors some of California's outstanding public schools. Schools that are selected demonstrate exemplary achievements in implementing state standards in priority areas.

We can't help but let our pride show in the selection of all four of our schools as Gold Ribbon Schools by the California Department of Education!
—Superintendent Dr. Sue Johnson



Twila Reid School

720 S. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3840 • www.savsd.org/Schools/Reid/reidhome.html



Hipolito Murillo Principal

Smarter Balanced Assessment

Students in grades three through six are participating in the Smarter Balanced Assessment. The Smarter Balanced Assessment utilizes computer-adaptive tests and performance tasks that allow students to show what they know and are able to do. This system is based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics. The Smarter Balanced Assessment System will generate individual student scores, achievement levels and descriptors that explain performance.

Fifth-grade students at Reid School participated in a weeklong educational program at the Tiger Woods Learning Center, where students learned about forensic science, including handwriting analysis, fingerprints/shoeprints, chromatography and using microscopes for investigation. While students participated in these interactive science and technology workshops, their classroom teachers received professional development focused on the skills needed to re-create the Tiger Woods Learning Center experience in their own classrooms. They explored the difference between science and technology while gaining a strong understanding of the engineering process through various activities that included building paper structures, tinkering with catapults, and constructing K'NEX bridges. The training they received demonstrates ways to incorporate positive youth development, science and the use of technology in their regular classroom environment.

Reid School's recent Spring Carnival was a tremendous success, thanks to our PTA made up of an active group of dedicated, committed parents and school staff. At the after-school Spring Carnival, students, parents and family members enjoyed a wide variety of carnival-style games and delicious food, and danced to DJ music. The Reid School PTA is always looking for additional volunteers—whatever time you can donate would be appreciated. Please stop in the school office to find out more information about how you can help. The Reid School PTA is an integral part of Reid School!

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Take Time to Thank a Teacher



Dr. Al Mijares Superintendent

When I remember my fourth-grade teacher, I see a woman with strawberry-blond hair wearing a prim dress. In my mind, she bears a close resemblance to the character Ethel Mertz from "I Love Lucy."

But Mrs. Crane's class was no sitcom. She was strict and taskoriented, and her students learned quickly that acting out would not be tolerated. At first we feared her. As time wore on, we feared disappointing her.

With May designated as National Teacher Appreciation Month, it's a fitting time to celebrate all the educators who inspire

and support students, and who drive learning forward by nurturing their aspirations as well as their aptitudes. It's important, too, to recognize those who have shaped our own lives. This column is about one in particular.

Mrs. Crane might seem an unusual nominee for favorite teacher. By today's standards, she wouldn't be perceived as especially warm or affable. But she showed love in other ways, teaching us with patience and holding us to the highest of expectations, no matter our socioeconomic backgrounds. And when she did flash a smile or send a compliment in your direction, it was currency.

By the time I reached the fourth grade at Eastman Elementary School in Los Angeles, my family had moved many times, and I honestly wasn't sure if I liked school. But something changed in that portable classroom building out on the Eastman blacktop, where many of us trekked from a nearby housing project.

Not once did Mrs. Crane express pity or make us feel like we were less than capable. Investing whatever time was necessary, she guided the class through the fundamentals of reading, teaching us to attack words with passion and vigor. We were going to spell these new words, pronounce them correctly and read them in context, and that was that.

Her patience and persistence solidified my ability to read that year, but her impact on my life goes much deeper. Mrs. Crane helped instill a love of learning, and her work opened my mind to receive inspiration from other great educators. That long list includes Mr. Massey, a gregarious junior high school social science teacher who acted out the parts of historical figures, and Mr. Purcell, a 10thgrade biology teacher who saw potential and encouraged me to pursue college.

Very recently, I was having a conversation about favorite teachers, and I was asked if I ever returned to Mrs. Crane as an adult to tell her of the profound impact she's had on my life. Sadly, the answer is no. Sometime after transitioning grade levels and changing schools, I lost track of my fourth-grade teacher.

In this month dedicated to honoring teachers, I hope you will learn from my missed opportunity. Tell your favorite teachers — and your children's favorite teachers — how much they mean to you. And to Mrs. Crane, and all of the Mrs. Cranes out there who have dedicated their lives to making a difference in the lives of children, holding them to nothing short of the highest standards, let me take this moment to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Lucy's Book Review

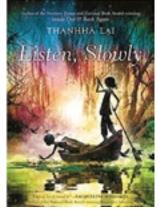
Fabulous!



Lucy Davis

Listen, Slowly Author: Thanhha Lai Summer has begun and Mai is looking forward to a beachfilled one. That is, before her parents ship her off to Vietnam with her grandmother, who hopes to find her husband that has been missing since the

Vietnam War. While in her home country, Mai discovers that Vietnam isn't just what she's



learned from documentaries, but a place full of people and excitement. When she befriends Ut, it's a bonus to her trip. Mai and Ut develop a friendship that keeps the book interesting, as they conspire to help Mai's grandmother find her husband. I chose this book so that I could learn more about where my mom and grandparents came from, and I really enjoyed it.

I give this book four bookworms out of five because of it's humor, love, and thoughtfulness.

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

Keira's Book Nook

First Book of a Series



Everyday Angel: New Beginnings By Victoria Schwab

This great emotion filled book is about two girls named Aria (a guardian angel) and Gabby Torres (whose brother is sick). Gabby is so worried about school, because she doesn't want anyone to discover her secret life. Then, Aria shows up! Aria knows exactly how to

help make Gabby feel better. Gabby is a normal girl except for the fact she keeps half her life a secret-

even from her mom! This book talks about why sometimes it's good to reveal your secrets. It's an example of how difficult things in your life don't have to be negative. Gabby is so worried about her brother that she forgets who she is. The story is about problems and solutions that came for Gabby in seventh grade. I can't wait to read the second book! I rate this book 5 apples.

Keira Fukuwa is a fourth grader. Besides reading, she enjoys soccer, jazz dance, crafts and cooking. Keira rates books 1-5 apples with 5 the best.

Note-ables

Build It Back Again



Kate Karp

I'm delighted whenever I come across a collection for children featuring music that isn't formulated, childishly cute or backed with electronic tracks. Build It Back Again by the Billy Jonas band is none of this, even with the use of a toy piano as a percussion instrument. The melodies are catchy compositions performed by a full range of vocal and instrumental masteryeven that little piano—and the lyrics do more than instruct and educate. They traverse sometimes wonky pathways to communicate profound messages of determination, maintaining

humanity in a technological world, balance and historical significance.

The title song features a strong tempo with words to match. From the architecture of ancient Greece to the ravages of Hurricane Katrina—and certainly not stopping there—the band sings of the resolve of the human spirit to rebuild, often in new ways. The rollicking "Monkeys Driving Cars" tells how necessary it is to advance ourselves as humans to the same extent as technology if we want to survive as people. In a primal atmosphere of percussion, "Moment of Noise" seamlessly transitions from the creation of the universe to thankfulness and appreciation for every little sound and what causes it.

The CD is heavy but not any means ponderous. The songwriters also love wordplay, especially as it increases vocabulary and wallows in punning, as in "Hairy," "Maybe Maybe Not" and "What Kind of Bear Are You?"

The Billy Jonas Band has dug a sturdy foundation in Build It Back Again" good stuff for any group discussion that involves young minds.

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



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