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School News

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Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, & Savanna

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NOVEMBER 2015–FEBRUARY 2016

Cypress School District STEM Ecosystem

By Anne Silavs, Superintendent
Cypress School District

The Cypress School District is a proud participant in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Learning Ecosystem Institute, a professional learning program designed to support the development and implementation of STEM-related educational programming for students at all levels: preschool, elementary, junior high, and high school. Back in January, this opportunity was made available to all Orange County (OC) school districts through a competitive application process, which ultimately identified only nine districts for participation in the program. Underwritten by a wide variety of organizations, the OC STEM Initiative has committed nearly \$500,000 to support professional development for educators as we prepare to implement the Next Generation Science Standards and expand STEM opportunities for all students.

In order to be competitive for the jobs of the future, we know our students will have an advantage if they possess a strong background in STEM-related study. Additionally, STEM programming also promotes the development of important



21st-century skills, including critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication. Our students' ability to use these essential skills will not only further their own personal successes in the workplace, but it will also benefit our society as a whole.

So, how does the concept of an ecosystem fit in? Derived from the study of ecology, an ecosystem involves interaction within a community of living organisms in a particular environment. In a more generic sense, an ecosystem can be defined as a network of interconnecting and interacting parts. Both

meanings can be applied to our effort to engage all stakeholders within the community in the process of supporting STEM education for our students. The STEM Ecosystem Leadership Team in Cypress includes district and site administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, and community partners, including the Boys and Girls Club of Cypress, the Tiger Woods Learning Center, and Inside the Outdoors. Working together, our team is designing instructional units around the principles of engineering that students will experience at each grade level. To ensure our students' STEM learning opportunities do not end in sixth grade, our team collaborates with the Anaheim Union High School District to provide students with a fully articulated instructional program that will continue through high school.

The Cypress School District is very fortunate to be a part of this groundbreaking program with OC STEM and its funding partners. We are excited about creating a vision for STEM programming in our district and expanding community involvement in our ecosystem. We know this important work we are doing today will help to develop the innovators of tomorrow!

Cypress Library Winter Events

By Stephanie Anson, Children's Librarian

Homework Help: Children kindergarten through eighth grade can drop in for free homework help on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Students can receive help with their homework on a first-come, first-served basis. The program is on hiatus after Dec. 9 and resumes Jan. 11.

Rookie Reader Program: Children in grades K through fifth are paired with a teen for one-on-one reading time. Program is held on Mondays from 5 to 6 p.m. in the Library Program Room. The program takes place Dec. 7 and 14; Jan. 4, 11 and 25; and Feb. 1, 22 and 29.

Toddler and Preschool Story Time Schedules: Toddler Story Time for ages 18 through 35 months begins at 9:30 a.m., and Preschool Story Time for ages 3 through 5 begins at 10:30 a.m. Story times include stories, music and rhymes. Story Time takes place Dec. 7 and 14; Jan. 4, 11 and 25; and Feb. 1, 8, 22 and 29.

Read to a Doggie: Dogs like stories, too! We have fun-loving pups that love being read to. Won't you come read to them? You can read to a doggie the first and third Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7 p.m. in the children's area. The program goes on hiatus in December.

OC Zoo: The Orange County Zoo will drop by with a few friends to talk to children about animals native to Orange County on Wednesday, Nov. 4, at 11 a.m.

Nutcracker Puppet Show: On Thursday, Dec. 10 at 3:30 p.m., come see "The Nutcracker" performed by the Luce Puppet Company.

Family Holiday Movies—Winter Wednesdays: Watch the following family-oriented winter films starting at 6 p.m.: *Home Alone*, Dec. 2; *Elf*, Dec. 9; *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, Dec. 16; and *The Polar Express*, Dec. 23.

Noon Year's Eve: Can't make it till midnight? Come ring in the New Year at noon on Thursday, Dec. 31 from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.!

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FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
ADVERTISING SALES: 562/493-3193
CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Meshel Negrete
COPY EDITORS:
Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia



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SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Neta Madison



School is well underway and students have already accomplished so much. This issue you'll learn about STEM, the importance of parent involvement, Project-Based Learning, service animals, and so much more! Thank you for being concerned and involved parents to help your children succeed.

If you have missed an issue, you'll find them posted on our web site www.schoolnewsrollcall.com.

Our next issue is March 2, 2016. In the meantime, have a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

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

What Changes after a Diabetes Diagnosis?



Mario Brakin, MD
Medical Director,
Endocrin,
Diabetes &
Metabolic Center

Having a child diagnosed with diabetes is a major event, but it's important to keep everything in perspective. Managed properly, diabetes shouldn't prevent your child from doing anything other kids do.

Think ahead: Form a consistent schedule, and carry around diabetes supplies, such as snacks and treatments for low blood glucose.

Take an active role in their health care: Arrange for routine follow-up visits, call your child's doctor if you have questions and become an advocate for their health.

Stay organized: Put your child's diabetes routine on the refrigerator or carry around an organized kit, labeling the items inside, and keeping spares on hand.

Communicate: Develop a system to help you and your child remember when and who gave medicines. Determine ways of keeping in contact with your child, their school and other caregivers. Post emergency numbers in a visible location. It can be helpful to others caring for your child.

Take care of yourself: When possible, share the load and try to do things together (e.g. draw insulin, discuss solutions). Parents need time to themselves, so educate other caregivers, such as babysitters, grandparents and older siblings, so you don't have to be with your child at all times.

Living with diabetes can be scary, especially at first. Diabetes has been added, but nothing about your child has been taken away. Sometimes diabetes can even be a positive change. If everyone improves their diet and exercises, this can be a healthy change for your family.



Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

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From tip-top head to itty bitty toes, Miller Children's is the leader in getting kids better.

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Our specialty:
**Pediatric
Diabetes**

Marcelino's specialty:
King of the Castle



Marcelino Jr., 4-years-old,
Miller Children's Diabetes Patient
is supported by a strong foundation:
Marcelino Sr., his father

Centralia School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Norma Martinez

Increasing Parent Engagement

In the Centralia School District, parent engagement is a year-long process that aims to increase active participation, communication, and collaboration between the school, the parents, and the greater community in order to ensure student achievement and success. Centralia School District is thankful to have the support of families from its nearly 4,500 students, who help us to educate our children by first creating a home environment that supports the success of each child. Our parents provide a place for their children to do their homework, ensure that children attend school on a daily basis, provide a healthy home environment (nutritionally, physically and emotionally), support our students to think about college and career readiness, and help our children set high expectations for success. On behalf of our district Board of Trustees, I thank all parents for the amazing effort at home to support our students.

Centralia School District is proud to partner with local parent leadership organizations, such as PTA and PTSO, to organize dynamic activities that promote school spirit and enhance the collaboration and commitment from home to school. All schools have a dedicated School Site Council, made up of parents and staff, as well as an English Learner Advisory Committee. These groups work hand in hand with our site leadership to measure the effectiveness of improvement strategies at school, review school goals, and monitor the implementation of the school plans.



The police officer is Buena Park Police Chief Cory Sianez, Raymond Temple teachers, parents and students.

As a district, we encourage parent participation through the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) process. Centralia's LCAP committee includes members of the community at large, as well as representative parents. The LCAP has revolutionized the level of engagement from our community/parent groups. The LCAP helps us focus on the eight state priorities: student achievement; student engagement; other student outcomes; school climate; parental involvement; basic services; implementation of state standards; and course access. We are increasing our efforts to reach out to parents for their feedback and seeking ways to increase their participation.

Our district is committed to improving our schools' levels of welcoming, engaging, and working with parents. Parents who are interested in joining a parent group may contact their school principal to participate in these important leadership roles.

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Buena Terra *Elementary*

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



Dr. Dominic Nguyen
Principal

Making a Difference

On Friday, September 25, the PTA hosted a Family Movie Night where approximately 300 students and family members gathered at Buena Terra for a showing of *Transylvania*. The movie night is just one of the many events and services that our PTA has planned for throughout the year to give back to our community.

Led by President Sarah Van Wie, Buena Terra's PTA has organized events throughout the year to help achieve their goal of bringing together parents, school faculty, students, and the community. The PTA has also brought the arts to our school by sponsoring programs like Meet the Masters and Reflections.

Many of our field trips are sponsored by the PTA. We also have a Birthday Book Club, where each student receives a free book from the PTA on their birthday.

These efforts make a significant difference in the education and quality of life of our students.



Danbrook *Elementary*

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



Erasmo Garcia
Principal

Parents Helping Parents

Danbrook's "Parents Supporting Parents" program provides parents with awareness of the issues that our students and families face and helps them develop an action plan. At a recent meeting, parents expressed a desire to learn more about the Common Core State Standards so that they can be better equipped to help their children succeed and be collaborating partners with the school as students become career and college ready. Teachers will soon provide workshops for parents to help them understand the Common Core State Standards and learn

what can be done at home to support students.

Building bridges from school to home results in a desire to support our school. One of our many opportunities for parents to do this is through our "Greeter Program," a team of parent volunteers who greet our students with welcoming smiles and giving them a positive experience as they enter our school.

Centralia *Elementary*

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



Tia Brown
Principal

Critical Parent Involvement

Research supports the idea that parental involvement is critical to school success. Schools that are highly effective share some common characteristics, among them strong teachers and leadership, high expectations, a positive school culture and climate, and high levels of parental involvement.

We offer a multitude of ways for parents and families to be involved and feel welcome at school. We recently held a Grandparents' Day picnic during lunch, where several grandparents arrived on campus armed with blankets, beach chairs and lunch to picnic with their grandchildren.

Many of our grandparents are primary caregivers and play a significant role in our students' lives by helping children become aware of the strength, wisdom and guidance older people can offer. Grandparents' Day was the perfect opportunity to educate them about how to engage with their grandchildren and to learn of parent workshops being offered by the school. At Centralia Elementary, our families are our partners!



G.H. Dysinger *Elementary*

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



Shawn Stuht
Principal

Parent Involvement

Active parent involvement is integral for student success. Dysinger Elementary School is committed to forming collaborations with parents that reflect the needs of all our families and students. We value school-based decision making that is inclusive of parents through diverse parent advisory committees and our PTA. A parent survey will be going out to all families in the first trimester in an effort to increase active parent engagement and involvement in their children's education.

As our community continues to change, we wish to increase school-to-home communication and determine what the specific needs of our families are in regards to strategies and techniques to aid in instructional

support, technology training and support, and community resource support. One of our largest modes of parent involvement is our PTA, which is instrumental in enhancing parent involvement. Dysinger's PTA works diligently, with great heart. These parents are the keystone to parent involvement at Dysinger.



PTA Board and Sixth Grade Committee members Cheryl Armstrong and Pam Gravel selling afterschool snacks for sixth grade activities.

Azusa Pacific University School of Education



Karina Quezada '08, M.A.Ed. '09 and '11
School Psychologist, Victor Elementary School District



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Los Coyotes *Elementary*

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



Robyn Yarbrough
Principal

Parent Involvement

Los Coyotes has a longstanding tradition of strong parental involvement. Our school truly has a partnership with families that support their students with a sense of academic achievement and emotional wellbeing.

We provide (and encourage) several ways in which our parents and other community members can become more engaged with

the school. Home and school communication is critical. To support this goal, we make full use of our school's website, as well as weekly schoolwide phone calls and emails, and also a new electronic marquee.

Parent volunteerism is actively recruited and supported. This in turn provides caring adults who offer their time to prepare classroom materials, work with students in classrooms, and assist with special events. Other ways in which parents can become more involved is by joining our spirited PTO. They can also become a part of our School Site Council, attend a Coffee Chat with the Principal, or go to one of our several Family Nights.

There is a continual on-campus parental presence that makes our school a hub of the community, and a very nice place to be.



Parents and teachers working together. That's Los Coyotes!

Raymond Temple *Elementary*

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



Sara Pelly
Principal

Parent Partnerships

Raymond Temple's classrooms were full of parents crowding in to hear our teacher presentations at the school's annual Back to School Night in September. Teachers discussed the Common Core State Standards, classroom rules, parent volunteer opportunities, as well as how parents can help their children at home.

During the principal's welcome, our parents were shown the importance of being involved with the PTA, ongoing communication with their teacher, monitoring children's use of technology, and supporting good attendance by signing the school's Attendance Pledge. They were also given an opportunity to take part in three district committees for math textbook adoption, the new report card, and to give input on our GATE plan.

Finally, the Centralia Superintendent's vision was shared. It aims to Cultivate Relationships, Create Opportunities, and Celebrate Successes; all together, as a strong team of students, parents, and teachers!

G.B. Miller *Elementary*

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



Gerald Shaw
Principal

Strengthening Family Skills

This year, we are partnering with the PTA to provide parent-education workshops, which are designed to strengthen families' knowledge and skills to support and extend their children's learning at home and in the community.

Our first workshop focused on student assessment with the implementation of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), the new online test in English language arts and math. Principal Shaw met with parents during the workshop to help them understand exactly what these results mean for our students and our district. He emphasized that these results are just a starting point—a baseline for the progress we expect students to make over time.

It really is a major change, and that change is why Miller staff is telling parents and community members that the CAASPP test is too fundamentally different from the old exams to make any reliable comparisons between old scores and new. No student, parent or teacher should be discouraged by scores, which will not be used to determine whether a student moves on to the next grade. These results will help guide discussions among parents and teachers and will assist Miller staff members to make adjustments in instruction to meet student needs.

Future topics for the parent education workshops may include cybersafety and social media, a better understanding of the Common Core, understanding children with autistic-like behaviors, and ensuring student learning. All parents, guardians and community members are welcome to attend.

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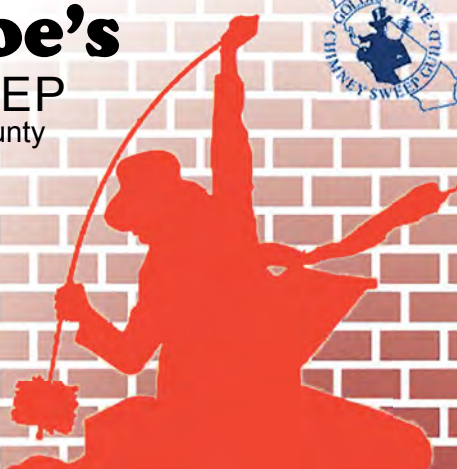
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Dr. Stacy Chang
Principal

Parent Involvement

Research has shown conclusively that, when parents are involved at school, their children experience more success academically. Parent involvement is most effective when it is comprehensive, supportive, long-lasting, and well-planned. In an effort to have successful parent engagement, San Marino Elementary School has created a comprehensive plan to increase involvement for parents and families. Through the efforts of volunteers recruited by PTA, special events have been created throughout the year, which will allow parents to enjoy numerous possibilities for supportive and well-planned parent involvement.

Currently, parents can attend Coffee Chats with the Principal throughout the year to learn about important topics such as Common Core State Standards, California Assessment of Student Progress and Performance/Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium testing, and other school programs. San Marino will continue the tradition of the Fourth-Grade Mother Daughter Tea, where girls learn about their changing bodies with their mothers by their sides. This event provides a beautiful experience for both the mothers and daughters to discuss female health/biology in a comfortable and structured setting. Furthermore, families will have opportunities to attend events to build community and increase connectedness with the school as they enhance academics for their children.

In collaboration with a nonprofit child advocacy organization, San Marino is hosting a free parent education program on campus for 10 weeks this fall. The program is designed to help parents network with other parents, strengthen their relationships with their children, and find positive approaches to parenting. Free child care is also provided through the program.

We strive to help our students go farther in school and in life by providing meaningful and comprehensive parent involvement opportunities to enhance the learning experience. Together with our parents, we will be the village to raise students who are ready for college and careers.

BILLY BEEZ
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*Dates apply to Centralia, Cypress Savanna District only. For full contest rules, visit us.billybeez.com. Exclusions may apply. See store for details.

We Love Our Dogs 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 December 15, 2015.
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

Akita	Dalmatian	Puli
Basenji	Doberman	Rottweiler
Beagle	Great Dane	Saint Bernard
Bloodhound	Labrador Retriever	Samoyed
Boxer	Malamute	Shiba Inu
Bulldog	Mastiff	Shih Tzu
Chihuahua	Pinscher	Siberian Husky
Chow Chow	Poodle	Weimaraner
Collie	Pug	Xoloitzcuintli

Congratulations to **Kamakshi Balaji and **Jose Rivera** Winners of the September Contests!**

S	I	B	E	R	I	A	N	H	U	S	K	Y	G	N
A	L	A	K	I	T	A	S	A	M	O	Y	E	D	T
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Cypress School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Anne Silavs

Engineering and Innovation!

In the Cypress School District, teachers on our Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Ecosystem Leadership Team (see page 1) are creating learning experiences focused on the engineering design process that will help prepare our students to solve the complex problems of tomorrow. The engineering process requires students to study and define a problem, brainstorm solutions, develop a plan, build a prototype, test their solution, and improve or redesign it, as needed.

The engineering design process is a cycle; there is no official starting or ending point. The process is flexible, and steps do not always have to be followed in sequential order. For example, students may start with a design, test their prototype, and determine the various problems it might solve.

Through thoughtfully developed lessons and units, students learn to work collaboratively as a team, exercising their creativity and critical thinking skills. In support of these efforts and STEM programming in our schools, the district's Facilities Master Plan includes the construction of modular STEM labs on each campus, which will facilitate student innovation.



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Arnold *Elementary*

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Denine Kelly
Principal

Moving Forward With Math

The new school year is off to a wonderful start, and our students are already hard at work.

This year we have a new math curriculum that challenges our students to think more critically, and puts a greater emphasis on problem solving. The curriculum also provides several digital resources to help support student learning in school and at home.

This new series, combined with our expanding use of Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI), is helping to build more excitement around mathematics.

No longer do we say, "I'm just not good at math." We know that all of our students can master math concepts given the appropriate instruction and support. Our goal is for them to enjoy math, and feel confident in their ability to use it in their everyday lives.



Kindergarten students use a variety of tools and strategies to solve problems.

King *Elementary*

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



Carol Erbe
Principal

Excited about STEM

Exciting things are going on at King Elementary School in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)! We started the school year with a parent workshop, where parents tried some of the coding lessons being introduced to our students. At our movie night and campout, teacher Adam Kelley challenged families to build a catapult. Our winning family achieved a distance of over 17 feet with their invention made from craft sticks, rubber bands, and a plastic spoon!



Family STEM catapult project at King's campout.

Our fifth-grade students have been challenged to synthesize what they are learning about the water cycle to design devices to create clean drinking water. Students are engaged in the engineering process of planning, designing, testing, rethinking, and redesigning. Students must also develop assembly instructions and usage procedures and price out the parts needed. The best designs will be sent to a company that designs and markets outdoor products.

Landell *Elementary*

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



Dr. Rena Gibbs
Principal

Project-Based Learning

The third-grade students at Landell had an opportunity recently to collaboratively design and construct their own solar oven.

The students were tasked with using a set of materials to create the most effective method for cooking a pizza. Part of their research included determining which day the weather would be most conducive for heating the solar oven, and which materials would be the best conductors of heat.

All students eventually experienced success with their designs, and enjoyed an individual sized pizza for their efforts!

Similar experiences are occurring across our campus, with students making their own bread in crock-pots, creating instruments to show how volume affects air pressure, creating and experimenting with the tools used by early man, and cultivating the soil to prepare it for our very own salsa garden.

We are all eagerly anticipating the first batch of salsa, too!



Landell's third grade solar pizzeria.

Morris *Elementary*

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



Lori Hernandez
Principal

Learning about Service Animals

Students in Miss Armour's fifth-grade classroom at Juliet Morris recently learned about service animals.

They began with a Scholastic News article about a fifth-grader who uses a service dog, which led to an investigation of the different jobs that service and therapy dogs can perform. Their learning was enhanced by an exciting four-legged guest speaker named Guinness, along with its owner Linda Attardo from BARK (Beach Animals Reading with Kids). BARK is a nonprofit organization that works to improve the reading skills and self-confidence of children by having them read aloud to dogs.

The students heard all about the work of this amazing golden retriever, and they engaged in discussions about the many services that therapy dogs can



Students in Miss Armour's fifth grade class met Guinness, a service animal from B.A.R.K., and learned about how he helps kids.

provide for children and adults. Miss Armour's students also prepared questions for Ms. Attardo, and even had a chance to interact with Guinness. This was definitely an experience that these students will remember!

Luther *Elementary*

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



Jacki Teschke
Principal

Lunchtime Lessons

The learning continues during lunchtime at Luther School, where students take part in an intramural sports program led by fourth-grade teacher Adam Keuhn. During each six-week session, students learn to play a new sport, which includes soccer, baseball, Frisbee golf and volleyball.

But the learning goes beyond the game—students learn and work as a team alongside peers with whom they might not otherwise interact, including students from special-day classes who are integrated onto the teams. There are stringent guidelines regarding accountability, sportsmanship and conduct for all students. Additionally, students learn how to track their team's rankings and calculate averages. These activities teach students planning and organization as they prepare for their playoff games. Members of the staff report that with the organized sports taking place during lunchtimes, there are fewer negative incidents on the playground and the climate is very positive, contributing to overall student growth.



Luther students compete in team sports during lunchtime.

Vessels *Elementary*

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



Helen Lu
Principal

Feast for the Eyes

Local Beckman High School student Emily Lu spent three weeks over the summer bringing more color and creativity into the Vessels school cafeteria by painting a floor-to-ceiling mural to educate students about making wise food choices. The painting is titled *Eat More, Eat Less*.

Emily painted colorful anime-style foods separated into two groups—those that should be included in a child's diet and those that should be consumed in moderation. Vessels students are thrilled with the new mural, and they are excited to learn about new kinds of food they should try. The outcome is definitely "food for thought" for students as they line up and select their choice of lunch for the day.



Vessels Cafeteria mural by Emily Lu.

Savanna School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Sue Johnson

What an exciting year 2015-16 is shaping up to be for students and staff in the Savanna School District with our philosophy of “Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!” Because we hold great expectations and believe that the best opportunities are yet to unfold, wonderful things are happening and will continue to happen for students throughout the school year. We’re very excited about the academic achievement of our students, thanks to the efforts of wonderful staff in Savanna School District. tudent achievement can be evidenced in each and every classroom; from writing samples to PowerPoint projects, our students are proud of their learning and it shows. This is one example of our Great Expectations for student achievement.

As part of our Great Expectations for students, Savanna’s certificated staff members recently participated in professional development to ensure deep understanding of the math practices as we strive to help students meet the Common Core State Standards expectations of student achievement. Our goal is that all of our students will promote to seventh grade with skills necessary to succeed in junior and senior high school as well as be college and career ready. The strategies teachers are infusing into the instructional program include the incorporation of the ‘Four C’s:’ communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking, as we help our young people to become independent thinkers rather than simply memorizing rote facts. Our students deserve nothing less; we as educators could give them nothing more important. Professional development programs such as these and the shift to helping our students solve complex problems will impact our children’s education and our community for generations to come, demonstrating “The Best Is Yet To Come!” as we prepare to leave a legacy for tomorrow’s generation.

Our Great Expectation is that the infusion of technology will provide essential support for 21st Century teaching and learning in a digital era, meeting the needs of a rapidly changing student population. Lessons are presented through the use of teacher laptop computers, ceiling-mounted DLP projectors, document cameras and voice enhancement systems. In addition to the classroom sets of updated Macintosh computers in all classrooms throughout the district, we began the school year with Technology Learning Centers on each campus. These resources are helping to ensure that students will learn computer literacy skills through both large group instruction as well as daily, small group instruction to enhance and support the instructional program and core curriculum. We continue to enhance the programs available to students including keyboarding software appropriate for kindergarten through sixth grade students, programs designed to provide practice on specific skills, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint programs. With these, students create presentations, tables, charts, and word-processed documents using the tools which will continue to have a significant impact on the instructional program and help prepare students to be 21st Century learners. We’ve also expanded our pilot of iPads in the classroom for small group instruction and reinforcement of skills. As we continue moving forward with technology, “The Best Is Yet To Come!” as we ensure students have digital literacy skills that will propel them forward toward college and career readiness.

Last spring, our students took part in the 2015 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), the new computer-based tests for English language arts/literacy and mathematics that replaced the former paper-based tests for these subjects. These new exams are part of California’s comprehensive plan for supporting high-quality learning at every school. Administered to our third to sixth graders, students were asked to complete the entire test online using a wide variety of computer-based tools requiring them to highlight passages, drag and drop information, right click using a mouse to underline text, and keyboard lengthy answers. For the first year using this online assessment, I’m pleased with how our students scored when compared to similar groups within the state. While the number of students who met or exceeded the state-wide average may vary from school to school or from grade level to grade level, overall our students did nearly as well as the state-wide average in English language arts/literacy with 43% of our students

21st Century *Teaching and Learning*

1330 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3800 • <http://savsd.k12.ca.us/AcademicSupportPrograms.html>



Briana Schnitzer
Coordinator

Academic and Tech Support

Throughout the school year, our Saturday Academy Program, offered twice a month, provides additional academic support to our students as well as an opportunity to make up absences. Extended learning opportunities such as Saturday Academy provide students with additional academic support beyond the traditional school day. During Saturday Academy, students are exposed to engaging lessons and participate in hands-on academic activities through the use of technology. Saturday Academy sessions are from 8:00 a.m. to noon on preselected Saturdays.

In the Savanna School District, we are expanding technology at all school sites in order to provide additional opportunities for students to acquire and develop 21st century digital learning skills. We are excited to announce that we have added technology learning centers to each of our four school sites. Each technology learning center is equipped with 30 to 32 student computers, a teacher presentation station, a voice-enhancement system, a document camera and a 60-inch TV screen. Teachers rotate with their students to these centers on a weekly basis. In addition to the technology learning centers, each classroom is equipped with six student computers that give students multiple opportunities to work on technology skills, classroom assignments, group projects and skill-adaptive academic programs.

Another area of technology that we will be expanding this year is our iPad Pilot Program. Last year, 16 classrooms throughout the district successfully piloted the use of iPad minis in the classroom. This year, the pilot will expand to 20 additional classrooms. Teachers who are selected to be a part of the iPad Pilot Program receive sets of 10 iPad minis for classroom use and participate in ongoing professional development and collaboration. Through the expansion of technology within the district, students will have multiple opportunities to attain the digital-learning skills needed to succeed both inside and outside the classroom.

meeting or exceeding standards while 44% of students state-wide met or exceeded standards. In math, 35% of our students met or exceeded standards while the state-wide average was 33%. These tests include a wider variety of questions than the multiple-choice tests they replaced, requiring students to explain how they solve problems, think critically, and write analytically. Although these skills take time and effort to master, students will be able to meet the demands of 21st Century learning, reinforcing our belief that with “Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come!”

Our Saturday Academy provides the opportunity for students to receive additional academic support; students may also make up absences by attending Saturday Academy, if necessary. With morning sessions held approximately twice a month, students are exposed to engaging lessons as well as have the opportunity to participate in hands-on academic activities. Saturday Academy teachers integrate a variety of technological tools into their lessons including computers, iPads, and Leap Pads. Exact lessons will vary from week to week with a strong emphasis in the areas of reading, writing, science and technology. Throughout the 2014-15 school year we held thirteen sessions of Saturday Academy, with a cumulative total of 652 students attending! Providing additional academic support for students is just one more example of “The Best Is Yet To Come!” for our students by ensuring access to increased academic time.

We’ve been able to augment the modernization projects at school sites, providing for enhanced learning environments for students. At Cerritos School, we’ve replaced wood chips on both the kindergarten and primary playgrounds with rubber surfacing. In addition, we added stucco to six portables at Hansen as well as restructured some teaching areas at Cerritos and Reid Schools to accommodate smaller class sizes. We are extremely grateful that we’ve been able to complete much-needed enhancements that will provide students and staff with facilities to meet the demands of 21st Century learning. The District Office modernization project is underway and should be nearing completion by the end of 2015. The increased office space will allow additional support services for schools. These projects and more will impact our children’s education and our community for generations to come, demonstrating “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!”;

Cerritos *School*

3731 Cerritos St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3830 • <http://savsd.org/Schools/Cerritos/cerrhome.html>



Shannon Wyatt
Principal

Academic Support and Enrichment

Throughout the school year, the twice-a-month Saturday Academy Program provides additional academic support to our students, as well as an opportunity to make up absences. Extended learning opportunities like the Saturday Academy can provide students with additional academic support beyond the regular school day.

In the Academy our students are exposed to engaging lessons. They also participate in hands-on academic activities through the use of technology. Saturday Academy sessions last from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on pre-selected Saturdays.

In the Savanna School District, we are also expanding technology in order to provide additional opportunities for students to acquire and develop 21st-century digital learning skills. So we are excited to announce that we have added Technology Learning Centers to each of our four school sites. Each Center is equipped with 30 to 32 student computers, a teacher presentation station, a voice-enhancement system, a document camera, and a 60" TV screen.

The teachers and students rotate to these Centers on a weekly basis. In addition to the new facilities, each classroom is also equipped with six student computers. This offers the children multiple opportunities to work on their technology skills, classroom assignments, group projects, and skill-adaptive academic programs.

Another area of technology that we will be expanding this year is our iPad pilot program. Last year there were 16 classrooms throughout the district that successfully piloted the use of iPad minis in their lessons. This year the program will expand to 20 additional classrooms. The teachers who are selected to be a part of this iPad program will receive sets of 10 Minis for their classroom use. They will also participate in ongoing professional development and collaboration.

Through the expansion of this new district technology, our students will now have multiple opportunities to attain the digital learning skills they need to succeed both inside and outside of the classroom.

Holder *School*

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



Dr. Jerry Friedman
Principal

All-Round Spirit!

Through the Families and Communities Together (FaCT) Grant with the City of Stanton, we are very fortunate and grateful to have access to additional community resources. This year at Holder School, we are able to offer free parenting classes on Tuesday nights. The classes have already begun and are being well attended. Also, selected students are being paired with "big brothers" and "big sisters" from nearby high schools. This is a great opportunity for Holder students to be mentored by carefully selected high school students who are positive role models. Additionally because of this partnership, Holder students and families have access to counseling and other services.

A positive school climate and culture are essential components for a school to be successful. A great deal of research shows that student perceptions of school climate affect academic motivation and achievement. That is why we ask all of our Holder School staff and students to show their school spirit by wearing blue each Friday. The classes that have the highest percentage of students wearing blue receive a cherished statue of a hawk that they display for the following week.

Holder School's Fall Festival, held in October, was a great event for all! Many thanks to our PTA, which is made up of an active group of dedicated, committed parents. At the after-school Fall Festival, students, parents and family members enjoyed a wide variety of carnival-style games and delicious food and even participated in a talent show!

The Holder School PTA is always looking for additional volunteers—whatever time you can donate would be appreciated. Please stop into the school office to find out more information about how you can help. The Holder School PTA is an integral part of Holder School!

people like our parents who partner with us to ensure students will 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!

Hansen *School*

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



Tracy Goodspeed
Principal

Showing Their Pride

Our Hansen Huskies started the school year off on the right foot, and they have continued to do so with the help of our Positive Behavior Intervention and Support program (PBIS).

At the beginning of the school year, every student and teacher walked our campus station-by-station to help reinforce all of our Hansen rules. Our teachers also made posters and signs that reinforced appropriate playground, lunch area, library, and classroom behaviors, as well as the proper way to walk down the hallways, and even a dress code.

Here at Hansen, one of our focuses is on having the students show us their positive behavior at all times. We call this PRIDE, which is short for being Polite and showing Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Enthusiasm.

When a student shows us their best, they receive a PRIDE slip that can be redeemed for a variety of prizes from our PRIDE store. The store was recently revamped this year with additional prizes and incentives. Students also have a choice of turning in their PRIDE slips for a weekly raffle, or they can save them to redeem prizes. These range from smaller items like a pencil, keychain, ruler, or jump rope, to larger prizes such as a Hansen Husky hat, sunglasses, and pennants.

Some of our Huskies have been saving up for the biggest prizes of all, like eating lunch with the principal, earning a special Hansen T-shirt, or having their picture on the Hansen Husky Wall of Fame and their name on the school marquee.

The teachers worked hard to make the day a success, and our Hansen students were exceptionally well behaved. They have continued to make us proud by earning their PRIDE slips all along the way! Our Huskies are now full of PRIDE as we venture forward with the school year.

Twila Reid *School*

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



Hipolito Murillo
Principal

Excellent Instruction and Attendance

This school year, we are continuing with the excellent traditions of Twila Reid School. Fresh off of another year of increased student performance, we are ready for another amazing year! This year, the Reid staff is continuing to focus on providing our students with the highest caliber learning experience possible. We are continuing to use and refine strategies that engage all students in every lesson throughout the entire school day. We're also continuing to use and refine all components of Explicit Direct Instruction and to shift our instructional practices to align them with the Common Core State Standards. All of

this happens in a caring and nurturing environment, so that students feel safe, valued, and respected and continue to refine their love for learning. Throughout the year, students will continue to make use of technological skills across all curricular areas in the classrooms and in our new Technology Learning Center. Our staff is committed to ensuring that students are college and career ready when they graduate.

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

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

Paul R. de Dios
Dean of Cypress College

"My son always fought me to do homework, and this would be an all night thing. I tried everything, and then found the Tutoring Club. Putting him in the Tutoring Club's the best thing I could have done for him. His 2011 California Standards Test was proficient in everything!!!!"

Mother of student at
Landell Elementary, Cypress

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

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

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