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School News

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Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, & Savanna

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Building Bridges to Learning



Hansen students share their iPad Projects with the Board of Trustees.

By Dr. Pauline Tressler, Assistant Superintendent – Savanna School District

The Savanna School District Board of Trustees is committed to providing an exemplary educational program to meet the needs of all of our students. This includes providing the tools needed to assure that our students acquire 21st-century learning skills to help prepare them for college and careers.

Our Board, teachers, students, administration, and community have embraced technology! Here are just a few examples of our commitment to 21st-century learning.

Last summer, students in the Savanna Summer Academy became computer programmers as they wrote computer code to program their Ozobots to move through a maze. In other classrooms, students used K'NEX Intro to Structures – Bridge Block Sets to design and build bridges that would hold up to six large textbooks without crumbling. These are just a few of the examples of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) activities that empower our students to connect the digital and physical worlds. These activities facilitate higher-level thinking, collaboration, and creativity and enable our students to link with 21st-century learning.

Technology has always been a focus in Savanna! All of our classrooms house six computers, and each of our campuses has a Technology Learning Center (TLC) and a STEM Center, giving our students access to a vast array of technology throughout their instructional day. Our TLC curricular guides provide our teachers with lessons and strategies to teach students how to utilize technology. In our TLCs, our Transitional Kindergarten through sixth-grade students learn keyboarding skills, word processing skills, and a variety of presentation skills. As they move through the grade levels, they publish

written work, conduct research, and complete PowerPoint presentations. For example, students in Transitional Kindergarten through second grade are learning to open Word documents, type information, and change the font, color, and size in documents. Students in third through sixth grades learn the skills and strategies needed to successfully complete reports, presentations, and statewide assessments.

In addition, two-thirds of our classrooms now have digital tablets in place, and our students are engaging in learning activities using a wide variety of applications. For example, our kindergartners utilize Little Writers Pro to trace and learn their letters. Students in third and fourth grades use Adobe Voice to combine text, video, and audio to create stories that can be shared online. In addition, our fifth-grade students are using Epic! for an all-you-can-read experience during small-group instruction, and our sixth-grade students are creating their own movies using iMovie!

This year, Savanna has developed a STEM team, comprised of teachers, classified personnel, administrators, after-school providers, early-childhood providers, and members of the educational community. The members of this team are committed to bringing a STEM focus to our schools as part of the Orange County STEM Initiative. The team will provide professional development activities and lesson planning to help move more STEM activities into the day-to-day operations of our classrooms. We are working in collaboration with the Tiger Woods Learning Center, where our fifth-graders attend a week-long field trip annually to take part in STEM activities.

Digital literacy is essential in the 21st century. Our teachers and students are embracing new technologies every day! As our students enter college and careers, they will be prepared for the technological world that lies ahead. We are proud of our instructional program and secure in the knowledge that “The Best is Yet to Come!”

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Covering the
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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



This is our last issue for 2016, which is hard to believe. So much is happening in the classrooms. In this issue you will read about the importance of volunteering in the classroom and community involvement, STEAM, STEM, CAASPP, W.A.T.C.H. D.O.G.S. and so much more...

Be sure to enter our Seek 'n Find Contest on page 4 where you'll also find the Cypress Library update.

Our next issue is March 1. Until then have a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays, fun Winter Break, and Happy New Year!

Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

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



Virtually Bringing Pediatric Experts to You



Steven Jensen, M.D.
Medical Director,
General Pediatrics,
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

Children and adults are different and so are their health care needs. Many children's illnesses are rarely seen in adults or affect kids differently. That's why children need access to Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach — a hospital with pediatric specialists dedicated exclusively to the quality and compassionate care of kids.

Only five percent of all hospitals are children's hospitals, making them unique not only to children's health care needs in the community, but across the region.

Miller Children's has embraced new technology to help close the gap in access to pediatric specialty care. Telemedicine is the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications to assess and treat patients.

Telemedicine includes a variety of applications and services using two-way video, wireless tools and other forms of technology.

Miller Children's is virtually connected with two other MemorialCare Health System hospitals in Orange County – Orange Coast Memorial and Saddleback Memorial.

Through telemedicine, emergency department physicians at Orange Coast Memorial and Saddleback Memorial can now contact the pediatric specialists at Miller Children's for consultation at the push of a button.

The telemedicine console features advanced video conferencing technology, just like Skype™, that allows Miller Children's specialists to have a two-way conversation with patients and the physicians who are miles away. The console also gives specialists access to diagnostic capabilities, such as x-rays and blood work.

Telemedicine results in faster access to medical management, creating better outcomes and convenience for patients and their families without a children's hospital in their community.



We Are Your Children's Hospital



We are the only OC health system to have a full-service children's hospital.

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Lots of Choices

By Stephanie Anson, Children's Librarian

Homework Help: For kids grades K-8. Kids are paired up with a teen to receive help with homework. Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5pm. Program ends Dec 14, resumes Jan 9, 2017.

Rookie Reader: For kids grades K-5. Kids are paired up with a teen to read one-on-one. K-2nd will be allotted a 20-minute slot, 3rd-5th grade will be given 30 minutes. Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30pm. Program ends Dec 14, resumes Jan 11, 2017

S.T.E.A.M. at Cypress: One aspect of STEAM will be featured each month and open to kids of all ages. All programs will be held on Thursdays at 3pm, Engineering=November 17th, Art=December 15th, Math=January 19th.

Family Storytime: All families are welcome! Held on Saturdays at 10:30am: November 12th, December 10th, January 21st, February 18th.

Prescriptive Pets Story Dogs: Come read to therapy dogs the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month from 6-7pm.

ACME Drawing Board: Chuck Jones Center offers drawing lessons November 5th, December 3rd at 12:30pm.

Polar Express Party: Do you believe? Join the spirit of the holidays in the library, crafting and celebrating Santa Claus on December 20th at 3pm.

Noon Year's Eve: Families can join us for our 3rd annual Noon Year's Eve! We'll have crafts, snacks and a balloon drop at NOON! Festivities begin at 11:30am.

Valentine's Day Crafts: Celebrate Valentine's Day on February 7th at 2:30pm by making heart related crafts.

Contest!

These students are somewhere in this publication. When you find them, email the **page number** to:

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
(Please put CCS in the subject line)



Your entry must be received by January 15, 2017.
From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

Congratulations to Rishita Dugar
Winner of the September Word Search Contest!

Teachers See the Possibilities

In Jennifer Swanson's high school English class, seniors master material that prepares them for college and careers, gaining writing and communication skills that will benefit them throughout their lives.



Aroyo High School, Expository English Class, Teacher: Jennifer Swanson '96, M.A.Ed. '99

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Centralia School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Norma Martinez

High Student Achievement and STEM Lead to College and Career Readiness

In August, the state released the scores for our new annual state test. Orange County students, as usual, outperformed their state peers in both math and English. I am proud to say that Centralia School District students not only outperformed their state peers in both subject areas, we also outperformed Orange County averages! These stellar results, in which 62 percent of our scholars met or exceeded the state English standards and 53

percent met or exceeded the state math standards, validates the high quality of instruction that is the expected norm in our district. Of course, this success is due to the strong partnership between our teachers, parents, and students. Congratulations to the entire Centralia learning community! These impressive test results indicate that our learning community is focused on helping our students to be college and career ready.

Beyond test scores, there is something else that we are doing to help our scholars be college and career ready. The education world is abuzz with a new term, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). Have you heard of it? Or perhaps its twin sibling, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM)? STEM is a new development in education designed to help educators prepare their students to understand the academic worlds of STEM and the impact that these fields now have in the future workforce lives of our young scholars. This multidisciplinary approach is more than our traditional view of the science and math education of yesteryear. With the infusion of new technology tools and the 4 Cs of 21st-century learning—communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity—STEM has become the educational movement that can lead to innovation. The A in STEAM, representing the arts, is the understanding that the arts can also be used as a conduit to this innovation and creativity.

This year, Centralia School District was pleased to be selected to participate in the Orange County STEM Initiative, a multi-organizational effort designed to foster Orange County's economic competitiveness through the creation of effective partnerships. We are pleased to partner with the Tiger Woods Learning Foundation, Orange County Department of Education, Outside the Outdoors, Anaheim Union High School District, the Samuelli Foundation, the Children & Families Commission of Orange County, and many others. Through our participation in this program, team members are engaging in high-quality staff development focused on promoting STEM competencies.

STEAM is evident throughout our district in myriad ways. In partnership with the MIND Research Institute, students from Transitional Kindergarten through sixth grade are participating in math instruction through a game-based instructional program known as ST Math. Of course, many of our scholars refer to this as JiJi Math, named after the penguin character in the software program. Computer programming instruction, either through Code.org or Scratch, is being taught in all of our schools. We are proud to be on the forefront of this new initiative to introduce students to the language of computer programming. With the coding knowledge, students have been able to bring Ozobots, small robots, to life. Each school principal works with its leadership team to identify the manner in which STEAM will be woven into the fabric of the school day. Green screens, QR codes, video production, and scientific investigations are examples of STEAM in our schools.

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Because we are transitioning our teaching to reflect these innovative practices, our district is looking closely at the facilities that we have and the ways in which we can transform them to help facilitate learning. Innovation labs, a concept to create usable spaces for engineering, makerspaces, and other creative endeavors, are being designed in two of our schools as prototypes, in the hopes of adding these to all eight schools. Additionally, two of our teachers are piloting new flexible student furniture, which permits multiple grouping configurations so that students can be in learning environments that foster optimal learning. Our School Board is actively looking at funding options to assist us in accelerating the physical learning environments to better reflect our teaching practices.



Centralia Elementary School District is proud to be an innovative district with an expectation of high academic achievement for all of its students. Each of our principals seeks to provide learning experiences for students that establish a lifelong desire for learning. Each school, with its own traditions, has embraced STEAM/STEM as a viable path for college and career readiness. I invite our community to get involved and attend school-site meetings to learn more about our progress in STEAM!

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Hello Moms, Dads and Grandparents,

If you have extra time after your children are off to school and would like to join our sales team working from home, email or call me.

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562-493-3193

Buena Terra *Elementary*

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



Dr. Dominic Nguyen
Principal

Proud Accomplishments

Buena Terra Elementary School believes that students need opportunities to share their ideas and thoughts through a variety of different mediums. In this spirit, we are proud of that two of our very own Eagles, Danica Sy and Sophia Elbersen, shared their videos about why Buena Terra is the best school at a Board of Trustees meeting in September. Students like Danica and Sophia are encouraged to collaborate and creatively communicate their ideas through the Elsie Video Arts Club, which is made possible by a generous donation from Mrs. Elsie Hovinetz.

After watching the videos, the Board of Trustees heard about Buena Terra's state test scores. We were proud to announce that our students made growth at each grade level in both language arts and mathematics. Seventy-six percent of our students met or exceeded standards on the English language arts portion of the assessments, while 63 percent of our students met or exceeded standards in mathematics.



Danbrook *Elementary*

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



Erasmo Garcia
Principal

STEM Initiative

This year Danbrook launches its STEM Initiative. We have made a commitment to provide every child with lessons that create exciting opportunities to put into practice newly learned skills. Our goal is to expand their horizons in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics at an early age.

Students are presented a problem, provided with raw materials and through discussion, investigation, trial and error, and some elbow grease develop a plan and create solutions. In Mrs. Flores's 3rd grade class students investigate the use of counterweights

to balance an object. What a great way to study forces and motion! Mrs. Flores believes that if you tap into students' natural curiosity about the world around them we can develop their love of learning through science and engineering.

Danbrook celebrates its students for their achievement and growth on the 2016 CAASPP state tests.



Centralia *Elementary*

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



Tia Brown
Principal

You Can't Spell "STEAM" without "TEAM"

Our Centralia staff and students emphasize science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM); skills and knowledge that are essential for college and career readiness, and are deeply entwined in real-world applications.

We understand the importance of providing a well-balanced curriculum built upon a foundation of cultivating relationships, as well as having a clear vision and celebrating our successes. Our most recent CAASPP scores show a 20 percent increase in ELA, with 51 percent of our third- through fifth-grade scholars having met or exceeded the standard.

After disaggregating our data, Centralia has incorporated and implemented school-wide STEAM activities. Students are creatively engaged in activities that utilize their critical thinking skills as they collaborate and communicate

with their peers to investigate and discover solutions to problems.

STEAM stimulates and develops the imagination. It refines cognitive and creative skills and strengthens problem-solving and critical thinking, thus adding to the overall academic success of our scholars.



G.H. Dysinger *Elementary*

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



Shawn Stuht
Principal

Advances in STEAM and CAASPP

Dysinger is expanding our STEAM program to enhance students' ability to learn to communicate, collaborate, and exercise creativity and critical thinking through the addition of a 21st century classroom and Innovation Lab. One way we are expanding our program is through coding. Last year, 492 students participated in the Hour of Code. This year, every student will do 20 hours of Code.org. We are further developing the next generation of computer scientists, engineers and

inventors with the addition of Ozobots to our program. Students will learn hands-on about robotics and programming while working on STEAM applications.

Dysinger students made great advances on the 2016 CAASPP, with 62 percent of Dysinger students meeting or exceeding grade level standards in English language arts/literacy. This is a growth of 11 percent from 2015. Additionally, Dysinger showed a 6 percent growth in math, with 47 percent of students having met or exceeded standards.



Los Coyotes *Elementary*

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



Robyn Yarbrough
Principal

CAASPP and STEM

Los Coyotes School is celebrating the results of last spring's California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) testing. In English language arts, our third- through sixth-graders earned an 87-percent proficiency rate, and in math the overall proficiency rate was 83 percent.

This demonstrates a seven percent gain in proficiency in both curricular areas over the spring 2015 scores. Los Coyotes continues to be one of the highest academically achieving elementary schools in Orange County.

Los Coyotes is enthusiastically embracing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). In kindergarten, students do a hands-on STEM box activity every morning. Each week they are given a different set of materials to engineer their own creations. The challenge is to create more and more sophisticated structures as the week progresses. In second grade, students are learning the basics of computer programming with an interactive robot. This cute bee tests their ability to navigate through various tasks by providing the appropriate coding.



Second grade students in Mrs. Lamping's class approve of their robot bee successfully spelled the word "sky" after they programmed it to do so!

San Marino *Elementary*

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



Dr. Omaira Lee
Principal

Future Leaders STEM from Here

In an increasingly complex world where success is driven not only by what you know but also by what you can do with what you know, it's more important than ever for students to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to solve tough problems, gather and evaluate evidence, and make sense of information. These are skills that students learn by studying science, technology, engineering and math, collectively known as STEM. Currently, our students participate in a STEM activity with their cross-age counterparts to reinforce STEM concepts, develop leadership skills and allow older students to share their knowledge with younger students.

San Marino students are being prepared to think critically to become innovators, educators, researchers and leaders who solve pressing challenges facing our nation and our world today and tomorrow. As demonstrated by our growth in ELA, 58 percent met and exceeded goals, which is a 9 percent increase, and 51 percent met and exceeded math goals in math. This shows that we are well on our way to preparing those leaders.



G.B. Miller *Elementary*

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



Dr. Stacy Chang
Principal

S.T.E.A.M. Transformation

Knowing that our students are the innovators of tomorrow, we are STEAMing ahead at G. B. Miller. Our goal is to provide cutting edge instruction that will spark the passion, problem-solving skills, and creativity to prepare them for college and careers.

We are in the process of transforming our library into a 21st Century Innovation Lab with robotics, flexible furniture, green screen and more. We are excited about providing our students with a hands-on learning experience of constructing and testing out robotics, and participating in coding to learn about computer science.

We celebrate student achievement with CAASPP state scores that show increases in both ELA and math for a total of 63% in ELA and 59% in math that met/ exceeded standards. We are proud to be a part of Centralia District that had one of the county's biggest improvements.



Miller teachers and principal participated in the OCDE STEM Camp during the summer to STEAM ahead.

Raymond Temple *Elementary*

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



Dr. Estela Salas-Sarmiento
Principal

Full Steam Ahead

Raymond Temple celebrates its recent soaring test scores, and commends all of the hard work of its staff and students. We are pleased with our tremendous ELA growth of 21 percent, as well as our 8 percent growth in math, and are committed to continuing our pursuit of academic excellence.

What do slingshots, apple rockets, and index card towers have in common? At Raymond Temple, all of these items would be projects recently engineered as part of a STEAM activity. Our TK scholars are all aboard and full "STEAM" ahead into 21st-century learning!

We are happy to boast too that our youngest scholars are leading the race in ST math, also known as JIJI math. Our upper-grade Deaf and Hard of Hearing program is also embracing STEAM education by having completed four lessons in the past three weeks.

Raymond Temple embraces the basic Engineering Design Process, which includes Asking, Imagining, Planning, Creating, and Improving. "All aboard!"



Cypress School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Anne Silavs

Teaching Students the Universal Language of Music

Some have argued that music is one of humanity’s greatest creations. It can break down barriers to unite people from different backgrounds and cultures. It has the power to draw people together and uplift them emotionally. On an academic level, researchers have long studied the benefits of music education, recognizing a strong relationship between music instruction and academic achievement. Studying music is associated with gains in math, reading, cognitive ability, critical thinking, and verbal skill. Equally important, music can improve motivation, concentration, confidence, and teamwork. For all these reasons and many more, music is an essential component of a well-rounded, high-quality educational program, and we are proud to provide music for all students in the Cypress School District.

This fall, we welcomed three new music teachers, who are providing weekly classes to all students in transitional kindergarten through sixth grade during the regular school day. Our newly constructed classrooms are fully equipped to provide the optimal environment for dynamic music instruction. In the primary grades, our students will study the basic elements of music while exploring and creating music through voice and a variety of rhythm instruments. As students work their way through the program, they will learn to read and play music, using the recorder in fourth grade. Eventually, students will self-select a musical pathway to pursue, choosing to study either vocal or instrumental music during fifth and sixth grades.

While we are just in the beginning stages of launching our new program, student excitement and enthusiasm indicate it is already a tremendous success! We look forward to future opportunities to share our students’ musical accomplishments with our local community.



Music teacher Deborah Yeung engages students in music and movement

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Arnold Elementary

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



Carol Erbe
Principal

Engineers Grow On STEMs

Exciting things are happening at Arnold in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)! We started the school year with a brand-new lab designed for STEM lessons and projects.

Teachers have been learning age-appropriate projects that will help their students learn more about the engineering design process. For their first challenge, students were tasked with working as a team to build a toy, using limited materials. Each team member had an important role in the planning,

development and testing of the toy. The next step in the engineering design process will involve making improvements to their original design.

Families are participating in STEM activities as well. At our recent Family Night/ Campout, families were challenged to build two towers—the first without verbally communicating with one another and the second without using their hands. Our families were very proud of their innovative strategies and accomplishments. It was a fun and educational event!



King Elementary

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



Jacki Teschke
Principal

Partners in Physical Education

Twice a week our students at King School receive physical education lessons from aspiring P.E. teachers from Cypress College. Led by Cypress College professor and basketball coach Margaret Mohr, these future teachers offer grade-level-appropriate lessons to our students in transitional kindergarten through the fifth grade.

In addition to learning exercises that promote strength and agility, our students can learn the rules and fundamentals of sports by participating in organized games in basketball and soccer, as well as the concepts of teamwork and sportsmanship. Fifth-grade teacher Cara Patton noted that, “Students enjoy working with the college

students, and the college students learn a great deal from the authentic opportunities to teach physical education to our students.”

Many of these college students are also former students from the Cypress School District, including King School! All involved believe that the collaboration between Cypress College and King School is a great example of how community partnerships can benefit both parties.



Landell *Elementary*

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



Dr. Rena Gibbs
Principal

Leopards in the Garden

Kindergarteners at Landell are learning to observe plant and animal life that exists in different habitats. Miss McElligatt's sixth grade students use their knowledge and expertise to help Mrs. Spain's kindergarteners practice their observation skills in the Landell garden. During this tour, kindergarteners learned about composting and identified some of the flowers, herbs, and animal life in our garden. They also worked with the sixth graders to pull weeds in preparation for our next planting cycle. The Landell garden provides a wonderful venue for classes to engage in Inquiry Based Learning. Its presence on campus also offers opportunities for our older leopards to be a big buddy in the learning process of our younger leopards.



One of our kindergarten students and her sixth grade buddy proudly display the worm they discovered.

Luther *Elementary*

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



Denine Kelly
Principal

STEM Classrooms Open!

Luther students are super excited about the new science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) facilities on our campus. These state-of-the-art classrooms are outfitted with flexible-use furniture, video monitors, laptops, and sound amplification. Teachers in all grade levels receive training from district STEM Teachers on Special Assignment (TOSAs) and recently guided their students through a "Toy Design" challenge. Students learned about the engineering design process and worked together to plan, design, build, test, and reflect on their project. This activity provided our students with an opportunity to collaborate, communicate, think critically, and create some amazing "toys." Students and teachers are excited and looking forward to the next engineering design challenge!



Fifth grade students collaborating on their toy design.

Morris *Elementary*

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



Lori Hernandez
Principal

STEM Lab Now Open

Morris students are engaging in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) learning this year in a brand new STEM Lab. Morris students used the lab for the first time this year to complete engineering tasks that required critical thinking and collaboration. Cypress School District has two STEM Teachers on Special Assignment who design programs, train teachers, and support the instruction that goes along with having this amazing new facility.



Students in Mrs. Sooter's 5th grade class collaborate to complete an engineering challenge.

Teachers at Morris have been innovating with STEM over the last few years, implementing coding, robotics, Google Classroom, and much more within their own rooms. Now, having a spacious high-tech STEM Lab that provides the physical space and resources to engage in these learning experiences is an added benefit to our school. Teachers will continue to receive training to build upon our STEM instruction and support 21st century learning at Morris.

Vessels *Elementary*

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



Helen Lu
Principal

Language and Literacy Intervention

Vessels Elementary School houses the Regional Autism Program for students who possess varying levels of oral language. In the fall of 2015, a special education teacher and two speech and language pathologists at Vessels developed an innovative, evidenced-based language and literacy intervention which targets students who are minimally verbal and use augmentative and alternative communication.

Students in this group use high-tech devices – such as an iPad with communication software, or low-tech systems like a communication book with picture icons – to help express language. They participate in this intervention three times a week for 45 minutes at a time,



Special Education Teacher Ellen Murray working with students

and each month the language lessons focus on a different theme (e.g., common verbs, locatives, adjectives, etc.)

While the special education teacher leads the lesson, our two speech and language pathologists and para-educators provide individual student support as needed. Since the implementation of this intervention, we have seen an increase in the students' language, attention, and classroom participation.

Savanna School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Sue Johnson

Preparing 21st-Century Learners

What an exciting year 2016–2017 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 the wonderful staff in Savanna School District. Student 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 on a variety of topics, including Math Talks, use of the technology for our new math adoption, and an introduction to engineering. Thanks to staff from the Tiger Woods Learning Center, our third- through sixth-grade teachers were introduced to designing and building structures using K’NEX bridge-building sets. During this program, teachers learned strategies to use in teaching the history, function, structural design, geometry, and strength of bridges while providing opportunities for students to acquire skills using a hands-on approach, which builds students’ understanding of scientific, technical, and design concepts. Teachers are excited to begin introducing students to engineering concepts and skills; with these skills, our next generation will be ready to tackle the infrastructure for our rapidly changing needs, both in our community and beyond! Professional development programs such as these and the shift

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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 digital light-processing projectors, document cameras, and voice enhancement systems. In addition to the classroom sets of updated Macintosh computers in all classrooms throughout the district, Technology Learning Centers and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Centers are now in use on each campus. These resources continue to ensure that students 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; and 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 significantly 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.

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. In 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 2015–2016 school year, we held 13 sessions of Saturday Academy, with a cumulative total of 1,004 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.

The difference between a good school district and a GREAT school district is people: people like the Savanna School District staff, who are committed to doing everything they can daily to demonstrate that “The Best Is Yet To Come!”; people like our parents, who 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!”

Savanna School District
Celebrates the opening of

STEM

**(Science, Technology,
Engineering, Mathematics)**
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Involvement • Imagination**

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in an interdisciplinary and applied, cohesive approach
based on real-world applications.

———— www.savsd.org ————

1330 S Knott Ave., Anaheim, 92804 • 714-236-3800

Cerritos *School*

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



Briana Schnitzer
Principal

Celebrating Community Partnerships

At Cerritos School we are grateful for our community partnerships, beginning with our PTA. The PTA is comprised of an active group of parents who are committed to working alongside our staff to create the best learning environment possible for our students. At our annual McTeacher Night fundraiser, teachers assisted PTA in serving students and their families at our local McDonald's, with a portion of the proceeds coming back to our school. In October, the PTA hosted our annual fall book fair where students were thrilled to receive a special appearance from our school mascot Charlie the Cheetah! Students had the opportunity to read and take pictures with Charlie on the last day of our book fair.

We're excited to continue our partnership with the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America. This is a great opportunity for Cerritos students to be mentored by carefully selected high school students who are positive role models.

Students in grades 4-6, have the opportunity to participate in the Jr. Cadet Program, sponsored by the Anaheim Police Department. This program provides students with leadership and team building activities, homework assistance, physical fitness training, drug awareness, and gang awareness courses.

Our Watch D.O.G.S (Dads of Great Students) program is back! Fathers, grandfathers, step-fathers, and other father figures have the opportunity to volunteer in classroom and school activities throughout the year. Our Watch D.O.G.S. provide students with positive male role models who play an active role in their education.

Our sixth graders are participating in the Cypress Police Department's Positive Action through Character Education Program also known as P.A.C.E. The P.A.C.E. program is designed to enhance awareness, influence choices, and educate students in the areas of Internet safety, social media, peer pressure, bullying, violence, and drug abuse.

Community partnerships are an integral part of Cerritos School!

Hansen *School*

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



Tracy Goodspeed
Principal

Celebrating STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

STEM is in the works at Hansen Elementary School this year. We have implemented a STEM Center on site, and our teachers and students alike are getting their feet wet with Science, Technology, Engineering and Math!vv

Hansen teachers are trying to help students solve problems and build real-world solutions while working with each other. Each grade level has dabbled with various STEM activities this year. Our kindergartners have built engineering towers and explored how their towers make shadows. What fun our little architects had in building! The fifth-grade students explored how and why the "m" floats off the top of an M&M when placed in water. This was also an exploration of patience!

Our sixth-grade students have been quite busy with building roller coasters (physics), irrigation systems (Ancient Mesopotamia), and boats (density). The sixth grade has planned some outstanding upcoming projects too, including building a mechanical hand with cardboard, string, and tape in which they will soon have a competition to see whose mechanical hand can grasp a small object! They will also work on building earthquake-proof structures.

This fall, six of our students were lucky enough to be able to present all of their technology skills during a presentation to the Savanna School Board. The students confidently spoke in front of the board members, the superintendent, the assistant superintendent, the public, and their parents. They explained what they had been working on, and proceeded to share their technological knowledge for everyone to see. The entire room was impressed with the iMovie trailers and Adobe Spark videos that the students had produced.

Our Hansen students are excited for the future of STEM at our site!

Holder *School*

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



Dr. Jerry Friedman
Principal

Fathers, Festivals and Future Technology!

Holder recently held its WATCH D.O.G.S. Kickoff Pizza event, which was attended by nearly 100 students and fathers. WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) is an innovative program focusing on the involvement of fathers in schools; it's an educational initiative of the National Center for Fathering. There are two primary goals of the WATCH D.O.G.S. program: providing positive male role models for the students, and providing extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying. Through the WATCH D.O.G.S. program, we have dads volunteering on campus in a variety of roles. We love having our WATCH D.O.G.S. on campus!

Holder School's Fall Festival, held in October, was a great event for all! Many thanks to our PTA, 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 the Talent Show! The Holder 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 Holder School PTA is an integral part of Holder School!

In addition to sets of computers in every classroom and iPads in many rooms, Holder School now has two classrooms focusing on technology. In our TLC and STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) Center, students are working on keyboarding and word-processing skills, research projects, presentation software and more! Professional development in STEM is already in the works so that teachers can help prepare students to make the most effective use of technology as it's embedded in the curriculum.

Twila Reid *School*

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



Erin Helenihi
Principal

21st-Century Learners

We are off to a great start! Our staff members and teachers alike provide a welcoming community where students feel safe, valued, and respected. The teachers use research-based instructional strategies to build vocabulary, boost communication skills, and raise the rigor in their classrooms to support students as they meet the California Common Core State Standards.

Our teachers have worked as teams to analyze data and look for areas of need. Each grade-level team then makes plans to address the needs of their students by working to provide differentiated instruction. Teachers embed different levels of support and enrichment to support every learner with personal growth. With Title I funding, we've been able to add a teacher to our staff, who helps us to support student learning.

Throughout the year, students will continue to take part in 21st-century learning opportunities. Reid students will make use of technological skills across all curricular areas in the classrooms, in our Technology Learning Center, and in our new Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Center.

We are also excited to start another year with a strong partnership with our community. Because of our community partners, we have wonderful resources and opportunities available to our Reid families. In addition, with our family partners, we can ensure that all students come to school every day and arrive on time. Regular attendance and punctuality teach students work habits that are necessary for their entire education and future 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. And, at Twila Reid School, we acknowledge, reward, and reinforce good attendance and punctuality!

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*Paul R. de Dios
Dean of Cypress College*

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

*Mother of student at
Landell Elementary, Cypress*

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