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School News

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Covering the Districts of: Centralia, Cypress, & Savanna

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Grand Re-Opening and California Distinguished School Designation

*By Sue Johnson, Superintendent
Savanna School District*

While the Savanna School District celebrates the grand re-opening of Holder School, the first such effort since the school opened more than 50 years ago, it is also celebrating the naming of Holder School as a California Distinguished School. Holder School's strong academic progress and laser-like focus on student achievement is yet one more example of how the combination of a rich, well-rounded curriculum, a highly qualified and caring staff, engaged parents, and a long-standing commitment to excellence is continuing to provide our students with the opportunity to be prepared and successful 21st Century citizens. We are very proud of all the hard work and dedication to learning on the part of all of our students and staff and especially proud that they will have 21st Century facilities to ensure continued growth! Driving by Holder School, it's apparent the pride Holder's students and staff take in being named a California Distinguished School; banners with this title adorn the light poles while a plaque with this distinction has been added to the front of Holder School.



**Holder School was recognized as a Distinguished School
Superintendent Dr. Sue Johnson; Board Member Mr. Edward Erdtsieck;
Holder School Principal Dr. Jerry Friedman; Board President Mrs. Linda Weinstock;
Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Ona Sandi; Board Clerk Mrs. Carol Sundman;
and Board Member Mrs. Chris Brown.**

The school will reopen for students and staff in time for the beginning of the 2014-15 school year. Parents, children, staff, and community members have been very excited with all of the improvements and enhancements completed at the school site over the past year; each area received a much-needed face-lift! A new Outdoor Learning Center was constructed, becoming the

'heart' of the campus where student success will be celebrated. Holder School's sixth grade class had the opportunity to be the first to use the new Outdoor Learning Center for their promotion ceremony in June. Parents, students, and community members were excited to be able to have this 'sneak preview' of one special way student success can be celebrated in the Outdoor Learning

Center! They were excited to be the first to use this new venue, even though it was still part of an active construction site.

The school playgrounds received 'extreme makeovers' with new age-appropriate equipment designed to promote physical fitness, large and small motor skills, balance, and upper-body strength for students. The poured-in-place rubber surfacing was designed to provide high levels of safety for students with minimal maintenance requirements. In addition, classrooms and office spaces were enhanced with new furniture, upgraded wall systems, energy efficient dual-paned windows, new energy efficient heating and air conditioning units, new plumbing, electrical, and upgraded roofing. Our heating and air conditioning units, lighting, security cameras, classroom projectors, and even irrigation systems are on energy management systems, controlled remotely to ensure that units do not run during times they are not needed. Preschool and before-and-after-school childcare programs were relocated to provide better access for parents during hours when the school office

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Partnership Prepares Students



Dr. Al Mijares
*Superintendent
OC Dept. of Ed.*

Orange County is a diverse and dynamic region with the human and economic resources necessary to lead the nation in college and career readiness and success. The California Career Pathways Trust grant can significantly contribute to this vision. The California Department of Education has awarded the Orange County Career Pathways Partnership (OCCPP) a \$15 million California Career Pathways Trust grant to create a countywide infrastructure to expand career pathways for students from kindergarten through college. Led by the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) and Saddleback College, OCCPP is one of twelve recipients awarded a \$15 million grant and represents the largest regional consortium in the state.

Orange County school districts, institutions of higher education, businesses, and community partners will make up this regional consortium to ensure that our students have the opportunity to explore their interests and participate in career pathways of their choosing. OCCPP will make career pathway programs accessible to Orange County students from all academic, socio-economic, and

achievement levels ranging from Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) students, to alternative education students, foster youth, and students with physical and learning disabilities. OCCPP will provide courses and learning experiences that produce competent graduates capable of securing high-skill, high-wage jobs.

Students will participate in career exploration and on-the-job training that prepares them to earn certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, and advanced degrees in three target sectors: Health Care/Biotechnology; Engineering/Advanced Manufacturing and Design; and Information Communication Technology/Digital Media. The same skills necessary to navigate a college degree are required to be successful in career technical education. Students will need to master subjects at the same rigorous level of abstraction and understanding as those entering a traditional university system. These programs will also align career courses with rigorous science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), California Academic Standards, and Career Technical Education Model Standards that provide real-world application of career concepts, linking the content to industry needs.

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Azusa Pacific University

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



Crystal Olson '11, M.A.Ed. '12
Master of Arts in Education: Special Education

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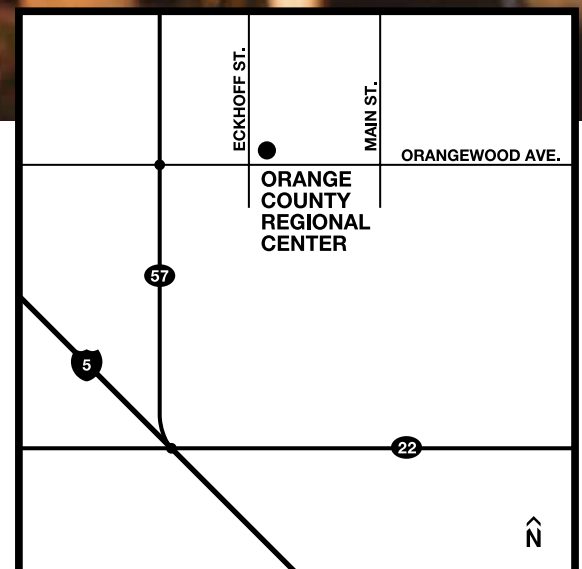
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**Covering the
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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik
Neta Madison



Welcome to a new school year. We hope you had a fun summer. This is our 8th Anniversary publishing the excellence from these three Districts and we appreciate you including *School News* among your reading choices..

We asked the superintendents and principals to write their bios for this special issue. I remember as a child I was so surprised to find that teachers actually eat, sleep, have families and pets!

Our next issue is November 5.
Happy Halloween!

Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/933-KIDS • MCHLB.org

Childhood Cancer, What You Need to Know



Amanda Termuhlen, MD
Medical Director
Jonathan Jaques
Children's
Cancer Center

September is National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children under the age of 15 in the U.S. and spares no ethnic group, socioeconomic class or geographic region. The odds of a child developing cancer by the age of 20, is approximately 1 in 330. Cancers in children can be hard to recognize right away because early symptoms often overlap with those caused by much more common illnesses or injuries.

Childhood Cancer Signs and Symptoms:

- Continued, unexplained weight loss
- Headaches, often with early morning vomiting
- Increased swelling or persistent pain in bones, joints, back or legs
- Lump or mass, especially in the abdomen, neck, chest, pelvis or armpits

- Development of excessive bruising, bleeding or rash
- Constant infections
- A whitish color behind the pupil
- Nausea which persists or vomiting without nausea
- Constant tiredness or noticeable paleness
- Eye or vision changes which occur suddenly and persist
- Recurrent or persistent fevers of unknown origin

Make sure your child has regular medical check-ups and watch for any unusual signs or symptoms that don't go away. An early diagnosis is the best way for a child to beat a cancer diagnosis.

Tell your pediatrician if you are worried about any prolonged symptoms that your child has. Your child's doctor can work with you to assess your child's risk, by reviewing family medical history, a physical examination or screenings.

MillerChildrens.org/Cancer (562) 933-8600

**Miller Children's Hospital
Long Beach**
**Jonathan Jaques
Children's Cancer Center**
MEMORIALCARE HEALTH SYSTEM

Our specialists are the leaders
in children's health care.

Jacob, 3, has a rare form of leukemia, called Philadelphia Chromosome Positive Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (Ph+ALL), where cancer cells multiply in his bone marrow leaving the cancer hard to combat. Miller Children's Hospital Long Beach's research portfolio included an international clinical trial specifically targeting Jacob's very rare form of leukemia. His treatment data is shared with a national consortium, so Jacob is helping save other kids just like him.

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 Cancer Research

Jacob's specialty:
Saving the World



Jacob, 3-years-old,
Miller Children's Cancer Patient
is supported by a strong foundation:
Dr. Etan Orgel, pediatric oncologist

Centralia School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Diane Scheerhorn

Centralia School District Superintendent, Dr. Diane Scheerhorn has been an educator for 45 years, the last 25 of them as superintendent. She earned both her Doctorate of Philosophy and Educational Specialist degrees from Michigan State University, garnering the Doctoral Award for Academic Excellence. She earned her Master of Education and Bachelor of Science in Education degrees from Wayne State University. She served as a teacher for eighteen years, principal and finally superintendent in Michigan before coming to California as Superintendent in South Lake Tahoe, and for the past 10 years in Centralia School District. She was awarded the Americana Award as the Buena Park Citizen of the Year and received the Paul Harris Fellow and Distinguished Vocational Service Award from the Buena Park Rotary. She served on the SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union Education Foundation Board and Advisory Board, Centralia Education Foundation Board and is active in the Orange County Superintendents' Organization.

Diane and her husband Steve, a retired engineer from Ford Motor Company, reside in Oceanside. Their daughter Lindsay and her husband Rick are owners/instructions of Carlsbad Cross Fit. In addition, Lindsay is in her third year of law school and Rick is in school to become a sports psychologist.

Dr. Scheerhorn is very proud of the dedication of our staff in their collective efforts to provide our students with everything they need to succeed. Successes include two Distinguished Schools, seven STAR schools, a Title I Achieving School and Los Coyotes School ranked in the top 10 schools in Orange County.

Danbrook *Elementary*

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



Erasmo Garcia
Principal

Mr. Garcia has 13 years of experience working with innovative school systems as an administrator and five years of experience teaching elementary and middle school children in the classroom and in after-school programs. Prior to becoming a teacher, Mr. Garcia earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from University of California, San Diego. While still an undergraduate, he was recognized as a McNair Scholar for his research in behavioral and cognitive psychology. Continuing his lifelong love of learning, Mr. Garcia completed his graduate coursework in teaching, counseling, and administration at Chapman and Azusa Pacific Universities. Since then he has held various leadership positions, including middle school assistant principal, high school assistant principal, middle school principal, and, most recently, elementary school principal. Among his many recognitions, he is most proud his Teacher of the Year Awards at both primary and secondary grade levels and Riverside County's Bilingual Educators Succeeding Together (BEST) Administrator Award.

Mr. Garcia is a proud graduate of Monrovia High School and is an avid fan of the Wildcat football team. He also enjoys traveling, hiking, golfing, fishing, and spending time with his fiancée, four children, and Blue, his cat. Mr. Garcia is excited to combine his unique academic, administrative, and personal life experiences to create a model school dedicated to bringing out the best in every child.

OC DEPT OF ED • From Page 1

OCCPP will build career pathway partnerships among employers, schools, and colleges and improve the transition into post-secondary studies and career preparation. This initiative will develop a countywide infrastructure to prepare Orange County students for the 21st century workplace, support them in reaching their personal career goals, and equip them to lead the nation in college and career readiness and success.

For more information, visit www.ocde.us/EdTech.

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Buena Terra *Elementary*

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



Dr. Dominic Nguyen
Principal

Dr. Dominic Nguyen will be entering his 13th year in education. He began his teaching career teaching 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades at one of the highest performing elementary school in southern California. For the past three years he served as an administrator in the Corona Norco Unified School District at a school that has been nationally recognized as a Model Professional Learning Community. He has also served as an administrator at a Leader and Me School, an innovative school wide model that prepares students to be leaders in the 21st Century. Most rewarding to him throughout his career is the relationships developed with the students, families, and staff members for whom he serves.

Prior to becoming a teacher, Dr. Nguyen earned his bachelor's degree in liberal studies from the University of California, Riverside. He received his teaching credential from California State University, Fullerton and graduated from the University of La Verne with his master of education in Educational Management. In May of 2013 he fulfilled one of his lifelong dreams by receiving his Doctorate of Education from University of Southern California.

When not at school, he enjoys spending time with his family and friends. He and his wife enjoy traveling to new destinations and consider themselves foodies as they plan their vacations by local restaurant and cuisine recommendations. These travel plans have been halted for a time because they just adopted a rescue puppy named Toffee, and large portion of their summer break has been spent teaching her the basics of potty training.

G.H. Dysinger *Elementary*

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



Maria Poulin
Principal

Mrs. Poulin began her career of 19 years in education as an elementary school teacher, high school Honors English teacher, assistant principal and principal. She has served with Centralia School District as principal for four years.

Earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Los Angeles, Mrs. Poulin majored in English with an emphasis in teaching literature and composition. She completed a Master of Arts degree at Loyola Marymount University at Los Angeles and holds California credentials in teaching and administration. This fall, she will begin studies for a doctorate in education with USC and continue to maintain a high level of excellence as principal at Glen H. Dysinger Sr. Elementary School where she was awarded Administrator of the Year by PTA in 2014.

Mrs. Poulin's goal is to provide a world-class educational experience that nurtures the development of the 21st Century Skills: Creativity, Critical Thinking, Communication, and Collaboration. She believes that genuine collaboration fosters ownership of a rich school culture. Supporting students and staff to do well at school and in their lives is the center of her work.

Mrs. Poulin is married to her high school sweetheart, and they have three children.

Centralia *Elementary*

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



Tia Brown
Principal

Mrs. Tia Brown has 17 years of experience in education. She has served as a 1st-5th grade teacher, Resource Specialist (RSP) teacher, program coordinator, and assistant principal at the elementary and middle school level. She most recently served as principal of an elementary school that was awarded California Distinguished School for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mrs. Brown earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Deaf Studies and a Masters of Arts in Educational Administration from California State University, Northridge and a Master of Arts in Education from Pepperdine University. She is currently completing a doctorate in education. Mrs. Brown enjoys traveling, reading, baking, and spending time with her husband and children.

Mrs. Brown is a passionate educator, who is devoted to educating the whole child in a safe and enriching environment that will allow them to flourish and grow. She is eager to begin her career with Centralia School District as principal of Centralia School.

Raymond Temple *Elementary*

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



Sara Pelly
Principal

Sara Pelly has worked in Centralia School District for 16 years. She began her teaching career in Orange Unified at Crescent Primary School then moved to Centralia where she taught Gifted and Talented 1st and 2nd graders at Walter Knott School for 9 years. After being involved in leadership, curriculum and technology in both districts, Sara decided to make a change to administration and became a Student Support/Community Liaison at Danbrook School. She served as principal at Buena Terra and Danbrook Schools, and is currently the principal at Raymond Temple School.

A native Coloradoan, Sara left her beloved Rocky Mountains to attend college at Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma. After her first day in a general education class, she knew she wanted to be a teacher, and went on to receive a B.S. in Elementary Education, as well as hands on experience in tornado survival! After working as a college Admission Counselor for 2 years she traveled to California for a job interview, and fell instantly in love with the beautiful city of Orange. In spite of the earthquakes, she decided to stay in California and earn her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction, and eventually her Administrative Services Credential at Chapman University.

Sara spends her free time running, playing the piano, and traveling back to Colorado to visit family. She and her husband Mike also enjoy fly-fishing, and are involved in the Men's and Women's Lacrosse Parent Booster programs at Chapman.

G.B. Miller *Elementary*

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



Gerald Shaw
Principal

Gerald Shaw served in the capacity of educational leadership for 11 years. He has worked as an elementary and middle school teacher, assistant principal, and for the last four years principal at the middle and elementary levels. Mr. Shaw earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Stanford University, his teaching credential from California State University Dominguez Hills and his Master of Arts in Educational Administration from California State University Los Angeles.

Driven by a passion to see students excel through high expectations, Mr. Shaw proudly co-led collaborative efforts in achieving 3 Title I Academic Achievement Awards, a 2009 California

Los Coyotes *Elementary*

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



Robyn Yarbrough
Principal

Mrs. Robyn Yarbrough was appointed the principal of Los Coyotes Elementary School in August 2011. She has worked for the Centralia School District since 1998, when she was hired as a classroom teacher. She has also worked as an Instructional Teacher on Special Assignment and a Community Liaison. Prior to her arrival at Los Coyotes, she worked at Danbrook and Walter Knott Schools. Under her leadership, Los Coyotes continues to thrive as one of the most outstanding public elementary schools in Orange County, this year garnering the California Distinguished School award, a silver medal from The Orange County Register, and a California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll Award.

Robyn earned her bachelor's degree in communications from California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) and her master's degree in educational leadership from the same institution. She plans to return to CSUF within the next two years, becoming a Titan for the third time, and obtain her doctorate.

Robyn lives in Buena Park with her husband of 28 years. They enjoy traveling, and are devoted Seahawks fans, making an annual pilgrimage (or two, depending on if they make the play-offs) to Seattle for a home game. Her eldest son is a computer software engineer, earning his bachelor's degree last year, and her youngest son just graduated with a bachelor's degree in English this past May. Both sons, of course, are CSUF Titans.

San Marino *Elementary*

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



Dr. Stacy Chang
Principal

Dr. Stacy Chang is the Principal of San Marino Elementary, a 2014 California Distinguished School. She has her undergraduate degree in Educational Studies from Vanderbilt University, an M.A.Ed. from Biola University, and Ed.D. from University of Southern California. She is also a National Board Certified Teacher.

Dr. Chang has had numerous experiences working with students from the preschool level through the graduate level in diverse settings. She has experiences as an elementary school teacher, education director of a nonprofit organization, and a district and state teacher-trainer for various topics. Additionally, she has been a Training Coordinator in Alabama. Prior to her role as Principal of San Marino, Dr. Chang was an Administrator/Community Instructional Liaison and Academic Coach at Danbrook School.

Dr. Chang was born in South Korea and has lived in New York, Tennessee and Alabama. She is married and has two beautiful and energetic boys.

Dr. Chang loves being the Principal of San Marino School and plans to work with all stakeholders to advance an educational program and culture that is conducive to high-quality, 21st century instruction. Her goal is to work collaboratively with her San Marino team to strive for greater excellence!

Distinguished Schools Award, and a 2010 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award.

Mr. Shaw is committed to the continual improvement of educational opportunities for all students. Mr. Shaw believes that every child has untapped potential and educators have the unique opportunity to draw out that potential and guide them in the direction of academic success. He finds immense enjoyment serving the exceptional students, staff, and community members he comes in contact with daily.

As a former classroom teacher, Mr. Shaw has a deep appreciation for students' cognitive, social, and emotional development and is eager to support the teachers as they collaborate to prepare all students for their highest level of achievement.

Mr. Shaw is married to Michelle and they have two wonderful children, one awesome daughter-in-love, and two amazing granddaughters. He enjoys spending quality time with his family, traveling, playing softball, cooking, and golfing.

Cypress School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Beverly M. Hempstead

Beverly M. Hempstead began her career as a teacher for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Ocean View School District. She continued at Ocean View for 34 years, serving in a variety of positions, including Gifted And Talented Coordinator (GATE), Director of Student Services, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and Deputy Superintendent of Human Resources and District Operations. Beverly Hempstead was then appointed Superintendent of the Cypress School District in July 2011.

Superintendent Hempstead earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California, a master's degree from California State University, Los Angeles, several administrative credentials from University of California, Irvine.

Among her accomplishments as an educator, Superintendent Hempstead has received the California Distinguished School and Golden Bell Awards. Recently, as superintendent, she received a certificate of recognition from the state of California and the 62nd Assembly District for her commitment and support for equity and access for all students. In addition, Superintendent Hempstead has published in *The Special EDge* newsletter, focused on research-based practices, and *Administrative Roles for Differentiating Teaching and Learning in Middle and High Schools* with Vicki Gibson, Ph. D and Anne Silavs. She is a member of the Association of California School Administrators, the Southern California Superintendents, and the Cypress Rotary Club.

Superintendent Hempstead lives in Villa Park with her husband, Michael, of 31 years. She is actively working with the Board of Trustees, community members, staff, students, and parents to complete modernization and expansion of the district's schools and to continue the rich history of educational excellence in the Cypress School District.

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Arnold *Elementary*

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



Denine Kelly
Principal

Mrs. Kelly has been in education for over 28 years. She taught at the elementary and middle school levels. She spent the first part of her career as a teacher and an administrator in the Long Beach Unified School District before coming to Cypress. This will be her 17th year as a principal in Cypress School District. She has served as the principal at Vessels, Swain, and now Arnold School.

Outside of work, she stays busy with her husband and three daughters, ages 19, 17, and 11, and most appreciates having time to "relax" and enjoy them.

Mrs. Kelly is excited about the 2014–15 school year and all that is happening at Arnold School. Arnold was just named a California Distinguished School for the second time. She is very proud of all the hard work and commitment that the entire school community has shown to ensure that all students are making academic progress. Arnold staff, students, and parents are looking forward to being back at "home" at the newly modernized Arnold School campus.

King *Elementary*

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



Carol Erbe
Principal

Carol Erbe is beginning her sixth year as principal at King School, and her twelfth year as a principal in the Cypress School District. Prior to King, she was also principal at Cawthon and Damron Schools.

Mrs. Erbe first became interested in working for the Cypress School District over 20 years ago, when her eldest daughter began as a student at Morris. The sound educational program and atmosphere of inclusiveness in each of the Cypress schools was impressive. All three of her daughters attended school in the district, and all three thrived in this educational environment.

Mrs. Erbe began her teaching career in the Long Beach Unified School District, first as a classroom teacher, then as a technology specialist teacher, and later as the vice principal at a K–8 school. She attended CSULB and Pepperdine Universities, and holds credentials in elementary teaching, educational technology, and administration.

When asked about the anticipated challenges for this school year, she said, "The continued transition into Common Core State Standards presents many exciting opportunities for our teachers to help students move toward higher education and college and career readiness. The King teachers are enthusiastic about incorporating various instructional strategies to empower students, increase student achievement, and enhance student learning."

Morris *Elementary*

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



Lori Hernandez
Principal

Lori Hernandez, Principal of Juliet Morris Elementary, is excited to begin her second year as their educational leader. This school year, Morris will be continuing with some of the initiatives and programs started in the 2013-14 school year, including the transition to Common Core, the use of Thinking Maps, school-wide positive behavior management, and the integration of technology into all curricular areas.

Before joining the Cypress team in 2013, Mrs. Hernandez taught in both the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Magnolia School District. She was awarded Orange County Teacher of the Year in 2010. Mrs. Hernandez is a National Board

Certified Teacher in Language Arts, and earned both her BA and MA at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Vessels *Elementary*

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



Helen Lu
Principal

Helen Lu will be starting her second year at Vessels Elementary School. She has over 18 years of experience working in the field of education. She has formerly served as an elementary principal, assistant principal, SWING (Senior with Interest in New Generation) District Coordinator, Superintendent Advisory Board, Elementary Teacher, and Recreational Leader.

Ms. Lu was born in Hong Kong and relocated to California when she was 10 years old. She speaks fluent Mandarin and Cantonese. She received her Bachelor of Science in child development from California State University, Fullerton, and a master's degree in education from Claremont Graduate University. When away from being a principal, Ms. Lu enjoys spending time with her children, playing tennis on the USTA, and traveling with her whole family.

Ms. Lu is excited to return this year and continue the progress and high standards that are associated with Vessels Elementary School. She looks forward to again working with the stellar staff and community to offer the very best to each child so that he or she can reach the highest potential as a learner!

Landell *Elementary*

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



Rena Gibbs
Principal

Dr. Rena Gibbs is beginning her second year as principal of Margaret Landell School.

When asked about her first year, she shared how blessed she feels to be part of the Landell family: “When I first came aboard I knew I was joining a highly dedicated community, devoted to ensuring that Landell students are provided with the very best education possible. However, it was not until I was about halfway through my first year that I realized the true depth of that commitment.

“Teachers and parents go above and beyond on a daily basis to bring that ‘something extra’ to the Landell campus. Students sense that love and dedication, and so they respond accordingly by pushing themselves to achieve their personal best. It truly is a joy to wake up each morning and know I get to spend my days at such an amazing school with such phenomenal people.”

Dr. Gibbs began her career in education locally in 1993. She came to Cypress from the Centralia School District, where she worked for 15 years as a classroom teacher. She later served as a teacher on special assignment and professional development coordinator. In 2011 she earned her doctorate in educational leadership at California State University, Fullerton, after receiving her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Chapman University.

Dr. Gibbs is looking forward to the upcoming year. “With the implementation of the Common Core State Standards, and the Smarter Balanced Assessment, we are entering uncharted territory,” she added. “This past year we have had some highly productive conversations centered on the changing educational landscape. I’ve seen a lot of ‘out of the box’ thinking, and I am excited to see the creative ways that we will be working together to make sure each of our students continue to succeed.”

Luther *Elementary*

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



Jacki Teschke
Principal

Jacki Teschke is beginning her sixth year as principal in the Cypress School District (fifth year at Luther School). She has extensive training and expertise in curriculum and instruction, and she has a passion for learning about teaching and effective instruction and providing students with the best possible educational program to ensure that they learn to their maximal level of ability. Her primary goal is to support teachers to ensure that strategies that research finds are most effective are used in every classroom with every student, especially as full implementation of the Common Core State Standards is begun.

Mrs. Teschke strongly believes that her primary job is to be the advocate for all students, and she believes in the concept that all Luther staff members must take responsibility for the education of all Luther students; thus, Luther has become an educational community in which all adults feel an obligation for the education and development of all students. Mrs. Teschke exemplifies this by personally knowing every student in the school and virtually every parent.

Prior to becoming a principal, Mrs. Teschke served Cypress School District on many levels: classroom teacher; Title I resource teacher; site program coordinator; Cotsen Foundation teacher-mentor; district BTSA coordinator, directing the new teacher program; and district teacher on special assignment responsible for GATE, staff development, and technology support.

Her three grown children attended CSD schools, and she served as parent volunteer and PTA board member, including president, for five years before beginning her teaching career. She lives in Cypress and enjoys spending time with her family and dogs when she is away from school.



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Savanna School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Sue Johnson

Dr. Johnson began her career as a teacher in Wrightwood, CA, where she taught third and fifth grades. She served in the position of elementary school assistant principal and lecturer for California State University, San Bernardino. Dr. Johnson began working in the Savanna School District in 1990 as Curriculum Coordinator, and has served in Savanna School District since that time in the positions of Director of Curriculum, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Johnson received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; a Master of Arts Degree in School Administration from California State University, San Bernardino; and a Doctorate in Educational Administration from the University of Southern California.

As a first-generation college graduate, Dr. Johnson is passionate about providing opportunities for all students to succeed and be on the path toward college and career readiness. She states, “It’s very fulfilling to be able to give back to future generations, giving others the same chance I was once given. In my current position, I’ve been fortunate to not only have an impact on student learning but also on ensuring that the generations to come have the best facilities possible that will positively affect our children’s education and our community for generations to come.”

A married mother of two grown daughters, Dr. Johnson is extremely proud that her oldest daughter has recently completed her Masters Degree at the University of Strasbourg, France, while her youngest daughter is a second year teacher. Her advice to others is embodied in the quote by Confucius: ‘Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.’

GRAND RE-OPENING • From Page 1

is not open. The remodeled student restrooms are ‘student friendly’ with new plumbing and sewer lines, energy-efficient fixtures, and terrazzo flooring that will last at least another 50 years! The school kitchen received an upgrade too. This includes a “speedline” with both hot food and a salad bar available on a daily basis.

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. Thanks to the modernization of Holder School, students will have access to new computers and software programs that support and enhance the curriculum; students will learn computer literacy skills through daily, small group instruction on classroom sets of computers to enhance and support the instructional program and core curriculum. These computers will be essential as our students begin to demonstrate their understanding of Common Core standards through online assessments. Technology will truly be infused across the curriculum as students learn to use technological tools to enhance their learning as well as to demonstrate what they have learned.

Recent tragedies in schools across America have served to highlight the timeliness of the security measures undertaken as part of Holder’s modernization project. School security enhancements are multi-faceted and include perimeter fencing, security cameras throughout the campus, paging systems, emergency notification systems, enhanced fire alarm systems, and increased security lighting after school hours. The energy efficient security lighting illuminates the school throughout the evening, with lower lighting levels after all staff have left the campus. Security lighting that can be seen throughout the night is designed for safety and security. We have an obligation to control when and where visitors can enter our campus in order to provide the safest possible environment. Such a protected atmosphere is essential for students of all ages; without it they are unable to focus on learning the skills needed for a successful education and future.

These capital improvements that will affect our children’s education and our community for generations to come could not have been accomplished without the support of our community that has allowed us to leave a legacy of 21st Century learning environments. The modernization of Holder School and its designation as a California Distinguished School will impact the education of students and the community for generations to come, demonstrating “The Best Is Yet To Come!”

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Holder School’s sixth grade class of 2014 promotion was the first to use their new Outdoor Learning Center.

Cerritos *School*

3731 Cerritos St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3830 • <http://savsd.k12.ca.us/Cerritos/cerrhome.html>



Dr. Paul Lavigne
Principal

Dr. Paul Lavigne has served as a school psychologist and Director of Special Education in the Savanna School District since 2006. During January of the 2013-2014 school year, Dr. Lavigne was appointed interim principal of Cerritos School. Prior to his tenure in Savanna, Dr. Lavigne was a school psychologist in the Garden Grove Unified School District for one year, and a school psychologist in the El Rancho Unified School District for five years.

Dr. Lavigne earned his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska. Dr. Lavigne earned his Educational Specialist Degree in School Psychology as well as his Masters Degree in Educational Psychology from Chapman University. During that time, Dr. Lavigne worked for the Orange County Department of Education as an instructional assistant for students with special needs where Dr. Lavigne developed a passion for helping all students succeed despite any challenges they may face. Dr. Lavigne earned his Doctorate Degree in Organizational Leadership from the University of La Verne.

Dr. Lavigne lives in Anaheim with his wife, Shannon, of sixteen years. They have a 10-year-old daughter, Zoe, and a seven-year-old son, Paxton. They enjoy outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, and fishing, and spending time together at home. Dr. Lavigne is excited to serve as principal at Cerritos School for the 2014-2015 school year.

Holder *School*

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



Dr. Jerry Friedman
Principal

Dr. Jerry Friedman has served as a principal in the Savanna School District since 2002. After eleven successful years as principal at Cerritos School, he has been the principal of Holder School since August of 2013. Prior to his tenure in Savanna, Dr. Friedman taught and worked as an administrator in the ABC Unified School District for twelve years.

Dr. Friedman earned his Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies from Cal State Long Beach. During that time he worked part-time as an instructional assistant in elementary schools and discovered his passion for education. He earned his Master's Degree from National University and went on to receive his Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California.

Prior to entering the teaching profession, Dr. Friedman's passion for travel and learning led him to year-long adventures in both Mexico and Japan, immersing himself in the cultures, customs, and languages. His dedication to meeting the needs of second language learners was strengthened through his experiences; he is committed to providing a safe, nurturing environment where all students can be successful.

Dr. Friedman lives in Yorba Linda with his wife, Lisa, of thirteen years. They have an eight-year old daughter, Skyler. They enjoy outdoor activities, traveling, and spending time together at home.

Hansen *School*

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



Shannon Wyatt
Principal

Ms. Shannon Wyatt was appointed the principal of Hansen School in January of 2008. She has worked for the Savanna School District since 2004; however, she has been part of the Savanna family since she began as a kindergarten student at Cerritos School. Prior to her appointment as Hansen principal, Ms. Wyatt taught at Cerritos and Holder Schools, as well as in the Cypress and Desert Sands Unified School Districts. Under her leadership, Hansen continues to thrive, earning the Orange County Human Relations Award for honoring diversity and improving Hansen's Academic Performance Index score to 812.

Ms. Wyatt earned her Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies, minoring in military history, from California State University of San Bernardino and her Master's Degree in educational leadership from California State University, Long Beach.

Ms. Wyatt and her family enjoy traveling as well as attending a variety of sporting events including football, hockey, and baseball. Her daughter attends the University of Iowa majoring in Anthropology and Global Health while her son is serving an internship with FEMA in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Twila Reid *School*

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



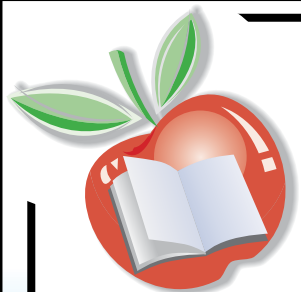
Hipolito Murillo
Principal

Mr. Murillo joined the Savanna School District in April 2014 as Director of Student Services/School Psychologist. Prior to his tenure in Savanna, Mr. Murillo worked as a teacher, School Psychologist, Mental Health Liaison, and school site and district level administrator in the El Rancho Unified School District for over eighteen years. In May of 2014, he was appointed principal of Twila Reid School.

Mr. Murillo earned his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles. In addition, he earned a M.A. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, a M.S. in Counseling designed for schools, and a M.A. in Educational Administration from California State University, Los Angeles. Additionally, he's a Licensed Educational Psychologist and fluent in both English and Spanish.

An interesting sidelight to Mr. Murillo's employment history is that for 12 years he was employed by the Los Angeles Dodgers – a batboy for two years and locker room attendant for ten. He says meeting players and being involved personally with the team's day-to-day operations was, indeed, a young man's dream job.

Mr. Murillo lives in Chino with his wife, Denise, of eleven years. They have an eight-year old son, Benjamin, and ten-year old daughter, Gabriela. They enjoy baseball and softball activities, traveling, and spending time together as a family.



Savanna School District

**Full Day Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Programs
2014-2015 School Year**



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

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

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

Reid School
720 S. Western Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92804
8:15 am – 2:40 pm

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



Cypress Library

5331 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/826-0350 • www.ocpl.org

Enrich Your Family With Our Programs



Helen Richardson
Branch Manager

By Susan Pina, Youth Services Librarian

Homework Help: Elementary and middle school students can drop in for free homework help on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:30–5 p.m. starting Monday, Sept. 8. The Homework Help program is made possible by local high school volunteers. Students can receive help with their homework on a first-come-first served basis subject to seat availability and available homework helpers.

Toddler and Preschool Story Time: The first Story Time of the fall will be Sept. 17 in the Community Room. Toddler Story time for ages 18–35 months begins at 9:30 a.m., and preschool story time for ages 3 to 5 years begins at 10:30 a.m. Story times include stories, music and rhymes.

Evening Story Time: Come enjoy and evening Story Time, filled with music, action and stories. This program is for young children, but families are welcome. Story Time will be held in the Community Room the third Monday of the month from 6:30–7p.m. beginning Sept. 15.

Read to a Doggie: Dogs like stories, too! We have two adorable pups that love being read to. Won't you come read to them? On the first Wednesday of every month from 6–7 p.m. in the Children's Area, starting Sept. 3, children can read to a therapy dog.

ACME Drawing: Chuck Jones Center for Creativity will be at the library the second Thursday of every month from 3:30–4:30 p.m., starting Sept. 11. ACME is a step-by-step drawing program for all ages.

Call the library for more information about our programs.

The Theatre Guild & Southeast Civic Light Opera, in partnership with Cypress Recreation, is back and rarin' to go for its 20th season with the Children's Repertory production of the musical,

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!

Great roles for everyone, so come and be part of this wonderful musical! Register thru Cypress Recreation and Community Services.
www.ci.cypress.ca.us

Performance Dates
Nov. 14-23 Friday & Saturday at 7:30 pm
Matinee's: Sundays at 2:00 pm

Classes Begin
September 22 Monday thru Wednesday 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

A \$20 material fee is payable to the instructor at the first class.
Instructor: J. Hathcock • (714) 827-9141
Class Location: Arnold Cypress Park, 8611 Watson St., Cypress

Going Green! 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 subject line)

Entries must be received by September 30, 2014
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| Carpool | Future | Reduce |
| Compost | Garden | Renewable |
| Conservation | Healthier | Resources |
| Difference | Impact | Respect |
| Eco Friendly | Low Waste | Responsibility |
| Efficient | Planet | Reuse |
| Emissions | Process | Solar |
| Energy | Protect | |
| Environment | Recycle | |

Congratulations to Our May Winner!
Selina Torres

G	A	R	D	E	N	H	J	F	T	H	H	F	Y	E
T	C	E	P	S	E	R	I	E	A	E	D	T	C	V
C	T	C	O	N	S	E	R	V	A	T	I	O	N	E
A	N	Y	Y	K	U	W	G	L	P	L	F	P	E	P
P	E	C	E	K	E	L	T	A	I	R	F	L	N	R
M	M	L	A	M	R	H	N	B	I	G	E	A	E	O
I	N	E	F	F	I	C	I	E	N	T	R	N	R	T
N	O	C	E	E	K	S	N	Y	S	J	E	E	G	E
G	R	B	R	Q	N	D	S	A	F	W	N	T	Y	C
S	I	Y	N	O	L	R	W	I	A	K	C	O	O	T
O	V	Z	P	Y	Y	W	E	B	O	A	E	M	M	I
L	N	S	W	G	O	M	L	D	Z	N	P	T	L	Z
A	E	L	J	L	S	E	C	R	U	O	S	E	R	M
R	W	K	P	R	O	C	E	S	S	C	E	F	R	Q
L	W	L	S	X	L	F	U	T	U	R	E	S	R	U

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- A – Clean Slate at School**
- A = A Trip to the Tutoring Club**

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Expires October 15, 2014

"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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