

FREE

School News



Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the following school districts:

**Fountain Valley School District • Ocean View School District
Westminster School District • Huntington Beach Union High School District**

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 46

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2012

WSD After-School Programs ROCK!



Westminster School District students having fun in the after-school program.



*By Trish Montgomery, Public Information Officer and
Dr. Debra Hill, Coordinating Director of Safe Schools, Healthy Students*
**Students in the Westminster School District (WSD)
can't get enough of our after-school programs! Why?
Because they are fun, interesting, educational and creative.**

Evidence is mounting that where and how youth spend their time outside of normal school hours has important implications in their development. As a result, there has been increasing interest in after-school programs that provide youth with a safe and supportive environment while offering a variety of growth-enhancing opportunities that promote academic, personal, social and recreational development.

Students in our after-school programs benefit from clubs that focus on music, theater, science, math, nutrition and physical fitness, cooking, banking/accounting, art, computer skills and gardening. They also enjoy learning field trips to museums, colleges, local businesses, and nature centers. Most importantly, these students feel more connected to their school.

WSD has after-school programs available at every school. The district's Extended School Program has partnered with community agencies like the Boys and Girls Club, Abrazar, Inc., the City of Westminster, and The Joyful Child Foundation to meet the needs of our families. Our exemplary programs are aligned with the Learning in Afterschool principles, meaning learning is:

Active—Young people are involved in “doing” activities that allow them to be physically active, stimulate their innate curiosity, and that are hands-on and project-based. Numerous clubs create these opportunities for our students. For example, March is “brain awareness” month and students work with scientists

from UCI to learn about the functions of the brain. Other sites utilize “Lizard Wizard” where they touch, feel, and learn about the various types of lizards, reptiles and snakes.

Collaborative—Learning occurs best in a team approach and across ages. This includes listening to others, supporting group learning goals, resolving differences and conflicts, and making room for each member to contribute his or her individual talents. Cross-age learning activities are meaningful to both the older student who is teaching or presenting and the younger student who is engaging.

Meaningful—students contribute to the learning topics and are able to assess their own progress. Motivation increases when the learning is relevant to their own personal interests and experiences. When a student's learning involves responsibility, leadership, and service to others, it is perceived as more meaningful. Students identify the types of clubs they want to participate in and suggest the kind of activities they want to explore.

Mastery—Young people need the opportunity to learn and discover what they are really good at. Program supervisors encourage this by designing activities that lead to a culminating event or product that can be viewed and celebrated by peers, such as planning, creating, and implementing a play, a presentation, or large event like a school carnival.

Innovative—Our young people benefit by learning opportunities that take them beyond their current experiences and expand their horizons. The after-school programs have the flexibility to go beyond the walls of their facilities. They use the surrounding community as a classroom and bring in individuals and businesses that address and discuss issues and hot topics. For example, students may learn about taking care of the earth and engage in recycling activities that teach them how to care for their environment.

SEE WSD AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS ROCK! • PAGE 21

Inside: Fountain Valley Office of the Mayor, Huntington Beach Office of the Mayor, Westminster Office of the Mayor *page 4* • Food & Nutrition Services *page 5*
Fountain Valley School District *pages 6–9* • Ocean View School District *pages 10–15* • Westminster School District *pages 19–24* • Contests *pages 18 & 21*
Huntington Beach Union High School District *pages 25–31* • Orange County Department of Education *page 18* • AHA Section *pages 16–18*





Marinello
SCHOOLS OF BEAUTY

YOUR DREAM CAREER AWAITS

ENTER THE EXCITING FIELDS OF COSMETOLOGY,
ESTHETICS (SKIN CARE), BARBERING AND MANICURING

888.434.6784 **Anaheim
Huntington Beach
Lake Forest**

Accredited by NACCAS Programs vary by location Career Placement assistance for graduates Financial Aid available to those who qualify

Defining Beauty Education Since 1905
www.marinello.com

Follow us on
Facebook Twitter





Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher







School News
Education + Communication = A Better Nation
www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Covering the School Districts:
FOUNTAIN VALLEY
HUNTINGTON BEACH UNION HIGH SCHOOL
OCEAN VIEW
WESTMINSTER



FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193
kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

ADVERTISING SALES:
562/493-3193 • Fax: 562/430-8063

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

COPY EDITORS:
Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST: Neta Madison

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Laura Brune

SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL
P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193
www.schoolnewsrollcall.com
Copyright © 2006, School News Roll Call LLC
Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest columnists are their views and not necessarily those of *School News Roll Call*. This publication is privately owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content. The school districts do not endorse the advertisers in this publication.



Happy New Year! It is hard to believe we are actually into 2012 already. I hope you are well on your way to keeping your new year's resolutions, if you made any. I finally followed through joining the social media so you may now follow us on Facebook and Twitter. If you would like to receive this publication emailed to you or someone as a gift, please sign up on our web site. The school districts have much to share with you through *School News Roll Call* and we appreciate you including SNRC among your reading choices.

We have three issues remaining for this school year: March 14, May 2, & June 6.

UCLA Extension

explore. experience. expand.

Earn While You Learn
Become a Paid K-12 Intern Teacher!

With our Intern Teacher Credential Programs, you can earn your preliminary credential quickly, conveniently, and inexpensively. Enroll in one of these programs today:

- Education Specialist Intern Credential Program (Mild/Moderate)
- Single Subject Intern Credential Program: English, Math, Science, or Social Science
- Multiple Subjects Intern Credential Program

For more information contact Miriam Sims at msims@uclaextension.edu or (310) 825-0095.

SKIP
— the —
ER WAITING ROOM

➔ Sign up online for your time through **INQUICKER** at www.fountainvalleyhospital.com

➔ Be seen by a healthcare professional within 15 minutes of your time reserved online.

➔ Skip the wait time of other emergency rooms.

- Accredited Chest Pain Center
- Cardiac Receiving Center
- Primary Stroke Center
- Experienced, Board Certified ER Physicians
- Pediatric Unit and a Pediatric ICU
- Open 24/7



Fountain Valley Regional
HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

17100 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708
www.fountainvalleyhospital.com



beautiful
smiles
bright futures

Changing lives, one smile at a time!



American Association
of Orthodontists



DIPLOMATE
AMERICAN BOARD
OF ORTHODONTICS

invisalign

2011 | PREFERRED
PROVIDER



HARNER
ORTHODONTICS

Andrew T. Harner DDS, MS

www.harnerorthodontics.com
www.facebook.com/harnerorthodontics



18700 Main St., Suite 209 • Huntington Beach, CA • (714) 842-9933

The City of Fountain Valley Office of the Mayor

10200 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, 92708 • 714/593-4400 • www.fountainvalley.org

Facing the Future Together



John J. Collins
Mayor

Over the 54 years Fountain Valley has been incorporated as a city, 38 of its residents have served as city council members. Twenty-one have taken on the additional responsibility of being mayor. Considering this, a certain perspective can be understood regarding the prestige and unique honor that accompanies the title of mayor.

On December 6, I proudly stated my Oath of Office and commenced my sixth term as Fountain Valley's mayor. Having Supervisor John Moorlach swear me in was a great honor. He is a man of integrity, whose hard work, intellect and service to Orange County has benefited all Fountain Valley residents.

Being an effective mayor requires, among other things, a substantial commitment of time. Past Mayor Steve Nagel gave generously of his time during his term as mayor, bringing a great deal of respect and honor to the role as he shepherded us through many events in 2011.

Fountain Valley was one of the first master-planned communities in the state. I believe this is probably the basis for Fountain Valley being "A Nice Place to Live." Our city forefathers gave us the "road map" that sets almost all standards by which we operate. Fountain Valley has been recognized as a leader in problem solving, while maintaining high standards for our residents.

I am honored to serve the people of Fountain Valley, and I am ever mindful of the history and circumstances that have brought us together to face the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

The City of Huntington Beach Office of the Mayor

2000 Main St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-5553 • www.surfcity-hb.org

More Citizen Feedback Encouraged



Don Hansen
Mayor

The holiday season is over, and winter is upon us. I was appointed Mayor of Huntington Beach in December, and I, like many other people, made many New Year's resolutions. One of my resolutions this year, is to make Huntington Beach an even better place to live in.

One of my New Year's resolutions, as Mayor, is to encourage more feedback from the citizens of Huntington Beach. By doing this, we can incorporate more citizen ideas into the decision-making process at City Hall. How can you become educated on these decisions and involved in your community? Well, first I suggest that you check out the City's website, www.huntingtonbeachca.gov. This website will connect you to City Council meetings and agendas, City Departments, and other organizations within the City. Through the website, you are also able to email myself or any other City Council members.

Another great way to become educated about the City you live in is to attend a City Council meeting. City Council meetings are held on the first and third Monday of the month in the City Council Chambers at 2000 Main St. The meeting starts at 6 p.m. and are also webcast for those who don't subscribe to cable TV or Fios.

Please make a New Year's resolution to learn a little more about the City you live in and to become involved. As you learn about the City, please take the time to educate your children as well, because someday they will be in charge of making decisions for Huntington Beach.

The City of Westminster Office of the Mayor

8200 Westminster Blvd., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/898-3311 • www.ci.westminster.ca.us

Working Together



Margie Rice
Mayor

As the New Year begins, it is clear to those of us working in city governments and school districts that we will continue to struggle with budget deficits. While there are some encouraging economic signs, it has become obvious that a full recovery is going to take significantly more time. However, I am encouraged by members of our community helping each other as we face the challenge of trying to accomplish more with less.

With teamwork, I believe our efforts can transcend budget cuts and reduced staffing to continue to provide required services to the people who depend on us. One example in Westminster recently reported in *School News Roll Call* involved Kyle Sweet's Eagle Scout project at Westminster High School, where he is a student. Soliciting private donations and recruiting volunteers, Kevin was able to have a 600-square-foot tack box constructed for the school's Agriculture Sciences Department.

Several years ago we set up a City Youth Committee comprised of high school students. They now assist at city events and promote activities at their schools. Our Middle School Enhancement program with Westminster School District continues to provide lunchtime and after-school programs, which include a stipend for teachers to supervise academic clubs. Project Safety, Health, Understanding and Education (SHUE) maintains the same level of tutoring for elementary students referred by their teachers. The Police Explorer program helps students develop leadership skills while supporting community activities.

Looking at the success of these programs, I feel optimistic about all that we can accomplish working together.

Home loan solutions from Bank of America

- Competitive rates
- A wide range of home financing solutions
- Easy application process

Contact me today:



Steve Shaw

Mortgage Loan Officer - Retail Mortgage Sales
Office: 562.668.9107 Cell: 562.453-5202
steve.shaw@bankofamerica.com
Website: <http://mortgage.bankofamerica.com/steveshaw>

Bank of America
Home Loans

Bank of America, N.A., Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender © 2009 Bank of America Corporation. Credit and collateral are subject to approval. Terms and conditions apply. This is not a commitment to lend. Programs, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. 00-62-0287D 04-2009 AR73004

Top 1% of Realtors Nationwide

Servicing All Your Orange County
Real Estate Needs

*Your Satisfaction
Is Everything To Me*



(714) 717-5095 cell
www.lilycampbell.com



Lily Campbell
(714) 593-9458
DRE #:01229782

Happy New Year!

Food & Nutrition Services

Huntington Beach Union High School District • 714/894-1698

Healthy Cooking Classes for 2012

By Nancy Wikes, M.S., R.D.

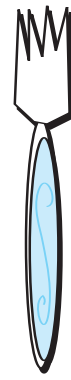
Do you want to sharpen your cooking skills?
Bring new life to the dinner table? Or perhaps just
encourage your family to try something new?

The HBUHSD Food and Nutrition Services nutrition-education team invites you to join us in a series of six cooking classes. The subjects will include learning how to cook delicious vegetables, preparing hearty whole grains, serving healthy beverages and more.

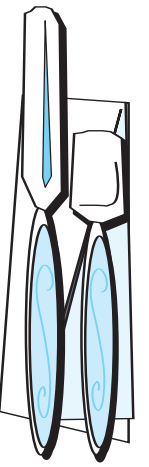
- These free classes will begin on Wednesday, January 25th
- Classes will continue every Wednesday until February 29th.
- Each Wednesday class will be offered at both 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- The 8 a.m. class will meet in the cafeteria
- The 6 p.m. class will meet in Room E2.

Start your year off healthy! Learn how to reduce your risk of heart disease, Type 2 diabetes and obesity by making small changes in the way you cook. Be sure to bring your friends, family and neighbors to learn how to be their best in 2012!

These great classes are for adults only, and will be held at Westminster High School. To RSVP, or for more information, please call Nancy Wikes, M.S., R.D.; at (714) 894-1698. Or e-mail at cnnggrant@hbuhsd.org.



Dine In Dine Out...





Come on down and enjoy
SILKY SULLIVAN'S
Restaurant & Irish Pub

Open 7 Days a Week
Mon.-Fri. 11am-2am • Sat.-Sun. 8am-2am



10201 Slater Ave.
Fountain Valley, CA
(714) 963-2718
www.silkysullivan.com

- Serving Complete Dinners until 1:00am
7 Days a Week
- Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials
- Saturday & Sunday Breakfasts
- 7 Satellite Dishes & 19 Hi-Def Televisions
- Happy Hour Food Specials Monday through Friday



\$3.00 Off
Any Menu Item
One coupon per person Exp. 02/29/12



**McKenna's
Tea
Cottage**

**A quaint upscale tea room
in the heart of Old Town Seal Beach**

- 37 Specialty Teas
- Tea Sandwiches
- Scones
- Salads
- Desserts
- Soups and more



Plan on sharing that
special occasion with us

- Tea Parties
- Baby Showers
- Wedding Showers
- Birthday Parties

Kristen, Margarita, Isreal

(562) 431-0200 • 810 Electric Ave. • Seal Beach, CA 90740
www.mckennasteacottage.com



Let us help your organization
bring home the bacon.





**SLATER'S
50/50**
Burgers by Design™

Anaheim Hills
On the corner of Fairmont
& Santa Ana Canyon
6362 E Santa Ana Canyon Road
(714) 685-1103

Huntington Beach
On the corner of Beach & Adams
8082 Adams Avenue
(714) 594-5730
www.slaters5050.com

We wouldn't be here without the
communities that support us.

We offer in-kind donations,
gift cards and fundraiser events.
Host an event Monday -
Wednesday at Slater's 50/50
and 20% of the day's proceeds
will go to your organization.

Visit any Slater's 50/50
or call for details.

Fountain Valley School District

10055 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/843-3200 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Marc Ecker

Top Workplace Award for Fountain Valley School District

For the third time in four years, the Fountain Valley School District received the prestigious *Orange County Register* Top Workplace Award. Fountain Valley placed eighth in the county in the large employer category. Fountain Valley School District was the only school district making the top 10. We are indeed very proud and appreciative that our employees continue to rank us high on those factors that create an environment where people feel valued and where employment policies and practices are fair and equitable.

We have attempted to maintain a sense of family, where each and every member of our staff is treated as an important link to our overall success. The reputation of the school district is outstanding because our constituents believe that there is always someone who is there to attend to their needs. In Fountain Valley, we know that the delivery of exceptional instructional services come about not only through the excellent teaching of our talented classroom teachers and the courageous leadership of the site administrators, but also because of our incredible classified support personnel.

We could never achieve the high academic ranking that we do without our school-bus drivers getting children to their schools safely and on time. We know that our food-service workers strive to make sure that no child in our school goes hungry, and we absolutely appreciate the hard work of our classroom instructional aides, who assist our teachers daily. The office managers are the first people often seen by the community, and our maintenance and grounds personnel are out early each day to make sure that our school operations are performing efficiently and that the school sites are well groomed.

Each and every person is a critical link to our success, and I thank them for not only their diligent service to our students and their families, but also to the community at large. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish to express the pride we all feel and our grateful appreciation for their confidence in our organization.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Ian Collins
President

A Cup Half Full or Half Empty

Upon reflecting on 2011 and looking forward to 2012, I always see the cup half full in the Fountain Valley School District. From my viewpoint, the following are the positive reasons why I think this way:

As the new Board president, I am fortunate to have colleagues who are dedicated to doing the right thing for the students and parents. We work as a team that focuses on the teaching and learning process and collectively solves problems that may arise.

The administrative staff, teachers, and classified staff are top notch, always acting as professionals and doing what is best for our students.

The students perform at a high academic level and remind all of us that they are the focus of our endeavors. It is a joy to visit schools, attend concerts and sporting activities, and celebrate the students' academic successes. As a Board member, this helps remind me that these young people are our future, and we have a responsibility to make it a bright one.

The parents of the district should be commended for their involvement and support for their children's schools. It never ceases to amaze me how many hours they volunteer on behalf of all our students. I attend a monthly Parent/Superintendent Council meeting, comprised of PTA and PTO leaders, and hear all the things that they do for their schools and their willingness to share ideas and support for one another. Truth be known, I look forward to being a participant at these meetings.

Although my cup is not half full when it comes to the way we fund our public schools and the multitude of cuts we have made due to the decline in funding, I am buoyed by the way employees, parents and our Educational Foundation have worked together to preserve the performing arts programs and their personal sacrifices in salary and job cuts.

I have five grandchildren in three different schools in the district, and I know they are getting a great education and will be well prepared for the future.

Yes, our cup is half full in Fountain Valley, and we are looking forward to a great 2012.

Fountain Valley Educational Foundation

10055 Slater Ave, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

A Proud Moment



Nicola Weiss
President

Every spring the Fountain Valley Educational Foundation is proud to hosts the Festival of the Arts for the students of the district to showcase their talents. The event is a celebration of vocal, instrumental, fine arts and literature work of our students. It allows them to be in the spotlight for a few days and make their parents hearts burst with pride. FVEF would like you to join us in this celebration and witness the many talents and share in this special celebration. We feel strongly that it is important for our students to continue to participate in Art and Music programs since research has shown that they benefit academically when involved in these programs. FVEF main goal is to raise funds to keep these programs going and your support is greatly appreciated. To support our programs visit us at www.fvef.org

Please join us for our events:

March 14, 2012 Art and Literature Showcase, Fountain Valley Community Center
March 27, 2012 Band Monster Concert, Fountain Valley High School
March 29, 2012 Orchestra Performance, Fountain Valley Boys and Girls Club
March TBD, 2012 Vocal Concert, Location TBD

Fountain Valley School District Board of Trustees



Ian Collins
President



Christine Allcorn
President Pro Tem



Sandra Crandall
Clerk



Judy Edwards
Member



Jimmy Templin
Member

Roch Courreges *Elementary (K-5)*

18313 Santa Carlotta, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4280 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us/courreges/courreges.html



Chris Christensen
Principal

"Thinking Maps" at Courreges

All of the Courreges teachers were just recently trained on "Thinking Maps," a research-based common visual language for learning across all disciplines. Thanks to the generous financial support of the Courreges PTA and two parents/teachers, Teri Mena and Kris Olquin from Oceanview School District, all of the Courreges teachers are now fully trained on "Thinking Maps." According to Valarie Ruig, Courreges teacher, "It was one of the best in-services we have had. I found it practical and applicable, and extremely useful!"

Classroom implementation of "Thinking Maps" was immediately evident in all classrooms just days after the training.



Students Walter Lonergan, Kainoa Shintaku, Madison Volz, and Elise Johns show off their first usage of Thinking Maps in Mrs. Workman's classroom

Harry C. Fulton *Middle School (6-8)*

8778 El Lago St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-2816 • http://fultonms.fvdsd.ca.schoolloop.com/



Jennifer Perkins
Principal



Paul Andre White
Assistant Principal

'Tis the Season of Giving

Fulton Middle School collected gifts for the less fortunate by helping the U.S. Marine Corps with its annual Toys For Tots program. During the week of December 5-9 our Fulton students were asked to bring in unwrapped toys with a minimum value of \$10.

Those students who participated in the event earned raffle tickets, with the lucky winners being announced daily. The students who donated at least \$50 worth of toys were also entered into a grand prize drawing, which was announced on Friday. The winner of the grand prize was Raina Guerrero.

The real winners, though, are all of the students who generously donated their gifts. Our Falcon students and families donated thousands of dollars worth of toys. In fact, when the U.S. Marines came to pick them up they didn't have enough room in their truck, and had to send for a bigger one!

Thank you to the Fulton community for making our Toys For Tots drive an enormous success. Thank you also to the students in the Helping Hands Club. They organized the toy drive and worked each morning to collect the items and hand out raffle tickets.



James H. Cox *Elementary (K-5)*

17615 Los Jardines East, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4240 • www.coxelementary.org



Patrick Ham
Principal

Kids Art Fair

On December 6, 2011 James H. Cox Elementary School hosted its second annual

Kids Art Fair evening. Throughout the month of November, Cox students worked diligently to create magnificent works of arts. They used a variety of mediums including pencil, crayon, watercolor paint, paint, and pastels. The teachers and students were extremely proud of the quality that resulted. All of the artwork displayed that evening was framed, thanks to our parent volunteers. Parents and family members were excited to take their art home to hang on the wall. Everyone who attended had a fabulous time. In spite of budget cuts, the Arts continue to be an important part of the education we provide here at Cox Elementary.



Elizabeth Luna with her Mayan art.



Carley Abbott and her work with water color.

Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

18720 Las Flores, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4210 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us/Gisler/gisler.html



Joyce Buehler
Principal

A Season of Giving

By Tiffany Laird, Student Council Advisor

Each year Gisler School's student council holds a canned food drive to benefit the Southwest Community Center, located in Santa Ana. This center provides food, clothing, shelter, and guidance to help families make ends meet. This year, the student council held another successful food drive to benefit families in need.

The food drive was planned and organized by the officers and 10 classroom representatives. The student council decided to call this year's event the Canned Food Olympics and created gold, silver, and bronze cans to award to the classes that brought in the most cans for the school. All student council members reported to each classroom on campus about the food drive and hung posters around campus. They also organized boxes for collecting donated items brought into classrooms and collected the donations throughout the week of the food drive.

By the end of the week, Gisler students had brought in over 900 cans! The Canned Food Olympics was a great success! Congratulations to the following classrooms: Gold Can Award—Mrs. Finley's and Mrs. Vamvas' classes; Silver Can Award—Mrs. Rigdon's and Mrs. Setterquist's classes; and Bronze Can Award—Ms. Knobel's and Mrs. Laird/Mrs. Lopez's classes.

Kazuo Masuda *Middle School (6-8)*

17415 Las Jardines West, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4250 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us/Masuda/masuda.html



Chris Mullin
Principal



Heather Harrison
Assistant Principal

Veteran's Day Memorial

In November, Masuda held its annual Veteran's Day Memorial. The memorial was put on by Masuda's ASB and coordinated by Miss Johnson. It was well attended by the district's assistant superintendents, personnel and veterans of the community, including our school's namesake Kazuo Masuda's brother Mas and his wife.

Earlier in the week, Kazuo Masuda received the Congressional Gold Medal posthumously. The

Congressional Gold Medal is an award bestowed by the United States Congress and is the highest civilian award in the United States. The decoration is awarded to an individual who performs an outstanding deed or act of service to the security, prosperity and national interest of the United States. It was heartwarming to see the reverence not only from the ASB students who were performing the event but also from the entire student body.

The ceremony included the reading of personal poems, firsthand accounts of what a veteran is, the reading of veteran-related passages and the unfurling of a banner, and concluded with the playing of "Taps." It was truly an awe-inspiring event.

William T. Newland *Elementary (K-5)*

8787 Dolphin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4200 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us/newland/newland.html

Special Persons

November was the month to remember and express our thankfulness for the gifts in our lives. To thank all the special people in the lives of Newland students, the children invited them to attend Special Persons Day. All of the students worked hard to practice and perform songs and poems for the special guests to say how much they appreciate their special persons.

Each year, Newland's Special Persons Day is held just before Thanksgiving break. Refreshments are provided for the guests, including coffee, juice, water, donuts, bagels and cream cheese.

Kathy Davis
Principal

There is a photo booth to capture the students with their special guests. We also hold opportunity drawings and a silent auction. This day provides an opportunity for our Student Council to raise money for their annual service projects by selling Turkey Grams.

The grade-level performances begin first thing in the morning. When finished, the guests may go and visit the students' classrooms. In addition, the fifth-graders perform a song from their play, *Turkeys Go on Strike*, which is also performed annually for their families on the Friday before the break.

Fred Moiola *Elementary (K-8)*

9790 Finch St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4270 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us/Moiola/moiola.html



Erin Bains
Principal

Special Person's Day

On Friday, December 16, 2011 Moiola K-8 School performed their annual Special Person's Day program for the final time. Students and teachers spent countless hours perfecting their songs under the theme of Winter Wonderland and learning how to walk on and off the stage. Hits included The Everlasting Fruitcake, All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth, Our Middle School students joined in on the fun as well by belting out a couple of tunes of their own. Family and friends came from all around and were not only entertained by the music, but a basket raffle, break-fast, and prizes were also handed out. After the performance the Special People were invited into classrooms where some were offered freshly made pumpkin pie, a craft, or a chance to tour the classrooms. The morning ended with an all school recess. Thanks to everyone for making this the Best Special Person's Day EVER!



Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K-5)*

9800 Yorktown Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4260 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us/oka/oka.html

The Place to Be

Isojiro Oka Elementary School is the pride of our community. While some naysayers from the outside may judge us as being less than spectacular, the truth is just the opposite! In a recent poll of all elementary schools throughout Orange County conducted by the *Orange County Register*, there were only two schools within the territory of this *School News Roll Call* publication that ranked in the top 10 for the entire county, out of 379 elementary schools judged. Both schools, including Oka, are part of the distinguished Fountain Valley School District.

Erik Miller
Principal

While there are a variety of components that go into ranking schools, some of the core reasons include these consistent findings: high student academic achievement; positive environment for student learning; diversity among students; and positive recognition from the state or federal level.

Oka is a California Distinguished School and one of a select few throughout the state that has demonstrated the ability to achieve success and stay successful over time. Every student on our campus utilizes ST Math every week. This program supports students to remediate or excel in math, depending on their individual needs. We also offer students the opportunity to participate in a variety of music instructional programs, including band and orchestra. In addition, Oka has a great PTO, which supports additional learning opportunities such as Science on the Go, Art Masters, and our Best Foot Forward reading program.

For more information about the Oka Wolfpack, please visit our Web site at <http://ioes-fvdsd-ca.schoolloop.com/>.

School News



Have Your Business (or Profession) Highlighted in School News!

We will be publishing a special issue on "How I Use Math in My Business." If you would like to have your business highlighted, email me in 150 words or less, how you and your employees use math in your business.

For now the deadline is April 15; however, that may change depending on the number of responses.

20% 16oz 72pt 32oz
\$ (562) 493-3193
kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

Urbain H. Plavan *Elementary (K-5)*

9675 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4230 • www.fvds.k12.ca.us/Plavan/Plavan.html



Julie Ballesteros
Principal

Plavan Panthers love ST Math

Plavan Panthers are beginning a new learning adventure. Plavan has recently purchased an amazing computer based math program for the entire school; ST Math from the Mind Institute.

The ST Math program consists of engaging courseware which employs the learners' spatial temporal reasoning abilities to explain, understand, and solve multi-step math problems. ST math is unique in the way that there are no verbal or written directions. It is up to the child to figure it out what is being asked of them through trial and error. The language barrier to learning math is eliminated, and the program has proven uniquely engaging and effective with students at every level of math and language proficiency.



Each classroom visits our St Math lab for two 45 minutes sessions a week. Students interact with an animated penguin named JiJi that walks them through the increasingly difficult math concepts. The children are inspired to challenge themselves and are having fun while learning new math concepts.

Samuel E. Talbert *Middle School (6-8)*

9101 Brabham Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • www.fvds.us/p_home.asp?tid=5



Cara Robinson
Principal



Jennifer Kadjasz
Assistant Principal

Pieing for Charity

The Talbert Thunderbirds enjoyed getting their revenge on their favorite teachers and administrators at a lunch time event by "pieing" their person of choice. Numerous students stood in line to take aim and let it fly. Not only did the students get to make staff members extra messy, they could also feel good about doing it because it was all for a good cause. All the proceeds from this event were donated to a Families Forward charity that helps struggling families to provide gifts for their children they otherwise could not afford. This event was put on by the Talbert Community Service Club, who also has raised money in other ways by selling items at our very own Holiday Boutique and conducting a Hats On Week. So for every toss of a whipped cream pie, a child will be that much closer to enjoying their holiday season.



Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K-5)*

17340 Santa Suzanne St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-6226 • www.fvds.k12.ca.us/tamura/tamura.html



Jay Adams
Principal

A Wonderful Exchange

In November, Tamura spent the morning being visited by a very special group of Chinese educators. These 13 delegates from the Beijing area ranged from principals to head teachers to foreign affairs directors. Their visit was arranged through the American Education Federation, and it was facilitated by Director Ray Yu, who also served as their interpreter.

Our new friends had a wonderful time wandering through the classrooms getting a firsthand look at American education and comparing the many similarities and differences between our country's schools and theirs. They were interested in the changes to our educational system over the last 50 years, in our teacher evaluation process,



Principal Adams and Chinese Delegates.

and—surprisingly—on the influence of John Dewey in American education. Many students enjoyed trying out their Chinese on the visitors—most of it consisted solely of *Ni Hao*. What an experience for all of us—one we hope will be repeated again in the future!

TUTORING BY TEACHERS Targeted Tutoring by Teachers

- Credentialed Teachers
- Grades 7 – 12
- One-on-One
- 4 Sessions for \$100

Subjects *include*
Social Studies
Government
Economics
Geography
World History
United States History
Test Preparation
Advanced Placement ★
International Baccalaureate

Study Habits ★
Note Taking
Writing Skills
Reading
Critical Thinking Skills

562-852-5241

Ocean View School District

17200 Pinehurst Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2551 • www.ovsd.org

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. William V. Loose

An Outstanding Start

On behalf of the Ocean View community, it is with great pleasure I open 2012 with continuing great news about our district.

Ocean View School District (OVSD) continues to lead the way with exceptional instructional programs, exemplary teachers, outstanding administrators, a talented staff, and active parent participation. As we enter the new year, I am proud to announce that we are moving “full steam ahead” with plans to open a magnet or thematic school with a Science Technology Engineering Arts and Mathematics (SteAm) focus in 2013–2014.

Two of our schools, Golden View and Star View Schools, were eligible to submit applications to become a 2011 California Distinguished Schools, a distinction that has been bestowed on both schools in the past.

Despite the funding challenges that California public schools are facing, we are committed to ensuring that Ocean View continues its long tradition of outstanding programs and instructional excellence in all curricular areas.

Although we are currently midway through the current school year, plans are already underway for 2012–2013. One of the first events planned will be for our incoming kindergarten parents. Kindergarten Parent Information Night for the 2012–2013 school year will take place on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 in the Spring View School gym, located at 16662 Trudy Lane, Huntington Beach. This year, OVSD has experienced increased participation in preschool programs. Many of these preschoolers will be moving up to kindergarten next year. Kindergarten registration will begin on February 1 at the individual school sites. Schools of Choice/Intra-District Transfer applications for the 2012–2013 school year will be accepted during the month of February. If parents would like to have their child attend a school other than their home school, a Schools of Choice/Intra-District application should be completed. Approval of the application is based on the capacity at the requested school site and grade level. For more information, please contact OVSD Student Services at (714) 847-2551, ext. 1316.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Tracy Pellman
President

Putting Students First

With the new calendar year, Ocean View School District (OVSD) continues to navigate the waters of a continuing challenging fiscal environment like other school districts throughout the state of California. However, one thing that remains constant is the Board of Trustees’ ongoing commitment and focus in meeting the needs of our students. We will and always will put our students first!

There is some very exciting news about our district regarding Marine View Middle School. Marine View was the \$10,000 recipient of the Glee Give a Note contest. The funding will be used to update the sound system in the gym and on the stage, as well as for other repairs and enhancements to support the performing arts. Ocean View has a long tradition and history of a complete curricular offering for our students, which include arts programs, and it is with great pride that our program excellence is now being acknowledged nationwide.

After months of hard work and input from the community, the Facilities Planning Advisory Committee (FPAC) recommended to the Board of Trustees approval of a school bond measure to be placed on the November 2012 ballot. At the December Board meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the FPAC’s recommendation to place a ballot measure on the November 2012 ballot which would provide funding to modernize and enhance school classrooms and facilities throughout the district. The bond funds will provide OVSD with the \$16 million dollars of required local match money to access the \$23 million dollars of state modernization funds for which we qualify. On behalf of the trustees, I would like to extend our deepest thanks to the FPAC committee for the seven months of hard work, which included 20 night meetings and two town hall meetings. You will continue to learn more about these projects and the processes in the upcoming months.

School News
Education+Communication=A Better Nation



Join Our Sales Team!

Perfect for:
Stay-at-Home Moms/Dads
Retirees...You!

Name your own hours
Commission only
Sales experience helpful

Ask for Kay
562-493-3193
kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com



Tracy Pellman
President



Debbie Cotton
Clerk

Ocean View School District Board of Trustees



John Briscoe
Member



John Ortiz
Member



Norm Westwell
Member

Circle View *Elementary*

6261 Hooker Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5035 • www.ovsd.org



Karen Sandors
Principal

The Arts are Alive!

Studies suggest that children who study the arts tend to do better in school. At Circle View, we value the arts. All our students get to experience weekly music lessons and participate in our Art Muses program. Team leaders at every grade level participate in the Arts Advantage visual-arts program in which they are taught standards-based visual arts curricula. In addition, we offer key-boarding, guitar, art, hip-hop and musical theater in our after-school programs.

Recently, we had a special visit from our superintendent,

Dr. William Loose, who shared his love for music with the students. He played the electric guitar and the harp, two of the many instruments he has mastered. He taught the students about pitch and some basic note reading and challenged them to consider playing an instrument. They even sang "Yellow Submarine" together. The students were greatly inspired by Dr. Loose's presentation.



Dr. Loose shares his love of music.

Golden View *Elementary*

17251 Golden View Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • www.ovsd.org



Elaine Burney
Principal

Giving Back

It's that time of year when we take a few moments to recognize those important to us and give something back. Whether the recognition is in the form of kind words, a small gesture of appreciation, or more, it is important to let others know we care.

Golden View School students and staff took time to recognize those who make a difference in our lives and to offer help to those who have also fallen on hard times this holiday season. Golden View's remarkable student council, headed by Julie Neubert and Janie Williams, brought that holiday spirit to as many families as

possible by running a food drive to benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County. Grade levels enjoyed competing against each other to see which could fill the most barrels with donated food. Also, our school-wide Bright Holidays Program helped relieve some of the holiday burden by providing Golden

View families with gift certificates to local retailers and grocery stores.

We are thankful to all who have participated and organized this gracious event. Happy holidays to all, and best wishes for a great 2012!



Golden View Student Council Members

College View *Elementary*

6582 Lennox Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3503 • www.ovsd.org



Kathy Smith
Principal

Making Healthy Choices

The Network for a Healthy California-Children's Power Play! campaign works together with elementary schools to empower students to make healthy lifestyle choices. College View School is a participant in the Farm to Kids and Harvest of the Month Programs, and, as a result, our students and their families receive samples of healthy foods.

To allow their classes to sample healthy fruits and vegetables, our fourth- and fifth-grade teachers teach 10 required health lessons over the course of the school year. A big thank you goes to Mrs. Maier, Mrs. Richards, Mr. Singer, Mrs. Keller, and Mrs. Young. As a result of their dedication to our children's health, our Wildcats have already received generous portions (three to five pounds each) of apples, root vegetables, green beans, and sweet potatoes. These programs will continue through the end of the school year, and our families can look forward to grapefruit, broccoli, salad greens, dried fruits and berries in future months.

The children in Mrs. Christidis' class were mesmerized by the generous portion of fruits and vegetables they received when they picked up their first

delivery. Our teachers use this opportunity to discuss the importance of making healthy food choices and talk about the benefits of fruits and vegetables in daily diet. Thank you, Healthy California-Children's Power Play! for helping us educate our students about the importance of nutrition and a healthy lifestyle!



Students make healthy choices.

Harbour View *Elementary*

4343 Pickwick Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-6602 • www.ovsd.org



Cindy Osterhout
Principal

Holiday Wish Tree

December is a time of year that is very important not only to Harbour View Elementary School, but to the community that surrounds it.

Harbour View's Student Council, under the direction of Ms. Pamela Vanderham, once again invited everyone to participate in the annual "Holiday Wish Tree" food and gift drive. With generous support from our wonderful community, we collected food and unwrapped gifts to make the holidays a little brighter for 20 Harbour View families in need. They were not only given necessities, but a ray of hope and a feeling of being loved and cared about.

We would also like to thank the Huntington Harbour Kiwanis, under the leadership of Mrs. Eva Kilgore, for your donations to our families. Your unwavering support throughout the year is so very much appreciated!



Christmas Wish Tree

Hope View *Elementary*

17622 Flintstone Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • www.ovsd.org



Carrie Haskin
Principal

A Running Success!

Many thanks to our fabulous coordinator, sponsors and parent volunteers who made our Jog-a-thon event not just a financial success but a whole lot of fun!

Our coordinator, Mrs. Cross, organized two different tracks, some great volunteers, dynamic music and a fun, high-energy “pump it up” program. The children were excited to participate and couldn’t wait to have their laps recorded by our incredible volunteers. We appreciate all of those who cheered on the students with colored pom-poms and supportive comments.

The weather couldn’t have been better. What a sight to see students running and walking in their special Jog-a-thon T-shirts designed especially for the event. The children were thrilled with their prizes and incentives, and we are all grateful for the \$12,000 that was earned by the event.

Thank you to the Hope View PTO, our coordinator, the sponsors, parent volunteers and staff and students for all of the support you gave to create an outrageous event!

Lake View *Elementary*

17451 Zeider Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • www.ovsd.org



Anna Dreifus
Principal

Star Party 2011

In December, Lake View hosted its annual Star Party. Volunteers from Orange County Astronomers set up several telescopes for nighttime viewing. Students got to see views of Jupiter and four of its moons; the Pleiades, or Seven Sisters; a double cluster of stars; and many more fabulous astronomical sights.

A variety of hands-on science activities were set up in the multipurpose room. Students created their own constellations and then saw how they would look in the night sky. They also went on a scavenger hunt for constellation facts! Computers were connected to the NASA website for those who wanted to conduct a little research.

As a NASA Explorer School, we are excitedly following the journey of the Mars rover, Curiosity. An engineer from a major aerospace corporation was on hand to share information about the multitude of experiments the rover will conduct once it lands on August 5, 2012. Lake View students will follow Curiosity’s count-down to landing and its adventures for the next two years as it researches the Red Planet. What a wonderful way to learn and have fun at the same time!

Marine View *Middle School*

5682 Tilburg Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-0624 • www.ovsd.org



Roni Ellis
Principal

Winner in the National Glee Give a Note Campaign!!!!

Students and staff are Glee-fully excited at Marine View! The National Association for Music Education (NAfME), created the Glee Give a Note campaign, based on the hit TV show, GLEE. The campaign was created to bring attention to the importance of music education in schools and also to help provide funding to school music programs in need. Marine View submitted our very own student-edited and student-produced video depicting our music program and the importance of maintaining music in the schools. After the voting period (where we generated over 12,000 votes!) Videos were evaluated by teams of NAfME music educators and Marine View was the only school selected in Orange County! We were awarded \$10,000 for our music program.

492 Schools across America submitted videos and 72 were awarded prize money! We were recognized for our outstanding music department which includes: Jazz Ensemble group, Dance Team, Beg. and Advanced Band, School Chorus.



Mesa View *Middle School*

17601 Avilla Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • www.ovsd.org



Leona Olson
Principal

We've Got Talent!

This year, Mesa View’s Musical Theater class is overflowing with talent, and they’ll knock your socks off! This incredible group of 50 seventh- and eighth-graders is rehearsing the upcoming production of *The Wizard of Oz*. The students learn choreography, singing in harmony, line memorization and stage blocking, and act as their own stage and technical crew. With all their talents working together, their production will leave audiences wanting more.

The eighth-grade veteran performers have been incredible assets to the cast, teaching the new students the ropes. They form tight bonds as they work together and support one another through auditions and rehearsals. The end result is a group of high-energy performers who bring incredible enthusiasm to the stage.

We can’t wait to share our hard work with the community at our performance of *The Wizard of Oz*, Thursday, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m. in our school gymnasium. Look for *Grease: The Musical*, Thursday, June 7 6:30 p.m.



The Wizard of Oz

Oak View *Elementary*

17241 Oak Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • www.ovsd.org



Laura Dale-Pash
Principal

Childhood Nutrition

On Sunday, September 25th, the Oak View community participated in the first annual 5K Fana Walk at Huntington State Beach. Several activities were available for participants after the walk, including dancing, drawing, yoga and massages.

Fana raised \$1,000 in its effort to raise awareness for childhood obesity. These funds will be used for after-school classes like yoga, martial arts and health and wellness.

Fana is an organization which seeks to raise awareness about

the many threats to childhood nutrition worldwide, from starvation to obesity, and to empower our children to build a sustainable and healthy future. Oak View teacher Mary Thompson remarked that, "The Fana Walk was great. Oak View families and staff had a chance to play and exercise together while helping raise money to benefit students."

Thank you to Mollie Grierson from the Oak View Renewal Partnership for her help in coordinating the event. Our school looks forward to a long relationship with Fana.



5K Fana Walk

Oak View *Preschool & Education Resource Center*

17131 Emerald Lane., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/843-6938 • www.ovsd.org



Joyce Horowitz
Principal

Ready for Emergencies

Every year Big John, the talking fire truck, visits Oak View Preschool. "Hearts Plus" provides this fire education program. Retired fire fighter Randy Marsile talks to the preschool children about how to avoid the dangers of matches, lighters and cigarettes. He shows them the protective equipment that

is used. He shows them a smoke detector and explains how and why it makes noise. The children have the opportunity to dial 911 on a real phone so they will be ready in case of an emergency.

Randy demonstrates how to crawl low to avoid being hurt by smoke and fumes. The children and teachers practice with him to show that they are able to "Stop, Drop and Roll" if their clothes catch fire. The highlight of the presentation is Big John talking to the children about fire safety. The children are invited to climb onto the fire engine to have their pictures taken with fire fighter Randy and their classmates.



Big John the talking fire truck.

Pleasant View

Ocean View Preparatory Preschool

located at Pleasant View School, 16692 Landau Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/845-5000



Paul James
Principal

Speech and Language Itinerant Program

The Speech and Language Program at Pleasant View school serves preschool children from three to five years of age. At Pleasant View we offer two different types of programs. Our Itinerant Speech/Language Program serves students from surrounding areas who have been identified and are eligible for speech and language services.

These students attend different general education preschool sites. They are transported to each one by their parents and provided with a variety of instructional time blocks during the day.

Speech and Language Pathologists Anne Lang, Vicki Kincaid, and Becky Lenhausen, along with Speech and Language Pathologist Assistant Jayne Nance, all provide intensive instruction in individual and group sessions each day. These focus on articulation, voice disorders, language development, stuttering and social skills.

This dynamic and systematic team services over 100 students. Pleasant View is fortunate to have these outstanding and dedicated individuals helping our families and students.

Star View

Elementary

8411 Worthy Drive, Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • www.ovsd.org



Dr. Pauline Tressler
Principal

Stars for Our Soldiers

Star View combines a wonderful spirit of giving with its tradition of academic

excellence. Our students understand that they are members of our school and also of the community. Under the direction of fifth-grade teacher Judy Matsuda, our Student Council's committed group of students work to give something back to the community. Each Friday morning, they help lead our weekly flag ceremony as we honor our country, our school and one another.

In addition to planning fun activities for our school, these fourth- and fifth-grade students are learning valuable leadership skills as they work toward a larger cause. They recently sponsored a letter-writing campaign, recommended by fifth-grader Harley Oliver, as part of the fifth annual Holiday Welcome Home for Soldiers campaign. All Star View students wrote letters to servicemen or servicewomen, which Harley took to the organization and helped prepare the holiday stockings. Giving back to our community gives our students the opportunity to shine!



Spring View

Middle School

16662 Trudy Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-2891 • www.ovsd.org



Jason Blade
Principal

A Team-Work Culture

As we move toward 2012, I would like to reflect on Spring View School's progress over the last year. Beginning last year and continuing throughout this school year, the Spring View community has worked very hard to develop a positive school culture, a place where all of our students and staff feel safe, comfortable and valued.

To that end the Spring View staff, PTSA, volunteers and students have worked hard to make Spring View a place they can be proud of. Inside the classrooms, teachers continue to refine their teaching strategies while looking through the Positive Behavioral Intervention Support (PBIS) and Response to Instruction (RtI) lenses. Outside the classrooms, we have added additional teacher supervision, as well as additional noon-duty supervision.

The PTSA has provided a tremendous amount of support by coordinating volunteers to help with various school projects. Our leadership students have planned activities that help bring out the best in our students by providing opportunities for students to have fun together and develop a sense of community.

As a result of all this hard work and planning, I'm proud to say that the positive culture on campus has become widespread and infectious. I am so very proud to be the principal at Spring View, a place where the staff, students and community continue to work diligently to benefit all those who are associated with our school.

Sun View

Elementary

7721 Juliette Low Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-9643 • www.ovsd.org



Kristi Hickman
Principal

Supplies for Sun View

The Huntington Beach Rotary Club is well known for its generosity and community contributions, and Sun View was no exception! We are thankful for the abundance of backpacks that were graciously filled with supplies, delivered in September and guaranteed to last through the New Year. In addition, teachers' wish lists and bags were filled with assorted items such as paper, pens, pencils, glue sticks, cleaning wipes, staplers, gift cards, music cards, electric pencil sharpeners, CD players, three-ring binders, tissues and many other things.

Public school teachers often spend a portion of their salary on educational expenses related to their classroom. Particularly during this financial climate of budget reductions, teachers are known to dip further into their pockets. The contributions we receive strengthen our school, enhance morale and ensure an even better education for our students and leaders of the near future.



Future Leaders!

Vista View *Middle School*

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • www.ovsd.org



Robert Miller
Principal

Robotics

At Vista View Middle School, we believe in developing skills to prepare our students for the 21st century. This year, the El Viento Program and Vista View have partnered to start a Robotics Club for our El Viento 6th-grade students.

Robotics requires multiple skill sets in mathematics, physical science, technology, and engineering. In teams of four to five, students cooperatively build LEGO Mindstorm robots, following a set of precise and comprehensive instructions. The software that accompanies the kits allows students to create programs which are downloaded to the robots via USB cables. These programs manipulate the robots to accomplish tasks that range in complexity from simple forward and backward motion to commands using light and touch sensors.

El Viento advisor Jill Hunter said, "Students are fully engaged in this highly motivating setting that supports and enhances learning, as well as the development of 21st century skills, such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and problem solving."



Robotics

Village View *Elementary*

5361 Sisson Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • www.ovsd.org



Jodi Novy
Principal

What Makes Us Great *By a Fifth-Grade Student*

Village View Elementary School is a wonderful place. Three things that I think make Village View very special are the teachers and principal, the Manner of the Month Study and the special programs.

The teachers and our principal, Mrs. Novy, do their best to teach us and prepare us for the future. They pour their hearts and energy into the students. They also make learning interesting. For example, a teacher makes cartoon slides to help us remember many facts in a fun and creative way. Our teachers also care about us as individuals and encourage us to do our best and keep pushing forward.

The Manner of the Month Study teaches us how to act that month. We have learned about the importance of respect, responsibility, caring and kindness. These are traits that we should carry through the rest of our lives. We are fortunate that our teachers teach us how to grow as human beings.

Village View offers great special programs that students can participate in to help our school. Conflict managers help students resolve their problems and help make Village View a fight-free school. Spirit committee helps bring positive energy to our school. For example, Sports Day makes you feel like a star athlete! The annual Talent Show gives students the opportunity to shine outside their classroom and share their special talents with others.

Village View is a very special place, and I am proud to be a fifth-grader at this remarkable elementary school.

Westmont *Elementary*

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • www.ovsd.org



Carol Furman
Principal

Time and Commitment

Westmont has had a very active student council this year, thanks to the excellent leadership of Deanna Lawson, our teacher-advisor.

In October the council led a schoolwide coin drive and also sold "spooky" grams, with all proceeds going to UNICEF. The students also acted as ambassadors during our annual Grandparents Day in November, passing out programs and flowers to our special guests.

In December these hard-working students sold holiday grams that they could purchase and send to friends on campus. They spent their recess and lunch periods selling the grams, attaching candy canes, and then delivering them to the classrooms. It was quite the task!



Student Council

Under the direction of Mrs. Lawson, our student council representatives are chosen by their fourth- and fifth-grade peers. They attend weekly meetings and dedicate countless hours to service projects and events.

We are so proud of the time and commitment shown by these outstanding students.

Canyon Acres®
Children and Family Services

CHANGING LIVES FOREVER

**Parenting Classes, Counseling,
Therapeutic After-School Program,
Foster Care, Adoptions**

For more information
(714) 383-9401

For information
on becoming a
foster/adoptive parent
(888)380-8832


**Anaheim | Orange
Locations**

www.canyonacres.org

*Program funding provided by the
County of Orange and private
donors. Canyon Acres is a non profit
mental health agency.*







Does your Child Love to Read?

Lifelong Readers are Lifelong Achievers!

Pre-K Reading
Readiness

1st-3rd Grade
Book Clubs

Kindergarten
Smart Start

Storytelling
Events

359 San Miguel Ste. 105 • Newport Beach, CA

949-717-6624

www.clubliteracy.com

FREE
Trial Class

Now Enrolling



Concert Music School






**Private
Lessons**
as young as
3-years-old!

FREE
One Time
Lesson

Piano • Guitar
Violin • Voice
Flute
And Many More

www.concertmusicschool.com
enroll@concertmusicschool.com



CM Learning Center

- Group and private tutoring
- Serving grades K – 12
- Specializes in academic achievement
- Focuses on students' needs
- Students receive individually tailored instruction
- Very affordable rate

www.cmlearning.com
enroll@cmlearning.com

(714) 377-4928

4952 Warner Ave., Suite 111 • Huntington Beach






WARNING:

YOUR CHILD
COULD BECOME
CRAZY
ABOUT
MATH

Do the words "math homework" strike fear in your child...or you?

What if we told you that we can change that fear into better grades and higher self-confidence, and eliminate the frustration, tears, and fights over math homework? Imagine how much better homework time would be.

Discover how a better understanding of math can change your child's attitude. Before you know it, your child could be crazy about math.

Call Now!

Find out how convenient and affordable your child's soaring self-confidence can be.

714-593-1500

FountainValley@Mathnasium.com

www.Mathnasium.com/FountainValley

18585 Brookhurst Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
(Brookhurst & Ellis,
near Albertsons and Islands)

 MathnasiumFV
 MathnasiumFountainValley



The Math Learning Center

2ND – 12TH GRADES • SAT & ACT PREP • HOMEWORK HELP • SUMMER PROGRAMS

Winter and Spring at the Library



Barbara Richardson
Acting Senior Librarian
Programming & Youth Services

Come and meet a variety of local children's authors at the Central Library's annual Authors Festival on January 31 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. There will be an awards ceremony during the event for the winners of the library writing and illustrating contest. Winning works will be on display at the Central Library through the month of February.

The 2012 book for HB Reads is *Emergence: Labeled Autistic* by Temple Granden. There will be several events featuring the author and her work. For more information, visit www.hbreads.org. HB Reads will also have programs for children at our various library branches: January 25 at 3:30 p.m. at the Oak View Branch, located at 17251 Oak Lane; February 2 at 2:30 p.m. at the Banning Branch,

located at 9281 Banning Avenue; and February 23 at 3:30 p.m. at the Central Library, located at 7111 Talbert Avenue. These events are free.

The Taste of Huntington Beach will be on Sunday, April 29 in the HB Sports Complex from noon–4 p.m. This is a major fund-raiser for the Children's Library. Participants sample local restaurant cuisines, beers and wines. Ticket prices are all inclusive and may be purchased online at www.tastehb.com.

This information, along with our story time schedules, online homework help, and e-books, is available at www.hbpl.org.



Ring In the Year with Literacy



Mary Ann Hutton
Branch Manager

Join us! The Children's Book Club meets Wednesdays, Jan. 11 and Feb. 8, at 3:30 p.m. We'll discuss the monthly selection and have some fun book-related activities. Call us for information. Children of all ages are invited to join us for our Craft Afternoons Thursdays, Jan. 12 and Feb. 9, at 3:30 p.m. At weekly story times, we read stories, sing, and end with a craft! Preschool and Toddler Story Times are Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., respectively. Family Story Time happens Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

Family Movie Afternoons are Saturdays in January and February, except Feb. 25, at 2 pm. Contact us for the weekly selection or visit our website.

Teen Tech Week, March 6–12, features special events! The theme this year, Geek Out @ your library, encourages teens to visit the library and use outstanding technology: e-books, movies, music, audiobooks, databases and more. Contact us for information about Teen Tech Week. The library will host a Free Kaplan SAT Practice Test on Feb. 25 at 10 a.m. and a scores workshop March 5 at 6:30 p.m. Parents should attend the scores workshop with students. Register at the library or online at kaptest.com/practicetest.

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meets the first Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. Teens interested in contributing their ideas for library programs and materials should come! VolunTEEN Orientations for teens 12–18 take place Wednesday, Jan. 18, and Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 3:30 p.m. New volunteers should pick up an application at the information desk before orientation.

Note-ables

Songs from the Baobab



Kate Karp

This beautiful collection is one that parents may play even if the children aren't home, particularly if they were fans of Miriam Makeba or were blown away by the South African group Ladysmith Black Mambazo on Paul Simon's *Graceland*. The set includes a CD and a colorfully illustrated book by French children's book artist and illustrator Élodie Nouhen; it includes lyrics, explanatory notes translated into English, and geographical information that shows children that Africa isn't one large country but 54 independent ones, with different languages spoken throughout.

On the disc are lullabies, game songs, and nature anthems, all to be sung to or by children. The lullabies calm and amuse crying, upset children through rocking and movement. In light of the hard lives that so many African children endure, it isn't surprising that the greater part of the songs falls into the lullaby category. A lilting shepherd's flute threads plaintively through "Yum-maa yehii jaabe," (Your Mother Has Gone to Search for Jujubes); in the song, the child's mother is absent, and the singer tells the child that the mother was out hunting fruits. Orphaned African children are often taken in by other families; "In Ga" and "Faatime Hawwaa" tell of the sadness of children who know that they aren't as valued as are the birth children.

There are joyful songs as well. "Îtä Zâke" translates from the Sango tongue to "Frère Jacques"; it was taught as a "time to wake up" song in Central African French schools. Game songs include "Kabuye Kanjye" (My Little Pebble) with clear instructions for playing a stone-passing game, and there is a Togo version of "This Little Piggy," titled "Eya Bé" (He Says).

A best-seller in France, *Baobab* is set to tell its stories on this continent. Welcome it into your home, heart and ears.

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

If your child or teen is struggling in school...



Stop thinking he'll grow out of it
Stop thinking she's lazy
Stop doing more of the same

Most learning and attention challenges **can be permanently corrected.**

For over 27 years Stowell Learning Center has been helping children and adults permanently correct

- learning disabilities
- dyslexia
- attention challenges
- struggles in school



(949) 477-4133

We are delighted to be serving the Orange County communities in our new Irvine location.

1150 Main Street, Suite C • Irvine, CA 92614
www.learningdisability.com

Gang Prevention Collaboration



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent

It has been noted that one of the best ways to prevent youth from joining gangs is to strengthen families and schools. This includes improving community supervision and parent and teacher training on youth management and interpersonal skills development. This idea, endorsed by the office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), is the foundation for the recently successful gang prevention conferences hosted by the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE), Safe Schools and Support Services Office (Safe Schools).

In 2010, OCDE was awarded funding from the Orange County Health Care Agency to provide school-based mental health services, including county-wide gang prevention, early intervention, mediation, crisis response, and training.

The Overarching Goals Included:

- Collaborate with school districts, community organizations, law enforcement, and faith-based organizations to provide a comprehensive understanding of why youth join gangs, how to support their exit from gang involvement, and what resources are available
- Train service providers and mental health professionals on best practice techniques for working with gang-involved youth
- Provide a multi-disciplinary forum to share evidence-based strategies proven effective with high-risk youth

One strategy used to meet these goals was hosting a series of Gang Prevention Conferences starting in November 2010. The first conference, attended by 300 participants, was an open invitation to service providers, including non-profits, government agencies, and educators working with high-risk youth throughout Orange County. Subsequent conferences included over 800 participants.

One reason for the success of the conference is the committee's willingness to tailor-fit the conference structure to address participants' interests and current service gaps. Each conference included nationally recognized speakers, a large scale forum for sharing best practices, up-to-date information, and opportunities for community resource networking. Each attendee was able to hear firsthand accounts and gain a new understanding of the underlying risk factors that push youth to join gangs. These unique conference features lead to an extensive wait list for all three events.

I am proud to recognize another successful year of gang prevention conferences held by Safe Schools. Hearing the real life experiences of youth and professionals who have been in the trenches for years is invaluable. The conferences, held in October and December, reiterated the importance of not only sharing strategies proven effective at preventing and reducing gang behavior, but also supporting professionals from all disciplines while they integrate new techniques into their work. These invaluable conferences continue to support a range of high quality care for Orange County youth while ensuring their success today and in the future.

For information, contact Jim Perez, Coordinator Gang Prevention/Safe School Coordinator, at 714-953-6513 or jperez@access.k12.ca.us.

Good Dental Health



Word Search Contest

Entries must be received by February 15, 2012

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

Breads	Eggs	Milk
Brushing	Examination	Nutrition
Cereals	Fish	Orthodontist
Checkup	Flossing	Pediatric
Daily	Fluoride	Sugar
Dairy	Fruits	Tooth
Dentist	Guidelines	Vegetables
Development	Healthy	Water
Diet	Meat	Whole grains

Congratulations to Emma Newcombe
Winner of the December Word Search Contest!

NEW 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 is the word you email to:
Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
(Please put FHOW in the subject line)

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

Westminster School District

14121 Cedarwood Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7311 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT



Richard Tauer

Spelling Bee Winners Create Buzz

The top spellers from each school site competed in the Westminster School District annual district-wide Spelling Bee in December. Two competitions took place - one for 4th and 5th graders, and the other for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. The 4th and 5th graders were challenged with words such as “leprechaun,” “advantageous” and “turquoise.” The 6th, 7th, and 8th graders had to tackle words such as “ingenious,” “dichotomy” and “crescendo.”



4th and 5th Grade Spelling Bee Winners:

- 1st place**
Stacey Nguyen
Clegg Elementary
- 2nd place**
Brian Ho
DeMille Elementary
(in picture far right)
- 3rd place**
Jacklyn Ngo
Schmitt Elementary
(in picture center)



6th, 7th and 8th Grade Spelling Bee Winners:

- 1st place**
Jalon Flores
Stacey Middle School
- 2nd place**
Kaitlyn Huynh,
DeMille Elementary
- 3rd place**
Kristina Tang,
Eastwood Elementary

The top three winners of the 6th, 7th and 8th grade competition will compete in the Orange County Spelling Bee in February. Here is a list of the competitors who proudly represented their schools:

4th & 5th Grade Competitors:

Anderson	Katelynn Le	Mairs	Irene Kim
Clegg	Stacey Nguyen	Schmitt	Jaclyn Ngo
DeMille	Brian Ho	Schroeder	Amber Chott
Eastwood	Joseph Lawson-Messing	Sequoia	Nikko Virgo
Finley	Annie Nguyen	Webber	Danny Nguyen
Fryberger	Danielle Debabneh	Willmore	Julianne Coontz
Hayden	Tristen Nguyen		

6th, 7th & 8th Grade Competitors:

Anderson	Katie Kamikubo	Sequoia	Aaliyah Ramirez
DeMille	Kaitlyn Huynh	Stacey	Jalon Flores
Eastwood	Kristina Tang	Warner	Lena Nguyen
Johnson	Jessica Tran	Webber	Kevin Nguyen
Schroeder	Brandon Schoonover		

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Sergio Contreras
President

Got Safe Kids? We Do!

Our district vision is “high academic achievement, health, safety and well-being for all Westminster School District students.” We take the “safety” aspect of our vision very seriously, and with the help of two federal grants totaling over \$450,000, Westminster School District (WSD) has achieved the highest level of crisis preparedness in its history. This impressive accomplishment was achieved with the expert support and guidance of many community partners, including law enforcement, fire personnel, and public and mental health agencies. The resulting hazard response plans to numerous risks and emergencies are comprehensive and practiced regularly.

Exemplary emergency response includes four phases: prevention and mitigation; preparedness; response; and recovery. As such, the district has ensured that all of its facilities are highly maintained, and the campuses have the capacity to be fully locked down if necessary. Every classroom is stocked with lock-down kits, which include food and water. All schools have enough food and water to sustain students and staff for three days. The bins are also stocked with emergency supplies so that search and rescue and first aid teams have the resources needed to save lives in the event of a disaster. All sites have emergency radios that communicate with the district Emergency Operations Center (EOC) located at the district office or the mobile EOC van unit. All staff have received the newly created Emergency Response Reference Guide to ensure appropriate and timely responses. And finally, schools have implemented the Incident Command System (ICS), where ICS commanders and EOC team members have been trained in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) for emergency response.

The most important aspect of our district’s readiness is the ongoing opportunity to implement monthly drills, as well as large scale comprehensive drills. We have conducted two such multi-agency “intruder on campus” drills involving police, fire authority and Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) this year. WSD has also participated in the Great Shakeout Disaster Earthquake Drill for the past four years, which allows staff to set up all their staging areas and practice their protocols, especially the parent reunification process, in the event of an earthquake.

Throughout the year, WSD staff members are given opportunities to cross train in each emergency response position, so that the capacity for protecting our students is maximized. Program monitors evaluate our drills and assess our progress. These program monitors are made up of representatives from the Orange County Fire Authority, Garden Grove Fire Department, Huntington Beach Fire Department, West County SWAT, Huntington Beach Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Westminster Police Department, Orange County Sheriff’s Department, American Red Cross, and the Orange County Department of Education. And WSD has the largest Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) response team in Orange County. We are highly dedicated to equipping staff and practicing our drills so we can support, protect, and mitigate any crisis to keep our students and staff safe.

Should you have any questions regarding safety measures or other concerns, please feel free to reach out. The safety and success of WSD’s children is our highest priority.

Westminster School District Board of Trustees



Sergio Contreras
President



Dave Bridgewaters
Vice President



Jo-Ann Purcell
Clerk



Mary Mangold
Member



Andrew Nguyen
Member

Anderson *Elementary (K-6)*

8902 Hewitt Place, Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/Anderson/index.htm



Dr. Lori Rogers
Principal

Parenting Partners

Anderson School's new Parenting Partners provides parenting tips and support to families in the Westminster School District. Anderson's community liaisons, in collaboration with PTA Board members, attended training last spring to become Parenting Partners facilitators. Anderson's former PTA president, Mr. Gutierrez, brought the idea to our site last year after attending as a parent in the class. Our current PTA president, Mrs. Estrada, then took the training and started our first class with Mr. Gutierrez and 15 new parent participants.

The seven-week class series meets every Thursday for 90 minutes in the morning after school begins. Parent participants include parents of preschoolers all the way to parents of middle school students. Safe Schools/Healthy Students Prevention Specialist Sheree Newman is on hand every week to train facilitators, assist parents and guide parent discussions. Topics such as consistent parenting, communication styles, and the role of parent involvement in academic success provide parents with practical tools for positive parenting.

The class series ends with a parent graduation ceremony. Family members and students are invited. Current classes are held in Spanish and English, and a spring class will be held in Vietnamese and English. New classes are forming with a waiting list, so sign up now at Anderson School!

Funding for parent education is provided through a combination of categorical Title I money and grant funds. No general funds are used to support these classes. One of our older students shared, "I am so proud of my dad for learning new things about being a parent!"

DeMille *Elementary (K-6)*

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224



Shannon Villanueva
Principal

DeMille Dolphins are Super Spellers

On Friday, Dec. 2, Westminster School District held its annual spelling bee at Stacey Middle School. Students in grades fourth through eighth across the district were eligible for participation. Each school site sent a representative to compete. The first round of the spelling bee was for 4th and 5th graders. One of DeMille's own placed second.

Brian Ho, fifth grader, in Mrs. Harants's

5/6 combination class won second place by spelling the word pasteurize correctly. The second round of the spelling bee was for students in grades sixth through eighth. It was an eventful competition which came down to three spellers in an oral competition.

After several rounds, Kaitlyn Huynh, a sixth grader also from Ms. Harants's class, finished in second place by spelling the word ingenious correctly.

Congratulations Brian and Kaitlyn and to all of the district spellers! DeMille is very proud of you!



Kaitlyn Huynh (6th grade) and Brian Ho (5th grade)
second place winners in the district spelling bee.

Clegg *School*

6311 Larchwood Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218



John Staggs
Principal

The Annual Lights-On Event *By Pam Noldan, ESP Director*

The Clegg Extended School Program joined 7,500+ other after-school programs throughout the nation in celebrating the annual "Lights on After-School" event on October 20th.

In our local communities today there are over 14.3 million children who have to take care of themselves when the school day ends. So after-school programs like ours can help keep these children safe and allow working families to cope better with their circumstances. They can even inspire learning.

The Extended School Program recently held a nutrition Olympics event with assistance from the Nutrition Network. The Network provided materials for the games that were played during the event. Carrots were even made available for a healthy snack afterwards.

The Nutrition Olympics teaches our students how to make healthy food choices and get excited about exercise. The Extended Program tries to encourage this every day, and the Nutrition Network was a great partner in helping make this event a great success.



The Westminster School District Extended School Programs believe in offering our children a wide variety of experiences and activities. They are designed to give students many different opportunities for exploration, self-discovery and the freedom to create. We strive every day to provide our children with a safe and highly supervised after-school program.

Eastwood *Elementary (K-6)*

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227



Donna Brush
Principal

Dolphin Details

Eastwood students retain strong ties to their school. We often hear our current parents talk about what it was like when they attended Eastwood as students. Former students, specifically Eagle Scouts, also frequently return to Eastwood to complete their projects. This helps provide our campus with amenities that are not possible under the usual public school financial constraints.

As a result of one project, our staff is now able to enjoy lunch and break time in a relaxing rose garden dedicated to the memory of a beloved office manager. The courtyard area is complete with a fountain, handmade table and benches, and an umbrella that provides a quiet, restful respite from the rigors of the day.

Our students are also able to sit, relax and study in a reading garden that was constructed by a former Eastwood student who wanted to give back to the school that he had attended for seven years. And what better way is there to promote and encourage reading in our younger students!

The garden area at the front of the school has been aesthetically enhanced with utility poles to create a nautical theme that aligns with our Eastwood Dolphins mascot.

As a result of the latest student project, we now have a fully organized emergency bin complete with shelves. All items were inventoried, organized and labeled, and we are now better prepared in case of any emergency.

Eastwood students learn more than just academics. They also learn the importance of giving back to the school and being good models for the younger students.



Maria Gutierrez-Garcia
Principal

The Value of Healthy Eating

Finley's students, staff and parents are fully on board with the school's Positive Behavior Intervention and Support System. As part of the 3A Eagle Way – as well as our three core values of acting respectfully, acting responsibly and acting safely – many of our parents have also participated in a seven-week Nutrition Network course at the Parent Center.

The course included a variety of topics such as healthy cooking with your family, eating on a healthy budget, youth and advertisements, the importance of physical activity, and others. Tracey Zoleta, R.D., and Joey VanCamp, R.N., both taught our Finley parents many additional strategies to help them improve their families' nutritional efforts while also staying savvy consumers.



Our Finley parents have been increasing their knowledge about the importance of maintaining healthy nutrition, and the impact of healthy eating on academic performance. We are all also looking forward to Family Fitness Night on April 25th, in preparation for the California Standards Tests in May.

If you have lice, don't panic...



Safe, Effective Lice Removal Service

Private and discreet~ we come to you!

Serving Orange County and the Los Angeles South Bay Areas

1.800.372.0373 • info@pixielocks.com

www.pixielocks.com

Contest!!



This drawing is hidden somewhere in this publication. When you find it, email the page number to: kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

(Please put **FHOW** in the subject line)

Your entry must be received by February 15, 2012.
From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.
Thank you for reading *School News Roll Call*!

Congratulations Ze Nour
Winner of Our December Seek 'n Find Contest

WSD AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS ROCK! • FROM PAGE 1

Our after-school programs are set-up to strongly reinforce and enhance learning that has taken place during the school day. Students are taught how to utilize the Thinking Maps learning strategy which is a way to visually map out and organize thoughts, ideas and information. Students find Thinking Maps especially helpful when doing homework, working on projects or studying for a test. After-school program supervisors have been trained in the Thinking Maps strategy and implement their use in planning activities, designing club activities, organizing scripts for theater, and homework help. In addition, Thinking Maps are used to teach conflict resolution, discuss behavior choices, and organize meeting topics.

Our after-school programs build capacity of students to strengthen academic, social and emotional skills. They also construct bridges that connect the community with the neighborhood school and provide opportunities for parents to become more effective partners in their children's education. The Westminster School District strives to provide educational, fun and safe after-school environments that students love and parents trust.



Fryberger *Elementary (K-5)*

6952 Hood Drive, Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237



**Hiacynth
Martinez**
Principal

Fryberger Celebrates Student Achievement

At Fryberger, we have a tradition of celebrating student success on a multitude of levels! Students are honored for their effort and progress towards meeting their individual achievement goals, which are set annually and reviewed throughout the course of the year.

Students are taught to **Solve** problems, **Make** safe choices, **Always** be ready to learn, **Respect** others, & **Take** responsibility... Fryberger Falcons are SMART!



Hayden *Elementary (K-5)*

14782 Eden St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7261



Linda Reed
Principal

Without a Hitch

The Hayden Hawks were soaring around the track last month! Hayden had its first annual Jog-A-Thon in November, and it was a huge success. Over 880 students from Preppie-K to the fifth grade circled the track as many times as they could in 30 minutes.

The Jog-A-Thon went off without a hitch, in large part due to the staff and parent volunteers who gave their time to help organize and promote this fun event. A special thanks goes out to Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Bogdanovich, Mrs. Trang and Mrs. Lastra.

The fund-raiser collected enough money to help support all of our field trips for the year. So a special congratulation goes to Mrs. Lu's and Mrs. Schmitt's classrooms for having collected the most number of sponsors to win a pizza party. We also had over 70 students earn a free Jog-A-Thon T-shirt by collecting over \$50 dollars in sponsors.

The Hayden staff and community definitely looks forward to next year's Jog-A-Thon!



Johnson *Middle School (6-8)*

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244



Shane Vinagupta
Principal

The Art of the Thinking Map

As we move forward in our second year of using Thinking Maps, we have found that we are now working with these instructional tools in much greater depth and detail.

For example, all of our maps must include a frame of reference so that the students can begin thinking about their sources of information and the context. The entire staff has also initiated a schoolwide focus on just one particular map per month.

The power of this common agreement is that our students will now get to use the same map across different content areas. We believe that this will strengthen their understanding of how to utilize them in each subject.

But Thinking Maps are not just for ELA. To demonstrate their usefulness and diversity, both our art and music teachers have also been utilizing them in their classrooms to help engage and differentiate instruction.

For example, Mr. Mann, our music teacher, used a Tree map to classify the different genres of music so that his students could develop opinions and engage in meaningful conversations. And Mrs. Weber, our art teacher, used the same Tree map to analyze famous artists. The information gathered was then used to create a written piece that was embellished with artwork in the style most associated with the artist.

Our hope is that students will be able to utilize Thinking Maps as an effective learning tool, regardless of subject area. We believe that this focused approach is helping them to do so.



Beverlee Mathenia
*Director, Child
Development
Programs*



Leisa Winston
*Administrator,
Student Services*

Dental Screenings for Preschoolers

Lack of access to dental care can be a problem for many children. Untreated dental problems can lead to pain, making children uncomfortable and unable to concentrate and learn in school. The kindergarten dental checkup requirement—AB 1433, signed into law in 2005—is one way schools can help children stay healthy by helping parents access dental care for their young children.

To help families meet the requirements of AB 1433, free dental screenings were offered at Land School during the month of November. Healthy

Smiles provided dentists and hygienists who checked teeth and provided fluoride treatments for 300 preschoolers. In addition to the screening, children received toothbrushes and toothpaste and enjoyed a puppet show on the correct way to brush their teeth. Children who needed follow-up care received a treatment plan and a referral to a local dentist.



Nurse Gloria Sonoda shows preschoolers how to brush their teeth.

Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800



Kathy Kane
Principal

CAN You Help?

The holidays arrived, and naturally our students started to think about presents, usually for themselves. But this year was different. The students at Iva Meairs Elementary School were thinking about how they could help families in need.

The Boys and Girls Club after-school Potential, Responsibility, Innovation, Determination, and Excellence (PRIDE) program sponsored a canned food drive. The idea was presented to all the classrooms, and everyone jumped on board. It became a competition between the classes. With encouragement from the teachers, the cans started pouring in, and when it was all over the students had brought in over 2,000 canned goods and other non-perishable food items.

At the end of the competition, each class turned their donations into a castle to be judged by the PRIDE staff. It is amazing what can be created with cans! The food was then donated to local organizations for distribution. This was a great experience for our students. Not only did they have fun and enjoy a little healthy competition, but they learned about the spirit of giving as well.

Go, Eagles!

Sequoia *Elementary (K-6)*

5900 Iroquois Road, Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7271



Tammy Steel
Principal

Happy New Year

I hope your holiday was happy and restful. Students participated in the Elves Workshop again this year. This is a special place where students can purchase nice gifts for their friends and families. The room was buzzing with excitement at the prospects of the great items available. Thank you to Jennifer Barada and her elves for all the long hours of work and making the Elves Workshop a huge success. It is volunteers with this type of dedication that makes Sequoia School a wonderful place.

We want to offer congratulations to Mrs. Mizuo, one of our fabulous kindergarten teachers, who received a grant from local theme park and resort that will benefit her entire class. She wrote a fabulously worded grant that described the need for mini keyboards to learn music, which will help fulfill the visual and performing arts content standards. The wonderful people at this happy place in Anaheim fully funded her project for more than \$500. We are grateful for their support for education and our students.

I extend my wishes to you of hope for a fabulous 2012!



Elaine Mizuo and her fabulous kindergartners.

Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264



Jerry Gargus
Principal

Parent Involvement a Major Priority

If you happened to find a place to sit in our multipurpose room for our holiday performance in December, count yourself among the lucky. A standing-room-only crowd was present for this long-standing Schmitt tradition, greeted by hot coffee prepared by our outstanding PTA. Students from many classrooms participated by reciting poems and singing traditional holiday songs.

January 2012 presents a number of excellent opportunities for parents to become involved in school activities, beginning with our monthly PTA meeting and followed by our Student of the Month Ceremony on Jan. 11. The flagship event for parents in January is our second annual Family Nutrition Night on Jan. 12 at 6 p.m. Last year's event drew a capacity crowd as we learned strategies for preparing healthy snacks, distributed cookbooks and prepared a healthy snack for everyone in attendance. This year, we are building on the success of Family Nutrition Night by offering a series of six Parent Healthy Cooking Classes that will run on a biweekly basis from Jan. 27 through March 9. This is a great opportunity for parents to learn strategies for combating childhood and adult obesity as well as other diet-related issues such as diabetes.

We look forward to offering a number of other great programs for parents throughout the spring term, including Family Reading Night, Family Science Night, ESL Classes through our partnership with the Huntington Beach Adult School and our Family Movie Night at the end of May, which is always a family favorite.

Schroeder *Elementary (K-6)*

15151 Columbia Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7268



Kim Breckenridge
Principal

PTA's Lunch on the Lawn

This fall Schroeder's PTA (Parent Teacher Association) held their annual membership event at Lunch on the Lawn. All Schroeder families were invited to eat lunch with their child during the regular lunch schedule. The lawn turned into a picnic area with easy ups, lawn chairs, and blankets. Over 300 family members and loved ones joined the student body in this wonderful event. The PTA took this opportunity to encourage joining their organization. Their mission is to "work diligently to provide continuity between students, families, and staff to improve education by supporting staff, encouraging students, and creating a sense of community." It's a win, win for everybody – parents, families, staff, and most importantly the children. It's not too late to join PTA, you can become a member today!



Stacey *Middle School*

6311 Larchwood Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212



Heidi DeBritton
Principal

An Exciting Place to Be!

*By Ryan Yohn-History and Language Arts teacher
and Shay Reardon-Assistant Principal*

When Stacey students arrive on campus, they are ready to receive and take advantage of a great education, but a great learning environment must also provide opportunities for students to excel in other avenues in life. We have great sport teams that our students can participate in, such as flag football, volleyball, basketball, soccer and baseball. Stacey Middle School also has after-school clubs such as Rocket Club, Nutrition Club and Running Club. At Stacey, we have many exciting events that weave students into the fabric of our school.

This past November, we held our third annual Dark Fest. We had a live band that was composed of students from Stacey Middle School. We also had a wide variety of delicious food and drinks that the student could purchase. There was an outdoor movie that students were able to relax with and watch while enjoying tasty refreshments. Students were able to take a break from their studies and simply be young people in a safe environment. Because of the large amount of money we raised from this event, we can now offer even more activities to our students and keep growing our Cougar Spirit.

To see what Stacey Middle School is all about, please check out our student-run website at smscougars.com. On our website, students, parents and teachers can access information about the school's calendar, classes, electives, sports and school activities. So, please use this useful tool to stay informed about what is happening here at Stacey Middle School.

Webber *Elementary (K-6)*

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/WebberWebpage/index.html



Orchid Rocha
Principal

Happy New Year!

Webber's Nutrition Network has been an outstanding resource for our classroom lessons on nutrition, student cooking and the "Fitness Olympics"!

Coordinated by Tracy Zoleta and Joey VanKamp, we are so fortunate to have this free service available for our students and parents. With child obesity on the rise, good nutrition education is essential to help encourage our students to eat healthier and increase their physical activity.

Ms. Zoleta and Mrs. VanKamp also do an outstanding job of encouraging our families to consume more fruits and vegetables. With all of the readily available research about good nutrition, we now know that eating a well-balanced diet and staying physically active every day will help our children focus better at school, get higher test scores and improve attendance.

In addition to these in-class nutrition lessons, Mrs. Zoleta and Mrs. VanKamp also provide our parents with the opportunity to learn about making wiser choices for their families when it comes to cooking and shopping.

In our workshops we also gain support from the other parents, which helps make it a collaborative learning experience for all. For instance, in our first three sessions we learned how to make and enjoy healthy version quesadillas, albondiga soup and a low-calorie cucumber refreshment.

Always make the goal of healthier eating and keeping more active an important New Year's resolution for you and your family. And come join us for one Friday per month at the Webber Parent Nutrition Network!

Warner *Middle (6-8)*

14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281



Matthew Skoll
Principal

What Giving Means to Me

By Brittney Vu, Leadership Student-8th Grade

What does giving mean to you? For me, giving comes from the heart. Even if what you are giving is homemade, all that matters is that you care. At Warner Middle School, we've been doing all we can to show that we care. In November, we held a food drive for Thanksgiving. We collected 20 boxes full of canned food items and over \$800 in money donations. Just imagine all the happy families out there that we fed!

Giving and receiving are two different words, but both are part of the holidays. When people give, they should feel proud of themselves. It shows that they aren't selfish. In fact, they are some of the most caring people in the world! When people receive, they should feel proud, too, knowing they are cared for and loved.

If you are lucky enough to be receiving, like most of us at Warner are, you should be thankful. Think about all the people in the world who don't have homes or often go without food. Think about all the children who don't have any toys to play with or any gifts to open during the holidays.

Warner also held a toy drive so that children in Westminster won't go without gifts this holiday season. Just imagining the expressions on their faces when they wake up Christmas morning is so rewarding! Although you can't buy happiness or joy, you make a difference in people's lives by giving.

Willmore *Elementary (K-6)*

7122 Maple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-3765



Rob McKane
Principal

Student's Taking Charge

Willmore's upper grade students are learning to lead. Student Council elections were held recently at Willmore and we had a large field of candidates to choose from. All students in third, fourth and fifth grades were invited to participate. Candidates met with teachers to go over campaign rules and get help with their speeches. Posters were decorated and hung and candidates lobbied other students for votes. After that an assembly was attended by upper grade students where the candidates made their speeches. Finally, students were given ballots and a vote was held.

This is an excellent exercise for our kiddos that teaches them the basics of the election process. It gives them many opportunities to interact with their peers, try to influence people and practice their public speaking skills.

Our fifth graders also stepped up to raise money after losing grant funding for camp. These determined students organized, solicited donations and held a jogathon where they raised well over \$1,000. We are proud of all our Thunderbirds, but our upper grades are really shining!

School News

Education+Communication=A Better Nation



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

This publication distributes:

Jan., Mar., May, June, Sept., Nov.

To have each issue emailed directly to you
sign up on our web site
www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Huntington Beach Union High School District

5832 Bolsa Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/903-7000 • www.hbuhd.org

SUPERINTENDENT



What Do You Want?

What do you want? Give it away! You'll get it back!
– Dr. John Dean, Whittier College

I want to take this time to heartily thank all of our many community supporters! During my first six months serving as superintendent, I have been so pleased to see the diverse, balanced, and quality programs our district is offering students.

Dr. Gregory S. Plutko

As an educational community, we should feel proud of the many thoughtful opportunities our young people have to engage their lives and passions. Award-winning arts programs, consistently recognized athletic programs, 21st-century technology applications, and leadership and academic activities allow our work to extend beyond the traditional four walls of an educational environment.

In an era when we have successfully strived to reach high marks with so many of our traditional assessments, our district and community have partnered to provide a balance for our students. If we looked deep into history, this time could be considered a renaissance of sorts, with the whole child as its focus. The evidence around our community and the stellar impression our students leave behind is impressive.

The Ford Motor Company used the tag line, "Quality is Job 1," and the quality of the students Huntington Beach Union High School District is producing would be a clear definition to that phrase. We are proud, and rightly should be, as the investment by our communities is withstanding one of the most valid assessments we know...time!

So, as we begin this new year, I want to thank each of you for your consistently thoughtful support. We are grateful and will continue to pursue levels of excellence that will define our communities and our futures.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Dr. Michael Simons
President

The Crisis in Education Funding.

School districts across the State of California are bracing for more bad news from Sacramento concerning funding for K-12 education. As we await the ramifications of the "trigger mechanism" to see how deep this year's funding cuts will be, we need to put this in the perspective of five continuous years of reduced State funding.

School Services of California, Inc. is an organization that has been at the forefront in advising school districts regarding fiscal management. The following editorial clearly outlines how this crisis in education has evolved over the past five years.

A Safety Net for Schools in Uncertain Times—An SSC Editorial

The upcoming fiscal year, 2012-13, will mark the fifth year of sustained reductions in funding for public education. Overall, K-14 funding was cut by nearly 20% in 2008-09, and funding for education in California has remained at or below that level through the current Budget adoption for 2011-12. Given the constraints of already depleted existing school resources, we at School Services of California, Inc., think that it would be important for the Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown to commit to stable funding for education, which means an assurance of no further deferrals or cuts until such time that funding for public schools can begin to be restored.

The Department of Finance (DOF) will forecast revised revenues for 2011-12 as required by Assembly Bill (AB) 114 in mid-December. If the DOF forecast is disappointing, as was the recent revision provided by the Legislative Analyst's Office, then under current law, the "triggers" are likely to be pulled and another round of cuts made to public education. Should this occur, these reductions will compound what has been an ongoing dismal budget picture for school districts:

In the 2011 May Revision, an additional \$6.6 billion was added to the revenue forecast; K-14 received none of this increase.

In the June 2011 enacted Budget, an additional \$4 billion was added to the revenue forecast; again, K-14 received none of the increase, but AB 114 makes public education responsible for more than half of the resulting Budget cuts.

As mentioned above, the cuts to education began in 2008-09, and have been in effect for four years; 2012-13 will mark the fifth year of cuts that continue to save the state more than \$9 billion per year, a total of roughly \$45 billion. No other segment of state spending has been cut so deeply, nor have the cuts been sustained so long.

SEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES! • PAGE 28



Dr. Michael Simons
President



Bonnie P. Castrey
Vice President



Brian F. Garland
Clerk



Kathleen Iverson
Alt. Clerk



Susan Henry
Member

Huntington Beach Union High School District Board of Trustees



Tuyen Dinh
Student Representative

'Tis the Season

Another great year is coming to an end, and we find ourselves in the holiday season—a time for joy, cheer, and giving thanks. This time of year is not as much about opening presents as opening our hearts. The students and staff all over the district are giving thanks for what they have and turning their spirit over to helping others.

Every year, Huntington Beach High School, among many other schools in the Huntington Beach Union High School District, holds a canned food drive on campus. Generally they receive a good amount of dry and canned foods to donate, such as soup and instant noodles. This year, Huntington Beach decided to hold a dance in hopes of acquiring more cans.

The dance was held on December 2. Students could either pay \$10 to get into the dance or bring two cans of food. Naturally, most students brought cans, which helped the drive immensely. The dance was dubbed the Two-Can Dance and was appropriately rainforest themed. Roughly 700 people attended the dance. Just think about the number of cans they brought in! I am sure we will see more schools follow in Huntington Beach's footsteps next year.

This time of year, it can be easy for us to become engulfed in materialistic desires. However, we must remember those in need and be thankful for everything we have. With that said, happy holidays from the Huntington Beach Union High School District! May 2012 bring nothing but the best!

Coast *High School*

17321 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/848-5160 • www.coasthighschool.com



Steve Curiel
Principal

A Positive Alternative

Coast High School (CHS) enrolled 45 new students between October and December. Our monthly orientations introduce students and their parents or guardians to the Coast community and the requirements and expectations of our independent study program. Coast also, in cooperation with the district, is offering Academy of Performing Arts (APA) students an alternative for completing their graduation requirements while pursuing their performing arts interests. Some CHS students are currently involved in the production of "Our Town" at Huntington Beach High School.

Coast provides young adults with the opportunity to fulfill their requirements as students while also pursuing a career. Jeremy Williams, a CHS senior, will be competing in a BMX bicycle race in Reno in January. He just returned from Oklahoma, where he placed ninth nationally for in the 17 to 20 age group. Jonathon Howard, a Coast student and competitive skateboarder, is currently filming for his sponsor at various locations around Southern California. He will be competing with both amateurs and pros in a competition coming up next month. April Geary, another Coast student, is a professional model. She loves her work, though she was recently "freezing to death" modeling beachwear in San Diego. Matthew Zumbo, a student at CHS, ranks third internationally in archery. He has his own Web site promoting the sport of archery.

Coast continues to run a successful satellite program at three high schools: Huntington Beach High School (HBHS), Fountain Valley High School (FVHS), and Westminster High School (WHS). A total of 38 students from three comprehensive high schools enrolled in Coast's satellite program for the second quarter. The principals of FVHS, HBHS, and WHS have welcomed Coast teachers onto their respective campuses to provide independent study courses to students with impacted schedules who need to make up courses, raise low grades, or take required elective credits.

Preparing to address the new California Common Core Standards, the district's guidelines for common assessments, and the newly revised Action Plan of Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD), Coast's English coordinator facilitated an all-day workshop for CHS and adult school English teachers. Their goal was to begin development of a new English course that meets the needs and the varied skill levels of our at-risk students. As HBUHSD moves forward in the district-wide action plan, Coast High and the adult school are making sure that curriculum and processes are in line with the district's high standards.

The Coast staff has been busy completing the mid-term report for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) in preparation for a visit from a WASC representative in March. The report being developed is an update to what Coast has been able to accomplish in its six-year action plan, which was accepted by WASC in June of 2009. The three action items Coast has been working on are: improving and updating the career exploration curriculum and expanding awareness of post-secondary options; enhancing staff and student use of technology across the curriculum; and expanding elective offerings to meet the needs and interests of Coast students.

Community Day School

1022 Westminster Mall, Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/799-1414



Steve Curiel
Principal

A Special Visit

On November 8th, J. Michael Durnil and Laura Foshee visited our Community Day School/Simon Youth Academy. They are the president and chief development officer respectively of the Simon Youth Foundation, and CDS is one of 23 Simon Youth Academies across the United States.

The visit went extremely well. Dr. Durnil and Mrs. Foshee were able to present special awards to our students for their academic improvement. We were very appreciative of their visit as well as

the partnership we have with the Westminster Mall and the Simon Property Group. It was a pleasure to be there to help congratulate our students and see their beaming smiles as they were recognized for their hard work and dedication.

Our classes celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday by bringing in enough food for a feast. They even cooked pies, too, in one of their classes! Not only was the food delicious, but the whole event was also a fun and valuable lesson for everyone. The CDS was thankful to have an opportunity to build such close relationships with our students so that they could celebrate these holidays together as a "family."

Julie Ray from Ocean View High School conducted a presentation in our classrooms for those students who are interested in participating in the Regional Occupation Program (ROP). Julie talked about all of the different classes that are available to any student who is interested in these specialized subjects.

The ROP program offers a real world opportunity for our students that in many cases helps to justify and bring relevance to what they are also studying in school.

In another effort to offer a full high school experience, the students also received their school identification cards right before the Thanksgiving vacation. Our CDS students are now proudly carrying their personalized IDs thanks to the support of the Huntington Beach Adult School and their ID card system.

In other news, some "newish" desks were also donated by Ocean View High School and delivered by the Huntington Beach Adult School to one of the CDS classrooms right before Thanksgiving.



Dr. Michael Durnil (center left) poses with CDS student award winners.



Dr. D'iese Melendrez
Principal

Ellis Island Simulation

Submitted by the EHS Social Studies Department

At Edison High School our students analyze the relationship between the rise of industrialization, the large scale rural-to-urban migration, and the massive immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe. So as part of the CA Standard 11.2, our United States history students recently participated in an Ellis Island simulation as the culmination to their studies.

This simulation reenacted the immigrant experience at Ellis Island, and we had over 200 parents act as actual immigration officials! They put our students through various arrival stations such as background check, health, loyalty oath and appeals. In fact, the parents helped our social studies department “process” over 150 students during their block period!

As for the students, they were expected to assume the role of immigrants arriving at Ellis Island in 1908. This year even Dr. Plutko, our new superintendent, took part as an immigrant to the United States!

Prior to the simulation, each student was provided with the individual identity of an actual immigrant who had traveled through the entry point. They were expected to dress in character, write an autobiography of their life prior to the journey that reflected their identity, and participate in the simulation itself.

Upon Arrival

The last piece of the simulation required the students to write a letter home to their mother country that described the journey across the Atlantic, and what their next step would be after entering New York City.

The students also had to decide on the following questions while drawing on their prior knowledge. Where will they go? What occupation will they pursue? How will they live and support their family? Will they send money home?



Taking the Oath - Welcome to the United States!

Will they live in immigrant ghettos or assimilate into American culture?

To give the experience a special touch, the students were even expected to dress the part. They borrowed old clothes, asked upperclassmen what they wore, and looked into the old clothes piles of relatives. They were very resourceful!

Simulations like this make history more meaningful, and also provide an authentic tool for our teachers to us to assess student learning. Our social studies department subscribes to the philosophy that student involvement can enhance understanding. This in turn allows application and evaluation, the kind of higher-level skills that all students should be able to demonstrate upon graduation.



Students dress the part of immigrants

Fountain Valley *High School*

17816 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/962-3301 • www.fvhs.com



Chris Herzfeld
Principal

Keep 'Em Laughing

New this year at FVHS is the school's first comedy improvisational team. Comedy Sportz LA is a professional improvisational theater company with a high school league covering all of Southern California, and FVHS is now an official member. What is wonderful about becoming a part of this organization is, as stated on its website comedysportzla.com, that it "empowers students to create their own theatre... [and] encourages their individuality, [providing a] forum [in which] to succeed or fail in a safe environment that combines showmanship and sportsmanship."

The team is very excited about this opportunity and has already participated in weekly practices as well as professional workshops that prepare them for next semester's high school league matches. The students will compete against one another and eventually against other area schools in an attempt to gain the most laughs and applause.

One great aspect of these student-led performances is that it necessitates active audience participation, and with a family-friendly show in mind, all ages are able to take part by giving the comedic improvisers topic suggestions and sometimes props with which to perform.

"In my experience, Comedy Sportz matches have been a great way to unite students from all facets of the high school population," said Stephanie Sanchez, English teacher and advisor. "Laughter brings everyone together! The students versus faculty and administrator matches are particularly popular because students get the chance to see their teachers in a very different light. Watching your instructors attempt live comedy is hilarious in itself."

"One thing that I really like about this is how it teaches students a new way to observe their surroundings, then use those observations to entertain. Additionally, students don't need to be actors or in the drama class to be a part of this team. They really only need their own sense of creativity and the desire to perform."

The Brain as Funny Bone

Team member and co-manager Nikki Tran enjoys what this new endeavor has brought to the FVHS campus. "People are so stressed out, sometimes they just forget to relax," Ms. Tran said.

When asked what is different about Comedy Sportz, Ms. Tran said that people often think of the arts as being noncompetitive, but that through Comedy Sportz, there's an intellectual process involved. She explained that you have to use wit and speed in order to keep the laughs coming and get the audience on your side and that you use a different part of the brain when having to think on your feet.

It has also allowed for the nurturing of new talent. "We support each other, which is really great," Ms. Tran said. Students are currently honing their comedic skills for the upcoming season. You can look for upcoming Comedy Sportz matches at FVHS in the spring of 2012. For further information, contact Stephanie Sanchez at ssanchez@fvhs.com.



Dr. Michael Simons
President

BOARD OF TRUSTEES • FROM PAGE 25

Education funding in California, on a per-student basis, is among the lowest in the nation as reported by Quality Counts and the National Education Association. We are in danger of severely handicapping our society and our workforce for decades to come.

Another round of cuts to education, either for 2011-12 or 2012-13, will cause additional layoffs of teachers and other employees, as well as even deeper cuts to student programs.

Finally, many school agencies throughout the state are very near the financial breaking point. They have eliminated programs and resorted to their reserves to survive the reductions to date. The funder of last resort for insolvent school districts is the state of California. State emergency loans and takeovers would likely be far more costly and long-lasting than stabilizing funding.

As is evident, even in these extremely distressing economic circumstances, education has more than contributed its fair share to resolving the State Budget

Huntington Beach *Adult School*

17321 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4227 • www.hbadultschool.com



Steve Curiel
Principal

A Well-Named Honoree

Teresa (Teri) Friend has been an integral part of the Huntington Beach Adult School since 1990. She has always been a positive and upbeat person and is a joy to have on our campus.

Ms. Friend's dedication to students at our school is evident, as she has often gone above and beyond her job duties to ensure that students come first. Ms. Friend's first assignment was at Elwyn, which has been a community partner with the adult school for many years. She often reflects on her time at Elwyn as "the best job ever" and fondly recalls her time helping disadvantaged students.

As duty called, Ms. Friend was asked to come help the students of Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley and Westminster as a teacher in our diploma program. She accepted and excelled in this challenge. Every day, Ms. Friend's positive attitude and nurturing nature helps our high school students and adult students reach the reality of achieving the status of high school graduate. Since her beginning at the Adult School, Ms. Friend has been committed to the service of our students—every student.



Terri Friend, HBAS Masonic Teacher of the Year and Steve Curiel, HBAS Principal, at the Masonic Lodge Teacher Appreciation Ceremony.

Great Teacher—and More

As with most teachers, many hours are spent outside the classroom to ensure student success, and Ms. Friend is no exception. Not only has Ms. Friend spent countless hours reassuring, challenging, teaching and counseling adults and adolescents in the HBUHSD but she has also helped the plight of adult students by serving on the California Consortium for Adult Education. In our budgetary times, this organization serves as a voice for students

who are often not heard. Ms. Friend is an important part of the HBAS Leadership Team. She also serves as the WASC Visiting Committee chair, which is a time-consuming, nerve-racking and stressful assignment—not to mention that most of these duties must be completed outside of the hours spent with students each week. She has, without complaint, been a very important part of this process and is one of the main reasons we look forward to another full accreditation. Ms. Friend is also an artist, and we are blessed to have her use her artistic abilities for the benefit of our adult program. You can see some of her work in our latest brochure.

We are proud to recognize Ms. Friend's accomplishment and call her our teacher of the year.

crisis. As such, at a minimum we believe that education funding should be sustained at its current level versus being reduced or deferred any further, until it can be restored and increased. Further, we do not want to see the statutory trigger cuts for 2011-12 rolled into an education cut for 2012-13.

Given the importance of rebuilding the California economy, and the necessary role future generations of educated Californians will have, we ask that Governor Brown and all members of the Legislature, regardless of political persuasion, commit to no more cuts and no more deferrals of education funding until such time funding can be restored and increased.

We cannot have a vibrant future and match the success our state has enjoyed in the past without an educated population. We recognize there are significant funding challenges still in store for this great state; however, education has bellied up to the bar enough during this "Great Recession," and has paid its fair share. To ensure education retains its structure, a minimum funding level is essential, and the commitment described above is one way to ensure a stable, sustained level of resources during these hard times.

Huntington Beach *High School*

1905 Main St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-2514 • www.hboilers.com



Janie Hoy
Principal

To the Rescue

Late last year, Enrique Ruiz, a Huntington Beach High School maintenance staffer, took several pieces of wood from the old gymnasium bleachers and created surfboards to hang from the various entrances around the campus.

Enrique spent many hours shaping, painting and carving the letters into the boards. Shortly afterwards he presented them to the school administration, where they were quickly hung outside the main office, the nurse's office and the Wellness Center.

No other signage would have been more appropriate at Huntington Beach High School than surfboards, either. They were all brightly painted in the school colors and could not be missed. Many visitors commented on their uniqueness.

But shortly after they were hung, someone entered the campus and cut them down. And they have never been seen again. So many students and staff were saddened by the theft, but a reward of \$200 brought no results.



A Special Project

However, we are proud to announce that the boards have been replaced! It turns out that freshman student Michael Eliot was sad when he learned about the theft, too. He truly believed that the boards served a vital purpose, and helped contribute to a keen sense of school spirit. So he set about to make things right.

When Michael learned about the stolen signs he quickly approached Mr. Seidel about replacing them. Soon, after getting the approval, two large planks of wood were shaped, sanded, engraved, painted and then handed over to Mr. Seidel in November.

Michael led a team of his peers to create the replacement signs, and they are nearly identical to the originals. They sport the same school colors and engraved wording, and they also have the same classic curvature of a proper surfboard. Requiring over 300 hours of handcrafted labor, the new signs were done as part of Michael's efforts to achieve his Eagle Scout ranking.

It is great to have them back! A special thanks goes to Michael and his team for their contribution to the spirit and tradition that is indeed Huntington Beach High School.

Ocean View *High School*

17071 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/848-0656 • www.ovhs.info



Dan Bryan
Principal

Real-World Experience

Food! Who doesn't love it? I can tell you that no matter what's prepared, it takes a careful person to make something taste and look good.

Maria Nicolaides, our foods instructor, often starts her day by moving 100 pounds of food from her car to the classroom kitchen. And an hour later people are being drawn down the 400 hallway because of the wonderful aromas that are coming out of there!

When you walk into her classroom it sounds just like a shop class: there are mixers whirring and knives busy passing through the celery and striking the cutting board. Ms. Nicolaides is definitely in command of her kitchen! It is a truly professional looking place. And her students are being taught how to prepare their dishes in precisely that same professional way.

The students prepare their meals to share in class, but during the last three years the room has also been putting on themed luncheons based upon the chefs of the world and the culinary regions which inspire them. This gives our students a chance to really show their skills, which is a part of themselves that we might not otherwise see.



Alejandro Olivares works to prepare food for a student chefs competition.

Doing Their Best

Ms. Nicolaides challenges her students on another level as well. Many of our sports banquets have been expensive affairs for the teams. So the trick for her is to make their meals affordable enough to get the entire family to the banquet. Her students also get hired out to prepare banquet food for many end-of-the-season celebrations, too.

As I write this today her class is preparing for the staff's holiday luncheon! This gives the students great experience in making large orders of food of restaurant quality, and under real-world conditions. The class is getting more customers every year, too, and the food is incredible!

The foods class uses the funds that they charge for these meals to make kitchen upgrades and maintenance. Ms. Nicolaides is also busy pushing her students to work outside the classroom as well.

They are even showing what they can do at outside competitions. I am sure that it won't be too long before we see an Ocean View graduate vying for the title of the next Iron Chef on the Food Network!

I am so proud of Ms. Nicolaides and her tireless effort in getting her students college- and career-ready!

Marina *High School*

15871 Springdale St., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/893-6571 • www.marinavikings.org



Dr. Paul Morrow
Principal

College and Career Readiness: What's It All About?

As this year progresses, you will begin to hear, or may have already heard, the term *college and career readiness* spoken around our school and throughout our district. Every high school in our nation should ensure that all students graduate “college and career-ready.” But what does that actually mean?

Simply put, *college and career ready* refers to the content knowledge and skills high school graduates must possess in English and mathematics—including, but not limited to, reading, writing communications, teamwork, critical thinking and problem solving—to be successful in any and all future endeavors. Of course, readiness for college and careers depends on more than English and mathematics knowledge; to be successful after high school, all graduates must possess the knowledge, habits and skills that can only come from a rigorous, rich and well-rounded high school curriculum.



What Is *College Ready*?

In today's world, *college* means much more than just pursuing a four-year degree at a university. Being college ready means being prepared for any postsecondary education or training experience. These experiences include attendance at community colleges, such as Golden West and Orange Coast College; four-year institutions, such as Cal State University at Long Beach; and other institutions of higher learning, such as career and technical institutes. Being ready for college means that a high school graduate has the English and mathematics knowledge and skills necessary to qualify for and succeed in entry-level courses for college credit without the need for remedial or supportive coursework.

What Is *Career Ready*?

In today's economy, a career is not just a job. A career provides a wage and pathways to advancement and requires post-high school training or education. A job may be obtained with only a high school diploma but offers no guarantee of advancement or mobility. Being ready for a career means that a high school graduate has the English and mathematics knowledge and skills necessary to qualify for and succeed in the postsecondary job training or education necessary for their chosen career, such as in technical/vocational programs, community college, apprenticeship and on-the-job training.

Are *Ready for College* and *Ready for Career* the same thing?

With respect to the knowledge and skills in English and mathematics expected by employers and postsecondary institutions, the answer is yes. Over the past number of years, research shows an overwhelming agreement about the expectations of employers and colleges in terms of the knowledge and skills high school graduates need to be successful after high school. This research shows that education is more valued and more necessary than ever before.

So what's the bottom line? It's simple! Today, *all* high school graduates need to be prepared for some type of post-high school education or training if they are to have options and opportunities in the job market that will help them have success-filled lives and careers. Over the course of this year, the Huntington Beach Union High School District and the staff here at Marina are dedicating themselves to finding ways to ensure that all students have the choice to attend post-high school education or training. This means that we are beginning to take a close look at courses we offer and those that limit our students' choices. As parents and educators, it's incumbent upon each of us to talk with our children and students about their possible futures and guide them into challenging and successful futures. None of us should be cycling students into courses that do not lead to college and career readiness or a sequence of courses that will disqualify them for UC/CSU direct acceptance. Although these college preparatory courses may be challenging for some, it's up to each of us to provide the support and guidance necessary to help them succeed and not put limits on their futures.

So as you get your children ready to register for their next year's courses, let's not focus on what is “easy” but instead on what will help them have that successful life and career that will ensure a prosperous and meaningful future. Let's join together and help our students find the right way instead of the easy way.

Facts Gathered from the American Diploma Project Network

Thirty five years ago, only 12 percent of U.S. jobs required some postsecondary training or an associate's degree, and only 16 percent required a bachelor's degree or higher.

Nearly eight in 10 future job openings in the next decade in the United States will require postsecondary education or training. Forty-five percent will be in “middle skill” occupations, which require at least some post-high school education and training, while 33 percent will be in high skilled occupations for which a bachelor's degree or more is required. By contrast, only 22 percent of future job openings will be “low skill” and accessible to those with a high school diploma or less.

While the United States still ranks third in the adult population, which includes 25–64-year-olds with an associate's degree or higher, among 30 countries, we now rank 10th among 25–34-year-olds with a two-year degree and above. Competing countries are catching up to and even outpacing the United States in the educational attainment of their new generation of adults.

Higher levels of education lead to elevated wages, a more equitable distribution of income and substantial gains in productivity. For every additional average year of schooling U.S. citizens complete, the GDP would increase by about 0.37 percentage points—or by 10 percent—over time.

Valley Vista *High School*

9600 Dolphin Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/964-7766 • www.vvhs.info



Kerry Clitheroe
Principal

The Write Stuff

Valley Vista High School's "School Wide Write" program tackles one of the most pressing needs of our at-risk student population.

Effective writing is an essential component in developing critical thinking and college-readiness skills. Effective writers can paint a picture with their words or describe personal feelings. They can inform, explain and persuade their readers. But in order to succeed in high school, or in higher education, or vocationally and as citizens, our students need to be effective writers.

Thus the School Wide Write program is a monthly assignment that must be completed by each student during their third period home room. The program was developed through a collaborative effort with all of our teachers, under the leadership of Andrea Atkinson, an English/language arts teacher.

Different approaches to writing prompts were thoroughly discussed, and a grading rubric and common assessment criteria were decided.

Comparing Differences

The students are instructed to carefully read and respond to the entire writing prompt, and to structure their essays with an introduction, supporting paragraphs and a conclusion, and include specific examples. Homeroom teachers grade their students' essays and provide feedback. The entire faculty then comes together to review results and determine the ways to improve student achievement and mastery.

Our latest prompt is, "Write an essay comparing Valley Vista High School to another high school. How is VVHS similar or different? Are those differences positive or negative?" The suggestions given to our students for addressing this prompt include defining the purpose of VVHS, the school and class sizes, the daily schedule, and the student population.

Students take School Wide Write seriously, and personally. One student reports that, "Valley Vista is no ordinary high school. It is a continuation school for students who need to make up large amounts of credit in order to be able to graduate. The school is often looked down on, but the students find it a more

comfortable learning environment."

Another response was more personal. "One thing that makes me love Valley Vista is that since the school is so small, the teachers know each student and sincerely care for them."

When it comes to developing essential ingredients for success in school and life, School Wide Write is indeed the write stuff.



Mrs. Atkinson and Student



Mrs. Atkinson's Class

Westminster *High School*

14325 Goldenwest St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/893-1381 • www.whslions.com



Shirley Vaughn
Principal

Science Department Receives Technology Grant *By Trees Hill, Community Resource Coordinator, and Eric Brothwell, Science Teacher*

Westminster High School science teacher Eric Brothwell was recently awarded the Vernier Technology 30th anniversary grant. There were only 30 grants awarded across the nation. Each recipient received a \$10,000 blank check to purchase any Vernier equipment that would benefit the school science or mathematics educational program.

Mr. Brothwell applied for the grant in order to obtain Vernier technology for the freshman Physical Science and junior Chemistry and Conceptual Chemistry classes. Both classes place an emphasis on the environment. Students are being made aware that those environmental factors that are manipulated by human activity have become more important. The Vernier equipment to be purchased will include probes for data collection as well as the actual interfaces that allow for in-the-field data collection. Students will be using the probes to perform a variety of long-term data analyses, including soil and water pH; soil and water temperature; conductivity, which is a test of how salinity changes over time; testing for unnatural ions within water samples such as calcium, nitrate, chloride and ammonium, all things that may be found in fertilizers or soil additives; and light to see the effects of sun exposure and intensity.



Mr. Eric Brothwell explaining to Health Academy Physiology students how to change their muscle models to be more accurate.

Real-World Data

Students will gather samples from local beaches and perform titrations on the samples to confirm conductivity in the samples through the use of drop counters. Students will also use Lab Quests, which allow the students to go out into the field and take their measurements without the constraints of carrying out the collection of equipment and bringing the samples back to the classroom for analyses.

Even though the probes and Lab Quests are expected to arrive before the end of the year, the students will begin using them in the beginning of the 2012-13 school year. The majority of the projects; however, will take place in the spring of 2013 as teachers begin to prepare the students for the state exams.

When asked why he applied for the grant, Mr. Brothwell said, "Vernier software is used throughout the year in those classes that have access to it; namely, the AP courses and physics. General science students do not get much access to these technologies traditionally, and we want that changed."

Call Now
For \$20 Testing!
Expires 02/29/12

Tutoring Club®

A Class Above.™ Guaranteed.™

Ranked #1 Tutoring Club franchise in the country five years in a row!

www.TutoringClub.com

GUARANTEED

to improve
academic performance
in **LESS TIME** and
at a **LOWER COST** than
any other program.

"Tutoring Club has been invaluable.
The tutors are highly qualified and both of
my sons relate to their enthusiastic help."

-Lucinda, Parent of Edison High School &
Talbert Middle School students (fifth grade teacher)



Tutoring Club®
A Class Above.™ Guaranteed.™

The TutorAid reading
program is balanced and
gives your child practice in
all basic language skills,
including phonics, vocabulary, comprehension, and applied
skills, such as reading rate and recall.

Rx Reading™
The perfect prescription for reading.

Amazing Math™
Only from Tutoring Club.

TutorAid math testing analyzes
the skills your child has missed
or not comprehended in school.
It allows students to go back
and build the foundation needed for success in basic math, as well
as advanced courses such as algebra, geometry, trigonometry
and calculus.

From outline to
essay writing, this
TutorAid course covers
sentence structure, grammar, punctuation and spelling.

The Write Way™
Only from Tutoring Club.

Tutor Up™
Only from Tutoring Club.

Individual tutoring is available for all subjects
including High School level, AP and College Prep
courses.

Exclusive program designed around
your student's deficiencies on the
exam. Our courses along with our
low student ratio, allow students to target their weak areas
and polish their existing skills for maximum point increase.

SAT Prep™
Only from Tutoring Club.

Fountain Valley/Huntington Beach
(Brookhurst and Ellis)
(714) 965-8886

HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE • MATH • READING • WRITING • STUDY SKILLS • ACT/SAT PREP