

# School News



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**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 42**

**MAY 2011**

## Fountain Valley School District Softball Champions!



Kazuo Masuda Middle School boys and girls softball team members.

*By Jeff Zahedi, Boys Softball Coach and Thomas Warf, Girls Softball Coach*

The FVSD Softball Tournament returned in 2011. Our boys team defended their title from 2009. The team was solid at all positions, with contributions from each of our student athletes.

The boys exemplified the ideal of hard work. Coach Jeff Zahedi felt that they were an awesome group of athletes and we will be reading about them in the future.

The Masuda girls softball team exceeded all expectations by winning the Tournament. The team's strength was their tremendous defense up the middle, led by center fielder Niki Areyan, second baseman Megan Craft, shortstop Alexis Fukaye, and pitcher's guard Sierra Charlton. We also had power hitting by Lauren Eisele, Kasey Reeve, Marissa Castro and Liana Castro, as well as timely hitting from Alex Blan and Allie Nunez.

The future is bright with eight returning players, including talented seventh-graders Taylor Anderson, Ruby Rivera and Elyse Toal. These girls came together as a team. They supported each other, displayed tremendous sportsmanship, and deserve our recognition as excellent student athletes.

### Outdoor Science Camp



FVSD Courreges Elementary  
Please see our story on page 7

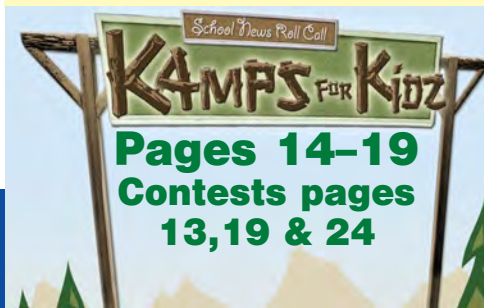
### Top Tigers



FVSD Tamura Elementary  
Please see our story on page 5

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**Kay Coop**

Founder / Publisher



Spring Break is over and summer is right around the corner. Graduation is in sight for the seniors and the administrators are already projecting how they will manage next year in anticipation of more budget cuts.

The cities of Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach and Westminster have events planned for the months ahead, which you can read about on page 4. Our Camp/Activities section begins on page 14 with choices for your summer plans. Find out who won the contest for March and enter the contest this issue on page 19.

Our next issue is June 1st.

## School News

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OCEAN VIEW  
WESTMINSTER



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## The City of Fountain Valley Office of the Mayor

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

# "Every 15 Minutes"—Proactive Education



**Steve A. Nagel**  
Mayor

Since 1998, the Fountain Valley Police Department has partnered with local high schools to present an educational program called "Every 15 Minutes." Targeting high school teens, the program is designed to educate them on the harmful effects of drinking and driving.

The program title reminds participants that someone in the United States dies or is seriously injured every 15 minutes in an alcohol-related traffic collision. This year "Every 15 Minutes" took place at Los Amigos High School on March 24-25, 2011.

This powerful program is designed to create awareness among students that they are not invincible, and it helps open the emotional doors, addressing the problem most teens do not know exist. One of the primary objectives of the "Every 15 Minutes" program is proactive education.

During the "Every 15 Minutes" program, everyone involved is reminded that drinking and driving is not an accident. These crashes and injuries are predictable and preventable. The Fountain Valley Police Department is very serious in the attempt to eliminate deaths and injuries caused by drinking and driving, which is why "Every 15 Minutes" is scheduled prior to high school prom and graduation activities.

Drivers under 21 are subject to zero tolerance laws. Underage impaired drivers are subject to very strict penalties, such as license revocation, hefty fines, and extended community service. It does not pay to drink and drive. Be smart, DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!

It does not pay to drink and drive.  
Be smart, DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!

## The City of Huntington Beach Office of the Mayor

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

# Duck-A-Thon & Great Fun



**Joe Carchio**  
Mayor

Summer is just around the corner, and Surf City is getting ready for our busiest season by holding some great events down at the beach this May and June. One of my favorite events of the year, the Duck-A-Thon, will be held again this May. This event raises money for a great cause, the Community Care Health Centers, and is a lot of fun for the whole family.

During the Annual Duck-A-Thon, thousands of rubber ducks will be dropped from the Huntington Beach Pier into the ocean. The ducks then will race to shore to win prizes for their owners. The main event will begin at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 14th. On Sunday, May 15th, at 3 p.m., the "Beachcomber" ducks, sponsored by local businesses, will be launched off the Pier.

On the Friday before the big race, enjoy a sunset view of the Pier at the annual Duck-A-Thon Wine Tasting. There will be a variety of excellent wines featured, live and silent auctions, and a sampling of dining from local restaurants.

For more information on how to become involved in these great events, visit [www.duckathon.org](http://www.duckathon.org) or call (714) 500-0382.

Huntington Beach will have some great events this May and June. Some of these events are old favorites for me, and if this is your first time attending, they will be sure to become a yearly tradition for your family. So come down to the beach and enjoy the great weather and the entertainment and get ready to have a great summer in Surf City!

**Annual Duck-A-Thon**  
The main event will begin at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 14th.  
On Sunday, May 15th, at 3 p.m., the "Beachcomber" ducks will be launched off the Pier.  
On the Friday before the big race, enjoy a sunset view of the Pier at the annual Duck-A-Thon Wine Tasting

## The City of Westminster Office of the Mayor

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

# Two Major Events to Attend



**Margie Rice**  
Mayor

I invite you to consider participating in some upcoming events in Westminster. First, the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is scheduled in conjunction with the National Day of Prayer. It will be held on Thursday, May 5, from 7:00-9:00 a.m. at the Westminster Rose Center. For additional information, call (714) 894-3129 or email [westminstersprayerbreakfast@earthlink.net](mailto:westminstersprayerbreakfast@earthlink.net).

I am very excited about plans for this year's Mayor's Ball. As you may be aware, the purpose of this event is to raise funds to support Westminster's Rose Center Theater and the cultural events provided there through the Rose Center Foundation. It will be held at the Rose Center, 14140 All American Way, on Saturday, June 4, 2011. Our 2011 theme is "The Mayor's Mardi Gras Ball" and a colorful, fun evening is being planned. There will be live entertainment, wonderful food, music for listening or dancing, auction items, raffle prizes and more. We expect a great party that will help keep our theater operating and I hope you can join us. The party starts at 5:30 p.m. and reservations are \$40 per person. For more information, please call my office at (714) 548-3240.

If you have been to the theater, you know what a beautiful and comfortable place it is to enjoy a performance. If not, please check it out. I think you will be pleasantly surprised.

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## Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92628  
714/966-4000 www.ocde.us

# The Power of Parents and Physical Activity



**William M. Habermehl**  
Superintendent

We know one of the most powerful tools in the fight against childhood obesity is physical activity. Yet, researchers tell us as our children grow, there is a decline in the amount of physical activity they get. How much physical activity do children and teens need? The 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans recommends that children and teens to get at least 60 minutes a day of physical activity, with a majority of that spent doing moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA). MVPA means raising your heart rate and "breaking a sweat" during physical activity.

Kids who get 30 minutes a day of MVPA have improved physical health, physical fitness, and mental health. At school we see links between physical activity, fitness, and improved academic performance. In other words, better grades and test scores at all ages!

Parents can have a powerful influence their children's time and activities, by being an active role model for physical fitness. Children imitate what they see their parents do. Families can schedule an active play date at least once a week and should strive to make physical activity a part of every day if possible. Parents and caretakers can also substitute active play time for television, computer, and video game screen time at home. Children can invite their neighborhood friends to join in your family play time.

Physical Education (PE) is the class time schools allocate for students to learn and practice the movement knowledge, motor and social skills they need to start and sustain an active, healthy lifestyle. State and federal academic requirements for physical education are 200 minutes every 10 days in K-6 schools and 400 minutes every 10 days in grades 7-12. Schools are doing their best to make sure students are getting adequate PE time, however some may find it difficult to fit the time into the regular school day. If adequate PE time is a concern, ask your child's teacher or school principal what you can do to help.

Parents can volunteer to help provide more MVPA at recess, lunch time, and after school. Parents can also assist teachers by supporting scheduled physical activity breaks in the classroom. Parents can promote walking, skating, and biking to and from school. As educators, we can encourage parents to learn about their school district's Wellness Policy and participate in the Kids Run OC or Governor's Challenge. Many organizations, including the Orange County Department of Education, offer free physical fitness resource materials, activity plans, and tools for parents.

None of us can do it alone. Working together, parents, schools, and communities can provide an environment that promotes physical activity and increases the amount of MVPA our children get. Let's encourage collaborations between cities and community organizations, like YMCA's and Boys & Girls Clubs, to work together and find ways to expand the use of existing facilities such as pools, parks, fitness centers, gyms, fields, playgrounds, and skate parks. Together we can find innovative ways to increase physical activity resulting in better health and fitness for everyone.

For more information: <http://HealthySchools.ocde.us>; [www.classroom.kidshealth.org](http://www.classroom.kidshealth.org)  
[www.ocmarathon.com/kids-run-the-oc/program-info.aspx](http://www.ocmarathon.com/kids-run-the-oc/program-info.aspx); [www.CalGovCouncil.org](http://www.CalGovCouncil.org)  
[www.dairycouncilofca.org/Educators](http://www.dairycouncilofca.org/Educators)

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# Fountain Valley School District

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## SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Marc Ecker**

### Every Student Succeeding

Each year the Fountain Valley School District participates in the Every Student Succeeding Recognition program. This incredible program is sponsored statewide by the Association of California School Administrators. One student from each of the nineteen ACSA regions though out California is brought to ACSA's Annual Leadership Summit to be honored for their achievements in overcoming incredible physical, emotional and social odds to become a success in school and in life.

It is the tradition of the Fountain Valley School District to nominate a student from each of our eleven schools. These students are recognized at a special breakfast sponsored by our local Fountain Valley Rotary Club. The story of each of the nominees is read by their school principal to the audience. Tears begin to well up in our eyes as we proudly acknowledge the incredible accomplishments of those who have turned unbelievable challenges into success.

One of our Rotarians, Mr. David Osborn is the proprietor of Fountain Bowling Center in Fountain Valley. David has for many years raised money for an endowment fund named after his daughter, Kelly Osborn, who lost her life in a tragic automobile accident many years ago. The Kelly Osborn Memorial Fund supports high school scholarships for deserving students and has now for nearly ten years provided a \$500 cash award to each of our eleven Every Student Succeeding nominees. The award is given at the breakfast and parents, staff members and Rotarians all are present to enjoy seeing the wide eyes of the students as the checks are awarded.

So often we find ourselves complaining about one thing or another. We tend to be a bit grumpy when things do not go our way. We fail to truly appreciate the fact that within all of us we have the ability to overcome the most difficult of challenges. Sometimes it takes the smiling, but determined faces of our students to remind us that we all have the unique ability if we put our heart and mind to the task, to solve even the most difficult of problems. In this regard, we all continue to learn something each day. Congratulations to all of our winners.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**Sandra Crandall**  
*Member*

### Classified Employees

You call the office to ask a question and someone answers. You click on the school newsletter and it appears. You do not worry about the safety of your child when on a bus. You help with homework from district purchased textbooks. You see instructional aides, food service workers, substitute teachers or librarians assisting students. You find the campus free of graffiti and litter and notice the mowed lawns.

These scenarios are being repeated throughout Fountain Valley School District day in and day out.

Our secretaries, office managers, clerks, librarians, maintenance, landscape and custodial crews, IT technicians, food servers, purchasing personnel and instructional aides are all part of our classified employee group.

You may not know them or even see many of them, but the results of their work are evident. Because of their efforts, the students of our district come to attractive schools, are safe when riding in our busses, learn in clean, maintained classrooms, have textbooks and materials delivered for their use and are helped by support personnel. Parents seeking information are given help either in person, over the telephone or electronically.

Our organization functions well because of these valuable employees. Our classified employees are an integral part of Fountain Valley School District's daily operations and truly important partners in serving the students and parents of our community.

## Fountain Valley Educational Foundation

17210 Oak St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708

## Songs of Success



**Carla Neeld**  
*President*

The first two of three Festival of the Arts Concert Series performances were a great success due to the musicians, directors, and fund-raising efforts of the Fountain Valley Educational Foundation (FVEF). The first combined indoor vocal concert was hosted by director Kevin Tison in the Fountain Valley High School (FVHS) gym. Over 400 students performed before a packed house. Mr. Tison's FVHS Concert Choir and the Fountain Valley School District (FVSD) Middle School Singers opened the evening, inspiring the younger students with excellent performances and exceptional vocal and instrumental soloists. Three hundred FVSD third-grade singers, under the direction of Jon Lundgren and Lenny Graf, impressed the crowd as they sang the words and music to 12 songs from memory. The evening ended with a patriotic grand finale.

Young string musicians gathered the very next evening at Masuda Middle School for Orchestra Night. Principal Chris Mullen and Assistant Principal Patrick Ham hosted another wonderful concert in the multi-purpose room. The FVHS strings impressed, and the groups of elementary and middle school students gave great performances under the direction of Jon Lundgren, Rudy Arevalos, and new director Robert Covacevich.

FVEF Board members and event volunteers worked very hard both nights selling food and opportunity tickets for gifts donated or solicited by foundation members. Each of the school's PTA units also donated baskets for the opportunity drawing. Over \$3,500 was raised at the two concerts. Due to district elimination of funding for music in the FVSD, all monies raised at the concerts will go to support these and other programs approved by the FVEF Board.

The final concert in the series will be held May 3 in the FVHS gym. Hosted by the Fountain Valley Royal Regiment, the instrumental music show is a community event that is not to be missed.

## Fountain Valley School District Board of Trustees



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# Roch Courreges *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Joyce Buehrer**  
*Principal*

## Outdoor Science Camp

Each year our Courreges 5th grade students have the opportunity to attend Outdoor Science School. This year they attended Pinecrest Outdoor Science School for 5 days just before their spring break. Our students hiked on trails, investigated geological features, observed wildlife, and were able to compare plant adaptations. During the evenings, they observed planets through telescopes and experienced the forest at night using their senses. Students learned camp songs, and were able to create and perform nature-oriented skits during skit night. This experience taught them about responsibility and cooperation through the experience of group living in cabins. All of our 5th graders went home knowing more about themselves and the natural world they live in. They enjoyed the whole Outdoor Science School experience and certainly appreciated the loving attention of their parents and family members upon their return home.

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

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



**Chris Christensen**  
*Principal*



**Paul Andre White**  
*Assistant Principal*

## Fulton's Finest

### Teacher of the Year:

Evelyn Lee is the epitome of what it means to be a team player. Her days are spent on the P.E. field, the math classroom and our woodshop. Over the past year, she has spent a significant amount of time reflecting on and adapting her teaching to better suit the needs of her students and enhance their learning experience. She has veteran presence amongst the staff and has been an integral part in the establishment of our new student recognition program.

### Classified Employee of the Year:

Amy Lammers has worked here at Fulton for nearly five years and the positive impact she has made on the students she works with is profound.

As an aide in Mrs. Parra's SDC class she is called on and trusted to complete any and all classroom responsibilities. Her professionalism and dedication are unmatched as is her smile which she is always wearing.



# 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*



**Patrick Ham**  
*Assistant Principal*

## Softball Champions!

*By Jeff Zahedi, and Thomas Warf*

See our story on the front page!

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

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



**Julianne Hoefer**  
*Principal*

## Annual Jog-A-Thon

Each year one of the favorite Cox PTO events is the annual jog-a-thon. This year was no different. Our Lights! Camera! Action! Jog-a-thon was held on March 17th and commemorated with a leprechaun green t-shirts. All the students walked or ran for a half hour and had a great time raising money for our school. The almost \$30,000 will help fund many wonderful opportunities and activities such as field trips, Art Masters, classroom supplies, assemblies, school wide incentive programs, and much more.



Congratulations to our top earners: Monique Romero, Andrew Cunningham, Cassie Chawke, Jayna Meyer, Noah Jennings, Kayla Ohe, Leanne Williams Udeh, Hannah Bingelli, Hunter Ramirez, Elizabeth Luna, Tyler Luong, and Neil Smith. A very special thank you to our co-chairs Rachelle Chawke and Gill Paradise, and the many volunteers who made the event a huge success.

# Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

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

Jennifer Perkins, *Principal*

No Article This Issue

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

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



**Kathy Davis**  
*Principal*

## Teacher of the Year Lara Epling

I came to Fountain Valley School District 4 years ago to work closer to home and was fortunate enough to be placed at Newland Elementary to teach the Autism Explorer class for Kindergarten through 2nd grade students. This was the perfect place for me, where I could integrate grade level curriculum within a structured environment to help those with high functioning Autism learn, grow and move gradually into the general education setting. It has been exciting to see the program evolve into what it is today.

To be recognized by my colleagues is the highest honor that I know of, since they are a remarkable group of educators. Clearly, I didn't do this alone! So much support has come my way and great mentors everywhere! I am proud to be a part of this Newland team. Working side by side with each and every one of them has made me a more reflective and intentional teacher. It makes me want to throw my hands in the air, close my eyes, and scream...Weeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!



**Lara Epling**



# 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*

## Moiola's PAL Program

*By Tien To, Student Body President and PAL member*

Here at Moiola, we have an excellent new PAL program. All throughout the school year our Peer Assistance Leaders have helped solve many conflicts and provided support for students in grades K-8.

PAL members from 4th -8th grades have worked hard to make our school as spirited as possible and have sponsored many events, from Red Ribbon Week to Parent-Student conflict Training. Our most recent event, Soles4Soles, was a huge success, donating over 500 shoes to the victims of Japan's tsunami and earthquake disaster. The week of April 11th, PAL sold spring grams to earn money to buy gifts for the elderly. In the future, we are looking forward to a beach clean-up.

All of our PALs have been out on the playground and blacktop at recess on Mondays through Fridays; if you ever have a problem or need someone to talk to, just ask a PAL!



# Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Brandi Loyd**  
*Principal*

## Congratulations Christopher Purry

Congratulations to fifth grader, Christopher Purry, for receiving this year's "Every Student Succeeding" award.

Christopher embodies all that a student and quality person can be, even when the road is not always straight and smooth. Somewhat shy, and always polite, he has attended Oka School since kindergarten and has been nurtured by both his mother and teachers, in setting high academic standards for himself. His love of art enabled him to receive an award for his entry in the Huntington Beach Centennial art contest.

Each Fountain Valley School honors one student for their achievement in school while overcoming a life obstacle. Last Tuesday, they were honored with a family breakfast, provided by Fountain Valley Rotary, and each students received a \$500 check from Mr. Dave Osborn, the owner of Fountain Valley Bowl.

CONGRATULATIONS to Christopher and all of these fine students!



**Christopher Purry**

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

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



**Julie Ballesteros**  
*Principal*

## Our Teacher of the Year

Plavan is proud to present Andrea Benson as our 2010-2011 Teacher of the Year.

Miss Benson began working in the Fountain Valley School District in 2007. She is an extremely dedicated fourth-grade teacher who deserves recognition for a job well done. Andrea gives of her heart and soul to make sure that each student who leaves her classroom has gained full mastery of state standards and a sense of self-worth.

One of her skills is that she runs a very calm and organized classroom. Her personality and patience allows her to engage students so that they understand the concepts she is teaching and why they are learning them.

Miss Benson knows how to create a safe environment geared towards maximizing learning abilities, but she also nurtures growth through love, creativity, honesty and humor. She not only supports the unique needs of her diverse population by helping reluctant or struggling learners gain a sense of success, she also provides extension and enrichment activities to push the education of quick learners even further.

Andrea is also extremely consistent. Some of the most challenging students don't seem to ruffle her feathers. She treats all students with respect and kindness and encourages them to meet their potential.

Andrea is one teacher who is open to new learning experiences and ideas, and is truly a lifelong-learner herself. It is a privilege to work with an educator as fine as Andrea Benson. I know that she can be counted on for honesty, friendship and the ability to provide a well-rounded education for our children.

# Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Jay Adams**  
*Principal*

## Tamura's Future Stars!

During the month of March, Tamura School recognized some of our outstanding students: Tamura's Top Tigers for the 2010-11 school year. At the school board meeting held on March 10th, we held a celebration to honor these fabulous students for their accomplishments and for their exceptional contributions to our school. We are proud to applaud: Emma & Hannah Bell, Kindergarten; Jessica Nguyen, First Grade; Hannah Nguyen, Second Grade; Alex Wittick, Third Grade; Hannah Farrow, Fourth Grade, and Mary Vu, Fifth Grade.

The entire school staff, along with their teachers Mrs. Erb, Mrs. Lopez, Ms. Pitaccio, Mrs. Bragdon, Mrs. Dao, Mrs. Siefker, and Mr. Osborne, are extremely proud of their accomplishments and are incredibly thankful for the opportunity to work with such stellar students.

Also honored at the board recognition were outstanding parent volunteers Laura Gilmore and Elisabeth Hassanzadeh. These two PTO members have spent years going above and beyond for the students and faculty of Tamura. There aren't enough "thank-you's" in the world to show our appreciation to these two moms and to the rest of our phenomenal PTO.

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

9101 Brabham Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • www.fvdsd.us/p\_home.asp?tid=5

**Cara Robinson, Principal & Erik Miller, Assistant Principal**

**No Article This Issue**



# Ocean View School District

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

## SUPERINTENDENT



**Alan G. Rasmussen Ed.D.**

One of the best jobs I have is reading the Teacher of the Year nominations submitted by peers and parents every year. Our nominees share similar traits: They have a fervent dedication to their students, they are inspirational leaders at their schools, and they are respected by peers and parents. This year, two outstanding teachers have been selected as Ocean View School District Teachers of the Year - Jan Richards from College View School and Kristin Spencer from Marine View Middle School.

In Ocean View, the recipients learn of their award during a surprise visit to their school by members of the Board of Trustees and District Administration. It is always wonderful to see their reactions as their name is announced, they see the excitement of their fellow staff, and they hear the loud, heartfelt applause of those who work with them everyday. It is always a true validation that they are more than deserving of this recognition.



**Board President Debbie Cotton, Jan Richards and Dr. Loose**

### Jan Richards Elementary Teacher of the Year

Jan Richards has worked at College View School for 15 years. Jan's First Grade Team wrote a nomination stating that she is, "the heart of our school. She is loved by all staff and parents, puts 110% into everything she does, is a leader in PBIS, a team leader, Kid Council teacher, and serves as our assistant principal. Jan is the person everyone goes to for her knowledge and advice." Jan is an active participant in school events and will do whatever it takes to help a

child succeed, including holding her own homework club after school. Many of the nomination forms we received about Jan Richards expressed an appreciation for her ability to implement new teaching practices and mentor her colleagues how to best put them into practice. Jan Richards truly goes above and beyond to make sure all of her students succeed.



**Board President Debbie Cotton, Principal Roni Ellis, Kristin Spencer and Dr. Loose**

### Kristin Spencer Middle School Teacher of the Year

When the Administrative team read the nomination form completed by Kristin Spencer's principal, Roni Ellis, it was immediately clear to all of us that Kristin exemplified everything it means to be an Ocean View School District Teacher of the Year. Kristin began her career in Ocean View seven years ago, and is now the 8th grade team leader on the Marine View Middle School Principal's Leadership Team. She is a key member of the Collaboration for Excellence in

Middle School Science (CEMSS) team of Orange County, and is a leader on the Marine View PBIS Team. In addition to those duties, Kristin also coaches the girls' volleyball team and co-coaches the girls' basketball team. Kristin is conscientious to a fault, creates personalized contracts/goals for her students, inspires every child to do his/her best and, for students who are at-risk or have lost hope, Kristin relishes the opportunity to work with them. Kristin is a shining light in Ocean View. What most stood out to me in reading her nomination was this statement by her principal, which sums up a quintessential element for student success. "Her classroom comes alive with an energy that is contagious and makes you want to be a student again."

Kristin Spencer is Ocean View's candidate for Orange County 2012 Teacher of the Year. Finalists will attend a Teacher of the Year Banquet and Recognition Ceremony at the Disneyland Hotel in the fall.



**Debbie Cotton**  
*President*



**Tracy Pellman**  
*Clerk*

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for the contest  
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is one of the  
answers...





# Circle View *Elementary*

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



**Kathleen Jaquin**  
*Principal*

## Circle View Lends a Hand Help Japan!

Five Circle View students, Andrew Weld, Savannah Eljaohari, Kelsea, Noble, Sarah Mark, and Max Koyama met with the principal to share their project idea that would help victims of the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan March 11. They named it "Lend a Hand to Help Japan." Student Council was eager to help. They decided to conduct a coin drive and collect gently raised shoes. They worked hard and collected over \$1,450 and 150 pairs of shoes.

In addition, Antoinette Gaglione, Speech/Language Pathologist enlisted the help of all the teachers and students to participate in Cranes for Kids, Giving Hope to the Children of Japan! It is a Japanese tradition to fold a thousand cranes for someone who is sick to wish them a long life, prosperity and good health. The students made and decorated 1652 cranes for this beautiful cause. Thank you Circle View!



# Golden View *Elementary*

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



**Elaine Burney**  
*Principal*

## Cultural Night

Golden View Elementary School is a community of good citizens working together to achieve our goals. This statement has never seemed more accurate or come to life in a more powerful way than at our first Cultural Night, sponsored by our PTO. In February, over 300 Golden View parents, students, and family members celebrated the diversity of our families by working together to create and design booths which represented 18 different countries from six continents demonstrating their heritage, ethnicity, and culture.

The night began with grade-level performances. First grade recited "The Continents Song." Second grade sang "It's A Small World," followed by third-graders singing "What a Wonderful World" by Lois Armstrong. Fourth grade sang "All You Need Is Love" by the Beatles, and it was a tear-filled evening when a majority of the audience joined in to finish the song, singing over and over again, "All you need is love." The culminating performance provided by Croatian dancers from Los Angeles demonstrated various traditional dance steps set to music from their home land.

The performances ended around 6:30 p.m., but the evening was far from over. Each person in attendance received a passport, which they used as they "traveled" from country to country. Each country's booth offered participants the opportunity to learn a few native words, investigate unique artifacts, and taste some amazing food.

The event exceeded all of our expectations. We are all looking forward to our next Cultural Night in September, as many returning and new families have already asked to participate.

# College View *Elementary*

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



**Dr. Kristine White**  
*Principal*

## School News for April from College View

College View is celebrating! Jan Richards, one of our teachers, is being recognized as "Teacher of the Year" for the Ocean View School District. Each year one teacher is selected from all of the district elementary schools and one from the middle schools to be recognized as "Teacher of the Year." Teachers, parents, students and administrators are invited to submit nominations for a teacher who demonstrates outstanding knowledge, skills and qualities as an educator.

The District Superintendent, Bill Loose, Ed.D., along with Board of Trustees' President, Debbie Cotton, and other district administrators arrived at an impromptu staff meeting with flowers in-hand. Dr. Loose announced to all that a College View teacher had been selected as the Teacher of the Year. He stated that the teacher who had been selected "liked to shop" and everyone looked at Jan who also realized she was the one. Jan Richards received nominations from staff and parents. She is an outstanding educator who justly deserves the recognition. College View looks forward to the official Board of Trustees' recognition in May. Congratulations, Jan Richards!



# Harbour View *Elementary*

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

**Cindy Osterhout, Principal**

**No Article This Issue**

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answers...





# Hope View *Elementary*

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



**Kathy Smith**  
Principal

## What Do a Quilt, An Essay and a Mask Have In Common?

Well, in April, each of these items has brought honor to some special students and teachers. Students from Mrs. Kuns and Mrs. Neujahr's kindergarten received a first-place trophy for a classroom quilt that they created and submitted to the 2011 Youth Expo at the OC Fairgrounds. Their adorable sheep quilt was a division winner!

Third-grade teacher Lindsay Dufresne was honored by a major bookstore in Huntington Beach as the first award recipient of the "My Favorite Teacher" essay-writing contest. Emily Tucker wrote the letter that highlighted how Mrs. Dufresne made a positive difference in her life. Surrounded by friends, family and our staff, Emily and Mrs. Dufresne graciously accepted a certificate, balloons, books and a bookstore gift certificate. Emily's essay will be entered into a regional competition and, if chosen, will move to the national division.

Our final recognition in the arts goes to Nicolas Chumacero, a second-grade student in Mrs. Serafin and Mrs. Tajudin's class. Nic's "Warrior Mask" is one of 1,000 pieces of art selected as finalist in the professionally juried Imagination Celebration! Congratulations Nic!



# Marine View *Middle School*

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



**Roni Ellis**  
Principal

## Patriotic Spirit

Patriotic spirit was flying high at Marine View this month – literally! Staff and students dressed in colors of the American flag by grade level, sixth grade wore blue, seventh wore red, and eighth grade wore white. Assembling according to a detailed diagram designed by algebra teacher, Ms. Cheryl Haun, the students formed a human American flag. The enthusiastic crowd was then photographed from a helicopter hovering over the school. The results were fabulous and every single person, both on the ground and in the air, felt proud to be an American! In addition to displaying patriotism,

Marine View students also displayed great philanthropy when they collected over \$11,272 for the American Red Cross relief fund for the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Students donated their own money and money came in from local community members to total an amount never before seen at Marine View. We are proud Americans indeed!



# Lake View *Elementary*

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



**Anna Dreifus**  
Principal

## Winning Robotics By Sandi Lewis

As NASA's Mars Rover robots celebrate their seventh year on the Red Planet, students here on Earth are building and programming robots for space. Student teams from local elementary and middle schools competed at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena to see if they could get their robots to perform space mission tasks against the clock.

Our two teams consisted of Emma Andrews, Jake Cavano, William Earthman, Jacob Evans, Sal Messina, Rith Suon, Madison Szatkowski and Taylor Wiedemann. Each year, about 25 students participate in our Robotics training club, which culminates in the competition. Students learn how to build Lego NXT robots and complex attachments. They also must learn



how to program them with intricate computer software. The competition simulates planetary exploration, and the little robots must perform different tasks within two minutes: placing sensors in volcanoes, deploying habitats, rescuing a stranded space vehicle, and planting a flag on a fictitious planet.

We are proud to announce that this year, our teams brought back third place! Congratulations!

# Mesa View *Middle School*

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

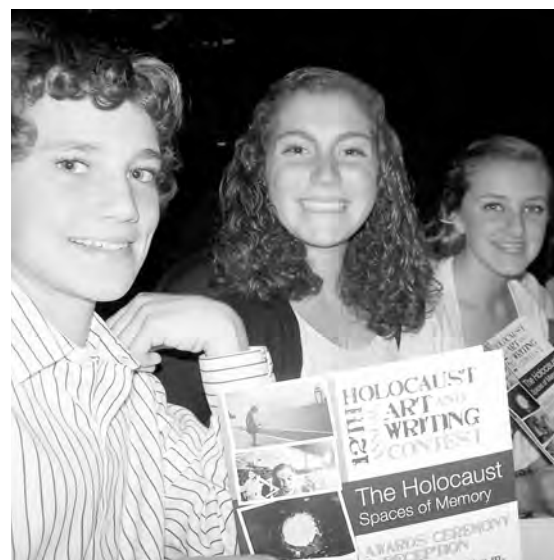


**Leona Olson**  
Principal

## Art and Writing Contest

Students from Mesa View Middle School's 8th grade GATE program took part in the 12th Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest sponsored by Chapman University and the "1939" club. Key note speaker and Holocaust survivor, Idele Stapholtz, talked with the students about her experience with the Holocaust and the extraordinary family that rescued her and hid her identity to keep her safe. She referred to Hitler as "a bully of the worst kind" and encouraged students to enjoy their freedoms and to get involved in global issues today. Three of Mesa View's students, along with their

teacher Mrs. Lori Manz, were selected and invited to attend the awards ceremony and reception: Ryan Gehris, Malia Hayes, and Alyssa Welfringer. Each of the three students viewed one of the thousands of Holocaust survivor testimonials archived by both UCLA and USC, then created art and poems in response to the testimonials. Undeniably, the students were grateful for the experience and learned from key primary sources that history can repeat itself if people don't learn from the past and make changes for the future.







## Community Service

By Saul Martinez, Jr.

Gang Prevention/Youth Development Program

Community Service Programs, Inc.

Oak View Family Center- Huntington Beach

Joyce Horowitz  
Principal

On Saturday, April 9th, students from the CSP (Community Service Programs) Leadership Group and Recreation Program, whose members are comprised of students from Oak View Elementary, Vista View Middle and Marine View Middle school in Huntington Beach, came together to host a Community Yard Sale to Benefit the victims of the recent Tsunami in Japan. Children and their families donated used goods, as well as a large assortment of homemade foods. Students involved promoted the event through large posters and passing out flyers throughout the Oak View Community. The total amount raised from Saturday's yard sale was a whopping \$496.10. This astonishing amount coming from one of Huntington Beach's most impoverished areas is a true testament to the generosity and will to help those in crisis that this community fosters.

# Pleasant View Ocean View Preparatory Preschool

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



## Preschool Registration

Ocean View Preparatory Preschool (OVPP) still has space available for our summer and fall programs. The Preschool is part of the award-winning Ocean View School District. It provides early literacy training and knowledge to preschool-age children from three to five years old.

Our summer program is scheduled to begin on June 20, and will conclude on August 31, 2011. Each week our "little campers" will follow a theme, learn new concepts, and have fun in a safe and nurturing environment.

The camp schedule will consist of art projects, games, spirit activities, cooking, water play days, special visitors, special events and much more. In addition to our summer program, the 2011-2012 school year will begin on Wednesday, September 7, 2011.

OVPP offers a developmentally appropriate academic preschool experience that lays a strong foundation for K-12 education. The school's program is aligned with the California Preschool Learning Foundation and provides children with the opportunity to develop their cognitive, social, emotional, physical, linguistic and creative abilities. To schedule a tour of OVPP please call (714) 845-5000.

## School News

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Dr. Claudine  
Dumais  
Coordinator

## A Focus on Family Literacy

As part of the NAEYC Week of the Young Child (April 11-15), Oak View Preschool hosted its annual Family Literacy Night on April 15, 2011 for the Community. Parents had the opportunity to purchase books during the Scholastic Book Fair. This year's academic focus has been on the importance of family literacy. By engaging in family literacy activities with their children, parents are building a strong foundation in early literacy needed to be prepared for Kindergarten. Reading together as a family is the first step towards helping children succeed in school because reading to children encourages them to become readers.



Oak View Preschooler participates in the family literacy centers with her parents.

During Family Literacy Night, parents and children made an environmental print book, learned to read the *Humpty Dumpty* book they made, sequenced the story of the *Hungry Caterpillar* book, made a Brown Bear puppet from the story *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?* and decorated a foam bookmark.

# Spring View *Middle School*

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



Jason Blade  
Principal

## Celebrating a Love for Literacy

Every Wednesday at Spring View Middle School, you will find eight faithful volunteers making their way to the library for our Advocating a Love for Literacy in Youth (ALLY) program. Students are selected by their teachers. Some are excellent readers who may need to improve their comprehension, others need to increase their fluency level, and still others just need to build confidence. The students not only read to their volunteers, but the volunteers also read to them. Discussing the stories read together helps make the experience more fun.

The ALLY volunteers know that motivating middle school students to read may not be an easy task, but when they see improvement after just a few short weeks they know it's worth it. The key, according to parent volunteer Susan Palmer, is to encourage the students to "choose books that speak to them." Reading books the student is interested in shows how enjoyable reading can be.

Developing a love for reading isn't the only thing the ALLY program achieves. "It's more than just reading. It's also about building relationships," said Mrs. Palmer. Spring View is thankful to the wonderful volunteers who make the ALLY program such a success.





# Star View *Elementary*

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



**Dr. Pauline Tressler**  
Principal

## Literacy Day

Star View students, staff and parents had a wonderful time celebrating "Literacy Day." Students came to school dressed as one of their favorite literary characters and participated in the Literacy Day Parade. Many parents and community members came out to observe Star View students dressed as a variety of literary characters such as "Thing One and Thing Two" from "The Cat in the Hat."

In addition, Mrs. Selig's 5th grade class performed selections from the play, "Seussical." It was a wonderful celebration of the joy of reading great literature.



# Sun View *Elementary*

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

**Kristi Hickman**, Principal

No Article This Issue

# Westmont *Elementary*

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

**Carol Parish**, Principal

No Article This Issue

# Village View *Elementary*

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



**Jodi Novy**  
Principal

## In Full Bloom

Spring is in the air, and students and families at Village View Elementary School are bustling with excitement. Not only have the students been preparing for state testing, many have been practicing for our fourth- and fifth-grade spring performance and our Walk Through the Revolution. The performance showcases our talented students' abilities in singing, dancing and playing the recorder. Some students also auditioned to be chosen as soloists. The multipurpose room was packed, and the crowd was extremely entertained with an audio/visual display and the students' phenomenal performance.

In addition to the spring performance, practice for our Walk Through the Revolution has been occurring, too. At designated times in the afternoon, you may see students practicing their lines to reenact the Revolution. John Hancock, George Washington and Betsy Ross are just a few of our participants! All of these events are not only fun for the students, but really bring history to life. Our Village View students will be presenting their Revolutionary performance to students, parents and community members.

As you can see, Village View is truly bursting with excitement this spring. Children are involved and engaged in their education. Academics are extremely important to us here at Village View, but we also feel that extracurricular events play a large role in shaping our students for the future. Spring is a time of excitement and growth, and Village View students are truly in "full bloom."

# Vista View *Middle School*

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



**Robert Miller**  
Principal

## 8th Grade Most Improved

Each year Vista View participates in the Huntington Beach Mason's 8th Grade Most Improved Student award and recognition event. Students are selected by their teachers. The students are recognized for showing the most improvement over the span of their middle school career. These students exemplify hard work, dedication, strong study skills, excellent behavior, and a desire to improve and achieve. This year's recipients were Danny Nguyen and Alicia Villanueva. Both students were recognized at the Mason's event on March 30, 2011. It was a night to remember. We

got to celebrate their achievement with a special dinner and evening with their families. Attending for Vista View were Danny's and Alicia's proud teachers, Mrs. Yael Klein and Ms. Nicole Photoglou, as well as their principal, Mr. Robert Miller. We want to thank Danny and Alicia for setting such a good example for all of our students, and for congratulate them for their hard work. Congratulations!

# Contest!!

This drawing is hidden **four times** somewhere in this publication. When you find him, email the **four page numbers** to:

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com  
Please put FHOW in the subject line



Your entry must be received by May 20, 2011. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble. The winner will be announced in our June issue.

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Camps & Fun Activities

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BY SUSAN PETERSON

*Noted author of the comprehensive guidebook:*

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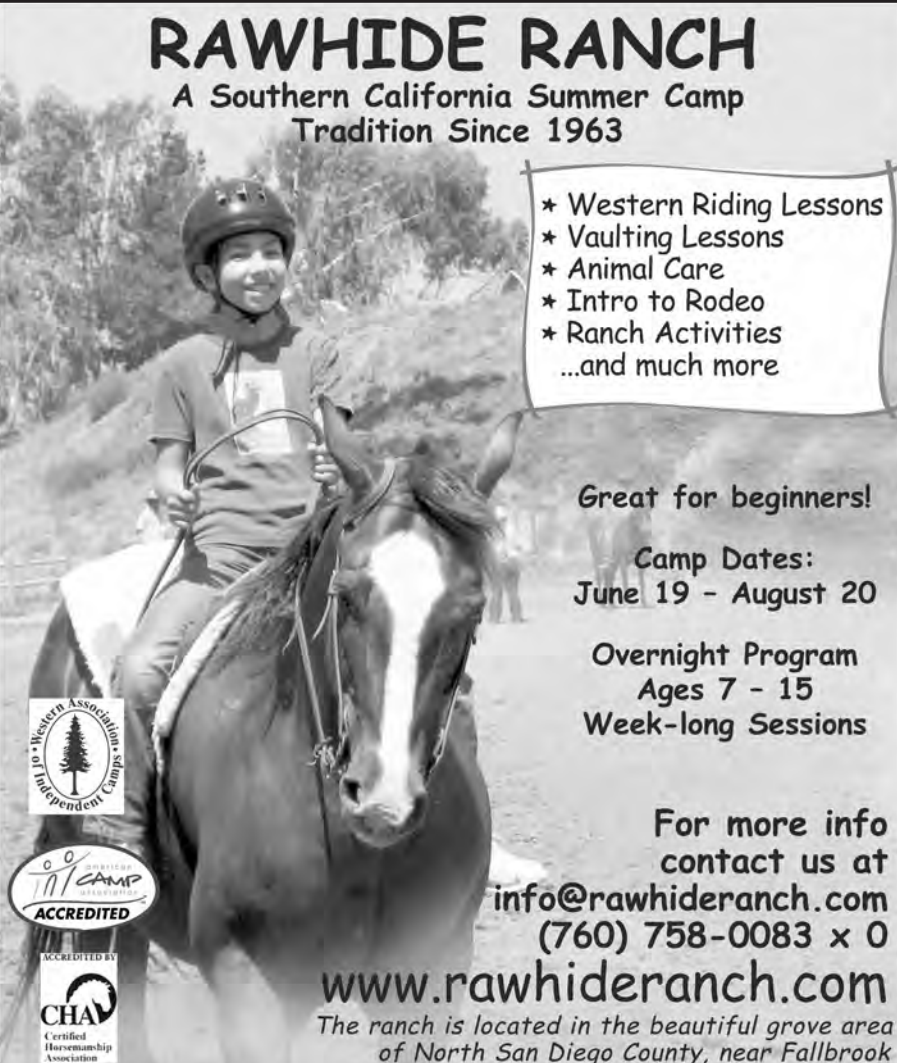
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## Huntington Beach Central Library

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**Barbara Richardson**  
*Acting Senior Librarian  
Programming and Youth Services*

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## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed at the Oak View Library Branch, 17251 Oak Lane. Oak View is looking for dedicated high school seniors, adults and retirees interested in volunteering to be homework tutors and/or computer coaches. Help make a difference in a child's life. Homework tutors are needed Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Computer coaches are needed to help non-English speaking adults with basic computer skills Tuesday mornings 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday evenings 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Be a part of this busy, heavily used library and experience the satisfaction of helping children and adults succeed. Please call Claudia Locke 714-375-5068.

## Food & Nutrition Services

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

# Perk Up Your Plate for Spring!

*By Nancy Wikes, MS, RD, HBUHSD Food and Nutrition Services*

Perk up your plate this spring with the newly updated 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. These guidelines were updated and released in January as a practical roadmap to help you make changes in your eating habits and hopefully lead to a healthier life. The Dietary Guidelines recommend shifting eating patterns to eat more of some foods and less of others.

Foods recommended to increase include: Increase fruit and vegetable intake; Eat a variety of vegetables, especially dark-green, red and orange vegetables, beans and peas; Increase whole grains; Increase variety of seafood; Use oil to replace solid fats where possible

Food and food components to reduce include: Reduce solid fats and added sugars; Limit refined grains; Reduce daily sodium

The recommendation for sodium remains the same, no more than 2300 milligrams (mg) for most people. However, a new recommendation to further reduce intake to 1500 mg has been given if you are 51 years old and older and for those who are African American or have hypertension, diabetes, or chronic kidney disease.

Another key recommendation is to balance your calories to manage weight. Focus on balancing calories with physical activity. Recommendations for physical activity are 60 minutes/day for children and 30 minutes/day for adults.

Bottom line, perk up your plate by filling half your plate with colorful fruits and vegetables and set a goal to become more physically active. For recommendations on how to eat within these guidelines visit [www.mypyramid.gov](http://www.mypyramid.gov).

If you would like to learn more about upcoming nutrition activities, contact HBUHSD Food and Nutrition Services at (714) 894-1698.

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## Positive Parenting

### Gearing Up for Summer



**Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel**

For some parents, the arrival of summer means less stress because the school schedule is not a part of the daily routine. For other parents, having the children home all day every day is stressful. Whichever arena you are in, the reality of life is that summer vacation is almost here for the traditional schools.

Children may get more wound up, more disagreeable, more difficult to manage as the start of summer gets closer. Change is stressful, even if it is for the better. The break in routine is stressful for children and adults. It is advisable to keep your discipline strong so that you glide into summer with boundaries in

place. Consistent boundaries will also help your child to contain his or her behavior and to feel safe.

My discipline system is mentioned on [parentingsos.com](http://parentingsos.com) and my new book, *Don't Feed the Dragon*, is a discipline manual divided into three sections: (1) what parents need to understand about children in order to successfully guide them; (2) my discipline system, and (3) answers to 130 of the top concerns of parents, listed in alphabetical order. The book is age-appropriate from tots through the teens and is available on [parentingsos.com](http://parentingsos.com).

Having your discipline system in place, it is wise to sit down as a family and make a list of things that can be done during free time. The list may be posted in a place where children can use it as a reference. To quell the endless, "I'm bored" message that children who are not used to having non-structured time often begin chanting when school ends, offer two choices: "You may refer to the chart that we created or I will choose a chore off the chores chart that will help you dispel boredom." This plan might allow you to have your whole house cleaned in the first week of summer!

### Training for the Future

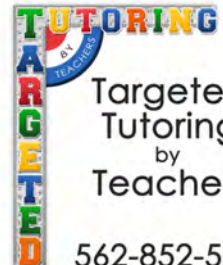
Summer is a wonderful time to train your darling children to do chores. Finally, they have time—the constant excuse during school months! Children will leave home some day—I promise!—and when they do, they need to know how to take care of a house and themselves. Chores teach a child that a house does not clean itself and how to do fundamental tasks, such as clean a toilet. If you have a housekeeper, create a space each week that the children are responsible for in terms of upkeep and give the tidiness angel one less area to clean.

It is important that children are not in so many activities that their lives become stressful. Children need time to be children! If you want your child to be successful in school, have at least a half hour a day that is devoted to school skills. If each child took a 30-minute "chill break" and read for that amount of time, their future teachers would be ecstatic! Every child needs quiet time each day that does not involve any media or mechanical gadgets, including during the summer.

### Enjoy Your Children

Most important of all, enjoy your children! There will never be another summer like the one ahead of you. Your children will not be this age ever again. Create some sort of structure and have some time that is not structured. Don't send your children to other people to play all the time—what each child wants more than anything else is time with you. It is easy to forget that when you are trying to keep the energy-packed chicks busy.

P.S. Thanks to all the teachers who gave so much of themselves this school year to help our children be all that they can be!



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## Surf's Up

# How to Become a Sponsored Surfer

By Chad Wells

Surfing is a unique sport and different from most stadium sports in the sense that, instead of having to purchase your uniform and equipment (like in football or baseball) an amateur surfer has the potential to have multiple sponsorships—where he or she is given things such as a clothing, wetsuits, sunglasses, watches, skateboards, sunscreen, surf wax—all for free. They can even get a surf shop sponsor! An exceptional amateur may also be paid, as well as have a travel and contest budget.

This all has to start somewhere and for every successful professional surfer, down to the freshest beginner, that place is the white water. Now, assuming you've made it past the surf lessons and have worked your way to a performance surfboard, it's time to test your hand at surf events.



Photo Courtesy of Chris Sardelis

Where to start? All coastal areas have surf shops and in those shops you can find information about surfing associations that run monthly contests, or you can find this on the internet. These contests are where a young surfer must start his campaign on the quest for results and the possibility of becoming a sponsored team rider.

Enter some surf contests and try to get yourself into the finals - hopefully win a few. When the contest results start improving you'll need to get some still photos of yourself. Just good action shots showing your skill. Then, in my opinion, the most important part is to have your mom, dad, or a friend video you and start compiling footage. When you have enough good video clips edit them down to a minute and a half long movie and add in some music (the music is optional).

Once you have your contest results, photos, and the short clip you'll need to put together a portfolio. This will include all the items mentioned above, and will also include some basic info about you - sort of a resume. You should include name, age, years surfing, local surf break and I really like to see a letter of recommendation from somebody you hold in high regard in your surf community. Whether it is a local pro, surf shop owner, or the surf coach at your high school, it helps to give a little insight as to how you are viewed by your peers. Make four or five copies of your portfolio.

Now you're ready to approach team managers from the various surf companies. Working as a team manager, I like personal interaction and don't mind receiving portfolios at surf events. It gives me a chance to check out the athlete in question, as well as see their beach and water activity. I can also see how they interact with others at the event. After all it is a matter of seeing if that person would make a good representative for a brand, and if they are serious about their surfing.

Chad Wells is a life time resident of Seal Beach. A competitive contest and professional surfer, Chad works as the Surf Program Manager at Quiksilver and oversees the US professional and amateur teams.

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# 1st Annual Jones Bicycles Essay and Art Contests

In Celebration of Jones Bicycles Day  
July 17, 2011



"What riding my bike means to me..."

One entry will be chosen in each category:

## Essay Contest

Ages 13 & Older

Essay not to exceed 500 words.

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## Art Contest

Ages 5 – 12 Years

Express your words as art.

Crayons, pencil, water colors...

Artwork size not to exceed 12" x 14"

The winning entry will receive  
a \$100 Gift Card to Jones Bicycles



Entries must be received by June 30, 2011. Winners will be notified July 5, 2011.

Essays and artwork will not be returned and become the property of Jones Bicycles and *School News Roll Call*.

Only one entry per person. Your submission deems your approval of the essay/artwork to be published and displayed in any venue chosen by Jones Bicycles and *School News Roll Call*. Judges decisions are final and prizes may not be returned or exchanged. Contests exclude employees and families of Jones Bicycles and *School News Roll Call*.

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All entries must include an official entry form. Entries may be dropped off, mailed or emailed to: [contest@jonesbicycles.com](mailto:contest@jonesbicycles.com)

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So Much Fun Awaits



Mary Ann Hutton  
Branch Manager

The Westminster Library has some fun events happening in May! Kids of all ages are invited to join us for special Imagination Celebration arts and crafts programs every Wednesday in May at 3:30 pm. Our regular Pre-school Storytime is every Wednesday at 10:30 and our Toddler Storytime follows at 11:00 am. The Children’s Librarian has a craft or song & dance after the last storytime. Family Storytime is each Saturday at 10:30 with a craft, music or puppetry—all ages are welcome!

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meets on Tuesday, May 3rd at 4:00 pm. Teens interested in contributing their ideas for library materials and programs may stop by the Information Desk to sign up for the TAB!

The Children’s Book Club meets on Tuesday, May 10th at 3:30 pm; we’ll discuss *The Wish Stealers* by Tracy Trivas, and have some fun activities related to the book.

In celebration of National Limerick Day, the library is hosting a Limerick Contest for teens on Thursday, May 12th at 4:00 pm. Participants will learn about this light and humorous type of poetry, then in teams or individually they will write their own limericks. Gift card prizes will be awarded, so bring your creativity!

There will be a teen volunteer orientation on Tuesday, May 17th at 3:30 pm. New volunteers may inquire at the Information Desk and pick up a volunteer form.

Take a break from studying at our Teen Movie Afternoon on Thursday, May 19th at 4:00 pm. The movie is open to teens in grades 6-12. And, don’t miss our special “Read with Fido” program on Thursday, May 26th at 2:00 pm. OC Animal Care will bring a four-legged friend to the library for this fun and interactive storytime about pet ownership for children.

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Baseball Terms 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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put FHOW in the subject line)

Entries must be received by May 15, 2011

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

- |         |            |           |             |
|---------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Balk    | Curve ball | Home run  | Second base |
| Ball    | Donnybrook | Infield   | Short stop  |
| Baseman | Dugout     | Manager   | Sinker      |
| Batter  | Error      | Out       | Strike      |
| Bench   | Fielder    | Outfield  | Third base  |
| Bullpen | First base | Pitcher   | Umpire      |
| Catcher | Floater    | Rhubarb   | Walk        |
| Coach   | Foul       | Runs      |             |
| Crowd   | Home plate | Screwball |             |



Congratulations to **Bree Lee**  
Winner of the March Contest!

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



# Westminster School District

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

## SUPERINTENDENT



**Richard Tauer**

### Sensational Science Teacher

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Travis Garwick, a science teacher at Warner Middle School, has been named the Westminster School District Teacher of the Year. Mr. Garwick has been a teacher for 12 years and has had an incredibly positive impact on the lives of hundreds of children. Mr. Garwick's philosophy on teaching and commitment to his students is eloquently

revealed in his application for Teacher of the Year. He was asked, "What are the attributes of an outstanding teacher?" Here is his response:

Outstanding teachers stand out because they possess an innate passion to positively affect the lives of students inside and outside their classroom. They focus on continuous improvement and instill in students that same motivation and passion. They take pride in their profession, never settling for good enough. They constantly reflect and refine their craft to deliver the best education to every student they have the privilege to interact with. With a professional attitude and dynamic personality, outstanding teachers work not only with students, but develop partnerships with parents and staff members. This team approach to teaching is essential. Finally, to attain the highest caliber of teaching requires one to look beyond the walls of his or her classroom and school to seek community stakeholders who can play critical roles in elevating the educational experience. As a result, outstanding teachers have a lasting impact on students that exceeds objective measurement and extends to respect for themselves and others, application of concepts to their future careers, and strengthening the lives that they lead.

Mr. Matthew Skoll, Principal of Warner Middle School had this to say, "Being in Mr. Garwick's classroom is a sight to behold. He was awarded grant funding this year that has enabled his students to study abalone, their endangered status, and how they can be rehabilitated. Students are actually growing abalone in the classroom. They monitor the water, provide food, and track the growth of abalone in a specialized tank. In previous years, Mr. Garwick worked on restoring kelp to our shores as a classroom project. He truly knows how to engage his students and make science fun. His passion is contagious."

We are all very proud to have Mr. Garwick represent the Westminster School District in the Orange County competition for Teacher of the Year and we are also proud of our Teachers of the Year that represent each one of our school sites. Congratulations Mr. Garwick and all of our exemplary Teachers of the Year!



**Travis Garwick**

### School Site Teachers of the Year

- Anderson Elementary School, Barbara Flanagan
- Clegg Elementary School, Kathy Roth
- DeMille Elementary School, Raquel Martinez
- Eastwood Elementary School, Michelle Manley
- Finley Elementary School, Ann Kawamura
- Fryberger Elementary School, Gabriel Rodriguez
- Hayden Elementary School, Joan Shoup
- Johnson Middle School, Karen Checho
- Meairs Elementary School, Sidney Yohn
- Schmitt Elementary School, Carrie Hernandez
- Schroeder Elementary School, Michelle Mulligan
- Sequoia Elementary School, Elaine Mizuo
- Stacey Middle School, Milinda Valverde
- Warner Middle School, Travis Garwick
- Webber Elementary School, Keith Tracy
- Willmore Elementary School, Karen Kim

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**Jo-Ann Purcell**  
*President*

### 2nd Grade Humanitarian

I would like to share with you a heart-warming story about a special seven year old at Clegg Elementary School. Trevor Tran was incredibly moved in March when he saw the news coverage of the earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan. The images weighed heavily on him and he asked his parents what they thought he could do to help the victims.

Later that week, Trevor's 2nd grade teacher, Jeanne DeRosa, told her students that their school would be participating in the Soles 4 Souls campaign. She informed students that they could bring in gently worn shoes to donate to the earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan.



**Trevor Tran**

Trevor sprung into action. He told his parents that he wanted to buy as many shoes as he could and he began collecting money every way he could think of. Trevor convinced his mother, My Tran, to let him empty his piggy bank and also to access his \$200 college savings fund. He sought donations from friends, cousins, aunts, uncles, neighbors and acquaintances. Through sheer determination, Trevor raised more than \$600. His mother took him to purchase 82 pairs of brand new shoes! "I hope the shoes can help a lot of people," Trevor said.

"He was very persistent," his mom said. "He's always been a very giving young man, always caring for those in need. My Tran said her son's caring nature comes largely from his relationship with his older brother, who has special needs.

Trevor was honored at a student assembly in April and his principal, John Staggs said, "We could not be more proud of his effort to help those in need. Trevor is a wonderful role model for our students and an inspiration to us all."

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# 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*

## Family Science Night

Over 100 families recently attended Science Night at Anderson School under the helpful leadership of Susie Crandall, Science Works Coordinator, and a great team of Anderson teachers! Students and their parents had the opportunity to learn about ecosystems, balls and ramps, the human body circulatory system, fingerprinting and making clouds. Fingerprinting and cloud making were two of the most popular events. Students in grades K-6 participate in this annual evening event at Anderson.

Feedback from both parents, students and teachers indicates how much they enjoy the event, but more importantly how much they LEARNED! Families rotate through all five stations in less than an hour and a half. Teacher leaders ensure hands on participation in every classroom. When asked their favorite subject in school, it is no surprise to hear that many Anderson students say "Science!" Anderson classrooms will be visited for a second time in April by Bechtel Science Study researchers examining our success in teaching hands on science as evidenced by high fifth grade science STAR scores over the past three years. We are proud of our team of teachers and the families who take an extra interest in attending all of our family education nights.

# DeMille *Elementary (K-6)*

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



**Shannon Villanueva**  
*Principal*

## DeMille Dolphins Dive into the Wonderful World of Math

On Tuesday March 1st, DeMille's 4th-6th grade students participated in World Math Day 2011. World Math Day allows the students to challenge other students around the globe in math facts. The students, who have been previously registered, are given a password on the computer. The students compete in groups of five, in one minute math challenges. The groups are generated randomly by the computer, however, students are grouped by age. It is really exciting for the students when they get to challenge fellow classmates.

The students can practice for a few days, but the actual World

Math Day is Tuesday March 1st. The students really seem to enjoy this program. About 2 million students world wide participate. The students also receive certificates for participation and the lucky top student can receive special prizes.

Ms. Denbo's 5/6 combination class had the highest level of participation in World Math Day and were awarded with a free subscription of "V Math Live."



**Kaylin Pham, Anna Vo, Laura Dang, Andrew Nguyen**  
participate in World Math Day.

# Finley *Elementary (K-5)*

13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764

**Maria Gutierrez-Garcia**, *Principal*

No Article This Issue

# Clegg *School*

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



**John Staggs**  
*Principal*

## Got Brains?

*By Pam Nolan, ESP (Extended Day Program) Supervisor*

"Got Brains?" was the question asked as the students came into the Clegg multipurpose room. The Brain Awareness Event hosted by Clegg Extended School Program was outstanding! There was a team of students and researchers who study neuroscience from UCI and Loma Linda University volunteering at the four stations. Memory and Alzheimer's tested your ability to remember with a game. Myth Busters answered questions and let you guess the different smells in tubes. Parts of the Brain helped students to



learn with coloring and puzzles parts. Comparing Brains included black gloves so you could touch the samples of brains. The hands on experiences sparked the students' interest. Nutrition Network and Nutrition Services helped out with brain food trail mix and coleslaw with pineapple. This added nicely to the event. This event was a wonderful educational resource.

# Eastwood *Elementary (K-6)*

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



**Donna Brush**  
*Principal*

## Dolphin Details

Eastwood School is proud to recognize Michelle Manley as our 2011-12 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Manley initially came to Eastwood as a student teacher and became a member of the teaching staff in 2004. She began her career in first grade and then moved to sixth grade, where she has been for the past five years. This year, she is enjoying being able to work with many of her students for the second time. She saw them as they were beginning their educational journey and considers it a privilege to be a part of their final elementary year.

Mrs. Manley is an outstanding teacher who provides a warm environment with purposeful learning where students are encouraged to take risks and extend themselves academically. She sets high academic and behavioral standards and treats all students with respect and dignity. She brings positive energy to the classroom and engages her students in activities that make them accountable for their own learning.

Mrs. Manley is a role model for all; her professionalism, dedication and passion are an inspiration. She is a lifelong learner on a quest to continuously improve her lesson design and delivery; her love of learning helps her acquire whatever skills and strategies are needed to meet the needs of her students. Her talent and skill as an educator and her genuine love of children are exceptional. Her enthusiasm is contagious; she's Eastwood's ray of sunshine.

Eastwood students, parents, and staff members are thrilled to honor Mrs. Manley in this capacity.



# Fryberger *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Hiacynth  
Martinez**  
*Principal*

## W.O.W.!!! Professional Learning Communities in Motion

Fryberger teachers and staff have been deepening our understanding about the concept of Professional Learning Communities (PLC). They are excited about enriching the learning experiences of each and every one of our students.

The PLC concept is just that, a concept or a philosophy rather than a program. Schools that operate in a PLC fashion focus on teacher collaboration within their respective grade level as well as across grade levels. There is a heavy emphasis on student learning and assessing measurable outcome via the usage of common formative assessments.

The entire staff at Fryberger Elementary School continues to W.O.W. our stakeholders by strategically Working On the Work...WOW! We are modeling how to W.O.W. for our students!



**Collaboration happens everywhere at Fryberger, even the front office!**

# Johnson *Middle School (6-8)*

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



**Heidi DeBritton**  
*Principal*

## Johnson Open House Rocks

Johnson Middle School parents, students and staff were rocking' and rollin' at our annual Open House on April 6. A PTA and Travel Club sponsored BBQ with a musical DJ provided entertainment for all. Many parents, students and staff boogied their way around campus. 8th grade students recited original poetry in our MPR while our Chinese Fencing Club held a tournament in the quad. In addition, parents and community members visited classrooms to view student work and technology power points about student learning this year. Our PTA sponsored Book Fair was also

open to provide some spring reading material for all members of the family. Our PE department helped parents to learn about nutrition and fitness with games and questions to peak their interest. The JMS Runs Batted In (RBI) baseball team was playing a game against our arch rivals Stacey Middle School in our baseball field. Wow, it was a close game. All in all Open House was a very well attended event which demonstrates that JMS is a school where students, parents and staff work together to learn and have fun.

# Hayden *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Linda Reed**  
*Principal*

## Children's Safety

Hayden Elementary was very fortunate to have a national leader in children's safety come to our campus and work with our students for a week long training after school. Some of the curriculum includes: home, school and vehicle safety, defense against abduction, stranger tricks and self realization of personal power. The program is a 10-hour family centered safety education program that emphasizes essential decision-making skills as well as physical resistance options to escape violence.



# Land School

15151 Temple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7344



**Beverlee Mathenia**  
*Director, Child  
Development  
Programs*



**Leisa Winston**  
*Administrator,  
Student Services*

## Keeping Proactive

The Westminster School District Student Services Department is excited to be part of the Response to Instruction and Intervention Committee (RtII). First meeting in early March, this group includes general education teachers, special education teachers, specialized support staff and administrators at all grade levels.

RtII is a systematic, multi-tiered, problem-solving approach that addresses the academic and behavioral difficulties of all students. It is a proactive concept that incorporates both prevention

and intervention strategies.

The basic tenets of RtII include using a scientifically-based curriculum, progress monitoring of student data, and adjusting instruction to address specific student needs. The RtII committee will also focus on a district-wide Student Study Team process and the development of intervention pathways to address various student needs.

RtII also encompasses another district initiative, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). This focuses on proactive strategies for defining, teaching and supporting appropriate student behaviors across all school settings, as well as developing interventions for those students who need additional behavioral supports.

There are several benefits to an RtII approach. Struggling students can receive quick support within the general education setting. RtII also helps distinguish between students whose achievement problems are due to a learning disability versus those whose problems are due to other issues, such as a lack of prior instruction.



# Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/638-0450



**Tricia Urbaniec**  
Principal

## Spotlighting Ty Robinson *By Lindsay Nelson, PRIDE director*

Annually, the Boys & Girls Club of America invites all Boys & Girls Clubs to nominate a youth from their organization to compete in the Youth of the Year competition. Each county selects a youth who gets the opportunity to go to Sacramento to compete for the Regional Youth of the Year. All the Regional Youth of the Year winners then have a chance to meet the president of the United States and move on to compete for the National Youth of the Year title.

In order to compete at the regional and national levels, members must be between the ages of 14 and 18. So that our younger school-site members are not left out, the Boys & Girls Clubs in Orange County hosts a formal dinner to celebrate the exceptional youth from each Orange County Boys & Girls Club. This year, on behalf of the Boys & Girls Club of Westminster Meairs PRIDE, Ty Robinson was chosen as representative.

Ty has been a dedicated member of the Meairs PRIDE program for three years now. His devotion to PRIDE has allowed him to excel academically, physically and socially. He has exemplified good character, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship and trustworthiness. He is also an active member of the Meairs PRIDE Torch Club, which allows him to give back to his community through service projects and fund-raising.

The Iva Meairs Elementary School team and the Meairs PRIDE team are very proud of him and wish him all the best next year as he embraces a new chapter of his life—middle school.

# Schroeder *Elementary (K-6)*

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



**Kim Breckenridge**  
Principal

## Lunch on the Lawn

*“For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people’s love and concern for each other.” — Millard Fuller*

A sense of community creates a supportive learning environment at a school. At Schroeder we take this concept to heart. One way we encourage this sense of community is to invite our families to have lunch at school. We call it Lunch on the Lawn. On March 25, 2011, over 300 Schroeder family members came to eat lunch on campus with their child. We had families sitting together at every corner of the school. Everyone loves it, students, staff, and families alike.



# Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

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

Jerry Gargus, Principal

No Article This Issue

# Sequoia *Elementary (K-6)*

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



**Tammy Steel**  
Principal

## Fabulous Eagles!

It is with great pleasure I announce our school has been recognized as a Title I Academic Achievement Award recipient. This is an awesome honor only bestowed on 13 other schools in Orange County.

The work of the students, parents and staff has soared Sequoia to success.

There are rigorous criteria required by both the United States Department of Education and California Department of Education to receive this prestigious award. We have met all criteria, which includes:

- Met Title I program eligibility
- Met (United States Department of Education) Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 2009 and 2010 on the California Standards Test
- Met the (California Department of Education) Academic Performance Index (API) as a school and within identified student groups on the California Standards Test
- Had no test irregularities

We are proud of our eagles and believe they can “Soar High With Eagle PRIDE”.



# Stacey *Middle School*

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



## Brain Awareness Event *By Pam Noldan, ESP Site Director*

Tell them there are brains and they will come. There was excitement outside the multipurpose room doors while waiting to join in on the experience. The Brain Awareness Event hosted by Stacey Extended School Program was an educational resource open to all students. The hands on experiences engaged students and teachers alike. A wealth of information was shared with the students by the team of students and researchers who study neuroscience at UCI and Loma Linda University. The event consisted of four stations. The stations included Comparing Brains with samples of brains and spinal cords.



Memory and Alzheimer’s gave you a chance to test your memory skills. Myth busters had you guessing different smells. The station about Exercise told us how important it is for brain health. Nutrition Network and Nutrition Services added to the event with brain food trail mix and coleslaw with pineapple.



# Warner *Middle (6-8)*

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



**Matthew Skoll**  
*Principal*

### Instilling Values and Expectations

*By Amanda Duong, Leadership student.*

Recently, Warner Middle School has adopted a new slogan: “Warner ROCKS.” It stands for students who are Respectful, Organized, have good Citizenship, and are Knowledgeable and Safe.

Warner teaches us to be respectful to our family, classmates and teachers. The teachers make sure that students are organized so they can work more efficiently. They are also disciplined to have good citizenship, so that they’re always caring and kind to others.

Warner’s dedicated students are also knowledgeable; they thoroughly explore their subjects and strive to surpass state standards. Last but definitely not least, Warner students always make sure that safety comes first before anything else.

The faculty works hard everyday to instill these values in each and every student. These are the characteristics that can be found in every Warner student by the time they graduate the eighth grade. In this way, Warner prepares its students to continue to be successful in school and go on to be productive members in society.

As we roll out Warner ROCKS to the end of this school year and all through the next, our students will be rewarded for their positive behavior. The teachers and students will be implementing PBIS, which stands for Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports. We will be rewarding students who show the expected behaviors, and provide support and interventions for students who are experiencing difficulty.

The staff has worked together to create high expectations for students, and ways of making sure that everyone understands what those expectations are.

# Willmore *Elementary (K-6)*

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

**Rob McKane, Principal**

No Article This Issue

# Webber *Elementary (K-6)*

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • [www.wsd.k12.ca.us/WebberWebpage/index.html](http://www.wsd.k12.ca.us/WebberWebpage/index.html)



**Orchid Rocha**  
*Principal*

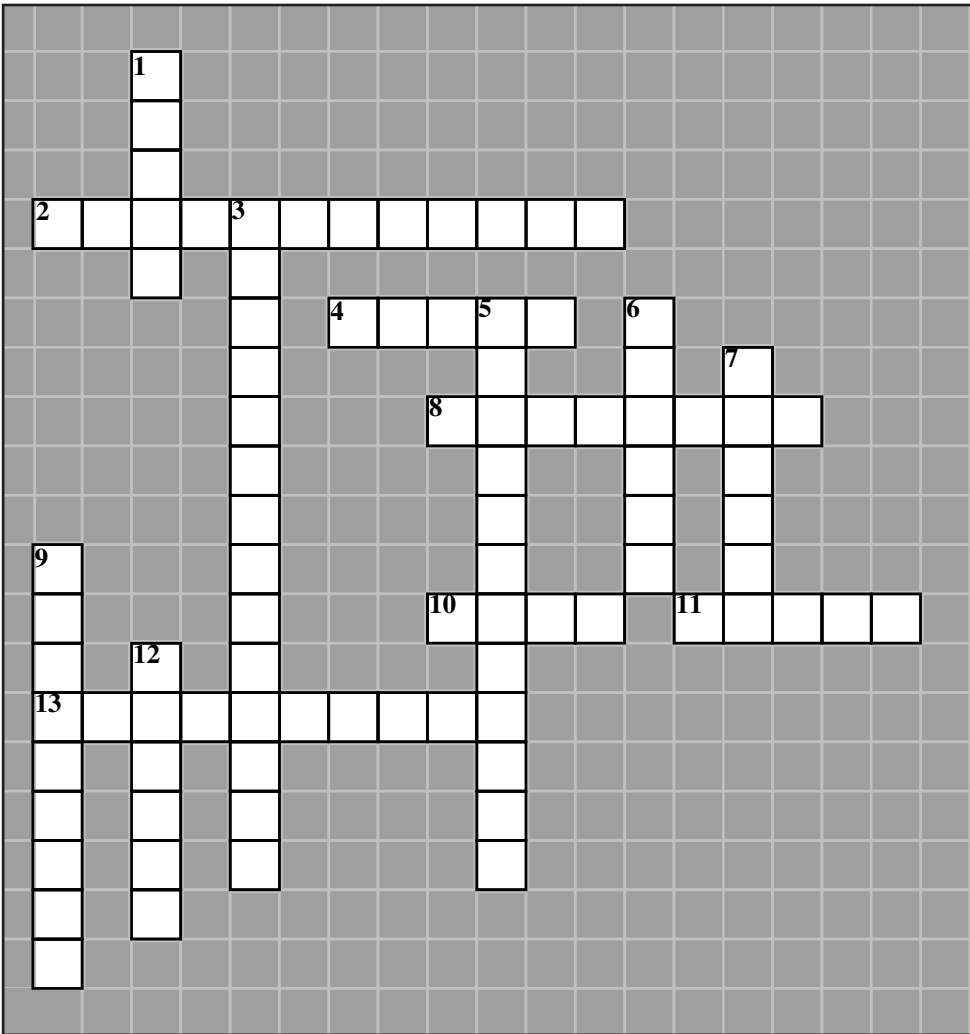
### Protecting Our Children

The Joyful Child Foundation’s programs focus on proactive approaches in dealing with the difficult issues of violence against children.

Mrs. Erin Runnion has brought this wonderful and essential program to Webber School. A few weeks ago in March she along with other trained volunteers, trained and empowered our children with the skills they need to be safer. We had our first group of Webber students demonstrate their self-defense skills and communication skills to their parents on their graduation day from the program. This was very impressive and exciting event, and I hope to have more students and families participating soon!



I urge you to become more informed on the value of educating ourselves and our children in protecting ourselves from violence against children.



# Game Time

By Kent Kawaguchi

### Down

1. What is the metal T-shaped part that mounts onto the underside of the skateboard deck called?

3. Which team won the 2009 Major League World Series? (3 words)

5. What is the name of the sport in which athletes run through a course of tough terrain? (2 words)

6. What is the name of the position where the player can only play back row, and is known for being the most skilled defensive player on the team?
7. What is the name of the snowboard that is long, narrow and rigid?

9. What is the term for scoring in American and Canadian football?

12. What is the name of the sport where one jumps or falls into the water from a flat platform or springboard?

### Across

2. Which male golfer has the most professional majors wins? (2 words)

4. What is it called when each player scores three points and the scores are equal?

8. What is the European name for Soccer?
10. How many members are on a curling team?

11. How many players on a water polo team?

13. Who invented the term Slam Dunk? (2 words)

Please see page 29 for answers.



# Huntington Beach Union High School District

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

## INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Duane Dishno**

### Booster Clubs and PTSAs

Volunteer organizations such as Booster Clubs and PTSAs play a vital role in the ability of our schools to provide an array of extracurricular programs and activities. These groups are comprised of parents who come together to support co-curricular programs on our campuses through fundraising efforts and to provide positive fan support at events and activities. These dedicated volunteers can often be seen working snack bars, planning recognition banquets, and arranging for additional transportation.

Booster Clubs and PTSAs provide organizational and financial support to a variety of high school groups, enhance communication between school staff and the community, and foster a collaborative relationship between parents, students, and the school through parental involvement. Without these volunteers our extracurricular programs would suffer. The cost of providing uniforms, referees, and transportation to away games is considerable and our booster groups have always assisted in raising funds to offset these costs.

Unfortunately, their role in fundraising is about to become more difficult as a result of pending legislation concerning student fees. The new legislation affirms that students and parents cannot be required to pay money to obtain access to an educational activity, which includes extracurricular offerings such as sports and music. These new rules also apply to associated groups that support school programs such as Booster Clubs and PTSAs.

However, the new legislation does not prohibit parent groups from requesting voluntary donations to help keep programs operating, thus ensuring that students continue to have access to educational opportunities above and beyond what the State is willing or able to fund.

In the future, a number of extracurricular activities will have to operate in this manner, sustained by the generosity and help of our community. Informational flyers and notices from Booster Clubs and PTSAs will likely begin to feature a “suggested donation” amount to help cover costs.

These are challenging times, made worse by a stubborn economy that is recovering far too slowly. How incredibly fortunate we are to have volunteer parents as engaged and committed partners. I have tremendous confidence that our community will continue to partner with our Booster Clubs and PTSAs to ensure that tomorrow’s leaders are not short-changed by the budgetary issues we face today.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**Susan Henry**  
*President*

### Financial Health of District Stable

The Huntington Beach Union High School District is pleased to report that the financial health of the district is stable. Even with an unstable statewide budget crisis we are still projecting a positive ending balance for this year and next. In the current fiscal educational environment this is a major success story and, of course, would not be possible without the commitment and dedication of our teachers, staff and administration.

Sacramento continues to wrestle with bringing in a balanced budget. What that will look like is anybody’s guess as we continue to watch the Governor and Legislature posture and make proposals. Whether we see an all-cuts budget or an extension of expiring taxes (which seems to have come and gone and come back again) or a combination of both all we can do is wait and wonder...is this any way to run a state?

Here at home we have tightened belts, planned early, and cut effectively. We have been able to avoid roll backs to salary, have incurred zero furlough days this year and next, and maintained health and welfare plans.....so far. We recently settled contract negotiations with our employee associations for a 0% increase in compensation. That being said, we still hold our collective breath for what may still be ahead. By working together, planning strategically and maintaining open communication we will continue to hope for the best but plan for the worst.



**Fouad Rider**  
*Student Representative*

### A Recap of Senior Year

Senior Year—The last year of high school and the stepping stone to college. For many seniors, this year also marks a period of frustration and contemplation, as they make key decisions for their college experience next fall. However, after all is said and done, each senior makes a choice, and with a sigh of relief, can enjoy the rest of their senior year and its activities.

One of the most anticipated events is Prom, the culminating event of all four years of high school. As the last formal dance of the year, many students eagerly take advantage of this opportunity to spend one final night with their closest friends. Although the entire Prom experience typically adds up to over two hundred dollars in expenses, many priceless memories and cherished moments will be made.

Following Prom are many other exciting events, including award ceremonies and senior breakfast. During these evenings of recognition, seniors are rewarded for their academic achievements, their athletic prowess, or their exemplary character.

Lastly comes the Graduation ceremony, a bittersweet realization of the end of childhood and the beginning of adult hood. The beginning of a new time in their lives, the beginning of new friendships, new discoveries, and new experiences. The beginning of the real world.

## Huntington Beach Union High School District Board of Trustees



**Susan Henry**  
*President*



**Dr. Michael Simons**  
*Vice President*



**Bonnie P. Castrey**  
*Clerk*



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*Alt. Clerk*



**Kathleen Iverson**  
*Member*



# Coast *High School*

15871 Springdale St., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/901-8106 • www.coasthighschool.com



**Steve Curiel**  
*Principal*

## Great Alternative Education Option

The article “Is An Independent Study High School For You?” on the Student.com website describes independent-study high schools as follows: “An independent-study high school offers a curriculum typical of a traditional comprehensive high school, but the delivery method and flexibility of that curriculum are what make an independent-study high school unique and in some cases desirable to students. Independent-study high schools are also distinctive in that they prepare students exceptionally well for the academic rigors and personal freedom that come with college. Students are not spoon-fed information by a talking head; rather, they are taught to demonstrate the important life skills of self-discipline, time management and knowledge application.”

Coast High School is the WASC-accredited independent-study program for the Huntington Beach Union High School District. We provide a supportive, positive alternative for students whose special needs require independent study. Students are assigned a weekly appointment with a credentialed teacher who provides personal attention and assesses, monitors and assigns approximately five days of work in one academic subject area at a time, to be completed independently by the student.

Students currently enrolled in a HBUHSD school may access independent study by referral from their current school's assistant principal. Students who live in the district but are not currently enrolled in HBUHSD may contact an independent study program directly.

Coast High School is very proud to offer curriculum that is challenging, rigorous and relevant. Furthermore, the same curriculum that is required and used in the traditional high schools is also used at Coast High School. It covers HBUHSD academic standards, California State Standards and Frameworks, and STAR standardized-test objectives as prescribed by the state of California.

## Who should attend Coast High School?

There are various types and needs of students who attend an independent study program. They include students with health problems, those participating in artistic or athletic programs that conflict with regular school hours, midsemester transfers without hours, students who are behind in credits and are considering an adult education diploma, students looking for a variable credit program, individuals engaging in a treatment program, and those planning on taking the California High School Proficiency Exam (CHSPE).

Once students are enrolled in the independent-study program, requirements include weekly mandatory attendance, completion of required classes in four weeks or less and not longer than six weeks, a minimum two-hour-per-week on campus-appointment, and 30 hours of homework completed each week. Lab classes will require additional contact time.

When any pupil fails to complete two consecutive independent-study assignments during any period of 15 school days or misses two appointments without valid reasons, an evaluation shall be conducted to determine whether the pupil should be allowed to continue in independent study.

If you have any specific questions regarding the HBUHSD independent-study program, please contact Assistant Principal Danny Morris at our office.

# Community Day School

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



**Dr. Connie Mayhugh**  
*Principal*

## Friendship, Scholarship—Partnership

This has been a very exciting month at Community Day School (CDS). Our student council collected over \$195 to sponsor three CDS students in the Cinco De Mayo Half-Marathon for Pediatric Cancer. The half marathon took place in early May at a major retail and entertainment destination. Chad, a student at Community Day School, had a close family friend who died of cancer at the age of 18. Chad's family asked if CDS would like to participate and join the Megan's Angels team, which Chad's mother was actively involved with over the past several years. Danny Schuetz led the fund-raising charge along with the rest of the CDS Student Council. Everyone's efforts have helped raise enough money to sponsor the three CDS runners and contribute to a wonderful cause.

In April, the Community Advisory Committee met with the management team of a local shopping mall to discuss this year's accomplishments and begin our planning for next year. We greatly appreciate the relationship that CDS has with the mall and all that it does for our school. The manager, Mark Halback, presents deserving students with awards for academic improvement and school service. Mall management allows CDS to use available spaces for special occasions such as graduation and school dances. Our students also receive notice about potential job openings inside the mall that have led to site internships and employment.

## Spirits up for Challenge!

Our students were able to show their school spirit during our recent Spirit Week in March. Many students and staff participated by dressing up in pajamas on Monday, sports clothing on Tuesday, green attire on Wednesday—St. Patrick's Day—fun hats on Thursday, and school colors of black, red and blue on Friday. We had a lot of fun and shared a lot of laughter during Spirit Week, our annual celebration of CDS Pride.

Our sophomores took the California High School Exit Exam last month and are anxiously awaiting their results. We have just begun STAR testing, which will finish on May 12. Our students continue to work hard to be ready for the challenge.

As always, our teachers are working to find the right strategies to support student learning. They all remain learners themselves to bring their best to our students every day. While our teachers offer the educational support, our support staff offers a listening ear and guidance to help our students face their challenges and to make the right choices. We are a community—we are Community Day School.

# Fountain Valley *High School*

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

**Chris Herzfeld, Principal**

**No Article This Issue**



Are you looking for me for the contest on page 13?  
This page number is one of the answers...



# Edison *High School*

21400 Magnolia St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-1356 • www.edisonchargers.com

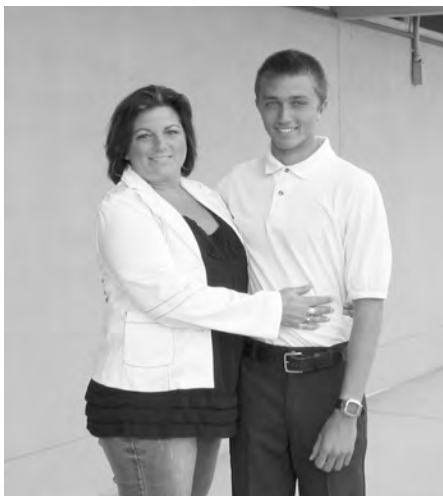


**Dr. D'liese  
Melendrez**  
*Principal*

## Exciting Times

Edison High School has been very busy these past few months. Students are being honored, field trips are taking place, and the entire school came together to produce an all-school musical, "Guys and Dolls." Here are a few highlights of these exciting times.

Senior Ruben Munoz was recently featured at the Coastline Regional Occupational Program (ROP) School Board meeting. Ruben presented the ROP public services career pathway. He has completed two courses, passed his national certification to begin working as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and is currently in the ROP Fire Science class, which articulates with Santa Ana College. This young man is definitely on the pathway to success with hopes of becoming a firefighter. So far he is a star!



**Reuben Munoz and his mother**

*Bonjour! Le camp francais est vraiment chouette!* These are the words that could be heard all the way back from Big Bear after an exciting weekend of French Camp. Seven French students and one brave French teacher headed up to the icy mountains of Big Bear for a weekend of dancing, sledding, cooking, sports, and singing—only in French, of course. The theme of the camp was Louisiana Mardi Gras, which allowed the students to dress up in colorful costumes and learn how French culture ties into the intriguing masquerade of Mardi Gras. This trip of a lifetime was amazing in that it gave the students in Advanced Placement (AP) French an opportunity to meet other students from different schools and practice their French and knowledge of the language as well as make lifelong friends in an experience that they will never forget.

This year's fifth annual all-school musical, "Guys and Dolls," was a huge success! Just look at some of the comments we received: One mother shared that her son suffers from Asperger's syndrome, where clumsiness is common. She was stunned in disbelief that he was saying lines and doing the dances. One grandfather could not express himself following the curtain call, due to tears, after seeing his grandson sing "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat." A different mother said that the self esteem of her student has finally taken hold. Lastly, a student stage crew member declared, "I had no idea that anything in high school could be this fun. No idea at all! I have a new family."

Edison High School is proud of the diverse and rich experiences we can provide our students. Yes, the Edison family is having a great school year so far!



**French camp students**



**The Hot Box Girls in Guys and Dolls**



**Elisabeth Mullins & Evan Guido—Guys and Dolls**



# Huntington Beach *High School*

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



## Academy for the Performing Arts Program

By Dr. Anji Clemens Ed.D.

Academy for the Performing Arts (APA) at Huntington Beach High School is a magnet school for the Huntington Beach Union High School that has been serving the students of Orange County since 1993. There are presently 500 students enrolled in the program.

**Janie Hoy**  
Principal

APA provides artistic and technical outlets for young artists and arts enthusiasts in grades 9–12 on Huntington Beach High School's campus. Enrollment is based on auditions and interviews that are held every year in February. All students successfully complete a live audition or interview to gain admission to the APA program. The academy coordinates 10 main-stage productions performed by students in the auditorium and 25 second-stage shows in the new black box theatre and other community venues. Each year, a variety of additional performances are requested at local community centers, Orange County fair grounds, festivals and concerts.

APA MMET students perform in the International Pop Overthrow Festival in Liverpool, England this May. The APA Musical Theater Department will perform in the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland in August. The dance department will perform at the International Dance Festival in Prague. Talented students who attend the academy perform in a variety of programs such as dance concerts, plays, musicals and performing arts events open to the public.

Recently, the school edition of *Les Miserables* was performed in the Huntington Beach High School's historic auditorium building, listed with the county of Orange as Historical Site Number 36. This 1926 auditorium-and-bell-tower is an excellent example of Lombard Romanesque Revival architecture. The APA program has recently moved into their newly renovated classrooms, auditorium and offices. The move into their new facilities has provided the APA program with more classrooms, meeting space and up-to-date technology.

There are 10 highly qualified teachers in the program. APA is divided into nine areas: dance, orchestral music, musical theater, theater, technical theater, costume design, media arts, playwriting and directing, and popular music and technology. The creative director of APA, Diane Makas, is the department coordinator for the visual and performing arts and district visual and performing arts facilitator. Jamie Knight is the department coordinator for the Music Media Entertainment and Technology (MMET) program, which has just received a Golden Bell Award and an Apple Exemplary Program two years in a row. Andrea Taylor is the chairperson for dance, Tim Nelson is the musical theater chair/director, Robert Rotenberry is the theater program teacher, Greg Gilboe is the chair for orchestra, and Mike Simmons is the media arts professional.

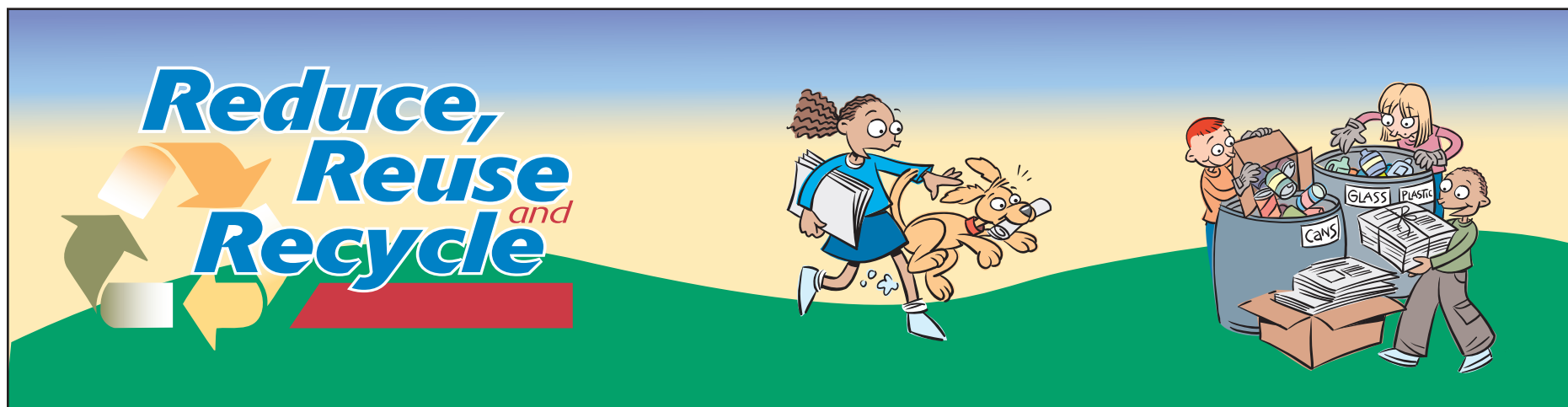
Performances from APA's newest department, MMET Media, co-hosted with the APA Student Council, presented the second annual District Film Festival in April and *Tom Jones* in April and beginning May. Future performances include Fanfare on May 4, Retrofest May 11–13 and Synergy June 3–5. Everyone is invited to attend any of these performances. You can call the APA office at the school for tickets.



0435a: APA's main stage show, *The Beatles go to the Movies* from the MMET dept.



FUSION! APA's award winning dance department performed for 3 nights this past February.





# Huntington Beach *Adult School*

714/901-8106 • www.hbadultschool.com



**Steve Curriel**  
*Principal*

## A Big Move is in Store

It's hard to believe that back in August, I was looking at a parking lot on the south side of Ocean View High School that had just been excavated for our new Adult School and Coast High School campuses.

At the time there was nothing but dirt. But now I see two buildings that are fully enclosed, with a combination of wood framing and block walls, 30 feet high, along with window and door frames and new air conditioning units the size of vans that are ready to be lifted and installed. The interior of the building has drywall on half

of the walls, and large air conditioning ducts run across the ceilings.

These buildings are scheduled to be completed in June of this year, and staff members from Huntington Beach Adult School and Coast High School are anxiously awaiting their big move.

But the scope of this Adult School move goes way beyond the new site. In fact, there are four major moves that will be happening over the summer. In order to make way for a portion of the new parking lot, the current Career Training Center at Ocean View High will be moving temporarily to two different sites: Westminster High School and Oak View Preschool.

When the new building is ready for the move, the staff at our Marina campus will vacate the old facility. Work will then begin on the Marina buildings in preparation for the HBAS parent education program's arrival.



## Summer Offerings

Hopefully by this August, the ESL office staff at Westminster High will also be moving to the new site, but a small portion will still remain at Westminster High to help support the ESL and pharmacy tech classes. Please check our Web site for class locations during these transitions.

In the meantime, HBAS continues to offer classes across the communities of Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach and Westminster. Our Web site has the specific details, but let me give you a sneak peak of what we will be offering over the summer.

- Week-long intensive computer classes in Microsoft Word 2010, Microsoft PowerPoint 2010, Introduction to Microsoft Office 2010, and Microsoft Excel 2010.
- A parent preschool and toddler program in a short-term summer session. High school enrichment camps in chemistry prep, English prep, art and the history of science fiction movies, algebra prep, geometry prep, algebra 2/trigonometry prep, accelerated scientific investigation, and AP calculus (BC) prep.
- Credit recovery summer programs at the various high schools.
- Six-week ESL classes.
- Programs for older adults.
- Health and fitness courses.

Remember to check our Web site, at [www.hbas.edu](http://www.hbas.edu), for the latest course information.

# Marina *High School*

15871 Springdale St., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/893-6571 • [www.marinavikings.org](http://www.marinavikings.org)



**Dr. Paul Morrow**  
*Principal*

## Programs and Progress

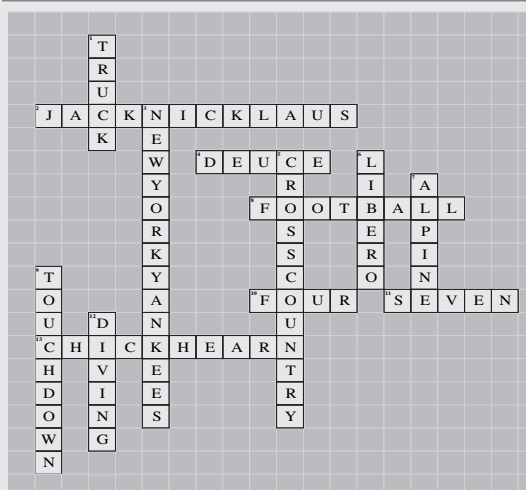
The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation process culminated with a visit from the WASC visiting committee from March 20 to 23 at Marina High School. The WASC visiting team included administrators, teachers, and staff from various schools from across Southern California. The WASC process at Marina is a regular part of our school year. For the past six years, staff, students, administrators, and parents have met in focus groups to direct the progress of our school and to help meet the goals set in the previous WASC Action Plan. For the last 18 months, those groups have also reflected on the progress and educational practices at Marina, and through a collaborative effort, Marina's focus groups have helped to create a new Action Plan and a variety of goals that the WASC visiting committee evaluated during their visit.

Marina's collaborative groups have been focused on five major categories: Organization: Vision and Purpose, Governance, Leadership and Staff, and Resources; Standards-Based Student Learning: Curriculum; Standards-Based Student Learning: Instruction; Standards-Based Student Learning: Assessment and Accountability; and School Culture and Support for Student Personal and Academic Growth. In addition to affording Marina the opportunity to evaluate its overall progress as a school, the WASC process is also a way for the staff to work with members of different departments and learn more about the many aspects of the school. Staff development time, minimum days, and collaboration days helped teachers and staff prepare for the WASC accreditation visit. Overall, the collaborative effort was fun and a very powerful experience for everyone.

After the four-day evaluation, the WASC visiting team chair, Dr. Jane Berman, Mathematics Coordinator for the Los Angeles Unified School District, said that she enjoyed the friendly students, parents and staff at Marina. "The team and I were very impressed. The team saw innovative programs, a growing focus on using data to drive instruction, and a definite desire to be an outstanding school!" she said. Dr. Berman's team noted many strengths that are obviously apparent at Marina High School including the following: the wide variety of courses students have to choose from; our safe, clean, and welcoming campus; our spirited student body that actively participates in Marina's wealth of activities, sports, and clubs; administrators and staff leaders who are visionary and active agents of positive change; and a community that has an exemplary commitment to making Marina High School one of the best high schools in the state of California.



## Answers to Game Time puzzle page 24.







## A Springtime Snapshot

Hi! Let me start by saying that grades to me are sometimes meaningless, especially if that's the only performance measure used.

I recently received a report of OVHS's grades for the first semester. Wow! Bottom line, at the end of the first semester, we had a total of 951 Ds or Fs. That might sound like a lot, but that's out of over 9,500 grades earned in a single semester by all students. However, last year of 2009–10, that figure was 1,550. The year prior to that, it was 1,586. So OV has been on the right track for some time now, but a 38 percent reduction in Ds and Fs this year is cause for celebration—not that we are done! It's incredible, and it's thanks to our students, all our staff and you, the parents.

It's the largest reduction in the district percentagewise, as we are the smallest school in HBUHSD by over one thousand students. It's also the largest total reduction of any of the high schools! Just writing this, I'm so proud!

And so I got to thinking that we have embedded our tutorial period at the end of every class—four days a week—which gives students more time to learn things and teachers a chance to create incentives for that learning by letting students out of tutorial if they show they know the work. We work hard using student data to help us teach better lessons. We believe a great deal in the ability of our students and that they will learn it!

Then, I look at these grades and *really* say Wow! They show that students *are* learning!

I remember saying that if we focused on students learning, then the numbers—CST, CAHSEE, AP/IB scores and so on—would take care of themselves. The first of that evidence is that out of 9,519 total grades earned at OV by all students at the first semester, there were 4,162 As, or 43 percent of all grades; 2,727 Bs, or 28 percent of all grades; 1,679 Cs, or 17 percent of all grades; 685 Ds, or 7.2 percent of all grades; and 266 Fs, or 2.8 percent of all grades. That is a statement of students *will* learn, rather than just *can*.

There are many possibilities to follow. This is great fuel to feed our fire for becoming a great school. I'm proud of our students, proud to work here and proud of the staff. I look forward to sharing more data with you as we continue.



Shirley Vaughn  
Principal

## V. O. I. C. E. S

By Leah Guillen, Special Education MS

The “Vocational Opportunities and Instruction with Community Experiences for Students” is a special education program that is being offered on the Westminster High School campus.

Classroom teachers Shauna Costa and Leah Guillen have dedicated themselves to this program each year. Those students with multiple-handicapping conditions and who are on track for a certificate of educational achievement can benefit from taking part in V.O.I.C.E.S.

Most of the program's classes and curriculum are designed to be functional in nature and build student confidence in independent living and other life skills. One facet of the program is vocational, where the students are introduced to useful activities and job skills. This includes library aide, book room aide, auto, foods, recycling and Project WorkAbility.

Some of our senior students have even completed internships at different job locations throughout the city. They have learned how to go into the community on a weekly basis for community-based instruction. As part of this process, the students are exposed to public transportation, and are responsible for mapping their own bus routes before many of these trips.

The senior V.O.I.C.E.S. students also participate in the WHS graduation ceremony with their fellow classmates, and receive certificates of educational achievement. Many of them will later attend an adult-transition program that is offered through the Huntington Beach Union High School District. Depending upon the student's individual needs, this program is available until the age of 22.

The V.O.I.C.E.S. program is very unique, and it has grown over the years. Watching the students build upon their own sense of self-confidence and independence is the goal!



VOICES students learn about sea life at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach.

# School News

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Bower's Museum visit to WHS to share about life in California in the early days.

## Connections

By Jen Amstone, HBUHSD Inclusion Specialist

The “Connections” lunch group is a service organization that is composed of Westminster High School students. It was established to promote a friendlier environment for students with special needs to help them develop their social communication skills.

Special needs students can improve their social interactions with general education peers in a supportive environment. The general education peer-mentors meet with their “buddies” once-a-week during lunch to eat together and play games. This interaction can help build positive social relationships.

This has been the first year for the Connections program at WHS. We definitely look forward to building more good relationships with this group during the coming years.



# Valley Vista *High School*

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



**Kerry Clitheroe**  
Principal

## And the Winner is...!

Valley Vista High School's Kathi Richey is one of two HBUHSD Teachers of the Year! This is a well-deserved honor for an outstanding teacher who brings out the best in everyone around her. With her students, Ms. Richey is an engaging presenter, a delightful conversationalist, an empathetic listener, a



**Kathi Richey**

timely responder, a gentle but firm critic, an appropriately supportive person and a dependable friend. She consistently displays a crisp efficiency, genuine sensitivity and infectious cheerfulness that not only ensure her students' educational success but their personal success and individual growth as well. Her classrooms are wonderfully active, productive, comfortable places where students learn and feel at home. Her Foods classes learn how to follow a recipe, estimate costs, buy ingredients, cook skillfully and practice social skills to serve a meal that brings a diverse group of people together to enjoy one another's company. Her Personal Management class stresses life skills, from sewing on a button to an exercise that has students share their own and others' positive self-attributes. Her Pregnant/Parenting Teen classes thoroughly cover prenatal care, delivery and the developmental stages of infants and toddlers and also develop a supportive and fun camaraderie with other student parents.

Ms. Richey is a leader on campus who can be counted on to come up with innovative suggestions for integrating coursework, supporting an individual student or activities that will enhance our school community. With her master's degree in education that emphasizes early childhood education, Ms. Richey brings a wealth of professional administrative skills to her position. She is particularly good at hiring, training and supervising child-care staff for our on-site child development center, which we call the NEST. Ms. Richey is also a very effective advocate for all pregnant and parenting teens in the district and is also an available and responsive liaison with the district comprehensive high schools. She has effectively managed all of the administrative, recordkeeping and reporting requirements of our CalSAFE grant since its receipt in 2007. Ms. Richey's colleagues describe her as "a teacher who seeks to empower her students with her creativity, optimism and limitless energy in class each and every day."

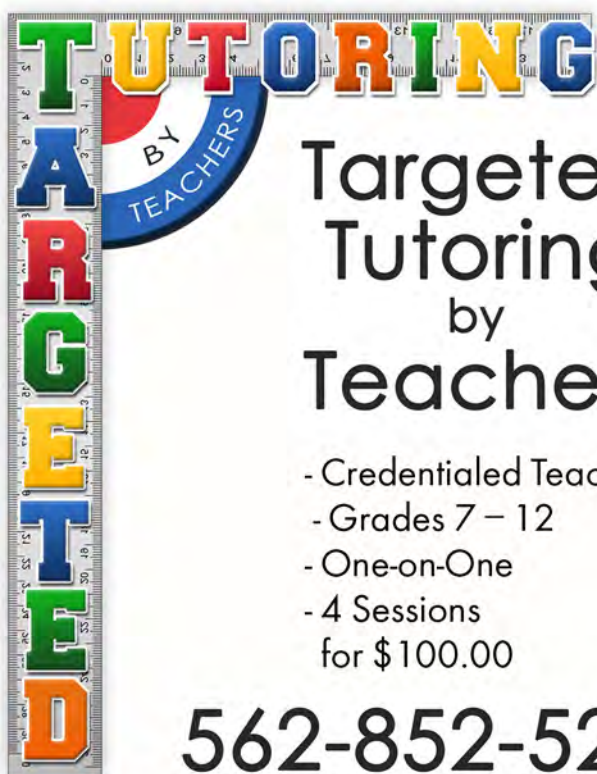


## Like a Mom

Ms. Richey's students say that "she's like a mom to us, who cares about us and who teaches us how to handle problems as they happen. She pushes us in good ways to get our work done so we can graduate. She's really nice, and funny, too!" She ensures the individual success of each of her students, whether success is measured as consistent attendance, completion of courses, acceptance of their responsibilities as a parent, or graduation. Former students constantly call and visit her, and they are met with a warm hug, as if no time has passed.

Kathi Richey appreciates the unique continuation high school environment. "It's not always easy to know if you're making a difference in the lives of your students," she said. "At the end of the day, it's overhearing one of your most challenging students say to a friend, 'Her class is my favorite.' That's what makes it all worthwhile."

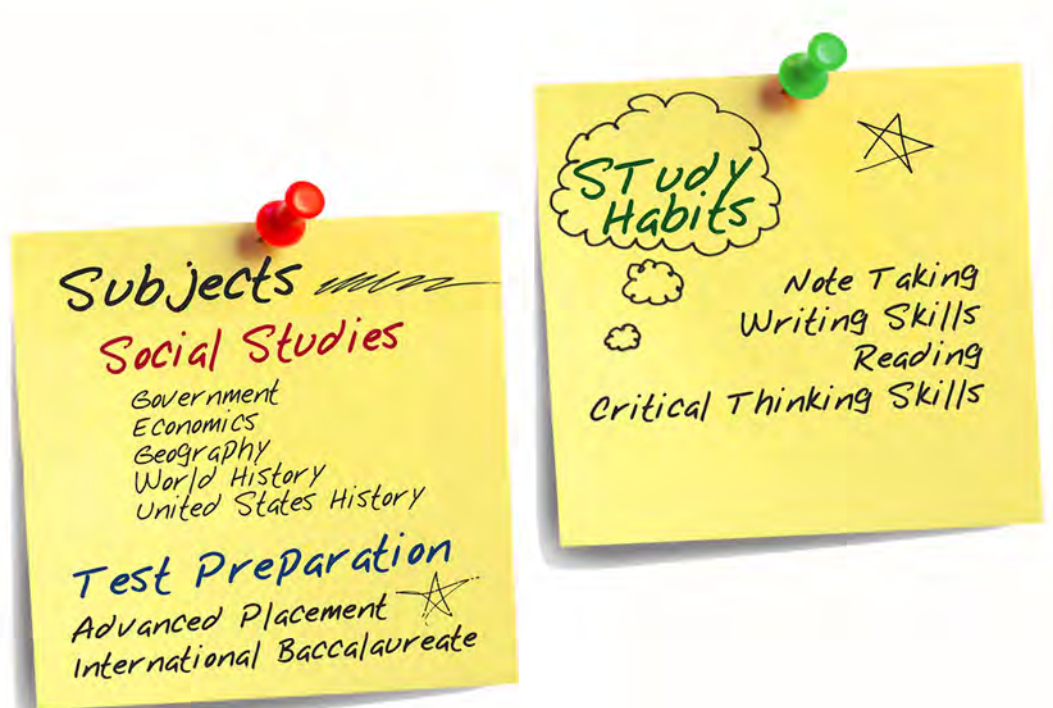
Thank you, Ms. Richey, for touching our lives in so many positive and enduring ways. Because of your wonderful presence among us, the winner is...the entire Valley Vista community!



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## The Importance of Summer!

What Students Should Know Upon Entering Each Grade

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

### Elementary School

**Kindergarten** – Students should be familiar with all letters and many basic sight words.

**1st-3rd** - Early elementary students need to become proficient readers and memorize all basic math facts. Any issues with comprehension and phonics can be worked on with our summer reading programs (If students are still counting on their fingers by the end of third grade they will be overwhelmed with the amount of math covered in later grades).

**4th & 5th** - Extremely important years for future academic success. Students should understand fractions and decimals, and be able to interpret word problems. Students need to draw conclusions when reading and be comfortable writing structured paragraphs.

### Middle School

**6th** - Come October, we will have more 6th graders than any other age.

The jump from the friendly confines of an elementary classroom to having more than one teacher leaves many preteens shell-shocked. Most of our sixth graders are overwhelmed with the amount of math covered, and lack the study skills for the transition to middle school. If your student has struggled with any area during elementary school, these deficiencies will become amplified in middle school.

**7th & 8th** - Writing and Algebra are the two areas 7th and 8th graders tend to struggle with the most. If your child passes into Algebra 1 for 8th grade, it is important to master all core math concepts, as there will be no time for review.

### High School

**9th & 10th** - For some reason all high school students think summer means brain freeze. Maybe we should tell them summer break is three months because most children used to work on the farms for their parents. Now, we allow them to spend endless hours on the beach and hang out playing PS3 and Xbox. Our athletes spend countless hours practicing for the upcoming sports season, but do nothing to help themselves academically. Summer is a great time for course reviews and previews, especially in math and science courses.

**11th** - Junior year is the most stressful for students planning to go to a four year college. Unfortunately, many 11th graders try to cram for the numerous standardized tests at the end of the year when their classes are the most difficult. The Tutoring Club has individualized test prep for both the ACT and SAT standardized tests. Students who take our classes during the summer can devote all their attention to the tests, and not worry about sports and academic obligations.

**12th** - If students have not taken any of their standardized tests they have until November of their senior year to complete them. Students should use the summer to prepare for the exams so they can focus on college applications in the fall.

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