

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach City, Ocean View, and Westminster School Districts

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JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2018

Ocean View Brings Innovation to Life, Announces Plans for Environmental Sciences Program

*By Julie A. Jennings,
Public Information Manager,
Ocean View School District*

In Ocean View, we kick off 2018 with renewed energy as we welcome back students and announce new and continuing innovative learning options for families.

This month and next, we are preparing to host a series of informational nights for students about our new Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Academy, our STEAM School, and our soon-to-be-launched Environmental Sciences Program.

Last fall, Westmont Elementary School launched its elementary VAPA program, offering an integrated core curriculum to all students, with an emphasis on arts education. The academy features dance, music, visual arts, and, for our upper grade students, theater and band. With an infusion of grant funding, Westmont premiered Ocean View's first elementary band program for upper grade students in 2017, the only elementary school in the area with such a program. In the band program, Westmont fourth and fifth graders are exposed to a program above and beyond typical elementary music programs, including instruction in reading music, exposure to multiple instruments, and the experience of preparing for performances.

All Westmont students enjoy dance instruction in a fantastic new dance studio on campus, created by our Facilities team and complete with mirrors and dance floor. Dance Teacher Jana Acciaccia leads students through various warm-ups and dance styles. Our school is certainly the place to be when students spend the morning rotating through dance, music, and musical



Students learn a variety of dance styles as part of the Westmont Visual and Performing Arts Academy. Dance teacher Jana Acciaccia leads students through various warm-ups and dance moves in the new on-campus dance studio.

keyboarding, as well as theater and instrumental band classes for the upper grades.

Families can find out more about Westmont's VAPA Academy at a special informational night, open to all interested families, at 6 p.m. on January 17, 2018.

We are busy laying the groundwork for our first Environmental Science program in Ocean View. All students attending Golden View, starting in the 2018-2019 school year, will begin learning about and exploring the environmental sciences, including ecology, biology, chemistry, physics, zoology, and geology, as part of our outstanding core curriculum. Golden View students will have unparalleled access to the environmental sciences, which are usually reserved for older students in middle and high school. The District will host a special informational meeting on the new Environmental Sciences program at 6 p.m. on February 15, 2018, at Golden View.

Why Golden View? This elementary school is home to a two-acre outdoor learning facility, which includes a working farm and newly upgraded garden area. The focus on preparing students for college and career success and this extensive outdoor learning environment make Golden View the natural choice. The farm houses a variety of animals, including turtles, goats and chickens. Its outdoor space is also in bloom with many varieties of fruit trees and vegetables. These gardens are newly upgraded thanks to grant funding and the hard work of our volunteers, parents, service organizations,

students, and staff. More outdoor learning upgrades are planned prior to the start of the 2018-2019 school year.

Lake View Elementary reopened its doors in 2016 as a beautifully modernized STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) School, offering rigorous and innovative instruction that deepens learning through an emphasis on these core subject areas. Lake View's Vision is that all students are immersed in project-based learning (PBL), providing them with opportunities to think critically, be creative, problem solve, persevere, innovate, and be future ready.

Lake View teachers, students and families work collaboratively in meaningful experiences to cultivate strong relationships in the classroom, school and community. Engaging with a variety of educational community partners, Lake View brings exciting lessons to life. Each year, we host a series of Family Nights centered around STEAM instruction. Any interested families are invited to attend a special STEAM informational meeting at 6 p.m. on February 7, 2018.

Fountain Valley



Dr. Mark Johnson
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Huntington Beach City



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Ocean View



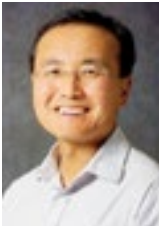
Dr. Carol Hansen
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Westminster



Sheri Loewenstein
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Flu or Cold?



Kenneth Kim, M.D.
Medical Director,
Pediatric ICU

Both are caused by viruses, but not the same ones. Viruses are spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes, causing the viruses to land on surfaces that another person touches before touching their eyes, nose or mouth.

They are both highly contagious and have many symptoms in common, but the flu is a serious illness that may have life-threatening complications. In general, a person with the flu will have a fever between 102°F and 104°F for 3 to 4 days. Flu symptoms include muscle aches, headache, sore throat, cough, fatigue and weakness, come on suddenly. Other symptoms including nausea, vomiting and diarrhea are more common in children than adults.

Cold symptoms, including a fever under 102°F, stuffy nose, cough, headache, loss of appetite, chills and sweats, along with aching muscles, are usually milder than those of the flu and appear within 1 to 3 days of being exposed to the virus.

Watch for signs of worsening symptoms: symptoms that last longer than 10 days, trouble breathing, wheezing, shortness of breath and chest pain. For children these may include:

- Fever higher than 103°F or a fever that lasts more than three days
- Bluish skin color
- Earache or drainage from the ear
- Flu-like symptoms that improve but come back with a fever or more severe cough
- Vomiting or abdominal pain
- Changes in mental state, such as not waking up, irritability or seizures

If you have any of the symptoms listed above, contact your doctor or seek emergency medical care.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Happy New Year!

A new year is always exciting as it brings hope and renewed focus. This issue includes articles bringing you up to date on 2017 accomplishments and looking forward to goals for 2018. We continue to add content you, our readers, have expressed interest in reading including health, nutrition, our popular student book reviews and our contests. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is March 14. Until then have a Happy Valentines Day!



School News

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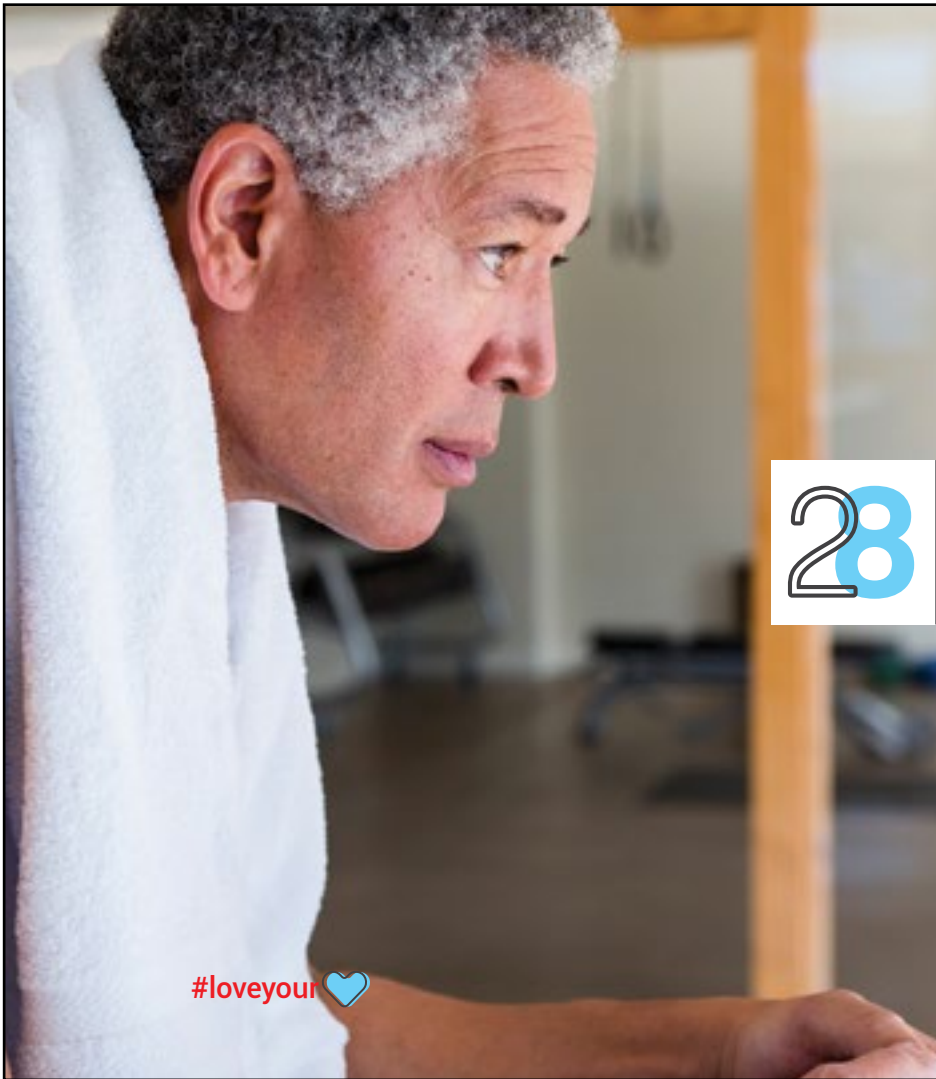
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WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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28

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February is American Heart Month, which means this is a great time to focus on the engine that keeps your body running. Despite the many advancements in modern healthcare, heart disease is still the number one killer of men and women in the U.S. Do you know your heart? Do you know your risk?

March to the beat of a healthy heart. Sign up at
FountainValleyHospital.com/28Days.



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League of Legends



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

There was a time when video game consoles were considered incompatible with academics, based on the belief that they distracted rather than stimulated young minds. But many educators are now recognizing the potential of gaming to engage students in science, technology, engineering and math, otherwise known as the STEM fields, while introducing them to 21st-century careers. And that's what's driving the creation of the Orange County High School Esports League, which is set to power up in January.


Funded by the Samueli Foundation, the new league will be structured similar to high school sports, with teams of eligible students competing in the multiplayer fantasy game League of Legends, which combines action and strategy.

There will be tournament play and awards for top performers of course. But the ultimate goal is to promote teamwork, problem-solving and communication while nurturing student interest in STEM.


That's why a number of heavy-hitters have signed on as league partners, including the Orange County Department of Education, OC STEM, Connected Camps, the UCI Connected Learning Lab, UCI's Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences, UCI Esports, the Henry Samueli School of Engineering at UCI, and the firm Alvarez & Marsal.

Gerald Solomon, the Samueli Foundation's executive director, holds the vision that the Orange County High School Esports League will emerge as a STEM learning and enrichment program.

"Online platforms like esports are the new social gathering places for kids," he says. "We need to understand these new digital platforms, like gaming, and innovate ways to optimize kids' learning experiences."



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Meanwhile, it hasn't gone unnoticed that gaming as an industry is exploding, with worldwide revenues surpassing \$100 billion in 2017. By some estimates, video games have financially eclipsed music and movies combined, and even more growth is expected, opening the door for a new generation of software developers, game designers, animators, audio engineers, writers and producers.

Preparing students for these types of high-demand, high-skill and high-wage jobs is among the top priorities of OCDE, which in 2014 launched the OC Pathways initiative along with Saddleback College.


Today, OC Pathways comprises 14 school districts, nine community colleges and numerous businesses and community groups, all working to develop rigorous coursework and work-based learning opportunities in the target sectors of healthcare and biotechnology, engineering and advanced manufacturing, and information technology and digital media.

Esports is a logical extension of this work, and the right partners are in place to strategically connect students' natural interests with the skills they'll need to land the coveted careers of the 21st century.

Today it's League of Legends. Tomorrow it's limitless.

Strong Leaders Transform Schools

At the growing Eastvale STEM Academy, high school students build knowledge in medical science and engineering within an innovative learning community guided by Kim Lu Lawe's leadership and vision.



Eastvale STEM Academy, Medical Biology Class, Director: Kim Lu Lawe, Ed.D. '16

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Importance of HPV Vaccinations



Kristine Penner, M.D.
medical director,
Gynecologic
Oncology
Program,
MemorialCare
Todd Cancer Institute,
Long Beach
Medical Center

Human papillomavirus (HPV) infections cause more than 30,000 cancers in men and women in the United States each year. People contract HPV from skin-to-skin contact and it can be passed even when someone with the virus doesn't have any symptoms.

The HPV vaccination is the best defense against all cancers caused by HPV. For the HPV vaccination to be most effective, it should be given prior to HPV exposure. It is recommended that pre-teens should be vaccinated prior to sexual activity. It is important that both girls and boys get the vaccination since boys can carry HPV and pass it to a partner.

Typically, the series starts at 11 or 12-years-old. In some cases, the series can be started as early as 9-years-old. While it may be uncomfortable to think about a pre-teen or teenager having vaginal or oral sex, it is important to protect them against potential infections, viruses and cancers they may be exposed to when they do become sexually active.

By receiving the HPV vaccination, you can ensure your child will be protected before they even become sexually active. If your child meets the above criteria, you can schedule an appointment for the HPV vaccination with a pediatrician or primary care physician, or you can schedule it at the Vaccine Hub at Long Beach Medical Center and Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach. Call 562.933.0298 to schedule your child's first HPV vaccination at the Vaccine Hub.



Orthodontics Matters

Best Age for First Orthodontic Check-Up?



Dr. Andrew Harner
Orthodontist

I am asked this question quite often and I always let parents know that the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) recommends age 7. By age seven, children will have enough permanent teeth for an orthodontist to evaluate their developing teeth and growing jaws. So, in my office, after evaluating your child, two options exist: 1. either they will need early orthodontic treatment (sometimes called Phase I treatment) or 2. we will recommend waiting and watching to make sure the rest of their adult teeth come in favorably.

By identifying and treating dental and jaw growth problems, early orthodontic treatment can be in your child's best interest as these problems can become more serious over time if left untreated. The goal of early treatment is to intercept the developing problem, eliminate the cause, guide the growth of facial and jaw bones, and provide adequate space for incoming permanent teeth. Waiting until all the permanent teeth have come in, or until facial growth is nearly complete, may make orthodontic correction of some problems more difficult and/or impossible to achieve the same final results.

Generally, orthodontists will be looking for the following to determine if early orthodontic treatment is necessary:

- Underbites—when the lower front teeth are ahead of the upper front teeth
- Crossbites—when the jaw shifts to one side
- Very crowded teeth
- Excessively spaced teeth
- Extra or missing teeth
- Teeth that meet abnormally, or don't meet at all
- Thumb-, finger-, or pacifier- sucking that is affecting the teeth or jaw growth

Dr. Andrew Harner is the President of the California Association of Orthodontists. He is an orthodontic specialist and maintains a private practice in Huntington Beach. He has served on the Board of the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists, and is a member of the American Association of Orthodontists. (714) 842-9933.

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Dr. Andrew Harner DDS, MS

President, California Association of Orthodontists



Fountain Valley School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Mark Johnson

STEAM Extravaganza Attracts Thousands in FVSD!

Recently, Fountain Valley School District proudly hosted its 3rd Annual Polar Day at Courreges Elementary School. Polar Day, named after the December 1, 1959 treaty that established Antarctica as a non-military global research area, is organized by teachers, school administrators and community partners to highlight STEAM activities for all age groups. This year, we had over 3,000 attendees. Activities and events included: engaging presentations from expert scientists in the field, exciting and competitive cardboard sled dog races, and the fun hands-on experiences like feeling the insulating power of whale blubber. In addition, we also welcomed the Anaheim Mighty Ducks S.C.O.R.E. program, a group that has partnered with FVSD for the last several years.



Students enjoyed hands-on experiments and activities celebrating STEAM at Polar Day.

We are extremely appreciative to all of our Polar Day team for putting on such a successful event, as we work to promote hands-on STEAM activities for our students and community. We can't wait for next year, and we hope that you'll consider joining us. Just one more reason why #WeHeartFVSD!

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Jim Cunneen
President

Excited to Further Excel in 2018!

As I move into my new role as Board President, an honor I am extremely grateful for, I am excited to share some of the great things happening in our District. Since the launch of our theme for the 2017-18 school year, We Heart FVSD, the Board and staff have been extremely busy implementing the District's five priorities. The priorities are Increased Achievement, Caring Culture, Fiscal Responsibility, Communication and Facilities, and they provide staff with the guidance needed to implement the Board's and our community's vision for our kids.

Based upon last year's standardized test scores, I am proud to report that scores are, once again, up in math and English Language Arts. These gains in achievement are a testament to the teachers, support staff, administrators, parents, and, of course, our students, who work so hard each and every day! With regard to culture, FVSD continues to cultivate an inclusive, caring and inclusive culture. There is a focus on high expectations with increased collaboration, shared decision making and mutual respect for all students, staff and families. In addition, our Board of Trustees and District staff continues to prioritize, monitor and review District expenses to ensure fiscal responsibility. We are pleased to report a solvent budget, with resources aligned to maximize the achievement of all students. Moreover, our investment portfolio continues to maximize our alternative revenue streams. In the area of Communication, our District staff continues to engage our stakeholders on multiple platforms including our vibrant web sites, timely updates via SchoolLoop and staff and community celebrations through Constant Contact, Twitter and Facebook. Our Superintendent's newsletter alone reaches more than 6,000 parents, staff and community members on a regular basis.

Lastly, our facility improvement efforts continue with great pace as we have two schools in the Division of State Architects for review with strong belief that they will be out at the beginning of the New Year. And, we continue to improve our technology infrastructure to provide increased access for our students and staff.

The 2017-18 year has already been filled with much to celebrate and as the New Year begins, I look forward to the continued successes of the Fountain Valley School District. It is the tradition of excellence in our District that is truly one of the many reasons We Heart FVSD!

City of Fountain Valley Office of the Mayor

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

Heros in Our Community



Michael Vo
Mayor

I hope you had a safe and joyful holiday season with family and friends. As the New Year begins, please remember to include a prayer for our first responders and military personnel at home and abroad. Last year was a difficult one as Californians faced several extreme wildfires with thousands of acres and thousands of structures threaten or burnt to the ground. These unsung heroes, our first responders and military personnel, are working tirelessly to keep us safe and to protect us from harm. They have made many sacrifices to serve our communities and country. Here in Fountain Valley we are also blessed with community volunteers who want to give such as our Reserve Senior Volunteer

Program (RSVP) or volunteering with the Fountain Valley Fire Department—Fire Inspection Retired Seniors Taskforce (FIRST) program. Please remember to keep them in all in your prayers!

Roch Courreges *Elementary (K-5)*

18313 Santa Carlotta, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4280 • www.courreges.fvgsd.us



Chris Christensen
Principal

Courreges Honors Local Veterans

Courreges Elementary School students honored local veterans on November 8, 2017. During the morning flag raising ceremony, local veterans were honored and recognized for their service in the U.S. Armed Services. The ceremony included vocal performances by Miss Allen's 2nd grade music students, as well as a ceremonial flag raising by Girl Scout Troop #4167. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the students were escorted by the veterans out to the field, where more than 700 flags were posted on class wreaths that were viewed by the community over the Veterans Day weekend.



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

8778 El Lago St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-2816 • www.fulton.fvgsd.us



Kevin Johnson
Principal



Jennifer Kajdasz
Assistant Principal

Student Council Inspires Falcon Pride

Our Executive Board works with Homeroom Representatives, under the guidance of Fulton's Activities Director, Jennifer Rose, to plan activities throughout the school year. Around campus school spirit is promoted through classroom competitions and spirit days. Additionally, our student council plans our school dances, philanthropic drives, and helps out around campus during special events.

The 2017-2018 school year has already proven to be incredibly busy on campus, as ASB has sponsored monthly Spirit Wars, The Great Pumpkin Competition, immediately followed by the holiday door-decorating contest and



(B) Ms. Rose, Cameron Cao, Publicity Commissioner; Rebekah Nehrbass, Activities Commissioner; Laura Sabate and Kenzo Osmena Sports Commissioners; Nisha Alberto, Secretary; (F) Lincoln Johnson, President; Madison Suekawa, Treasurer; Gigi Kikawa, Vice President; Donovan Doan, Activities Commissioner

multiple "Falcon Friday" spirit days. Students are looking forward to the spring dance and in the meantime everyone is enjoying the once-a-month "Rockin' Lunch" hosted by ASB as well.

The Fulton student body is looking forward to a fun and exciting spring with the many activities our Council has planned!

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

17615 Los Jardines E., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4240 • www.cox.fvgsd.us



Patrick Ham
Principal

Celebrating Writing Excellence!

The staff of Cox Elementary School have come together to bring a consistent writing program for all students in grades K-5. All 27 general education teachers as are continuing our professional development in the writing program: Write from the Beginning and Beyond. For 2017-2018, our writing genre focus is "Opinion/Argumentative" writing. The consistency in writing strategies, organization, and lesson presentations have already had a tremendous impact for our students. We are excited to see the results for many years to come in our students' writing abilities.



1st grader Chloe in Mrs. O'Malley's classroom present their paragraph writing.

Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

18720 Las Flores, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4211 • www.gisler.fvgsd.us



Erin Bains
Principal

Canned Food Drive

Each year, the Gisler Elementary School Student Council holds a canned food drive to benefit the Southwest Community Center, which is located in Santa Ana. This center provides food, clothing, shelter, and guidance to help families make ends meet.

This year, the student council officers and classroom representatives held another successful food drive to benefit families in need. Student council members reported to each classroom on campus about the food drive. They also helped to organize flyers donation boxes and made posters advertising the

drive. They collected the donations throughout the week of the food drive.

The school goal was to gather 1,000 cans. By the end of the week, Gisler students had brought in over 1,928 cans! Mrs. Laird's and Mrs. Hebel's classes were recognized for bringing in the most cans.

Way to go, Gators!



Mrs. Hebel's 1st Graders and Mrs. Laird's 4th Grade classes brought in the most cans at Gisler!

Kazuo Masuda

Middle School(6–8)

17415 Las Jardines W., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4250 • www.masuda.fvgsd.us



Jay Adams
Principal



Matt Ploski
Assistant Principal

Noon Leagues—a Hit!

To promote health and a sense of family among homeroom students and teachers, Masuda’s Noon Leagues are running year round at lunchtime, with each grade level competing against the others. We started off the season with soccer, which will be followed by flag football—and the year would not be complete without the ever popular...dodgeball!



Students do not need any experience to play—just the right attitude. Teachers have also been joining in on the fun helping coach their teams to victory. At the end of each season, the homeroom champs get to brag and lift their trophy high as well as enjoy a sweet treat to relish for their hard work. But they can’t get too comfortable--since the next season is lurking around the corner and there are other homerooms waiting for their turn to be at the top!

Isojiro Oka

Elementary (K–5)

9800 Yorktown Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4260 • www.oka.fvgsd.us



Erik Miller
Principal

Holiday Gift Shop

There is a traditional part of our campus that is deeply rooted in thoughtfulness, kindness, and thinking of others. Our Holiday Gift Shop is put together each December by a dedicated group of parents who want to create a magical place for our students to enter. Once inside, the children are able to shop for gifts that they can use to help bless the special people in their lives, such as parents, siblings, or grandparents.



It is always a treat to see the excitement that our students have each year when they are selecting a wrapped gift of special-ness for a loved one, and it definitely makes the holiday season extra warm and cozy. While there will probably always be a debate about whether it is better to give or to receive a gift, we love seeing our students thrilled about bringing smiles of festive cheer to their loved ones!

William T. Newland

Elementary (K–5)

8787 Dolphin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4200 • www.newland.fvgsd.us



Christopher Mullin
Principal

Special Persons Day—A Community Tradition

Recently, Newland held its annual “Special Persons Day”. This is a day where students and teachers alike honor those who support our students in so many different ways on a daily basis. Newland welcomes grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, friends, and of course parents. All grades along with our resident pre-school classes put on a performance for our guests. After the performance, students are encouraged to take their guests on a tour of their school and especially their classroom to show off their work and thank them for the support they give. PTA hosted treats and coffee for our special visitors as well as holding a raffle. This year’s Special Persons Day was a huge success and a wonderful way to express thanks to our community.



Urbain H. Plavan

Elementary (K–5)

9675 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4230 • www.plavan.fvgsd.us



Julie Ballesteros
Principal

Panthers U.N.I.T.E.D.!

Plavan recently held its annual Jog-a-Thon with the support of the APEX Fun Run Team. Our largest annual fund-raiser of the year supports assemblies, field trips, art, reading and math programs, technology and PE equipment.

This year, we collaborated with the Apex Fun Run Team to create an event focusing on leadership, fitness and fund-raising. The Team worked with our children daily for two weeks, teaching them about the value of being U.N.I.T.E.D.: unique, no excuses, inspire others, teachable, empathize and doing your best. We raised over \$25,000 for our children!

We are tremendously grateful for the Plavan community’s support. Children and families had a wonderful time running laps for a good cause. The children were thrilled that we achieved our goal and that their hard work paid off, and they got to throw 40 pies in the principal’s face while she rode a motorbike!

This Jog-a Thon proved that teamwork makes the difference!



Student Kiara Sims places a pie in her principals face

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

9101 Brabham Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • www.talbert.fvgsd.us



Jennifer Morgan
Principal



Mark Holman
Assistant Principal

Socratic Seminars

The use of the Socratic Seminar in the school classroom has been a strategy that many teachers have utilized over the years to help deepen their students' understanding of any given topic. At Talbert, we have taken this old idea to the next level. We now utilize these Seminars in every classroom to add depth to understanding and help develop critical thinking.

What is a Socratic Seminar? It is essentially a formal discussion about text, one where the teacher poses open-ended questions about a specific area of study. The students formulate their responses based upon evidence and experience, and can then share these thoughts with their group in a safe, academic environment. The Seminars force students to think critically and articulate their own thoughts based upon textual evidence. They also allow for a healthy discussion with others, even when they disagree on a certain point.

At Talbert, we believe in a rigorous academic day. With strategies such as the Socratic Seminars, all of our students can live up to their highest potential.



Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K-5)*

17340 Santa Suzanne St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-6226 • www.tamura.fvgsd.us



Kathy Davis
Principal

Special Persons Day

November was the month to remember and express our thankfulness for the gifts in our lives. To thank all the special people in the lives of Tamura Elementary School students, the children invited them to attend Special Persons Day, which was held just before Thanksgiving.

All of the students worked hard to practice and perform songs and poems for the special guests to show their appreciation. Refreshments were provided, including coffee, juice, water, donuts, bagels and cream cheese. There was a photo booth to capture the students with their special guests. We also had a craft table, and it was an opportunity for our students to sell turkey grams. The grade-level performances began first thing in the morning. Then guests visited the students' classrooms.



Fountain Valley Library

17635 Los Alamos St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/962-1324 • www.ocpl.org

Programs for All Ages

By Sarita Dangond, Youth Services Librarian

The Library has many ongoing / upcoming programs for all ages.

Storytime for toddlers and preschoolers is on **Wednesdays at 10:30**.

High school volunteers are available to assist elementary and middle school students with their homework or act as reading buddies during **Homework Help on Wednesdays at 4:00**.

Library users can learn how to download e-books, movies, music, and more by appointment on **Tech Tuesdays**.

School-aged children have the opportunity to read aloud to licensed therapy dogs in a program called **B.A.R.K.** (Beach Animals Reading With Kids) on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 3:30.

The Book of the Month Club meets at the Fountain Valley Senior Center on the **4th Tuesday at 1:00**. The book for January is Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders. The February book is Anything is Possible by Elizabeth Strout.

Adults may join the library for a series of monthly mindfulness classes which teach how meditation can help reduce stress and anxiety. Upcoming classes are on **January 30, February 27, and March 27 at 10:30**.

The library is excited about the forthcoming **Crazy 8s Math Club** for elementary age students. This 8 week program, from **January 4th to February 22nd**, will present math concepts with fun games and projects. The clubs will meet on **Thursdays: Grades K-2 from 2:00 – 3:00pm and Grades 3-5 from 3:15 – 4:15pm**. Please call the library to register.

OC Public Libraries has launched an early literacy program for babies, toddlers and preschoolers called 1000 Books Before Kindergarten! Parents can get more information and sign up their children at any branch.

All library programs are free!

School News

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Kay Coop,
Founder/Publisher

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Huntington Beach City School District

17011 Beach Blvd., Suite 560 Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/964-8888 • <http://www.hbcasd.k12.ca.us>

SUPERINTENDENT



Gregory Haulk

HBCSD Wins Two Prestigious Golden Bell Awards

The Golden Bell Awards are presented by the California School Boards Association (CSBA) for innovative programs that benefit students and the community. These awards are presented each year at the CSBA Annual Education Conference in December. This year, the Huntington Beach City School District (HBCSD) was presented with two Golden Bell Awards, making it one of only two districts in the state to win more than one award this year. The two award-winning programs were the

HBCSD Learning Link program and the HBCSD Solar Power Program, which improved the infrastructure of our schools with solar panels that reduced energy usage and gives students firsthand Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) opportunities while learning the Next Generation Science Standards.

The Huntington Beach City School District Learning Link provides rich and meaningful early learning experiences to children and families prior to the students enrolling in school. The program provides high-quality, interactive learning opportunities and engages families through participation. The Learning Link curriculum allows children and families to explore in an environment that is safe, enriched, and serves as a model for parents to duplicate in their homes. The curriculum also allows parents and students to come and go according to need with its open time frame. HBCSD partners with the Think Together organization and the AmeriCorps Program, which provides staff and supplementary support so the Learning Link program can serve many families. If you would like to learn more about the Learning Link program, please contact the HBCSD District Office.

Each of the school sites in the Huntington Beach City School District has solar panels that increase energy efficiency and reduce cost for the district. These savings have been used to improve the infrastructure at each of our campuses. In addition, this program allows our students to have access to data and research-based instruction in clean energy concepts. HBCSD partnered with OpTerra to craft an optimal and viable program, which enables the district to take advantage of long-term energy savings and incentives. Students are able to study real-world applications of clean energy and understand the benefits.

HBCSD is very proud of both of these programs, which represent the goal of HBCSD to be a leader in Orange County and the state of California in the development and implementation of programs that benefit both our schools and their communities, as well as providing opportunities to partner with community agencies to bring more benefit to our students and schools alike.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Rosemary Saylor
President

A Year of Improvements!

It seems just moments ago it was Labor Day 2017 and schools were reopening from summer vacation. A blink of an eye later finds us in 2018 and it isn't only our students who are pushing forward in learning and achieving. From the California School Dashboard to our demonstration classrooms in place as part of our bond technology plans, parents, staff members and board members are navigating a variety of programs, processes and... properties:

Probably one of the most exciting "non-student" projects is the start of our new Education Center. A contractor is selected, areas of demolition are scheduled and we anticipate the renovation of the prior Kettler building to be completed in July of this year. It has been a long time coming. The project which started with too many special meetings to count under prior superintendents and former boards, a sale of the LeBard property under our current superintendent, and continued with lots of presentations by architects is finally moving forward.

In the area of student population, with our growing preschool classes, extended kindergarten and continuing intra-district transfers, HBCSD is staying strong and increasing in ADA, despite the always challenging budget forecasts and overall declining enrollment across the state. We have much to be proud of, such as a very successful, community involved "Principal for a Day" program and ever-strengthening music and arts programs at all of our school sites. One of our proudest achievements so far this school year is our CSBA Golden Bell Awards (not one, but two!) received at the Annual Education Conference in San Diego, and which will be described further in Mr. Gregg Haulk's article. Greatness will continue in HBCSD – Stay tuned!

Educational Services

17011 Beach Blvd., Suite 560 Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/964-8888



Carolyn Wertheim
*Director
Early Childhood
Education*

Learning Link recognized with Golden Bell Award!

Huntington Beach City School District's Learning Link was recently recognized with a Golden Bell Award from the California School Board Association for exemplary programming

in Early Childhood. The overarching goal of the Learning Link program is to provide rich and meaningful early learning experiences to children and families prior to school entry. The Learning Link is a free drop in program available to children

0–5 years of age and their parents/caregivers. One parent shared, "I like that the Learning Link room is set up for success with areas of development and exploration". Another parent stated, "The Learning Link provides a valuable resource that I haven't found anywhere else." Come join us at Perry Elementary School for our next Learning Link session!

For more information about our HBCSD Early Childhood Programs and Learning Link visit www.hbcasd.us or contact 714-962-3348 ext 2335.



Huntington Beach City School District Board of Trustees



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President



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Happy New Year!
From School News Roll Call

Ethel R. Dwyer *Middle School*

1502 Palm Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-7507 • <http://dms.schoolloop.com>



Christa Glembocki
Principal

Environmental Scientists in Training

Students in our environmental science elective class attended a three-day camping trip to Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI) this fall. Students participated in labs with digital microscopes to examine different types of plankton and microplastics in a sample of water collected from the ocean. They also learned about marine invertebrates, marine mammals, and sharks—and they even got to touch real live animals in touch tanks!

Memorable activities also included a sunrise hike, algae art, and day and night snorkels around the bay in Catalina. Mrs. Zellmer, a teacher and the trip organizer, shared, “Every student conquered his or her fear of the night snorkel this year!”



Students exploring marine life in one of the many touch tanks at CIMI.

Students learned non-stop and experienced camping to the fullest while participating in stewardship activities and water conservation. All in all, it is an experience that these students will never forget. They built stronger friendships and grew as young adults.

John H. Eader *Elementary*

9291 Banning Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-2451 • <http://eader-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Debbi Randall
Principal

More Music and Art Opportunities

In addition to the outstanding music program at Eader complete with vocal/chorus and music keyboarding for every class, and ukulele and GLEE (performance choir) for the upper grades, we also offer students additional music opportunities after school twice per week. Students may also learn how to play band instruments and/or learn a string orchestra instrument. Students in each grade level have an evening music show for parents and friends and end of year assemblies for their peers to see their newly learned talents.



The after school programs also provide opportunities for aspiring artists with Comic Creators and Animation classes, and Theater for Kids classes. Our gracious PTA provides the Art Masters Program and Imagination Machine writing assemblies and provides students the supplies to enter the national PTA Reflections Art Contest.

Dr. Ralph E. Hawes *Elementary*

9682 Yellowstone Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/963-8302 • <http://hes-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Julie Jennings
Principal

Excited about Beethoven

For the fourth consecutive year, Hawes Elementary School is a Class Act School! Through the Frieda Belinfante Class Act Partnership and the support of our PTA, our students will participate in Pacific Symphony’s flagship youth education program. Elliott Moreau, a bassoonist and our resident musician, will share the life and music of a Composer of the Year through standards-based music curriculum. This year, our students will be learning about Beethoven—trials to triumph.

In October, our students experienced a Prelude Assembly, at which they learned about Beethoven and some of his personal triumphs and tragedies. Presented by the experts from Pacific Symphony, our teachers participated in a workshop to learn about this composer and engage in activities to utilize in the classroom. Beginning in January, each of our classes will experience an in-depth lesson with our resident musician. This year of learning will culminate with our first- through fifth-grade students traveling to the symphony to hear a concert of Beethoven’s music. Our kindergarten students will have a hands-on symphony experience at school. Additionally, all of our students will share their learning at the end of the year through our very own Bravo Assembly, which will give the students an opportunity to share what they have learned through the year about Beethoven.

Participation in this partnership provides our students with an opportunity to discover performing arts in an engaging way. We are grateful to our PTA and the Frieda Belinfante Program for their support!

S. A. Moffett *Elementary*

8800 Burlcrest Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/963-8985 • <http://www.moffettschool.com>



Michael Andrzejewski
Principal

Student Council Officers

Moffett School elects four students to serve as officers in our student council. Following the presentation of a prepared speech by each student wishing to run, students in grades three through five elect a representative for each office: president, vice president, secretary, and publicity. Officers then lead our student council, which consists of the officers and one representative elected from each classroom.

Our student council leads a variety of projects for our school, including managing our school recycling program, coordinating school celebrations, leading weekly flag assemblies, and determining school-wide community service projects. These young leaders provide valuable services to our school while learning the importance of leadership and stewardship.

At our promotion ceremony, student council officers conclude the year by sharing a retrospective of their years at Moffett, including the enjoyable activities, the important learnings at each grade level, and how their parents supported them through the years.



**Secretary-Saxon Baltzer, VP-Kate Jones,
President-Tyler Wyman, Publicity-Irie Matthews**

Huntington Seacliff *Elementary*

6701 Garfield Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/841-7081 • <http://seacliff-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Dr. Monique Huibregtse
Principal

Theater Arts for APA!

The Seacliff day does not end with the bell. Instead, many students leave their classroom with their instruments and head to Band or Strings. Other students head to Academic Chess, Bricks 4 Kidz or Spanish.

This year, APA Kids is offered to fourth- and fifth-grade students to enjoy singing, dancing and performing. Mr. Cahill, the school's vocal-music teacher, started this program to strengthen the school's theater arts program. Families were camped out at 6:30 a.m. to be the first to register!

APA students have been practicing for their first big production scheduled for the end of January. Songs include "Let's Go Fly a Kite" from *Mary Poppins* and "New York, New York" from *On the Town*. The production is an original produced by Mr. Cahill! It is going to be a red-carpet evening!



John R. Peterson *Elementary*

20661 Farnsworth Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-1515 • <http://pes-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Dr. Constance Polhemus
Principal

They Made a Difference

Most students know about Washington, Lincoln, Edison, and other famous men of history and their contributions to our world. But what about the women in history? Too often, their names are omitted, and these valuable lessons and role models for our children are ignored.

Peterson Elementary School students in kindergarten through fifth grade had the opportunity to hear and experience an interactive program called "They Made a Difference: Women in History." The program was devoted to illuminating the lives and work of Clara Barton, Florence Nightingale, Madame Curie,

Amelia Earhart, Helen Keller, Anne Sullivan, Harriet Tubman, Margaret Mead, and Eleanor Roosevelt. The presenter adopted the role of a time traveler, sliding

effortlessly from one impersonation to another while referencing the work and contributions of still other women.

This imaginary journey through history allowed students to have a better understanding of the important role women have played in our culture and the struggles they faced as women.



Joseph R. Perry *Elementary*

19231 Harding Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-3348 • <http://perry-huntington-ca.schoolloop.com>



Dr. Renee Polk Johnson
Principal

Golden Bell Award

In November, Perry Elementary was very proud to be in attendance at the 38th Annual California School Association (CSBA) Golden Bell Awards in San Diego. Perry Elementary and their Learning Link program won a Golden Bell Award.

The Learning Link is a program at Perry that provides weekly learning opportunities on most Fridays for children that are between the ages of newborn and 5. These interactive-learning sessions model developmentally appropriate, replicable learning opportunities at no cost to families.



Dr. Renee Polk Johnson (Perry Principal), John Archibald (Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services), and Carolyn Wertheim (Director of Early Childhood Education)

The Learning Link has been strategically designed in partnership with the local community with the overarching goal of providing rich and meaningful experiences for children and families prior to formal school entry. Families that attend Learning Link are introduced to play-entry techniques, best practices in problem solving and experiences that promote fine- and gross-motor development. The Learning Link also provides resources to families based on specific individual needs.

Congratulations again to the Learning Link at Perry Elementary!

Agnes L. Smith *Elementary*

770 17th St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-1469 • <http://www.smithelementary.com>



Carolyn Beck
Principal

Choose Kind

Kindness has been a big focus this year at Smith, and the book *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio played a key role. All six fifth grade classes read and studied this book, its characters, and its message about kindness. As a culminating activity for their studies, the entire fifth grade attended a screening of the movie *Wonder*. The students were then able to not only explore the theme and message of the movie, but also compare it with the text they had studied.

In addition, our PTA sponsored a Kindness assembly for the whole school which we used to launch a month long focus on kindness. Students created kindness chains, and all month long students were able to nominate other students they witnessed doing something kind. Two students were recognized daily during morning announcements for their kind actions.

When given the choice between being right and being kind. Choose Kind.

— R.J. Palacio

Isaac L. Sowers *Middle School*

9300 Indianapolis Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-7738 • <http://isms.schoolloop.com>



John Ashby
Principal

Strong in Academics

At Sowers, we pride ourselves on developing the kind of learning experiences that can help foster our students' academic, civic, and personal growth.

This current year has been packed with many such opportunities. Each of our students participated in the national Hour of Code event; the National Junior Honor Society prepared more than 10,000 meals to Rise Against Hunger; and more than 200 musicians participated in Celebration of the Season performances to packed houses at the HBHS Theater!



One academic highlight was a sixth-grade field trip to the California Science Center. Through community and PTSA partnerships, this free experience enabled our students to see the IMAX movie Hurricanes. They also visited numerous ecosystems exhibits, and even saw the Space Shuttle Endeavor.

This true school community effort was well worth it. The children reported that it was an amazing experience! Go to our Instagram page for more field trip pictures, and all things Sowers: @sowersvikingshb.

City of Huntington Beach Office of the Mayor

2000 Main St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-5553 • www.huntingtonbeachca.gov

Happy New Year 2018!



Mike Posey
Mayor

As your new Mayor, I wanted to let you know how exciting it has been to serve on the council for the past three years. I have lived in Huntington Beach since 1999, and am looking forward to doing good work in HB this year.

We had an eventful 2017! The 2nd Annual Breitling Huntington Beach Airshow rocked our beautiful skies above the beaming Pacific Ocean. More than a million people attending the event and I'm pleased to announce the show will return in 2018 the weekend of Oct. 19 to 21. In addition, we hosted a spectacular 4th of July celebration which was televised across Southern California on KABC-7 for a fourth year in a row.

We recently broke ground on the City's first beach-front, all-inclusive playground which will open in spring 2018. Located at 9th and PCH, the playground will be accessed from existing asphalt pathways and the surfacing of the play area will be made with ADA approved rubberized surface to provide wheelchair access. Also this spring, we anticipate the opening the new Waterfront Hilton tower.

I want to reiterate how excited and privileged I am to serve as your Mayor. I am eager to see what the New Year will bring!

Huntington Beach Central Library

7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/374-5338 • www.hbpl.org

Upcoming Events



Barbara Richardson
Senior Librarian
Programming and
Youth Services

How many books or minutes do you think you can read in the month of January? Join our Winter Reading Challenge and see if you can meet your goal. If you are able to read at least twenty minutes a day in January (or one book a day for our younger readers), you will earn a certificate for a free book at our library's used book sale. Keep on reading to earn virtual raffle tickets for chances to win an Aquarium of the Pacific Family Pass and other prizes. Register online @ hbpl.beanstack.com or pick up a reading log at any HB library branch. All ages may participate.

The Friends of the Children's Library annual Authors Festival is Tuesday, January 30. They have arranged for a variety of local authors and illustrators of children books to speak at several nearby schools. Many of the authors will be returning to the Central Library from 2:30 to 5p.m. to meet with the public. Books will be for sale (and author signing) during the event. The awards ceremonies for the winners of the FOTCL's "If the Shoe Fits" writing and illustrating contest will be held during the library reception at 3:30 and 4:15 p.m. in the Tabby Theater. For a list of participating authors, visit fotcl.org.

HB Reads One Book's annual Author Visit will be held on Thursday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Theater. This is a free event and all are invited to hear author, Regina Calcaterra, speak about her inspiring memoir, Etched in Sand. Regina writes about growing up within the foster-care system and intermittent homelessness. Her story is a reminder that regardless of social status, the American Dream is still within reach for those who have the determination to succeed. For more information, please visit hbreads.org.

Contest!!

This Mr. Ruler is hidden somewhere in this publication. When you find him, email the page number to:

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



Your entry must be received by February 15, 2018. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

Congratulations to **Michelle Johnson**
November Cotest Winner!

Ocean View School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Carol Hansen

Authentic Literacy Program

Welcome back to the school year! We are all feeling rejuvenated as we ring in 2018 and share our enthusiasm for learning with our students and families. I am incredibly grateful for all of you. You are a critical part of our Ocean View family. As you may know, my goals as your Superintendent are directly linked to our District's goals, which include the achievement of all students, transparent communication and engagement with you, our families and community. I work each day to be purposeful in my actions and words, devoting careful attention to these goals. In order for Ocean View to continue on its successful path, we must have a laser-like focus on student achievement.

You may hear me, or members of our team, speak about Authentic Literacy. What is it? Authentic Literacy is an instructional priority for Ocean View, which we believe is essential to addressing student achievement. Authentic literacy is defined as an instructional practice in which teachers structure effective lessons and activities, which guide students to read, write and speak with purpose across all content areas each school day. It is the lens we use in teaching all subject areas for all students, from Transitional Kindergarten through grade 8. Students are delving deeper into each content area—English, math, science, and social studies—demonstrating their learning through reading, writing and speaking.

Our state content standards require that students be able to solve real-world problems, develop life skills, be critical thinkers, and make informed decisions. Authentic Literacy is a powerful and efficient approach used to help students reach these standards. For example, our students are learning and practicing expository writing in various content areas. They are researching and collaborating as part of project-based learning in science and social studies. While visiting classrooms, you will see students working in small groups, speaking to each other about a particular topic, using relevant language and citing evidence to communicate their understanding and opinions.

Authentic Literacy is a priority at all of our schools. Its practices and methodologies are embedded in our Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and School Site Plans. The actions steps our schools determine are based on the needs of individual students. Authentic Literacy challenges our high achieving students and helps them to write with purpose, support their claims with rich evidence, and speak with confidence. Students who may need more assistance can quickly build basic skills and academic vocabulary through Authentic Literacy. This can boost the success of our English Learner students and socio-economically disadvantaged students, and ultimately help to close the achievement gap. In Ocean View, we assess our results using multiple measures at the District, school and grade levels, which helps us revise and reinforce our work as we go.

The new year brings many opportunities for success and growth. I believe our work in Authentic Literacy on behalf of all students will propel them to new levels of achievement.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Gina Clayton-Tarvin
Clerk

Great New Achievements for 2018

*By Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Clerk
written as Outgoing Board President*

The new year brings fresh beginnings, motivations and energy to our endeavors in the Ocean View School District. For me, the new year brings me the opportunity to serve as your Board Clerk. I recently passed the Presidential gavel to the very capable hands of Trustee Jack Souders, who served as our Board Vice President for the past two years. In December, our Board voted unanimously to elect him as President. I have the utmost confidence in his leadership. Also, I congratulate Trustee John Briscoe, who will now serve as our Vice President.

We have come a long way during my three terms as Board President. First, let me say how grateful I am to have had the opportunity to provide leadership and guidance for Ocean View, particularly as our District overcame great challenges. When our District faced three school closures related to asbestos, I was voted by our Board in December 2014 to lead Ocean View on path of continued fiscal solvency and in the process of hiring a new leadership team for our District, welcoming in our new Superintendent, Dr. Carol Hansen, and our Executive Cabinet. As a team, we worked quickly to reopen those three schools by the fall of 2016, with beautifully modernized campuses, even launching one of them, Lake View, as a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) school. I cannot be more proud of these achievements.

Also in 2016, I worked to overwhelmingly pass our first school bond, Measure R! We now have \$169 million to modernize our campuses (except those three already modernized) and bring them fully into the 21st Century. I also participated in the collaborative engagement process of creating a District Facilities Master Plan, along with parents, certificated and classified employees, students, and community members. Under my leadership, our Board has started the first phase of Measure R implementation by naming the first two schools to be modernized in 2018-2019 (College View and Westmont), approving bond sales, hiring an architect and construction management firm, providing community and school forums on design plans, and establishing wonderful interim housing sites within Ocean View for students and staff during the modernization process.

I am incredibly proud of my work on behalf of the community of Oak View, Oak View Elementary and Oak View Preschool. In the fall of 2016, after nearly three years of litigation, our Board announced its approval of a settlement agreement with Rainbow Environmental Services regarding its operations. Rainbow is now funding improvements to the Rainbow Transfer Station in Huntington Beach. When these improvements are completed, all of Rainbow's operations, now Republic Services, will be conducted in fully enclosed structures, greatly reducing the noise and odor impacts on the neighboring schools. Republic is also funding a fantastic gymnasium for use by the students and families of the Oak View Schools and community.

Ocean View is a safe, nurturing learning environment for students. We are now home to smaller class sizes based upon my focus and efforts at the start of my presidential term, and we continue to excel as an outstanding academic program for all students. Thank you, Ocean View, for giving me these opportunities and for believing in my ability to see these projects through to fruition. It has been an action-packed, fulfilling three years, and I look forward to serving as your Board Clerk and as a staunch advocate for the education of your children.

Ocean View School District Board of Trustees



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Gina Clayton-Tarvin
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Happy New Year!
From School News Roll Call

Circle View *Elementary (K-5)*

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5305 • www.ovsd.org



Kristi Hickman
Principal

Walk on the Wild Side!

Circle View fifth-graders learned from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife criminal investigator about the protection of endangered animals and plants. A variety of real and preserved exotic birds, reptiles and mammals captured the students' hearts and minds. They discovered the inner workings of smuggling, protection and U.S. intervention in other countries to enforce endangered-species laws. Students were amazed that rhinoceros horns, elephant toes and songbirds are smuggled from other countries through our airports, seaports and mail.

STAR Eco Station and other rescue organizations receive the confiscated live animals. If they can be returned to the wild, they are rehabilitated and released; otherwise, they go to nonprofit rescues. Fifth-grader Jason Boren said he is "happy to know there are people who want to stop animal abuse and are teaching others about how we can help."

Want to know more about exotic-animal black-market demand? Just ask a fifth-grader from Mrs. Fisler's or Dr. Webb's class!



Circle View 5th graders learned first-hand about endangered animals and plants.

Golden View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Brett Hardy
Principal

Joining in for an "Hour of Code"

For the last three years our Golden View students have participated in the "Hour of Code" event. We joined over 200,000 educators worldwide in this activity, which is a collaborative effort to get as many students as possible in front of a computer to practice coding.

In support of Computer Science Education Week, which ran from December 4-10, our students had the opportunity to program and code through many different activities, which ranged from Star Wars to Mine Craft.

It was so wonderful to see how much our Golden View students have learned about coding over the past three years. Even our youngest learners were able to successfully navigate through the coding program. Our hope is that we have sparked an interest in a whole new field of study that will continue all the way through our students' educational careers.



College View *Elementary (K-5)*

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • www.ovsd.org



Katherine Smith
Principal

Bunny's Kids Gets Bigger and Better Every Year!

A big thank goes out to the Ocean View School District and the nine Ocean View schools, local churches, and businesses who donated to and participated in the Bunny's Kids campaign this year. Bunny's Kids is a local non-profit organization dedicated to bringing a little cheer to Orange County families in need during the holiday season. Over 60 volunteers, including community members, teachers, and students, gathered at College View Elementary School in December. This dedicated crew assembled over 900 adult hygiene bags and 700 children's gift bags. They prepared and wrapped over 500 new toys for local homeless shelters. This was truly a community effort, and many of the volunteers commented that they felt honored to be part of this amazing philanthropic experience.

Harbour View *Elementary (K-5)*

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-6602 • www.ovsd.org



Cindy Osterhout
Principal

Community-Engagement Support

This year, the Harbour View community was honored to participate in the Bunny's Kids donation effort to provide Orange County men's, women's and children's shelters with much-needed supplies and toys. Our families donated many boxes of items that were picked up by the Bunny's Kids volunteers to be sorted and bagged for delivery to the Orange County shelters. We would like to thank Kathy Smith, principal of College View Elementary School, for inviting us to participate in this very worthwhile project.

We are also honored to have been given the opportunity by the Huntington Beach Police Department to participate in the Shop with a Cop event. One student was able to join the HBPD for a special breakfast and a department-store shopping spree to purchase holiday gifts for his family. A special thank-you to Officer Bobby Frahm for reaching out to us to make this family's Christmas extra-special!

Finally, we are always honored to welcome our friends, the Singing Goodtimers—retired Huntington Beach citizens—who come to stroll our halls, singing carols. They really know how to share the holiday spirit! We wish everyone a Happy 2018!

Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Paul Kraft
Principal

Exciting Experiences

Hope View Elementary School wrapped up 2017 with many exciting events. In November, kindergarteners performed their annual Thanksgiving show for family and friends. Also in the spirit of Thanksgiving, our first-and second-graders feasted with their classmates, and many parents volunteered their time to ensure the meal was a success. Fifth-grade students were actively engaged in the school's multi-purpose room for their annual Fall Fest. Our students participated in hands-on craft activities in celebration of Thanksgiving.

Also in November, our fourth-and fifth-grade students also enjoyed a presentation by the Huntington Beach American Legion, in which veterans shared personal stories about their military experiences.

In preparation for the winter holidays, Hope View's fantastic Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) coordinated the annual December Holiday House store, which gives students a chance to purchase inexpensive gifts for their families and friends. Parent volunteers were even on hand to wrap purchased gifts.

Lake View *Elementary (K–5)*

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



Jamie Goodwyn
Principal

The Power of Project-Based Learning

At Lake View Elementary School, a focus of our Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) school includes Project-Based Learning (PBL), “a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge.” (www.bie.org)



Kindergartener Ruben is painting the rules sign to hang on the playground.

From kindergarten to fifth grade, our students are continuously focusing on essential questions. Our kindergarten classes began the year by asking, “What if everybody did that?” They learned about and explored the concept of classroom and playground rules. Throughout the learning process, our students discussed the right and wrong ways to play and made a video about how to behave. They even voted on, created, and painted signs to display on the kindergarten playground as reminders of the rules.

Lake View’s teacher designed PBL units bring real-life scenarios to the classroom, so that students were able to apply their foundational skills to exciting projects.

Marine View *Middle School (6–8)*

5682 Tilburg Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-0624 • www.ovsd.org



William Lynch
Principal

Continuing a Tradition

Marine View Middle School’s Performing Arts Department continues to grow, as we begin our 24th year of arts education. We continue to serve approximately half of our entire student body.

We believe that our Performing Arts Department’s rich cultural diversity mirrors that of our school and adds to the uniqueness of our performances. Each year, Marine View offers its students the opportunity to participate in a multitude of arts experiences at various venues.

Our instrumental music program offers students a chance to learn an instrument. Besides participating in seasonal school concerts and festivals, many members of our band also team up with other middle school band members for our spectacular Ocean View Honor Band program.

Marine View also boasts a thriving vocal music program. Between our Mixed Choir and Jazz Ensemble Show Choir, our students continue to make a name for themselves in the community by performing as “musical ambassadors” for the Ocean View School District. This is accomplished through annual performances at local resort attractions, senior centers, and OVSD board meetings.

Furthermore, we are exceedingly proud of our dance program, which includes over 200 sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade participants, all of whom chose to be in this class. This particular P.E. dance option is an important addition to our fine arts curriculum. Marine View is also home to a competitive dance team that meets both during the school day and after school.

Our students and faculty are continually working together to expand our arts program, teaching countless students the powerful impact that music and the arts can have in the world through individuals like themselves.

Mesa View *Middle School (6–8)*

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



Randy Lempert
Principal

Opening Up the World of Strings

Mesa View Middle School is now proud to offer a first-ever elective in strings for our seventh-and eighth-grade students. During the 2016–2017 school year, Mesa View’s instrumental and vocal music director, Mr. Dennis Nicolosi, offered an afterschool club that gave students the chance to learn to play a string instrument. Our students were eager to learn how to play the violin, viola, cello, and double bass. Starting with the basics, our students were taught how to pluck, bow, and strike their instruments. In no time at all, students were playing music and were able to perform at the Mesa View end of the year concert!

It was clear that student interest was at a high level and that there was strong desire to provide strings as an elective. The addition of a new music class added to Mesa View’s popular and expanding music program. Our students were already participating in either choir or band, but, as Mesa View’s principal, I am ecstatic to be able to give our students a well-rounded music experience and exposure to a variety of instruments.

The recipe for our strong music program comes from dedicated students, the passion of Mr. Nicolosi, and ongoing support from our parents and community. Additionally, we were recently awarded a music education grant from the Huntington Harbour Philharmonic Committee, which will help expand our music library and the strings elective. In the years to come, Mesa View looks forward to further developing and strengthening music opportunities for all students.

Oak View *Elementary (K–5)*

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



Dr. Rosa Guerra
Principal

Conquering a Challenge

Before the Winter Recess began, we were honored to have OVSD Board President Mr. Jack Souders and Superintendent Carol Hansen visit Oak View Elementary School. They both stopped by to watch as our students and teachers engaged in their classrooms. Board President Souders, himself a teacher, and Dr. Hansen were both delighted to see our fifth - graders engrossed in an engineering activity.

The fifth-grade engineers in Mr. VonSchonfeldt’s class were challenged to design and build the tallest and longest marble run possible. These student engineers excitedly worked in groups to strengthen and stabilize marble runs made from paper towel tubes and the cardboard found in toilet paper rolls. The engineers collaborated with each other as they continued to add on to their runs. They also held several trial runs before settling on a stable structure.

Aside from learning to collaborate as part of a team, our Oak View engineers are learning to problem solve, plan, build, test, and revise their creations. They are also learning to give and receive critical feedback. It is an exciting process to observe!



Oak View *Preschool & Pre-K*

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



Nicole Baitx-Kennedy
*Director of
Child Development
Programs*

Quality Preschool Offerings

Children and families enrolled in Oak View Preschool (OVP) are part of a high-quality preschool program that is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. All OVP teachers are certified by the California Commission for Teacher Credentialing and have backgrounds in early learning. Our curriculum comes from the California Preschool Learning Foundation, and we are licensed by the County of Orange. Most importantly, OVP provides children with a safe and healthy environment to maximize learning.

We are focused on teaching the whole child at OVP. We consider the needs of each child, both socially and emotionally.

Our families benefit from school-readiness nurses, who provide free health services and screenings for our students as well as educational programs for families and the community. We offer outstanding speech support provided by a speech pathologist. These OVP community partnerships are abundant and serve to enrich a child's educational experience.



This OVP student, Nevaeh, receives a free vision screening from the University of California at Irvine (UCI) Eye Mobile.

Star View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Carrie Haskin
Principal

Wax Museum

Star View Elementary School's fifth-graders researched their favorite heroes in order to become these people as part of the student-inspired "wax museum." Our families, students, and staff enjoyed pushing each figure's "activate" button, bringing the fifth-grader to life. Students, dressed to portray their heroes, stayed in character while sharing facts and experiences related to their key figures. Represented in this year's museum were Amelia Earhart, Helen Keller, Milton Hershey, Thomas Edison, Pocahontas, Annie Oakley, and Ben Franklin, to name just a few.

One student, Daniel, chose Willie O'Ree as his hero. Star View was honored to host Mr. O'Ree last year, when he spoke with our upper-grade students. Daniel was offered the opportunity, thanks to the Ducks Scholastic Curriculum of Recreation and Education (SCORE) program and a generous donor, to attend a Ducks hockey game in December.

Our fifth-graders will never forget the heroes they portrayed in the museum experience.



Pleasant View *Ocean View Preparatory Preschool*

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



Paul James
Principal

Itinerant Speech/Language Program

The speech and language program at Pleasant View School serves preschool children ages 3 to 5 years old. We offer two different types of programs for our students. Our itinerant speech/language program serves students from our surrounding areas that have been identified and are eligible for speech-and-language services. These students attend different general-education preschool sites but are transported daily by their parents and are provided with a variety of instructional time blocks throughout the day.

Our three speech-and-language pathologists, Anne Lang, Kim Tong and Vicki Kincaid, along with our speech-and-language pathologist assistant, Jayne Nance, provide intensive instruction in individual and group sessions each day that focus on articulation, voice disorders, language development, stuttering and social skills.

This dynamic and systematic team services over 70 students. As the principal at Pleasant View School, I am proud to have these outstanding and dedicated individuals to service our families and students.

Spring View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



Jason Blade
Principal

Opportunities to Thrive

In addition to our outstanding academic program, as evidenced by being named a Star Honor Roll School by the Educational Results Partnership Group, Spring View Middle School has further increased its efforts to educate the whole child by giving students opportunities to branch out with their interests and expand their knowledge.

This year, some of our Spring View teachers have chosen to support our students after school or at lunch so they can try new things.



Students at Spring View can take part in an afterschool cooking enrichment program.

Some of the opportunities that have resulted are a game room, Model United Nations, robotics, cooking, theater and video-production classes. As Spring View's principal, I am fortunate to be able to work alongside such a dedicated and professional group of educators who go above and beyond to ensure that Spring View Students have every opportunity to succeed and connect with their school.

Sun View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Elaine Burney
Principal

Art Explorers

Sun View Elementary School students are fortunate to continue participating in the Art Explorers program and sharing their artistic talents in different ways. Students enjoy relating art to their learning at school and being more artistically engaged in their community.

The Art Explorers approach ties in perfectly with Sun View's growth mindset. Each final product represents the student's individuality and perspective on the lesson. Our students grow more comfortable with their unique talents and learn to appreciate the differences their hard work brings to each final product.

Recently, our students studied artist Wayne Theiband and, using a medium they had not yet used, created chalk cupcake drawings.



Village View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Francesca Lignan
Principal

Choosing Kindness

Being Kind, Safe, and Responsible are staples of conduct here at Village View. This year we are focusing on kindness, and so our "Throw Kindness like Confetti" event kicked off our Anti-Bullying Week at the end of the year.



This is when our students wrote kind words and notes to demonstrate the power that kindness can draw. During this week our teachers also drew from various literature to help promote the spirit of kindness. From the novel and new movie Wonder, to heartwarming picture books like Big Al and Everyone is Different, our Village View teachers integrated literature and writing to help promote character building and the attainment of academic excellence.

As principal, I have the great honor of witnessing acts of kindness every day. These can range from our fourth-graders initiating a rule in kickball to accommodate one of our students with a prosthetic leg, a kindergartener giving a holiday sticker to a sad classmate, or our first-graders welcoming in a new student with introductions and smiles.

All of these make my heart melt. Kindness is definitely practiced daily here at Village View!

Vista View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



Scott Mooney
Principal

Thriving Arts Program Takes to the Stage

Vista View has many options for students to explore their passions, including a thriving arts program. Classes are available to students at all grades and ability levels. Our sixth grade students have the option of taking a yearlong instrumental or choral music class, or participating in exploratory classes. In these classes, they are exposed to music, performing arts, and digital content creation. In seventh and eighth grades, our students have the additional option of participating in our advanced drama course.

Recently, our music groups performed their evening holidayNight," their fall show. This class is now busy preparing for the spring musical, "Aladdin."



Advanced Drama students perform a number from "The Lion King" as part of their "Broadway Night" production.

Westmont *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Susan Broderson
Principal

Band Program Kickoff!

Excitement was in the air as Westmont fourth- and fifth-graders got their new band instruments! The giddiness and smiles couldn't be contained!

Kim Robles, our band director extraordinaire, handed out clarinets, trumpets, trombones, flutes, saxophones, bells and snare drums. Westmont was awarded grant from Buchanan Music Matters Children's Charities to launch and expand our music-education program. The grant allowed Westmont, a new Visual and Performing Arts school, to start a band program during school hours. Current research on the impact of instrumental music instruction indicates strengthening brain functions in identifying speech through noise, improving auditory working memory, and increasing phonological awareness through the enhancement of processing neural-speech sound. Besides being fun, learning music is good for the brain!

Westmont has also received a generous Huntington Harbour Philharmonic Committee grant to support music instruction. The funds will be used to buy primary musical-review books and instruments.

We're thrilled to offer such a well-rounded arts education!



Westminster School District

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

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT



Sheri Loewenstein

Supreme Spellers

The top spellers from each school site recently competed in the Westminster School District annual, district-wide Spelling Bee. Two competitions took place - one for 4th and 5th graders, and the other for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. The 4th and 5th graders were challenged with words such as “obedient,” “especially,” and “exquisite.” The 6th, 7th, and 8th graders had to tackle words such as “crustaceans,” “pterodactyl,” and “quandary.” The top three winners of the 6th, 7th and 8th grade competition will compete in the Orange County Spelling Bee in February.



4th and 5th Grade Spelling Bee Winners
1st place Tri Nguyen - Meairs Elementary School
2nd place Noah Elbettar - Schroeder Elementary School
3rd place Jayden Pham - Fryberger Elementary School



6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Spelling Bee Winners:
3rd place Bao Pham - Warner Middle School
1st place Jenny Pham - Johnson Middle School
2nd place Sophia Bickley - Stacey Middle School

Congratulations to all of our superlative spellers! Here is a list of the school site champions that proudly represented their schools:

4th & 5th Grade

Amanda Doan - Anderson, 4th; Eric Nguyen - Clegg, 4th; Kailey Huynh - DeMille, 5th; Alex Dinh - Eastwood, 4th; Hannah Strome - Finley, 5th; Jayden Pham - Fryberger, 5th; Kaitlyn Luong- Hayden, 4th; Tri Nguyen - Meairs, 5th; Trinity Nguyen - Schmitt, 5th; Noah Elbettar - Schroeder, 5th; Irelyn Trepesowsky - Sequoia, 5th; Trimy Ta - Webber, 5th; Britney Do - Willmore, 5th.

6th, 7th & 8th Grade

Jake Nguyen - Anderson, 6th; Melanie Rose -DeMille, 6th; Sophie Nguy - Eastwood, 6th; Hami Doan -Schroeder, 6th; Jason Phan - Sequoia,6th; Katie Le - Webber, 6th; Jenny Pham - Johnson, 7th; Sophia Bickley - Stacey, 8th; Bao Pham - Warner, 8th.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Penny Loomer
President

WSD Brings Home the Gold Again

I had the pleasure of attending the California School Board Association (CSBA) Education Conference and Trade Show in San Diego last month with my fellow board members and superintendent. The highlight of the conference was being presented with the prestigious Golden Bell Award for our outstanding Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion Program at DeMille Elementary School. We were recognized for being the first district in California to implement a Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion Program and we were honored for promoting multilingualism while developing fluency in English and proficiency in academic subjects.

Westminster School District strives to prepare students for college, career and life. For students to be well prepared and competitive, it is very beneficial to speak multiple languages. The Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion program was develop in response to the board’s vision as well as Local Control and Accountability Plan goals to increase language acquisition for English learners, biliteracy and college preparedness. As a K-8 district, with English learners representing 50 percent of the student population, this program does a magnificent job meeting the needs of our students, families and community.

The CSBA Golden Bell Awards promotes excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and governance practices of school boards in school districts throughout California. Now in its 38th year, the Golden Bell Award is considered one of the state’s leading educational honors, recognizing public school programs that are innovative and sustainable, make a demonstrated difference for students, and focus on meeting the needs of all students.

There are 1,000 school districts in California and only 56 Golden Bell Awards were presented. It was a privilege to be with our team when we received this esteemed award. I am so proud of our district and this groundbreaking program.

Westminster School District Board of Trustees



Penny Loomer
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Member

Are you
looking for me
for the contest
on page 13?





Kim Breckenridge
Principal

Community Outreach

H.B Anderson School is proud to partner with the 2nd Harvest Food Bank to offer community food pantries every month. Supported by many dedicated volunteers, the Anderson food pantry provides community members with fresh fruits, vegetables and nonperishable food items. Each month, hundreds of people are served. In December, we reached over 100 families and 500 individuals with fresh carrots, tangerines, oranges, onions, pasta, juice, milk and canned goods. Please join us for an upcoming food pantry. Our pantries are open at 1 PM on Thursday, January 25, February 22, March 29, April 26, May 24 and June 14.



Dr. Jason Kunczewicki
Principal

What’s Your Resolution for 2018?

Just like the adults around them, our students may be looking at the new year as an opportunity for renewal, a time to assess their lives and consider how they might want to improve them. As a school community, we can help them.

Since the topic of New Year’s resolutions is likely to come up anyway, why not make a discussion out of it? Spend some time looking at the kinds of resolutions people make. You might brainstorm a list of possible resolutions with your son or daughter, and then divide that list into categories. One of the reasons some resolutions fail is because they aren’t specific or measurable. If a person resolves to “eat healthier,” that’s hard to measure and hard to track. With a broad resolution, it’s easy to fall into a gray area and eventually drop it altogether. So teach your student how to take a vague resolution, such as “give my dog more attention,” and turn it into a specific, measurable goal, such as “spend 10 minutes each day petting and playing with my dog.”

Have them consider how well their plans are going, what factors may be getting in their way, and how the new changes are impacting their quality of life. The first time might be a week after goals are set, followed by two more check-ins spaced further apart. During these reflection times, share how your own goals are going, and talk to your children about how sometimes we end up changing our goals based on what we learn about ourselves over time.

Giving children goals for the year, whether academic or social in nature, will help them to succeed in the future and get them used to working toward and reaching their goals.

Happy New Year!



John Staggs
Principal

A Touch of Cheer

Mrs. O’Reilly, a first-grade teacher at Clegg Elementary School, works with our students every November to honor the military with “Operation Veterans Day.” This is a donation drive where students bring in items to help fill care packages to support and honor soldiers who are deployed overseas.

This year, Mrs. O’Reilly packaged 28 large boxes that were sent to Afghanistan and Kuwait. Once they make it to their destination, they will be delivered on Christmas Eve to the troops.

Inside the boxes, the recipients will find yummy sweet and salty treats and many other food items, along with personal hygiene items, games, and Christmas decorations to add a touch of home and holiday cheer. We are told that the most loved items are the handwritten letters from students thanking the soldiers for their bravery and sacrifice.

Children have the opportunity to give during this drive, and it is great to see. This helps them with their self-esteem, especially when they realize that they can make a difference in someone’s life. The students also get to practice some wonderful character traits such as caring, gratitude, patriotism, charity, selflessness, and compassion.

During this time, Clegg also erects a Veterans Wall of Honor. This is for anyone who has served or is currently serving in the military. Students are given a star, and are asked to have discussions at home about the veterans who have served in their family. The names are put on these stars and are then hung up on the wall for the whole school to admire and honor.



Shannon Villanueva
Principal

Celebrating the Season

“Go to school on Saturday? Are you crazy?”

But on one special Saturday in early December about 60 of our DeMille students did just that! Holidays Around the World was their theme, and so these TK- through sixth-grade students made holiday crafts, played Breaking the Code, and engaged in various holiday STEM activities.

“The STEM activity was my favorite,” said Anahi Palacios, a fourth-grade student. “We were making towers out of newspaper and tape.” Another STEM challenge was to make a Christmas tree using stacked cups, and then see which group could get the most pom-poms to stay on their tree.



“I liked the Breaking the Code,” said fourth-grader Emelin. “It was kind of fun, but sometimes we got confused and we had to reread the directions.” In this activity the students had to read about different celebrations from around the world. They then answered various questions in order to get the next set of cards.

“In the end, we were the first group to find Santa’s toy bag and win the game!”



Raul Olivas
Principal

Riding Safely Is an Eagle Way

On December 8, Finley Computer Science Magnet School partnered with the Westminster Police Department to hold a bicycle-safety program for our third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders. Students were invited to bring their bikes to school that day to receive free bike inspections.

The morning began with an assembly in the multipurpose room led by Sergeant Drinnin, who demonstrated all the steps of riding safely in the community. Then students reported to the outdoor area, where an obstacle course had been arranged by the police department. Each student who rode the obstacle course was given a free helmet, compliments of the Westminster School District.

Students were then invited to take part in a bike safety essay contest. The winner will be announced in January and will receive a new bicycle.



Daniel Owens
Principal

In the Holiday Spirit

Johnson Middle School prides itself on not only providing the best academic experience possible, but also giving students an education in compassion, humanity and kindness.

This past holiday season, our National Junior Honor Society supported Operation Be Kind, collecting items to be given to Marines at Camp Pendleton. Students, families, and staff members collected useful items, such as gum, candy, granola bars, protein bars, coffee, books, and magazines, to brighten the day of our dedicated heroes in the Marines.

Johnson students have also begun a school-wide recycling program. This program has connected our Special Education students with the rest of our student body as they worked together weekly to collect and process recyclables from the classrooms. Students are learning how to be responsible citizens and support the environment. They also are also learning dedication and hard work as they collect from over 50 classrooms weekly.

Operation Be Kind and our recycling program are just a couple of the educational experiences the Johnson Warriors participate in throughout the year. The dedication of the staff and the willingness of our students to give of their time and energy is amazing to see. Johnson students know that they can make a difference in someone's life. Seeing the positive impact on the lives of others had us all in the holiday spirit.



Dr. Dena Kioueses
Principal

Promoting Mindfulness

By Stacy Georgetti, 2nd-Grade Teacher

In the spring of 2017, a cohort of teachers joined the OCDE's Resilient Mindful Learners Project to gain a better understanding of how mindfulness could help both the staff and students at Fryberger School. This eight-week project, facilitated by Lucy Vezzuto, brought enlightenment and many benefits to those who participated. Piloting staff reported that the practices brought a greater calm and focus to the classroom while promoting kindness, compassion and gratitude toward oneself and toward others.

As part of daily formal practices, staff and students gained experience in being aware, recognizing stress, and using such techniques as breathing, visualization and muscle relaxation to promote balanced emotional states.

The OCDE training was so beneficial that a larger cohort—about one-third of the teaching staff—is currently training with Mindful Schools. The group of teachers just completed a six-week course exploring mindfulness fundamentals. The commitment of this group of teachers has enabled our school to be named a Mindful School. Future plans are for Fryberger School to continue to move forward with teacher and support-staff training as well as daily mindfulness participation.

The cohort's continued willingness to explore mindfulness stems from an understanding that by addressing the emotional aspects of learning, students will be better equipped to succeed. Through mindfulness, it is our goal for students and staff to have more self-awareness and self-understanding, and be more equipped to deal with stress. Through daily practice, we plan to encourage and empower each student to have a strong sense of self-worth, a positive outlook on life, and a love for healthy learning and living.



Mark Murphy
Principal

Giving Back at the Holidays

Hayden is more than just a local school. It is also a major part of the community!

One of the ways in which we support the community is with our annual Soup Drive. The Soup Drive helps support a local interval house that works with families in need. Hayden is very honored and proud of the partnership that it has built with this interval house over the years, and each year we look forward to helping them in any way we can, especially around the holiday season.



With guidance from Mr. Archer, Mr. Murdock, and Mr. Luis, our Soup Drive was another huge success. This year Hayden students helped to collect 1,521 cans of soup! At Hayden, we feel that it is extremely important to teach our students the practice of helping those who are less fortunate. The students and families of Hayden School make us all very proud to be a part of the team.

Land School

15151 Temple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us
714/894-7311 Student Services • 714/898-8389 Child Development



Beverlee Mathenia
*Executive Director,
Early Education
& Expanded
Learning*



Reagan Lopez
*Executive Director,
Student Services*

Dental Screenings for Preschoolers

Every year our School Readiness Nurses (SRNs) facilitate free dental screenings for our preschoolers. Because recent research indicates a connection between poor oral health and performance in school, the need to catch and treat dental problems early is important. The dental screenings are provided by Healthy Smiles, who send out dentists and hygienists to check teeth and provide fluoride treatments. These screenings are funded through the Children and Families Commission of Orange County, which supports early intervention efforts

for children from ages 0–5. In addition to the dental screenings, children also receive a toothbrush and toothpaste, and watch an educational presentation on tooth care.

This year over 200 children at Land School participated in the screenings and presentation. The SRNs will follow up with the families of the children who need further dental care and treatment by referring them to a local dentist.



Schmitt *Elementary (K–5)*

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264 • <http://schmitt.wsdk8.us>



Orchid Rocha
Principal

Having Fun at Saturday School

It was a beautiful sight to see so many of our students having a fun and relaxing time on a beautiful Saturday morning. We recently had 58 students join us through a rotation of enrichment activities that included physical education, writing, and arts and crafts.

Walking through the various classrooms, I noticed that many of our students appeared more relaxed and engaged in their activities. It was definitely a relaxing and enriching day for all.

During a short break, our students enjoyed a healthy snack of carrots, chocolate milk, raisins, juice, and more! In addition, all of the students in attendance recovered one absence while also having a fun morning with their friends. This program takes place a few Saturdays a year from 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. I am hoping to see more families take advantage of this enrichment opportunity in the future.



Meairs *Elementary (K–5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • <http://meairs.wsdk8.us>



Kathy Kane
Principal

Involving Our Parents!

By Mrs. Luckey, Assistant Principal

With the guidance of our community liaisons, Soyla Gutierrez and Oanh Giang, Meairs Elementary School's Parenting Partners program was a success! Twenty-nine of our parents came together for an eight-week course of learning and community building with our parent champions, Blanca Ramirez and Janeth Delgadillo, both previous participants, who now facilitate classes for Meairs families.

The graduates received certificates for their participation and red roses, symbolizing the love and beauty of our families. Each participant also shared the most important lesson he or she learned. It was a beautiful night honoring our families, and it was our biggest celebration yet, with close to 100 attendees. Everyone enjoyed delicious food and stories of accomplishment as a community. The success of this event encouraged our parent champions to pioneer another class this spring to reach even more Meairs families. Way to go, Meairs!



Parenting Partners Graduates and their families

Schroeder *Elementary (K–6)*

15151 Columbia Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7268 • <http://schroeder.wsdk8.us>



Carrie Hernandez
Principal

Holiday Boutique

Each year our awesome PTA hosts a Holiday Boutique that allows students to shop for gifts for their family members. Students were able to shop with their class and after school.

Many different types of items were for sale perfectly priced for students to purchase. (This was not a fundraiser for PTA – just a service for our students.) There were even helpers to wrap the gifts each student purchased! Some of our younger students were able to shop with their Big Buddie who helped them choose gifts! It is always exciting to see the look in the students' faces as they choose the perfect gift for each family member! Thank you Schroeder PTA for supporting these wonderful activities for our students!



Sequoia *Elementary (K–6)*

5900 Iroquois Rd., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7271 • <http://sequoia.wsdk8.us>



Michelle Watkins
Principal

Inspiring Natural Curiosity

At Sequoia Academy, we are proud to inspire children to build their natural curiosity. By teaching STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) through hands-on learning experiences during our STEAM Academy rotations, students have the opportunity to find their place to shine and display their creativity.

Students in TK-6th grade are learning to problem solve, code, design, and complete various tasks and challenges that align to our everyday curriculum. Whether they are learning how to build and program robots, implementing the engineering design process in aerodynamics, creating and conquering various challenges, or programming



drones, scholars have multiple opportunities to explore their curiosity. By teaching our students to be inspired by their curiosity, we can open a whole new world to them of exciting opportunities that will encourage them to be innovative thinkers.

Warner *Middle School (6–8)*

14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281 • <http://warner.wsdk8.us>



Amy Pham Kwon
Principal

Warner Hosts Teachers from Across the Nation

By Genise Battaglia and Warner Leadership

Warner Middle School participated in the Annual OCDE Project GLAD NTC Conference on Wednesday, October 11 by hosting a site observation with educators from around the country. Participants engaged in experiential learning to see how OCDE Project GLAD has supported language acquisition. Office of Language Acquisition staff facilitated classroom observations and the reflection session.



The ELA and 7th grade science teachers facilitated lessons on GLAD Observation Charts, Listen and Sketch paired with Found Poetry, and also Graffiti Wall. During reflection, educators commented that the GLAD strategies required students to communicate, collaborate, critically think, and show creativity. Each strategy lowered the affective filter, expected students to be active participants in their own learning, and promoted metacognition.

Stacey *Middle School*

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212 • <http://stacey.wsdk8.us>



Heidi DeBritton
Principal

Stacey was On the News!

By Student Author Mariah Escatel

Stacey Middle School offers many unique electives, including broadcast journalism. This year, journalism students were thrilled to visit Fox 11 News to watch professional journalists at work.

Students arrived at the station in Los Angeles on Thursday, November 30th. Led by Carol Fracassa, a morning news producer, the students began by visiting the writer's area and the news van, even getting to hold the news camera on their shoulders.

They then visited the control room as directors and producers created the live broadcast.

At each location the many journalists they encountered spent time answering questions and giving advice about becoming future journalists. The last and most exciting spot the students visited was the live morning segment, where they were introduced live on national news.

The class was grateful, and inspired by the experience. Avalyn Walton said, "I think that I may want to become a reporter or journalist in the future."



Webber *Elementary (K–6)*

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Kevin Whitney
Principal

Cultural Arts and Crafts

Students were eager to express their creativity during the first session of Webber Elementary School's Holiday Afterschool Arts and Crafts! In the primary-grade class, we talked about what art is and discussed different types of art. During this session, we used tempura paint, paper plates, and googly eyes to make a family of waddling penguins. Our upper-graders experimented with watercolors to create a beautiful work of art.

During the second session, primary students made a three-dimensional reindeer.



"Art helps you express your passion or feelings"
-Xiret Ordonez, 2nd grade

We talked about the differences between two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. Students noted that some examples of three-dimensional art are sculptures, origami, and even pop-up books. Students were excited to create their reindeer! It's fun to learn about the many forms of art!

Webber's vision for the remainder of the 2017–

2018 school year is to offer continuous afterschool art classes to help students explore the artists within and foster a passion for the arts. For our upcoming classes in January, students will create beautiful decorations to adorn our campus just in time for our annual Tet Celebration!



Dr. Nicole Jacobson
Principal

Epic Build Showcase

On Friday, November 3, Dr. Nicole Jacobson welcomed families and community members to Willmore Elementary School's first Epic Build Showcase to highlight the school's work in computer science. Computer-science immersion has joined the Spanish Dual-Immersion Program to further develop literacy and competency in a global society.

Our very own Willmore students took charge of the opening

presentation, speaking about the need for more people in the field of computer science. They also described how each grade level is learning how to code using a block-based program called Scratch. After the presentation, Willmore student ambassadors guided visitors to classrooms to view the progression in the coding curriculum. Visitors were able to see current projects and get a preview of the fifth-grade robotics curriculum in the Innovation Lab. To end the tour, families were invited to visit their children's classrooms to celebrate their accomplishments!



3rd grade students explaining coding projects.

Upcoming Events

By Anna Dress, Children's Services Librarian

Book Babies every Tuesday at 10:30am

Get your littlest one started early with songs, dance, play, and books!

Recommended for children 0-2 years old.

Preschool Storytime every Wednesday at 10:30am

Family Storytime every Saturday in November at 10:30am

Help encourage early literacy skills in your children—and have fun—with stories, songs, and a craft. Preschool Storytime is recommended for children 2-4 years old, and Family Storytime is for all ages.

Art Lab every Wednesday from 3:00-5:00pm

You are invited to join us for a different process art project each week!

Children of all ages are welcome (ages 4 and under require parent supervision). We'll probably get messy, so play clothes are recommended!

Tet Celebration! Saturday, February 10, 11:00am

Ring in the Year of the Dog at our annual event, featuring performances by local students, arts & crafts, games, prize drawings, and a lion dance, of course!

Teen Advisory Board

The TAB is a group of teens who meet once a month to help plan programs, as well as give valuable input about what books and magazines to order for the teen section. A fun way to have a say about what goes on at your library (and get volunteer hours)!

We have many other programs for kids and teens throughout the year. Please come to the library for a full calendar, or check online at www.ocpl.org. Library events are always free!

The library is an excellent, FREE resource for children and teens during the school year. Your library card gives you access to our books, magazines and computers—and even eBooks and databases you can access from home!

Gardening Terms Word Search Contest

Rules!

One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put FHOW in the subject line)

Your entry must be received by February 15, 2018.
From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

SHOVEL	WORM	PLANT FOOD
RAKE	SOW BUG	STAKE
HOE	FENCE	HOSE
PLANT	BED	SPRINKLER
TRANSLANT	ROW	SEEDS
POT	FERTILIZER	PRUNER
NEMATODE	SPADE	

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

Thank you www.BarkateSmiles.com
for sponsoring our contests!

A Life-Changing Story



Sofia A.

Wonder by R. J. Palacio is a life-changing story about Auggie, a boy with a facial difference. He’s had so many surgeries that he never had time to go to school. He enters fifth grade at Beecher Prep as a new kid. He goes through all types of bullying including Julian, one of the mean boys at school. Though Auggie is just an ordinary kid with an extraordinary face, but can he prove this to people at school?

I think this book teaches you a great life lesson: to accept and treat right all different kinds of people, whether they are different or not. I rate it five out of five stars because it keeps your eyes glued to the page and it was an enjoyable read. So do yourself a favor and read this book. You will be amazed by the results.



Sofia is a fifth grader who loves writing. When she isn’t submerged into a book, she enjoys doing gymnastics, acting, and singing. Her favorite kind of books are informational books, as she loves learning about new topics. She wants to become a writer or designer when she grows up, and hopes to someday publish a book, called *Painting a Path*, which she wrote for a school competition.

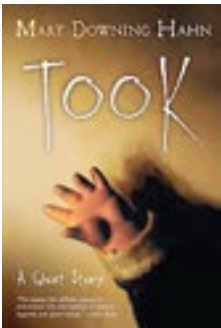
Isabella’s Book Review

A Ghost Story



Isabella A.

Took, by Mary Downing Hahn, is a ghost story about a family that moves to Woodville, West Virginia. Against Daniel and Erica’s will, they moved because of financial difficulties. Some kids treat them like they’re aliens colonizing Woodville. Kids scare them with stories about “Old Auntie” and how she takes one girl every 50 years. Last time, she took Selene Estes; Now, it will be Erica.



Erica begins talking to a doll, claiming she talks back. She hears her name whispered and sees people. One day she follows one of those people into the forest. That is when she gets “took.” Her parents become unhappier with time and blame Daniel for Erica’s disappearance.

People say “Old Auntie” took her and will keep her for 50 years. Are people right? Will Erica be found?

I rate this book 4 stars because although I loved it, I disliked the character’s attitudes.

Isabella is a 6th grader who loves to read, write, volleyball and plans on becoming an author of children’s books. She rates books 1-5 stars with 5 being the best.

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Lucy’s Book Review

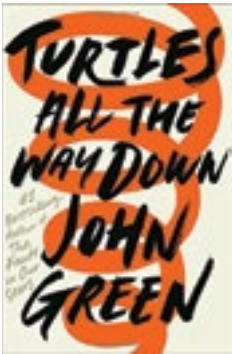
Turtles All the Way Down



Lucy Davis

Meet Aza Holmes. The sidekick, the best friend, the student. Every day, her thoughts condense and spin in what she refers to as ‘thought spirals’ - where one follows the other and then they don’t stop.

Soon, she and her best friend, Daisy, go looking for a reward: \$100,000 to anyone who can provide information about Russell Pickett, a billionaire gone missing. With that much money on the line and the possibilities it could offer, their lives become a mess of night vision cameras, Applebee’s, Star Wars fan fiction, and one very lucky tuatara.



Once again, John Green creates a story that makes you laugh, frown, and gets you to think in ways you never thought you could. I expected a lot from this book, and while it was wonderful and enjoyable, the things that I expected seemed to be its inefficiencies.

Four and a half bookworms that are very much deserved.

Lucy is a 6th grade student. When she isn’t immersed in a book, she loves musical theater, ballet, and singing. She enjoys stretching her imagination by writing short stories of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.

Keira’s Book Nook

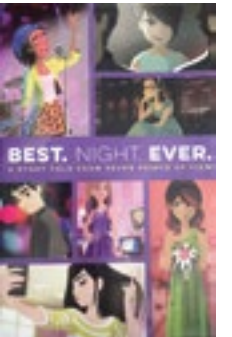
Best Night Ever or a Catastrophe?



Keira

Best. Night. Ever. By Rachele Alpine, Ronni Arno, Alison Cherry, Stephanie Faris, Jen Malone, Gail Nall and Dee Romito

This book is about school dance preparations at Lynnfield Middle School, which include a televised performance by Heart Grenade, the all-girl band recognized for winning a Battle of the Bands contest. The lead singer Carmen is stuck at a cousin’s wedding while Genevieve, the backup singer, is about to faint from stage fright. Tess, Ryan and Ellie can’t wait to attend, and another girl is determined to ruin it all. Finally Ashlyn, who is being forced to babysit two little girls, drags her charges to the dance. This could all lead up to the best night ever or a catastrophe!



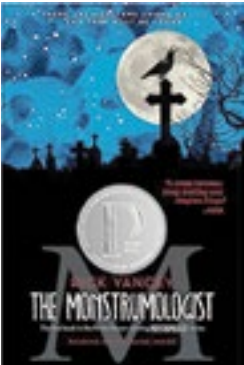
I loved this book, because the seven authors tell their points of view based on each of their “middle grade” experience. No single story teller tells the entire story. I rate this book 4 out of 5 apples, because it does get a little confusing being written from seven points of view.

Keira F. is a sixth grader. In addition to her love of books, she enjoys art, crafts, traveling and playing with her cats. She rates books from 1 to 5 apples with 5 being the highest.

Breathtaking Writing Style



The Monstumologist by Rick Yancey is undoubtedly one of the finest pieces of Gothic fiction I've ever read. Our main character Will Henry works for the local Monstumologist, Pellinore Warthrop, after the unpleasant death of his parents. As the man's 'invaluable' assistant, he follows the doctor on his searches to investigate a string of brutal murders, the work of a breed monsters called Anthropophagi, gigantic humanoid cannibals that have managed to leave their native Africa and come to the Americas. As Warthrop and Will Henry investigate, they find there's far more to the beast's arrival than meets the eye. This has to be Rick Yancey's finest work, with morbidly funny characters, a breathtaking writing style and a plot that will have you gagging. His descriptions are positively disgusting, and for anyone looking to read a well written novel on what goes bump in the night, this book is absolutely perfect. I rate this book 5 crescent moons.



Katrina is a tenth grader who loves reading books as much as writing her own stories and enjoys watching Anime. Katrina hopes to be an author one day very soon. Katrina will rate her book reviews from 1 to 5 crescent moons with 5 being the best.

Katie's Review

Three Wishes



My Unfair Godmother
Author: Janette Rallison
What if you had three wishes? What if your fairy godmother was just an average tooth fairy? What if your fairy godmother had an annoying leprechaun assistant?



Well, unfortunately, that was the case for Tansy Miller. After the news of her parents' divorce, she hated the world. When her fairy godmother arrived, she hoped that her world would change. She ended up in the story of Rumpelstiltskin, unfortunately.

In order for Tansy to return her and her family back home, she had to make a moral for her story. She tried many, but none worked. Tansy almost gave up on coming back to the 21st century.

Until she realized: love. Love was more important than wealth. Throughout her journey, Tansy Miller experienced love, stronger than she had ever felt before. With her family, and with the unbreakable bond of friendship.

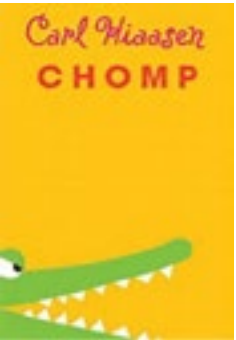
I give this book a five out of five stars. It is a story that will give you warmth as Tansy finds out what true love means.

Katie is a 8th grader that loves to read and write. Fictional books are her favorite. Besides writing and reading, she loves soccer, acting, dancing, and playing the violin. She hopes to publish her own book someday.

A Fun Read



Chomp is a fun story about a boy named Wahoo Cray and his father who is an animal wrangler. The Cray's Family backyard is a zoo full of rescued animals - boas, raccoons, turtles, monkeys, a crocodile, and an alligator. The family doesn't have much money as most of it goes to animal care, so they jump at the offer to let a reality show called Expedition Survival shoot some scenes with the domesticated giant alligator named Alice. As the crew arrives, Wahoo realizes how staged the show is, with the main star Derek, a supposedly strong rugged man actually being a foolish, clumsy, egotistical spray-tanned fake, who constantly does something dumb and causes troubles left and right. After provoking Alice the alligator Derek nearly got ripped to shreds, but thinks he looked good taking on an alligator, and demands to do the rest of the episode with wild animals instead of the domesticated ones. More troubles... I liked that the main character is a calm, likable kid who is trying to earn money to save their house and is willing to tough out the ridiculous calamities. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars.



Christina J. is an 8th grader. Christina is a hard-working student who did a community service project "Quilts for the cold" last school year. She is an avid reader, who enjoys some peace and quiet with a good book about some great adventure. Christina is a young author herself. In 5th grade she wrote a book *Melody's Stories: I Am a Spy Now*, published by Studenttreasures Publishing (PIN #3582798).

Jenna's Review

It is Owlsome!



Owl Diaries-Baxter is Missing
Author: Rebecca Elliot
Do you have a diary? Do you like writing in the diary? There is an owl named Eva. She has a diary and writes in it every day. This story is about Eva's pet bat going missing. When Eva was at school, her teacher Mrs. Featherbottom told the class about a story contest.



Whoever wins gets owl Ninja books signed by the author! Some kids in Eva's class had stories already. But Eva had no idea what to write about. Then Eva went back home. The next morning, she found that her pet bat, Baxter, was missing! Eva started a new club called Baxter Bunch to find Baxter. Her club friends started helping Eva to search for Baxter. Can Eva find Baxter after all?

I like this book because Eva talks about her daily life with flaptastic illustrations.

Jenna is a second grader. She likes reading books and her parents reading books to her. Besides reading, she also likes art, dance and soccer.



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