

## Supporting Social Emotional Health



**Superintendent Dr. Carol Hansen with Mesa View Middle School Students that helped put together Wellness Kits for students.**

*By Dr. Carol Hansen, Superintendent,  
Ocean View School District*

The Ocean View School District (OVSD) places a priority on nurturing the social emotional wellbeing of our students, but it became critically important this past year as our students experienced the myriad challenges that came with navigating a global pandemic. We evaluated the social emotional supports we had in place and augmented them to provide additional aid to our students and families

To fully address the social emotional needs of our students, we employ psychologists, counselors, and social workers. We also place Social Emotional School Teams at each site that are comprised of a school administrator along with school and district mental health staff. The teams meet regularly to assess the mental health and social emotional needs of students, and how to best support them.

We provide a variety of trainings for our staff that facilitate building inclusive school communities and positive climates by creating emotional safety, encouraging respect, teaching

empathy and providing a space where all students feel they belong. In order to gauge students' emotional ability and mental health, teachers use emotional check-ins with their students at the beginning of class.

This year, we created a [Virtual Wellness Room](#) on our website for our students and families. It is broken down into sections for elementary and middle school students and includes things like: mindfulness activities, animal yoga, calming techniques, drug free/tobacco free messages and resources, affirmation messages, anxiety workbooks, teen line, suicide prevention line and more. [The Virtual Wellness Room](#) is a great resource that can be accessed 24 hours a day.

To commemorate Mental Health Awareness Month in May, every student in OVSD received a Student Wellness Kit containing items to assist students with reducing stress. The kits contained everything from squishy stress balls to journals. The goal was to promote the practice of stress management and coping skills to reduce anxiety and improve student learning.

OVSD is committed to fostering the social emotional health of our students, as we believe it is foundational to academic achievement, lifelong health and success. If your child needs assistance, please call our Student Services office at (714) 847-2551 ext. 1360.

### Superintendents

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**Dr. Mark Johnson**

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**Dr. Cyndi Paik**

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This has certainly been a challenging year. Just when students were encouraged to spend less time on their computers it became necessary to spend more time. We all look forward to a new beginning in the Fall and a return to normalcy.

Our next issue is September 15. Have a wonderful summer. Please remember to include the library among your activities. We have included student book reviews on pages 22-24 to help with your choices. And be sure to enter the word search contest on page 23 (all ages may enter).

Congratulations Class of 2021!



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## Orange County Department of Education

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# Unprecedented Disruptions



**Dr. Al Mijares**  
Superintendent

The COVID-19 pandemic brought unprecedented disruptions to our communities, at times making it feel as if our lives were suspended indefinitely. And yet, schools in Orange County found ways to move forward.

In October, our county was credited with the largest return to school for a major metropolitan area in California. About six months later, 21 local middle and high

schools have earned the state's highest level of recognition as 2021 California Distinguished Schools, a title annually granted to campuses that demonstrate exceptional student performance and narrow achievement gaps.

Orange County was also well-represented on the annual list of the country's best high schools published by U.S. News & World Report, with Oxford Academy ranking No. 1 in California and No. 11 nationally.

Despite the challenges, our schools, students and staff continued to earn distinction through one of the most trying years in modern history. At the same time, far too many children and families struggled under the weight of the pandemic, with an untold number of students facing hurdles to remote learning.

While we're not out of the pandemic woods yet, COVID-19 transmission rates have plummeted thanks to modern science and this county's vigilance, enabling an increasing number of students to return to their classrooms five days a week. In fact, school districts are now eagerly making plans for the start of the next school year, and many will offer robust accelerated learning programs this summer.

For its part, the Orange County Department of Education, which provides direct instruction to the county's most vulnerable students and supports local districts with services necessary for their operations, will prioritize three critical areas in the 2021-22 school year:

- Accelerating student learning with a focus on in-person instruction while building on the technological innovations developed during the pandemic
- Supporting the mental and physical health and wellbeing of students, staff and families
- Promoting civic learning and engagement opportunities that equip students to contribute to healthy, just and thriving communities

Each of these objectives aligns with our department's ongoing mission, vision and values, and we believe we have a strong infrastructure in place to successfully check these boxes.

In 2016, the state selected OCDE as the lead agency in an initiative to help schools and districts implement the California Multi-Tiered System of Support framework, which aligns new and existing strategies to meet students' academic, behavioral and social-emotional needs.

MTSS may look different depending on each school's strengths, but the idea is to empower educators to intervene and resolve issues before they become barriers to learning. The MTSS framework builds a baseline level of support for all students, additional assistance for some, and targeted interventions for those with the greatest needs. And it starts with knowing the name, face and story of every student at a school.

Recognizing that depression and anxiety were on the rise even before the pandemic, OCDE's education and health experts have also been working with our local schools and districts to specifically address the complex mental needs of students. Along with creating new resources for families, our teams regularly offer no-cost trainings for educators covering trauma-informed support, substance abuse prevention, social-emotional learning, restorative practices and suicide risk assessment.

Finally, we continue to build collaborative partnerships with legal professionals and local business leaders who can help students engage civically with their local communities.

In 2019, OCDE launched the Orange County Civic Learning Partnership with the goal of equipping the next generation with the rights and responsibilities that are foundational to American democracy. Since then, educational leaders in California have further incentivized civic awareness by creating a Seal of Civic Engagement that students can earn for their diplomas, transcripts or certificates of completion.

The new seal was the focus of a virtual symposium in April that brought together nearly 75 educators, law professionals and community leaders for a meaningful discussion on how to deepen students' Constitutional knowledge and amplify civic engagement.

This past year has tested all of us in ways previously thought unimaginable, taxing our bodies as well as our minds. Yet the pandemic has also revealed our collective resiliency. As educators, we are driven by a noble purpose and a spirit that cannot be defeated by a virus. We have been called to shape this generation of young learners into the leaders of tomorrow, and we will do exactly that.

The challenges ahead are real and they are fierce. But our eyes are clear and so are our goals for the year ahead. And on that basis, there has never been a better time to be in education.



## Congratulations Class of 2021!



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By Chantel Rothenburger and Danny Luna, coordinators  
Injury Prevention Program,  
MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach



### Safety is Key to a Fun-Filled Summer!

Temperatures are rising and summer is around the corner! As COVID-19 restrictions lift and friends and family begin to gather outside, make sure to keep safety top of mind. Follow our tips to have a safe and fun summer:

**Sun Safety:** Sunburns are caused by overexposure to UV rays and can increase the risk of skin cancer.

- Seek shade. UV rays are strongest and most harmful during midday.
- Wear hats that shade the face, scalp, ears and neck.
- Apply sunscreen with at least SPF 15 and UVA and UVB (broad spectrum protection) 30 minutes before going outside and reapply as needed!

**Water Safety:** Every day, about 10 people die from unintentional drowning.

- Never leave your child in the water without adult supervision, no matter how shallow.
- We recommend using US Coast Guard-approved floatation devices.
- Enroll your child in swimming lessons.
- Install barriers, such as fencing around a swimming pool.

**Bug Safety:** Protect your family by preventing bites and diseases, like West Nile virus and Lyme disease, which can be transmitted by insects.

- Avoid areas where insects congregate, such as stagnant pools of water.
- Use insect repellents containing DEET.
  - The CDC recommendation for children older than 2-months-of-age is to use 10% to 30% DEET.
  - DEET should not be used on children younger than 2-months-old.
  - Avoid applying DEET on hands, around eyes or mouth.
  - Do not allow children under 10 years of age to apply repellent by themselves.
- When outside in the evenings, cover up with long-sleeved shirts, pants and socks



## From routine to rare, Jordan's access to care is covered.

With quality care close by, Jordan has access to a full-service children's hospital just minutes away. Whether she is due for a routine check-up or requires a pediatric specialist, we can meet Jordan's needs as she grows. With specialty care close to home, from the South Bay to Orange County, Jordan and her family never have to travel far to get the best for her.

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# Fountain Valley School District

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## SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Mark Johnson**

### Thank You!

The past year has presented a number of unique hurdles and challenges that none of us have ever before faced in our lives. And yet, the FVSD Family navigated it all, together. I want send a very special thank you to our students, teachers, classified staff, administrators, families and community for their collective efforts to provide a tremendous education this year, whether it be physically present in the classroom or virtually at home!

Each and every day, the 700 FVSD Family members brought their passion for education, and their joy for teaching and learning into our classrooms. They loved each and every one of our 6,200 students, supported one another during the difficult times, and celebrated each other's victories. They ensured our campuses were safe, and made certain our students were fed. Our staff moved furniture, set up desk shields, and kept our supplies in stock. They provided before and after school daycare, and made it possible for so many families to return to work, knowing their children were in good hands.

Above all else, our teachers, classified staff and administrators did whatever it took to keep the lights on, our kids in school and things running! Their commitment, continuous contributions, and passion and love for our students remain unparalleled, and provide one more example of what makes this district so very special!

Thank you may just be two tiny words, but this year, more than ever, they express all the gratitude and deep appreciation we feel for every FVSD Family member. Without you, none of this would be possible. From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU!

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## Better Practices

*By Steve Schultz, Member, Board of Trustees*

Our children should be doing work out of love of learning, not fear of getting bad grades. The data has been clear for years that homework does not work. The time is now to make homework optional for grades k-4, and minimal and meaningful grades 5-12.

Homework is the biggest cause of parent/child conflict and biggest cause of creating an apathy to learning in our students.

I am asking all School Boards to listen to the overwhelming data that shows homework (busywork) is more a deterrent than a development and enact a Family Values Homework Policy that makes all homework grades k-4 optional and grades 5-12 minimal and meaningful while prohibiting any homework assigned to any grade level during holiday breaks or weekends, and no exams or quizzes assigned the day after a holiday or weekend either.

A child's time at home with their family is sacred and needs to be protected. Any work assigned at home should be about creating something and students should be given multiple days to complete it. Traditional homework doesn't improve intellect, but actually turns kids off to learning and makes them care more about obtaining points than gaining wisdom. We need to build a culture where kids see their growth as more paramount than their grades. Let's get our students reading that's not attached to grading and assignments based in imagination not memorization, where all students leave school curious and inquisitive, and keep a life-long love of learning.

## FVSD Connected *(Virtual TK 5/6—8)*

[www.fvsd.us](http://www.fvsd.us)



**Erik Miller**  
*Principal*

### Congratulations, Christine Santana!

In our full-time virtual program, we are excited to announce that Christine Santana has recently been selected as our well-deserving Classified Employee of the Year. Daily, "Miss Christine" works with the students in Jill Richards' kindergarten classroom. Throughout this year, Mrs. Richards has raved about the exceptional job Miss Christine does with students!

Fortunately, we were able to surprise Miss Christine by having her family join the class on Zoom, where students also shared cards, pictures and notes they had made to honor Miss Christine as the announcement was made.

"I can highly attest to her awesomeness!" Mrs. Richards said. "Christine continues to provide excellent instruction and a loving heart for our students. She has been such a positive and eager teammate to work with while we navigate through virtual learning and instructing together."



Miss Christine has an extremely high work ethic. She takes initiative, plans extra activities on her own time, and always makes sure she understands exactly what the classroom is needing and expecting from her. Furthermore, she possesses the ability to be patient and kind yet balances it with just right amount of firmness while supporting students. She provides one-to-one remedial, small-group and whole-group instruction when needed. Time and time again, Christine Santana consistently goes above and beyond expectations!

Congratulations, Miss Christine! We are proud of you!



# Roch Courreges *Elementary (K-5)*

18313 Santa Carlotta, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4280 • [www.courreges.fvcsd.us](http://www.courreges.fvcsd.us)



**Chris Christensen**  
Principal

## Courreges Honors Two Outstanding Staff Members

Courreges is proud to honor Jaymee Shute (2021 Teacher of the Year) and Sharon Crooks (2021 Classified Employee of the Year). Mrs. Shute and Mrs. Crooks both work with kindergarten students. Their dedication and love for students is evident each and every day!



**Sharon Crooks**



**Jaymee Shute**

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

17615 Los Jardines E., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4240 • [www.cox.fvcsd.us](http://www.cox.fvcsd.us)



**Cara Robinson**  
Principal

## Lunchtime Fun and Celebrations!

At Cox Elementary, we are having fun during lunch and celebrating our wonderful staff! Now that we are back to full-time in-person instruction, we have our lunch recess back! During lunch, students can choose to play in organized kickball games, or they can choose to play with a variety of other games to keep them active and engaged during lunch recess.



We also celebrated our classified employee of the year, Ms. Jessica Gardiner. She is one of our special education aides, who works with a variety of students who need additional help in the classroom. She has done an amazing job this year, and we are so appreciative of her work!



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

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



**Erin Bains**  
Principal



**Julie Gonzales**  
Assistant Principal

## Fulton Honors Ms. Lan Doan

Fulton is proud to announce Ms. Lan Doan as our classified employee of the year. Lan goes above and beyond as an instructional aide and is an integral member of our Fulton Team. According to nominating peers, “Lan simply does not let an opportunity pass her by to get the students the support they need. Her integrity and dependability are truly unmatched.” She reinforces instruction, assists students in completing assignments, homework and projects, and monitors students’ progress.



**Julie Gonzales, Lan Doan, Erin Bains**

Lan makes a point to help teachers and staff members, regardless of their department or duty. Everything she does is done with compassion and positivity. Lan is an amazing person, outstanding coworker, and a role model to all of us. She is a lifelong learner and her love and passion for education are evident in all she does. We are fortunate to have Lan as a Falcon and appreciate all she does for us.

# Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

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



**Teri Malpass**  
Principal

## Gators Are Stronger TOGETHER!

On Monday, April 26th, the Gators returned to campus full time. Students are beyond happy to have their entire class back as they have waited all year for this day! Here is what some of the Gators had to say about being back together: Zoe Narasaki, 3rd Grader, “I like being off of the computer and seeing everyone in person.”; Sebastian Kilian, 4th Grader, “I like more recess time and being with friends.”; Noah Lieu, 3rd Grader, “The best part is being in-person so we can see everything that is going on and we don’t worry about the problems of being able to hear or see on zoom,” and Natalie Carevich, 5th Grader, “We are more productive and independent now that we are back together!”



Lunch is the Gators favorite time! Students enjoy getting to see each other smiles without a mask. “Gisler is Stronger TOGETHER!”

# Kazuo Masuda *Middle School(6-8)*

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



**Jay Adams**  
Principal



**Matt Ploski**  
Assistant Principal

## Classified Employee of the Year

Masuda is proud to honor Mrs. Patti Bauer, School Office Manager, as our Classified Employee of the Year. Mrs. Bauer’s peers all state that she is amazing at organizing our staff and activities here at Masuda! She is one on-the-ball leader, and she can multi-task like nobody’s business! She is an asset to every family and staff member with whom she interacts. Patti truly cares about our Masuda



Family and makes us all the very best that we can be.

We at Masuda are blessed by Mrs. Bauer’s positivity and work-ethic. The entire Masuda community benefits from all that she has to offer and the efforts she extends! We are proud to present her as our Classified Employee of the Year on the basis of her outstanding contributions to the lives of the children (and adults) whose lives she touches daily.

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

8787 Dolphin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4200 • [www.newland.fvds.us](http://www.newland.fvds.us)



**Christopher Mullin**  
Principal

## Newland's Artful Students

The more things change the more things change the more they stay the same. This year has been wonky even by the best critiques. In classes this year, curriculums were focused on the essentials during the short amount of time teachers had. That said, Newland has always been a school that has prided itself on exposing students to art and music. When things got tight, Newland's PTA stepped in to make sure art continued to be a focus for the students of Newland. PTA put together supplies for all students and held monthly art contests. Each month, students would paint, mold, decorate, and create around themes like

Woodland Creatures, Winter Wonderland, and Heart Strings. This month our art projects culminated with Newland students creating pinwheels to decorate our school. They look great and we want to thank Newland PTA and the parents who helped to keep art a priority.



# Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K-5)*

9800 Yorktown Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4260 • [www.oka.fvds.us](http://www.oka.fvds.us)



**Julie Ballesteros**  
Principal

## Congratulations to Barbara Lazorek!

Oka Elementary School is honored to celebrate Barbara Lazorek, our Classified Employee of the Year. Mrs. Barbara, as she is known to students and staff, has worked for FVSD at Oka Elementary for the past 21 years as an instructional support assistant. Mrs. Barbara is best described as "sunshine on a cloudy day." Each and every day, you can find Mrs. Barbara around campus sharing compliments and encouragement with all students and staff. She has the ability to lift others up with her kind words and energetic enthusiasm! Her dedication to supporting students and her genuine concern for their well-being is admirable. Mrs. Barbara's positive attitude and loving personality have made an incredible impact on the lives of countless students and staff.



**Mrs. Barbara- Oka Classified Employee of the Year**

This impact was evident when we surprised her with this honor. The entire school gathered, safely distanced, on our field with posters and personal letters especially for Mrs. Barbara. The excitement and true appreciation displayed in this moment was unforgettable.

Thank you, Mrs. Barbara, for your many years of going above and beyond to selflessly serve the students and staff of Oka!

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

9675 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4230 • [www.plavan.fvds.us](http://www.plavan.fvds.us)



**Dr. Patrick Ham**  
Principal

## Return to Full Day Instruction

Plavan Elementary School returned to full day instruction on April 26th to close out the final trimester of the 2020-2021 school year. It was a memorable day for the Fountain Valley School District as students, staff, and parents celebrated our AM and PM hybrid students coming together for a full day of in-person instruction. Students more than doubled their in-person instructional time on campus, preparing them for success in the fall. Many of our students showed immediate academic, social, and

emotional benefits as we transitioned to full day instruction. It was not an easy task to update schedules and procedures while continuing the safety guidelines already in place. A big thank you to our teachers and our classified staff for their continual flexibility and willingness to do what is best for our students. What a great way to end the school year!!!





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

9101 Brabham Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • [www.talbert.fvgsd.us](http://www.talbert.fvgsd.us)



**Jennifer Morgan**  
Principal



**Molly Kuykendall**  
Assistant Principal

## Staff Appreciation Week

All Thunderbirds were welcomed back to Talbert Middle School full time on May 3rd. Teachers were excited to have everyone back on campus and greeted everyone as they came through the gates. The Talbert cheer squad was finally able to perform for everyone. We had a lot to celebrate as friends were reunited on campus after having been apart for over a year! The 3rd also kicked off Staff Appreciation Week.

We've had homeroom competitions and watched the staff dress like tourists. Many brave staff played Egg Roulette as students cheered everyone on. Clearly, school spirit is back in action at Talbert! At lunchtime, students are having picnics on the lawn with their friends and participating in all kinds of sporting activities. Even though everyone is still wearing their masks, you can see it in their eyes and hear it in their voices that they are happy to be back on campus to finish out the 2020-2021 school year.



# Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K–5)*

17340 Santa Suzanne St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-6226 • [www.tamura.fvgsd.us](http://www.tamura.fvgsd.us)



**Kathy Davis**  
Principal

## Outdoor Science Week

What do you do when a pandemic has robbed you of the most beloved experience of your fifth-grade year? You make the best of it!

In April, Tamura students were given the opportunity to enjoy some of the activities we would normally get to do up at Outdoor Science School. The only things missing were the enjoyable snow play, delicious food and tiring hikes. For our "Covid OSS" each day, students played a game, did a craft, and completed some sort of science experiment. We studied owls and dissected owl pellets, hammered rocks and geodes to identify rock characteristics, discussed animal adaptations by examining animal skulls and skins, made bracelets, created nail and string art, and even played gaga ball! The highlight of the week was a special presentation by a reptile dealer, in which students got to pet a tortoise, a snake and a lizard. On Friday, we took a walking field trip to a park where we

performed cabin group skits and made another yarn craft.

It is with a grateful heart that we thank the PTA for their support during this week. Additionally, we truly appreciate the efforts of the teachers—Mrs. Moore, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Sakelios and Mrs. Kriz—who made this week so memorable for the students.





# Ocean View School District

17200 Pinehurst Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2551 • [www.ovsd.org](http://www.ovsd.org)

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Dr. Carol Hansen

### Supporting Social Emotional Health

Please see our article on the front page.



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OVSD Board of Trustees honors teachers for earning their GATE Academy Certification.

### Challenging Students through GATE

By Patricia Singer, President, Board of Trustees

The Ocean View School District believes that every student should be appropriately challenged, and we offer a rigorous program for identified gifted and talented students in 3rd through 8th grade. Our Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program strives to inspire students to utilize their talents and intellect to realize their full potential within an enriching academic environment. The GATE program promotes complex levels of thinking by working collaboratively, seeking innovative solutions, and challenging our students' unique, creative abilities.

We support student needs in the classroom through targeted differentiation. Differentiation is defined as the integration of depth, complexity, novelty and acceleration into the core curriculum. Differentiation occurs in the adaptation of the thinking skill, process, or product during the learning experience, and it is aimed at meeting the individual student's needs, interests, and abilities.

OVSD offers two GATE placement options. We have GATE Magnet programs where students are homogeneously grouped together and challenged with like peers at Circle View Elementary, Star View Elementary, Mesa View Middle, and Vista View Middle Schools. In addition, we have GATE cluster programs at all other schools where students are grouped within their regular classroom setting with their intellectual peers and receive appropriately differentiated activities from their regular classroom teacher.

We have amazing teachers in our GATE program and we recently recognized 23 teachers at a Board Meeting in May, for receiving their GATE Academy Certification. These teachers successfully completed 25 hours of professional learning, targeting differentiated lesson planning and instructional practice for gifted and talented students. This certification is recognized throughout Orange County and is quite an accomplishment for these teachers!

To learn more about our GATE program and testing requirements, visit [www.ovsd.org/gate](http://www.ovsd.org/gate)

## Early Learning Preschool Program

17131 Emerald Ln., Huntington Beach • 16692 Landau Ln., Huntington Beach • 8251 Heil Ave., Westminster 714/847-2551 X 1107 • [www.ovsd.org](http://www.ovsd.org)



Nicole  
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Programs

### Welcoming Ducklings!

Oak View preschool has had an interesting year due to COVID, many things have been changed or limited but we made it! We are so excited that as we end this year we will host an in person Open House! A highlight of our spring and Open House at Oak View Preschool is the hatching of a few feathered friends. Ms. Kathy's class acquired duck and chicken eggs from the Golden View Farm. Children learned the characteristics and difference of oviparous (egg laying) and viviparous (live young) animals. Ms. Kathy and her classes watched the eggs in an incubator and were able to watch them hatch. Children drew observation pictures of the chick and ducklings hatching. Children also learned how to "candle" eggs with a flashlight to see if there is a baby inside the egg. After waiting and watching, room 5 welcomed three ducklings, Dunkin', Donut, and Glaze and a very independent chick, Chicken Nugget.



Ms. Kathy and Glaze the duckling.



Room 4 reading to the new hatchings.





Jessica Haag  
Principal

Back to Lunch!

On Monday, May 3rd, elementary students in the Ocean View School District started staying for lunch + enrichment two days a week. We are so excited to be able to provide this additional instructional time on top of all students being back at school five days a week. Teachers are with half of their class for this extra enrichment time. Our Eagles are having so much fun being back at school for lunch too. We got back into routines and students are continuing to show their perseverance and flexibility. Our 4th and 5th graders earned the awesome privilege of eating lunch on the grass ‘picnic-style.’ Our upper grade students bring their own beach towels or yoga mats and enjoy their lunches spaced out in our fields. So proud that our stellar leader Eagles have been so phenomenal this year and are earning great privileges.



Our Circle View Student Council Presidents at their ‘picnic-style’ lunch



Elaine Burney  
Principal

Spring has Sprung at College View!

First and second graders at College View have been researching habitats and the importance that each ecosystem plays in the balance of our beautiful world. For Earth Day we revisited ways to protect nature. The children became especially passionate about the ocean and protecting sea birds, turtles, and sharks. They came up with eco-friendly solutions to reduce waste, especially plastic. In addition, they researched the endangered Amazon Rain Forest and learned about the many resources it provides and cleans the air we breathe. Each student enjoyed writing about the two habitats and what we can do to help. We even decided that we should plant more trees! Here is Emma, a first grader, taking the proper steps to ensure her seed will sprout! A new beginning for a new season at our beautiful new school!



Elaine Burney  
Principal

Enjoying Farm to Table at Golden View

At Golden View, we develop young adults who are well-educated, environmentally conscious, and responsible leaders. To do this, we provide our students with various opportunities to learn through hands-on, minds-on, and real-world experiences. In addition to our 2.5 acre farm and animals, our Golden View students enjoy going out to our garden each week. In our garden, each class has their own garden plot. While there, students plant, tend, and harvest various fruits and vegetables. They even grow our State Flower, the California poppy! After gathering their bounties, students participate in cooking and eating their



nutritious farm to table food from our garden. Students have enjoyed spaghetti squash with fresh tomatoes and basil, pumpkin and zucchini bread, fresh salads, soups, and salsas just to name a few! The overall garden experience is even enhanced from our composting efforts! We’re proud of the unique learning experiences we offer to all of our students at Golden View.



Dr. Joy Harris  
Principal

Well-Earned Break!

The Harbour View community is united now more than ever! With the pandemic came new and innovative ideas on how to serve our young Pelicans. While keeping some of our “old” traditions alive, like our upcoming virtual Talent Show, we took the opportunity to put together a few new firsts, with safe and socially distanced come-together events. We hosted our first-ever Harbour View Drive-in Movie, with *The Greatest Showman* gracing the big screen. And our first virtual Bingo Night was a fun and easy way to spend a Friday night. Looking ahead, with so many parent partners, our PTA is supportive and excited to celebrate what’s ahead, with a warm Teacher and Staff Appreciation week that brought many smiles to the Harbour team.



It’s been wonderful to be back in person! As we start gearing up for the summer break, the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Harbour so that we can put books in our students hands as they disconnect for the summer. Have a wonderful break, Pelicans!



# Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • [www.ovsd.org/hope](http://www.ovsd.org/hope)



**Christina Luckey**  
Principal

## Smiles Behind these Masks

It has been a memorable year for our fifth-grade students here at Hope View. It's been a busy year of schedule changes and zoom class, but through it all these fifth graders have stayed resilient. After a brief interview of five students, I have learned that through it all the best part of this year is being back on campus. Unanimously they agreed that they enjoy seeing their friends, having amazing teachers, and not having to deal with computer glitches. Going back every day has been the best according to Kirra H. And when asked what's your favorite memory here at

Hope View, Connor C. shared, "there are too many cool memories here at Hope View, it's best to narrow it down to fifth grade". He then shared, "being back on campus is like going zero to one hundred really quick – it's tiring, almost". It's all smiles behind these masks!



**Students from Mrs. Paulino's 5th grade class.**

# Marine View *Middle School (6-8)*

7721 Juliette Low Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-0624 • [www.ovsd.org/marine](http://www.ovsd.org/marine)



**Sara Schaible**  
Principal

## Marine View Annual Kindness Week

Marine View had much to celebrate the first week of May! Not only did we welcome our students back to campus five days a week, we also kicked off our 5th annual Kindness Week! Students started the week by sharing "what brings your heart happiness" and writing that on hearts, the hearts were then hung on the fence around our school. The week continued with events that included "give one, get one" and "take what you need" where students were able to take kindness quotes, sayings, and phrases.

The campus was decorated by our leadership class with positive affirmations and kindness quotes. Students were given kindness challenges each day which included doing anonymous deeds, loving the earth, sharing caring words, educating ourselves, helping out others, helping at home, and practicing self-care. The campus radiated kindness!



# Lake View *Elementary (K-5)*

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • [www.ovsd.org/lake](http://www.ovsd.org/lake)



**Jill Van Der Linden**  
Interim Principal

## Building Challenge

Collaboration is a critical component for a STEAM school such as Lake View. Our school commonly uses project-based learning strategies that allows the learner to explore a topic and create a product. This year

has been a little challenging for our students to collaborate but we have been creative. Our STEAM buddies are composed of an upper-grade student and a lower-grade student. The images depict Kindergarten students and 2nd graders working together on a building challenge. All students are engaged, combining their skills and ideas to build the tallest tower they can with the materials and constraints they have been given. As you can tell the students were successful in not only building towers but also having fun while learning how to work together on a common goal. Critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity are all developed in this activity as well as numerous others.



# Mesa View *Middle School (6-8)*

17601 Avila Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • [www.ovsd.org/mesa](http://www.ovsd.org/mesa)



**Jadyn Grunbaum**  
Principal

## Our Eagles Have Landed!

The OVSD made the move to bring all middle schools back to school five days a week on May 3. Since then, Mesa has been full of joy, excitement, and students!

We are thrilled to be wrapping up the school year with 100 percent of our students in-person on Monday through Fridays. As the largest school in the OVSD, and still required to maintain the three-feet social distancing guidelines, this presented some challenges. But our staff came together to find solutions because we knew that it was best for the children.

Since being back, we have increased social-emotional learning activities, including Wellness Kits to all students. We have also been able to have our entire musical groups together for the first time (choir, band and strings), and

many friendships have been reunited.

Every morning and nutrition period our campus is also filled with music to spread cheer. Our PE classes have integrated more sports and team activities, and we are even looking forward to an in-person, eighth-grade promotion.

This has been a challenging year, but also a rewarding one.





## Oak View *Elementary (K–5)*

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • [www.ovsd.org/oak](http://www.ovsd.org/oak)



**Jenna Landero**  
Principal

### Celebration of Learning

What. A. Year! Owls—we have been through a lot this year, and now it is time to celebrate! Time to slow down, reflect, and remember everything that we have accomplished this year!

We started off this year still at home and gearing up for a modified return to campus. All of you persevered through this and gained computer skills, executive functioning, leadership skills, time-management skills—and don't forget all of the normal stuff like reading, writing and math!

When we came back to campus, we were so happy to be back together! Even if it was only two days, some of you were able to be on campus for four days, and we gained even more skills! You learned how to pivot, multitask, and get more proficient at new technology and how to be responsible with your materials. The new year brought another opportunity to learn from home. We honed our skills of being independent learners and learned the invaluable skill of self-advocacy. Before we knew it, we were back together in person once again!



I am in awe of each of you. Your tenacity, flexibility, growth mindset and joy have made this year a total success! Each and every one of you should take a moment to reflect on this year—it has been different, but awesome just the same! Enjoy your summer!

## Spring View *Middle School (6–8)*

16662 Trudy Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-2891 • [www.ovsd.org/spring](http://www.ovsd.org/spring)



**Randy Lempert**  
Principal

### Being 'Children'

Games? Running? Laughing? Pool noodles? Bouncy balls? What is this? Middle school!?

Why, yes, it is! As COVID-19 safety guidelines and protocols loosened up, Spring View decided it was time to give our students what middle schoolers need—fun! In March, we brought in an organization named GOALS (Growth Opportunities through Athletics Learning and Service) whose sole purpose is to bring fun, interactive games on campus during nutrition time so that students could enjoy some fun and loosely organized free-time.

We pride ourselves on our social-emotional learning (SEL) lessons and the recognition that every student has the need to connect, relax, and enjoy a safe and nourishing learning environment. By incorporating the GOALS program, students have been provided a platform to enjoy noodle tag, dodgeball and basketball, and so have adult mentors that seek to support the needs of students through physical activity, competition and conversation.



Given the chance to be children again, I think we can all agree on this one: they will in-fact be children, and the smiles and laughter you experience on our campus constantly reinforce it.

## Star View *Elementary (K–5)*

8411 Worthy Ln., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • [www.ovsd.org/star](http://www.ovsd.org/star)



**Paul Kraft**  
Principal

### Shining Bright at Star View

Star View Elementary School ramped up the rigor and engagement with several student-centered projects this spring.

Our students in the GATE Magnet program designed and built bridges capable of sustaining heavy loads. Star View GATE students routinely demonstrate their creativity with amazing projects and activities! As part of the school's strong system of Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports, our students have also demonstrated positive character traits by creating Thinking Maps that display examples of honesty.

The kindergartners have been busy studying insects, and have used their information to write about what they learned. Our first-graders have also been busy learning about plants and life cycles. They recently planted a variety of seeds and are now monitoring their growth.



**GATE students built sturdy bridges**

Our second-graders learned about the different properties of matter, and have conducted experiments with these various states of matter using candy. They also participated in a virtual Author's Day with Alexis O'Neil, writer of *Recess Queen*, a story which emphasizes appropriate social responses.

The third-graders culminated a math unit on geometry by designing robots made of quadrilaterals. Science is alive in the third grade, where plants are growing and butterflies are emerging from their cocoons!

The fourth-graders created puppets made out of recycled materials to film a "Save the Earth" commercial. They also created STEM projects with electric cars after studying electrical circuits. The fifth-grade students participated in research and projects demonstrating the importance of protecting our precious planet. They also studied the environmental issues that are harming the planet, including acid rain, deforestation, and global warming.



# Village View *Elementary (K-5)*

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • [www.ovsd.org/village](http://www.ovsd.org/village)



**Francesca Ligman**  
Principal

## Outdoor Solar System

Hands-on learning is an integral part of Science at Village View!! Our fifth grade students tackled mathematical equations in order to create a model of our Solar System to scale. This project-based learning activity involved research, length conversions and collaboration. After calculating the correct proportions and measuring the distance between planets and distance from the sun, they began to chalk out the exact spots each planet would orbit around the sun. Then, in groups, the team had to draw the planet with the same scale and convert the diameter of each celestial sphere, including any moons or rings or other features, like Jupiter's eye!. The students proudly worked together to create this full-scale model under the masterful facilitation of teacher, Mrs. Atkinson.



# Westmont *Elementary (K-5)*

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • [www.ovsd.org/westmont](http://www.ovsd.org/westmont)



**Sue Broderson**  
Principal

## Showing Our Resilience

What a wild year it has been! As we reflect upon all the shifting that our students, parents, and staff members have done in one year, we should be very proud of ourselves.

We have proven to be resilient, resourceful, and adaptable. Our students will be able to share how their lives were impacted by a global pandemic, and how they adapted to all of the changes while being resourceful and resilient.

Our students are the real heroes in the schools. They have had to deal with the kind of significant stresses that we hope they never experience again in their lifetimes. They have shifted from distance learning to in-person to hybrid, and finally to full-time in-person, with much grace and patience.

When our students returned to campus full time it was a joyous celebration full of happiness and excitement. Our school staff has been incredibly resourceful and adaptable too. They have found creative ways to keep the students engaged and learning even in these trying times. They have reached out to our parents to keep the communication flowing, and they do it because they love being teachers.

Our selfless classified staff have also walked along with us throughout this journey, and have kept a positive "can do" attitude every day. They are truly the backbone of our school, and we could not have thrived this year without their extra resilience and adaptability.

Thank you, Westmont staff. We look forward to a bright and COVID-free 2021-2022 school year!

# Virtual Academy *(TK-8)*

[www.ovsd.org](http://www.ovsd.org)



## Afterschool Interest Clubs

By Lori Florgan (TK-2), Jamie Goodwyn (3-5), Isis Ortiz (6-8)

Our students asked for ways to socialize with other students, and our outstanding Virtual Academy Middle school teachers listened and created virtual clubs. One club I would like to highlight is our Art club, led by Mr. Estrada. The Art Beat Collective club had the privilege of hosting Christian

Jacobs, the director-producer and creator of the Aquabats cartoon and Yo Gabba Gabba tv show. He discussed how he created cartoons with the students, and they all bonded over their love of Japanese anime. He did all the voices for the characters for the kids, and they were super excited. He shared the secrets of just being creative and trying to find success in the process. The Art Beat Collective club is a place where students share their creative visual or musical talents. The coffee house live forum format allows students to post and talk about their work and their inspiration. Students still talk about Mr. Jacob's visit today!



# Vista View *Middle School (6-8)*

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • [www.ovsd.org/vista](http://www.ovsd.org/vista)



**Dr. Rasheedah Gates**  
Principal

## On a Positive Note!

The 2020-21 school year is ending on a such a positive note, and there are several things to highlight about the Falcon Family. It is with great pride that I share with you that the Vista View Falcons will unite five days a week through the end of the school year!

The students and staff have been so resilient. Like all our fellow students and colleagues in education, we have had students long to be back in person. To reach the day when all familiar faces were united was such a fulfilling moment. We kicked off our time together by giving each eighth-grader a yard sign to take home. Their joy is depicted in the pictures.



On a more serious note, although we are all back together, we acknowledge there was some learning loss. To best support students, Vista View added three new intervention teachers to our staff. These fantastic new staff members went into classrooms, listened to effective first instruction, and then pulled students that needed an extra layer of support to provide moments of reteaching and ensure that their grades are the best possible. The intervention teachers also facilitated small groups after

school every day to ensure that all our Falcons are ready for the next grade level academically. We are committed to the hard work of ensuring that every child on our campus succeeds and are celebrating efforts along the way.

As a Falcon Family, we are looking forward to the sunset of our current facility as we move to an interim site for a complete modernization! We will open a new modernized facility in the 2022-23 school year after a year of construction. As we build momentum for that opening, we continue to move full STEAM ahead. We have become a GATE magnet school for the 2021-22 school year and won the California Distinguished School Award in the spring of 2021. Vista Falcons truly do SOAR!



# Westminster School District

14121 Cedarwood Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7311 • [www.wsd.k12.ca.us](http://www.wsd.k12.ca.us)

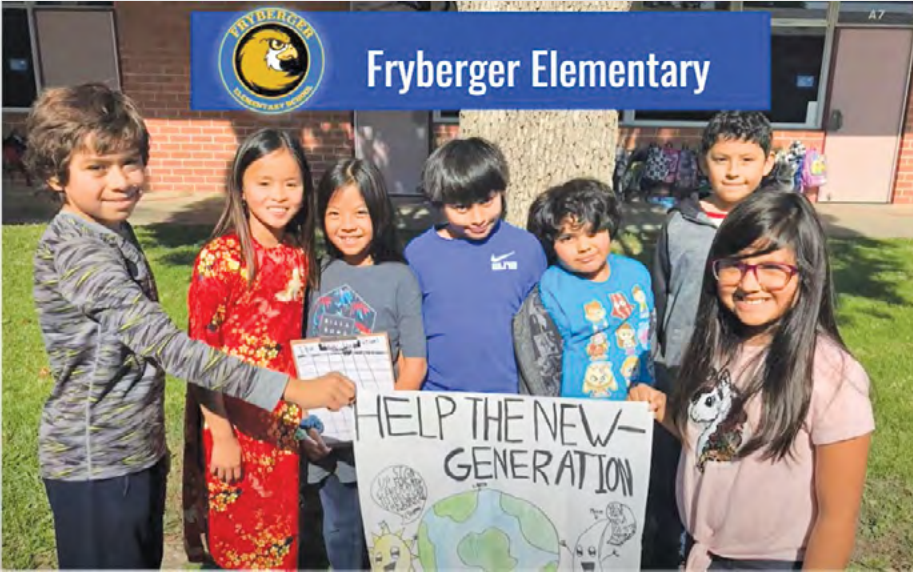
## SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Cyndi Paik

### Fryberger Elementary is a Green Ribbon School

The U.S. Department of Education has selected Fryberger as a 2021 Green Ribbon School. It's one of only 27 schools across the country chosen. The State Superintendent, Tony Thurmond, also recognized the school as one of five "Green Achievers". Fryberger received these honors for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and ensure effective sustainability education. After installing energy-efficient HVAC systems, campus-wide LED lighting, and solar arrays that produce 90% of the school's energy needs, all funded by Measure T, the school developed a customized Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) program. The program assisted students in how these improvements help combat climate change. Fryberger maintains an 80% waste-diversion rate with students cleaning and sorting biodegradable containers and maintaining a compost bin with worms to break down waste. We're proud of the efforts at Fryberger in supporting our Board's mission: "Prepare all students to be responsible, resilient, resourceful and productive world citizens in a changing and diverse society."



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### OCDE Honors Warner Middle School

By Jeremy Khalaf, President, Board of Trustees

The Orange County Department of Education has awarded Warner Middle with the 2021 PAL Program Perseverance Award. The Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL) Program is a school-based youth development program built upon a philosophy of students helping students. At Warner, the primary focus is to develop PAL youth leaders who connect with their peers to create a caring, safe, and supportive school environment. To support their counterparts, these students wrote a grant proposal with plans on how to increase mental health awareness. Next, they took the initiative to create a section in the library with various books on emotional well-being topics. Finally, they started a Mental Health Awareness Week to engage and share knowledge with fellow students. WSD is proud to support the PAL program as we teach and develop students with 21st-century skills. This emphasis on building future skill sets is consistent with our vision: "Building tomorrow's leaders today."



## Anderson Elementary (K-6)

8902 Hewitt Pl., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • [anderson.wsd.k12.us](http://anderson.wsd.k12.us)



Kim Breckenridge  
Principal

### Tile Wall 'Tapestry'

At the start of 2020, Anderson Elementary School held a Tile Wall Family Night under the leadership of teacher Denise Greene. Students, staff and families gathered to paint over 200 ceramic tiles. Each tile had a unique design that represented the individual creating it. There were tiles to celebrate longtime families that have attended

Anderson for generations. There were tiles of the Anderson Tiger, the school mascot. There were tiles to honor programs, like Special Olympics and so many more.

After all tiles were painted, they were glazed and fired. The final step was to put the tiles together in tapestry. Unveiled in May 2021, the tile wall is now a visual representation of everyone who helped create it and is a sign of school pride.



As author Anita Moorjani said, "In the tapestry of life, we're all connected. Each one of us is a gift to those around us helping each other be who we are, weaving a perfect picture together."



# Clegg School

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218 • clegg.wsd8.us



**John Staggs**  
Principal

## Exploring History

Our fourth- and fifth-grade students were able to participate in virtual “Walk Through” field trips this month. The fourth-graders participated in the Walk Through California, while the fifth-graders took part in the Walk Through The Revolution.

This is a program that we normally have within the classrooms every year, but due to social distancing, the company we use offered a virtual experience for the students that we took advantage of. The program is designed to allow students to actively participate in a lively retelling of our state or nation’s beginnings. Through the use of games, music, and storytelling, history comes alive during a presentation in which the students can also participate.

Over the years this dynamic program has become one of the most popular classroom experiences for students in the fourth and fifth grades. Students get to explore the famous events, historical figures, and relevant vocabulary of these pivotal points in America’s history. Through a variety of activities, they also “become” the famous men and women of California’s history and the American Revolution.



Re-enactments, music, and simulations are included to help students explore and understand the importance of American liberty and patriotism. We look forward to returning to an in-class Walk Through experience for our students next year.

## DeMille *Elementary (K-6)*

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224 • demille.wsd8.us



**Dr. Shannon Villanueva**  
Principal

## Ending the 2020-2021 School Year Strong-DeMille Doors Are Open!

The 2020-2021 school year has been a year like no other, and we are so excited to finish the year strong. In April we began to phase our students back to five full days of in person instruction. While we do have students who are continuing to participate in the virtual 100% online virtual, a majority of our DeMille Dolphins have returned to campus for in person instruction. It is great to have everyone back. We still have safety protocols in place, and students are enjoying seeing their friends, engaging in awesome learning activities, eating lunch on campus, playing on the playground, and just being back on campus. Thank you to the DeMille teachers, staff, parents, and students for your continued patience, support, consideration, cooperation. Because of you and all that you do we end this school year on a positive note. Have a sensational summer. We look forward to seeing you all in September.



**Socially distanced school lunch with friends**

## Eastwood *Elementary (K-6)*

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • eastwood.wsd8.us



**Jonathan Edelman**  
Principal

## Taking on the Role of Animators

At Eastwood Elementary School, the second-grade students in Mr. Nakatsu’s class are learning about the different properties of matter called volume, mass, and shape, all while gaining first-hand experience in animation by creating stop-motion videos.

Stop-motion animation is a slow process that requires a lot of patience. Students take a single picture, move an object, take another picture, move again, and then repeat the process until the images can be combined into a short film.

Using clay, Play-Doh, Legos, and construction paper as their materials, the students take hundreds of pictures that contribute to the final video product. They then record their voices to narrate the animation and add music and sound effects, followed by the editing process on WeVideo. This process allows the students to explore various digital programs and old-school



stop-motion techniques, all while giving them an unforgettable lesson on how matter can be changed by heating or cooling.

It is incredible to see how far teaching and learning has come. Mr. Nakatsu’s ability to engage his young students in the standards, while also giving them career-technical education experience, is truly a remarkable thing to see.



# Finley Computer Science Magnet School

13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764 • finley.wsdk8.us



**Pam LeMuiex**  
Principal

## Ways to Cope

The end of every school year brings celebrations and reflections, and after this year of pandemic-related challenges, it has never been more important to take time to reflect and process all that we have been through as a school community. With Mind Up, our social-emotional learning program, teachers deliver lessons that teach students how to recognize their own social-emotional needs and teach strategies to promote mindfulness and self-regulation. These practices remained at the forefront in our classrooms this year, whether virtual or in-person. Recently, our fourth- and fifth-graders spent time during their morning meeting talking about the past year.

For students, the challenges of the past year were universal. Technology issues impacted just about everyone.

“There was so much lag time on Zoom that made it hard to follow what the teacher was teaching,” one fourth-grader said. “That made things like learning math harder.”

And there were the social implications.

“I missed interacting with my friends,” a student said.

“I don’t like socializing like I did before. I feel like I got more lazy,” said another.

When asked to share what they learned about themselves, one fifth-grader found Zoom brain breaks very helpful.

“I would ride my bike around for a few minutes during our break like the teacher suggested,” the fifth-grader said. “Moving around really helped me refocus when I returned to Zoom. Now, I think I am ready for middle school and changing classes.”

Students also shared that they became more independent.

“When my computer wouldn’t work or I didn’t understand something, I figured things out on my own,” a student said. “It felt good.”

As we close this school year, we know that emphasis on social-emotional health will continue to be a priority. Knowing that students used these strategies in the face of adversity makes it even more essential.

# Fryberger Elementary (K–5)

6952 Hood Dr., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237 • fryberger.wsdk8.us



**Michelle Scheiber**  
Principal

## The Year in Review

As we look back upon this school year, it is definitely one that we will tell our families about in the years to come, one of mask-wearing, zoom, and a lot of screen time. Now our students are happy to have returned, learning from their teachers in person, collaborating with their friends, and having some normalcy added back into their lives.

Our parents are happy to drop their children off in the morning and give up their other job of being teacher! Those morning “hellos” from parents, students, and staff warm my heart, as I know that we are not only providing an education for our students but also a safe environment for them to grow and become amazing human beings.



As we move into the summer months, and continue to offer recovery and enrichment programs, let us not forget the lessons learned from the past year. Students are resilient, parents have the hardest job in the world but will move mountains for their children, and educators work tirelessly to make the impossible happen. That’s because children are our future.

# Hayden Elementary (K–5)

14782 Eden St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7261 • hayden.wsdk8.us



**Mark Murphy**  
Principal

## Successful but Challenging Year

The 2020-21 school was like no other year for the Hayden Hawks. This year was a success due to all of us working together. A special thank you to all of the Hayden families for your patience, understanding, flexibility and hard work. The online learning was a challenge for all of us but without you it would of never have worked. Our teachers did an amazing job adapting to our situation and quickly learning a new way to teach and connect with our students. Their dedication and passion has never shown more brightly at Hayden. Our classified employees also played a major role this year in keeping Hayden moving in the right direction. I cannot thank enough our office staff, para educators, translators, custodians, noontime supervisors, technology assistant, librarian, aides, counselor, and especially our health aide and nurse. They have worked especially hard this year to keep us all as safe as possible. Have a great summer Hawks!



# Johnson Middle School (6–8)

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244 • johnson.wsdk8.us



**Daniel Owens**  
Principal

## Fantastic PTSA

The PTSA at Johnson went above and beyond to make teachers and staff feel appreciated this year. They organized a grab and go luncheon and decorated with custom flowers and balloons. It is always important to have a strong PTSA in place, and Johnson is incredibly lucky to have a wonderful group of caring parents who stepped up to lead and provide Johnson stakeholders with enriching experiences at school. Our parent leaders safeguard the quality of school culture at Johnson, and they are always ready, willing, and excited to serve our exceptional learning community. Special thanks to President, Xochilt Briones and Vice President Tomasa Carmona and all the other wonderful parents who helped plan the event as well as take valuable time out of their busy schedules to support the event on that special day. Teachers and staff certainly felt appreciated, and our Johnson family appreciates them right back!





# Land School

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



**Darek Jaronczyk**  
*Executive Director,  
Student Services*

## Open House for Everyone at Land School

*By Darcy Spicer, Early Learning Specialist*

Every spring, Land School holds an Open House event to showcase all the learning children have done during the year. This year, due to COVID-19, Open House was held virtually. Teachers, parents and children met on Zoom to share the many themes, artwork and projects that were worked on in the classroom. Teachers shared photos and videos of activities that were part of the classroom experience, as well as live-streamed tours of the room. One of the benefits of the virtual Open House was that family members who normally could not attend, due to health or work reasons, were able to participate. Even working parents were able to take a short break to tune in to the classroom visits and see what their child had accomplished.



In spite of a challenging year, the children thrived and grew, which was evident in the variety of learning experiences seen during Open House!

# Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • [meairs.wsd.k8.us](http://meairs.wsd.k8.us)



**Dr. Kathy Kane**  
*Principal*

## Conflict Resolution

Conflict is a part of everyday life. The upper grade classes at Meairs Elementary School had the opportunity to participate in a series of workshops that taught the skills necessary to manage conflict in their lives. The workshop used storytelling to get the message across to the students. Miss Nguyen's fourth grade class was eager to share that they should stop, breathe, and choose when conflict arises. They enjoyed the story of a class in a Zoom meeting that was dealing with conflict. In order to get out of the meeting they had to find clues that led them to these three words. If they made mistakes along the way, they lost a letter in the word friends. If all of the letters disappeared, they were stuck in the Zoom meeting forever. Wouldn't that be torture! What a great way to learn about managing and resolving conflict in your life.



**Fourth grade students participate in conflict resolution workshop**

# Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264 • [schmitt.wsd.k8.us](http://schmitt.wsd.k8.us)



**Orchid Rocha**  
*Principal*

## Curiosity and Skill Building

Three years ago, most of our teachers were introduced to Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI). Over the course of the training, we learned about this constructivist approach to teaching math and its benefits. Instead of teaching our students algorithms, procedures and facts to memorize, our CGI trainer urged us to draw on students' natural curiosity and inquisitiveness to build deep conceptual understanding and engage in rich conversations about the mathematical concepts that serve as the foundation. I have been impressed to find how quickly students become engaged in counting, sorting and thinking about numbers.

As I walk into the kindergarten classrooms weekly and at random times, I find that these students are given this time and instruction on a regular basis. I am thrilled to see that our students are provided ample time to exercise their skills and curiosity as they explore numbers and counting.

CGI teaching strategies definitely help us build strong conceptual understanding and flexible thinking. It is my hope that as we all become more proficient in the implementation of these strategies, we will see greater success and love for math in the near future.



**Schmitt Kindergarten Mathematicians Exploring numbers, counting, sorting, and strengthening their conceptual understanding through Cognitively Guided Instruction.**



# Schroeder *Elementary (K-6)*

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



**Carrie Hernandez**  
Principal

## We are Writers at Schroeder!

Schroeder works very hard to ensure that our students have strong writing skills. The teachers have spent many extra hours attending professional development on how to teach writing in the most effective ways. Students write daily in a variety of genres using different skills they are learning in class. Over the last few years students have been incorporating technology into their writing through the use of chromebooks and google documents and slides. A few years ago we purchased outdoor bulletin boards so that teachers can showcase the skills the students in their grade level are learning. In a typical year, the bulletin boards allow students and parents to see the process of writing, strategies students use for planning, and what students are learning! We are very excited to see the growth in our students' writing each and every day!



# Stacey *Middle School*

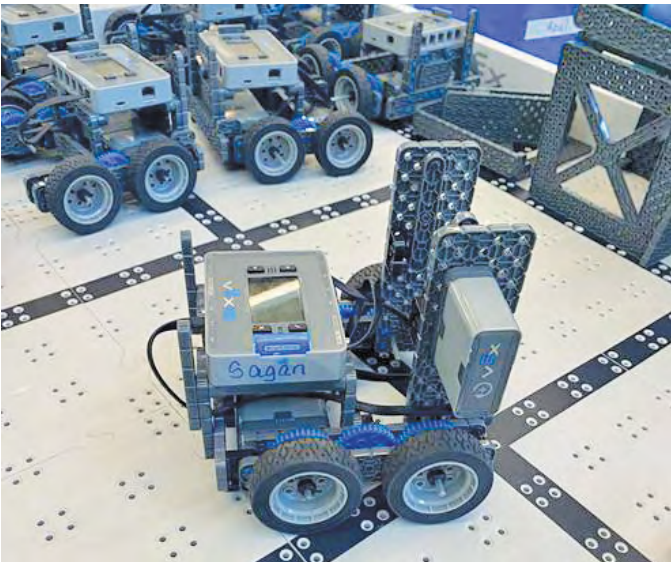
6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212 • stacey.wsdk8.us



**Heidi DeBritton**  
Principal

## Dynamic Electives Program

One thing Stacey Middle School is known for is its dynamic electives program. Stacey takes pride in offering our students a wide range of elective options such as robotics, STEM, videography, woodshop, and more. The purpose of our diverse elective program is to provide opportunities for students to explore their interests and discover new fields of study. These courses also equip our students with highly prized job skills such as leadership, collaboration, and critical thinking. In our robotics class, students build and program VEX robots. They learn standard builds while following basic directions. They design and create their own unique robots. Students program their robots to perform various motions and tasks. Students are encouraged to expand their designs and build without limitations. A highlight of the class is competing in classroom Battle Bot tournaments with their custom robots. This class provides students with career skills and experience needed to be employed in today's tech world.



# Sequoia *Academy*

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



**April Derr**  
Principal

## Project Based Learning

We are excited to celebrate the project based learning our students have done this year both virtually and in person. Our teachers strive to empower our students to creatively express themselves through their writing and during our STEAM academy with a special emphasis on the arts: visual, performing, music, and media. Our students are studying artists and completing their own works of art. They are learning songs and dances from the Disney show, Aristocats. In our Music Lab, our students are using ST Music to learn how to play the keyboard. Students at all grade levels think like scientists by doing hands-on science experiments and engineering design. In our Innovation Lab students are learning to code and robotics. Through student-led passion projects, students are challenged with engaging activities to problem solve and make real world connections that result in unique student learning experiences.





# Webber *Elementary (K–6)*

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • webber.wsdk8.us



**Robert Murdock**  
*Principal*

## Pat on the Back

This year was certainly difficult for the Webber Wolfpack. However, we were successful because everyone came together for a common cause. Our Webber families deserve a pat on the back for their flexibility with the challenging schedule changes that were imposed upon them several times during the 2020–21 school year.

Online learning became a daily challenge for our students as well as teachers because of the restrictions placed upon our school by the pandemic. Webber’s students really stepped up to the challenge and learned how to “do school” in a new way. Our teachers did an amazing job adapting to our situation and quickly learned new ways to teach and connect with our students. Their dedication and passion were a driving force at Webber.

Our classified employees shined in spite of the shadow cast by the difficult situation we all had to endure. Our office staff, para-educators, translators, custodians, campus supervisors, technology assistant, librarian, aides, counselor, and especially our health aide and nurse deserve a special thank-you. They worked straight through the most adverse conditions and continued to make Webber a great place to be.

Have a great summer, Webber Wolfpack!

# Warner *Middle School (6–8)*

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



**Tiffany Harville**  
*Principal*

## Scholarly Pursuits—of Excellence!

Warner Wildcats are continuing to live out the AVID mission, focused on acceleration and not remediation. At Warner, our students and staff remain focused on college and career readiness.

Students are doing an excellent job demonstrating the WICOR strategies while participating in a Socratic Seminar. Students read an article, cited evidence, and had a productive collaborative dialogue on the topic of “Is Gaming Good for Kids?” Our virtual AVID students engaged in a virtual Socratic Seminar, and the chat was full of well-thought-out responses, with evidence to support their beliefs. Watching our scholars challenging one another and collaboratively formulating thoughts is exciting and inspiring, especially during this extremely challenging year.

Our school community has truly done an incredible job living out our theme for this year: positivity and flexibility. As we begin to plan for the upcoming year, our students are more prepared than they have ever been to persevere through whatever challenges may lie ahead. I am so proud of all my Wildcat scholars! We are preparing for a restful summer and will be ready to start the next chapter of our Warner Middle School journey



# Willmore *Elementary (K–5)*

7122 Maple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-3765 • willmore.wsdk8.us



**Eva Matthews**  
*Principal*

## Ballet Folklórico

Willmore Elementary had the magical opportunity to learn a traditional Mexican dance. Our amazing family Pedraza-Mejia shared their passion for Ballet Folklórico, or Mexican folkloric dance by treating us to a dance lesson. We continue our love of learning about different cultures and traditions through the arts and as a reflection in our wear. Willmore will continue to find creative ways to engage all of our students in cultural awareness and create opportunities to share our love for our community.



Willmore celebrated Teacher and Staff Appreciation week the first week in May. What an amazing out pour of gratitude and support for our staff. Our Willmore PTA and families showered our staff with many generous gestures of appreciation.





Daniel’s Review

Cute Friends’ Adventure



Daniel H.

Title: *Sydney & Taylor Explore the Whole Wide World*  
Author: Jacqueline Davies

Do you ever feel like you want to go on a big adventure? The best friends in this book do and they go on one together.

Sydney, a skunk, and his best friend Taylor, a hedgehog, live together in a cozy burrow. One day, they decide to leave their home for the first time ever to go on an expedition to places unknown in the outside world. Along the way, they discover new things and meet different animals. They also run into some problems, but they help each other out and make things better.



This book teaches you that friends help each other and no matter how much fun you have in new places, home is always the best place to be!

Daniel is in first grade and he likes to spend time with his family playing board games, reading, and playing sports like tennis, soccer, and basketball.

Kailani’s Review

Favorite Tree House Adventure



Kailani T.

*Monday with a Mad Genius* by Mary Pope Osborne is the 10th book in the series Magic Tree House. It is about two siblings of Frog Creek, Pennsylvania (Jack and Annie) who go back in time by the magic tree house. Their mission is to help a magician named Merlin of Camelot find the secret of happiness. During the journey, the siblings travel to Florence, Italy and meet Leonardo DaVinci in the 1500s. Jack and Annie watch DaVinci fly the Great Bird and finish the Mona Lisa painting.



This was a fun book to read. The story is full of excitement and interesting information. I learned about Mona Lisa and Leonardo DaVinci. Reading that DaVinci was also an inventor, architect, stage and costume designer, horseman, chef, geologist, and botanist was fascinating. My favorite parts are when Jack and Annie figured out the secret of happiness and that DaVinci was also a horseman. I highly recommend this book for anyone who loves adventures.

Kailani is a 3rd grader who loves to read. When not playing with her baby brother, Kailani likes to color and draw. She started taking Spanish lessons while sheltering-in-place. Horseback riding and skate boarding are the new activities she enjoys. Hope everyone stays well and healthy.

David’s Review

Save Little Claws!



David H.

Title: *The Animal Rescue Agency #1: Case File: Little Claws*  
Author: Eliot Schrefer

If you love animals like I do, you should definitely read this book.

Esquire Fox and Mr. Pepper the rooster run the Animal Rescue Agency, which rescues animals in trouble all around the world. Little Claws, a cute polar bear cub, is stranded on an iceberg that is floating away from his mom, Big Claws. This dangerous situation is caused by a man in a white fur hat. Big Claws contacts the Animal Rescue Agency for help. Join Esquire Fox and Mr. Pepper on their daring adventure to discover WHO the man in the white hat is, WHAT he wants to do, and find out if Little Claws gets reunited with his mom.

You’ll love reading this exciting book!



David is in third grade and he loves to read and play piano. He likes math and outdoor activities such as rock climbing, tennis, and basketball.

Jenna’s Review

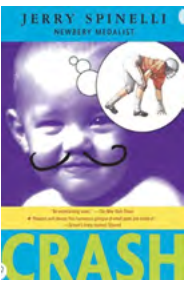
Friendship



Jenna C.

Book Title: *Crash*  
Author: Jerry Spinelli

Have you been desperate to do or get something? Well in this case a boy named John who prefers being called Crash bullies a neighbor named Penn. Crash bullies Penn so he won’t lose his popularity. Crash has a friend named Mike who also likes making fun of Penn. Suddenly, this all changes when Crash’s “crush” Jane comes up to him and confronts him about a letter that was sent to Penn from someone unknown saying that they have his beloved pet turtle. Jane thinks of Crash as a bully and bad person, so of course she thinks he sent the letter. After Crash denies any of these comments he goes straight to Mike’s house and finds Penn’s pet turtle. Crash returns the turtle to Penn and wants to be friends with him. Do you think Penn will want to be friends with him after everything Crash has done to him for so many years? Read to find out!



Jenna is a 5th grader. She enjoys playing soccer and painting. She likes to read fiction novels. Someday she wants to publish a book.





"Reading Colors Your World" Summer Reading Program begins on June 19!

By Melissa Ronning, Senior Youth Services Librarian

Readers of all ages can participate in the Summer Reading Challenge to log their reading, earn prizes and badges, and enjoy reading books and eBooks throughout the summer. Besides reading and earning prizes, people of all ages can also enjoy a variety of special activities - most from the comfort of home. We'll be hosting Creativity Corner art projects for families, virtual storytimes, Cooking Live! demonstrations, virtual book clubs, art classes, author talks, and more! Families can also register to reserve preschool, elementary, and teen activity kits for pickup from the Central Library throughout the summer, available while supplies last.

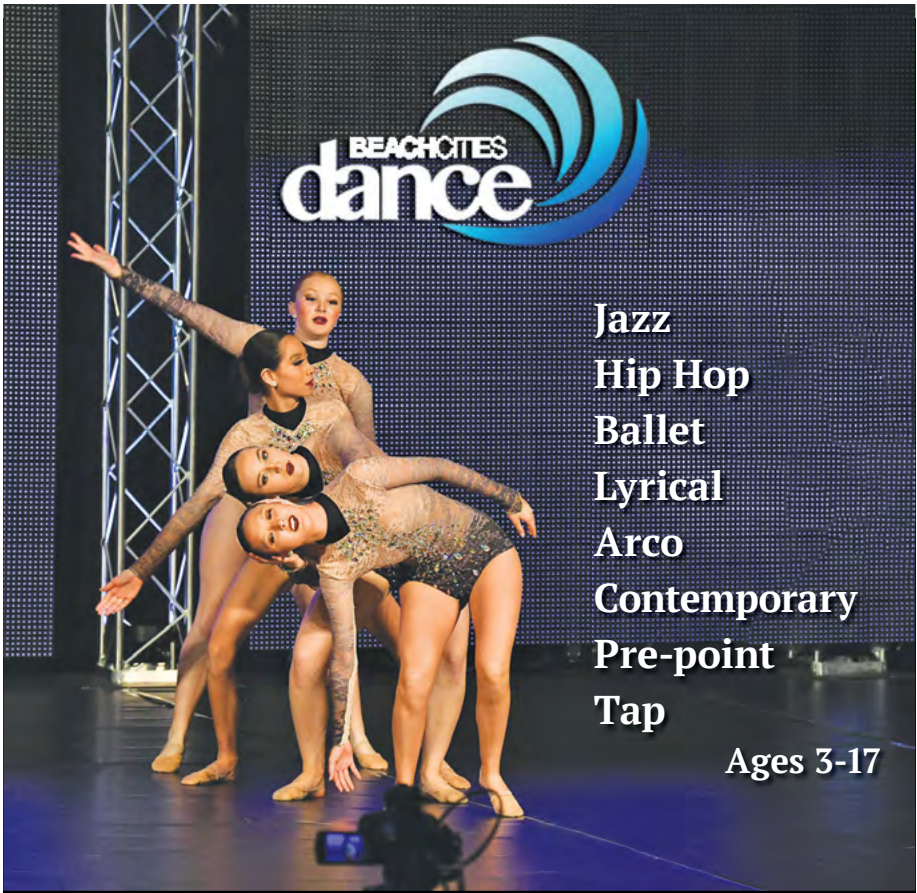
This summer, HBPL challenges people of all ages to read 20 minutes every day. Register for the challenge online to receive a free summer reading tote and button, then track your reading from June 19 through July 31 using our online tracker or a paper reading log (available online or at any HBPL branch). Register online at [www.hbpl.beanstack.com](http://www.hbpl.beanstack.com).

Library Card Design Contest

Designs accepted June 1 - June 30, 2021.

Submit your design in-person at the Central Library.

Calling amateur artists of all ages: HBPL is looking for new library card designs! Artists may use any medium or style they would like to create an original piece of artwork to be featured on upcoming versions of our library cards in the theme of "Reading Colors Your World." We encourage you to explore the theme as it relates to humanity, nature, culture, and/or science, as well as how libraries and reading can expand your world through kindness, growth, and community. One winner from each age category will have their design printed on a limited edition card for National Library Card Sign-Up Month in September.



Jazz  
Hip Hop  
Ballet  
Lyrical  
Arco  
Contemporary  
Pre-point  
Tap

Ages 3-17

**ENROLL TODAY!**

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18838 Brookhurst St., Fountain Valley

# Word Search Contest—Words Associated with School

**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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put FOW in the subject line)

Entries must be received by July 15, 2021

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

Thank you Barkate Orthodontics for sponsoring our contests.

[www.BarkateSmiles](http://www.BarkateSmiles)

Achievers	Focused	Principal
Character	Homework	Recess
Classrooms	Instructors	Reunion
Curiosity	Integrity	Student
Discipline	Learning	Success
Educators	Mentors	Technology
Encourage	Nutrition	Thinkers
Excellence	Parents	Workers

**Congratulations to Gail Becker**

**Winner of our May Contest!**

S	R	E	V	E	I	H	C	A	F	T	L	L	F	D
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S	O	I	Y	X	X	O	K	R	O	W	E	M	O	H
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COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF:  
FOUNTAIN VALLEY, OCEAN VIEW AND WESTMINSTER

JUNE 202123



Feeling “Inspired”



**Katie C.** Book Title: *Inspired*  
Author: Susan Schaefer Bernado  
Imagine you’ve moved to a new home. You open a package, a seemingly harmless mirror, but somehow it opens up a whole new world. In a Harry Potter style escape, Rocket grows out of her awkward self and finds new skills in the new world of Mount Olympus that she has found. Her nemesis turns out to be haunted, and she realizes that sometimes the only way to resolve conflict is to recognize that everyone could use a helping hand, even if they seem awful at first glance. She finds that she can connect to people, form relationships, and truly understand those around her. In short, she’s been “inspired.” To help not only others but to find herself, and to live to the potential that she has. I recommend this book to those who love Greek mythology references and to anyone who wants to feel like they have escaped to an alternate reality, one that we can all make our own.

Katie is a junior in high school. She likes reading and writing. She loves to read to younger kids. She provides book reviews to kids who want to find more good books.

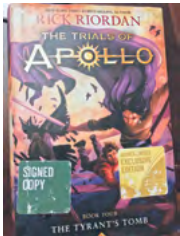


The Tomb of a Dead Emperor



**Sean** *The Tyrant’s Tomb* is the fourth book in Rick Riordan’s series, Trials of Apollo. Apollo (aka Lester Papadopoulos) was banished from Mount Olympus (home of the Greek Gods) by the almighty Zeus. During his exile, he experienced many adventures and losses. Meg, his 12 year-old gifted assistant, travels with him to a Roman demi-god camp, where they are greeted by lots of old war friends. Apollo has a vision and tells the camp to prepare for a gruesome war caused by two evil Roman emperors, both with whom Apollo had treacherously fought recently. He then needs to go on a dangerous journey investigating a Roman ghost tomb for crucial information. The vivid details of the battle preparation and fighting scenes are riveting. Overall, this book is a solid 5/5 and I hope you eventually read this amazing series!

Sean is a 6th grader who enjoys playing basketball and volleyball. He loves to teach his dog, Chewie, tricks and taking him on walks. His favorite subjects at school are math and PE. The best thing about quarantine was spending time with his family in nature.

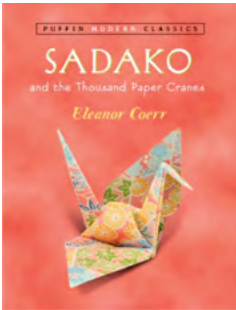


Sadako’s Wish



**Taegyong K.** Title: *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*  
Author: Eleanor Coerr  
Have you ever heard about the myth of one thousand paper cranes? This story is based on the real story of Sadako Sasaki and the thousand paper cranes. Sadako loved running. However, she got the atomic disease, and she couldn’t run anymore. One day, her friend, Chizuko, showed her how to make a paper crane and said, “If a sick person folds one thousand paper cranes, the gods will grant her wish and make her healthy again.” She gave Sadako the paper crane that she folded as the first one. Then, she decided to make one thousand paper cranes to make her well. Did she fold one thousand paper cranes? Did her wish come true? This book is not only about Sadako’s story, but also about the horrors and tragedy of war. This is a touching and inspirational story. If you are interested in her story, I recommend this book.

Taegyong K. is a 5th grader. She loves reading books and writing her own stories. Also, she likes to play video games, board games, and badminton. She would like to be a person who is kind and helps others.



Poems, Poems, Poems!



**Tyson** “Everything On It” by Shel Silverstein isn’t really a book, but is a collection of wacky poems. He is a creative writer with a very strange sense of humor. Some of his poems are funny, most are strange, and almost all are unrealistic! Look at this poem called “Housebroken.”  
  
The puppy’s housebroken at last?  
Lord only knows when he was needin’ it.  
You’ve trained him to go  
On the newspaper? Fine.  
But please-not while I’m readin’ it.

See what I mean? The puppy is finally house trained, but Shel Silverstein twists the poem by questioning why the puppy is doing his business on the newspaper while the person was reading it! Shel Silverstein thinks out of the box and brings unexpected ideas to his poems. Not all books need to have a storyline. A book of poems can be just as enjoyable! Read this one and you’ll like it too!



Tyson is a 7th grader who enjoys playing basketball, skateboarding, and video games. His favorite subjects at school are math and PE. The best thing about quarantine was having extra time to play with his dog and meeting new neighborhood friends!.

Mysterious Secrets



**Yoona C.** Title: *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*  
Author: J. K. Rowling  
Harry Potter lives with his uncle and aunt and their child still for the summer. He meets Dobby when he was in his room pretending to not exist. Dobby says not to go to Hogwarts, but Harry refuses. Then, Dobby causes trouble, and his Uncle blocks the window that was in his room. But, Ron and his brothers come to take him to their home. After a few



days, it’s time to go to Hogwarts. There is a problem at Hogwarts. The chamber of secrets has been opened, but no one knows who. Then, Ron and Harry overhear Ms. McGonagall saying that there was a sign saying “Her skeleton will lie in the chamber forever.” Ron and Harry plan to go to the chamber of secrets. Do you want to know what will happen next? Then, explore this book!  
  
Yoona is a 3rd grader. She likes to read books and create stories. She also enjoys singing and listening to music.