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

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Westminster School District Stand-Out Staff Members

By Dr. Gary Rutherford, Interim Superintendent

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and District, I would like to salute some outstanding staff members that have recently been recognized as Classified School Employees of the Year and Administrators of the Year. These employees go above and beyond the call of duty in performing their jobs and they demonstrate a dedication and commitment to children that is second-to-none. Our honorees were nominated by their peers based on their work performance, school community involvement, leadership and commitment. Here is how their supervisors describe them:

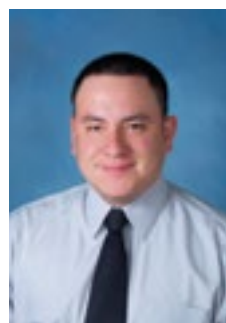
Classified School Employees of the Year



Patty Arnold



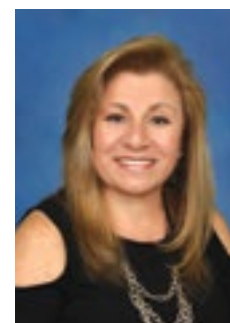
Sheree Newman



Edgar Valladares



Debi Watson



Maria Yaghoubi

Patty Arnold, Johnson Middle School

Para-Educator & Instructional Assistance Category

Patty Arnold exemplifies what it means to be a Johnson Warrior. She is passionate about her work as a Para Educator for students with special needs and our students know they have an educator who is dedicated to their success. She does whatever is necessary to ensure that the kids in her class are smiling. She does this in a variety of ways including singing and dancing with them, going on amazing educational field trips with them, scheduling special guests and most importantly she keeps them smiling by just being a positive force in their lives. It is truly and honor watching Mrs. Arnold with her students each and every day.

Sheree Newman, District Office

Support Services & Security Category

Sheree Newman exemplifies the term "going above and beyond" as a professional. She is the "stealth missile" who quietly works day and night behind the scenes to help families with whatever they need. It is easy to become detached and emotionally fatigued when working with people in crisis, but Sheree is anything but detached. She remains focused on the primary goal, which is making sure kids have every opportunity to get an education. Over the past five years, Sheree has dealt with her own on-going battle with cancer and yet she perseveres. She is a model for our families who are struggling but trying to do their best to continue to move forward. She helps others find their strengths and then build on them. Sheree Newman is our everyday hero that gives our students the resources they need to be at school every day and to have the opportunity for a successful future that each child deserves.

Edgar Valladares, Anderson Elementary School

Maintenance, Operations & Transportation Category

Edgar Valladares is a dedicated, responsive team member who ensures that Anderson is a warm, welcoming, clean and safe home away from home. Edgar works hard to manage the daily school operations, such as school opening, lunch service, and office cleaning. He also plans for rotating projects, such as carpet cleaning and summer cleaning. He is committed to having a school site that looks its best at all times. Edgar quickly responds to any request that is made and he is flexible with the changing needs of an elementary school.

He prioritizes well, successfully troubleshoots and resolves problems as they arise. Edgar builds positive relationships with students and staff. He is a great role model for students and we frequently have students begging to work with him. Edgar is friendly and has an easy manner that is perfect for a busy school with lots of different personalities.

Debi Watson, District Office

Office and Technical Support Category

Without question, Debi is truly dedicated and hardworking. Every day her work has a positive impact on our students, teachers and school administrators. As the District Attendance Technician, Debi works diligently to ensure that our students have a substitute teacher in their own classroom learning environment when their teacher is absent. Debi is a master at coordinating, scheduling and assigning substitute staff, which is no easy feat. While Debi's technical expertise is exceptional, it is her positive "can do" spirit and helpful personality that makes her a work place leader and role model. It is often said that classified employees are the silent heroes working behind the scenes to ensure that our schools operate to the most efficient capacity. Debi is that employee who works tirelessly every day to support the school and educational programs of our school district.

Maria Yaghoubi, Johnson Middle School

Child Nutrition Services Category

Maria has an incredible work ethic and goes above and beyond to ensure her kitchen maintains the highest safety & cleanliness standards. Maria is meticulous in her attention to detail and the presentation of her school site and food quality, and food safety inspections reflect her high standards. Maria is a natural leader. She looks for ways to improve the business, to communicate better and work more efficiently as a team. She takes ownership and is personally invested in the students and the staff. Maria stays late or comes in early if it is necessary to make sure the operation flows smoothly. Maria knows her students by name and she knows the foods they like. She listens to her students (customers) and her suggestions have brought about changes to the menu. Maria is always looking for ways to improve and she brings feedback to management that helps make our department better.

See WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE ADMINISTRATORS OF THE YEAR • Page 18

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Not having a paycheck during the summer had been cataclysmic. Having a Summer Saver helps me save throughout the year so I don't have to borrow for the summer."

ARRONDA H.

Intermediate School Teacher
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Covering the:
**FOUNTAIN VALLEY/ OCEAN VIEW
HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY
WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher

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This is our 14th year publishing the excellence from the FVSD, HBCSD, OVSD and WSD. A lot has changed over the years with the one constant being the focus on academic success.

Technology continues to astound and challenge educators and parents. Along with technology comes responsibility. Parents must remember they are role models for their children and never text and drive.

Our next issue is May 2.

Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center

17100 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/966-7200 • www.fountainvalleyhospital.com

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

Essentials of Car Seat Safety

Car seat safety may seem overwhelming with so many makes, models and options available but, the type of safety seat your child needs is primarily determined by your child's age and size.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and California Law, infants need to ride in rear-facing car seats until they are two years old unless they weigh 40 pounds or more or are 40" tall or more. Children should ride in forward-facing car seats for as long as possible. For convertible seats that have been turned from rear to forward-facing, harness shoulder straps should be moved to slots that are at or below the child's shoulders. Children should only switch to a booster seat that relies on the car's seatbelts when they exceed the height and weight limit for the car seat. California Law states that children under the age of eight must be secured in a car seat or booster seat in the back seat. Booster seats should not be used with only a lap belt. Children should stay in booster seats until they reach 4' 9" (generally between eight and 12 years old) and adult seat belts fit correctly. The AAP recommends that all children younger than 13 should continue to ride in the back seat.

If you're not confident of how to properly secure your child in a safety seat, contact your local CHP Area Office, and ask to speak with a child passenger safety technician or visit www.chp.ca.gov.

Step Up for a Good Cause

At Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center we understand the importance of helping people live happier, healthier lives. That is why we invite you to join us as we sponsor and participate in the 2018 Orange County Heart & Stroke Walk.

Saturday, March 24
Angel Stadium of Anaheim
Walk Begins 9:00 am

Join us and register at
www.heart.org/goto/FVRH.

American Heart Association
life is why™

Heart Walk.

Fountain Valley Regional
HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER



Gary Feldman, M.D.,
medical director,
Stramski Children's
Developmental
Center,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

Working Toward Quality Sleep for Children with Special Needs

Getting quality sleep is a challenge for many families, especially for families who have children with special needs. Sleep deprivation impacts mood and behavior for children with special needs, ultimately setting kids, and families, up for a rough day.

Establish Healthy Sleep Hygiene:

- Avoid using electronics close to bedtime as that can overstimulate kids and make falling asleep a challenge.
- Practice relaxing activities, like reading and listening to quiet music before bed to help cue the body that sleep is coming.
- Adopt a pre-sleep routine that includes washing their face and hands, and brushing their teeth to help kids know that it's time for bed.
- Keep bedtime routines consistent. All kids thrive on routines. Predictable habits can ease kids into sleep.
- Keep their bedroom cool, quiet and dark. Many children with special needs are hypersensitive to light and sound. Adjust their environment to their unique sensory sensitivities to keep them comfortable and encourage sleep.

If you or your child's doctor has concerns about sleep deprivation, your child may benefit from a polysomnogram, known as a sleep study, which is the most accurate test used to diagnose a sleep disorder.

The Stramski Children's Development Center at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach provides comprehensive care for children — from birth to age 21 — for behavioral and developmental conditions, including behavioral sleep conditions. Miller Children's & Women's offers pediatric sleep specialists, sleep studies and a family centered environment where our care team partners with families to identify and manage sleep disorders.



Dr. Andrew Harner
Orthodontist

Keeping Your Smile Attractive, Healthy, and Selfie Worthy

Who doesn't want their smile to look its best? Various studies consistently rank smiles as what is noticed first when meeting someone for the first time. So if you want to keep your smile looking its absolute best you need to make sure you are consistent with your oral hygiene.

Brushing and flossing at least twice a day will ensure that your teeth and gums are healthy (and attractive). Without regular brushing and flossing, bacterial plaque will build-up on your teeth and your gums will become infected. Initially during this process, the gum tissue becomes red and inflamed (this is known as gingivitis). With continued neglect, gingivitis becomes periodontitis - where the gum infection starts to destroy the bone that is holding the teeth in place. As the bone is destroyed over time, the gums recede and the teeth become loose and eventually fall out! Unfortunately, this process is fairly painless and most patients who have poor oral hygiene and irregular dental visits have no idea this process is occurring. It is only when they start to notice their teeth are loose and/or their teeth look especially long since the gum tissue has receded so much that they discover they have periodontal disease. In addition to periodontal disease, bacterial plaque can also cause cavities in teeth. Cavities are essentially holes within the teeth. Cavity formation typically occurs when the sugars we eat are converted to acids by the bacteria. It is the acid that essentially dissolves and destroys tooth structure, thus creating a cavity. So in the long run, do yourself, your smile, and your selfies a huge favor and brush and floss twice daily!

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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City of Fountain Valley Office of the Mayor

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Dog's Year!

The Lunar New Year, known in Vietnam and Vietnamese-American as Tet, is a celebration of spring and the upcoming year. With a history that dates back thousands of years, the Tet Festival was originally celebrated by Vietnamese farmers to thank the gods for the arrival of spring. Nowadays it's a time for paying respect to our ancestors and welcoming the New Year with family members. It is also based on the Chinese lunar calendar and according to the Chinese 12-year animal zodiac cycle, the Chinese year beginning in 2018 is the year of the "Dog".

Kids love Tet as it is a custom for the elders to give children a small sum of money to enjoy in a "red envelope".

This year's Tet Festival was held at Mile Square Park. The event was free and open to the public and sponsored by OC Parks, Supervisor Andrew Do and the CEAVA Foundation.

City of Huntington Beach Office of the Mayor

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



Greetings All!

Hope the New Year has been off to a great start.

Congratulations to the more than 15,000 runners and walkers in the recent 22nd Annual Surf City Marathon. It's always so great to see thousands of folks from all 50 states and more than a dozen countries come out on Super Bowl Sunday to bring high energy to HB!

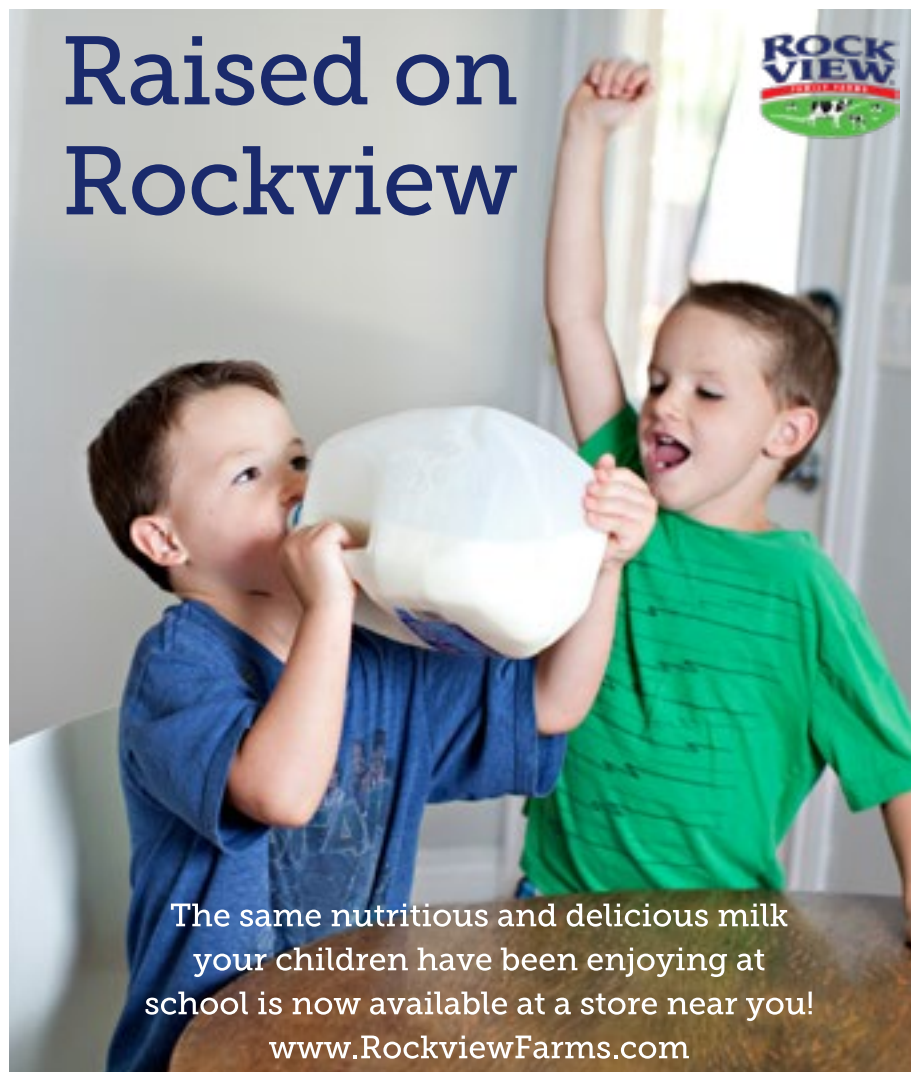
We are thrilled for the City's Sister City Association to host the 5th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival at our beautiful Central Park on Sunday, March 18 from 10:30 am to 5:30pm. Dignitaries from our Sister City, Anjo, Japan, will attend the free event that features Japanese dance, music, food, cultural exhibits, arts, crafts and games.

As your Mayor, I have been busy attending events and listening to our HB constituents. I welcome you to come attend an upcoming "Coffee with the Mayor" as I love to hear from you. The next few coffee dates are: Sat., March 17 from 9am to 11am at Seacliff Starbucks, April 14 from 9am to 11am at AOSA Coffee, and May 12 from 9am to 11am at Monkey House Café. All are welcome!

You can also visit our city website for the latest news around town at www.huntingtonbeachca.gov. Hope to see you at some of these fantastic events!

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SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Mark Johnson

Creativity Connects in FVSD at Annual District Art Show

Creativity is just connecting things. When you ask creative people how they did something, they feel a little guilty because they didn't really do it, they just saw something. It seemed obvious to them after a while. That's because they were able to connect experiences they've had and synthesize new things.

— Steve Jobs

On April 17th, the Fountain Valley School District Family will come together in celebration of the creativity of our students, specifically their creativity in the Visual and Performing Arts, at the 16th Annual District Art Show. The show highlights the VAPA programs in our schools, with a strong focus on the visual arts. This year, our theme is Art from Our Heart, and our Board Room will be filled with hundreds of pieces of student artwork on display. In addition, our middle school music programs perform during the event. In recent years, the show has grown to include food trucks, interactive art stations and hands on music stations for kids. The evening is truly an event for the entire family to enjoy, and we are honored to have a large part of our community join us to celebrate the creativity of our students.



Steve Jobs was right; creativity is connecting things. In FVSD, creativity connects our students, families, staff and community together in celebration of the Visual and Performing Arts. And it is creativity that further connects our students to our schools, fueled by a passion for art in all of its many forms. Just another reason why #WeHeartFVSD.

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

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



Patrick Ham
Principal

A Lasting Impact

James H. Cox Elementary School is home to 756 students, and each of them is a gift. One amazing student who is a precious gift to our school is Carter Ankeny. After beating cancer, Carter passed away on October 8, just days shy of his seventh birthday, from complications related to his treatment for leukemia.

Carter loved everything about school. He loved lining up for recess, going to the library, having lunch with his friends, and being the ultimate buddy to everyone in his class. Through all his trials, Carter rarely missed a day of school. His love for reading, being the ultimate buddy, and loving all the aspects of school that we often take for granted have had a lasting impact on everyone here at Cox School.

The Cox PTO, with support from our maintenance crew, Mr. Randy, dedicated the "Carter Buddy Bench" in his honor on our kindergarten playground.



Cox Community, FVSD Senior Management Team, Board Members attend the Carter Buddy Bench Dedication.

Fountain Valley School District Board of Trustees



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Member



Lisa Schultz
Member

First State of the Schools in FVSD

By Ian Collins, President Pro-Tem

Recently, the Foundation Valley Schools Foundation, in coordination with the Fountain Valley School District, hosted its First State of the Schools event at the FVSD District Office. With over 110 community members, civic leaders, business owners and district staff in attendance, featured speaker, Superintendent, Dr. Mark Johnson, provided an overview of this year's theme, WeHeartFVSD!

Dr. Johnson also highlighted the District's numerous successes in our Five Priority Areas: Achievement, Culture, Communication, Fiscal Responsibility and Facilities. For example, FVSD is currently the highest achieving elementary school district in Orange County, which is just remarkable! In addition, the presentation provided attendees with a much broader perspective on public education, and included national, state and county statistics, which allowed everyone to better understand how fortunate we are to be a part of this very special District and this very special community.

As a School Board Trustee and a Director on the Schools Foundation I am beaming with pride for both organizations.



Masuda Middle School's Vocal Music Choir performs for a packed audience at FVSD's first State of the Schools event.

Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Kathy Davis
Principal

Tamura's Teacher of the Year

Huong Dao began teaching in 1992 and moved to Tamura in 1998. Although she has taught many grade levels, she has spent most of her career in 3rd grade and enjoys implementing new curriculum and ideas with her students. Her mission is to create students that want to become lifelong learners while making good decisions and being creative problem solvers. When you step into her classroom, you can feel the energy of that enthusiasm bursting from every lesson. She inspires students to do their best and if it takes redoing an assignment, that's what happens. Her doors are always open before and after school, recess and even lunch, helping students reach their potential. The connections she makes with her students and their families is an incredible testament to the type of dynamic teacher she is.



Roch Courreges *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Chris Christensen
Principal

Collegiate Sports & Courreges Elementary School

Six Courreges Elementary School Alumni just recently signed their letters of intent to attend major U.S. universities on sports scholarships next Fall. Six of the nine students honored at Fountain Valley High School all formally attended Courreges Elementary School. Congratulations to:

Marissa Lynch: UC San Diego, soccer
JacLynn Sheppard: Metro State University Denver, softball
DeLaney Sheppard: Metro State University Denver, softball
Abbie Nelson: Northern Arizona University, swimming
Brandon Bees: Whitman College, swimming
Conrad Villafuerte: Colorado Mesa University, baseball

Courreges staff and community is so proud of these deserving alumni!
Go Cougars!



Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Erin Bains
Principal

STEAM

Recently, Gisler PTO purchased littleBits STEAM kits for our 3rd through 5th grade students. littleBits makes it easy for both teachers and students to engage in STEAM by using a universal, 21st-century language: electronic building blocks. We are surrounded by technology every

day and yet have little idea how it works or how to create with it. littleBits changes that. The color-coded Bit each have a specific function (ie. motion, lights, sound, sensors, internet connectivity), and all the Bits snap together with magnets to make larger circuits. Recently Mrs. Lopez's fifth grade class completed the guided lessons and were able to work in groups to create their own projects. These included a cane for the visually impaired, an automatic desk cleaner, a catapult and a classroom paper counter. They not only learned a lot but had fun in the process!



Kaden creating one of her first circuits.

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

2017 Falcons of the Year

At the February FVSD Middle School Extravaganza, Fulton Middle School had the privilege of honoring the Falcons of the year.

Fulton Middle School is proud to present the 2017 Falcons of the Year. These students were selected by the Fulton staff based on their extraordinary effort, academic achievement and excellent citizenship. These students represent the very best Fountain Valley has to offer. Also recognized (not pictured) were Fulton's PTA Volunteers of the Year Ms. Shauna Zuckle (PTA Membership Chair) and Ms. Karlyna Macey (Student Store Chair). Fulton is forever indebted to our PTA members who actively participate in our school's important decisions and daily contribute to what makes Fulton such an amazing place for our students.



Nam Vu-8th grader, Kenzo Osmena-7th grader, Sarah Yoo-7th grader, Hannah Robert-8th grader, Hope Svartstrom-6th grader, Adam Chohan-6th grader

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

Masuda's Future Stars!

During the month of February, Masuda School recognized some of our outstanding students: Masuda's Students of the Year for the 2017-18 school year. At the school board meeting held on February 15th, we had a celebration to honor these fabulous students for their accomplishments and for their exceptional contributions to our school. We are proud to applaud: Alina Cotociu & Ethan H. Nguyen, Sixth Grade; Natalie Tran & Ian Bui, Seventh Grade; and Brooke Bonny & Roger Nguyen, Eighth Grade. The entire school staff is extremely proud of their accomplishments—not to mention incredibly thankful for the opportunity to work with such stellar students.

Also honored at the board recognition were outstanding parent volunteers Crystal Abbott and Stephen Schwarz. These two PTSO members have spent countless hours going above and beyond for the students and faculty of Masuda. There aren't enough "thank-you's" in the world to show our appreciation to these two moms and to the rest of our phenomenal PTSO.



Back to Front: Brooke Bonny, Roger Nguyen, Natalie Tran, Alina Cotociu, Ian Bui, & Ethan H. Nguyen

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

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



Christopher Mullin
Principal

Staff Training to Reach ALL Students

Newland's staff has been working hard this year, focusing on reading. This trend continued at a recent all day staff training here at Newland. Teachers at Newland worked on better understanding the ELA standards. Pairing this knowledge with using the Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems: teachers are working to determine student's independent and instructional reading levels and differentiate instruction for all students. Teachers have been able to observe student reading behaviors one-on-one, engage in comprehension

conversations that go beyond retelling, and make informed decisions that connect assessment to instruction. Newland's staff looks forward to advancing our education in order to best serve all of Newland diverse students. Our mission continues to be to expect academic excellence while encouraging all students to develop their maximum potential.



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

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



Julie Ballesteros
Principal

Kindness Is Contagious

Imagine a school where friends support one another and success is measured by selfless acts. To some children, kindness comes easily, and, to others, it is a challenge. Kindness is a skill, and, like any skill, it can be developed with practice and repetition.

This February, in honor of the month of love and friendship and National Random Acts of Kindness Day, all Plavan Elementary School students and staff members accepted the Kindness Challenge. Every morning we shared the challenge of the day as part of the announcements. Students were encouraged to complete the act of kindness and more before the end of the day. In addition to the daily challenge, each student was given a paper heart. The students were encouraged to set personal kindness goals for the month, which were posted on the

Kindness Calendar in our media center.

The Plavan community has learned that even the simplest act of kindness can make a difference in another's life—and it makes them feel good as well. Kindness is truly contagious. We hope to keep spreading it throughout the year.



Plavan 5th Grade Honor Roll Students strive to encourage kindness to all students.

Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Erik Miller
Principal

The Art of Teaching

Oka Elementary is fortunate to have a number of its teachers participating with the Cotsen Foundation in a program called "The Art of Teaching." In the first year of a two-year program, participating teachers now have an opportunity to further develop their craft.

This is a program that will make a great difference to them for decades to come. The Art of Teaching combines a number of components that produce strong, professional growth and development. Participating teachers (called Fellows) work with a mentor teacher who acts as a coach. The mentors work individually with each teacher in their classrooms on a weekly basis.

The Fellows also observe great teachers to gain new vision and inspiration. They set future goals to grow in content knowledge and pedagogy, reflect upon their instruction, attend conferences to learn more about their craft, and participate in monthly inquiry groups for deeper study with colleagues.

The difference is already being felt in our Oka classrooms. Oka teachers are working hard to guide their instruction to an even greater level of positive impact on student success.



Participating Oka Teachers in The Art of Teaching

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

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



Jennifer Morgan
Principal



Mark Holman
Assistant Principal

Depth and Complexity

Talbert's mission states, "Talbert believes in all students: collaboration, engagement, innovation, problem-solving and rigor for all." We live and breathe this philosophy at the site and are always working on ways to improve instruction, the knowledge base and experience of those that mean the most—our students.

We have recently been focusing on rigor in the classroom and how that fits into daily lesson plans and design. One of the natural steps to upping rigor in the classroom comprises the ideas of Sandra Kaplan's icons of depth and complexity. This style of differentiation ensures that the curriculum is more responsive to student needs. When using the icons, students get a broader depth of knowledge and naturally think more critically about any given subject. The use of these icons helps to coax out bigger ideas and lead to more collaborative work.



We are excited to continue this work in all classrooms at Talbert this school year to truly get our students college and career ready! Talbert T-Birds rock!

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 Hauk

Working Hard to Support our Students and Community

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Cynthia Guerrero, Huntington Beach City School District (HBCSD) Director of Child Welfare and Attendance, has been selected as the Association of California School Administrators Region 17 2018 Administrator of the Year in the Student Services category.

The criteria for this great honor included: sustained positive impact on student achievement and learning; collaboration between education and community leaders; exemplary management and educational practices; and innovative approaches to dealing with complex challenges facing public education. Dr. Guerrero excels in all of these areas as she supports our students, teachers, and schools in dealing with communication, school safety, and positive attendance district wide. Dr. Guerrero has served our community as a principal in the district at both Eader Elementary School and Sowers Middle School and was a unanimous choice to move to the district office to bring her expertise and passion for student success to her new position as director. We would like to congratulate Dr. Guerrero for this honor and greatly appreciate her contribution to Huntington Beach City School District students and families.

As we honor Dr. Guerrero for her award, it is important to note that this attitude and passionate support of our students are apparent at each of our school sites as well as the district office. HBCSD prides ourselves on creating programs to engage our students with opportunities such as elementary physical education, vocal and instrumental music instruction, foreign language instruction, and computer coding and usage. We continue to bring in educational practices to support student learning through new curriculum in language arts and mathematics and are currently in the process of updating all of our classrooms to create 21st-century learning environments that adapt to the specific needs of our students and their learning. We are also building a state-of-the-art Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) facilities at each of our campuses to better engage our students and offer them hands-on opportunities for critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity.

HBCSD is on the move to actively engage our students, their families, and our community in the process of education, and we welcome you to visit any of our school sites to see student support in action every day.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Rosemary Saylor
President

In the wake of so many school shootings around the country, it is extremely important that we not only do our utmost to keep our students safe, but to also ensure that they feel safe. One is just as important as the other, but neither is easy.

How do we keep our students safe? Do we put up fences? How does that help if the shooter is actually a student, or if the students have to run off campus and get bottlenecked at a gate?

How do we help students feel safe? Do we calmly talk to them on a regular basis about the possible scenarios and the best ways to keep safe? What is the appropriate language for each age level?

Do we talk to parents first to get their buy-in so they know to expect questions and can reinforce the information gently at home?

It is a conversation we as Board Members should have with our district leaders, as well as our parents and other community members. We should especially reach out to our first responder groups to see what they know to be the best way to implement training of our site personnel and how to practice scenarios with our students that won't simply scare them and discomfit parents.

The overarching question would seem to be however, how to we stop these tragic situations from happening in the first place? In my opinion, it is primarily a mental health issue. We can't see into the immediate future and stop that one person from opening fire on innocent people, but we can work toward a safer future by lobbying for more mental health interventions, reminding parents that they need to constantly monitor their children's Internet and social media activity, and ensuring that each student knows he or she can talk to a trusted adult about his or her own fears and concerns.

Educational Services

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



Carolyn Wertheim
*Director
Early Childhood
Education*

Full STEAM Ahead!

Spend a few minutes observing young children, and you are likely to see them actively engaged in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) activities. From the day they are born, children are able to make observations and predictions. Children are able to carry out simple experiments and investigations, collect data, and begin to make sense of the world around them.

In Huntington Beach City School District (HBCSD), each child's curiosity is fostered through open and focused exploration, access to developmentally appropriate materials, and reflective conversations to engage the students. At our Open

House, children created machines using common household items. Their creativity and their persistence in testing and refining their designs were evidence of systematic thinking and an understanding of the engineering process. Supporting children's open-ended play is critical for their development, and it fosters a lifelong love of learning.



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



Debbi Randall
Principal

Kindergarten Community Helpers

Every year the kindergarten students get to enjoy a variety of community helpers coming into their classrooms and sharing their roles and responsibilities in their city. This year over thirty parents and guests came in to talk about their positions. One of the favorites every year is the local fire department coming in on their fire engine to talk about their jobs and most importantly, about being prepared in the case of a fire or emergency at school or home. Chief Lopez happens to be one of our parents which makes it even more special for the students and staff. Thank you, Huntington Beach Fire Department, and all of our gracious community helpers who shared their time with our students.

Ethel R. Dwyer *Middle School*

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



Christa Glembocki
Principal

Living Cultural Exchange

In January, Dwyer was privileged to host students visiting from Tianjin, China. Approximately 100 students arrived with chaperones and administrators to tour our campus and trade cultural experiences with our sixth-graders.

Dwyer students displayed their talents in music, voice and dance. The Tianjin students reciprocated by performing cultural pieces for us, including dance, Chinese folk songs and the *hulusi* flute. Dwyer eighth-grader Tasmin Warner gave a speech in Mandarin for the visitors.

"It was great to see them be able to relate to an American citizen speaking their language," Tasmin said.

A cultural gift exchange was the culminating highlight. Each Tianjin student presented the Dwyer students with a traditional gift. Our students gifted back Dwyer sunglasses and water bottles in addition to handmade cards and trinkets. Our Advanced Art and Industrial Arts classes made Huntington Beach-themed paintings and wooden surfboards for the adult visitors. It was a memorable experience for all involved!



Dwyer and HBCSD administrators joined by Tianjin principals and chaperones

Huntington Seacliff *Elementary*

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



Dr. Monique Huibregtse
Principal

A Busy Month

Seacliff supports and celebrates its diverse community of learners. Whether it is about learning styles, traditions, or general holidays, we learn first about it and then we celebrate it!

We were very busy doing this during February. Early in the month we celebrated the start of kindergarten registration for the 2018-2019 school year! The excitement of our new parents, coupled with our own, made for a great "Kindergarten Round-Up" evening that anticipated the arrival of the children in September. We can hardly wait for the new school year to begin so that we can meet all of our new students!

Valentine's Day was a celebration of kindness and projects instead of parties. There were a few celebratory treats as well. The students learned about our presidents through research, and then wrote or completed projects about President Lincoln and President Washington. Even our kindergarten students had some great pieces of creative and informative writing up to a page long.

But the biggest celebration occurred during our Open House night, where everyone beamed with pride at the high-quality work being displayed in the classrooms. Big celebrations need food too, and so we had a burger truck here during the event. A grand celebration of the Lunar New Year also happened on February 16th, with the students from different Asian cultures wearing their country's traditional dress and sharing their family customs. The PTA sponsored a troupe of lion dancers to perform during this assembly, and they were so acrobatic and entertaining.

February 22nd was the 100th day of school, and the projects that recognized this special day showed that the number "100" can be represented in so many creative ways. Finally, we ended the month with some exercise and fun during our skate party at a local skating center. What a busy and great month!

Dr. Ralph E. Hawes *Elementary*

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



Julie Jennings
Principal

We are Hawesome!

With the implementation of the Common Core Standards, new technology is embedded into our instructional practices each day at Hawes. From kindergarten to the fifth grade, our students demonstrate their proficiency with technology and applications to help research, think critically, create, innovate, collaborate, and communicate.

Every classroom has a SmartBoard, a document camera, and at least six desktop computers. Students visit both of our computer labs (PC and Mac) each week, and we also have Chromebooks carts and iPads that travel into the classrooms.

In fact, we have Chromebook carts designated for every three classrooms. Through our "bring your own device" policy, our students can also bring their e-readers, tablets, and electronic devices to school to provide more opportunities to use technology as part of the learning process.

Our students can be seen developing their understanding of fluency through ST Math, Accelerated Reader, Earobics, and the ST Music keyboarding program. As our students' skills develop, we see them researching, creating iMovies, publishing wikis, writing blogs, researching explorers, Missions, the life cycle of plants, bees, and more. We see them learning to use applications appropriately to demonstrate their learning and cite sources to support their arguments. The use of Google Classroom is pervasive throughout our school.

To help our students gain a better appreciation of the ethical issues surrounding the use of technology, our digital citizenship program, spearheaded by our own librarian, begins in kindergarten with an age-appropriate curriculum. It continues on into the fifth grade with monthly lessons focused on social media and internet safety.

By embedding technology across the curriculum, we have seen our students create models by using Minecraft, iMovies on social issues, interactive maps, green-screen trailers, and more! Technology is embedded across our school, and we are excited to see where our students will take us on this journey!

S. A. Moffett *Elementary*

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



Michael Andrzejewski
Principal

Sharing Our Reading

Our annual Open House on February 15th was a great opportunity for Moffett School to share with its families all of the hard work and achievement that our students and teachers have completed this point in the year.

The turnout was excellent, and everyone was impressed with the significant learning being displayed in our classrooms. Concurrent with Open House, our Moffett PTA also held a book fair where materials appropriate to all reading levels were available for purchase. This is one of the events that our students most enjoy throughout the year.



PTA Book Fair Chair parents Chrissy Amundson and Jill Tague share books with Moffett Mustangs Blake Amundson and Harper Tague.

Parents Jill Tague and Chrissy Amundson led the team that worked with publishers to generate interest in this year's theme of "Get Your Paws on Books." One of our classrooms was actually decorated in the special theme, which added to the enjoyment of being able to visit the Fair and purchase the available books. A huge thank-you goes to our PTA for supporting both the school and its reading program!



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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

Author's Day

With support from the Friends of the Huntington Beach Children's Library, Perry Elementary was recently able to host an amazing author for our "Author's Day at Perry School."

The author who was present for Author's Day was Ms. Dawn Wynne. Ms. Wynne is an award-winning teacher with more than 15 years of teaching experience. She also has a theatrical background that started with training at UCLA.

Additionally, Ms. Wynne has written several children's books (some of which are Amazon bestsellers). She has also been recognized with several children's book awards.

It was an incredible experience for our students to listen to Ms. Wynne read some of the stories she has written. Our students also had the opportunity

to purchase one of her books, and to have it personalized and autographed by the author.

Ms. Wynne provided ample time for our students to ask questions. She also took the opportunity to provide thoughtful responses to all of them. Our Author's Day was a great success, and a great way to continue to spread the love of literacy at Perry Elementary!



Author Dawn Wynne reading to students at Perry

Agnes L. Smith *Elementary*

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



Carolyn Beck
Principal

Focus on Fluency

One of our goals at Smith School this year is to develop fluent math students. Our focus on fluency includes accuracy, efficiency and flexibility. Memorization of facts is short term and doesn't help in the higher grades when adding larger numbers. Instead, we want our students to develop number sense and be able to use strategies that will last a lifetime.

Each grade level has facts they are responsible to learn by the end of the school year. Our goal is to have students proficient in these basic facts. Kindergarten should be able to add and subtract within 5, first grade within 10 and second grade within 20. In third grade, students learn to multiply and divide within 100, fourth grade to add and subtract within 1,000,000, and fifth grade to use multidigit multiplication.

Math is much easier and enjoyable when students are fluent with their facts!



First graders playing math fluency games.

John R. Peterson *Elementary*

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



Dr. Constance Polhemus
Principal

Our Winter Olympics!

Peterson Elementary students love a little friendly competition, so when third/fourth-grade teacher Julie Newton suggested that they turn everyday classroom activities such as Dojo points, pages read, class participation, and attendance into Winter Olympic events, the eager students jumped at the chance to be classroom Olympians!

First, students selected seven countries with more than 100 athletes participating in the Olympics. With the selection of Canada, Finland, Sweden, Czech Republic, Norway, Switzerland and Germany, the games began, with four students representing each country. On the opening day of the Olympics, students had their own opening ceremonies that included a passing of the Olympic torch as they ran around the school's track. They used their Olympic HyperDoc to track events and overall points, learn more about the Olympic events and Olympians, and learn more about the country they represent.

At the conclusion of the Olympics, point totals will determine the gold-, silver- and bronze-medal winners.



Isaac L. Sowers *Middle School*

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



John Ashby
Principal

Kindness in Viking Country

All schools desire to produce students who are top scholars, athletes and artists. However, one area that truly responsive schools also consider is the social/emotional development of students in being kind to one another and kind to themselves.

While Sowers Middle School is a top school that does produce great learners, championship athletes and award-winning artists, we have also looked to cultivate a culture of kindness. In December, we welcomed Teen Truth to share the importance of positive self-esteem, building communication bridges with parents, and empowering all students to raise their voices on campus. Our student leadership attended a workshop and identified student-life issues and an action plan to solve them. Teen Truth was so impressed with our commitment to building a school culture of kindness that they awarded us Best School Culture for Middle Schools in the Country.

Sowers also recently participated in No One Eats Alone day as part of our Random Acts of Kindness Week to make all students feel connected at lunchtime. Students signed the Tree of Kindness with ideas that they felt would be positive influences on other student's lives and posted them for all to see. The tree now lives in our front office as a commitment to kindness.

With the support of our students, staff and school community, Sowers continues to be an excellent school for academics, athletics, the arts and activities, but we know the importance of also focusing on just being kind. Please check out our Instagram (@SowersVikingsHB) for pics and info on the kindness spreading on campus. Go Vikings!

Ocean View School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Carol Hansen

OVSD Promotes Essential Typing Skills

Does typing sound like an old-fashioned skill? Sometimes it is easy to associate typing with scenes from retro television shows and Selectric typewriters from decades past. However, typing is more important today than it has ever been. It is an essential 21st-century skill for every student, necessary for effective communication in school and beyond. We use typing, or keyboarding as we more commonly call it today, in nearly everything we do at school, at work, and at home, whether emailing, texting, researching online, inputting data, or writing.

In Ocean View, investing in students' keyboarding skills starts immediately. That means we prepare our youngest students for success, beginning in Transitional Kindergarten. By doing this, we promote proper posture, hand positioning, and familiarity with the home row keys (QWERTY) to build automaticity and fluency in expressing ideas. Students who can easily and quickly express ideas through typing are apt to produce more complex written products. Less time is spent trying to "peck and hunt" for letters, allowing for a free flow of ideas.

Ocean View has launched three new typing programs for students in Transitional Kindergarten through second grade, third through fifth grades, and sixth through eighth grades. These typing programs, which are developmentally appropriate, help students learn to type fluently with speed and accuracy.

Another exciting part of these programs is that they can be accessed by our students in their homes. The programs allow practice to go beyond the school day anywhere our students have Internet access. Parents can see these programs for themselves and assist their children in the comfort of their homes and other homework settings.

Each of the three programs are Web-based and can be accessed through the Ocean View School District Web site. Students simply go to www.ovsd.org/sso and click the "Clever Instant Login" link on the left side of the page. Students then enter a username and password, which they have practiced at school. Once logged in and on the next page, they click the application for their grade-level typing program and begin exploring, practicing, and learning!

Our three typing programs are:

Mickey's Typing Adventure (for Transitional Kindergarten through second grade)—This program is part of Typelandia and uses Mickey Mouse and friends to engage our younger students in keyboarding.

Typing Instructor (for third through fifth grades)—We use Typer Island to continue building and refining keyboarding skills.

Typing.com (for sixth through eighth grades)—Our middle school students use Typing.com to reinforce the typing skills they have acquired in previous grades and to improve their speed and accuracy. This curriculum is aligned to our state standards.

There you have it! Ocean View's three typing programs are accessible online during the school day and from the convenience of home!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Jack C. Souders
President

Anticipation is in the Air

As the president of the Ocean View School District Board of Trustees for 2018, I intended to tell you a little bit about myself; however, I have decided I would rather tell you a story. In my daily life, I am a teacher, and, in 2011, I led a group of seventh-grade students on a trip to the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida. While there, we were lucky enough to see the last space shuttle perched on its launch pad. I remember a strong sense of anticipation coming from all of the employees as we toured the space center. They conducted their business as usual, but I knew that all of their thoughts were on the impending launch. Here in Ocean View, we are experiencing something similar. Our Measure R modernization projects are finally ready to begin, and there is a feeling of anticipation in the air.

Like the space shuttle launch, much preparation has gone into our first modernization projects. Board and district leaders began discussing the idea of a facilities bond several years ago. To build engagement and gather input from our stakeholders, we held four community meetings to assess our schools' needs. Our architectural firm took the information gleaned from these important meetings and created a cutting-edge digital Facilities Master Plan, including a priority list of projects based on both the district's and the community's input. The Facilities Master Plan was used to create Measure R, which not only addressed our priorities, but also ensured fiscal responsibility.

Measure R's resounding passage in 2016 was truly was a district-wide effort—no small feat. It required the work not only of our Board and staff, but of the community as well. Since that time, we have met with brokers, who helped us sell our bonds responsibly, and our staff has developed detailed timelines and provided information to our Board. During the 2017–2018 school year, we continue this important work with Measure R. Our independent Citizens' Oversight Committee meets quarterly to review our financials. As a Board, we are making decisions regarding preparations for an environmental impact report on our two interim housing school sites. Our district staff has submitted final architectural plans for state approval. Just prior to the winter break, we hosted additional community meetings to gather public opinion about our final proposed plans. As you can imagine, it has been a long road to get to where we are today, but we are here now, and we are finally ready to begin the visible work.

When our students depart happily for summer recess after the last school day in June, our classified staff, administrators, and construction teams will move into high gear. They will begin modernizing College View and Westmont Elementary Schools for the 2019–2020 school year. June is our launch date!

I am one member of our Board, a Board dedicated to the betterment of our community, our district, and, most importantly, our students. I give thanks to our Ocean View employees and administrative staff. Superintendent Hanson and her team have worked diligently to ensure that these projects are executed safely and smoothly. Like the NASA shuttle missions, a project of this size and undertaking requires a team of highly trained individuals dedicated to a common cause. I am proud to say the Ocean View School District has such a team.

Pleasant View *Ocean View Preparatory Preschool*

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



Paul James
Principal

Incredible Health Team

Has your son or daughter ever come home with an "ouch report" about an incident that happened at school? How about a scraped knee with a bandage? Or perhaps you have received a phone call informing or updating you about an injury or an illness that happened while your child was at school.

When it comes to the health of the students and staff at the Pleasant View/OVPP, we are fortunate to have Mary Clayton and Caroline Ishino as part of our health team. This dynamic

duo performs myriad duties that include assessing students for health needs, administering medicines, determining appropriate first-aid interventions, applying specialized medically necessary procedures, updating health records, communicating with our staff and parents about health alerts, and other health-related topics. They provide ongoing nurturing service to our students and share their expertise with our staff on a regular basis. When there is a situation that needs immediate attention, they are always leading the way to make sure that our students are safe and are given the proper care.

Pleasant View/OVPP feels very fortunate to have both Mrs. Clayton and Mrs. Ishino as part of our staff and thanks them for their dedication and the pride they take in keeping us healthy.

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Lake View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Jamie Goodwyn
Principal

STEAM: Directors' Cut

Lake View's STEAM school is on the cutting edge of education. The students are engaged in graphic design, robotics, coding, 3-D printing and videography as part of their daily lessons.

Recently, two of our highly skilled student videographers assisted in the presentation for prospective parents who are looking to attend Lake View for the 2018-19 school year. Fifth-grade students Zach Groff and Lola Chiarella were the innovative and highly creative students who directed, filmed, and edited five short videos to allow future families to see what our school is all

about.

Throughout the process, they created questions to ask the students they were filming, researched editing programs, filmed hours of class activities, and collaborated on clips to use that would show the wonderful programs. The process took the students over 15 hours of their free time to film and edit the five videos. Besides blowing the entire staff away with their videography skills, the students impressed us with their idea to organize each video by the five curricular areas of STEAM: science, technology, engineering, art and math. They wanted to showcase each curricular area because they love each of them equally.

The videos were a big hit with the prospective families. They will also be used in the future for guided tours of our school. We are so proud of the hard work our students put into this project in order to see it through to its completion. A great start for their future resumes!

Marine View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



William Lynch
Principal

A Collective Effort

Our Marine View Middle School staff is trained in Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) through the Orange County Department of Education. Over the past three years we have been making a collective effort to reinvigorate our program, and are seeing positive results!

We started by streamlining our referral process so that we could generate cleaner data to monitor student discipline for both "major" and "minor" behavioral infractions. We have also expanded our process to support our positive incentive efforts.

Students who exhibit our behavioral expectations have always received "Mariner Money." Thanks to donations and support from our PTSA, they can now cash in their currency for a variety of gift items at a student store operated by our ASB students and parent volunteers.

We have also started a lunch club for students looking to connect with other students on campus. Run by student and teacher volunteers, the group is called the "Mariner Anchors." Students are welcome to come during lunchtime to play a variety of games. The group is also looking to expand to team-building outdoor activities in the months ahead.

The result of all these efforts is that suspensions are down by 85 percent. Through an increase in our data-driven decision-making, and a greater partnership with our parents, we have made Marine View a place that supports all students.

Circle View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Kristi Hickman
Principal

Kudos to Mrs. Brasie!

Circle View Elementary School is proud to congratulate third-grade Gifted and Talented Education teacher Mrs. Brasie (GATE). She was one of only a few recent Orange County teachers to be awarded a Schools First-OCDE Education Foundation grant.

Mrs. Brasie wrote this grant to help fund Next Generation Science Standards projects and experiments for engineering design in K-5 classrooms.

Circle View received approximately \$5,000 worth of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) materials and supply kits, which will enhance our students' science education by engaging them in a variety of experiments to deepen their critical thinking skills through hands-on engineering activities.



Mrs. Brasie, Delany Johnson, Marlee Martinez, Alexander Konovalov, Jaxon Mayebo and Berlin Alvarez.

As part of her request, Mrs. Brasie stated that, "Engineering is all around us, in all aspects of our lives. Children need to be exposed to and have the opportunity to explore, discover, and collaboratively engage in a variety of experiments and practices to connect their science knowledge with real-life examples."

College View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Katherine Smith
Principal

Focus on the Positive!

Recognition for a job well done comes in many different forms. Our staff members are focused daily on "catching students being good" by acknowledging them for making good choices academically, socially and emotionally.

Super You's, our school currency, are given to students who follow our R.O.A.R.S. theme. They do this by being Ready to learn, On time to school, Always being kind, being Respectful, and adhering to all Safety rules at school. "Super You's" can be exchanged at our Redemption Center once each month.

In addition, our Proud Board tickets are given to students who demonstrate the Character Trait of the Month. Their names are entered into a drawing to have pizza with me, the principal! Every trimester, students are awarded certificates of achievement at our grade-level Award Assemblies in which family members can join in the celebration.

No matter which way we do it, our students appreciate the positive recognition!



Students from Mrs. Banuelo's Kindergarten class receiving their awards.

Golden View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Brett Hardy
Principal

A Creative Way to Use Lunch Leftovers

The Golden View Elementary School (GVS) Student Council members are at it again. They have been hard at work helping not only Golden View but also the Water for South Sudan Project.

Student council members have recently spearheaded our composting project by helping take leftover fruit and vegetables from lunch to our garden. These students have been educating their peers about the benefits of composting. Their hope is that, in the springtime, their newly planted crops will be flourishing and ready to harvest, thanks to these composting efforts.

Student council members are also taking on an important philanthropic project later this year to help raise money to dig wells in Africa. They are reading *A Long Walk to Water* and will be working with the Water for South Sudan Project to help raise funds that will go toward digging wells in Sudan.

Way to go, GVS Student Council!



Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Paul Kraft
Principal

Music, Literacy, and Physical Activity

Hope View Elementary School welcomed in the winter season with a strong, well-rounded program. The events began with an exciting holiday show and a field trip. Kindergarteners and Transitional Kindergarteners performed at Marine View Middle School before a packed gymnasium full of enthusiastic family members and staff.

In January, all of our classes continued to take part in academic lessons with a laser-like focus on authentic literacy and engagement. Several extracurricular activities also created excitement on campus and in the community. Skate Night was a huge success, where students from each grade level participate in a fun and healthy night of exercise and good times.

For the Huntington Beach Central Library's Authors' Day, we welcomed two professional authors to campus who told the entire student body about their writing experiences. The students enjoyed the stories shared by these authors, and they were also treated to a puppet show.

Our Hope View families most recently came together for a pizza night at a local pizzeria. They raised over \$800 to help support various school programs, including the purchase of new Chromebooks.



Author Meadow Griffin brings her book to life at Hope View Elementary School as part of the Huntington Beach Central Library's "Authors' Day."

Harbour View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Cindy Osterhout
Principal

Congratulations, Mister Arthur!

Harbour View is very proud to announce that our own Arthur Camarena is the Ocean View School District Maintenance, Operations and Facilities 2018 Classified Employee of the Year! He will now move forward as our nominee for Orange County Classified Employee of the Year.

"Mr. Arthur" is so deserving of this honor, as he demonstrates on a daily basis his value to both our school and our community.

He is kind and personable, having developed a wonderful rapport with Harbour View students, staff and community members. He is every definition of an exemplary head custodian, since no job is too large or too small for him.

Mr. Camarena demonstrates every day that Harbour View is truly "his school." He consistently goes above and beyond to ensure that our teachers and staff are cared for. Whether tending to our school, managing the evening custodial staff, providing support to our PTA, or doing preventative work around campus, Mr. Camarena is always ready, willing and able to help. We cannot think of a more deserving person than Mr. Arthur!



Mesa View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



Randy Lempert
Principal

Bio-Bottle Mini Ecosystems

Around the Mesa View Middle School campus, you might have noticed something odd. Plastic bottles are all over our campus—in trees, on outdoor tables, and hanging from fences. While this might look like a strange way to display used soda bottles, it is actually science in action.

Our seventh-grade science students worked together to design bio-bottles with three basic components: soil, water and plants. By varying the treatment of one of these components, students explored how each variable affected the whole system. Students

also wrote about the role of photosynthesis in the flow of energy and matter in their ecosystems. Students collected data on their bio-bottles three times a week and used their data to determine patterns and trends. Together, they worked to determine how to improve their designs to create healthier mini ecosystems

This project was a great way to showcase student engagement and learning outside of the classroom.



Oak View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Dr. Rosa Guerra
Principal

Proactive Students and Citizens

Last year our teachers agreed that they would add another program to their already full plates in the new school year. They wanted to support our students school-wide with their individual social and emotional needs, and help them become proactive citizens in our school and community.

Our teachers have chosen to teach the “Second Step” program, beginning in January. They have also made a schedule to share the use of their grade-level kit to ensure that all of their students can receive the curriculum by the end of the year.

The third-graders learned about paying attention to others, and what that looks like in terms of being respectful. They also learned to keep their eyes on the speaker and wait for them to finish without interrupting. The fourth-graders in Ms. Anderson’s class learned about passive, aggressive, and assertive communication. They also watched a video about a typical playground conflict, and identified the inappropriate and assertive behaviors to help resolve the conflict. Way to go, Owls!



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

Learning and Fun

The Oak View Preschool provides many diverse and enriching educational experiences for the Ocean View School District’s earliest learners.

We were excited in January to have a live animal presentation provided by Valentine’s Traveling Nature Class. Ms. Sunny brought in a host of animals for our students to see, touch, and learn about. We saw geckos, frogs, boa snakes, a monitor lizard, “Wasabi” the parrot, “Midnight” the iguana, and other wildlife.

Our students were so excited to be able to touch animals that they have only seen in books or on television. Ms. Sunny also discussed different habitats and the impact that the environment has on reducing wildlife populations.

We were able to demonstrate that learning and fun can go hand-in-hand. A wealth of language and verbal expressions were also shared through this event. The students were thrilled to be able to go home and share with their families all of the wonderful things they’d learned, and the animals they saw.

Guest speakers and hands-on experiences are just a few of the many learning opportunities we encourage here at Oak View Preschool.



Oak View Preschool educator, Ms. Kathy Blythe, receives a kiss from “Midnight,” a tame 15 year-old Iguana

Spring View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



Jason Blade
Principal

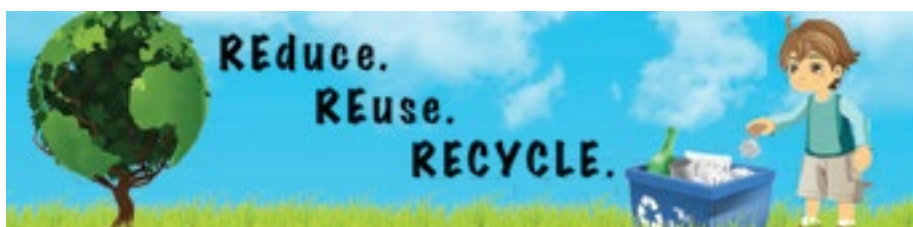
Making Connections Makes a Difference

The research is clear when it comes to student success. The more a student feels connected to their school, and feels that people care about them, the more likely they are to become academically successful, and less likely to get into trouble. With this in mind, our Spring View staff members, along with our Leadership and Bridges students, are now laser-focused on helping our students become and stay connected.

The results of their hard work are undeniable. Monitoring the Future, a national study conducted by the University of Michigan, proved that Spring View had excellent results in terms of its students feeling safe at school, and that they also felt that their school treated them fairly.

According to the survey, 47.5 percent of our students enjoyed being at school “often” or “almost always.” This is seven percent higher than the national average. In another response, when asked if they felt that Spring View’s rules were fair and reasonable, about 76 percent of our students said “Yes, mostly” or “Yes.” That is almost 20 percent above the national average!

In addition to a first-class school culture, Spring View’s academic success is undeniable as well. Based on our state testing scores, Spring View was recognized as an Honor Roll School for its students’ academic growth, as well as their success towards closing the achievement gap to ensure academic success. Way to make a difference, Spring View!



Star View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Carrie Haskin
Principal

Fitness Can Be Fun!

Star View students from transitional kindergarten through fifth grade came together to enjoy a morning of fun and excitement in our annual Jump-a-Thon in January. While exercising to the beat of their favorite music, they pushed themselves to be their personal best.

Our Star View PTO Board worked hard to coordinate this fantastic activity and fund-raiser for the entire school while generously providing each student with his or her own personal jump rope. Prior to the Jump-a-Thon, pledge sheets were collected by the students with the help of their families and friends. The air was filled with laughter and excitement for this schoolwide physical-fitness activity that began with stretching, lots of jumping, skipping and smiles.

Our Star View students have continued to enhance their jump roping skills far after the Jump-a-Thon ended!



This Star View student shows off his jump rope skills in the school’s recent Jump-a-Thon!

Sun View *Elementary (K–5)*

Village View *Elementary (K–5)*

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

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



Elaine Burney
Principal

Sun View Bucks

In January, the Sun View Elementary School staff implemented a monetary system to support real-life learning experiences. Students can earn Sun View Bucks to shop in our new and improved student store.

Sun View Bucks come in denominations of \$1, \$5, \$10, and \$20, and students earn them in a wide variety of ways. Several possibilities include: being respectful, responsible, and safe; turning work in on time; returning Tuesday Take Home Folders on time; turning in the signed Growing Readers monthly calendar; receiving Trait Tickets on Fridays; and having perfect attendance and on-time arrival for the month. Additionally, students can be charged Sun View Bucks for various infractions.



By helping students to understand the benefits and consequences of their behavior in practical ways, we believe students learn the lifelong skill of working with and understanding money, in addition to placing value on their money. We have new items in our newly upgraded student store to promote these monetary lessons.



Francesca Ligman
Principal

Ozobots—All the Rage!

Our third-grade team wrote a grant to the Assistance League of Huntington Beach last year to purchase tiny robots that fit in the palm of your hand! These little spherical rolling machines, read code embedded in tracks created by students.

First, our students had to learn the different color patterns that give the robots a message to follow. The robots then move at different speeds, turn, spin, zigzag, and even jump from one track to another—that is, if the coder has designed the maze



Mrs. Julianna’s students are fascinated with robots!

impeccably. Students are working hard to build these intricate tracks for the robots and are learning how to be coders themselves.

At Village View, coding was introduced last year and continues to be an integral part of our student’s daily lessons. Our third-graders are now taking it one step further. Computer science is an essential part of our future and a necessary skill set, and Village View students are embracing it!

Vista View *Middle School (6–8)*

Westmont *Elementary (K–5)*

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

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



Scott Mooney
Principal

Thank You, Volunteers!

Vista View Middle School is fortunate to partner with many community and service organizations to provide a rigorous and enriching learning environment for students. One of those organizations, the Surf City Optimist Club, has been working closely with our school for the last two years. Recently, they supported two competitions for our students: a pinewood derby and a basketball skills competition.



Deysi Heredia 8th, Monica Pavia 7th,
Andrea Ruiz 7th

Volunteers spent one day a week working with Vista’s special needs students on various woodworking projects, such as designing and constructing birdhouses and pinewood derby cars. Students raced their pinewood derby cars in a head-to-head, single-elimination tournament. Our students had a great time and were excited to test their designs. The Optimist volunteers and school staff recognized students for their hard work, and the winning racers received trophies.

Vista View also recently completed its school-wide basketball skills competition, also coordinated by the Ocean View School District and the Surf City Optimists. Students appreciated the recognition they received for their hard work, time, and demonstrated skills.



Susan Broderson
Principal

Young Investigators!

What has 24 legs, 12 magnifying glasses and a pile of gravel? Why, of course, 12 eager students ready to test their scientific hypotheses!

Mrs. O’Steen’s third-, fourth- and fifth-grade special-education students can barely contain their excitement when it comes to science class. Students have been learning the investigative process and how to develop and test a hypothesis. Students were asked to create a mixture by combining two solids to see what happens. After developing a hypothesis, students then

went to the classroom lab to test their theory. Carter wanted to see if mixing together ingredients would “create a new thing,” while Cory thought that mixing together two things would also create something new. Jesus examined



his materials of gravel and salt very closely with his magnifying glass. He came to the conclusion that the salt looked a lot like sugar.

When the class started to mix their ingredients, their observations became more animated. Mixing gravel and salt together in a plastic cup makes a fair amount of noise, especially when you want to see if they can combine. Kai shared that salt was sticking to some of the gravel, while Jacob noticed that the two ingredients could be separated.

Were their hypotheses found to be true? Only our future scientists can answer that question!

Westminster School District

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

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Gary Rutherford

Administrators of the Year



Reagan Lopez



Kim Breckenridge

Reagan Lopez, Executive Director of Student Services

Central Office Administrator of the Year

Finding exceptional leaders in the vital, complex area of special education and student services is not easy. Ms. Reagan Lopez is not an ordinary leader. She is a special leader with a unique combination of traits that enables her to influence student achievement, maintain compliance, and inspire teachers to bring a caring focus to students and families who desperately need intervention and support. Her work in the area of implementing due process procedures and appropriate participation with the mediation and hearing process is second to none. One of our special education attorneys has said that if Ms. Lopez can't bring about a resolution to a problem, it can't be done. She is masterful at creating win-win resolutions that are student-centered and fiscally sound. Beyond Reagan's organization and leadership capabilities, she is a very sincere person with strong interpersonal skills. She is innovative, resourceful, self-aware, intuitive, and flexible. Reagan also has a very strong work ethic and a passion to be of service to the students and community in Westminster.

Kim Breckenridge, Principal of Anderson Elementary

Site Administrator of the Year

Ms. Kim Breckenridge currently serves as the Principal at Anderson Elementary School and ensures that state-of-the art practices are being implemented and that all team members understand and support the District's and school's vision. Anderson Elementary School has a wonderfully diverse population that includes medically fragile and general education students. Kim ensures that all stakeholders are involved in the education of these students and the Special Education Olympics she hosts every year is just one example of how she involves parents, teachers, district office personnel, the police department and other community members. In addition, she has implemented a 1:1 technology initiative at her site, served on the District's negotiations team, provided district-wide professional development and facilitated Principal Professional Learning Community meetings. Kim is a remarkable, innovative leader! Her work ethic, pioneering practices, professional background, administrative expertise, personal demeanor, and strategic planning qualifications make here an outstanding administrator.



Westminster School District Board of Trustees



Penny Loomer
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Member



Jamison Power
Member

Heart Warming Student Awards

By Penny Loomer, President

Recently, the District held one of my favorite events of the year, the Every Student Succeeding Awards Breakfast. Each year, at this heart-warming event, the Westminster Educational Leadership Association (WELA) honors students who have succeeded against all odds and have showed courage and poise in the face of tremendous adversity. Many of the students who were honored have overcome physical barriers such as severe illnesses or disabilities, lingual and socioeconomic barriers, the death of an immediate family member, and other seemingly insurmountable adversities. Yet, despite it all, they have succeeded and, in so doing, they have inspired their teachers, their peers, the Board of Trustees, and our entire district. Many of these students have even gone on to take on leadership roles at their schools, become active in school programs, and participate in cross-age tutoring and community activities.

Conquering these types of obstacles takes both mental and physical toughness, true grit, and an indomitable spirt. WELA celebrates these students' incredible achievements through the Every Student Succeeding Awards. Thanks to WELA for honoring these amazing students. In addition, we would like to thank our community partner, Soroptimist International of Westminster, for their generous gift card donations in support of our award winners.

These students are truly an inspiration to our community. We applaud them for all that they have done and look forward to celebrating their continued success.

2018 Every Student Succeeding Winners

Jimmy Nguyen, Anderson Elementary, selected to represent the district and to be honored at the regional level of the Association of California School Administrators; Jay Montanez, Clegg Elementary; Selena Vo, DeMille Elementary; Wyley Carlson, Eastwood Elementary; Achilles Budgen, Finley Elementary; Ziad Obid, Fryberger Elementary; Tan Nguyen, Hayden Elementary; Khoa Vu, Johnnson Middle School; Gilbert Celedon, Meairs Elementary; Jonathan Grado, Schmitt Elementary; Alicia Rodriguez, Schroeder Elementary; Valentina Diaz, Sequoia Elementary; Mason Creyaufmiller, Stacey Middle School; John Mai, Warner Middle School; Sophia Luengas, Webber Elementary; Jayden Johnson, Willmore Elementary

Eastwood *Elementary (K-6)*

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • <http://eastwood.wsd.k12.ca.us>



Dr. Jason Kunczewicki
Principal

Eastwood School, their students and school community believe in raising awareness and money for organizations and those in need. This past month, Eastwood set a goal to raise over \$8,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through their "Pennies for Patients" program. Each student was given a fundraising "penny box" to bring in their loose change daily to reach our goal. Students turned in their pennies to their classroom teacher and kept a weekly tally. The three week philanthropy ended with a grand total of over \$6,200 raised to help cancer research. Although we did not reach our goal the amount of giving was tremendous. The class that raised the most money earned an Olive Garden luncheon. Over the past four years Eastwood has raised almost \$40,000 to support this noble cause. Eastwood takes their giving seriously.

Anderson *Elementary (K-6)*

8902 Hewitt Pl., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • <http://anderson.wsdk8.us>



Kim Breckenridge
Principal

Every Student Succeeding

By Erika Bradley, Teacher- 4th—7th Grade

Anderson School is proud to honor Jimmy Nguyen with the Every Student Succeeding Award. Jimmy started school as a star student. In first grade, he began experiencing weakness in his body and involuntary movement of his muscles. As the school year progressed, Jimmy lost his ability to walk, talk, and eat. Jimmy was unable to attend school anymore. After recovering from multiple surgeries, he was able to return home and begin home teaching.

As Jimmy became comfortable with school work, he was restless at home and wanted to attend school. It had been four years since he left his home for anything other than doctor's appointments. Jimmy was persistent in expressing his desires, and his family eventually agreed that he could attend school.

Jimmy now attends Anderson. He is able to communicate with students and staff, and he is well known around campus. He participates in school activities, has made friends, and was chosen by his peers to be school treasurer. Even

though Jimmy is unable to talk or walk anymore, he became an advocate for himself as he sought to live life in the best way possible and to enjoy every day. He is an inspiration for all to keep a positive attitude and make the best out of every situation.



DeMille *Elementary (K-6)*

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224 • <http://demille.wsdk8.us>



Shannon Villanueva
Principal

The Year of the Dog

DeMille has been very busy with Tet preparations and celebrations.

We recently held our annual school-wide Tet celebration, where the entire student body was treated to a wonderful performance of dances and more by the UVSA group from Westminster High School. The Lion Dance is always a big hit!

Students from DeMille's Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion program also performed. Our DeMille students, along with students and parents from all over the district, also participated in the Little Saigon Tet Parade. It is always so much fun to be a part of this festive event!



Students enjoy the lion dance at our annual Tet celebration.

The Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion students also had the opportunity to participate in the Cultural Village at the OC Fairground's Tet Festival. Our students and parents enjoyed teaching guests how to play a game, and the students even performed a few songs and dances.

Tet is such an exciting time for our school community. Happy Lunar New Year!

Clegg School

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218 • <http://clegg.wsdk8.us>



John Staggs
Principal

Saturday Academy

Clegg Elementary School held its first two Saturday Academies of the school year on December 9, 2017 and January 27, 2018. Students attend Saturday Academy to make up an absence. The program has continued to grow at Clegg each year.

At Saturday Academy, student enjoy lessons with a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) activities. As the STEAM magnet school for the district, we continue to reinforce these important skills.

We also invite organizations in the community to speak to our students about the jobs they hold. On December 9, the Huntington Beach Fire Department made a visit and brought a fire engine for the students to enjoy.



The crew shared about the job duties of a fireman and explained how their truck help them to save property and lives. On January 27, an officer from the Westminster Police Department spent time talking to our students and explaining the duties of a police officer in the community. We are thankful to both organizations for taking the time to enrich our students' lives.

Finley *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Raul Olivas
Principal

A Snowy February

Our fifth-grade Finley Computer Science Magnet students attended Science Camp at the Emerald Cove Outdoor Science Institute from Wednesday, February 14th to Friday, February 16th. During this time our intrepid scholars engaged in geology, biology, astronomy, and night hikes.

What made it even more special was the presence of snow, which many

of the students were pleased to see. Although cold, our Eagles engaged in all of the activities that presented them with interesting outdoor learning opportunities. If that wasn't enough, they also thoroughly enjoyed dining experience which offered all the cheeseburgers, salads, and fried chicken that any person could handle.

This was the first opportunity for many of our students to be off on their own and away from their family. All in all, it was a memorable experience that our students will cherish for years to come.





Dr. Dena Kiouses
Principal

We Have Heart!
By Hannah Mekael, 5th-Grade Student and Student-Council President

There are people in the world who need our support from-time to time. Recently, students and the Fryberger Elementary School community under the leadership of our student council advisor, Ms. Collins, raised funds for the American Heart Association and children with special heart-related needs.



Students raised money for two weeks, with the final fund-raising day culminating into a fun jump-rope activity. The students and staff at Fryberger Elementary School learned about how to have a healthy heart and honed their jump-rope skills while enjoying themselves through healthy group exercise. This was a group effort that took all teachers, staff, students and volunteers to support this worthy event.

I am personally honored that, as the Fryberger School Student Council president, I am able to represent the Fryberger community and our commitment toward making a difference in the lives of others. Great job, Falcons!



Daniel Owens
Principal

Well-Rounded Experiences

Johnson Middle School prides itself on providing students with a well-rounded education while allowing them to pursue activities they are passionate about. Students are able to participate in activities such as yearbook, robotics, woodshop, video production, technology, drama, sports, orchestra, and band. These experiences, along with the core subjects, allow students to grow above and beyond. The experiences and knowledge gained from these “extracurricular” activities follow students throughout life. The teachers at Johnson are striving to find even more creative ways to allow students to show off their talents and skills.

Mrs. Coleen Dudas and the Johnson Drama Department recently presented the musical “Grease.” The students’ hard work and dedication paid off! We look forward to seeing what other amazing theater productions will be on our stage in the future.



Mark Murphy
Principal

A Great Night

Hayden Elementary hosted its first Innovation Night last month, and it was a terrific success!

Last fall our school opened up an Innovation Lab to create a space that can foster curiosity, creativity, engagement, exploration, empowerment, and help prepare students for the careers of the future. We wanted to involve our Hayden families to help promote these ideas, and so we invited them to our first ever Innovation Night.

The evening was an opportunity for the primary families to come and participate in a challenge. Using just spaghetti and marshmallows, each of these Hayden participants had just 20 minutes to design and construct the tallest tower possible.



All of the families had a great time participating in this challenge, and the creativity was amazing to see. A special thank-you goes to Jennifer Pippert, a local Girl Scout, for helping to organize this fantastic night. We look forward to our upper-grade Innovation Night coming soon.



Beverlee Mathenia
Executive Director,
Early Education
& Expanded
Learning



Reagan Lopez
Executive Director,
Student Services

It's DRDP Time!

The Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) is an assessment tool used by public school programs from birth to kindergarten entry. Teachers and specialists at Land use the DRDP to gather information that can help support children's learning and development. Your child's teacher or specialist completes the DRDP twice a year, once in the fall and again in the spring. Teachers observe children as they participate in activities with peers and adults throughout their school day. These observations are used to complete a number of items on the DRDP that cover various categories: approaches to learning self-regulation; social and emotional development; language and literacy; English language; cognition, including math and science; and physical development and health.



In addition to these observations, your child's teacher may ask you what you see your child doing at home.

Other ways you can participate in the DRDP assessment include talking with your child's teacher about his or her strengths and areas you want to focus on, and making sure that your child's teacher knows about the adaptations that your child uses daily.

Looking for more information on supporting your child's development? Visit allaboutyoungchildren.org.

Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Kathy Kane
Principal

Kindergarten Goes Country!

On a warm day in February, about 100 kindergarten students from Meairs School loaded themselves onto the bus and took a trip to Centennial Farm at the Orange County Fairgrounds. Here, they learned about the process of milking cows. They learned about the life cycle of a chicken and even got to hold baby chicks. They discovered the parts of a plant and were able to plant radish seeds. They learned about bees and oxen and the important work they do on a farm.



This was the first time petting a cow for many of these students.

The students had many opportunities to observe and pet lots of different farm animals. This was a great experience for these kindergarten students. For some, this was their first time on a school bus, their first field trip and their first time to visit a farm.

A great day was had by all! The smiles on their faces when they got off the bus showed proof that it was a wonderful day!

Schroeder *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Carrie Hernandez
Principal

Hello, Creat!on Stat!on!

This year, we have been working to create an innovation lab for all students to use. The students voted, and it is now called the Creat!on Stat!on. Students will be able to work with their classmates in an open area as they think, create, solve problems and more! It has a Lego wall, a green-screen area and a wall full of supplies! Students will be able to complete science projects with their classmates and also work on our schoolwide STEAM challenges!

At the end of the first trimester, we had our first schoolwide STEAM challenge! Students worked in groups to create a candy catapult. Each group was given the same materials—craft sticks, a spoon, a small plastic cup and rubber bands—to work with and be creative. In class, the groups tested their catapult and made revisions as needed. Our youngest students worked with their big buddies to design and create their catapults.

On the big launch day, all the students gathered on the blacktop to see what other classes had designed. Each class was able to launch their candy—a yummy Tootsie Roll—and see which one went the farthest. Some went far, some went backward, and some landed right next to the catapult, but we all had fun and learned!

After students returned to class, they discussed what worked, what didn't and how they would redesign their catapult for the future. Students enjoyed this engineering challenge!

Our plan is to have a schoolwide challenge each trimester. This allows students to be creative and problem solvers.

Thank you to our PTA for supporting us in purchasing items for our Creat!on Stat!on!

Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Orchid Rocha
Principal

Overcoming Challenges

By Christina Cota, Teacher

Jonathan Grado is a Schmitt School's Every Student Succeeding nominee for the 2017–2018 school year. Last year, his family suffered a tremendous loss—the sudden death of Jonathan's father. In spite of the many challenges this presented, Jonathan continued to keep up with the demands of third grade.

With guidance and support, Jonathan has strengthened his friendships and improved his work habits. He feels a sense of pride in the effort he puts forth each day. Though it has been a difficult year for Jonathan, he continues to do his very best. He knows how to be a good friend, he gets along well with others, and he enjoys the company of his classmates. He also has a great sense of humor! Jonathan's caring attitude and warm personality always radiate—as you can see from his infectious smile!



Sequoia *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Michelle Watkins
Principal

Building a Culture of Innovation

The foundational key to success in an innovative school environment is to instill a passion of creativity and innovation for students. At Sequoia Academy, we believe in creating a culture that encourages creative ideas and innovation on an ongoing basis.

As we continue to build this culture of innovation, we are always striving to provide opportunities for our scholars to find their areas to shine. This year we are excited to announce that PTA is holding their annual Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) Night with an additional creative challenge for our students.



Our third- through sixth-grade students will be hosting an Arcade Night in conjunction with our STEAM Night. We invite our community to come out on March 21 to participate in Sequoia's Arcade and STEAM Night. Sequoia scholars are designing and building arcade games, which will be highlighted at the event. We look forward to seeing their innovative creations.

Stacey *Middle School*

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



Heidi DeBritton
Principal

Pennies for Patients

By Mariah Escatel, Student

Stacey students are helping cancer patients this year by participating in the Pennies for Patients charity fundraiser. The fundraiser began on February 5th and runs until February 23rd. The goal is to raise \$2,018.

The money collected will be donated to find effective cancer therapies for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This isn't the first time that Stacey has raised money for this worthy cause, although Stacey's leadership class participated for a couple of years. Everyone at Stacey is encouraged to participate.



Stacey students received flyers and their own box to fill with pennies (or really any coins or bills). Students are encouraged to tell their parents about the fundraiser and search their houses for change.

Kira Temple, an eighth-grader, says, "It makes me so happy to hear that my school is a part of such a beautiful thing. I haven't filled my entire box yet, but I'm planning on it."

Webber *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Kevin Whitney
Principal

Heart Health

In February, to celebrate all things heart-related, our Webber Wolf Pack was involved in many heart healthy activities. The Student Council decided to support the American Heart Association, and so our students have been raising money for this charity.

They are very excited to be helping children and adults who need transplants or other heart-related surgeries. Sixth-grade teacher Mr. Tracy also volunteered to shave off his beard if the students raised more than \$1,100. We are all hoping that way more is raised for the Association, and to get his face clean of fuzz!

In February, the students had a dynamic outdoor assembly with hula hoops. The Hoop It Up team came to our school to get hearts pumping to music and hips swaying with hula hoops. The students enjoyed these outdoor activities, which also came with a highly positive message of student empowerment. A big thanks goes to first-grade teacher Mrs. Bess for arranging this great experience for our children.

For Valentine's Day, the Webber Student Council sold Valentine's pencils and hosted a healthy heart assembly. Upper-grade students supported the primary children as they learned new tricks for hula hooping and jump roping. This made the day a fun and festive experience for all of our Pack. The Healthy Heart Assembly could not have taken place without the leadership of teachers Mr. Tracy and Miss Stillion.

Warner *Middle School (6-8)*

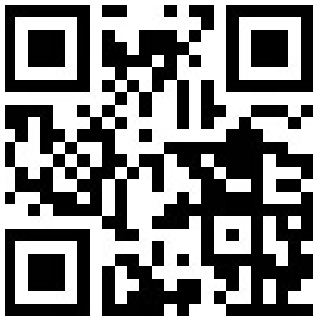
14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281 • <http://warner.wsdk8.us>



Amy Pham Kwon
Principal

ROCKS Challenge

From February 5th through March 9th, Warner students demonstrated their spirit through the ROCKS Challenge. Weekly, students were rewarded for acts of Respect, Organization, Courage, Kindness and Self Control. Student "spies" (from PAL and Leadership) looked throughout the campus each day for these acts. If a student was spotted doing the specific ROCKS behavior, they received a raffle ticket. At the end of each week, five students were randomly chosen to win a prize.



In addition, on February 13th, school-wide activities were taught based on reinforcing the five ROCKS principles. Students engaged in interactive activities and scenarios, and developed a deeper understanding of a motivated growth mindset, and ways to show empathy, understanding and encouragement to others.

This school-wide project brought out the best in our students who already possess these traits on a daily basis, and encouraged others to discover new ways to challenge themselves, and always ROCK!

Willmore *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Dr. Nicole Jacobson
Principal

Character Building

Willmore Elementary School welcomed author and illustrator Kathryn Otoshi and the Orange County Department of Education to promote character-building and anti-bullying efforts through the power of literature. Willmore is grateful for the opportunity to bring out an awareness of kindness through picture books for all students during this powerful presentation, entitled "One."

During the presentation, author Otoshi read her children's books, sharing their influential message about the importance of accepting each other's differences. Her presentation highlighted the understanding that one voice can help make everyone feel valued. Otoshi encouraged students to show kindness and concluded by sharing the message of her newest book, *Beautiful Hands*.

All kindergarten through fifth-grade students contributed their colorful handprints, which will be used to create a three-dimensional bird. This bird, inspired by *Beautiful Hands*, will hang in the school to represent students' daily dedication to treating others with kindness and respect.



Willmore students understand that it takes one to stand up and make a difference.

The Year in Review: 1918

By D.H. Coop

During the Great War, day-to-day life continued in America. In baseball, the Chicago Cubs beat the Philadelphia Phillies 2 to 1 in a 21-inning game. The Cubs then went on to win the pennant faster than any team in baseball—only to later lose the World Series to the Boston Red Sox. In that same season, the Georgia Peach, Ty Cobb, pitched two innings against the Browns, and Babe Ruth scored homeruns in three consecutive games, tying the major-league record. Walter Johnson pitched 18 innings in one game, and the White Sox hired Kid Gleason as their new manager.

The fourth Rose Bowl featured the U.S. Marines defeating Army 19 to 7 (though Army fared much better in 2017!). Many of the players were later shipped overseas to fight the Germans. The boxing ring saw Jack Dempsey “KO” Carl Morris in 14 seconds. And, not to be outdone by the men, Margaret Owen set a world record by typing 170 words in just one minute.

Robert Ripley began his series “Believe it or Not,” and the Great Houdini made an elephant disappear. Charlie Chaplin, then 29, married film star Mildred Harris, who was just 16. In that same year, John J. Hoover changed his name to J. Edgar Hoover. It was also the year that the Great War ended and a pandemic flu spread around the world.

Advertisements in local newspapers featured an array of car companies: Stanley, Comet, Tulsa, Revere, Douglas, Ford, Hanson, Yale and Dodge Brothers, to name a few. This burgeoning American industry sent 110,911 vehicles to Europe for the war effort. The wristwatch began to replace the pocket watch, and men wore garters to hold up their socks. And Royal Vinolia vanishing cream disappeared off of market shelves thanks to its advertisement featuring a female factory worker and the slogan “Beauty on Duty Has a Duty to Beauty.”

Though 100 years have passed since these historic events shaped our country, our lives have not changed that much. Though we enjoy the benefits of many more comforts and much more technology, we still love our sports and our cars, we still enjoy a good advertising campaign, and we are still grateful to those who protect and defend our country so sacrificially by serving in the military. This year, let’s celebrate our country’s rich heritage and its promise for the future.

D.H.Coop is a retired fire/paramedic and retired teacher having taught IB and AP World History 30 years. He continues to substitute, tutor and consult. www.HistoryDepot.com

Adventures - 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)


Thank you www.BarkateSmiles.com
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HIKE	THEME PARK
MINING	SIGHT SEEING
RAFTING	MUSEUMS
FISHING	GALLERIES
HUNTING	RIVERBOAT
CLIMBING	SAILING
SURFING	ROAD TRIP
GEOCACHING	ZIP LINE
BIRDWATCHING	

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

Congratulations to Franklin Thai and Jennifer Sligar
Winners of Our January Contests!



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Christina's Book Review

Interesting Problematic Cycle



Christina J.

The Secrets to Ruling School (Without Even Trying)
by Neil Swaab

The story is written in third person, and plays out as smoothly as a movie. You are a new student at William H. Taft Middle School and are approached by Max

Corrigan, your life coach, who will

help you to become popular among the cliques at school, so you start by trying to join into the Class Clown table that won't let you in, unless you can get them a good artists for their comics, so you go to a good artist who agrees to help you, only if you get the Band geeks away from their table at the cafeteria, so she can display her graffiti on that wall, they agree to leave, but only if you help them raise money to save their Music program, so you ask a rich girl for money, she agrees to help, but only if you rig the football team to lose, so she could win a bet... and this interestingly problematic cycle continues on and on, until you reach your goal.

I really liked reading this book, so I will give it 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).

Westminster Library

8180 13th St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/893-5057 • www.ocpl.org

Something for Every Age

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!

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!



Book Review By Katrina

A Virtual World



Katrina D.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

Ernest Cline is all about the OASIS, a virtual world where you can be anyone, do anything and enjoy life to the fullest. And that's pretty important, seeing as the world is currently dirt poor. Creator James Halliday however, leaves his players

one last surprise on his deathbed. Located within the game are three hidden keys, and whoever can find them and unlock all three gates, will inherit both his wealth and the OASIS itself. Though for five years, no one has any luck. Only for teenager Wade Watts to find the first key. Now the world is scrambling to find the keys, especially the IOI, an internet company intent on turning the free OASIS into a playground for the rich and powerful alone. Despite the dangers, Wade and his friends continue to search for the keys, and won't stop until its GAME OVER for everyone. Thrilling and fast paced, this book is a shocking theory of what our own future as a society could look like in a few decades. A great read for lovers of 80s pop culture and gaming in general. I give this book 4 out of 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.

Fountain Valley Library

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

Programs for All Ages

By Sarita Dangond, Youth Services Librarian

Storytime and crafts for toddlers and preschoolers is on Wednesdays at 10:30. Play and Learn at 11:00. Is a program which features educational and fun toys which engage children in social interaction and physical activity. No Registration required.

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

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

The Book of the Month Club meets at the Fountain Valley Senior Center at 1:00. March 27 is Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann. April 24 is The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See.

Mindful Class on March 27 at 10:30 teaches how meditation can help reduce stress and anxiety.

STEAM Club beginning March 1 at 3:30 will allow participants have fun and learn by doing hands on activities about science, technology, engineering, art and math! Suggested age: 8+

Bionerds on March 3 and 10 gives tweens and teens an opportunity to learn with hands-on food biology activities.

Sit 'N Stitch on March 21 is a casual social knitting and crochet group which meets monthly. Adults can drop in and bring their knitting, crochet, or other yarn project to work on. They can trade tips, patterns, troubleshoot, or make new friends. All skill levels welcome. Some starter supplies may be available.

Tech Social on April 21, May 19 and June 16 at 1:00 is an intergenerational program which brings together seniors and teens brings together to mingle and get help with modern technologies.

All library programs are free!

Huntington Beach Central Library

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



Barbara Richardson
Senior Librarian
Programming and
Youth Services

Spring Reading Program

Starting March 3, children, kindergarten through 5th grade, can join the Huntington Beach Library's Spring Reading Program. You can register your children online @hbpl.beanstack.com or pick up a reading log at any HB library branch starting March 3. Children who complete the program will receive a kid's meal coupon, scratch and sniff bookmark and scented sticker. There will be a special Garden Party behind Central Library on Saturday, April 14, 10:00 a.m. to noon hosted by the HB Tree Society. This event is free. There will be a butterfly tent and Maypole dance.

Thursday, March 22, Regina Calcaterra, author of Etched in Sand, will speak at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Theater. This HB Reads' event is free and open to the public. Ms Calcaterra's emotionally powerful memoir details her journey through foster homes and homelessness. Despite all the problems of her troubled childhood, Regina was able to overcome these obstacles and become a successful lawyer. Her struggles remind the reader that the American dream is still within reach for those who have the determination to succeed.

This year's Taste of Huntington Beach is on Sunday, April 29 from noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Sports Complex. There will be an exclusive VIP reception from 11:00 a.m. to noon. This annual fundraiser benefits the Children's Library and is sponsored by the Friends of the Children's Library. For more information about the Taste, and to purchase tickets, visit tastehb.com. Tickets are also for sale at the Central Library Children's Desk.

Want to get a weekly email of upcoming storytime themes and books? Register for our storytime corner email. Go to hbpl.org and click on Kids Stuff. You will be able to see our monthly calendar, our storytime schedules and find out what upcoming children's programs will be happening.

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Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

More than anything, we owe it to our students to provide them with safe and secure campuses where learning thrives. Moreover, we owe it to parents to return their children each day just as healthy and happy as when they arrived.

Yet we have seen so many instances nationally where acts of violence break the sanctity of school communities, including horrific tragedies like the recent mass shooting that took the lives of 17 people at a high school in Florida.

To say school shootings occur too often in the United States is an understatement. Once is too often.

I wish it weren't necessary to write this column. However, I want to offer my most heartfelt condolences to anyone impacted by senseless violence, and I want to reaffirm the ongoing commitment of the Orange County Department of Education and leaders throughout our region to proactively protect our schools — and specifically our students and staff.

Let's start with some background. Each year, campuses in California are required by law to update their Comprehensive Safe School Plans, which, among other things, outline each site's planned responses to various crises. These are routinely reinforced through site-level drills including evacuations and shelter-in-place exercises.

The strategies that schools employ to promote safety will vary by campus and are ultimately up to each district's school board and superintendent, in partnership with teachers, staff, students and communities. But OCDE has long supported this work with trainings and workshops throughout the year, covering a raft of topics including school safety plans, earthquake preparedness, behavioral threat assessments, resilience strategies and active-shooter behavioral indicators.

Our department also works closely with the Orange County Sheriff's

Department and other local law enforcement agencies to discuss everything from cyberbullying to securing school facilities. Additionally, OCDE and the Sheriff's Department team up every summer to host the [Safe Schools Conference](#) with the California Department of Education. This three-day event brings together more than 500 educators and law enforcement representatives from throughout the state to discuss issues and trends related to campus violence, bullying, social media, human trafficking, gangs and substance abuse.

In the case of critical incidents impacting schools, OCDE's Crisis Response Network deploys psychologists, nurses, social workers and other personnel to support students and staff during and after emergencies. This team also provides training to schools, youth service providers, parents and students.

I would add that OCDE continues to promote positive school climates and anti-bullying through such initiatives as [the Multi-Tiered System of Support framework](#), Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports — often referred to as PBIS — and [our One Billion Acts of Kindness campaign](#), which was launched in 2016 to promote character and amplify civility in our communities.

Our perception of the world changed forever on April 20, 1999, when a pair of high school students killed 12 of their classmates and a teacher on the campus of Columbine High School. From that day forward, educators have worked closely with law enforcement to continually assess schools and implement protocols to make them safer.

Suffice to say, this a race that has no finish line — not now, not ever.

If game-changing technologies emerge that can enhance our work, we will pursue them. If there are better practices elsewhere in the world, we will adopt them. Simply put, we will vigorously research any measure that protects our students and staff from internal or external threats.

The stakes are too high to rest for a second on this issue, and we owe our kids nothing less.

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Tony Morrow has one goal for the students of Fallbrook High School—graduate ready for what comes next. With his guidance, young scholars and families put their plans for the future into action.



Fallbrook High School, College and Career Counselor: Tony Morrow '11, M.A.Ed. '12

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