School Jews

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

**VOLUME 11, ISSUE 69** 

www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com

**NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2015** 

# **Energy Efficiency & Solar Savings**

By Dr. Marian Kim Phelps, Superintendent Westminster School District

In December, the Westminster School District will begin construction on a comprehensive and exciting Energy Program that will support all District facilities now and well into the future. The District partnered with an energy services firm to design and build a program that will generate guaranteed energy savings for the District. Throughout the next year, the District will:

- Install solar shade structures at all school sites which are designed and sized based upon the electrical generation needs of each individual site and will be owned by the District
- Replace interior and exterior light fixtures in the district (15,799) with energy efficient LED fixtures
- Replace existing inefficient HVAC units
- Install water conservation measures at all 19 District sites
- Incorporate a customized, hands-on STEM education program that brings real-world data from the energy projects into the classroom



Rendering of Solar Arrays at the Westminster District Office.

Our goal is to have the solar shade structures operational and saving energy for the District before the end of the current school year! The environmental impact of the program is extremely impressive. Each year the impact will be equivalent to:

- Eliminating a year's worth of Green House Gas emissions from 662 cars or...
- Reducing CO2 emissions generated by 433 homes annually or...
- Recycling 1,127 tons of waste instead of sending it to the landfill or...
- The carbon sequestered by 8,065 trees

Through Proposition 39, the district was able to leverage \$2.2 million in energy grants over the next five years into a comprehensive \$22 million project that will improve energy efficiency and provide clean, renewable energy generation at all of our schools without any impact on taxpayers or the District's general fund. The cost of the entire project will be paid with energy savings generated over the next 18 years. Additional savings to the District will be realized in following years with ongoing solar generation and energy efficiency measures.

We are looking forward to implementing an environmentally focused program that will allow our District to lead by example and will benefit the community that we serve for many years to come.

# **Viking Pride**

By Jessie Marion, Ed.D., Principal -Marina High School

Viking Pride is alive and well at Marina High School! Over the last year, Marina teacher Bob Meade and his construction students have been busy building an authentic Viking ship. The 30-foot ship, called a "knarr," is not only an amazing representation of Marina's mascot, but it will also be a sea-worthy vessel.

In order to pay for the boat, the students have raised funds by building and selling lifeguard chairs and skateboard racks. At this point, the boat's superstructure is close to complete, and a dragon head has been affixed to the front of the ship. Students are still working to build the decking, rails, rudder, oar locks, and mast. The ship will also be painted and will have to pass state inspection.

Beyond the visual appeal of the boat, Mr. Meade has truly been able to inspire students with this project. Students have had to problem solve, communicate, and collaborate to accomplish this task. What an incredible example of project-based learning!



Christian Sample, Joshua Fernandez, Shane Hagen, Jessie Gonzalez.

Mr. Meade and his construction students are looking forward to displaying the boat at school events as a symbol of Viking pride. Even more exciting, the students are aiming to sail the ship in the Huntington Harbour, and they may even enter it in the Christmas boat parade. We can't wait for our Viking ship to set sail!

#### **School Districts**

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Huntington Beach Union High School



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Johnson

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# School News

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Covering the: FOUNTAIN VALLEY/ OCEAN VIEW **HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY HUNTINGTON BEACH UNION HIGH SCHOOL WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICTS** 

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**Kay Coop** Founder/Publisher



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Better find a compfy chair and plan to sit awhile as this issue will keep you wanting more. You'll read about PAL Service Club, 100 Mile Club, Lollipop Moments, Back to School Nights, Parent School Collaboration, College and Career Prep, and so much more.

We have record numbers of entries in our contests each issue. See page 32 and have fun!

Our next issue is Jan 13. Until then Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year! We are always grateful for our men and women in the armed services.

## **UCLA** Extension

# **Pathway**

## For Students with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

#### **Our Post-Secondary 2-Year Program Offers:**

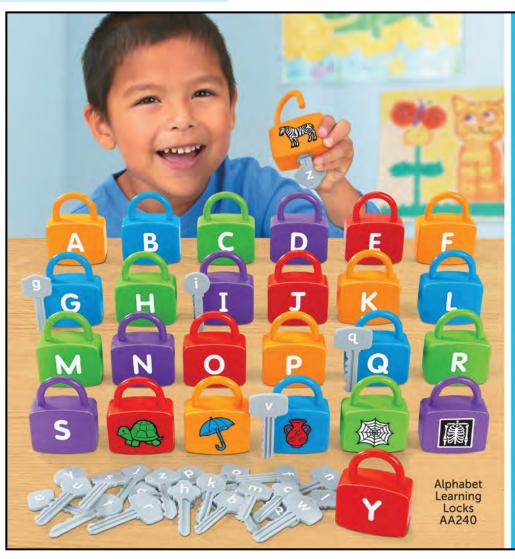
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## Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 800-MEMORIAL • MillerChildrens.org

## What Changes after a Diabetes Diagnosis?



Mario Brakin, MD Medical Director. Endocrin, Diabetes & Metabolic Center

Having a child diagnosed with diabetes is a major event, but it's important to keep everything in perspective. Managed properly, diabetes shouldn't prevent your child from doing anything other

Think ahead: Form a consistent schedule, and carry around diabetes supplies, such as snacks and treatments for low blood glucose.

Take an active role in their health care: Arrange for routine follow-up visits, call your child's doctor if you have questions and become an advocate for their health.

Stay organized: Put your child's diabetes routine on the refrigerator or carry around an organized kit, labeling the items inside, and keeping spares on hand.

**Communicate:** Develop a system to help you and your child remember when and who gave medicines. Determine ways of keeping in contact with your child, their school and other caregivers. Post emergency numbers in a visible location.

It can be helpful to others caring for your child.

**Take care of yourself:** When possible, share the load and try to do things together (e.g. draw insulin, discuss solutions). Parents need time to themselves, so educate other caregivers, such as babysitters, grandparents and older siblings, so you don't have to be with your child at all times.

Living with diabetes can be scary, especially at first. Diabetes has been added, but nothing about your child has been taken away. Sometimes diabetes can even be a positive change. If everyone improves their diet and exercises, this can be a healthy change for your family.

## City of Huntington Beach Office of the Mayor

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

## **Greetings**



Jill Hardy Mayor

This year has gone by so fast and sadly, my time as Mayor is coming to an end. It's been my honor to serve the residents of Huntington Beach as Mayor this past year. So many great events, milestones, and accomplishments to be proud of!

The city continued to celebrate 100 Years of Surfing this year by breaking not one, but two Guinness Book of World Records. It was a truly epic day when we officially kicked off summer watching 66 surfers on a 42' board! More than 5,000 people came to the pier to see the historic event.

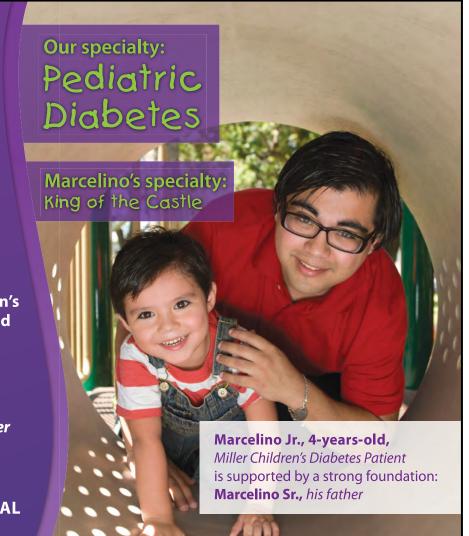
Our 4th of July celebration was spectacular! The 111th "Sounds of Freedom" parade showcased our city beautifully and was captured live by KABC-TV, Channel 7 and broadcasted all over the southland from Santa Barbara to the Inland Empire to northern San Diego County.

In addition, Vans sponsored another successful US Open of Surfing competition. More than 400,000 surfing fanatics visited our city during the nine-day competition.

It's been an outstanding year serving you as Mayor. I thank you for the opportunity to have served my home town and I look forward to seeing you at the beach!









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## City of Fountain Valley Office of the Mayor

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

## **Holiday Safety Tips**



Steve A. Nagel Mayor

#### **Decorate Your Tree With Your Kids in Mind:**

Kids are curious and will want to play with the ornaments on

#### Water the Tree Regularly:

If they're not watered regularly, needles can dry out and pose a potential fire hazard.

#### Check the Lights:

Take a look at the ones on your tree and in and around your home for exposed or frayed wires, loose connections or broken sockets

#### Blow Out Candles and Store Matches Out of Reach of Children:

Keep holiday candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn, and don't forget to blow them out when you leave the room or before you go to sleep. Make a habit of placing matches and lighters in a safe place, out of children's reach.

#### **Keep Harmful Plants Out of Reach:**

This includes mistletoe berries, holly berry, and Jerusalem cherry. In a poison emergency, call the national Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

#### Also:

- Find the Perfect Toy for the Right Age Child
- Don't Forget a Helmet for New Bikes or Other Toys
- Prevent Spills with Pans & Pot Handles place pots on back burners to prevent spills
- Check Your Car Seat Before Holiday Travel
- Plan for your Trip and get your car tuned-up and tires checked.

"Happy Holidays and Happy New Year"

## Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center

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

## **Fall Season Means Flu Season**



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

In the fall, many people get sick with the flu. The flu season begins in November and lasts until March. A flu shot will protect your child from getting a bad case of the flu and may protect him or her from getting the flu at all.

If your child experiences serious complications from the flu or other serious illness, contact the doctor's office. Be especially vigilant if your child is younger than 3 months old and has a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, or if an older child has a fever higher than 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Also call the doctor if an older child has a lower fever, but refuses to drink liquids, has persistent diarrhea or repeated vomiting, shows signs of dehydration, or experiences recurrent fevers.

A trip to the emergency room may be necessary in cases when a feverish child also:

- · Cries inconsolably for hours and is very irritable
- Develops a rash or spots that look like bruises
- · Has a stiff neck
- Becomes limp and refuses to move
- Has difficulty breathing; a severe headache; or blue lips, tongue, or nails



Most people who get the flu are sick for about a week. And talk with your child's doctor if you have other questions or concerns.

xcitement, nervousness, anticipation, and happiness are all words that describe the maternal experience.

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#### **SUPERINTENDENT**



Dr. Mark **Johnson** 

As we move further into the 2015-16 school year, there is a renewed energy in the Fountain Valley School District. It is a feeling of increased momentum and an excitement about what lies ahead. And, it comes from a united commitment to high expectations, collaboration and continuous learning!

The 2015-16 school year began with an amazing Leadership Advance that brought over 80 stakeholders together to engage in a common experience, share our new District Priorities and learn about our plan for the upcoming school year. In addition, the Leadership Advance provided us with an opportunity to celebrate

the hard work of our students, teachers, support staff, administrators and families. FVSD had a terrific start in the new assessment system! And while we still have work to do, we know that we are on the right track.

Our school days are filled with engaging programs for students and we are thrilled with the energy in our classrooms. We have successfully grown our music program with dedicated music teachers and expanded music offerings for students in kindergarten through 8th grade. Also, our sites are gearing up for Polar Day, our first district-wide science event to be hosted in December at Talbert Middle School. As a part of our participation in the OC STEM cohort, we will have STEM activities for all elementary, middle, preschool and Extended School Program (ESP) students to explore. And the impact of collaboration across curriculum and grade-level teams district-wide is amazing and continues to grow!

With regard to professional development, we have already worked with Academic Vocabulary specialist, Dr. Kate Kinsella and Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) expert, Teri Malpass. And, we have plans to begin working with Kathy Baumgartner on Collaborative Conversations and Depth and Complexity creator, Dr. Sandra Kaplan. Additionally, our Leadership Team is conducting a book study on *The Principal* by Michael Fullan. Fullan argues for the principal as "lead learner" and emphasizes the importance of creating high-performance expectations and cultures by helping teachers work together in focused and transparent ways, monitoring progress and intervening when necessary (Fullan 2014).

In addition, our Board of Trustees continues to participate in their own professional learning community as they turn to The Advantage by Patrick Lencioni. Their dedication to organizational health and adherence to the collective success of our District provides the necessary support for our continued excellence.

It is also apparent that our record of success inspires us to even greater achievement. While the District continues to honor all three middle schools for their outstanding recognition as Gold Ribbon Schools, awarded by the California Department of Education in 2015, we are also primed to support our elementary schools as they all prepare to apply for this prestigious recognition this fall.

The Fountain Valley School District has consistently upheld a tradition of merit, and 2016 brings us the opportunity to continue to prepare today's youth for tomorrow's future as we remain devoted and dedicated to changing the lives of <u>all</u> children. Every day, every certificated, classified, confidential and administrative employee, as well as our Board of Trustees, is giving their best to every student in our District. There is a commitment in FVSD, stronger than ever before, to our students, our peers and our District, and with this commitment comes even greater promise for success!

### **Fountain Valley School District Board of Trustees**



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FOUNTAIN VALLEY, HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY, OCEAN VIEW, WESTMINSTER AND HUNTINGTON BEACH UNION HIGH SCHOOL



Lisa Schultz Member

**Highlights of the Year** 



**Ian Collins** President

I feel very privileged to serve the Fountain Valley education community, and I am very proud of the work that has been accomplished this year.

It began by hiring Dr. Mark Johnson as our new superintendent, a major accomplishment and an outstanding find. The Board developed new protocols and practices and always availed themselves of weekend workshops and multiple study sessions. This Board is extremely active in our schools and our community.

In the area of academics, our three middle schools all earned Gold Ribbon recognition from the California Department of Education. We had a great start with Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium in both English language arts with 69 percent of our students meeting or exceeding standards and a 63-percent achievement level in math. There has been a major increase in student access to technology and several valuable professional development opportunities for staff, including: "Academic Vocabulary" with Kate Kinsella and "Collaborative Conversations" with Kathy Baumgartner, as well as further training regarding Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) and Depth and Complexity. In addition, we had a successful new math textbook adoption.

In the field of fiscal responsibility, the district has invested Fund 40 in a custom portfolio and maintained a strong reserve and continues to generate revenue through the Moiola lease, Fund 40 and other property revenues.

Our Facilities Committee has met four times to analyze our school sites, classroom environments, air-conditioning needs, technology infrastructure, science classrooms, and outdoor space.

The culture of our district is one of high expectations, collaboration, and a commitment to learning for both students and adults. In addition, Dr. Johnson has developed a newsletter, sent via Constant Contact, with an open rate of over 58 percent.

Moreover, recently our Education Foundation hosted its first annual Marc A. Ecker Golf Tournament, which was a complete sell-out and raised needed funds for music and science.

My tenure as Board President will soon be coming to an end, but I feel this has been a banner year for positive change and accomplishments!

## Fountain Valley Schools Foundation

10055 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • www.FVschools.org



**Judy Edwards** 

**Supporting Our Children** 

The Fountain Valley Schools Foundation is thrilled with the results of its first Marc Ecker Golf Tournament. Thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers lead by Tom Antal and Ian Collins, a very successful tournament was held at the Mile Square Golf Course on October 5.

About 150 golfers turned out to support STEAM programs for the students of the Fountain Valley School District. It appears that everyone had a good time, and for a good cause. Thanks to the big turnout, and the support of our dedicated sponsors, we

are proud to say that the Foundation has made nearly \$30,000. We are already planning next year's Golf Tournament.

Thanks to all who participated. The monies earned from this event will go to expand the robotics programs at the middle schools and strengthen the music and arts programs at the elementary sites. We are working with the district administration on specific areas of need.

Watch for our next event called the Taste of Fountain Valley, which will be held on April 23, 2016 at the Senior Center at Founders Village. Edwardo Higuchi and his committee of volunteers are already working on the details.

I would like to thank those who support the Foundation through their membership donations and volunteerism. This is an organization that is dedicated to enriching the curriculum of our students, as well as providing fun activities for everyone who participates. To join us in support of the children of the Fountain Valley School District, please go to FVSchools.org.

## Roch Courreges Elementary (K-5)

18313 Santa Carlotta, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4280 • www.rces-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com



**Chris Christensen** Principal

## **Cognitively Guided Instruction**

Congratulations to Lara Epling (Special Ed Teacher)! Lara's Cotsen Strategic Opportunity Grant titled The CGI Movement in Fountain Valley has been approved for \$17,000.00. The grant will be used to further the district-wide Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) movement, which will provide teachers with the opportunity to collaborate with their teams and other schools. There will also be intensive, in depth trainings provided by a CGI consultant to further the understanding of this philosophy for math instruction. As a district signature practice, this will propel students to become higher level thinkers and problem solvers in mathematics.



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

17615 Los Jardines E., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4240 • www.jhces-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com



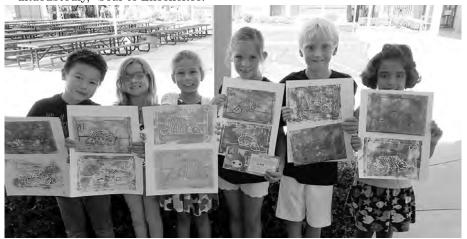
**Patrick Ham** Principal

#### Ready to Learn

It was with great excitement that we ushered in the start of the 2015-2016 school year. Fresh haircuts, new backpacks, and big smiles were all apparent throughout the campus.

As we began the new school year, the Cox PTO was ready to support our students' educational experiences with two inspiring enrichment programs. In coordination with Mrs. Kathy Lewis, our students recently took part in a recent Character/Anti-Bully Assembly from the amazing Jon Pritikin. There was also a historic FIBO Art Assembly/Project lesson about artist Albrecht Durer from the Northern Renaissance.

Our PTO's support and sponsorship truly helps to make Cox an excellent school. Our students and staff members are respectful, responsible, and ready to learn. Thank you, Cox community, for supporting our students through the PTO. We look forward to the coming year in which our Cox Eagles will undoubtedly, "Soar to Excellence."



Mrs. Desormiers 2nd grade students showing their Albrecht Durer artwork.

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

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



**Kevin Johnson** Principal



**Matt Ploski** Assistant Principal

## **PAL Service Club**

Peer Assistance League (PAL) is a service club that organizes, coordinates, and participates in projects to better our school and community. It's a yearlong elective open to seventh- and eighth-

graders, and it works alongside our ASB on various service projects.

PAL members select which activities the club will organize and conduct. In September and October, Helping Hands and PAL planned Red Ribbon Week activities. For the second year, PAL was able to extend drug-awareness activities to Courreges and Tamura students. Already planned for the year are a cannedfood drive, the annual Fulton Toy Drive, designing and distributing valentines to the Fountain Valley Senior Center and military, and our annual pop-top drive. Poptops are donated to the OC Ronald McDonald House, which recycles them and uses the money to fund the

Fulton students are working hard to make a difference in their community, and the Fulton family couldn't be prouder of them!



Emily Nguyen, Reece Gomez, Anh Nguyen, Sophia Osmena, Sophie Reiff, Ashley Griffin, Erin Min, Ivy Le, Kristen Valdez, Noah Walker, Elizabeth McIlroy, Thanh To, Jake Pedersen (Jack behind Thanh), Hailey Train, Madison Martinez, Casey Bewley. Front laying down: Alex Smilor.

## Kazuo Masuda Middle School(6-8)

17415 Las Jardines W., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4250 • www.masudams.fvsd.ca.schoolloop.com



**Jay Adams** Principal



Jennifer Kajdasz Assistant Principal

## **PALs On the Move**

The Masuda PAL (Peer Assistance Leadership) group is one of Masuda's most active electives. Co-advisors Kim Nguyen and Allyson McFerran encourage PALs and their peers to make healthy life decisions and provide opportunities to create a supportive, safe school environment.

Students learn decision-making skills, refusal skills to counter negative influences,

communication skills, conflict-management skills, and how to be positive rolemodels, embrace social responsibility, and plan and implement service-learning projects.

Seventh-grader Kaia Adams says she applied to be a PAL to help others, to meet new people, and because it's "an eye-opening experience!"

"These students are the heart of the school, and we love to be a part of it all—watching change happen every day," said Mrs. McFerran.

Masuda's motto is "Take a second and make a difference," and PAL students are doing just that! We're so grateful for the difference they make daily on our campus and in our community!



## Robert Gisler Elementary (K-5)

18720 Las Flores, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4211 • www.regs-fvsd-caschoolloop.com

Principal

#### **Student Council**

The 2015-2016 Student Council elections were held in October. We had a tremendous group of students run for office this year, and they should all be very proud of themselves! Each student made a campaign poster and delivered a speech to the third-, fourth- and fifth-graders during an election assembly.

Our new Student Council is made up of the following students: President Owen Campbell, Vice President Lauren McCormick, Secretary Katie Camberos, and Executive Board members Jack Miller, Mikayla Fleisher, Charlie Crossett, and Kane Cross. In

addition to our new officers, each class in the third, fourth, and fifth grades has a room representative who attends all of the Student Council meetings.

The Student Council has gotten right to work planning theme days for Red Ribbon Week and organizing a canned food drive for the holidays. Student Council is off to a great start, and we are looking forward to a wonderful year!



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

8787 Dolphin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4200 • www.wtnes-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com



**Chris Mullin** Principal

#### 100 Mile Club

For the second year in a row, students at Newland Elementary School are participating in the 100 Mile Club. Students run for 15 minutes each morning before school starts. There is a considerable amount of research on the benefits of physical activity on children. Evidence supports participation in physical activities, as it can reduce negative social activity and alienation in children.

The philosophy is simple: believe that every individual has the ability to achieve personal success and physical fitness by

accepting the challenge of running or walking 100 miles at school. These feelings of personal success and fitness will carry an individual to new levels of achievement in academics, athletics, and life.

Although we began later in the school year last year, Newland students registered over 3,000 miles, and several students achieved the 100-mile goal. We are expecting to surpass those achievements this year.



COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF:

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

9675 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4230 • www.uhpes-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com



**Julie Ballesteros** 

### The Dairy Council Visits Plavan

Recently, our students at Plavan were fortunate to experience the Dairy Council's "Mobile Classroom." This program was established in 1930 out of a desire to build a connection between children and agriculture.

This special assembly teaches children in the kindergarten through sixth grades about the anatomy of a cow, how milk goes from a cow to their refrigerator, the agricultural technology they use, and a chance to meet a cow up close!



Our new friend - Coco the cow!

The children of Plavan recently gathered around the Mobile Classroom with their new friend Coco the Cow inside. Coco and Mr. Miller provided an interactive and engaging presentation that stimulated our students to think about healthy food, good activity choices, and agriculture's contribution to our food supply. In addition, every child had the opportunity to also pet a baby calf!

We are extremely thankful for this unique opportunity to connect with agriculture.

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

9101 Brabham Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • www.talbertms.fvsd.ca.schoolloop.com



Jennifer Morgan Principal



**Mark Holman** Assistant Principal

## Promoting a Love for Learning

At Talbert Middle School, we strive to bring new and exciting enrichment opportunities to all of our students. This year is no exception, and so we have joined with Explorocean from Newport Beach to provide engaging and motivating projects for our sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders.

The program is divided into three six-week sessions that focus on utilizing solar and renewable energy. The first session allows students the

opportunity to harness the power of the sun and build solar cars, while also using their creativity to make the projects as light and aerodynamic as possible. At the end of the session the students will race their creations in a solar competition.

This after-school activity meshes perfectly with Talbert's strong commitment to the sciences, and the school district's overall focus on STEAM education. Our goal is for each student to have enrichment opportunities that challenge their thinking and promote a love for learning.



## Isojiro Oka Elementary (K-5)

9800 Yorktown Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4260 • www.ioes-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com



**Erik Miller** Principal

#### **Student Leadership Success**

Oka Elementary  $\bar{\text{S}}\text{chool}$  is proud to begin our third year of student leadership. Recently, 30 students were selected from a deep pool of interested applicants to be part of this school year's group. These fourth- and fifth-grade students are already providing leadership by example in their classrooms and on the playground.

There is a heightened level of excitement to make a difference in the Wolfpack, and this group of students is making it happen! Some of the responsibilities students will have include: leading

morning announcements; conducting weekly spirit contests; organizing lunchtime classroom competitions; managing our recycling program; and raising funds for science assemblies through the sale of Boo-Grams.

This program would not be possible without our amazing advisors, who routinely give up their own lunchtime to meet with students and keep them headed in the right direction.



Newly appointed Student Leadership members with Advisors Mrs. Gutierrez and Ms. Angeles.

## Hisamatsu Tamura Elementary (K-5)

17340 Santa Suzanne St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-6226 • www.htes-fvsd-ca.schoolloop.com



**Kathy Davis** Principal

#### **Key to Success**

As we begin the 2015–16 school year, the Tamura staff wants to remind parents of the vital part they play in the education of their children. Research indicates that children whose parents are involved in their schooling in meaningful ways perform better than those with uninvolved parents do. However, please keep in mind that involvement does not necessarily mean volunteering in the classroom, although we certainly do appreciate our parent volunteers! Nonetheless, parents' involvement in their children's education begins before the child ever shows up to school.

We will continue with our routines at school, and it is important for you to continue to stress routines at home that include a quiet place for homework, reading for enjoyment at least 20 minutes a night, getting ready for school the night before so the morning is not rushed, and finally getting a good night's sleep. A reasonable bedtime for children 11 or younger is at least 10 hours of sleep. Work with your children to develop routines so that they are performed independently, foster self-sufficiency, and are effective in providing them control over appropriate aspects of their lives. This is also developmentally appropriate for elementary-age children.

## **Huntington Beach City School District BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

17011 Beach Blvd., Suite 560 Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/964-8888 • www.huntington-ca.schoolloop.com

#### SUPERINTENDENT



**Gregory Haulk** 

#### A Fantastic Start

Huntington Beach City School District (HBCSD) is off to a fantastic start for the 2015–2016 school year. The staff did an excellent job working over the summer—on their own time for our 10-month employees—to ensure we were ready for all of our students. Solar panels were installed on four more of our campuses, which means that now all HBCSD schools have operating solar panels. A lot of other work was completed on each site, and all of the schools looked fantastic, as did each and every classroom. Schedules were complete, and materials were ready.

We are very excited this school year to have brand-new math materials for our students. Our new program includes a very robust online component for our students and families.

The state of California released the results of the state accountability assessments, the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), and we are very pleased to report how well the students of HBCSD did compared to similar districts, Orange County districts, and the state of California. HBCSD performed far above the state average and is the highest scoring K-8district in Orange County. Congratulations to all of our students and the hardworking teachers and staff members who support them on a daily

Coming very soon to HBCSD will be a new and improved, family-friendly Web site, the beginning of our music program expansion district-wide, and opportunities for parents and students to participate in our Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). Please continue to check back with School News Roll Call and our Web site to stay informed.

## **Educational Services**

20451 Craimer Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/964-8888



Jenn Kinkel Early Childhood Education

#### A Strong Start

Do you remember the last time you started a new job or an educational program or began attending a new group or activity for the first time? Can you begin to imagine what the first day of preschool must feel like for a young child with a limited frame of

While people adapt to new environments and settings at different rates and with different mindsets, many feel a multitude of emotions during planning and in the days leading up to the transition. These emotions might include excitement, wonder, and hope or possibly fear, anxiety and apprehension. Children may feel these types of emotions when encountering new

situations, and we may notice behavioral shifts as they continue to acquire the skills necessary to articulate their feelings.

This is one of the many reasons that high-quality early childhood education experiences are critical for all young learners. Children who have experiences in strong preschool programs have the opportunity to practice through the substantial transition from home to school, and they understand the concept of group dynamics. They demonstrate increased confidence within group settings and are often strong self-regulators. Additionally, foundational skills are built in a variety of domains, including language and literacy, visual and performing arts, physical development, health, and mathematics.

High-quality early childhood education experiences are beneficial to all community members, whether you are a child or a family member, a teacher or an administrator, a psychologist or a speech pathologist, a neighbor or a social worker. If every child in every community had the opportunity to attend a high-quality preschool program, children would certainly enter their first kindergarten experiences better equipped to learn.



**Shari Kowalke** 

One statement that I hear again and again is that writing is an essential skill that can benefit students for the rest of their lives. Introducing and practicing writing along with engaging activities in school can create confidence and a lifelong love of writing. Writing skills are important for continued learning in all academic areas, as well as communication and self-expression.

Writing exercises support development of critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Students also learn the writing process, from outline to finished product, which translates into other

aspects of learning. For example, students can use planning and organizing, research, and peer review to learn topics in mathematics and science. Additionally, writing about the world is also key for vocabulary and reading development.

Creative and reflective writing can build confidence and an appreciation for writing. Through journaling and personal story writing, students can discover their identities and work through real-life situations. Writing can help children connect to the world around them, both on and off the page. The writing process, complete with peer review and feedback, allows students to learn from each other. Creating these safe learning environments teaches students to both accept and deliver constructive criticism.

Today's students will need to be both literate and computer-literate to succeed in school and their future careers. While the two skills complement each other, some computer tools, such as spell check, the thesaurus, and grammar check, can inhibit developing writing skills. It is also important for students to know that technology should supplement their knowledge, not replace it, because even computers can make mistakes.

### **Huntington Beach City School District Board of Trustees**







Bridget Kaub Vice President



Brian Rechsteiner



Dr. Paul



Rosemary Saylor Member

# Ethel R. Dwyer Middle School

1502 Palm Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-7507 • www.huntington-ca.schoolloop.com/dwyer



**Darrenn Platt** Principal

#### **Lollipop Moments**

In today's pop culture society, with social media and reality TV, we spend so much time celebrating the amazing things that hardly anybody can do that we have convinced ourselves that these are the only things worth celebrating, and so we start to devalue those that we can do every day. But not at Dwyer.

We began our year discussing a TED Talk by Drew Dudley entitled "Leading with Lollipops." He describes a moment when someone thanked him for a small act (giving a lollipop), and the few words that he said which made a trajectory change in their

life. The only thing is, he didn't remember anything about that moment.

This discussion has helped spring a new awareness of the power of our words and actions. How the things we say, no matter how small we may think they are, can have a profound impact. Our mission as educators is not just to impart knowledge and content, but to help students develop a confidence in the power that they hold.

At Dwyer, we are no longer devaluing the "little" things. As educators we have an impact on our young people's lives every day. Every day, we help others see the value in what they are as people. Every day we change an individual's world, and all of this through lollipop moments.

What about you? Are you taking the opportunities that come your way? It may seem trivial, but it could just fundamentally change someone's life. Take a chance. Don't let your lollipop moments pass you by.

COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF: November / December 2015 11

## John H. Eader Elementary

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



Debbi Randall Principal

#### 100 Mile Club!

Ready... set...go! Students and parents alike were excited to get running or walking in our first 100 Mile Club opening day! Mrs. Hunter, PTA VP and chairperson of this great activity, inspired many students to get their brains geared up for learning and their bodies in shape for activity by starting this event at Eader. The nationwide program provides the opportunity for students to walk, skip, or run 100 miles at school during a single school year. Regular activity can improve school readiness to learn, encourage goal setting, build self-esteem, and increase the overall health of our children.

Students will participate every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning of the school year calendar from 8:15 to 8:35 a.m. Prizes and recognition are given in lunchtime reward assemblies for 25-, 50-, 75- and 100-mile accomplishments!



Anxious Eagles await the start of the first day of the 100 Mile Club!

## Huntington Seacliff Elementary

6701 Garfield Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/841-7081 • www.huntington-ca.schoolloop.com/seadiff



Dr. Monique Huibregtse

#### **Technology Enhances Learning**

Huntington Seacliff Elementary School prides itself on constantly pushing to fulfill an element of its vision statement: "Students are prepared for participation in the culturally diverse, technologically rich, democratic society of the 21st century.

Technology rich is an expensive undertaking, but the results are well worth it, as validated by data from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). SMART Boards, document cameras, and projectors are now standard equipment. But even this is not enough now. In addition to this "basic" technology, all students have access to three computer labs with 33 stations

each and the 17 computers in the library, where they can access programs such as Typing Tutor, Earobics, Accelerated Reader, ST Math (JiJi), Read 180, and Read Naturally, to name a few.

Students can also be observed on a daily basis using their electronic tablets as learning tools to enhance the Common Core State Standards with carefully chosen apps, such as Explain Everything, a unique, interactive, screencasting whiteboard, or book applications that allow them to highlight and work with any fiction or nonfiction text so that they can easily refer back to their electronic notes to answer high-level questions. These electronic tablets also offer many of the same programs that a student would access on regular computers. Because of this accessibility, students do not have to wait for their computer lab time, as the technology comes to them. We are also now testing netbooks to determine if this type of computer will also assist and enhance student learning.

We continue to set our goals high to ensure our students are 21st-century ready.

## Dr. Ralph E. Hawes Elementary

9682 Yellowstone Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/963-8302 • www.huntington-ca.schoolloop.com/hawes



**Julie Jennings** Principal

#### **Everyday Hawesome!**

At Hawes Elementary School, our focus is on ensuring that all within our community develop the skills to apply complex knowledge, solve problems, collaborate, communicate, inquire, learn independently, and be resourceful and resilient. For this to happen, we must model these skills and develop them in ourselves.

The skill of collaboration is essential for learning and one of the strengths within our school community. Tapping into the wealth of resources in our community and PTA is something that we do daily. By combining resources and collaboration, the bond of Team Hawes is strong, ensuring that all students can reach their full potential.

On any given day, you will see volunteers assisting with the morning valet service and organizing the 100 Mile Running Club. Volunteers are busy working on bulletin boards in the hallways, setting up for various events, copying and preparing materials in the workroom, assisting students in the computer lab, and filing papers in the mailroom. They can be seen working with small groups of students to support instruction, helping students in the Wooly Garden, gathering materials for recycling, organizing Class Act activities and Art Explorer lessons, encouraging readers in the Accelerated Reader room (a second school library solely supported by PTA and run by volunteers), enhancing the physical education program, taking pictures for the yearbook, and supporting special events and activities, always giving above and beyond to ensure the mental well-being of our staff!

Partnerships with local businesses provide additional opportunities for our students. This collaboration creates an enriching learning environment with amazing opportunities—something we call Everyday Hawesome!

## S. A. Moffett Elementary

8800 Burlcrest Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/963-8985 • www.huntington-ca.schoolloop.com/moffett

Supporting 21st-Century Learning



Michael Andrzejewski

As part of our Common Core instructional work in mathematics, the Moffett School staff continues its work on integrating three supplementary programs. Over the last nine years, our school's efforts with Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) have assisted students in developing mathematical thinking through the sharing of problemsolving approaches. Information gleaned from CGI guides each teacher's instruction and allows students to learn from their peers.

To support mental problem-solving development, our Moffett teachers also conduct classroom Number Talks. In observing CGI and Number Talks, one would note a similarity in the approaches, with

the exception that Number Talks both support mental computation and encourage a structured conversation about mathematical reasoning and orally shared problem

We have also continued implementing ST Math (Spatial Temporal) in which our students learn through problem solving. Students are presented digital problems that build mathematical mastery through the development of strategic thinking, conceptual understanding, perseverance, and practice. We have also added the fluency component of ST Math to the students' repertoire to help support their understanding, speed, and accuracy in working with math facts.

This continued work allows our teachers to make ongoing connections between the three programs, and also design lessons that connect the three strategies of CGI, Number Talks, and ST Math. We have identified effective methods that support Common Core instruction by integrating these strategies into our regular classroom practice.

It has been deep and complicated work, but as these programs have now become a seamless part of our instructional effort, making the connections seems both logical and necessary to ensure mathematical success, as well as to support 21stcentury learning practices.



Changing lives, one smile at a time!







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## Joseph R. Perry Elementary

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



Dr. Renee Polk Principal

### **Family Art Night**

In alignment with our district's visual and performing-arts goals, our Perry PTA decided to sponsor a free Family Art Night at Perry in September. This event was focused on providing children and families with an array of art opportunities.

There were eight different art stations. Some stations were facilitated by Perry teachers and staff members, and other stations were hosted by community members and by our Perry PTA. One of our art stations was organized and facilitated by Kevin McCortney, a local Edison High School student who



volunteered to chair the nationwide PTA Reflections Art Program for Perry. This year's PTA Reflections Art Program theme is "Let Your Imagination Fly." Students had the opportunity to create and to submit an entry to the PTA Reflections Art Program at the Perry Family Art Night.

This event was very well attended, and it was wonderful to have so many students and families participate in the different art stations at Perry Art Night!

# Agnes L. Smith Elementary

770 17th St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/536-1469 • www.huntington-ca.schoolloop.com/smith



Carolyn Beck Principal

#### **Developing Future Leaders**

Smith School is very proud of its Student Senate program. Through Senate, students in the fourth and fifth grades are given an opportunity to represent their class.

Interested students are asked to give a one-minute speech about why they want to represent their fellow classmates, and how they will support the needs of their class, school, and community. The classes then select two of these students to represent them.

Senators meet monthly with Mrs. Johnston and Mrs. Spencer to share ideas from their classmates and learn more about leadership. This year, guest speakers will also be involved to help our school leaders further develop their skills and strategies so that they can become even more effective in their leadership roles.

During the holiday season, our Senators have always led a warm coat drive. Each year they have collected over 200 coats for the Orangewood Children's Home, Colette's Children's Home, and Someone Cares Soup Kitchen.

Smith Senators are also in charge of our weekly recycling program. They spend the first part of their recess period collecting recycling baskets from each classroom to bring to the recycling bin. Not only are they helping the environment, they are also securing a recycling donation for their school!

Another Senate-driven and environmentally focused program is our weeklong CRV Fundraising Drive. This effort involves all Smith students and families, and brings CRV awareness to a new level. In addition, Smith students recently increased their efforts by gathering and recycling all of the cardboard trays from our very large lunch program.

To promote physical fitness fun, our Senators also host intramural tournaments during recess and lunch for interested students. As you can see, the Smith Student Senate Program is a dynamic opportunity for our students to both develop leadership skills and help their school and community.

## John R. Peterson Elementary

20661 Farnsworth Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-1515 • www.huntington-ca.schoolloop.com/peterson



Dr. Constance **Polhemus** Principal

## **The Learning Center**

Peterson Elementary School began serving students in its new Learning Center this year. Throughout the day, over 100 students receive specialized instruction from teachers Tyler Clegg, Annette Crump, Peter Dawson, and Andrea Zimmer, all of whom are trained in Special Education and general education instructional intervention.

The Learning Center is a designated set of three classrooms, where our diverse group of educators provides multi-leveled, instructional support to students. Students receiving Special Education services and students in general education receive instruction in separate areas, which are designed to meet their instructional needs.



Tyler Clegg, teacher in the Learning Center.

The purpose of the Learning Center is to provide students with supplementary, direct instructional services in content, learning strategies, and progress monitoring in academics, transition, and social skills. Instruction is based on students' needs.

The Learning Center model has been highly successful in other districts across the state and has already proven to be highly successful at Peterson.

## Isaac L. Sowers Middle School

9300 Indianapolis Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/962-7738 • www.huntington-ca.schoolloop.com/sowers

Dr. Cynthia Principal

#### **History Comes to Life**

What skills will our children need to be successful 20 years from now? The skills we want to stress are often referred to as the 4Cs of critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration

However, there are three other C's that we must also consider adding: computing and digital proficiency, cross-cultural and social fluency, and career, civic, and learning self-direction.

Our students converged on all 7Cs as they participated in our recent Walk through Ancient Civilizations event, which



Student dressed as Ra, Egyptian sun god with a human body and the head of a hawk.

is a retelling of the ancient history of Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Through games, music, imagination, and storytelling, the students were transported back in time. They were also able to incorporate collaborative skills such as writing their own scripts, researching facts using digital tools, and understanding the cross-cultural influence of Egyptian, Grecian, and Roman life that remains today.

This includes cultural contributions in mathematics, architecture, government, arts, leisure, science and medicine, music, education, military, sports, literature, religion, farming, and philosophy.

## **Ocean View School District**

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

## **SUPERINTENDENT**



**Dr. Carol Hansen** 

### **Building Healthy Partnerships**

Since coming to the Ocean View School District last July, I have placed a high priority on building a healthy new leadership team and growing our community relationships for the academic success of our students. I am pleased to say that we have established an incredibly strong team. Department leaders, school principals, teachers, and classified personnel are all working diligently to create healthy, inspired, and safe campuses for students and staff. I witness this every time I visit a school.

To expand our reach, support, and involvement, I believe it is also important to grow and strengthen our community relationships and involve these partners in our local education goals. This includes parent organizations, city officials, law enforcement agencies, service organizations, business leaders, politicians, and others. Recently, I enjoyed visiting with the Surf City Optimists as they helped Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) students at College View Elementary School create wooden pine derby cars.

Another wonderful example of this is a recent event we held to reopen Hope View Elementary School. At the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the principal and I were overwhelmed to see the outpouring of support. Families, the city council, the chamber of commerce, our chief of police, the city attorney, the media, and many others were all in attendance to welcome back students and celebrate. These are the types of healthy partnerships I want to encourage and maintain for the benefit of our children.

With the addition of our assistant superintendent of educational services, Jodee Brentlinger, we are connecting all of our education pieces—our Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), Strategic Plan, budgets, assessments, and more—into one clear, integrated, and practical plan that moves us forward as a school district. It will take all of us working hard, being willing to collaborate, reaching outside of our comfort zones, and moving ahead to do so. I look forward to these changes!

#### **Ocean View School District Board of Trustees**



Gina Clayton-Tarvin President



John **Briscoe** 



Debbie Cotton



Joseph Gaglione



Jack C. Souders



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



Gina **Clayton-Tarvin** President

#### **Positive Changes for OVSD**

Simply put, change can be difficult—and, yet, it is inevitable. We sometimes view change negatively, but I challenge this thinking. I encourage each of us to reconsider and see it as positive progress toward even greater outcomes. We have witnessed this firsthand over the past year in the Ocean View School District (OVSD). The direction we are taking under new leadership and with renewed focus is dramatic.

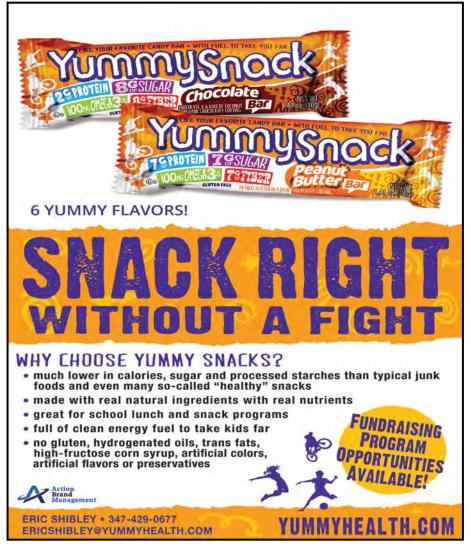
OVSD has long been regarded as an education leader. We are often on the cutting edge of innovative professional development and academic programs. Today, I believe we are on the right path

to reaching these heights once again for the benefit of every student. Under the guidance of Superintendent Carol Hansen and a new team of experienced educators, OVSD is immersed in positive change, focused on student learning, and building a stronger, healthier district.

Our teams are forging closer relationships within our schools and departments. We are reaching out to community leaders and the organizations that help to make us who we are. Recently, our Board honored the workers of the Huntington Beach Public Library Oak View branch for their service. Prior to that, I watched as the Huntington Beach Assistance League presented generous grants to dozens of our teachers. We all celebrated the reopening of Hope View Elementary School this fall with beautifully reconstructed classrooms and student restrooms, wireless technology in every classroom, and much more. We look forward to the opening of Oak View Elementary School and reconstruction of Lake View Elementary School.

Our state is also making changes by assessing student achievement in new ways. As student advocates, we are now analyzing the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) results and look forward to hearing from other education professionals about how this data will continue to guide our work.

Stay tuned to our positive changes and visit our district Web site at www.ovsd.org.



COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF: November / December 2015 15

## Circle View Elementary

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



Kristi Hickman Principal

## In High Gear!

The start of school at Circle View has been a hub of activity, with Cub Scout Pack 278 kicking it off with a patriotic assembly recognizing our local heroes at home and abroad for Patriot Day and Constitution Day. Students are starting to "Brag to the Principal" to share highlights of curriculum successes. Thirdgrade students say that yoga is their favorite PE activity; while fourth-graders learn about the effects of static electricity on balloons



Student Council leaders have been elected and are already planning School Spirit Days and Red Ribbon Week. We enjoyed a visit by the Huntington Beach Police Department. We hosted Back to School Night and Parent Conference Week, which allowed us to connect with families, discuss student progress, and focus on strategically meeting the individual needs of every child.

Our PTO is hosting an annual Fall Scholastic Book Fair, Family Fun Nights, art classes, music and other enrichment opportunities. Circle View is grateful for the collective efforts of our talented staff, hardworking students and supportive parent community!

## Golden View Elementary

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



**Brett Hardy** Principal

#### **Honoring Eric Taylor**

At a recent Golden Gathering, students and staff at Golden View Elementary School recognized their outstanding custodian, Eric Taylor, as part of the National Custodial Workers Recognition

Day. Mr. Eric has worked here for over 15 years. During this time, he has earned the district's Sparkle Award, which is given to the best kept school, three times

We love Mr. Eric because he is a true team player. He helps with our working farm, cares for our school birds, answers phone calls on extra busy mornings, and plays disc jockey at our Golden Gatherings. Oh, and did

we mention this is in addition to his regular duties?

Mr. Eric is loved by all the students and parents because he takes the time to get to know each and every one of them. Golden View is so fortunate to have such a hardworking and caring custodian.

## College View Elementary

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



**Kathy Smith** Principal

#### **New Programs Abound At College View**

Every year our PTA, School Site Council, and English Language Advisory Council work hard to bring exciting new programs and experiences to our College View students. Based upon assessment data and feedback from all our various stakeholders, new annual goals are established, and timesensitive action plans are developed.

As a result of council and committee recommendations, we have two new programs coming to College View that will enhance the educational experiences of our children. These new programs are Accelerated Reader and a primary music program.

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a web-based program that increases student comprehension and fluency. Our reading specialist, Mrs. Kerry Zolg, will be "spearheading" the effort by both keeping the school-wide data and making sure that our children receive incentives for their reading efforts. Our librarian, Mrs. Selder, worked tirelessly last year labeling the books in the library so that children would have a large variety from which to choose.

The AR program also requires an initial assessment, and assigns students a Lexile reading level. After completing a book, the students then take a quiz on the material. Total points and word count are calculated as part of the AR program. The total classroom word counts and progress will soon be displayed on the AR bulletin board, and so let the classroom competitions begin!

It has been proven that the arts can promote creative thinking, team building, and creativity. So for our second program it is with great pleasure that we announce the addition of a primary music course. Mrs. Sue Martin has joined our staff to bring music to our kindergarteners and first-, second- and third-graders. Thanks to a wonderful PTA, and parent donations, our children will soon be singing, dancing, and enjoying the enrichment that only an interactive music program can bring.

Thank you, PTA!

## Harbour View Elementary

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



**Cindy Osterhout** 

#### **New Teachers Add Energy!**

The school year is off to an exciting start, with happy children and energetic teachers working their magic! Speaking of teachers, Harbour View is very fortunate to have added three new staff members this year. I am proud to introduce them!

Julie Hernandez, transitional kindergarten, has arrived at Harbour View after eight years teaching in Garden Grove and Long Beach. Mrs. Hernandez loves to spend time running at the beach and visiting the aquarium with her husband and daughter. Her favorite restaurant is Roma Cucina. She says, "The best thing about being a teacher is

watching my students learn and grow throughout the school year. I also love hearing their hilarious stories and lighthearted responses to questions!"

Janice Hoppenrath, first grade, previously taught for five years in Pennsylvania and 17 years in the Ocean View School District. Her favorite restaurant is Mastros Ocean Club, and she enjoys golf, cooking, Pilates, reading, and a day at the beach with her husband and two daughters. "Mrs. Hop" thinks that "the best thing about being a teacher is making a difference in a child's life. I also enjoy seeing the academic, social and emotional growth that occurs each school year."

Carol Furman, fifth grade, is returning to Harbour View where she taught for seven years before becoming a principal in Ocean View for nine years. She enjoys traveling, knitting, reading and new restaurants. Her favorite way to spend a Saturday is going on a bike ride to the beach with her family and then dinner at Baja Sonora. Mrs. Furman says, "The best thing about being a teacher is having the opportunity to watch students grow, learn, and become better people every day!"

# **Happy Thanksgiving!**

## Hope View Elementary

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



**Carrie Haskin** Principal

#### **Generous Donation**

Hope View students and staff were thrilled to find out that they'd been selected for a generous donation from Reading Is the Way Up, a nonprofit initiative affiliated with a Huntington Beach bank branch and a nearby retail bookstore chain. Through numerous donations made by customers at the Newport Beach bookstore, a total of 2,750 books were given to Hope View to share in the joy of reading.

Additionally, the bank matched the value of the book donations through a store credit in the amount of \$11,000. The donation was

presented during a Flag Assembly in which parent and businessman Charles Mariano and bookstore representative Erin Job delivered hundreds of books and a generous check to the site. Hope View parent and Ocean View School District Board president Gina Clayton-Tarvin, trustee Joseph Gaglione and OVSD superintendent Carol Hansen were important parts of the celebration.



## Mesa View Middle School

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



**Randy Lempert** Principal

#### An Energetic Welcome

For the third year in a row, Mesa View Middle School's Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) and Associated Student Body (ASB) students kicked off the school year by welcoming our sixth-grade students. On this special orientation day, our newest students were welcomed by our seventh- and eighth-grade leaders with a spirited assembly, fun-filled challenges, and the opportunity to meet new faces and learn strategies to be successful at Mesa View. Led by Ms. Croal, Ms. Callahan, and Ms. Roberts, the seventhand eighth-graders set the tone for a positive school year.

During the year, Mesa View's WEB and ASB students can be seen sitting next to sixth-graders at lunch, organizing lunch time activities, and making kindness cool. The ASB students continue to set the trend by hosting school dances and school spirit days to encourage a positive school culture.

Mesa View is grateful for this amazing group of young leaders!



FOUNTAIN VALLEY, HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY, OCEAN VIEW, WESTMINSTER AND HUNTINGTON BEACH UNION HIGH SCHOOL

## Marine View Middle School

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



William Lynch Principal

#### **Taking Residency at School**

Marine View Middle School has had the pleasure of a new community member in our attendance area. Since the beginning of the year we have had a real Northern Barn Owl sleeping his days away, perched above our recess and lunch areas!

Named "Archimedes" by our students, it has also provided some teachable moments. Science classes have had the great privilege of being able to walk outside of their classrooms to inspect the owl pellets, where they've been able to identify rodent



femurs, rib bones, and even a complete rat skull.

Our Barn Owl has even made an impact on social media. To date, "Archimedes" has drawn over 2,500 hits on the OVSD Facebook page, and numerous retweets on their Twitter feed, the highest volume of any item from our social media posts.

We're thrilled to share and build upon the great connection our community has with Archimedes the Northern Barn Owl.

## Oak View Elementary

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



**Rosa Mendieta** Principal

Thank You, Library!

The Ocean View School District Board of Trustees recently honored members of the Huntington Beach Public Library and its Oak View branch for 20 years of service to the children of Oak View Elementary School and Oak View Preschool and for their support during the school's temporary closure. Earlier this year, when Oak View's main structure closed for abatement, the library facilitated weekly visits, created a special system to check out books, hosted story times, and organized units of study and research materials.

"The library and the many programs they offer serve to meet a wide array of needs," said Oak View principal Rosa Mendieta. "Beyond this very important function, the caring and nurturing relationships developed between our staff, students and community members are invaluable. We feel truly fortunate to have this library literally just a few feet from our site."

In attendance at the board meeting were Stephanie Beverage, director of the Huntington Beach Public Library, and Lia Bushong, public service and community-outreach supervisor. Claudia Locke, Oak View's lead library specialist and "the heart of the Oak View Library Branch," was recognized for her tireless support of the Oak View community since the library's opening 20 years ago.

"The Oak View branch is the youngest in the Huntington Beach Public Library system," said Laura Dale-Pash, coordinator of categorical programs and former Oak View principal, at the board meeting. "It was established to provide information and educational resources for the Oak View community. Their book collection has increased from about 5,000 books to well over 19,500 items." The Oak View branch's services include adult and children's programs, homework clubs, chess reading programs, literacy classes, computer lab, math club and

We look forward to many more years of collaboration with the Oak View branch.

COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF: November / December 2015 17

## Pleasant View Ocean View Preparatory Preschool

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



**Paul James** Principal

## **Back to School Night**

On Thursday, September 24, 2015 Pleasant View School/OVPP held our annual Back to School Night for our parents. Our staff of talented teachers led our parents in presentations about each of their classrooms. Topics included the California Preschool Foundations, Unique Learning System, curriculum/instruction, classroom environment, center time, classroom management and discipline, daily schedules, ABA topics, and much more. It was great to see so many of our parents attend and show their support of our programs at Pleasant View/OVPP. All of our teachers

worked extremely hard and dedicated many extra hours of time to make our Back to School Night a huge success. Pleasant View/OVPP feels very lucky and fortunate to have such a great staff. Many thanks to our teachers Cynthia Atkinson, Michelle Wall, Debbie Chiong, Kathie Favazza, Marie Schools, Katy Nachbaur, Christina Llata, Theresa Crockett, Kim Hunter, Genie Peterson, Caroline Rodriguez and our support staff of, Melanie Fenger, Anh Mai, Vicki Kincaid, Anne Lang, Kara Gehersky, Patty Mulcahy, Linda Still, and Lynn Trittipo who help make each day a special journey for our students to learn.

## Spring View Middle School

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



Jason Blade Principal

## **Welcome, Staff Members!**

I would like to publically welcome six of Spring View Middle School's newest staff members to the Spring View Team. These new staff members bring a wealth of skills and expertise in their various areas.

Combined with the extensive experience of our Spring View veterans," I believe we have a staff that is ready, willing and able to tackle any challenge that comes our way. As always, the Spring View staff is committed to the well-being of all our students, both academically and emotionally. I believe that our newest

staff members embody the same commitment to our students that our veteran teachers have demonstrated for years. We have a powerful team, and I look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together as we move forward this year.



Brandynn Martin, eighth grade math teacher; Tim Seaman, physical education teacher; Marianne Porto, eighth grade resource specialist; Leah Fuller, academic counselor; Jessica Dahlberg, special education teacher; and Sarah Thompson, seventh grade math and science teacher.

## Oak View Preschool & Education Resource Center

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



Joyce Horowitz Principal

#### **Reading Enjoyment Starts Early**

Oak View Preschool students celebrated reading in a big way at the recent First 5 California Literacy Event.

The First 5 truck pulled up and the fun began. Each class visited the outdoor literacy area, where they listened to stories, sang songs, and enjoyed coloring reading crowns. Every preschooler took home a goody bag with stickers and a healthy meals cookbook in English and Spanish.

As an extra treat, State Senator Janet Nguyen also read to the students, letting them choose between two books that she loves to read

to her own sons, ages 2 and 4. Everyone chose It's Pumpkin Day, Mouse! When she was done Ms. Nguyen donated the books to the Preschool.

The event kicked off a week of fun reading activities, which culminated in our annual Literacy Picnic. Parents brought blankets, healthy snacks, and favorite books from home to read with their children in a shady spot. What a wonderful way to instill a love for reading!



## Star View Elementary

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



Jamie Goodwyn Principal

## Family and Friends Lunch

Star View recently kicked off its inaugural Family and Friends Lunch. The event was a huge success! This was a community event in which parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings and friends came to our school to eat lunch with Star View students.

Braving 100-degree weather, approximately 150 family members and friends came to picnic with their children. The students loved having their parents and family members eat with them at school; the families loved the opportunity to see their children interact with their friends at school.



All around the lunch area and in shaded areas, families enjoyed picnics and played together. Many members of the community, parents, grandparents and students all voiced their support for another Friends and Family Lunch very soon. With so many smiles in the sea of people, this will most definitely become a Star View tradition.

## Sun View Elementary

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



**Elaine Burney** Principal

#### What's New?

We are so fortunate to have some new faces joining the Sun View Elementary School family this year. We welcomed a new Transitional Kindergarten (TK) class to our campus. Taught by veteran teacher Margaret Friedmann, TK offers children with birthdays between September and December developmentally appropriate curriculum as they prepare for kindergarten the following year. Among our newcomers is teacher Marie Ford, who joined us with years of kinder experience to teach our second full class of kindergartners. Although teacher Melissa Peltz joined the Sun View staff teaching a third- and

fourth-grade combination class, our high enrollment means Melissa is now teaching a fourth-grade classroom. We are also thankful teacher Katie Batarse joined the team to teach our first- and second-grade combination class.

We are thrilled to be able to add a full-time psychologist this year, Melissa Hilken, and an additional half-time Resource Specialist Program (RSP) teacher, Sheila Patterson. Our new health clerk, Julie Babinski, joined our already amazing office staff, too. Along with our fantastic support staff, all of our new Sun View family members are playing an integral role in the successful school year we are enjoying.

Sun View is looking top notch with several facilities upgrades, including all of our restrooms. Students love playing on our newly paved kindergarten playground. Traffic is flowing more smoothly, thanks to our newly designed and repaved front parking lot. The front of the school greets parents and visitors with beautiful, well-manicured grounds. Finally, the new fence in our back field completes the modernization projects for Sun View this year.

## Westmont-Lake View Elementary

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



**Susan Broderson** Principal

#### **Teacher Rewards Program**

Teachers at Westmont and Lake View Elementary Schools were greeted with a nice surprise last month: \$50 rewards cards to a national discount chain retailer. All teachers received the cards as part of the company's Teacher Rewards program, which helps schools with much-needed classroom supplies during the back-to-school season.

"Our teachers are thrilled to be selected for the rewards," said Broderson, who is principal of both elementary schools while the Lake View campus is closed this year. "We thought it would be

more exciting to surprise our teachers, so we invited representatives from the retailer to come out and personally recognize the winners at the staff meeting."

Lake View is located in Huntington Beach and Westmont, just a few miles away, is situated in Westminster. Students and teachers from both schools are currently located at the Westmont campus at 8251 Heil Avenue in Westminster.



## Village View Elementary

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



Julie Alba Principal

#### **Share in Our Dolphin Pride**

Our parents are encouraged to join the Village View morning assembly every Friday at 8:30 a.m. to help pledge to our nation's flag.

The fifth-grade Spirit Committee leads everyone in singing a patriotic song. They also cite wise words from John Wooden that serve as our theme for the month. All students are encouraged to wear their patriotic colors or Village View spirit wear.

The assembly also focuses on weekly news, as well as special events like the September 11 commemoration, Drug Awareness Week, and the Thanksgiving canned food drive. During the

assembly, students are also acknowledged as "FIN-TASTIC" individuals who have demonstrated Village View's motto of being kind, safe, and responsible. The assembly concludes with the Village View Dolphin Chant.

Join us every Friday morning so that you too can, "Swim With Us and See. Village View Dolphins, Rock the Deep Blue Sea!"



## Vista View Middle School

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



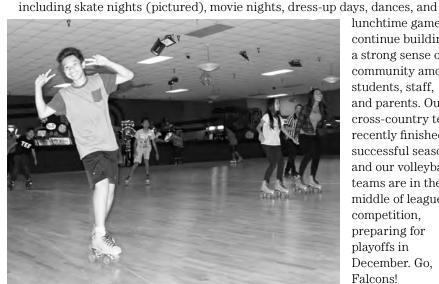
Scott Mooney Principal

#### Continuing to SOAR

Vista View Middle School has had a high turn-out for all of our events, especially our Back-to-School Night and parent conferences. As the Falcon family, we continue to reinforce our core values: Safety first; On time, on task, and organized; Act responsibly; and Respect for self and others (SOAR).

The Falcon staff is analyzing the state's recently released California Assessment of Student Progress and Performance (CAASPP) data, as well as our own internal assessment data, to guide instruction and develop intervention systems. We use a

collaborative process to plan instruction focused on student learning outcomes. Our student leadership class has been actively planning various activities,



lunchtime games to continue building a strong sense of community among students, staff, and parents. Our cross-country team recently finished a successful season, and our volleyball teams are in the middle of league competition, preparing for playoffs in December. Go, Falcons!

## **Westminster School District**

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

## **SUPERINTENDENT**



Dr. Marian Kim-Phelps

#### **FREE Monthly Farmers Marketm at Anderson & Schmitt**

Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County is bringing a FREE Farmers Market to Anderson and Schmitt Elementary Schools every month through the end of the school year through their School Pantry Program.

Did you know that children are going hungry here in Orange County? In fact, one in five children here are at risk of hunger every month. About half of the children in our county rely on the government's Free and Reduced Lunch Program and about 65% of all food stamp recipients are children. This is a serious issue.

Research indicates that even mild malnutrition experienced by young children during critical periods of growth impacts the behavior of children, their school performance, and their overall cognitive development. The mission of the School Pantry Program is to help alleviate child hunger through the provision of food to children and their families at school.



Farmers Market at Anderson Elementary School.



We held our first Farmers' Markets in October and they were met with great enthusiasm and appreciation. Our community was able to hand-select apples, melons, squash, peppers, potatoes, onions, and zucchini. All families are welcome to attend these Farmers' Markets to receive free fresh produce and other nutritious food. Anderson and Schmitt Elementary Schools are just two of only a handful of schools throughout Orange County that have been selected for the School Pantry program and we'd like to thank Second Harvest Food Bank for providing this wonderful service to our school community.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



Mangold President

#### We Made History!

The Westminster School District made history this fall when it opened the first Vietnamese/English Dual-Language Immersion Academy in California. The district launched the program at DeMille Elementary School, where 42 kindergarten students are learning how to read, write, and communicate effectively in an English and Vietnamese language setting while achieving academic success.

Dual-language immersion programs are among the most impressive forms of education currently being offered in the United States. Students who participate in these programs

exhibit grade-level academic mastery, well-developed language and literacy skills in two languages, and cross-cultural competence.

The district forged a wonderful partnership with the California State University, Fullerton National Resource Center for Asian Languages (NRCAL) in implementing our dual immersion program. NRCAL authored curriculum for our program and provided advanced professional learning and coaching for the teachers. Our students receive 50 percent of their instruction throughout the day in English and 50 percent in Vietnamese. Research has shown that dual-language students experience increased cognitive benefits and improved academic growth compared to their monolingual peers. Students in our program will graduate from our district as bilingual, biliterate and bicultural students.



Teacher Huong Dang with kindergarten students in the Vietnamese/English Dual Language Immersion Academy.

More than 2.5 million jobs in California are tied to international trade, and the need for students to be bilingual and multilingual is rapidly increasing. Our Board of Trustees is committed to bringing dual-language immersion programs to the district, and it is very exciting to be the first in California to offer this program. With a student population that is about 40 percent Vietnamese and with Westminster being home to Little Saigon, this program is a natural fit for our community. But this is just the beginning. I am pleased to announce that the district is planning on implementing a Spanish/English Dual-Language Immersion Academy in the 2017–2018 school year. For more information, please visit our Web site at www.wsdk8.us.

#### **Westminster School District Board of Trustees**



Mangold



**Jamison** Power Vice President



Walsh



Loomer



Nguyen

## Anderson Elementary (K-6)

8902 Hewitt Pl., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/anderson.aspx



Kim Breckenridge Principal

#### **Anderson's Lunch on the Lawn**

On October 9, 2015, Anderson held its first Lunch on the Lawn. All Anderson families were invited to eat lunch with their child during the regular lunch schedule. The lawn turned into a picnic area with benches, lawn chairs, umbrellas and blankets. Even the heat couldn't dampen the fun. Families just found shade under tress and easy-ups. Over 175 family members and loved ones joined the student body in this wonderful event. A strong community, where students, parents, and staff work together is one sign of a successful school. Lunch on the Lawn is one way we celebrate our Anderson community.



## DeMille Elementary (K-6)

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/demille.aspx



Shannon Villanueva Principal

## What's New at DeMille

The 2015-2016 school year has gotten off to a great start. We are eager to share some of the new and innovative things that are happening at DeMille this year.

Our much anticipated Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion program is going strong. Two kindergarten classes spend 50 percent of their day learning and receiving instruction in Vietnamese, and then 50 percent of the day learning and receiving instruction in English. Students enrolled in this program are already well on their way to becoming bi-literate global citizens.

In addition to our high-quality instruction in the Common Core State Standards, each student is participating in a new Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) program. Every other week our students are also engaged in exciting, energetic music or physical education lessons focused on the arts. Students also have the opportunity to further explore the arts if they attend the Saturday Arts Academy.

Our 21st-century learning is going strong with the integration of technology. Last year the district rolled out a 1:1 Chromebook initiative, and each student in grades two to six has been issued a Chromebook to use at school. We are very excited that our students in both kindergarten and first grade will have access to similar technology this year, with a 2:1 Chromebook Touch pilot program in the classrooms.

Students in preschool and transitional kindergarten are using more technology as well. Communication, creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration skills are now being enhanced through the use of these new tools.

DeMille School is doing great things by, "Building Tomorrow's Leaders Today!"

## Clegg School

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/clegg.aspx



John Staggs Principal

#### **Virtual Field Trips**

Recently, Clegg won a day with Google Expeditions! Google Expeditions is an in-class virtual-field-trip kit that gives students a 360-degree live-action view of the world around them. With over one hundred locations to currently choose from, students can go places they haven't been or thought possible to visit.

Clegg teachers enjoyed the experience of piloting this amazing technology Google is developing for schools nationwide. Each teacher chose a theme that their class will be studying this school year and used the Google technology to introduce their

students to the subject. Clegg students were able to see these places virtually as if they were standing right there. Students in grades one through five had a great day taking virtual field trips; first-graders visited a tropical rainforest, while fifth-graders viewed the Aztec ruins.





Clegg School is thankful to have been given the opportunity to have this outstanding experience.

COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF:

## Eastwood Elementary (K-6)

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/eastwood.aspx



**Dr. Jason Kuncewicki** *Principal* 

#### **Parent Participation Shines!**

Everyone has read the research around parent participation and student achievement. More parent involvement equals student growth. Eastwood is a model of that home-to-school partnership and has taken the concept of 21st century skills into the home as well.

The Eastwood PTA is one of the cornerstones of the school. Not only do they plan events like Lunch on the Lawn, where parents and relatives can come and spend lunchtime with their loved ones, but it is also publicized throughout multimedia avenues. The event is tweeted and posted on Facebook, and then pictures are posted on multiple websites. Parents continue to plan events for students that keep them motivated to come to school and thrive. Star Wars Day took place this month, and six storm troopers and Darth Vader appeared on campus.

Keep an eye on Eastwood—parent support drives our success!



## Finley Elementary (K-5)

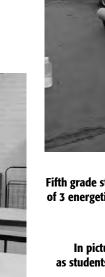
13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/finley.aspx



Maria Gutiérrez-García Principal

## **Collaborating**

As part of the Westminster School District VAPA (visual and performing arts) program, Finley School students participate in biweekly sessions of standards based Physical Education and Music classes taught by specialists in their respective fields while teachers in grade level teams are provided with time to collaborate in grade level teams.





Pictured above:

Fifth grade students listen attentively to the menu in a Physical Education class taught by a team of 3 energetic Physical Education instructors: Jaime Dingus, Ernie Martin, and Debbie Hegstrom.

In picture to left: Matt Guy, music teacher, delivers a spirited fourth grade music class as students sing and move along to the sound of the ukulele. The other two Music instructors are Linda Brown and Janet Johnson.

## Fryberger Elementary (K-5)

6952 Hood Dr., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/fryberger.aspx



**Dr. Dena Kiouses** Principal

## **Building a Strong Parent-School Collaboration**

On behalf of our students, our Fryberger School staff members would like to acknowledge and thank the Fryberger PTA.

Interest in the PTA was at a low back when a small group of parents, including Mrs. Alaee, Mrs. Lina, Mrs. Blum, and Mr. Bunch, stepped up to create a strong collaboration with and for our school. The result is now a thriving school community, with many volunteers who share a common goal of supporting student learning. Our students are now supported with grade-level field trips, art instruction, class materials, and valuable assemblies. Family activities are also scheduled on a monthly basis.

Additional appreciation is given to the numerous parent and student greeters who work hard by volunteering to make our parking lot safer and more efficient before school. What an improvement we have this year, thanks to all of their efforts!

In October, the PTA and staff hosted a successful school carnival. In December there will be a holiday event, including pictures with Santa. In the spring there are plans for a Family Literacy Night.

The Fryberger community values our students, staff, and families, so please come join us! You can receive texts to your phone by texting the message "@fryberger" to the following number: 81010. We can also be reached at FrybergerPTA@gmail.com, and at https://www.facebook.com/fryberger.school,

## Hayden Elementary (K-5)

14782 Eden St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7261 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/hayden.aspx



Mark Murphy Principal

#### **Some New Arrivals**

The Hayden Hawks are ready to soar into the 2015-2016 school year.

I am extremely excited and honored to be starting my fourth year as principal here at Hayden. The staff and students are also very excited to be welcoming new Assistant Principal Rob Murdock, who has been with the district for 17 years.

Hayden Elementary would also like to welcome some new staff members to the team. Robin Yescas is teaching our K/1 SDC class, and Michele Branch has returned as our school counselor.

Katrina Castro will be our new speech pathologist, and Erin Vander Hyde will be our new psychologist.



We are very excited this year to be implementing a new writing program called "Write from the Beginning." This program is based on Thinking Maps, and it will take Hayden to another level of student achievement. A special thank-you goes to teachers Kim Ugarteche, Kimberly Nguyen, and Kristen Flores for being our trainers on this terrific program.

## Johnson Middle School (6–8)

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/johnson.aspx



**Daniel Owens** Principal

#### **Expanding Our Thinking**

Johnson Middle School (JMS) has continued to develop new and exciting opportunities for students to explore their talents and skills in a variety of enrichment classes. Johnson was able to bring back woodshop classes and art classes and expand the robotics program to include an advanced robotics course for students to take their learning to the next level. The school is also extremely proud of the Drama Department as they prepare their production of "Aladdin." The video production class has been equipped with state-of-the-art technology to allow students to dream big and create big.

In addition to the arts and technology classes, the school is also thrilled to expand the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program to the seventh grade. Also, for the first time, Vietnamese is being offered as an enrichment class. Johnson has even brought back a cheerleading program for students.

Johnson also continues to offer a wide variety of music classes in band and orchestra, and the music program continues to grow. Recently the Huntington Valley West Philharmonic Society awarded a \$475 grant to the JMS band program. The grant enabled the JMS Boosters to purchase two new flutes for the growing program. The grant funding is made possible as a result of the committee's annual fund-raiser, from which 10 percent can be reinvested directly into the community through the Philharmonic Society's Musical Reinvestment program. The boosters, band students, and Mr. Paxton are very grateful for the grant.

At Johnson, we know that students need the opportunity to expand their thinking outside of the normal content area. The talents and skills of the Johnson Warriors are on display every day inside and outside of the classroom.

## Land School

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



Beverlee Mathenia Executive Director, Early Education & Expanded Learnina



Reagan Lopez Executive Director. Student Services

## **Parents as Teaching Partners**

Parents are the most important part of a child's development. At Land School, the Parent Resource Center offers parents materials to make sure their children are growing and developing as they should be. If a parent has concerns about his or her child, the staff is available to answer questions and find resources or local organizations to help meet the needs of the family. Several brochures on parenting topics, including discipline for preschoolers, building attributes of responsibility, becoming a community member, and general kindergarten readiness skills, are provided as well.

The center has a play area designed to help build the social emotional skills of young children. These become important abilities as children progress through their school years and have opportunities to collaborate with their peers and use critical-thinking skills. Parents are encouraged to spend time in the play area with their children, which naturally builds language, problemsolving skills, and fine- and gross-motor skills. A library of children's books can be accessed by parents to check out for two-week intervals.

The Parent Resource Center also occasionally hosts parent workshops, which are presented by our school readiness nurses and early-learning specialists, on issues such as second-language acquisition, the importance of routines, preventing communicable diseases, and preparing to start kindergarten.

All services and resources of the center are open to the public and free of charge. To get information about times and workshops, contact the center at (714) 898-8389.

COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF:

## Meairs Elementarty (K-5)

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/meairs.aspx



Kathy Kane Principal

## The Great Pumpkin

By B-3 Students

In our first-grade class, we learned about the life cycle of a pumpkin. Pumpkins were planted in the Meairs Elementary School garden last spring, but the smart squirrels ate them all up! So Ms. Nguyen bought a great big pumpkin. We estimated the number of seeds in the pumpkin, wrote our individual estimates down, and put them in a box. Ms. Nana, our classroom angel, came in and cut the pumpkin up, so we could see and feel its



Measuring ingredients for pumpkin bread.

smooth flesh, gooey pulp, and hard seeds. We counted the seeds in groups. and the student with the closest estimate got to take home a small pumpkin. We also measured ingredients to make pumpkin bread. The spices smelled so good! Ms. Nana took the pumpkin home and made pumpkin bread for us to eat along with apple juice to drink. Mmm... mmm...mmm! School is so much fun, and we love it!

## Schmitt Elementary (K-5)

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/schmitt.aspx



**Orchid Rocha** *Principal* 

**Computer-Coding Kids**By Joseph DeLuca, Teacher – 4th Grade

Coding (computer programming) has come to Schmitt Elementary School's Saturday Academy. That's right! Third-, fourth-, and fifthgrade students are learning how to keyboard, write code, build mobile applications, and modify popular games.

The half-day academy begins with 20-30 minutes of basic keyboarding training using Web sites such as typing.com and typingclub. com. After getting some much-needed practice with keyboarding, students are directed to code.org, where they watch a video which urges

them to learn how to code. Celebrities, including Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, will.i.am, Chris Bosh, Jack Dorsey, Tony Hsieh, and Drew Houston, call on all students to take their first steps toward being able to write computer code.

For students who are returning guests of our Coding Academy, more advanced coding is available for them through sites like: www.tynker.com; http://byob.berkeley.edu/; http://appinventor.mit.edu/explore/; and https://scratch.mit.edu/. The sessions usually continue for about four hours, and students are so highly engaged that there is rarely a request to leave to use the restroom. Students are motivated to learn and ready to have some fun.

Don't tell the students, but they are also learning some very important concepts, including hypothesizing, exploring, experimenting, evaluating, and drawing conclusions. There are benefits beyond logical thinking. When students learn computer programming, they learn how to check their work for details, how to apply logic, and how to persist with a task. Finally they learn how to collaborate, because most programming today is accomplished in teams. Coding Academies are a win-win situation for all.

# $Sequoia \ {\it Elementary} \ ({\it K-6})$

5900 Iroquois Rd., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7271 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/sequoia.aspx

# $Schroeder \ {\it Elementary} \ ({\it K-6})$

15151 Columbia Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7268 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/schroeder.aspx



Carrie Hernandez Principal

#### A Win-Win for Everyone

On October 15, the Schroeder PTA held their annual membership event called "Lunch on the Lawn." All Schroeder families were invited to eat lunch with their child during their regular lunch schedule.

The lawn turned into a picnic area with benches, lawn chairs, and blankets. Over 300 family members and loved ones joined the student body in this wonderful event.

The PTA took this opportunity to encourage everyone to join their organization. The PTA's mission is to, "Work diligently to provide continuity between students, families, and staff to



improve education by supporting staff, encouraging students, and creating a sense of community." This event was truly a win-win for everybody: our parents, families, staff members, and, most importantly, our children.

The PTA's theme this year is, "Come Sail Away with Schroeder PTA!" If you haven't already, we hope you too will join!



Michelle Watkins Principal

## Teamwork is the Key!

By Mattie Stepanek

An emphasis on teamwork permeates Sequoia Elementary School. Our teams consist of students, parents, families, teachers, and support staff. Learning to collaborate is one way that our students learn to work as a team. This year, collaboration will be a key component of our teaching and learning.

What does collaboration look like? In classrooms, students are learning to work in teams as they explore ideas, discuss depth and complexity icons, ask unanswered questions, innovate,

develop projects, and redesign to make their ideas stronger.

Chromebooks are used to enhance learning and make deeper connections. We will continue to build a strong connection and team with our students, families, staff, and the community.

Parent involvement too is critical to a child's success. It is a visible, consistent, and much-appreciated part of what enhances and advances our school culture.

Unity is strength when there is teamwork and collaboration, and wonderful things can be achieved.



## Stacey Middle School

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/stacey.aspx



**Heidi DeBritton** Principal

#### **Spreading the Kindness**

By Leah Kurihara and Leandra Gimenez

Our new challenge, as presented by Brian Williams from Think Kind, is for our Stacey Cougars to create a kindness explosion by collecting 2,000 shoes for the students in Kenya, as well as \$2,000 to purchase a new bus for IMA, an all-girls school in Guatemala.

Something as simple as an old pair of shoes, or a handful of change, may not seem like a big deal. But for some people it is. Without shoes, the children in Kenya are unable to attend school. Giving them shoes also gives them the gift of education and a better future.



Additionally, IMA is an organization that is funded solely by donations. IMA's last bus broke down, and so many of the girls haven't been attending school because of the long walk. A new bus will allow them a chance at a better life.

It is our hope at Stacey that this kindness will be spread across the entire school, community, and world.

## Webber Elementary (K-6)

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/webber.aspx



**Kevin Whitney** Principal

## Got 21st Century Learning?

GLAD + tech + GATE icons + collaboration + fun = deep 21st century learning! Fifth/sixth-grade teacher Keith Tracy and EL instructional coach Genise Battaglia co-taught a science lesson introducing biomes. The lesson fused GLAD observation charts, QR codes. Google Docs and collaborative groups.

Students used their Chromebooks to scan a QR code at each station to view a video or image about a specific biome. They collaboratively discussed their observations of each biome using academic language frames, and finally recorded their

observations and unanswered questions as a group on a shared Google Doc. After each group visited all eight stations, the answers were revealed.

Students reported they liked the lesson because they got to type on the shared Google Doc, scan QR codes, view videos, and work with a partner.





## Warner Middle School (6–8)

14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/warner.aspx



**Amy Pham Kwon** Principal

**21st Century Learning** 

By Jasmine Mohammed, student, Warner Journalism Today's schools, including Warner Middle School, are presenting scenarios to students to encourage them to work with all parts of their brain. This allows them to logically problemsolve to improve their growth mindset.

During the first days of school, Warner offered multiple tasks to encourage students to problem-solve independent of technology. One task was the candle problem, in which they also



asked questions about how they would respond to certain situations by being calm and by telling them that when being faced with a problem, the solution should consist of using words, integrity, determination and a growth mindset.

Many of these ideas were promoted by teachers at Warner Middle School. As students develop, so do technology, mindset and imagination. That's why we need to teach our youth to think on their own and, when given a difficult task, to not give up.

## Willmore Elementary (K-5)

7122 Maple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-3765 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us/willmore.aspx



**Rob McKane** Principal

#### **Blended Learning and Reading Comprehension**

Thanks to the hard work of the Westminster School District IT department, our computer aide Blainne, and the wonderful Willmore teachers, all of our students are experiencing Blended Learning.

Blended Learning is when a student learns at least in part through delivery of content and instruction via digital and online media, with at least some element of student control over time, place, path, or pace. All of our students have access to a regularly updated computer lab, and all of the second-through fifth-grade

students have 1:1 Chromebooks. Students in the after-school program also have access to Touchpads.

With these 21st-century tools our students are exploring the Standards in a whole new way. One of the best examples of this is our focus on reading fluency. Students are using technology and software to access fiction and nonfiction literature. They read it, hear it read to them, and even have their voices recorded.

This gives our students, teachers and even our parents a greater opportunity to understand where the students are progressing and struggling. With this information, targeted practice and instruction can occur on an individual basis, thus allowing students to work at a pace most appropriate for them.

Teachers, parents, and (most importantly) our students are excited about this new approach to learning, and they are more engaged than ever.

# **Huntington Beach Union High School District**

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

#### SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Gregory S.

## **Digital Citizenship**

Around the age of 10, during the much-cherished summer vacation, I remember vividly visiting my Grandma Dorothy. It was a week of new experiences, from books to museums, and always a trip to Gemco for a new pair of Converse shoes. What I also recall was her smart and calculated efforts to develop my sense of manners, values, and citizenship. Over those summer weeks, I learned a great deal. Some lessons were simple and clear; others took my ear or the back of my neck by surprise. Nonetheless, it was developing!

Recently, I have been reflecting on our generations and how we all developed our sense of manners, values, and citizenship behaviors...and in most cases it was clear that the adults in our lives served as teachers and invaluable models for our future. I can still see each classroom from the early stages of elementary school to the busy and often complex moments of high school; and in each case there was a teacher or family member who served to guide us down those paths of development.

Today, our young people are amazing in every way. Their views of the world and ability to navigate the most challenging of aspects in the speed of our society is impressive. Yet, I am quick to pause as I think about the new and ever-evolving frontier of the digital world, in particular social media. Who will be their Grandma Dorothy in this ever-complex environment? How will they develop a digital sense of manners, values, and citizenship? The digital world can often seem like a parallel universe lacking the immediate reality of the concrete world situations they live outside their smart devices.

Today we are even confronted with media sources that will turn away from the exact facts of a situation to focus on a digital following or developing a new audience that will engage in digital dialogue for the sensational. The answer to the "Grandma Dorothy question" is not to avoid or run away from the digital dodge ball, but it is instead to engage as the very same models we saw in earlier generations. We must be the ones to set the example of digital citizenship and the manner and values that are intertwined in that effort. While it is an unofficial rule that our teens cannot agree with us on too much (that has not changed with the generations), it is also true that they still hear and see everything we do with them or on their behalf. So let them see nothing but our very best...and maybe they will even teach us a few things on that Instatwitterfacegram (insert wink-face emoji)!

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



Susan Henry President

#### **A Leader of Scholars**

On September 21, 2015, the Huntington Beach Union High School District recognized the dedication of Edison High School's library to one of its own. The afternoon's event was well attended by former teachers, parents, students, and family.

The Huntington Beach Union High School District's Board of Trustees held a public hearing on April 14, 2015, in accordance with Administrative Regulation 1335, to accept input into the proposal to name the Edison High School Library in honor of the late Mr. Brian F. Garland. After a review of the process by Principal D'liese Melendrez and input from speakers Mr. Kurt

Kosbab, Mrs. Elaine Garland, and Dr. Duane Dishno, the Board unanimously approved the naming of the Edison High School Library in honor of former Edison High School teacher and principal, former Huntington Beach City School District Trustee, and Huntington Beach Union High School District Trustee Mr. Brian F. Garland.

Brian was a dedicated educator and devoted to the youth of our community. He was a committed Board member and advocate for always doing the right thing. A lifelong history teacher and devotee of Winston Churchill, Brian was always ready with a story or a quote that fit the occasion, lightened the moment, advocated a point of view, or hit the nail on the head. One of his favorites, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give," always struck me as his personal mission statement and a theme he lived by. If Winston Churchill had known Brian, I think he would have said he was "a scholar of leaders and a leader of scholars."

Brian Garland led a life of leadership through education, and this library will continue his legacy.

## **Huntington Beach Union High School District Board of Trustees**



Henry



Dr. Duane Dishno Vice President



Dr. Michael **Simons** 



Bonnie P. **Castrey** 



Kathleen **Iverson** Member

Kyle Bui Student Representative

#### **Looking Ahead**

By Kyle Bui, Student Representative to the Board of Trustees As the school year approaches, seniors usually feel the most stressed, which is normal. Graduation may be eight months away, but time goes by quickly with all the work put into our grades, SATs and ACTs, and college applications. High school students have many opportunities, and I was given the honorable opportunity to sit as the student representative for the HBUSD Board of Trustees.

In October, all Fountain Valley students participate in the annual College and Career Day, which consistrf of taking tests

and surveys, asking questions about academics and graduation, discussing our goals for our desired future, and attending the fair held in our gym. Both colleges and businesses participate in this event. It's similar to the 21st annual districtwide College Night in October when 200 universities and colleges were represented. The main focus of both events was to provide options for our futures after high school.

As a student who has experienced this day annually for the past three years, I've always felt a little scared, and I know that it also scared other students. The future is scary—it's something that students might want to push to the back of their minds. I do not think that anyone would enjoy the overwhelming stress of having to think about what he or she is going to do in a few years. No young person really wants to grow up—it's easier making mistakes than having to take on responsibilities.

Four years pass by quickly for high school students, and we never know it until we reach the end of the finish line. The class of 2016 is almost there. I am almost there, too, and again, even though we are reaching the end of our term as high school students, our graduation marks the beginning of our destined futures.

## $Edison {\it High School}$

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



Dr. D'Liese Melendrez Principal

#### A Special Event

Edison High School is off to a great start with the September dedication of the school library in honor of Brian F. Garland.

Mr. Garland's ties to Edison began in 1970, where for 12 years he taught history and government. He was our vice principal in 1985, and then became principal in 1989 until his retirement in 2002. He also served as a school board member for the Huntington Beach City School District from 1974 to 2002. Afterwards, Mr. Garland became a school board member for the Huntington Beach Union High School District, where he served as a trustee until his death in 2012. He was a respected educator who focused on what was best for the children.



Mrs. Garland and the family.



Mrs. Garland, Dr. Melendrez, Mrs. Henry and Dr. Plutko unveil the plaque.

trustees, and community members. The program included comments from Mrs. Henry, the president of the HBUHSD Trustees; Dr. Plutko, the superintendent of schools; and retired teacher and friend Mr. Mike Shimpock. Mr. Garland's wife Elaine shared stories of their move from Chicago, and the love they both shared for education. A bronze plaque of in front of the Library, provided guests with

The Garland Library dedication was attended by over 100 retirees, family members, staff,

Mr. Garland was unveiled and a special reception the opportunity to view a reading area in the Library in honor of Mr. Garland. On the wall is his favorite quote of, "It's not what he gains that measures the worth of a man, but what he gives."

Edison High School thanks the community for their support of this special event that celebrated Mr. Brian F. Garland.



Dr. Plutko dedicates the Brian F. Garland Library.

## Coast High School

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



**Steve Curiel** Principal

#### **Our Hardworking Staff**

It has been a great start of school for Coast High School. Staff worked hard over the summer to get our newly updated Edgenuity curriculum aligned with our district course outlines. Although the courses have seen major improvements, staff members still need to go back and "tweak" things regularly. This is all part of doing business in an independent study program. Staff members have also been working on our accreditation self-study document that will set the course for our school for potentially the next six years.



ASB, led by President John Cupp (left), providing a quick hot dog dinner for our guests at Back to School Night.

Coast was happy to welcome parents to its second annual Back to School Night. We appreciated each and every parent and guardian's attendance. The students were especially excited and even provided a hot dog dinner at a great price in acknowledgment of family schedules being busy in the early evening and therefore sometimes events like Back to School Night can provide some logistical challenges for families. I'm proud that our students realized this as a concern and came up with a way to help out.

Finally, I want to thank our staff, which has continued to work progressively to improve how we support our students and increase achievement. We have had many tough conversations around student accountability and support. It is exciting to see the various viewpoints staff members have and humbling to experience their passion for what is best for our students. I can assure you that each staff member from teacher to guidance specialist wants what is best for our students.



# Fountain Valley High School

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



**Dr. Morgan Smith** Principal

## College, Career Prep

The Fountain Valley Barons are leading the charge when it comes to preparing its students for college and career! All students on campus were able to participate in our annual College and Career Fair and take assessments that will help them prepare for success. All ninth- and tenth-graders were able to take the New SAT Challenge to introduce them to the future format of the SAT. All 11th-graders took the PSAT free of charge, and all 12th-graders took the Career Occupational Preference System, which is designed to point them to career

paths based on their skills and interests. Not only were students taking on these assessments but they also went to visit the gymnasium to tour the 80plus universities and colleges that set up booths of information.

Why is it important that juniors take the PSAT? Juniors that score in the 96th percentile on the PSAT can qualify to become National Merit Scholars. It's estimated that nearly two million 11th-graders from across the country will take the PSAT but only 50 thousand will qualify. Juniors must then apply for the National Merit Scholarship by taking the SAT and submitting their necessary school records. When students see the value in doing well on their SATs, it increases the likelihood that they will prepare for the exam or take an SAT prep course.



The Baron Academic Foundation will be offering SAT prep courses all year long on Saturdays. Please visit https://sites.google.com/site/fvhsbaf/home for more information about SAT prep courses.

## Huntington Beach Adult School

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



**Steve Curiel** Principal

## **Preparing for College**

For the past year and half, Huntington Beach Adult School (HBAS) has been working closely with our local community college partners to promote and strengthen the transition of our students into college. Part of the work includes building an awareness of what services colleges provide, reducing the complexity of the college system, and making colleges less scary. As HBAS continues to work with partner colleges, our students are already beginning to benefit from the relationships that are being built.

On October 13, about 100 English as a Second Language (ESL) students, along with their teachers, were taken to Orange Coast College (OCC), where they were able to tour the campus, visit various classes and facilities, and learn about the programs OCC offers. For many of these students, it was the first time on a college campus. For some, the tour represents a step closer to attending college. For others, the tour might represent a dream for a child or sibling. For all the students, the tour provided a clearer picture of what college looks like and what it's about it.

This is just one of the ways HBAS is preparing students for a college future—and we are proud to do so.



ESL students from the Gothard campus ready to tour Orange Coast College.

## Huntington Beach High School

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



**Daniel Morris** Principal

## **College and Career Center**

On October 7, Huntington Beach High School (HBHS) hosted the Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) annual College/Career Night on our campus. HBHS was alive with lights to showcase and promote a successful post-secondary transition for the students in our community. The College/ Career Night events offered a venue for high school students and parents to meet with colleges and universities to share information and answer questions about their opportunities. We were proud to have over 100 colleges represented from private

and public post-secondary institutions all over the country. An estimated 2,500 students and parents from across the district met with representatives from trade schools, community colleges, and universities. Our HBUHSD family was treated to breakout sessions to assist them in transitioning from high school

to the post-secondary world of work and college. Breakout sessions included navigating the financial aid system, working with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), navigating the college entrance requirements for special needs students, and achieving success on the ACT and SAT college entrance requirements. It was a great night indeed.

HBHS does night rely on this great evening alone to prepare our students for college. Our College and Career Center, located in room D10 on campus, is overseen by our college/career specialist Martha Wait. She coordinates multiple college, trade school, and military visits weekly throughout the school year. She also works closely with our school counselor, Kathy Cadigan, to coordinate college readiness workshops on topics such as: developing four-year college plans; writing a college essay; filling out college applications; admission to University of California/California State University schools; and many more.

You can find more information at http://hboilerscarctre.wix.com/hbhscareer-center. Please do not hesitate to contact either our counselor or college/ career specialist for information regarding making plans for a successful future. Go, Oilers!

## Marina High School

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



**Dr. Jessie Marion** Principal

## **Navigating Our Future Together**

The year is off to a great start at Marina High School! This year our theme is "Navigating Our Future Together," and it is reflected in all that we do.

At the opening of the school year, our staff came together to engage in team-building activities, reflect upon our history, and establish goals for the future. We discussed many ways in which we can collaborate to make Marina the best place for our students

As we have progressed through the opening of the school year, our staff has been united in supporting our students' success, and in many ways.

One great example of this took place on October 15. Our Marina staff members recently created a College and Career Day that was completely focused on giving students an opportunity to analyze career interests, prepare for college entrance exams, and learn about the many options available after high school.

The Bowl was covered in posters that promoted various colleges, and our staff members and students wore college and career shirts for the day. Each grade level was led by staff members, and each one focused on a different topic. The Class of 2019's was, "Finding Your Career Path and What You Can Do in High School to Get You There." The Class of 2018's was, "There's a New SAT Coming...Are You Ready?" The Class of 2017's was, "Practice SAT (PSAT is FREE of Charge)!" And the Class of 2016's was, "Find Out Your Options After Graduation, and Learn the Skills to Get You There."

Events like Marina's College and Career Day are all part of creating a culture that will promote student success. When we unite and collaborate in these efforts, we know that our children will do great things!



COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF: November / December 2015 29

## Ocean View High School

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



Dr. Courtney Robinson Principal

## Summer Internship

A typical summer vacation for high school students usually consists of relaxation, work and time spent with friends. For five Ocean View High School students, their summer was anything but typical. Tejas Mandayam, Serena Ly, Grant Kuster, Sarah O'Brien and Giselle Cardoso Garcia spent their time at Boeing participating in an internship program. Seventy-five students were selected for this program from a number of different high schools, and each student was partnered with Boeing employees in the engineering field.

Tejas, Serena, Grant, Sarah and Giselle were selected from Ocean View High School after an application-and-interview process. Each student worked with an employee at Boeing in the computer-science and engineering departments. Each student had a positive learning experience.

Tejas enjoyed executing a plan from start to finish. He built strong relationships with others, and the program reinforced his dream of going into the computerscience field. Serena learned that working at Boeing was more than just learning about engineering. She saw how to run a business, and it gave her an idea of the different skills she would need to be successful working in a company like Boeing. Grant appreciated how he was treated like a member of the team. His input was valued, and he felt like more than just an intern. Sarah walked away finding her passion. She cannot wait to get started in the chemical-engineering field. Giselle loved the people she worked with, and she wishes she could participate in the program again.

Four staff members at Ocean View spearheaded the effort to get our students involved in this incredible opportunity. John Volo, Marilyn Palomino, Jo Archival and John Bruestle organized the application process and conducted the interviews.

At Ocean View, we are constantly looking for ways to connect our students' learning to life beyond the classroom, and Boeing has been so gracious in giving us this chance.

"I am grateful for the tremendous opportunity Boeing provides to our students," Mr. Volo said. We expect to see some amazing things from these students in the future!

## Valley Vista High School

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



**Kerry Clitheroe** Principal

## **Small Community, Great Talent**

A small learning community, like a small town, houses individuals filling a variety of roles. Our teachers are always looking for new ways to better serve our at-risk student population. This fall is no different.

Two new teachers joined our faculty this year. Kristin McDaniel is our new Life Management and Parenting Teens teacher. She also serves as the director of our on-site child development center, the NEST. She's excited about "getting to know the students and understanding the experiences that led them to our school."

Jason Mintzer teaches English and biology. He likes the challenge of teaching at-risk youth. He's grateful for all the departments' support and encouragement, and is eager to bridge these diverse curricula.

Flexibility is essential in a small faculty. Four of our instructors offer innovative courses. Science teacher Gabe Roberts teaches two periods of woodshop. He's convinced that this hands-on course will fully involve tactile learners and demonstrate to all students the importance of learning from

mistakes and persistence in mastering new skills and completing projects. Confidence is built through life skills like using power tools correctly and safely and completing home repairs.

#### **Music Lends Enhancement**

Social studies teacher Lisa Simpson offers a current-events course in which politics, leadership, economics, geography and cultural dimensions will be explored locally, nationally and internationally. English teacher Seena Rich has developed an innovative multimedia class that introduces and immerses small student groups in a variety of social media and technology to document campus life. A recent visit to Fountain Valley High School's advanced media class inspired the students with ideas and eagerness to get started.

Math teacher and professional musician Shaun Lopez offers a guitar course. He has noticed that the students in this course seem more focused and engaged in his math class. The students, many of whom are completely new to music and musicianship, are looking forward to their first performance at our lunchtime

These teachers invest part of themselves in their work because they care about their students' success. They find creative ways to engage and know that effective teaching, especially for challenging students, goes beyond established curricula. These teachers do it all.

## Westminster High School

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



Joe Fraser Principal

#### **Strengthening Student Culture**

At Westminster High School, we are passionate about developing a culture in which students are making connections to our school through a wide variety of activities. Our hope and expectation is that by providing an environment that engages students, we improve the students' overall attitude toward being at school, develop deeper connections to the school, and thus develop opportunities to teach students how to treat one another.

Recently, we have been whipping up interest in attending sporting events. At football games, we have been working hard

to provide a fun, safe environment full of music, crazy balloons, the T-Shirt Cannon and halftime activities that keep the students engaged. This year, the stands were full for the Think Pink football game vs. OVHS. Not only were we victorious on the field 21-14 but we also added an exclamation point in the stands. During a three day period, we sold over 500 Think Pink shirts. Those shirts filled the stands as we came together to support not only our school but also the cause of breast cancer awareness.



"Think Pink" football game supporting Breast Cancer Awareness.

From a cultural standpoint, we pride ourselves on creating memories for our students. These things alone will not magically fix all of the difficulties that come with adolescence, but combined with day-to-day caring in the classrooms, hallways and playing fields, we feel that we are developing a positive studentcentered atmosphere that makes students happy to be at school. After all, it's a PRIDE thing!

## Note-ables

## **Love Bug**



Kate Karp

Are you a Beluga Grad?

If Raffi was part of your childhood, you are. You dug into the meaning of "Baby Beluga" and had a great time singing "Down by the Bay." And if you're not one, here's your chance to get a midlife diploma and mentor the children in your life.

Raffi Cavoukian, known by his first name, is bridging the near generation gap he created by not issuing a children's CD in the last 12 years. *Love Bug* honors children and the world they live in; the collection is an extension of Raffi's social-change

movement, Child Honoring, as well as his desire to create environmental awareness and action as a team of humans. Worldly wise and socially and environmentally conscious,  $Love\ Bug$  pays lip service to causes only through what comes out between Raffi's own lips.

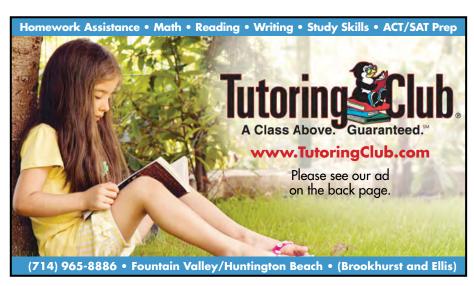
All songs are meaningful and tuneful; they're instructive for children and therapeutic for adults. "Mama Loves It" sings about teamwork beginning in the home. The instrumental "Pete's Banjo" honors Pete Seeger, one of Raffi's social inspirations. "Seeing the Heart," like a Zen parable, is interpretable through intuition only, and "Water in the Well"—well, surely a teachable moment for our drought-parched state.

And "Turn This World Around" brings it all together. Raffi's music is gentle and at the same time serious about the planet, both in leaving it for children and for children doing their part to preserve it. They, too, will be adults someday.

Discover Raffi's Child Honoring philosophy at www.raffinews.com/.

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







COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF:

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

## **Upcoming Library Events**

**Mary Ann Hutton** Branch Manager

### Fall has arrived at the Library!

Our Storytime occurs every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Our "Crafts for Kids" are available at 3:30 p.m. every first Tuesday until January. Our BARK program (Beach Animals Reading to Kids) encourages reading skills and self-confidence in children by having them read aloud to therapy dogs every third Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

Homework Help is available for students K-8 on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4–5 p.m., except on holidays. High school students interested in volunteering can contact the library.

Teen movies are shown at 2:15 p.m. every first Saturday. Children's movies will be shown at 3:30 p.m. every third Monday as well. All ages

The Library's Teen Activities Board will be hosting "Game Time" on Saturday. November 28 from 2-3 p.m. There will also be a Thanksgiving Craft on November 24 from 1–3 p.m. and a Winter Food Craft in December.

Santa will be making a special stop at the Library on Saturday, December 19 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. He will read a story and be available for pictures. Come join the fun, and make sure to bring your camera!

We will be conducting a circuit library program on December 12 from 2–3 p.m. Make holiday cards with paper circuits. Contact the Library for more information.

The Library is also a fun place to volunteer. If you need community service hours for graduation requirements, honor society hours, or college preparation, this is a wonderful public service. Teens may pick up an application from the Library.

Our Friends of the Library Bookstore sells gently used books for all interests. The Friends also hold movie matiness every fourth Friday of the month at 1 p.m. The Library has something for everyone, so please drop by and visit. Our fall decorations will make you smile!

## **Huntington Beach Central Library**

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

## **Library Happenings**



Barbara Richardson Senior Librarian Programming and Youth Services

Attention, all aspiring writers and illustrators, from Pre-K through the eighth grade! The Sand Scribes and FOTCL annual writing and illustrating contest starts on October 1 and ends on December 19. All winners will receive gift cards from a local bookstore during an awards ceremony at our Authors Festival on January 26, 2016.

This year's theme is "Locked in the Library." Imagine if you found yourself locked inside the Library. What would you do? What might happen? Be creative and use your imagination. You can print out entry forms and rules at www.fotcl.org. They are also available at the Central Library children's desk.

Help make a difference in your community. We are looking for teen and adult volunteer tutors for our Central, Banning, and Oak

View Library homework clubs. Also wanted are volunteers for our STAR reading program where volunteers read aloud to small groups of children.

Like chess? The Oak View Library is looking for volunteers to help run their Chess Club. The Central Library has workshops on the first Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. in the Tabby Theater for teenagers interested in shelving books.

Want to have a say in teen programming? Teenagers can join our teen advisory board, and Library volunteers must be at least 12 years old. All interested parties can email Barbara Richardson at richardb@hbpl.org.

Interested in children's programs? Do you like to help plan, offer ideas, and take part in special events? Then consider joining the Friends of the Children's Library. Be a part of the organization which helps to support the Children's Library. This volunteer group encourages childhood literacy and learning by providing us with new children's books, software, special events, and reading programs.

Visit fotcl.org. for details. Members meet on the first Friday of the month at 9 a.m. in downstairs Room B at the Central Library.

# Winter Words 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)

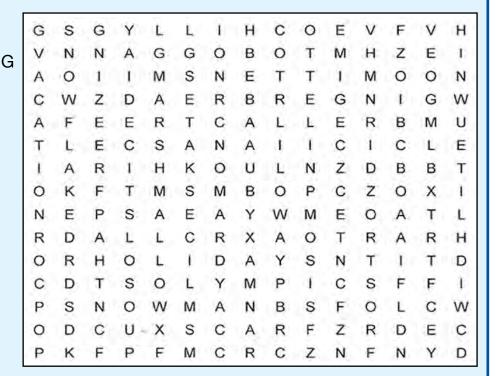
#### Entries must be received by December 15, 2015.

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

BLIZZARD	ICE SKATES	SNOWBOARDIN
BOOTS	ICICLE	SNOWFLAKE
CABIN	MARSHMALLOW	SNOWMAN
CHILLY	MITTENS	SOLSTICE
FIREPLACE	MOUNTAINS	SOUP
FREEZING	OLYMPICS	TOBOGGAN
FROST	POPCORN	UMBRELLA
GINGERBREAD	RAINCOAT	VACATION
HOLIDAYS	SCARF	
HOT CHOCOLATE	SLED	
Congratulations to		

Vy Nguyen and Abraham Granados Winners of the September Contests!

## Thank you Barkate Orthodontics for sponsoring our Contests!



## Lucy's Book Review

## **Amazing!**



**Lucy Davis** 

Deep Blue

Author: Jennifer Donnelly A bad merman is trying to free a horrifying monster that will destroy the world if Serifina, Ava, Becca, Astrid, Ling, and Neela don't stop him, and fast.

It starts the night before Serafina's trial, when she has a

nightmare about the scary river witches. With her mother and father gone, Serafina decides to go to find five other girls, ones who are supposed

to find six talismans and force the terrible monster back into its cage. Because of the war going on, everyone is stressed and worried. All six girls will discover things they didn't know, and hopefully start to turn the tide back to peace.

I give this book 4 ½ bookworms out of 5. This is a book I think only girls in grades four and up would enjoy. Even though it has a lot of action and adventure, there aren't many boy characters, and for this reason I think boys wouldn't like it.

Lucy Davis is a 4th grade student. Besides reading, she enjoys riding her bike, theatre, and playing guitar.





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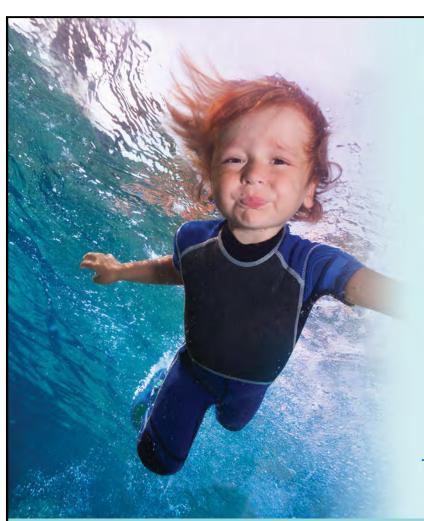
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## College 4 Less

## **Not your Daddy's braces!**

braces/bands that completely surround







Dr. Andrew Harner Orthodontist

Parents are very surprised by some of the new technologies we have at the orthodontic office that simply weren't around when they had braces as a child. Many of these advances have helped transform the overall orthodontic experience to a fun one that many children, teens, and adults look forward to.

So what are some of these fun new technologies and advances?

each tooth!

- Multi-colored ligature ties. Patients have so much fun at each appointment picking various color combinations to put on their braces such as team, school, or holiday/seasonal colors.
- Smaller, lower profile braces that are bonded to each tooth. These are used more often than the older metal
- Clear braces for those who want a more subtle, esthetic treatment option.
- Clear aligners (such as Invisalign) utilizing CAD/CAM technology can be used to straighten your teeth and correct your bite.
- Softer hi-tech wires with shape memory. They provide gentler forces over longer periods of time which enable longer intervals between appointments. This ultimately leads to less school and work missed for appointments!
- Intraoral 3-D scanners create 3-D models of your teeth so that appliances such as retainers and clear aligners can be made without using traditional impressions.
- Digital x-rays that drastically reduce exposure as compared with traditional x-rays.
- Other technologies to reduce overall treatment times such as using micropulses and microperforations to increase the rate of tooth movement.

Dr. Andrew Harner is an orthodontic specialist and practices orthodontics in Huntington Beach. He completed dental school at UCLA and then specialized in orthodontics at UCSF. He is a member of the American Association of Orthodontists and is the President-Elect of the California Association of Orthodontists. He also serves on the Board and is the Case Report Editor for the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists. www.harnerorthodontics.com 714-842-9933

## Things you can do to tip the scale.



Susan D. Marshall

When it comes to getting financial aid, scholarships, merit money you will receive some of your best offers from the more selective colleges. That being said, they also have a more rigorous application process. Getting letters of recommendation is part of

Select teachers who know you over a dignitary that may not. Most likely, you will receive a stronger letter of recommendation that stands out from the rest.

#### **Help Teachers and Counselors Help You**

Make sure you arm your teachers/counselor with transcripts, a bio or brag sheet about yourself. Attach a project or some outstanding work that you did, possibly, in their class.

Make sure you are prepared in how you handle the situation.

Let them know that you don't expect to see the letter. You need to give them the various forms they will need and envelopes already addressed to each of the schools where they are to send the letters.

You then want to make sure to follow up with thank you notes of appreciation. Teachers are not required to write letters for you. Counselors are. Both are more than worthy of the extra gratitude for their efforts.

You will shine all the more for the person you are.

Susan both educator and advisor specializes in college planning. She helps families save for and pay for college. If you have questions you would like answered in a future article contact her at Susan@College4Less.com or on her Web site at www.college4less.com





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