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School News

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

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NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2017

Westminster School District Opens First Computer Science Magnet School in Orange County



By Raul Olivas, Principal – Finley Computer Science Magnet School

Finley Elementary School in Westminster was inaugurated as the first computer science magnet school in Orange County at a special ribbon-cutting ceremony last month.

The Westminster School District partnered with Code to the Future, the nation's leading creator of immersive computer science curricula, to create Finley Computer Science Magnet School. All students in transitional kindergarten through fifth grade will learn computer programming and coding skills as part of their daily curriculum. Through this 21st-century literacy, students will develop critical-thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration skills. The program is designed to help students attain the skills needed for success later in their education in order to meet the demand for skilled employees in this field.

During the ceremony, various distinguished speakers, including State Senator Janet Nguyen, Westminster Mayor Tri Ta, and Westminster School District Board members spoke about the importance of our children obtaining important skills that will carry them forward for years to come. Dr. Cyndi Paik, Superintendent of the Westminster School District, said, "We are thrilled to be partnering with Code to the Future to incorporate computer programming and game design into the everyday curriculum, simultaneously preparing students for computer-literate careers and using computer science to make traditional academic areas more appealing."

Finley teachers will engage and teach students through innovative technology, including block-based programming languages, robotics, and text-based programming environments. The theme for the block-based

programming cycle is based on Scratch (a programming language from Massachusetts Institute of Technology), the robotics cycle theme is based on LEGO (including hands-on manipulatives and robotics), and the text-based programming theme is based on Minecraft (SCPS Action Item 4850). The curriculum starts students with hands-on activities and Scratch programming in kindergarten and progresses to exposure to Java in fourth and fifth grades.

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Finley student ambassadors shared what computer science has meant for them since the launch of the program last spring. The students shared the importance of the logic associated with computer programming and the extensive academic vocabulary that goes with learning a new language (looping, debugging, conditional statements, etc.). Immediately following the official ribbon cutting, guests were invited to visit a number of 21st-century learning environments that displayed the innovative practices taking place at our computer science magnet school. Students were engaged in Scratch block-based coding on their Macbook Pros or up at the amazing Prowise 4K resolution computers, while others worked on their LEGO EV3 Mindstorms.

The United States Bureau of Labor statistics project that by the year 2020, there will be 1.4 million new jobs in computer science. However, there are only 400,000 students prepared to take those jobs. That is a 1-million job gap! The primary reason for this shortage is the lack of computer science programs being offered during the school day. Currently, only one in 10 high schools in the United States offers computer science classes. Clearly, we are ahead of the curve!

The students, staff, parents, and community at Finley take great pride in being the very first computer science magnet school in Orange County. We are and will continue to be true to our motto: "Empowered by Innovation."

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Huntington Beach Central/Fountain Valley/Westminster Libraries pages 28-29 • Contest page 28 Thank you for reading School News!**

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



The heat wave finally broke and Fall is in the air. As we look towards the holidays I'd like to take this time to thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. We are all stakeholders in public education and the future is bright for these students with the collaborative efforts of educators, parents and the community. It is especially heartwarming when students volunteer at a young age, which sets in motion their lifelong desire to help others. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Our next issue is January 10, 2018.

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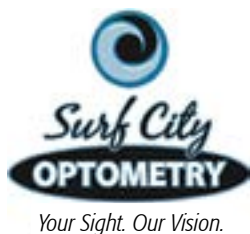
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Exciting Bottomline



John J. Collins
Mayor

Budget figures seldom excite residents but are particularly in tune with the environment in which they reside. Residents want to drive on well-maintained streets, receive utility service without interruption and know that an emergency call will get them a timely response from expert public safety employees that are well trained as well as properly equipped. (By the way, 63% of the money the City spends annually goes to public safety. The passing of Measure HH will provide greater assurance that our public safety will be provided at a high level of service.)

As a former manager for a Fortune 500 Company, owner of my own business and a County of Orange employee, I can say with confidence the City of Fountain Valley utilizes one of the most professional and prudent budgetary processes I have seen both in the public and private sectors. While budget figures are certainly important, I want to speak to the philosophy that goes into producing those budget figures.

Fountain Valley does a two-year operating budget as part of a ten-year fiscal forecast. This ensures that decisions made in the current year will not present a problem in the future due to lack of funding. This long-range approach also allows us to annually contribute to capital accounts, which ensures money will be available to buy a new fire truck or maintain important City infrastructure such as water wells, roads and sewer lines.

As I said at the beginning, this is not necessarily exciting stuff. However, the very unique approach Fountain Valley takes in developing a budget provides for a well-balanced community with a high level of professional services and a well-earned reputation of being "A Nice Place to Live." Bottom line....that is exciting.

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On The Run

Paper Tape Prevents Blisters



Dr. Doug Richie

The number one enemy of the feet of runners are friction blisters. Whether during training or on race day, a painful blister can stop you in your tracks and sometimes can lead to serious infection. As a result, any new insight into preventive measures for blisters are welcome, particularly if proven by medical research.

A study published in the *Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine* (April, 2016) demonstrated that application of paper tape to blister prone areas of the feet of runners could significantly protect from blistering events during the running of ultra-marathon races. This is important because paper tape is inexpensive and easy to apply. Since the toes are most prone to blisters in runners, paper tape may be the best prevention if certain toes always seem to blister. The research showed that you do not need to apply tape to all the toes, but only to those which have blistered previously.

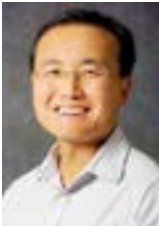
While many other measures to prevent blisters are commonly used by runners, few have been validated to work in actual medical studies. Applying lubricating ointments such as Vaseline is very popular but research has shown that this practice may actually increase the chance of blistering on the feet. The fact is that increasing moisture content with ointments actually increases friction force on the skin.

Still, the best advice for runners to prevent blisters is to wear properly fitted shoes and socks composed of synthetic fibers which wick moisture from the skin surface.

If all else fails, apply paper tape to those areas of the feet which are blister prone.

Dr. Doug Richie is a sports podiatrist who has practiced in Seal Beach for 33 years. He is Past President of the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine and serves on the medical staff for Long Beach State Athletics.

Urgent Care, Emergency Care



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

Choosing the kind of medical care you need depends on your situation. If you are injured or ill, going to the hospital emergency room (ER) may seem like an appropriate choice. But if you are not facing a real emergency, you may have other choices.

Hospitals typically provide a full range of services for common medical conditions as well as a level of emergency care. Urgent care centers offer medical care for conditions that need immediate attention, but are not life-threatening. And in a doctor's office, patients usually receive personalized service due to an established working relationship.

According to the American College of Emergency Physicians, warning signs of a medical emergency include:

- Problems breathing
- Fainting or sudden dizziness
- Uncontrollable bleeding
- Confusion or changes in mental status
- Chest or upper abdominal pain
- Changes in vision
- Coughing or vomiting blood

If you are experiencing these symptoms you should go to a hospital ER. Some hospitals use online scheduling tools such as InQuickER to post their ER waiting times so you can check before going to the hospital.

If you are experiencing symptoms of a heart attack or stroke, call 911 for an ambulance instead of driving. This allows emergency medical services to begin treatment immediately.

If you need medical care for a condition that is not serious or life-threatening such as: minor illnesses, cuts, burns, puncture wounds, fractures, bites, stings, sprains and strains, you may want to go an urgent care center when you cannot see your primary doctor right away. An urgent care center may be a more convenient, less expensive, and less time-consuming choice.

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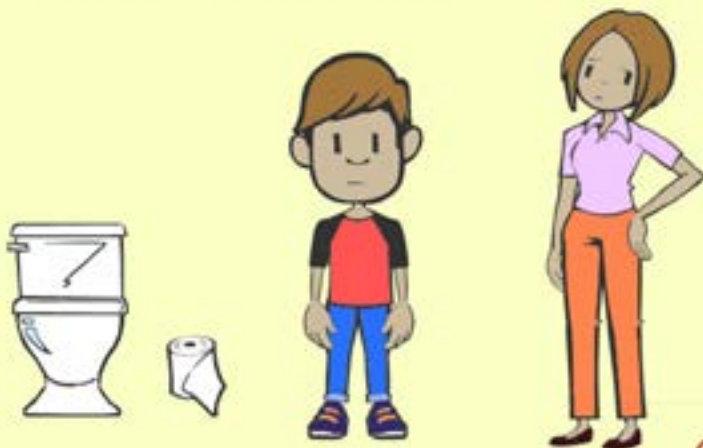
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Pediatric Gastrointestinal (GI) Conditions



Barry Steinmetz, M.D.
pediatric gastroenterologist,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

Pediatric gastrointestinal (GI) conditions affect a child's gastrointestinal tract, or organs of the digestive system, which include the esophagus, stomach, large and small bowel, liver, gallbladder and pancreas.

Millions of children are living with pediatric digestive and nutritional disorders. Some of the most common conditions, include:

- **Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)** is a chronic disease which occurs when stomach acid or stomach contents flow back into the food pipe. More than 7 million people in the U.S. have some symptoms of GERD.
- **Crohn's Disease** is a type of inflammatory bowel disease. It causes inflammation of the digestive tract lining. The rate of which Crohn's disease is occurring in children has nearly doubled over the last decade.

- **Celiac Disease** is an autoimmune condition brought on by ingesting gluten, which is a protein in wheat and many other grains. It is estimated that approximately 1 in 500 people in the U.S. have celiac disease.

GI conditions make themselves known in different ways, but there are five common signs that your child could have a gastrointestinal condition:

- Vomiting
- Recurrent abdominal pain
- Burping and heartburn
- Alternation of routine bowel patterns, such as constipation or diarrhea
- Abdominal distention (belly swelling)

If you recognize these signs in your child, they may need a referral to a pediatric gastroenterologist.

MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach has hospital-based outpatient specialty centers from the South Bay to South Orange County, allowing a child with a gastrointestinal condition – from common to complex – to be treated by a specialist close to home.

Our specialty:

Gastroenterology

Parker's specialty:

Tummy Time

Our specialists are the leaders in children's health care.

As an infant, Parker struggled to gain weight. He was referred to pediatric gastroenterologist, Dr. Robert Tran, at the Children's Specialty Center in Irvine. Dr. Tran diagnosed Parker with cystic fibrosis (CF). CF is a life-threatening genetic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system – and was the culprit of Parker's failure to thrive. In the first week under Dr. Tran's care, Parker gained 1 lb. – a significant accomplishment. Now, he's growing strong and mastering the art of tummy time.



Parker, 7-months-old,
Miller Children's
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SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Mark Johnson

Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI)

During the month of October, Fountain Valley School District TK-5 teachers participated in Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) math demonstration lessons, hosted by our very own teachers. The mornings began with a principal-hosted overview of the day, along with a discussion of anticipated outcomes for visiting teachers observing a CGI lesson. Throughout the observations, teachers circulated rooms, engaged with students and watched for various elements of CGI. Following the observations, grade level teams debriefed with the demonstration

teacher, asking questions, reflecting on their own practices, and gaining a better understanding of how to apply CGI in their classroom. The afternoons consisted of teams meeting at the District Office to collaborate and learn more about our newly created grade level curriculum Road Maps.



1st grade students at Gisler Elementary work together using CGI practices during recent teacher-led demo lessons in FVSD.

We are so thankful to have teachers willing to open their classrooms as learning labs, and extremely proud of the level of collaboration going on through FVSD! It is inspiring to see our staff embrace CGI, as their love of learning is definitely contagious! And, it provides one more reason why... WeHeartFVSD!

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Together in FVSD

In recent weeks, Fountain Valley School District's middle school content teams have collaborated, discussed, debated, learned, and planned, together. In coordination with our Educational Services Division, our science teams have been working with Orange County Department of Education's science leads to implement the Next Generation Science Standards, and all three middle schools have developed units of study aligned to these new standards. In History/Social Science, our teachers have

created two units of study, per grade level, and will be meeting two more times this year to build additional units.

It is also inspiring to observe how well our math teams are collaborating, as they, too, have developed units of study with the support of the Irvine Math Project. And, similar to last year, our ELA teams have been working with Carol Jago, national expert and renowned educator, to create units of study aligned to core novels.

As a Trustee and a parent, I am excited to see the connectedness throughout our District! With a vision to provide all students with a rigorous and guaranteed curriculum taught by a highly skilled teacher, this work provides further evidence that we continue to make tremendous progress in teaching and learning. Just one of the many reasons why...WE HEART FVSD!



Together in FVSD, teachers work to develop units of study aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards.

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

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



Kevin Johnson
Principal



Jennifer Kajdasz
Assistant Principal

Making Us Proud

Under the direction of Ms. Hogrebe, the Peer Assistance League (PAL) at Fulton Middle School is a service club that organizes, coordinates, and participates in projects to help better our school and community. It is a year-long elective open to both our seventh- and eighth-grade students, and it works alongside the Fulton ASB on various service projects.

PAL members select which activities the club will organize and conduct. This year the group has already been very active. In September and October, PAL planned the Red Ribbon Week activities. Our annual Drug Awareness Week was a huge success too, and for the fourth year the group was able to extend drug awareness activities with the Courreges and Tamura Elementary students.

Some of the activities planned for the year are a canned food drive, Pennies-for-Pasta, the annual Fulton Toy Drive, designing and distributing valentines for the Fountain Valley Senior Center and military members, and our annual pop-top drive which will benefit the Orange County Ronald McDonald House. The House recycles these and uses the money to help with their expenses.

Overall, PAL has an exciting, action-packed year ahead of volunteering and collaboration. Fulton students are working hard to make a difference in their community, and our Fulton family could not be more proud of them!



Patrick Ham
Principal

Off to Busy New School Year

It was with great excitement that we ushered in the start of the 2017-2018 school year. Fresh haircuts, new backpacks, and beautiful smiles were apparent throughout

our campus as our students and staff returned to kick off another exciting year of learning.

In addition to the start of the school year, fall also brings our annual “Fall Family Fun Night” hosted by COX PTO with director, Mr. Scott Rogers (October 21, 2017) as well as the wildly engaging and entertaining Student Council Elections.



Mrs. Raymond directs the candidates before their campaign speeches.



Chris Christensen
Principal



Mrs. Hisgen's 3rd grade class poses for a picture with Mr. Courreges.

Mr. Courreges Visits 3rd Graders

Mr. Ron Courreges, great grandson of Fountain Valley pioneer Roch Courreges, for whom the school is named, visited Courreges 3rd graders on October 12, 2017. Mr. Courreges and members of the Huntington Beach Elks Lodge 1959, came to speak to the 3rd graders about the Courreges family history. The morning was highlighted by Mr. Courreges and Elk's handing out autographed dictionaries and pressed commemorative coins to all of the 3rd graders.

Kazuo Masuda *Middle School(6-8)*

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



Jay Adams
Principal



Matt Ploski
Assistant Principal

PAL's 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 our PAL's and their

peers to make healthy life decisions, and also provide opportunities to create a supportive and safe school environment. The students learn decision-making skills, refusal skills to counter negative influences, communication skills, conflict management skills, how to be positive role models, how to embrace social responsibility, and how to plan and implement service-learning projects.

Seventh-grader Alex Tran says that she loves PAL because she gets to "spend time making a difference for the school every day, and have fun while doing it!" Mrs. Nguyen states, "I love how these children are willing to take charge of impacting the school in a positive way."

Our Masuda's motto is, "Take a Second and Make a Difference." Our PAL students are out and about and doing just that! We're so grateful for the difference they make on our campus and in our community every day.



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

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



Christopher Mullin
Principal

School of Readers

This year, Newland's staff decided to have every student read both at school for a dedicated time as well as at home for at least 20 minutes every day. There is a wealth of research supporting daily reading, especially prior to and during the period when students are learning to read. The experience of reading activates and exercises many of the areas of the brain. Children's memories make connections between what they already know about the topic of the story and its content. Students integrate new information learned through reading, further strengthening and growing their network of knowledge.

For Newland, not only do we want to create an enjoyment of reading but we also hope for secondary benefits. There is a strong correlation between children's ability to read and their academic performance. For our younger students, the experience of being read to helps children develop good listening skills by keying them into the components of language. Through reading, students learn to recognize phonemes—the sound building blocks of language, learn new words to add to their oral vocabularies, and connect written words to their real-world applications.

Because so much of our schooling relies on students' abilities to read, children must have strong reading skills to succeed and thrive in school. With much excitement, the staff at Newland looks forward to fostering an entire school of lifelong readers.

Happy Thanksgiving!
from the School News Staff

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

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



Julie Ballesteros
Principal

Welcome, Ms. Tojo!

Plavan Elementary School is thrilled to introduce our newest third-grade teacher, Ms. Robin Tojo. Ms. Tojo graduated from California State University, Long Beach in 2006 with a double major in international studies and Italian studies. She obtained her teaching credential in the spring of 2015.

Robin has already contributed to the success of our children by sharing her knowledge from her various experiences in education throughout her life. She began her educational career as a preschool teacher at international schools in Japan and another in Finland. Most recently she has served as a reading intervention teacher and a long-term substitute for a third-grade classroom in the Los Alamitos School District.



Our dynamic third grade teachers:
Cheryl Panzella, Robin Tojo and Sibel Yilmaz

Ms. Tojo is committed to her students and strives to inspire and nourish learning in a student-centered classroom. She works diligently to provide whatever additional support necessary to ensure her students' success. Her kind and loyal personality provides a safe and comfortable environment for her students and colleagues to work and learn successfully together.

Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Erin Bains
Principal

Student Council

The 2017–2018 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 Maddy Anguiano, Vice President Joshua Lieu, Secretary Nico Kap, and Executive Board members Kayla Frechette, Fisher Ngo, and Kasen Roussel.

In addition to our new student council officers, each class in third, fourth, and fifth grades has a room representative that attends all 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!



Fisher Ngo, Kayla Frechette, Maddy Anguiano, Nico Kap, Joshua Lieu, Kasen Roussel

Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Kathy Davis
Principal

Academic Success

Welcome back to another fantastic year at Tamura Elementary School! All Tamura staff are excited to be celebrating academic growth in our Smarter Balanced Assessment Program, and the results are being shared as part of the California Assessment for Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) system.

The 2016–2017 school year was extremely successful for Tamura. The students showed great growth, which we attribute to our many dedicated staff members, hard-working students, and continued commitment from the Tamura community. We will continue to build on our reputation for providing exemplary educational opportunities for our students.

Key strengths at Tamura continue to be our excellent teachers, high-caliber programs, and supportive school community. As a staff, we are committed to delivering grade-level curriculum and instruction that is aligned to and driven by the Common Core State Standards. The Tamura team looks forward to working with every child and fine-tuning its programs to ensure that their needs are being met.

Our commitment is to provide all Tamura students with the academic and social behaviors that will be the foundation of their present and future success. Keep up with our school events by following us on Twitter, at Tamuratigers@Tamuratigers.

Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Erik Miller
Principal

OKA COMMUNITY has LIFE

OCL - Oka Community Life - has started with success! The goal of OCL is to create an even greater sense of community between parents, students, staff, and families, as we collectively come together, in order to make a positive difference in the lives of our Wolfpack! Each month, an event is planned through the support of our PTO, in order to bring everyone together! The first September event was an After School Ice-Cream Social, which was a HUGE success, and October is Family Magic Night, with a live performance by renowned magician, Mr. Brock Edwards.

There are a variety of future events planned, all with the hope of gathering families together for fun, enjoyment, and a true sense of experiencing life in a community...Oka style!



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

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



Jennifer Morgan
Principal



Mark Holman
Assistant Principal

Visible Learning

The Talbert Middle School T-Birds have started the school year off right and are on track to make the year a huge success! Lots of new ideas and fresh faces have added to the buzz of excitement around campus and continue to keep students engaged and focused on achievement. The enthusiasm and pride all students and staff place on positivity and academics is infectious!

This year, Talbert continues to focus on the ideas of John Hattie's Visible Learning and ensuring that all students are engaged at high levels within the classroom on a daily basis. Our road map to success focuses on learning goals, success criteria, and rigor in everything that we do. At Talbert, all students are able to articulate what they are learning and how they know that they have mastered a concept. This encourages student ownership of the process and ultimately allows the teacher to make more informed, data-driven instructional decisions based on what students in the classroom need most.

This year, we will explore the concept of rigor and what it means to have a more rigorous academic instructional day. Collectively we are working on what it means to further challenge our students. Through the process of aligning instruction, providing common assessments, engaging in more frequent writing prompts, and working with depth and complexity in every classroom, we will ramp up learning while making it more engaging to all.

This year is already shaping up to be one of the best we have ever had at Talbert. With the continuance of site and district initiatives, there is no limit to what our amazing T-Birds can accomplish. After all, our mission statement reads: "At Talbert we believe in students; collaboration, engagement, innovation, problem, and rigor for all."

Huntington Beach City School District

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

SUPERINTENDENT



Gregory Hauk

Building Connections

In the Huntington Beach City School District we are working hard on the 4 Cs: critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity. Study after study shows that these are the skills that our students will need as they go into the workforce or off to college. However, we are also working really hard on another C, and this one is connected. We want ALL of our students to feel connected and safe at their schools, and we want our schools to feel connected to their community.

Students feel connected to their schools when there are people at the schools who care about them as people and activities at the schools that meet their interests. This is a big reason why our schools offer music and elementary school physical education along with sports and after-school activities. As we near the construction phase of our 21st-century classroom models with increased technology, our teachers are also changing the way they teach. They are utilizing lesson plans with far more discovery learning, project-based curriculum and more engaging ways to present information. This change in curriculum better engages and interests our students so they feel better about what they are learning and are proud of the many ways they can show mastery of the objectives. These small yet instrumental changes increase the students' connectivity with their schools.

Our schools are also working to better connect with their communities. This last week we had city officials and business partners serve as Principals for a Day to connect the business and service community to what is going on in our schools. This gave our principals the opportunity to showcase all of the wonderful things happening in Huntington Beach Schools.

As we continue to better connect with our students and our community, I invite you to come and be a part of what we are doing. If your business or organization is looking for a way to connect to your neighborhood school or if you already have ideas, please contact my office so we can sit down and put your ideas or interests into action to support our students, our schools, and our communities.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Dr. Paul Morrow
President

Preparing Students for Success in a 21st Century Context

As the 2017-18 school year kicks off the HBCSD is in the process of celebrating the opening of 21st Century Demonstration Classrooms in all of its elementary and middle schools. These classrooms are places that look a bit different from the traditional classroom and definitely feel a little different for the students and teachers assigned to those classrooms.

Here in the HBCSD we believe the term "21st Century Learning Environments" covers not only place and space, but the relationships that creates a supportive environment for every child's development and learning. These new and specialized classrooms are seen as the support systems that organize the condition in which research shows our students of today learn best, systems that accommodate the unique needs of every learner and support the positive human relationships needed for effective learning. Learning environments are the structures, tools and communities that inspire students and educators to attain the knowledge and skills the 21st century demands of us all.

These new and exciting learning environments are designed to support the following...

- Learning practices that enable educators to collaborate, share best practices and integrate 21st century skills into the classroom.
- Enable students to learn through project-based learning to apply their skills in a relevant and real world context.
- Allow equitable access to quality learning tools, with up-to-date technologies and other relevant resources.
- Provide 21st century interior design to facilitate group, team and individual learning.
- Support an expanded learning communities and involvement in learning both face to face and online.

Here in the HBCSD we realize that today's student must be in learning environments that reflect "how" people learn. Our students need to be inspired to become creative problem solvers, intellectual risk takers and collaborative learning team members in order to compete in this global society.

As stated by a group known as Partnership for 21st Century Skills, 21st Century Learning Environments "foster learning tailored to the needs and wants of the individual. This sort of learning occurs anytime and anyplace, when and where the learner desires. It takes place in a context of relevance, "just in time," rather than "just in case." And such learning offers "just what I need" – that is, the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills through learning strategies that are personalized and adapted to the learner's own learning styles and preferences.

We are excited about the future of learning in the HBCSD and invite you to drop by, take a look and get ready to be blown away by the amazing talents our children, your son's and daughters, are demonstrating on a daily basis. The future is here, right here in the Huntington Beach City School District!

Are you
looking for me
for the contest
on page 27?



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John H. Eader *Elementary*

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



Debbi Randall
Principal

Eader's Designers and Artists Abound

Eader students are empowered with many life skills and creative opportunities. They get the opportunity to learn broadcasting through giving the morning announcements each day to the student body, they announce and

help facilitate the monthly Character Counts assemblies, they have voted on their mascot name (Duke), and the title of their school newspaper (Soaring High). They even get to enter a contest to design the covers of their yearbook! Along with designing the cover of the yearbook their submissions are then enlarged into posters to be displayed in an Art Gallery in our library media center! Congratulations to this year's Yearbook Cover Contest Winners: Kai Hata, Mia Pascua, and Luke White! The back cover will be shared by: kindergartner, Kohana Ramos, first grader Jocelyn Padilla, second grader Reid Austin, third grader Rory Hata, fourth grader Maxwell Austin, and fifth grader, Lucas Ramirez.



Congratulations to this year's Yearbook Cover contest winners!

Ethel R. Dwyer *Middle School*

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



Christa Glembocki
Principal

Getting Involved

The start to the 2017–2018 school year has been amazing at Dwyer Middle School. Students were greeted the first day by a tunnel of teachers giving high-fives and smiles! From there on out, students and staff have been feeling the positivity as it spreads throughout campus. Many students have participated in spirit days to show their Jr. Oiler pride. Others have joined our basketball and volleyball teams, while others have shown an interest in the arts through Academy of Performing Arts Jr. Our goal is to have as many students involved at Dwyer as possible.

The more you are connected to school, the better you will perform overall.

One way students can be involved, and even take on leadership roles, is through Club Rush. Club Rush is a two-day event in which students advertise the clubs they have started and gather interest from the student body to encourage club membership. This year we have over 20 clubs for students to join, and this number continues to grow with more and more interests. Each club has a student founder with a staff sponsor, and most typically meet during lunch.

Joseph Cobb, an eighth-grader, started one of the new clubs this year called E-Buddies. His club was founded to match Dwyer students with students across America who have an Intellectual Developmental Disability (IDD) so they can correspond through e-mails as buddies. Joseph stated that he wanted to start this club to bring awareness and because he has a cousin who participated when she was in school.

Some of the other clubs that students can join are Meme Club, Broadway Club, Golf Club, National Junior Honor Society, Anime Club, Greek Mythology Club, Do It Yourself Club, Girls Inc., and many more. It's so wonderful to see Jr. Oilers involved in things for which they have a passion!

Dr. Ralph E. Hawes *Elementary*

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



Julie Jennings
Principal

Kindness Rocks

At Hawes Elementary School, our focus is on ensuring that all students develop 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. Tapping into the wealth of resources in our community and PTA is something we do daily, and it's one way we model collaboration. Combining resources reinforces the bond of Team Hawes and ensures that all students reach their full potential!



Hawes Kindness Rocks Project: Our students worked together to create positive messages to spread kindness. The rocks are displayed in our lunch area around the garden.

On a recent Friday, we tapped into our collaborative skills to spread kindness! With PTA support, we participated in the Hawes Kindness Rocks Project and challenged each of our students to design a rock with a message of kindness. Our entire school, thanks to the efforts of many parent volunteers, gathered outside together to share positive messages. These rocks now decorate our school garden.

S. A. Moffett *Elementary*

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



Michael Andrzejewski
Principal

Ensuring Mathematical Success

The staff at Moffett School continues to work on the integration of three supplementary programs as part of our Common Core instructional work in mathematics. Our efforts with Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) over the last 10 years have assisted students in developing mathematical thinking through the sharing of problem-solving approaches. Information gleaned from CGI guides each teacher's instruction and allows students to learn from their peers. To support mental problem-solving development, Moffett teachers also conduct Number Talks in their classrooms. In observing CGI and Number

Talks, one would note a similarity in the approaches as well as differences, particularly that Number Talks support mental computation and encourage structured conversation about mathematical reasoning and orally shared problem-solving approaches.

We also continue implementing Spatial Temporal (ST) Math, engaging students in learning through problem-solving. Students are presented with digital problems which build mathematical mastery through the development of strategic thinking, conceptual understanding, perseverance, and practice. We also utilize the fluency component of ST Math to build students' understanding, speed, and accuracy in working with their math facts.

Our continued work allows teachers to make ongoing connections between the three programs and design lessons that connect the three strategies (CGI, Number Talks, and ST Math.) We have identified methods that support Common Core instruction by integrating the strategies into regular classroom practice. It has been deep and complicated work, but, as the programs have become a seamless part of our instruction, making the connections seems not only logical but necessary to ensure student mathematical success and support 21st-century learning practices!

Joseph R. Perry *Elementary*

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



Dr. Renee Polk Johnson
Principal

Family Art Night

On Thursday, October 17, 2017, the Perry PTA sponsored our 3rd Annual Perry Family Art Night. In alignment with our district's visual and performing arts goals, the event focused on providing children and families with an array of art opportunities. This year there were 8 different free art stations available to children and to families. One of the art stations enabled students to create and to submit a visual arts entry for the nationwide PTA Reflections Art Program. This year's PTA Art Reflections theme is "Within Reach."



We were also very privileged to have the Chuck Jones Creativity Center facilitate an art station for students and families. Perry Family Art Night was very well attended and it was wonderful to see students and families participate, collaborate, and create art!

John R. Peterson *Elementary*

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



Dr. Constance Polhemus
Principal

Helping Texas Teachers and Students

Students and families at John R. Peterson Elementary School do not need to wait for a "bat signal" to provide help. Just the mere mention of someone needing support and the whole school community rallies together to offer assistance.

So was the case with our first Student Council Community Service Project. Five days into the new school year and our Student Council members were hard at work creating posters and passing out flyers to let our school community know that Peterson Elementary had adopted Juan Seguin Elementary School in Richmond, Texas. As a result of Hurricane Harvey,

bad flooding had devastated this Texas school. Currently, their teachers and students are temporarily housed between two school campuses while their own site is being repaired.

Our Student Council members did not want the children at Juan Seguin to be without books, art supplies, games, or anything else that teachers use to make a classroom function. So over the course of two weeks our students were able to collect and purchase over 85 gift cards to help these Texas teachers restore the classroom supplies they had lost in the flooding.

"It did not matter what grade you were in, so many people wanted to participate in this project," stated Mrs. Overstreet, one of the Student Council advisers. "A young student named Zac appeared with \$20.40 that he had earned over some period of time, and wanted to contribute it to the teachers and students at Juan Seguin," said Mrs. Barsh, another adviser.

In addition to collecting the donations, our students wrote encouraging cards to the students of Juan Seguin, knowing that many of them had also lost their homes in the flooding. "We really work on giving back to the community. It is nice when we can go a little farther with that help," Mrs. Overstreet added.

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Huntington Seacliff *Elementary*

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Dr. Monique Huibregtse
Principal

Software Engineers, Machinists, and Robotics

Seacliff Elementary School continues to strengthen its Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) curriculum. This fall, through PTA donations and a new partnership with a local educational company, our Seacliff third-through fifth-grade students are writing code using JAVA Script (with a student-friendly overlay) to create animations.

The students are also building Legos to understand the seven simple machines that all engineers use (levers, pulleys, wheels, ramps, screws, wedges, and gears). After explaining our specific needs, the company provided not only a unique curriculum just for our school, but also the materials, curriculum essentials, and expert instructors to teach all of the exciting and engaging lessons.

In the spring, real-life problems involving robotics will be presented to groups of students. The students will need to collaborate with their group to determine how a robot can assist with issues involving search and rescue (i.e., if a robotic helicopter is needed), natural disasters, or recycling.

Our students will have an excellent STEM experience, and continue to use their 21st-century skills of collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking.

Agnes L. Smith *Elementary*

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



Carolyn Beck
Principal

Developing Leaders

Smith School is very proud of its Student Senate program. Students in the fourth and fifth grades have an opportunity to represent their class through their Senate. Student Senators meet monthly with Mrs. Spencer and Ms. Murray to share ideas from their classrooms on how to improve our school and community.

During the holiday season, the Senators will lead a warm coat drive and collect coats for a local homeless shelter. They are also in charge of our weekly recycling program. They spend the first part of their recess collecting small recycling bins from each classroom to bring to the large recycling bin.

Last spring our Senators led a successful Pennies for Patients drive, collecting \$2,500 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The Student Senate program is a great opportunity for our students to develop their leadership skills and help our school and community.



Student Senate Representatives with Mrs. Spencer and Ms. Murray

Isaac L. Sowers *Middle School*

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



John Ashby
Principal

Sharing Success

The school year at Sowers Middle School is off to a great start! While we have been in session for just over six weeks, there are already some amazing things happening on our campus. I'd like to share two successes with you.

Since the passage of the Measure Q bond by the Huntington Beach City School District in last year's election, Sowers is already seeing the benefits of two 21st-century demonstration classrooms that were created on our campus last summer. These rooms are equipped with the latest technology and student-flexible seating to now allow our Sowers teachers to deliver great lessons in engaging environments.

For instance, students are able to write directly on whiteboard desks in math, re-enact historical battle scenes in the CORE classroom by quickly storing movable furniture, and be comfortable in plush chairs while learning from two interactive touch projector walls. To see a video of the rooms, go to the Sowers Instagram page at @sowersvikingshb.

This year we are also pleased to have our teachers testing out the instructional, technical, and operational components of the room as we move forward with modernization. Please go to <http://www.hbcsdmeasureq.com/school-detail/5> for more details.

Our student leaders also recently sponsored the Club Rush event, where over 300 students signed up for more than 15 clubs on campus. One of the most popular clubs this year was Best Buddies, which is a partnership between Sowers MS and Best Buddies International, a 501(c)(3). This club pairs students with intellectual and developmental disabilities in one-to-one friendships with their peers without disabilities in various ongoing social events during the 2017–2018 school year.

We are happy to announce that, according to Best Buddies, Sowers is the first middle school in Orange County to offer such a program! To learn more about it, check out www.youtube.com/bestbuddies.

Educational Services

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



Carolyn Wertheim
*Director
Early Childhood
Education*

Parents and Teachers Partnering Together

Parent-teacher conferences are an excellent opportunity for families and their child's teacher to share information. Typically offered in the fall and spring, conferences provide a two-way conversation so that both the parent and educator are on the same page as to the strengths and needs of the child. Open communication and mutual respect form the foundation for the parent teacher relationship. By sharing insights and information with each other, you form a team in your child's education.

Suggestions to maximize your time together:

Share information about your child and your family.

As a parent, you are your child's first teacher and know your child better than anyone else and will have valuable insights to share. Highlight elements of your child's life at home that you feel are important for your teacher to know.

Keep the focus on your child and their individual needs, special interests and temperament. Arrive on time for your conference. Children can hear and remember what is said. The conference is a time for you and the teacher to discuss your child. Unless specifically invited to bring your child, make arrangements for your child to be with another family member or caregiver.

Listen with an open mind. Ask questions when you do not understand or need clarification. If an issue comes up that you would like an in-depth discussion, schedule another meeting at a mutually convenient time.

Stay involved. Ask for suggestions for activities that you can do with your child to support their development. Look for opportunities to be involved. Children flourish with your involvement in their daily early learning experiences.

Your parent-teacher team effort will be most impactful if the connections extend over the over the school year. This investment will support your child's development and their love of learning.



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Ocean View School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Carol Hansen

Building a Legacy for Students, Families, and Staff

As I head into my third school year as superintendent, I am working collaboratively and extensively with our leadership team to ensure that Ocean View is a place of great pride for its students, families, staff, and the communities we serve. Our long-term goal is to establish Ocean View as a “destination district” in Orange County.

One way that we are doing this is by having a laser focus on student achievement. Ocean View is heading in the right direction by continuing to provide a rigorous academic

curriculum to meet the needs of all students, supported in part by the recent adoption of new English language arts and English language development materials in all grades at our elementary and middle schools. Our Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) program and Early Learning and Expanded Learning programs also support this goal.

We recognize that families today need options as they choose the right educational setting for their children. Lake View Elementary School is a fully integrated Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) school. Westmont Elementary School recently launched its Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) Academy, which integrates the arts into its core curriculum. Innovative programs like these are being studied and developed at other schools throughout Ocean View.

Another commitment we have made is to further our engagement with all of our stakeholders, which means we must reach out and collaborate with one another. We value input, whether from parents, grandparents, principals, instructional aides, custodians, food servers, or citizens and neighbors. To do this, we must practice Courage, Openness to change, Reflection, and Empathy. This is a concept discussed by author Arin Reeves. I like to call it “Working our CORE!” I believe we have a courageous team of people who are committed to these principles. It does not mean that we can implement all of the input we receive, but it does mean we are willing to engage and consider ideas. We are also committed to doing business differently in Ocean View to meet the needs of our schools and maximize limited resources. This might mean promoting system practices that best support students and learning, streamlining existing operational practices for efficiency, or, in some cases, replacing outdated practices that no longer serve their intended purposes.

To become a “destination district,” we must also make communication a priority. For the past several years, our team has committed to telling our Ocean View stories and to providing transparent communication to families, staff, and community leaders. We do this through a variety of tools, sometimes via e-mail, Web sites and social media, and sometimes through old-fashioned, face-to-face discussions.

Finally, I am asking our Ocean View leaders, teachers, and staff to go where the action is. What do I mean? District administrators and managers will be regularly visiting our schools, classrooms, and departments. I have asked our staff to engage and openly discuss the successes and challenges we face as educators, so we are able to make important decisions that are best for students and learning.

Ultimately, my goal as superintendent of Ocean View is to leave this legacy: “The Ocean View School District has been transformed into a ‘destination district’ in Orange County, with a culture of authentic stakeholder engagement, innovative options for families, and a laser focus on student outcomes.” I hope you will join me in this great endeavor.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Gina Clayton-Tarvin
President

Ocean View is Keeping Student Safety at the Forefront

In my roles as mother, teacher and Board president, I am always thinking about student safety. Not a single day goes by that I am not reminded about the many ways we take care of our students in the classroom, on the playground, and as they travel to and from our schools. In Ocean View, there are many programs, drills, and policies in place to keep our students safe, so they can focus on their number one job – learning.

Schools and districts from across the nation recently recognized three important safety programs: National Bullying Prevention Month, the Great Shakeout, and Red Ribbon Week.

These programs allow our Ocean View School District (OVSD) personnel to interact with students, families, and community organizations to promote safety and educate students about these critical topics. Our Board of Trustees updated its policy on bullying earlier this year, and Ocean View schools are actively practicing bullying prevention throughout the year, with programs such as Where Everybody Belongs, a middle school program that enables seventh- and eighth-grade students to support sixth-graders as they transition into middle school. Other schools celebrate with Kindness Week and Be a Buddy, Not a Bully Week. Our schools also participated in the Great California Shakeout on October 19 at 10:19 a.m. Earthquake safety drills were held at our schools and district offices, so students and staff could practice what to do in an actual earthquake emergency. This year’s official Red Ribbon Week was held October 23–31 under the theme of “Your Future Is Key, So Stay Drug Free.” Our Board of Trustees passed a resolution recognizing Red Ribbon Week, and schools hosted weeklong activities raising awareness about drug use prevention.

As Board President, one of my highest priorities is to find ways to do what is right for our children, and this includes the maintenance of our school grounds. This past year, I worked closely with district staff to focus on long-term pest prevention through approved Integrated Pest Management best practices. Ocean View is the first public institution in Huntington Beach to begin using organic pesticides and stop using Roundup.

You may have heard educators mention Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS). We use PBIS in Ocean View as a way to support our students socially, emotionally, and academically. By creating clearly defined expectations for behaviors and outcomes, students feel supported and a safe, positive learning environment is cultivated.

In November 2016, our community showed its support for the Ocean View School District by passing the district’s first-ever general obligation bond in the amount of \$169 million. As part of our school modernization priority projects, safety and security issues, such as perimeter fencing and security systems, are being discussed. In fact, this summer, our maintenance and information technology staff successfully installed a new Shoretel phone system in all classrooms, schools, and district offices. These phones will provide an added level of safety and reliability in an emergency situation and every day.

As an added measure of safety, we always encourage families to talk openly with their children about safety. It is a good idea to discuss safe school routes if children are walking to and from our schools. Safe school routes, developed with our surrounding cities, can be found under “Families” at www.ovsd.org.

I am proud to say that Superintendent Carol Hansen, who has been in her leadership position for just over two years, is setting an outstanding example for all. You may have read that the National School Public Relations Association recently recognized Dr. Hansen as a Superintendent to Watch 2017–2018. She was one of only 21 superintendents nationwide to be honored, and I am proud to have supported her nomination.

As a strong team of educators, families, and community leaders, we will continue to make going to school and learning a positive, safe experience for all students.

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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

Pleasant View School/Ocean View Preparatory Preschool (OVPP) held our annual Back-to-School Night for parents this fall. Our staff of talented teachers led parents through presentations about each of their classrooms. Topics included the California Preschool Foundations, Unique Learning System, curriculum and instruction, classroom environment, center time, classroom management and discipline, daily schedules, and much more. It was great to see so many of our parents attend and show their support for our staff and the 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.

Our schools are fortunate to have such a great staff. Many thanks to our teachers, Debbie Chiong, Kathie Favazza, Marie Schools, Katy Nachbaur, Christina Llata, Kate Coopman, Theresa Crockett, Kim Hunter, Genie Peterson, and Rekha Powar. Thanks also to our support staff, Melanie Fenger, Anh Mai, Vicki Kincaid, Anne Lang, Kim Tong, Patty Mulcahy, Linda Still, and Lynn Trittipo. Our wonderful staff members help to make each day a special journey for our students as they learn.

Golden View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Brett Hardy
Principal

#kindness

This year, Golden View Elementary School has set a school-wide goal of logging in 10,000 acts of kindness, and we are well on our way! Staff, students and community members have committed to the theme of making Golden View a kinder place, one act of kindness at a time. Students are encouraged to go to bit.ly/gvskindness to log in each kind act. Remember, no kind act is too big or too small!



Congratulations to Stephanie for being Golden View's very first #kindness recipient! During the month of September, she logged in 13 acts of kindness. Two favorites include "When my friend was sad, I tried my best to make her feel better" and "I stayed a little longer in the computer lab to make sure all the headphones were wrapped up." Way to go, Stephanie! The entire Golden View staff is very proud of you!

College View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Katherine Smith
Principal

PBIS Produces Super Results

We are proud to share that analysis of recent data indicates that our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) program is working for College View Elementary School students. The number of behavioral incidents and school suspensions has declines as we continue to embrace the right balance of rewards and consequences.

College View students are encouraged to follow the Ready to learn, On time to school, Always be kind, Respectful, and Safe (ROARS) rules. Students who exhibit exemplary behavior and follow our ROARS rules receive a Super You. These precious documents can be redeemed for fun prizes.

Students are exuberant about our redemption store, which Wildcats can visit once each month. Kid Council representatives, seen in the photo, enjoy running the redemption center, which gives them additional leadership roles on the campus.

As you can see, our Super You system is yielding super citizens.



College View's Kid Council helps manage the school's Redemption Center as part of the school's PBIS program.

Circle View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Kristi Hickman
Principal

Kindness Matters!

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Fisler, fourth-grade student Annabel Weber, and the Circle View Student Council, approximately 450 cereal boxes made their way to hurricane victims in Florida and Texas. And they arrived just in time for breakfast!

Circle View teamed up with www.givingchildrenhope.org in Buena Park, a food collection service for starving children around the world. Our students were asked to donate at least one full box of cereal to help support people negatively impacted by Hurricanes Irma and Harvey.

According to Annabel, “We are helping innocent lives by just going to the store, buying cereal, and bringing it to school.”

This was a timely service project, one of many put on by the Student Council each year. It also tied in with National Bully Prevention Month this past month, and Circle View’s school motto of, “Be a buddy not a Bully.” Because that’s what friends do!



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Harbour View *Elementary (K-5)*

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Cindy Osterhout
Principal

Rescue Line

Harbour View Elementary School staff, students and families committed to helping victims of Hurricane Harvey. Moore Elementary School, a K-5 school of more than 1,000 students in Cypress, Texas, closed after floodwaters rose to more than six feet throughout the school, destroying everything inside the building. Officials were unable to salvage anything. Fortunately, the students and staff were able to be relocated to a previously closed school site for a delayed start to the school year.

As Harbour View principal, I was moved by their tragic story. After just having had our wonderful first week of school and watching our Harbour View staff work so hard to create their beautiful classroom environments, I could not imagine how difficult it was for the Moore Elementary teachers and children to make this transition.

The Harbour View community is willing to help its neighbors, whether local veterans groups, September 11th survivors or hurricane victims. With that in mind, we began searching social media for a school to reach out to and provide whatever support it needed. Strangely enough, we heard from three different individuals, and they all had indirect ties to one school, Moore Elementary. Harbour View didn't find Moore, Moore found us!

Harbour View contacted the principal at Moore Elementary and decided to raise cash and gift cards to present to the school in need. We proudly raised more than \$4,000 in cash and gift cards in two weeks. Donations and personalized heart-shaped notecards handwritten by our students were sent to Moore.

Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Paul Kraft
Principal

Off to A Busy Start

Hope View Elementary School built momentum in October and September by emphasizing authentic literacy and student engagement.

Classrooms at all grade levels are involved in lessons that support our students through the use of “Thinking Maps.” This tool enhances their ability to learn as they participate in collaborative discussions and projects. We also see our students display their thinking during the various stages of the district’s Writing Continuum, whether by printing, writing in cursive, or keyboarding.

October was a fast-paced month. We were involved in “Be a Buddy, Not a Bully” Week and Red Ribbon Week. Students also participated in lessons designed to help them make positive choices regarding kindness, and increase their awareness of the pitfalls of drug and alcohol abuse.



They also attended two exciting assemblies in October. There was the “Ned Yo-Yo” assembly capped off by Red Ribbon Week, and a thrilling BMX assembly which promoted kindness and friendship.

Marine View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



William Lynch
Principal

Practical Benefits

It has been a wonderful start to the year here at Marine View Middle School. Our students, teachers, and parents are a tight-knit group that embraces the collaborative spirit.

As a staff effort, we have continued to refine our system of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Our school has embraced PBIS strategies for a number of years now, but collectively, our teachers and administrators want to renew their focus and re-examine current practices and procedures.

There are many ways in which we make our PBIS program the most effective it can be for the school community. For example, we analyze the practical uses of our behavior matrix, review current rules and practices, and re-evaluate both our positive incentives and disciplinary measures. We also take an active and deliberate approach to using more data to drive our decision making, and then use that information with our PBIS Committee. Our collaborative approach has resulted in office referrals dropping by half across all grade levels, and suspensions reduced by 85 percent within the last three years.

We look forward to continuing to engage all stakeholders in the PBIS program. As principal, I believe it will continue to make Marine View a rewarding place to learn and work.

Lake View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Jamie Goodwyn
Principal

First STEAM Family Night!

Technology is going strong at Lake View Elementary School, the OVSD’s first STEAM school (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics). Not only are our students using technology in all of their core subjects, but our parents and family members are also engaging in an event series called “STEAM Family Nights.”

We held our first family night of the year on October 18, focusing on our “T” for Technology. Lake View teachers led two well-attended sessions that covered the topics of ST Math, Ozobots, Lego WeDo, Google Apps, Google Classroom, ConnectEd My Math, Newsela/Moby Max, and Lego Mindstorms. All the activities were very interactive!



Our families received information on how to navigate our technology rich universe. Many parents and grandparents commented on how they wished they had experienced this same kind of hands-on learning as a child. They were also amazed at the advanced technology skills that their students demonstrated.

The next STEAM Family Night will feature “S” for Science. This special “Star Party” will be out of this world!

Mesa View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



Randy Lempert
Principal

Dude. We’ve Got Spirit

Mesa View takes great pride in the climate and culture at school. Associated Student Body (ASB), one of the leadership groups on campus, set the bar high for the 2017-2018 school year with a focus on building student involvement and school spirit, while growing as a school family. Working in collaboration with our Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) class, ASB Advisor Sarah Roberts has adopted the “Dude. Be Nice” mentality, which is about promoting positivity on campus and in our community.

Throughout the year, our student leaders will spread this message during school events, such as Dude. Be Nice Week, Red Ribbon Week, spirit assemblies, community outreach projects, fundraisers, and school dances, to name a few.

Mrs. Roberts asked her students what ASB is all about and what goals they have for the year. Here is what they had to say.

“ASB is about being a student body and uniting a school, bringing the whole school together because we are stronger together.” - Noelle Sexton

“Being a leader at Mesa View is about helping others and making others feel welcomed and feel like they belong.” - Kendall Heinrich

“There have already been milestones that we have overcome! For example, this year at our school dance, there were more than 415 students who attended. Not only is it the most kids that have ever attended a dance, but it is almost half of our school.” - Brock Lichthardt

“I love the responsibility and leadership that comes along with being in ASB. This position makes you a leader of the school so you always need to be setting a great example.” - Osborne Kenady

As you can see, ASB has big plans this year. These ASB leaders show on a daily basis that being a leader is about bringing out the best in others and dedicating oneself to leading by example. We are looking forward to the positive vibe that ASB will spread this year at Mesa View!

Oak View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Dr. Rosa Guerra
Principal

Robotics—the Fourth ‘R’!

The excitement and anticipation are palpable! For the last two years, teachers at Oak View Elementary School have been teaching robotics to our fifth-graders in addition to coding, engineering and art. Our fifth-grade teaching team challenged themselves by learning about robotics, coding and engineering, and then developing a comprehensive program for all fifth-grade students.

These students have the opportunity to learn about and engage in hands-on lessons. Our fifth-graders are also invited to participate in the district’s annual Robot Rally competition, which includes elementary and middle school teams. Last year, our first-ever teams went to the robotics competition and did a fantastic job.



Board President Gina Clayton-Tarvin visits with Ms. Schraff's fifth graders.

We are well on our way to preparing Oak View students to participate in this year’s Robot Rally in the spring. On the fourth day of school, these motivated fifth-graders were already diving into our robotics program! Here’s to reading, writing, ’rithmetic and robotics!

Oak View *Preschool & Pre-K*

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



Nicole Baitx-Kennedy
Director of Child Development Programs

Oh, the Pages Turn!

By Nicole Baitx Kennedy, Director, Child Development Programs

Oak View Preschool started the year off with two opportunities for students to choose and take home preschool-level books—first, when they first met their teachers and again at our annual Literacy Picnic.

Our 2017 Literacy Picnic was a great success! Family members joined their children on our lawn area to read books and share snacks. As always, our students loved it! We read from Dr. Seuss and learned about Dora the Explorer and a host of other notable characters.

Both morning and afternoon classes had wonderful participation—moms, dads, aunts, uncles, and older and

younger siblings! Each student chose a book to take home. Our school collaborates with Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) to provide brand- new books for our students for their personal home libraries throughout the year!

As the school’s new director, I’m enjoying our families and having the opportunity to read to our students in our classrooms and events!



Oak View Preschoolers and their families join us for a day of reading at the annual Literacy Picnic!

Spring View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



Jason Blade
Principal

Students, Families Enjoy Fishing with A Cop

As Principal at Spring View Middle School, I want to send a huge “thank you” to the Huntington Beach Police Department, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Huntington Beach Fishing and Recreation Club for hosting “Fish with a Cop” in October. Our school was fortunate enough to be able to send 18 students to Carr Park for a five-hour fishing adventure. The fish, rods and reels were supplied to ensure a great time for all of us. The event included schools from all over Huntington Beach and was a fantastic community and family team-building event.



Participants were also treated to a delicious lunch. With the help of our police department, Spring View students caught two of the day’s largest fish, weighing in at 3.75 pounds and 3.5 pounds respectively. We look forward to more days like this!

Star View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Carrie Haskin
Principal

A Special Visit from the Dairy Council

Star View Elementary School students were “Moo-tivated” as the Dairy Council cow made her rounds at our school. A special thank you goes out to the Dairy Council and Mr. Miller for giving the Star View students and staff a deeper understanding and appreciation

for California’s dairy farmers. With the help of a larger cow and this darling calf, “J.R.” (see photo), Mr. Miller shared interesting facts and information about a real, working dairy cow. Our students were delighted to have the opportunity to pet the cow and calf as they asked questions and learned more about dairy cows and nutrition. Following the visit, we are all more aware of our commitment to nutrition education and food literacy. A huge thanks to the Dairy Council for sharing its Mobile Dairy Classroom with us!



Sun View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Elaine Burney
Principal

New Faces, Growth Mindset

Sun View is fortunate to have two staff members join our Sun View family. Johnnie Westermeyer-Theofanos joins our upper-grade special day class. Coming from a big family of seven siblings, Mrs. Westermeyer-Theofanos was born and raised in beautiful Huntington Beach. Growing up, she enjoyed going dirt biking, boating, playing softball and camping with her family. To this day, she and her siblings still enjoy the outdoors. She received her bachelor's degree and education specialist credential from California State University, Long Beach.

Mrs. Westermeyer-Theofanos's favorite thing about teaching is being able to inspire students to want to learn. She said, "When I see a student get excited about a lesson, it makes my day!" She and her husband have two dogs; when she's not working, she loves thrift-shopping, hiking, baking, reading, watching movies, going to art museums, painting and playing once a week on a slow-pitch team.

Also joining the Sun View family is our night custodian, Jordan Loftis. Born and raised in California, Mr. Loftis is also a product of the Ocean View School District! He majored in history at CSULB, loves to play soccer and practice yoga, and enjoys backpacking and taking road trips. We are so fortunate to have them both at Sun View!

In addition, Sun View continues to focus on building character! Once a month, students learn in-depth about a particular trait. In October, we spent the entire month focusing on antibullying messages. We are also teaching students about having a growth mindset. It is important for students to believe in their limitless potential to grow and learn. We are reinforcing that with grit and perseverance, our students can achieve their goals.

Village View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Francesca Ligman
Principal

Reaching Out to Texas

Hurricane Harvey devastated thousands of families around Houston, Texas in September. Village View Elementary School jumped into action to lend a hand.

One of our families chose to rent a large truck and drive Katy, Texas, bringing donations from our school to the families of Katy. Within the first week of school, we had a bin in front of the office. Each day, the bin was flooded with donations of clothing, books, toys, food, water, and more! Families even donated furniture and appliances. Our PTO graciously gave a pallet of bottled water.

This grand act of kindness was deeply valued by our community, and the families of Katy sent us a thank you letter with framed photos, which we now proudly display in our front office.



Village View student, Savannah Rasnick, and family taking action for victims of Hurricane Harvey.

Two Village View teachers put kindness into action by using social media to connect with a Houston-area teacher from one of the many schools devastated by flooding. Our fourth- and fifth-grade classes collected donations for this Texas teacher to replenish school supplies and student materials lost in the floods. Our students embraced this opportunity to make a difference for other students in need.

Vista View *Middle School (6-8)*

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



Scott Mooney
Principal

Using Motivational Techniques to Prevent Bullying

Vista View Middle School hosted a successful motivational program from the organization, Happiness Is Now, to coincide with National Bullying Prevention Month in October. Vista View students were encouraged to find their passions, be true to themselves, treat others with respect, and find happiness in general. Students learned dance moves, got outside of their comfort zones, interacted with their peers in a positive way, and had a lot of fun at the same time. It seemed that the highlight of each assembly was when Vista View staff members went on stage to show off their moves. (Spoiler alert! The kids are far better dancers than the adults.)



Westmont *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Susan Broderson
Principal

New Elementary Band Program

Westmont Elementary School's new Visual and Performing Arts Academy is off to a magnificent start. Students and parents alike were giddy with anticipation at the prospect of having dance, theater, music, and visual arts incorporated into the regular school day. Transitional Kindergarten through fifth-grade students began dance classes with our new teacher, Jana Acciaccia, who has over 20 years of dance experience. Students also participate in music classes with Mrs. Kim Robles, who is working on rhythm and beats with our primary students

using rhythm sticks and triangles.

Forty fourth- and fifth-grade students are participating in our inaugural woodwinds and strings band program. They receive lessons on their instruments of choice twice a week. The band program received a generous grant from the Buchanan Music Matters organization to provide musical instruments to our Title I school.



In addition, students are participating in theater arts class and visual arts instruction. We love to see our students actively engaged and having fun while learning!

Westminster School District

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

Warner Middle School Is Model for Educators



Teachers and students demonstrate successful strategies for language acquisition.

Warner Middle School was proud to participate in the 25th Annual Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) Project GLAD NTC Conference recently by hosting a site observation with educators from across the United States. Our district is a model for GLAD which stands for Guided Language Acquisition Development. Participants engaged in experiential learning to see how OCDE Project GLAD has supported

language acquisition for students and the classroom observations provided practical applications for effective instruction and implementation. Warner teachers demonstrated how to spark student interest through meaningful tasks and strong curriculum that addresses rigor, depth, and conceptual understanding. Research has shown that language is acquired more effectively when studying something of interest or real life use.

Here are some highlights of the Warner Middle School classroom visits:

Travis Garwick, a 7th grade science teacher, used Observation Charts to introduce the concept of Ecosystems: Food Energy. Students communicated with partners using the phrases “We observe, We hypothesize, We wonder” as they observed images related to food energy.

Anna Waters, a 7th grade English language arts teacher, led her students in Listen and Sketch paired with Found Poetry. Students sketched and annotated the images they imagined as they listened to portions of a text, shared their sketches, and finished using figurative language from the text to annotate their sketches.

Colleen Maxwell, a 7th grade English language arts teacher, facilitated a Graffiti Wall where students discussed and wrote responses to high level questions about a novel they were currently reading and then composed another high level question for the next rotation group to answer. Students were expected to think critically as they rotated to each poster.

During the reflection session conducted after the classroom visits, educators were impressed that the GLAD strategies required students to communicate, collaborate, critically think, and show creativity. Each strategy lowered the affective filter level, expected students to be active participants in their own learning, and allowed metacognition. It was also noted that students were engaged and clearly enjoying each of the activities. Westminster School District is passionately committed to language acquisition and it was an honor to share the successful strategies and best practices we use to support language acquisition and improve teaching and learning.

Special thanks goes out to Genise Battaglia, English Learner Instructional Support Specialist; for facilitating the GLAD strategies at Warner Middle School and for coordinating the classroom observations for educators attending the OCDE Project GLAD NTC Conference.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Penny Loomer
President

Students Participate in School Menu Planning

The Westminster School District Nutrition Services Department knows that good nutrition and student achievement go hand-in-hand. They also know that Westminster School District students are the customers of the cafeteria and the foods students like must be a key factor in menu planning.

With these goals in mind the Nutrition Services Department sponsored a Voice your Choice food tasting event last spring. More than 400 students from Finley Elementary and Johnson Middle School sampled potential new menu items from 15 vendors. Over 60 food and beverage items, that all met required federal nutritional guidelines, were brought in for students to sample. They taste-tested the items and then cast votes for the foods they would most like to see on future menus. Much to our students’ delight, the top vote-getters were placed on our Fall menu.



Students sampling Chow Mein and Carnitas



Students were really excited about the event and especially their ability to influence their menu choices. Voice Your Choice was such a success that it will now be an annual event at Westminster School District. As students become more savvy consumers, the goal of the Nutrition Services Department is to continue to look for more ways to collaborate with students, so that we can serve healthy meals that students look forward to eating.

Westminster School District Board of Trustees



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Anderson *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Kim Breckenridge
Principal

Student Leadership

Each year, Anderson's 4th, 5th and 6th grade students are invited to run for a student council office. Students must complete an application, create campaign posters and give a speech the voters, their peers. Completing this difficult process shows leadership skills in any student that runs for office. After all of the campaigning, all 4th, 5th and 6th grade students cast their ballots and elect their representatives. These elected student council officers, along with representatives from each classroom, meet regularly and lead several programs at school. Student council takes a leadership role in the Tiger Bucks Store, Red Ribbon Week, Trick or Trunk and Spirit Days. Congratulation to this year's officers.



James Doan - 2nd Vice President, Olga Balogova - 1st Vice President, Danny Nguyen & Jimmy Nguyen -Treasurers, Jeffrey Huynh - President, and Andy Ha – Secretary.

Eastwood *Elementary (K-6)*

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • <http://eastwood.wsdk8.us>



Dr. Jason Kuncewicz
Principal

After-School Activities Abound!

Eastwood Elementary School is proud to offer multiple after-school opportunities for their Dolphins. We know that students of various ages have a wide variety of interests, and so we offer additional programs to meet their needs after class.

Eastwood's programs are chosen from interests generated by parents and students. On Mondays, we offer

a science program that allows the students to work with NGSS standards. They can manipulate slime, work with gears and electricity, and look at the various forms of water.

Tuesday's programs for students include art and science. Our Dolphins have the opportunity to meditate on Wednesday, and do coding exercises on Thursday. We are also looking to bring a theater arts program to campus on Fridays that will culminate in variety shows and theatrical plays.

Eastwood school believes that we should provide multiple opportunities for our learners not only inside the classrooms, but also after the school day ends.



Clegg School

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



John Staggs
Principal

No Goo, We Hope!

We are off to a great start of the 2017-18 school year at Clegg Elementary School. A major focus of our school this year and every year is reading.

A program we use schoolwide to encourage reading is the Accelerated Reader program. In this program, students are encouraged to read Accelerated Reader chapter books and then take computerized tests that will show their comprehension of the books they have chosen to read. Students accumulate points with each test passed. The schoolwide goal this year is 20,000 points. The top two earners of each grade level will have the opportunity to participate in our Accelerated Reader celebration event that we do every year. This event is to celebrate accomplishing the schoolwide goal we have set as well as to have the students reach individual goals.

Last year, student's picked from mystery buckets and poured the contents on the head of their chosen staff member while the entire school watched and cheered at a schoolwide assembly. The buckets contained things like spaghetti and meatballs, pudding, nacho cheese and many other surprising contents. The students really enjoy seeing their favorite teachers getting dunked with various gooey items! This year's event is still being discussed but is sure to be a lot of fun!

Our librarian, Marion Alexander, works closely with our students and has a monthly reward system in place for students that achieve their monthly goals. Our students are doing a fantastic job, and we are sure they will meet the goal for this school year.

DeMille *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Shannon Villanueva
Principal

Mid-Autumn Festival

On Wednesday, October 4, DeMille Elementary School celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival. Also called Moon Lantern Festival, this festival is celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth lunar month, when the moon is the brightest. Originally a harvest festival, it is now a time to celebrate youth and family. In celebration of the Moon Festival, children make lanterns and moon masks and enjoy moon cake. Children then light their lanterns and participate in a procession.

The Vietnamese Dual-Language Immersion classes received a generous gift of lanterns from Westminster Mayor Tri Ta. The students in the Dual-Language classes wore *ao dai*, traditional Vietnamese dress, as they paraded through the school carrying their lanterns and singing songs. The whole school came out of their classrooms to wave and cheer as the procession passed by.

The Moon Festival parade was a fun way to bring cross-cultural understanding and celebrate with the whole school.



Finley *Elementary (K-5)*

13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764 • <http://finley.wsd8.us>



Raul Olivas
Principal

The Future Has Arrived

Finley Elementary School has undergone major renovation during the summer in preparation for our ribbon-cutting ceremony, which took place on October 11. As the first computer science magnet school in all of Orange County, it's vital that our classrooms offer opportunities for innovation while providing students with the flexible seating options to support the incorporating of computer programming into the daily curriculum.

Along with furniture to support the program, we have integrated the necessary technology to expand our computer science program moving forward, with access to state-of-the-art computers, both in the classrooms and in the upper and lower innovation labs. Students at



all grade levels also have access to programmable robotics equipment and the text-based coding component of Minecraft: Our students do not play Minecraft, they make Minecraft.

It's an exciting time to be a Finley Eagle!

Fryberger *Elementary (K-5)*

6952 Hood Dr., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237 • <http://fryberger.wsd8.us>



Dr. Dena Kiouses
Principal

School Culture is Important

School culture and climate is important to the Fryberger community and is supported by PTA, student council, and the school and district. Students participate in special Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) days, stores, and character assemblies each month.

In October, the school celebrated Red Ribbon Week and also Unity Day against bullying. To kick off the antibullying culture, students and staff participated in the Power of One assembly. The Power of One teaches people how to be "upstanders" instead of bystanders and provides everyone the tools to make a difference in a positive Fryberger School climate.

Parents, want to be involved in supporting a positive Fryberger culture? Please come to PTA the first Thursday of each month 4:30 - 5:30; daycare is provided.



Student winners in a PTA Fall Fundraiser drawing

Johnson *Middle School (6-8)*

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244 • <http://johnson.wsd8.us>



Daniel Owens
Principal

Plenty of Courses for Learning

Johnson Middle School has had an amazing beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. Students have arrived back to campus eager to learn and experience the amazing opportunities available at the school.

Johnson prides itself on allowing students to explore their passion and experience a wide variety of programs meant to strengthen their school spirit and overall learning experiences. Johnson offers courses in Music, Theater, Yearbook, Robotics, Creative Writing, Woodshop, Engineering and Design, Video Production, AVID, Leadership and Vietnamese. Johnson also offers several extracurricular activities like National Junior Honor Society, Cheerleading, Sports, and Drone Piloting. This year the school was able to add even more courses like Finance and Business as well as Coding. Johnson Warrior Pride is stronger than ever this year and we all look forward to the amazing things our students are going to accomplish this year.



Hayden *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Mark Murphy
Principal

Thank You!

The Hayden Elementary School Hawks are off to a terrific start. There are so many amazing things happening at Hayden on a daily basis that it's very easy to take them for granted.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and honor all of the classified employees for their contributions to our success! Lisa Carter runs the office with the help of Cindy Beaudoin, Denise Sanborn, Cuc Nguyen and Marisela Edelbrock, and we have a terrific librarian, Terry Shaver. Our computer technicians, Carleen Tierney and Jody Beschorner, have been invaluable as

we've made the transition to one-to-one netbooks. Hayden's para-educators are a big reason why our Special Day Class program runs so smoothly and effectively. The food service staff manages to serve 700 lunches each day with smiles on their faces. And the custodial crew, led by Luis Adame, keeps Hayden looking great and running smoothly.



Land School

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



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



Reagan Lopez
*Executive Director,
Student Services*

Preparing Students for Kindergarten

John F Land School houses Westminster School District's Intensive Language Program for preschoolers. This program is designed to meet unique communication needs of students who hold Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and demonstrate significant delays in their ability to understand and use language appropriately.

The program is run by a certified speech/language pathologist and speech/language pathology assistant and focuses on introducing age-appropriate vocabulary and concepts to students, while expanding their ability to follow

directions, understand questions, formulate age-appropriate sentences, and use their language in a variety of social contexts.

Students are exposed to language concepts through lessons that utilize a variety of modalities, including literature, music, and play. Students practice their language with each other in multiple contexts similar to those found in preschool classrooms, including circle time, snack time and small group activities. The goal of the program is to prepare students for success in general education kindergarten.



Sequoia *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Michelle Watkins
Principal

Sequoia Academy Presents

The arts prepare students for success in life. This year, we have an exciting new opportunity to enhance our Visual and Performing Arts program. Sequoia Academy is privileged to be one of four schools in Orange County to partner with a well-renowned performing arts organization and venue. We will be working together to put on the Disney musical *Aladdin* for this spring.

Our after-school Musical Theatre Club provides the opportunity for our third- through sixth-grade students to develop creativity, inspire self-expression, learn performance techniques, study character development, develop stage presence and voice control, and promote confidence through the visual and performing arts.

Sequoia Academy scholars experience both the visual (art history) and performing arts (public speaking, musical theater, and ST Music) as part of their daily STEAM Academy rotations. They participate in various visual and performing arts activities and performances throughout the year.

Our goal at Sequoia Academy is to provide our students with opportunities to find their place to shine and take pride in their accomplishments.



Practicing the Intro to Musical Theatre Aladdin.

Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Kathy Kane
Principal

Spelling Bee Winners

On Friday, October 13th all the upper grade students filed into the Multipurpose Room to watch their classmates battle it out to become the Iva Meairs School Spelling Bee Champion. The Spelling Bee began with all of the class representatives using a white board and marker to spell the words given by the Pronouncer, 5th grade teacher, Mr. Hwang. Mrs. Kane, the principal, and Mrs. Luckey, the Assistant Principal served as judges. After many rounds it came down to the final four. The last four contestants moved on to the oral spelling round. Standing nervously before their classmates they had to spell each word they were given out loud. The final outcome: 4th place, Christine Vo, 3rd place, Alexis Le, 2nd place, Aline Ly and the 1st place winner, Tri Nguyen. Congratulations to all of our participants. A special thank you to Mrs. Freleaux who put the whole thing together!



Christine Vo, Aline Ly, Alexis Le, Tri Nguyen

Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Orchid Rocha
Principal

PBIS Silver Medal Recipients!

One of the foremost advances in schoolwide discipline is the emphasis on schoolwide systems of support that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments. In the past, schoolwide discipline has focused mainly on reacting to specific student misbehavior by implementing punishment-based strategies that include reprimands, loss of privileges, office referrals, suspensions and expulsions. Research has suggested that the implementation of punishment, especially when it is used inconsistently and in the absence of other positive strategies, is ineffective. Introducing, modeling and reinforcing positive social behavior are important steps of a student's educational experience. Teaching behavioral expectations and rewarding students for following them is a much more positive approach than waiting for misbehavior to occur before responding. I am proud to share that our after-school program, PRIDE, is also implementing the Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS). Implementing an effective schoolwide system is complex and requires the support of all staff. This is not always easy, but it is the goal to become more effective in improving our system and to do so as a schoolwide team. As we gain more experience and consistency, I am certain we will reach the next level of success for all.

Schroeder *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Carrie Hernandez
Principal

Saturday/GATE Academy

We are very excited about our Saturday/GATE Academy plans for this year! During each Saturday/GATE Academy our students are able to participate in enrichment activities such as science, art, math, music, dance, computer activities, and more. The activities are hands-on, and challenge our students to think beyond the basic standards and curriculum. In previous years the students have built solar ovens, created Rube Goldberg-inspired leprechaun traps, learned about the Fibonacci sequence in nature, and studied aerodynamics while making paper airplanes!



This year our Saturday/GATE Academy dates are December 9, January 27, March 10, April 21, and May 19. Saturday/GATE Academy at Schroeder is always a lot of fun, and filled with challenges and learning!

Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Orchid Rocha
Principal

PBIS Silver Medal Recipients!

One of the foremost advances in schoolwide discipline is the emphasis on schoolwide systems of support that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments. In the past, schoolwide discipline has focused mainly on reacting to specific student misbehavior by implementing punishment-based strategies that include reprimands, loss of privileges, office referrals, suspensions and expulsions. Research has suggested that the implementation of punishment, especially when it is used inconsistently and in the absence of other positive strategies, is ineffective. Introducing, modeling and reinforcing positive social behavior are important steps of a student's educational experience. Teaching behavioral expectations and rewarding students for following them is a much more positive approach than waiting for misbehavior to occur before responding. I am proud to share that our after-school program, PRIDE, is also implementing the Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS). Implementing an effective schoolwide system is complex and requires the support of all staff. This is not always easy, but it is the goal to become more effective in improving our system and to do so as a schoolwide team. As we gain more experience and consistency, I am certain we will reach the next level of success for all.

Warner *Middle School (6-8)*

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



Amy Pham Kwon
Principal

Awareness at Warner

By Dulce Cabrera, Leslie Hernandez, and Jonathan Romero, WMS Journalism Staff

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. At Warner, Journalism students have created an insightful video profiling a breast cancer survivor, and a student whose mother recently survived breast cancer. On Mondays during October, many students wear pink to support those who fought against breast cancer or are currently involved in the fight. Teresa Guilian is a WSD technology coach for teachers who tells about how she was affected by breast cancer, and how it made her have a different perspective on life. Warner student Trisha Nguyen-Vu described her family's experience with her mother's battle with breast cancer, and is proud to spread awareness. Help us spread the word of breast cancer awareness! This video can be seen by downloading a QR code reader and scanning the attached code.



Stacey *Middle School*

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



Heidi DeBritton
Principal

What a Rush!

By Student-Author Mariah Escatel

Stacey students were introduced to this school-year's clubs, some old and some new, during Club Rush on Wednesday, October 4th.

As students finished eating lunch and exited towards the field to play, they had a chance to pick up a flyer with information for each club at the booths set up along the way.

"It was really cool. All of the clubs had a table with flyers. There were so many choices," said eighth-grader Kira Temple.

While there were many familiar clubs to Stacey, there were also a few new ones. Dance Club, Anime Club, Peer Math Tutoring, Ukulele Club, NJHS (National Junior Honors Society), Garden Club, Girl Power, Archery Club, and Volleyball Club are some returning favorites. New clubs for 2017–2018 include CFC (Cougars for Christ), 100 Mile Club, Salsa Club, Gaming Club, and Builder's Club.

With such a variety of clubs available, the sky's the limit!



Webber *Elementary (K–6)*

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



Kevin Whitney
Principal

Parenting is a Partnership

A student's home life has a tremendous effect on shaping his or her school experience, both socially and academically. That is why it is important to equip parents with tools and resources on positive parenting.

Here at Webber, we believe in the importance of equipping our parents to become leaders in their homes! With the help of the Parenting Partners curriculum called "Practical Tools for Positive Parenting-Success Starts at Home," our parents can gain not only knowledge and practice of skills, they can also learn how to apply it in their homes.

After this eight-week course, our Webber parents have been sharing how they've learned to have better communication with their children, how to be more patient and understanding, the importance of home-school communication, the importance of creating structure and support at home, and the importance of helping to build a positive identity in each of their children.

Parents also gain support from other parents, and come to the realization that they are not alone in this beautiful thing called parenting!



Parents practicing the skills with each other.

Willmore *Elementary (K–5)*

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



Dr. Nicole Jacobson
Principal

Learning Another Language

As you walk through classrooms at Willmore Elementary School, you can observe students motivated to learn with our immersion program in computer science as well as our dual-immersion Spanish program.

With the success of our Spanish/English Dual Language Immersion Academies in preschool and kindergarten, Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and first-grade dual-immersion academies were added at the start of this year. We are also excited to introduce the third "language" of coding for all of our TK through fifth-grade students.



Students in our TK Dual Spanish Immersion class collaborating while coding.

At Willmore, our commitment is to provide all students with the opportunity to become 21st-century learners, preparing them to be multilingual, multi-literate, and multicultural global citizens. Students will develop critical-thinking skills, confidence, wordly connections, and a growth mindset in an engaging way, with the opportunity to reach new limits of imagination.

Students have the future at their fingertips at Willmore, with transformed classroom environments and blended learning environments to propel innovation!

Contest!

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

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

Your entry must be received by December 15, 2017. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!



Born in the Deep Woods



Kate Karp

Red Yarn, alter-ego of performer and songwriter Andy Furgeson, has recorded the third element in his his Deep Woods Trilogy. Deep Woods is Red’s own conception of a charmingly primal place where woodland animals dwell—an earthly, loamy, good place to live. Each song was either written by Red or adapted from traditional folk



tunes, all featuring animals and performed by Red and his wife, Jessie Eller Isaacs and a bucolic multi-instrumental band.

Deep Woods doesn’t have the vibe of a traditional children’s collection. In contrast to lighter songs associated with young music, it sings something deep and rooted. Red’s musical background grew from those roots—authentic country, bluegrass, blues and heartland rock ‘n’ roll are woven with the lyrics and stitch together a warm, tuneful quilt. The title ballad lets the tortoise and the hare of the fable poetically tell their own story as turtle and rabbit. The traditional “Mockingbird” transforms into a Bo Diddley ditty with a toss of Elvis pepper and a pinch of Ray Charles salt. “Old Mother Goose” is given a new pair of dancin’ shoes, and “Frog Went A-Courtin’” hops to a different beat. “Little Baby Born Today” is an old-style Bob Dylan tribute to new life and mothers, particularly Eller-Isaacs, who was pregnant with the couple’s second child when it was recorded. The CD’s lyric booklet bears some of the most beautiful, evocative illustrations seen in a music collection or anywhere else.

If you go into the woods today, you’re in for a big surprise.

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

Fountain Valley Library

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

Fun and Free Programs for All

By Erik Oviedo, Children’s Librarian

We will have many fun and free programs at the Fountain Valley Library in November and December, join the fun! Our Fall storytime session runs every Wednesday at 10:30am until November 15th (on break in December). Storytimes will resume on Wednesday January 3rd. The monthly BARK reading with therapy dogs program will be in our children’s area Saturday November 18th and December 16th from 3:30- 4:30pm. Holiday craft day will be held on Thursday December 7th from 4-5pm. Finally, our Let’s LEGO! sessions will be held on Tuesday November 28th and Tuesday December 26th from 4:30- 6:00pm in our children’s area.

Our TAB (teen advisory board) and teen volunteers will have a busy November and December! We have homework help at the Fountain Valley provided by our teen volunteers for two sessions on Wednesdays, session one is 4-5pm and session two is 5-6pm, please join us. We also have a shelving program for teens ages 14 years and older, needing community service hours for graduation requirements, honor society hours or college preparation. Teens may pick up an application from the library and return to the children’s librarian Sarita.

The Friends of the Library Bookstore sells gently used books for all reading interests, including children’s fiction and non-fiction. Donations are also accepted at the bookstore.





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Writing and Illustrating Contest



Barbara Richardson
*Senior Librarian
Programming and
Youth Services*

Calling all young writers and artists! It is time again for the Friends of the Children's Library and the Sand Scribes annual writing and illustrating contest for students pre-k through 8th grade. This year's theme is: If the Shoe Fits? Children are encouraged to use their imagination and creativity to write and/or draw pictures about these special shoes. Where did they come from? How did they get in the library? Who left them there? What kind of shoes are they? Dare you try them on? Winners of this contest will receive Barnes and Noble gift cards at an award ceremony held during our Authors Festival on January 30, 2017 and will have their work displayed at Central Library for the entire month of February. Interested students can print out entry forms and rules at www.fotcl.org. Entry forms are also available at the Central Library Children's Desk. All entries are due by 4:00 p.m. December 23, 2017 to be considered. Turn in finished works to the Children's Desk.

Have you registered your children in the library's online year round and seasonal reading programs with Beanstack? It's easy to do and once you are registered in the database, you will not need to register again. Go to hbpl.org and click on the Beanstack Banner. Once you are in the program, children can choose to participate in our year round and seasonal reading raffle and programs with just a click of a button.

Consider joining the Friends of the Children's Library. Do you like to help plan, offer ideas, and take part in special events? Enjoy actively participating? Be a part of the organization which helps to support the Children's Library. Membership brochures are available in the Children's Department.

Westminster Library

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

Choices

By Anna Dress, Children's Services Librarian

Book Babies every Tuesday in November at 10:30am
Get your littlest one started early with songs, dance, play, and books!
Recommended for children 0-2 years old.

Preschool Storytime every Wednesday in November at 10:30am
Family Storytime every Saturday in November at 10:30am
Help encourage early literacy skills in your children—and have fun—with stories, songs, and a craft. Preschool Storytime is recommended for children 2-4 years old, and Family Storytime is for all ages.
There will be a storytime break during the month of December. Regular storytimes will resume in January!

Art Lab every Wednesday from 3:00-5:00pm
You are invited to join us for a different process art project each week!. Children of all ages are welcome (ages 4 and under require parent supervision). We'll probably get messy, so play clothes are recommended!

VolunTEENs – If you need volunteer hours for school, church, boy/girl scouts, or just to look good on your college application, come to the library! You must be at least 12 years old to volunteer.

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

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

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





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Camps		

The Only Road



Lucy Davis

Author: Alexandra Diaz
Life in Jaime's small Guatemalan village is pretty peaceful, excluding one group: the Alphas. Drug dealers that ask for 'favors' and new recruits. If you refuse, you die. So when Jaime's beloved cousin, Miguel, is murdered for that very reason, the whole family is devastated. And the death comes with something else: a request for Jamie and Miguel's sister Angela to join them.



The only way Angela and Jamie can escape is to leave Guatemala, and that might be harder than it seems. Train hopping, refugee churches, immigration officials, and lost dogs are all part of their journey, and hopefully they can make it to the other side. The U.S. is promising safety, but the road to get there isn't.

I really enjoyed this book. It talks about serious topics while still keeping the mood as light as possible. Five of five stars are well earned in this wonderful story.

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

A Brilliant Fantasy of Adventure



Keira

Time Stoppers - Quest for the Golden Arrow By Carrie Jones
Welcome to a land of friends, stubborn grandparents and elves. In this emotional book the author draws readers into an amazing fairy tale. (I laughed and cried a lot!) Aided by luck, a quiet desiring Annie joins forces with the enemies of The Raiff.



The company of a mighty arrow helps them cross dangerous lands. Full of intense force and simple luck, this is an intriguing book. Carrie Jones uses outstanding vocabulary such as moseyed. However, I thought it ended too abruptly. I recommend this book series for fourth to eighth graders to read. I can't wait to read the next book! (This book is such a page turner!) I rate this book 4 apples.

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

Things in the Sky
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, 2017
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!

- STARS
- SUN
- MOON
- AIRPLANE
- KITE
- BALLOON
- JUPITER
- MARS
- MERCURY
- SATURN
- URANUS
- PLUTO
- RAIN
- SNOW
- SLEET
- WIND
- CLOUDS
- SMOG
- FOG
- RAINBOW



Congratulations to **Elizabeth Hennemuth**
Winner of the September Word Search Contest!

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Denise
Castellanos, CNM
Nurse Midwife



Patricia
Evans, CNM
Nurse Midwife



DeeAnn
Gray, CNM
Nurse Midwife



Annette
McConnaughey,
CNM
Nurse Midwife

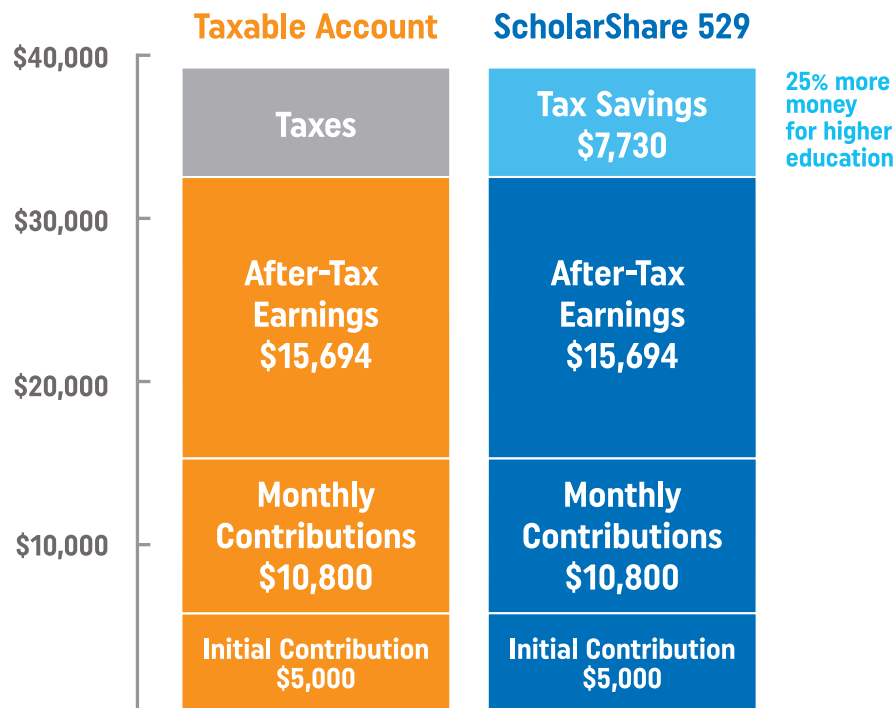


Corry
Varner, CNM
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