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May 2021

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Covering the
GARDEN GROVE
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Kay Coop

Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik

As this school year comes to an end in many ways it feels like the beginning. It is wonderful to see a bit of normalcy returning to our lives and that begins with students back in the classrooms. Zoom took on a whole new meaning to children as they spent hours in front of a computer screen instead of in a classroom. There are many milestones in a child's life, but none of us were prepared for anticipating the next milestone of not wearing a mask. That will be a happy day.

Superintendent Dr. Mafi begins this issue with her message on page 4 bringing you up-to-date on the return to in-person instruction. Also, in this

issue you will read how each school has welcomed students back to their classrooms.

On page 43 are student book reviews to help with your summer reading choices. Also, be sure to enter the word search contest on page 42 (all ages may enter).

Thank you for including *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is October 27.

Have a fun summer!



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Garden Grove Unified School District



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Welcome Back GGUSD!

Dr. Gabriela Mafi

Our transition back to in-person instruction has been extremely successful with students thriving in their classrooms and enjoying a return to normalcy! GGUSD began reopening schools in October and, while we temporarily reverted to distance learning in December due to the surge in COVID-19 rates, ALL GGUSD schools are now open for in-person instruction. Our health and safety measures are effectively preventing the spread of COVID-19 on our campuses.

In March, GGUSD announced that we will be returning to 5 FULL days of in-person instruction for ALL students in the fall of the 2021-2022 school year.

GGUSD will not continue offering a school-based distance learning option next school year. To those families with children who remain at home on distance learning since last year – we strongly urge you to come back to school now and see for yourself how school is the safest place for your children to be!

Don't wait until the fall to make that transition to in-person instruction. In fact, schools across Orange County have been reopening since August and the Orange County Health Care Agency is not seeing on-campus spread.

Since reopening for in-person instruction, we have seen first-hand the effectiveness of our COVID-19 prevention efforts and we want to thank our school community for doing your part! COVID-19 cases are low and isolated and there has been NO on-campus spread of COVID-19.

National and state health experts have repeatedly reinforced this message. Dr. Ghaly, Secretary of California's Health and Human Service Agency said, "We have not seen a connection between

SUPERINTENDENT

¡Bienvenidos de regreso GGUSD!

¡Nuestra transición de regreso a la instrucción en persona ha sido extremadamente exitosa con los alumnos prosperando en sus salones de clases y disfrutando de un regreso a la normalidad! El GGUSD comenzó a reabrir las escuelas en octubre y, aunque temporalmente regresamos al aprendizaje a distancia en diciembre debido al aumento en los índices del COVID-19, ahora TODAS las escuelas del GGUSD están abiertas para la instrucción en persona. Nuestras medidas de salud y seguridad están previniendo eficazmente la propagación del COVID-19 en nuestros planteles escolares.

En marzo, el GGUSD anunció que en el otoño del año escolar 2021-2022, regresaremos a 5 días COMPLETOS de instrucción en persona para TODOS los alumnos.

El GGUSD no continuará ofreciendo el próximo año escolar la opción de aprendizaje a distancia basada en la escuela. Para aquellas familias con niños que permanecen en casa con el aprendizaje a distancia desde el año pasado, les recomendamos ampliamente que regresen a la escuela ahora y vean por sí mismos ¡que la escuela es el lugar más seguro para sus hijos!

No espere hasta el otoño para hacer esa transición a la instrucción en persona. De hecho, las escuelas en todo el Condado de Orange han estado reabriendo desde agosto y la Agencia del Cuidado de la Salud del Condado de Orange no está viendo que haya una propagación en los planteles escolares.

Desde la reapertura para la instrucción en persona, ¡hemos visto de primera mano la efectividad de nuestros esfuerzos de prevención de COVID-19 y queremos agradecer a nuestra comunidad escolar por hacer su parte! Los casos de COVID-19 son pocos y aislados y NO ha habido propagación de COVID-19 en los planteles escolares.

See **SUPERINTENDENT** • Page 44

Bản Tin của Học Khu Trưởng

Chào Đón Tất Cả Học Sinh GGUSD Trở Lại Trường!

Quá trình chuyển tiếp sang giảng dạy ngay tại trường của học khu chúng ta đã rất thành công với các học sinh hân hoan trở lại lớp học và tiếp tục những sinh hoạt bình thường! GGUSD đã mở lại trường vào tháng 10 nhưng rồi phải tạm trở lại học trên mạng vào tháng 12 do tỷ lệ COVID-19 gia tăng. Hiện nay, TẤT CẢ các trường của GGUSD đều đã mở lại để giảng dạy trong lớp. Các quy định về y tế và an toàn của chúng ta rất hiệu quả trong việc ngăn ngừa COVID-19 lây lan trong trường.

Vào tháng 3, GGUSD đã thông báo rằng học khu sẽ trở lại giảng dạy ở trường TRỌN 5 ngày cho TẤT CẢ học sinh vào mùa thu trong năm học 2021-2022.

Các trường GGUSD sẽ không tiếp tục mở chương trình học trên mạng ở nhà vào năm học tới. Đối với những gia đình có con em hiện vẫn còn học trên mạng ở nhà từ năm trước – chúng tôi khẩn thiết đề nghị quý vị hãy cho con em đến trường ngay bây giờ để tận mắt thấy được trường học là nơi an toàn nhất cho con em quý vị!

Đừng đợi tới mùa thu mới cho con em trở lại trường. Thật vậy, các trường trong toàn Hạt Orange đã mở lại từ tháng 8 và Sở Y Tế Hạt Orange không thấy có sự lây nhiễm nào trong trường.

Từ lúc trở lại cách giảng dạy ngay tại trường, chúng ta đã trực tiếp thấy rõ hiệu quả của những nỗ lực trong việc phòng ngừa COVID-19 của học khu và chúng tôi rất cảm kích quý vị đã góp phần giữ cho cộng đồng trường chúng ta được an toàn! Các ca nhiễm COVID-19 vẫn ở mức thấp và riêng biệt, đồng thời KHÔNG CÓ sự lây lan COVID-19 nào trong trường.

Các chuyên viên y tế quốc gia và tiểu bang đã nhiều lần nhấn mạnh nhận định này. Tiến sĩ Ghaly, Đặc Trách Cơ Quan Dân Sự và Y Tế cho biết: "Chúng tôi không thấy có sự liên quan giữa sự gia tăng lây nhiễm và việc mở lại trường hay giảng dạy trong lớp."

BOARD OF EDUCATION



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Much to Celebrate

As Board of Education members, we attend school events and celebrations throughout the school year, but the highlight is always high school graduation. We look forward to officially certifying the graduating class, handing out diplomas and seeing the joy of the graduating seniors and the pride of their family members. We are extremely excited that all GGUSD high schools will be hosting in-person graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2021. This group of students has endured a year of twists and turns. Distance learning brought with it many academic and social-emotional challenges. And while social gatherings were at a minimum this year, we are thrilled that improving COVID-19 conditions are allowing us to honor these students with the in-person ceremonies they deserve. And while high school graduation ceremonies highlight the hard work of students from preschool through high school, it is also a reflection of the thousands of dedicated GGUSD employees who each contribute to our distinguished reputation of excellence. Our success is also guided by our commitment to equipping all students with the academic and personal skills for lifelong success – a mission we have clung to throughout the pandemic.

Despite the obstacles of distance learning, our administrators, teachers and instructional staff remained laser-focused on supporting the academic needs

Mucho que celebrar

Como miembros de la Mesa Directiva de Educación, asistimos a eventos y celebraciones escolares durante todo el año escolar, pero lo más destacado es siempre las graduaciones de las escuelas secundarias. Esperamos certificar oficialmente a la clase que se gradúa, al entregar diplomas y ver la alegría de los alumnos del doceavo grado que se están graduando y el orgullo de los miembros de su familia. Estamos muy emocionados de que todas las escuelas secundarias del GGUSD llevarán a cabo las ceremonias de graduación en persona para la Clase de 2021. Este grupo de alumnos ha superado un año de giros y vueltas. El aprendizaje a distancia trajo consigo muchos retos académicos y socioemocionales. Y aunque las reuniones sociales fueron mínimas este año, estamos emocionados de que el mejoramiento de las condiciones del COVID-19 nos permita homenajear a estos alumnos con las ceremonias en persona que se merecen. Y mientras que las ceremonias de graduación de las escuelas secundarias destacan el arduo trabajo de los alumnos desde el preescolar hasta la escuela secundaria, también es un reflejo de los miles de empleados dedicados del GGUSD que contribuyen a nuestra distinguida reputación de excelencia. Nuestro éxito también está guiado por nuestro compromiso de equipar a todos los alumnos con las habilidades académicas y personales para que tengan éxito

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Nhiều Điều Để Chúc Mừng

Với tư cách là ủy viên Hội Đồng Giáo Dục, chúng tôi thường tham gia những buổi lễ và sinh hoạt tại các trường suốt năm học, mà ngày đặc biệt luôn là lễ tốt nghiệp trung học. Chúng tôi mong đến ngày được chính thức xác nhận các em học sinh tốt nghiệp và trao bằng cho các em đồng thời chứng kiến niềm vui của các em trong sự hân hoan của gia đình. Chúng tôi rất vui mừng khi các trường trung học cấp II của GGUSD sẽ tổ chức lễ tốt nghiệp cho các học sinh Khóa 2021 ngay tại trường. Đây là nhóm học sinh đã phải trải qua một năm học với nhiều biến cố. Việc học trên mạng ở nhà đã tạo ra nhiều khó khăn trong việc học cũng như về mặt cảm xúc-giao tiếp cho các em. Tuy trong năm nay, việc tụ họp đông người còn bị hạn chế ở mức tối thiểu, nhưng với tình hình COVID-19 đang dần khả quan sẽ cho chúng tôi cơ hội được tuyên dương những em học sinh này trong buổi lễ tốt nghiệp tại trường, là điều mà các em rất xứng đáng được hưởng. Lễ tốt nghiệp trung học vừa đánh dấu thành tựu của các học sinh từ khi vào vườn trẻ cho đến lúc hoàn tất trung học, vừa phản ánh sự tận tụy của hàng ngàn nhân viên GGUSD đã góp công tạo dựng danh tiếng xuất sắc cho học khu chúng ta. Thành công này cũng là do quyết tâm của học khu nhằm trang bị cho các học sinh năng lực học tập và cá nhân cần thiết để thành công trên đường đời- đây là mục tiêu mà chúng tôi luôn theo đuổi trong suốt thời gian đại dịch.

Tuy có nhiều trở ngại do việc học trên mạng ở nhà, ban giám hiệu, giáo viên và ban giảng huấn vẫn luôn chú

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

Safety is Key to a Fun-Filled Summer!

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

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

Sun Safety

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

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

Water Safety

Every day, about 10 people die from unintentional drowning.

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

Bug Safety

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

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



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Alamitos *Intermediate School*

12381 Dale St., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6101 • alamitos.ggusd.us



Louie Gomez
Principal

Welcome Back to Alamitos

This school year started out in distance learning but Alamitos was excited to finally welcome students back to in-person instruction. Our students were met with the ASB students welcoming them with signs and cheers, as well as our staff who were so excited to have students back on campus. Parents stopped to take distanced pictures, honked, and waved happily as they saw their children excited to be back on campus again. As the new principal at Alamitos, I was thrilled to welcome our new seventh graders to our campus and be able to meet our eighth graders who will be leaving us in just a few weeks. We hope all of our students that chose to join us have a great school year and we look forward to the wonderful memories that they will make. Welcome back students and we wish you an amazing end to the 2020-2021 school year!



Alamitos Intermediate School's ASB welcomed students back to in-person instruction with cheers, signs and smiles!

Allen *Elementary School*

16200 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/663-6228 • allen.ggusd.us



Dr. Andrew Heughins
Principal

Extending Student Learning

This Spring, a group of 5th grade students have been participating in our initial Design Thinking program. The challenge for the students is to design a spinning top that will stay upright the longest.

Allen students

began by brainstorming multiple designs and then using their favorite to draw with 3D Design software. Students will be 3D printing their project for our final competition in late May.

Design Thinking is a part of our CLIMB Time (Character, Lifelong Learner, Integrity, Motivation, Be your best self) elective program that introduces students to

new activities in sports, the arts, and career education. We remain committed to offering opportunities that will equip students with both the academic and personal skills for lifelong success.



Allen students use 3D design software to create their Design Thinking project.

Anthony Elementary School

15320 Pickford St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/663-6104 • anthony.ggusd.us



Tyleen Perez
Principal

Happy to Be Back on Campus

Students at Anthony Elementary School are overjoyed to be back in school. On February 23rd, Anthony School reopened for in-person learning. Teachers and staff members were excited to see the students return, and greeted them as they arrived at school. Even with masks on, it was clear that everyone was all smiles! Students quickly adapted to safety rules, with everyone wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Teachers remain committed to making student learning their first priority. At Anthony Elementary School, every teacher provides targeted intervention to provide extra instruction for those students needing extra learning support. The extra attention and help is just what our students need. At Anthony Elementary School, everyone agrees, it is wonderful to be back for in-person instruction!



Students are thrilled to be together again on campus and get some exercise outside.

Barker Elementary School

12565 Springdale St., Garden Grove, CA 92845 • 714/663-6164 • barker.ggusd.us



Wayne Kelley
Principal

Finishing Strong

When the pandemic hit, and we began planning for our return to in-person instruction, Barker had the ability to return to school on a regular schedule. Back on October 26th Barker School re-opened to full day instruction, five days a week. We have 370 students able to come back to school, following health guidelines to ensure everyone remained safe until winter break. In February, Barker once again re-opened to in-person instruction with our students back to school in a full day setting five days a week. We are proud of our students, staff and families as cases of COVID have remained minimal at Barker School. Our students sanitize their hands throughout the day, wear their

masks all day, and maintain proper social distancing when possible. Our students are thriving and happy being back at school. We look forward to finishing the school year strong and coming back to school in August with the knowledge that being back to school full-time is safe for all.



Barker Elementary School has reopened for five full days of in-person instruction for all students.

Bell *Intermediate School*

12345 Springdale St., Garden Grove, CA 92845 • 714/663-6466 • bell.ggusd.us



Stephanie Bartlett
Principal

School to Watch

In 2018, Bell received the distinguished honor of being a Schools to Watch recipient. Schools to Watch is a state and national program where schools are selected that demonstrate academic excellence, social equity, and responsiveness to their students' needs. Now fast forward three years to February 2021, Bell received a

redesignation visit by the State Director for Schools to Watch. During the visit, Bell continued to demonstrate that we do excellent work to help students believe in themselves and set high goals to dream big. Even over the last year, Bell was able to show how we were able to pivot to meet our students' academic and social-emotional needs during a difficult time! We are excited to share that Bell continues to be an outstanding

example of how teachers put students first and received the distinguished honor of being a School to Watch for a second time. Ultimately, Bell continues to have student-centered organizational structures that set us apart because our students' growth and success are always at the forefront of our decision-making. Bell's teachers strive daily to keep students engaged and learning throughout a transitional time in their lives. #TheRoadrunnerWay!



Bell Intermediate School is committed to the growth and success of all students.

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Bolsa Grande *High School*

9401 Westminster Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/663-6424 • www.bolsagrande.org



Tracy Conway
Principal

Welcome Back Bolsa

Bolsa Grande High School was very excited to welcome back students to campus on March 23, 2021. Over a third of students returned to in-person classes and resumed participation in athletics, the arts, clubs and more. Upgrades to our school campus are ongoing. Two new shade structures were installed to provide additional outdoor gathering spaces. Over 30 new

outdoor benches were installed in the hallway areas. Another area will be redesigned for outdoor performances and small group instruction.

This year we were able to provide “take-home” Chromebooks for all 1,850 students along with the purchase of an ample

amount of replacement Chromebooks. We purchased over 100 new band instruments, a digital music program, music stands, and other materials and supplies for our performing arts programs. Throughout the year, student musicians and singers have created digital productions of their performances. Our performers have always shined and this year was no different given the technology available to us.

We are very eager to see all of our students back in the 2021-2022 school year. Look for upcoming information about a Summer Bridge program.



Staff welcomes students back to Bolsa Grande High School for in-person instruction.

Brookhurst *Elementary School*

9821 William Dalton Way, Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6556 • brookhurst.ggusd.us



Dianna Rangel
Principal

Our School Family

Brookhurst Elementary School is very much like a family. Our school staff go above and beyond to connect with students and their families and to foster a wonderful sense of school community. This has been especially important during the pandemic as we lean on one another for support while we navigated the world of virtual learning and hybrid instruction. Our School Community

Liaison Ryan Tacata has been instrumental in supporting

our families with the challenges in virtual learning. Whether it's interpreting at a parent zoom meeting, troubleshooting a connectivity issue or relaying a message from a parent to the teacher, we can always count on Ryan. Ryan was recently nominated by a Brookhurst parent for all that he does to create a welcoming school. The parent that nominated him always refers to him as “Chulo” which is a sweet endearing phrase in the Hispanic culture. Ryan was ultimately selected among 500 nominations as GGUSD's Employee of the Month for April 2021! This is an outstanding recognition and he was spotlighted at our April 20 Board of Education meeting.



Our Brookhurst family (staff, parents, and students) was thrilled to hear this news and came together to celebrate Ryan – our chulo! This latest tribute by our Brookhurst family is just one recent example of the support and love they continually show for each other. Brookhurst is truly a great place to learn!

Bryant *Elementary School*

8371 Orangewood Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6451 • bryant.ggusd.us



Tanya De Leon
Principal

Celebrating Reopening and the Arts

Bryant Arts Academy teachers and staff are so proud to welcome back the Bryant students to our newly reopened campus. This spring, we have continued our culture of enrichment with a variety of engaging events to spark our student's imaginations: Virtual Dogsledding Assembly, Family

Art Night, Family STEM Night, and a Readathon. Our partnership with Inner City Arts has helped to foster a resilient and creative community at Bryant. On April 8, parents and students joined an artist on Zoom, who taught shading and perspective techniques as she led us through drawing some delicious cakes and desserts. The following day, students returned to campus with their amazing artwork, increasing their sense of connectedness. Bryant is a joyous, child-centered community where there are many opportunities for enrichment and engaging academics. We appreciate every opportunity to make a positive connection with our students & families- that's the "Garden Grove Way!"



Bryant students proudly show off their drawings of desserts from the Bryant Family Arts Night.

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Carrillo *Elementary School*

15270 Bushard St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/663-6230 • carrillo.ggusd.us



Mark Vosper
Principal

A Wonderful Return

What a wonderful year we've had at Carrillo Elementary! Our students, parents, teachers, and entire staff rose to the occasion during some of the most challenging times in education as we navigated the uncharted waters of distance learning. Our community showed resilience and determination through these

unprecedented times. It was an exciting day when we announced our reopening to in-person instruction. Thanks to the fabulous team at Carrillo and our wonderful parent cooperation we were able to successfully open while practicing the health guidelines our county had put into place. We will finish out the year with the majority of our in-person students returning to Carrillo for five full days of instruction while enjoying the benefits of seeing their classmates

and making those crucial social-emotional connections. From collaborating in classes to exercising outside in their class cohorts, there is excitement within our students and staff as we return to normalcy. Our return to school campus has been an encouragement to all, and we look forward to next year when all students will join us for a traditional school year.



Our distance learners and in-person students motivate each other through movement.

Carver *Early Childhood Education Center*

11150 Santa Rosalia St., Stanton, CA 90680 • 714/663-6437 • <https://carver.ggusd.us>



Brian Ball
Principal

Back In-Person!

To start this school year, students and staff engaged in distance learning and our teachers and families worked together to best meet our students' needs! Although challenging, we all continued to grow and learn. Then, on March 22, 2021, we were finally able to return safely for in-person

instruction! The first day back in-person was like the first day of (pre)school! Smiles, tears, and excitement were everywhere. And even with new guidelines, our students and staff adapted! Moreover, staff is excited to be back with our students and the positive energy and joy from our students and their families being back in-person is evident every day! As the principal of the Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) at Carver, Heritage, and Skylark, I am truly grateful for all of our students, staff, and families. Everyone's effort, time, resilience, and kindness this year has allowed our ECEC school community to continue to thrive!



Carver students celebrated the first day of preschool.

Clinton Corner *Family Campus*

13581 Clinton St., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6298 • ccfc.ggusd.us



Proud of Our Preschoolers

We are so excited to have our preschoolers back in person! We have been working hard to make sure our students are safe and healthy. While maintaining physical distance between students, teachers have

found ways to make learning fun and keep students engaged. In addition to academics, we are working on fine motor skills, peer relationships, language development, and problem-solving skills. The students are absolutely amazing! We are so proud of them and thankful for our preschool families that have been supportive and involved this school year. This has truly been a team effort and we will forever be grateful.

Emma Druitt
Principal



Preschool students enjoy outdoor learning with sidewalk chalk.

Clinton *Elementary School*

13641 Clinton St., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6146 • clinton.ggusd.us



Roaring into Action

Clinton has smoothly transitioned from distance learning into a hybrid model with in-person opportunities and students are now able to participate in more creative, immersive activities. Clinton scholars are versed in important character traits each month that translate into not only a monthly moment, but also into

sustained, lifelong learning. In a traditional year, students gather on the playground for Flag Fridays every week to get important school information, learn about character strengths, and honor students with excellent attendance. In order to normalize the situation and simulate a typical week while in hybrid learning, Clinton continued with Flag Friday videos that are accessible to not only students at school, but also to those students who have chosen to remain on distance learning. Now that children are attending in-person, some students have been chosen by their teachers to take part in the filming of our weekly Flag Friday videos by presenting to their fellow students. Roar on Clinton Cougars!

Jason Shabet
Principal



Clinton Elementary student, Makayla Aguiniga, filming an attendance awards presentation in the "school studio" in front of a green screen.

Cook Elementary School

9802 Woodbury Rd., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/663-6251 • cook.ggusd.us



Sandi Ishii
Principal

Strong and Resilient

The 2020-2021 school year has been a difficult one for our Cook community, as COVID-19 has had a negative impact, as it has in all American communities. Despite the difficulties, Cook scholars, parents and teachers have persevered and weathered this COVID storm, by continuing

the learning process online. This April, we celebrated the return of many of our distance learners back to school for in-person learning. As we reopened, the joy of being back to school after a year of quarantining, was the overriding feeling of the day! While strict PPE and many other health and safety measures are in place, this did not diminish the excitement of being back to see friends, staff and teachers in person. Our Cook community has remained strong and resilient with the proof in the smiling eyes of students and staff. Nothing keeps our Cook Lions from learning! #CookLionStrong!



Students re-experience the joy of play when we reopened our play structure in April.

Crosby Elementary School

12181 West St., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6346 • crosby.ggusd.us



Kristine Levenson
Principal

Inspiration through Dance

To jumpstart our return to school after spring recess, our students, teachers, and staff participated in a heart-pumping, motivational assembly by Danny Vuong-Batimana of Happiness is NOW. Danny led the students in a series of fun and engaging dance moves and choreography with music to connect with them as well as show them how

dancing and exercise can increase positive energy and help build happiness. Danny's uplifting message encouraged all of us to find joy in each and every day and to "LIVE HAPPY NOW!" We were pleased to be able to participate in this fun assembly as a way to maintain our momentum and excitement about being back on campus for in-person instruction. This assembly was a reflection of our commitment to supporting the whole child, including social-emotional well-being.



Students danced and exercised during a fun and inspiring outdoor assembly.

Doig Intermediate School

12752 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6241 • doig.ggusd.us



Loan Wu
Principal

Spartan School Spirit

Doig Intermediate was excited to welcome students back in-person on Wednesday, March 17th. Spartan student leaders in ASB led by advisor, Mr. Ornelas hosted a spirit week in order to spread reopening

cheer for students in-person. Spirit days included Monday March Madness, Tie Dye Tuesday, Wacky Wednesday, Throwback Thursday, and Fun Friday. Doig students and staff dressed in their favorite sports attire, found their best-dressed pictures from their high school yearbook, and shared baby pictures from ten years ago. Students and staff for the first time in over a year were able to show their school spirit in their classrooms, all over campus, and continue to build the community that all year had only existed online.



This Spartan scholar shows her school spirit by wearing her tie dye "Read" shirt and mask.



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Eisenhower *Elementary School*

13221 Lilly St., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6401 • eisenhower.ggusd.us



Beth Cusimano
Principal

An Enthusiastic Return to Campus

Eisenhower Elementary School opened our doors for all students to return full-day, in-person, on April 26 with numerous health and safety measures in place.

Earlier in the school year, staff welcomed back our students to in-person instruction in a hybrid model, while simultaneously offering live-streaming to students at home. Our teachers created a supportive and encouraging environment, consistently delivering a rigorous level of instruction. They enthusiastically collaborated to plan, teach, and progress monitor students. We provided intervention in reading foundational skills to meet student needs, outside of the dedicated instructional minutes. We also partnered with CSU Dominguez Hills for further online tutoring in reading. Families and teachers consistently communicated regarding all aspects of student needs. We look forward to welcoming students back to full-day in-person learning this spring and will be offering students extra support in math and reading over the summer.



Eisenhower Elementary staff enthusiastically welcomed all students back for full in-person instruction.

Enders *Elementary School*

12302 Springdale St., Garden Grove, CA 92845 • 714/663-6205 • enders.ggusd.us



Michelle Askew
Principal

Campus Upgrades

It has been an eventful year at Enders! We started the school year out with distance learning, then transitioned to a hybrid schedule, and now we are full day in person learning!

Our Enders Mustangs are so excited to be able to see all of their classmates in person. Our teachers and staff were always focused on what's best for our children and community. During the school year, we have also focused on some improvement projects for our campus. We have added to our existing Rock Garden, mounted a new tile wall, added a new outdoor shade structure for our students, and replaced old playground equipment with new play structures. By the end of the school year, every classroom will have wall mounted projectors to help aid student engagement and classroom instruction. We are very proud of our hard work and perseverance in once again uniting all our Mustangs in person this school year!



Students enjoy numerous renovations and upgrades including a new tile wall demonstrating our school spirit.

Evans *Elementary School*

12281 Nelson St., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6558 • evans.ggusd.us



Marie Kennedy
Interim Principal

Great Things Ahead

Evans Elementary School students were eager to return for in-person instruction this school year. Students in our Boys and Girls Club led the way when their program welcomed back students in January. These students quickly embraced and followed all of the safety protocols on campus and set the pace for our other students that returned in March. Under the supervision of the Boys and Girls Club staff, these students received assistance with their schoolwork, and enjoyed activities safely. Our collaborative staff efforts at Evans are greatly enhanced by our caring families and supportive community. We look forward to Fall when we will be welcoming all students back for 5 full days of in-person instruction, and Boys and Girls Club will be able to run their afterschool program at full capacity. There is much to be thankful for at Evans Elementary School!



Boys and Girls Club students led the way by helping foster a safe and healthy school campus.

Excelsior *Elementary School*

10421 Woodbury Rd., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6106 • excelsior.ggusd.us



Sarah Mershon
Principal

All Students Back on Campus

We can all say that this has been quite the year! I'm so proud of our Excelsior students, parents and staff. Our team has worked together to create high-quality learning environments for our students both at home and at school. Our families and teachers have shown their flexibility and dedication with each schedule change throughout the year. School staff have chipped in all year long with cleaning support, communication support, and other above and beyond duties to help our students succeed. Excelsior now has 100% of our students back on campus and we are excited to begin bringing back "normal" activities following all health and safety protocols. Last year, the PTA and staff worked to fundraise for a kindergarten playground. It was sitting vacant for many months. Finally, with our students back on campus, our kindergarten students are playing on the new equipment.



Kindergarten students enjoy the school's new playground equipment.

Faylane *Elementary School*

11731 Morrie Ln., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6253 • faylane.ggusd.us



Mike Ingalls
Principal

Engaging All Learners

Faylane Elementary School is proud to offer 4 hours of in-person instruction each day. As a principal, I must say, there has not been a time where I have been more proud of any staff, especially during a crisis. Site teachers helped construct a 4 hour per day

in-person schedule to meet the felt needs of our community. All grade levels hosted “Zoomers

(those students learning online) and Roomers (those students learning from the classroom)” concurrently. Teachers and support staff initially served two-thirds and now three-fourths of students desiring to come back to school “in person,” while one-third of the students remained online (some of whom are now trickling back into the in-person lineup!) Enough cannot be said when a leader walks into a room; a large screen full of Zoomers robustly greets; alongside a cacophony of happy Roomers shouts “hello!” I see aides, teachers, social workers, special education personnel, library techs, Boys & Girls Club, and office staff;

attuning earbuds to remote learners; eyes rotating from screen to those breathing through masks. It has been a glorious dance! I am so proud! We are enthusiastic to return to 5 full days of in-person instruction in the fall, with a regular schedule including recess and lunch. The best place to learn is in the classroom and we look forward to welcoming all students back to Faylane.



Faylane supports the education of all students including those learning in-person and online.

Fitz *Computer Science Immersion Academy*

4600 W. McFadden Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92704 • 714/663-6351 • fitz.ggusd.us



Feather Hocking
Principal

New Academic Achievements

Fitz Computer Science Immersion Academy Falcons soar to new heights competing in the OCDE Academic Pentathlon as well as 8th grade students striving to achieve the OCDE Pathway to Biliteracy Medal! In preparation for the pentathlon, a

diverse team of select students

study five subjects related to the Cold War era. Falcons will compete answering trivia questions in art, music, history, science and literature. This competition promotes academia, friendships, teamwork and study skills. Falcons are dedicated and committed to academic achievement! The OCDE Pathway to Biliteracy Medal recognizes a student's bilingual

and biliterate achievement. Falcons from the Heritage Spanish class as well as select students demonstrate a vast knowledge of Spanish to earn this prestigious achievement. Multiple measures that include persuasive essays in both languages as well as oral presentations qualify students to receive this Bilingual award and medal which benefits students in high school and college.



A team of Fitz students prepare for the Orange County 2021 Academic Pentathlon.

Garden Grove *High School*

11271 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6115 • www.gghs.us



Todd Nirk
Principal

The Coolest Place on Campus

Students are always looking for a relaxing and comfortable place to hang out, and now they need to look no further than underneath our new and spacious shade structure right in the heart of the

Garden Grove High School campus! It is made up of two 40'x40' structures set back-to-back and with 32 tables underneath, it has the capacity to seat almost 300 kids. It has already come in handy to safely conduct large classes during our hybrid schedule, and it will surely be a favorite hangout next year at break and lunch. With wireless access added to nearby

walls, students can stick around after school and do their homework al fresco! Our students are enjoying it already even during our shortened days, but they are really going to love it when we return to a normal schedule next year.



Students are enjoying two new shade structures as a recent upgrade on their campus.

Garden Park *Elementary School*

6562 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA, 92845 • 714/663-6074 • gardenpark.ggusd.us



Michelle Morales
Principal

Dedicated Sixth Grade Scholars

Our sixth grade pentathlon team has shown perseverance and grit this year by putting in hours and hours of after school learning time via Zoom to prepare for the upcoming Orange County Department of Education's Academic Pentathlon competition. Participating in the Pentathlon has been a long-standing tradition here at Garden Park, and knowing that this year's

competition is virtual did not stop our scholars from wanting to participate.

With the ongoing support of their dedicated Pentathlon coaches, Mrs. Wolsky, Mrs. Shida, and Mrs. Wood, the students are learning all about this year's theme, "The Cold War". On March 13, the team put their learning to the test by virtually participating in the OCDE Pentathlon Scrimmage. We are very proud of our Pentathlon students, and we look forward to cheering them on at the May 1 competition. Go Geckos!



Garden Park sixth graders have been busy studying for the annual Orange County Academic Pentathlon.

Gilbert *Elementary School*

9551 Orangewood Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6318 • gilbert.ggusd.us



Charise Santana
Principal

At Last, Students in Class!

Great things are happening at Gilbert in 2021! With approximately 77% of our students back in school for in-person learning, laughter, smiles and excitement permeate the classrooms. Students, teachers, support staff, Boys & Girls Club and parents are thrilled to see

our students in person again. We are all so proud of how quickly students have adjusted to adhering to all of the safety protocols in place: wearing masks, social distancing around campus, and working at classroom desks equipped with protective student carrels. All of these efforts have achieved the desired result - students are happy to be back on campus and ready to learn! "What I enjoyed most this week was that I got to see friends," said a Gilbert 5th grader. Another student commented, "The sheer enjoyment of seeing people is what I like best." It's looking like a grrrrreat way to end the year for the Gilbert Grizzlies!



Gilbert Elementary students are thrilled to be back in class learning alongside their classmates.

Hare *High School*

12012 Magnolia St., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6508 • hhs.ggusd.us

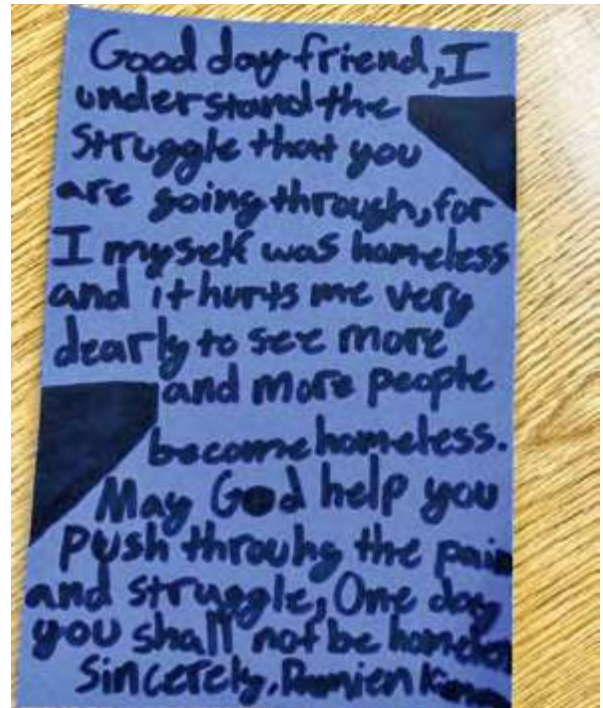


Lydia Machado
Principal

A Helping Hand

It has been wonderful to welcome back our students and staff to campus this spring! Since returning to campus, we have seen our students re-connect with friends and find renewed energy to finish the school year. This connectedness is such a vital part of their over-all well-being. An exciting element to witness is the energy and compassion of our Hare students that have been engaged in a service learning project through the Life

After High School (LAHS) elective course. Ms. Woods, the LAHS teacher, has led the students in collecting donated items such as tissues, socks and other necessities to assemble "Care Bags" to distribute to the homeless in the community. For that extra special touch, each Hare student involved in the project has written a note of encouragement to include in the bag of donated items to help bring some kindness into the lives of others and to lift the spirits of those that are struggling. After such a challenging school year, it makes me proud to share the resiliency and kindness of our students and what they have learned about giving back during a year that took so much. Way to go Huskies!



Hare High School students assembled care bags and wrote encouraging notes to show kindness to the homeless.

Hazard *Elementary School*

4218 W. Hazard Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92703 • 714/663-6403 • hazard.ggusd.us



Olivia Hufnagel
Principal

Spirits Soaring... Hazard Strong!

This year, R. F. Hazard hit it out of the park with our recent hybrid reopening. Looking back, our amazing team rallied through distance learning to continue the wonderful traditions that make Hazard special and keep our spirits soaring, even through

Zoom. Our Spirit Assemblies honored our Eagle Scholars of the Month. Our virtual Hip Hop Assembly reminded us through music to keep a growth mindset! Epic and virtual book fairs helped focus our reading with the goal of earning a spot on Advanced Reader Leader Boards and Million Word Club! In March, we became heart heroes by taking part in Kids Heart Challenges. The highlight was being adopted by the Angels Baseball Team and meeting Angels player, Jose Rojas! He taught us that Goals + Grit = Success! We are so grateful to the The Angels Baseball Team for adopting our school and lifting our spirits up!



Hazard students loved being part of the Angels Adopt-A-School program and meeting player Jose Rojas.

Heritage *Computer Science Academy*

426 S. Andres Pl., Santa Ana, CA 92704 • 714/663-6108 • heritage.ggusd.us



Michelle Pinchot
Principal

Happy to Be Back

Welcome back to in person classes! We couldn't wait to open our doors and greet our students on March 1st. Everyone has worked hard to ensure students and staff are safe while continuing to provide quality in-person instruction. Our students have been smiling behind their masks as well as their teachers. We've all been adapting to new expectations and protocols, but we couldn't be happier

with how easily everyone has settled into the new routines. Boys and Girls Club has been an important part of our transition back to in person classes. This has allowed many of our students to stay all day under their supervision giving them a more authentic experience. Looking forward to the 2021-2022 school year where we will continue to be the district's first Computer Science Dual Immersion Academy. Our students are ready to start showing off their coding skills once again.



Heritage Computer Science Academy staff welcome students back for in-person instruction.

Hill Elementary School

9681 11th St., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/663-6561 • hill.ggusd.us



Toby Vares
Principal

Welcome Back Hill Hounds

We are so happy to welcome our Hill Hounds back on campus! Students returned to a clean, sanitized campus with all proper health and safety precautions in place! Our health and safety measures are effectively preventing the spread of COVID on our

campus. I am pleased to report that we have had no positive cases of COVID-19 among students or staff at school. Great job! Our Special Education MS classes are back to full-day instruction and students are enjoying being back in class and socializing with their peers. While trying to get back to some sense of normalcy, we were able to hold our Trimester 2 Awards, honoring students for Accelerated Reader (AR), Principal's Awards, and Outstanding Achievement in math, reading, and writing.

Thank you to the entire Hill community for making this return happen! Go Hounds!



Hill Elementary School students returned to school with a renewed focus on academic excellence.

Irvine Intermediate School

10552 Hazard Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6551 • irvine.ggusd.us



Michael Kennedy
Principal

CA Distinguished School

Irvine intermediate was recognized among the 2021 California Distinguished Schools in an announcement by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond on March 18. The California Department of Education (CDE) identifies and awards eligible schools based on performance and progress on state indicators specified on the California School Dashboard,

the state's accountability and continuous improvement system. Indicators include test scores, suspension rates,

and conditions and climate.

Irvine Intermediate is extremely proud of our teachers and students who make our school extraordinarily special! Throughout the past several years, there has been a dedicated focus on active speaking and listening strategies across the curriculum. When students have an opportunity to speak about the content they are learning, their understanding of the content deepens. Our students are learning to speak like historians, scientists, musicians, athletes, mathematicians, and scholars! Schoolwide, we have seen an increase in students' confidence, ability, and performance.



Irvine Intermediate School staff and students were excited to be named a 2021 California Distinguished School Award, a prestigious recognition awarded to only 11 schools across Orange County.

Jordan *Intermediate School*

9821 Woodbury Rd., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/663-6124 • jordan.ggusd.us



Nick Clark
Principal

First Day of School... In March!

On March 17, the Jordan Intermediate School staff was excited to see students in person and on campus after more than a year! Although the school buildings were closed, school stayed in session! All of the Jaguars are to be recognized for

demonstrating respect, responsibility and kindness during distance learning and our return to hybrid learning. Our first few days were spent developing GGUSD Goal #2: personal skills by creating not just a school community, but multiple classroom communities as well. Every member of the Jordan community should be proud of our welcoming, positive and safe learning environment.



Jordan Intermediate School created a warm and welcoming environment for students returning to in-person instruction.

Jordan *Adult Transition Program*

9915 Woodbury Rd., Garden Grove, CA 92844 714/663-6486 • jordanatp.ggusd.us



Tricia Chinn
Principal

Turning Challenges into Successes

The Adult Transition Program at Jordan is back to a semi-normal daily hustle and bustle. It has been wonderful to have many of our students back on campus again for in-person instruction. Our students are enjoying some

of their typical daily routines at ATP but most of all it is great to see our students socializing with each other and the staff. Their laughs fill the air and their smiles bring our ATP campus back to life. It has been a different kind of year, but the students, staff, and families have turned the challenges faced into a multitude of successes. I am proud of our ATP students, parents, and staff. Our ATP community looks forward to taking all the positives that we have learned through our COVID experience and applying it to the 2021-2022 school year. Looking forward to a fresh new school year!!!!



Jordan ATP students learn important life skills during in-person instruction.

La Quinta *High School*

10372 McFadden Ave., Westminister, CA 92683 • 714/663-6315 • www.laquintahs.org



Tahnee Phan
Principal

New Gym and Aquatic Center

Construction on our new three-court gym and aquatic center was just recently completed allowing our students and staff to utilize this beautiful and modern facility. This new facility will seat over 2,400

spectators for basketball and volleyball games as well as school assemblies and special performances. The aquatic center will allow us to host our own water polo and swim competitions. New banners will soon adorn the walls of the facility to celebrate our legacy of athletic prowess and new AV equipment will be installed in the coming months. This new building will also include our Hall of Fame, locker rooms, an athletic training room, athletic offices and team rooms. We are excited to host upcoming events and share this exquisite facility with everyone.



Lake *Intermediate School*

10801 Orangewood Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6506 • lake.ggusd.us



Margaret Feliciani
Principal

Back on Campus

Lake Dragons are back on campus! After almost a year of distance learning at home, many of our students have returned for in-person instruction in mixed cohort schedules. It has

been so exciting to get to know our students in person and to hear our school alive with student voices and laughter. Teachers and support staff have worked hard to create safe and welcoming environments for students to learn, while continuing to focus on our GGUSD strategic plan in developing strong academic skills, personal skills, and preparing our students for lifelong success!



Students at Lake Intermediate School are excited to be back on campus for in-person instruction.

Lawrence *Elementary School*

12521 Monroe St., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6255 • lawrence.ggusd.us



Julie Kawai
Principal

Welcome Back

We were very excited to welcome back our in-person learners at Lawrence Elementary School! Although our students and families did an outstanding job adjusting to the demands and changes that distance learning necessitated, we are thrilled to have our students back on campus. Our Lawrence staff enthusiastically greeted students on their first day back on campus, and we have never seen bigger smiles (even through the masks). In addition to being happy to be back, our students are doing a wonderful job with adhering to safety measures as they engage in in-person learning and enjoy the company of their friends and teachers. Students are enjoying the new look of our campus and are interacting with friends in distanced, structured activities such as rotating physical education circuits with fewer students per station.



Welcome back, Lawrence Roadrunners!

Lincoln *Adult Education Center*

11262 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove CA 92843 • 714/663-6291 • ae.ggusd.us



M'Liss Patterson
Director

Lifelong Learning

The Adult Education program offers a wide variety of classes for the adults in our community. During COVID, all of our classes shifted to the online format, but in April 2021 we were able to safely

open up our classrooms to our adult learners. Now we offer the option for students to learn in person or via distance learning for most classes. The Adult Education teachers are leading the way with Hi-flex instruction. This allows students to be streaming live from home and still interact with the teacher and the students in the classroom. Please visit our website to view all of the classes we offer: ae.ggusd.us. Registration for Fall 2021 begins June 2021. Now is the time to finish

that high school diploma, improve your English, or earn a certificate for job training. #yourfutureisbrightatggae



The Adult Education program at Lincoln offers in-person and online instruction with opportunities for adult learners at all levels.

Los Amigos *High School*

16566 Newhope St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/663-6288 • www.losamigoshs.com



Amy Avina
Principal

Stronger Together

This school year has brought many challenges that have highlighted the strength and resiliency of our students and staff. After nearly three academic quarters in distance learning in 2020-2021, our staff returned to their classrooms and took on the challenge of teaching some of our students online and others on campus. Thanks to our wonderful custodial team, our Lobos felt safe coming to campus for classes, for testing, and for athletic practices and competitions. With the support of our school district, Los Amigos was able to provide ample hand-washing stations to complement the daily health screenings, social distancing markers, and staggered bell schedules. Through it all, our students have remained committed to their academic and personal growth and our staff have gone the extra mile to support students' needs. We are stronger together, and "THIS IS MY PACK!"



A returning student at Los Amigos uses the exterior hand-washing stations on campus.

Mark Twain *Special Education Center*

11802 Loara St., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6050 • marktwain.ggusd.us



Tricia Chinn
Principal

Inspiring Warriors

Wow! Spring is here and we are so excited to have our staff and students back on campus again at Mark Twain. The hustle and bustle of the day has been greatly missed and brings a sense of normalcy. It has been a challenging year, as we all know, but it has also been an inspirational year to see how our staff and families have collaborated together to overcome the multitude of challenges thrown their way to support our students' educational needs.

Our staff and families have gotten to know each other so much better and I know this connection will take Mark Twain to another level of Home/School Connection to push our students to their fullest potential. Thank you, Warrior team and families, for your patience, flexibility, creativity, and love for your work and our students.



The staff at Mark Twain Special Education Center love having students back on campus!

Marshall *Elementary School*

15791 Bushard Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/663-6528 • marshall.ggusd.us



Eileen Young
Principal

Celebrating a Love of Reading

At Marshall, we continue to foster and celebrate every student's self-determination and perseverance exhibited as we navigate through this year of changes. We know such characteristics support students' social emotional and intellectual growth. In light of what each family and student has and continues to experience throughout

this past year of COVID, Marshall staff and PTO have recently chosen to emphasize reading by holding our very first school wide Read-a-Thon. This is not only fun for families and students, it also reinforces lifelong skills such as perseverance. We know that encouraging a love of reading has a significant and lasting impact on a child's emotional and intellectual development. We also know that enthusiastic readers become critical-thinkers who are excited about new ideas and open to exploring beyond what they already know. This is why for the month of March, every student, whether in person or through distance learning, has been encouraged to participate as they listen to, read to, or read with someone daily. As students read, they continue to hone in on their skills in



perseverance, and build added endurance and focus. As a way of joining in on our celebration of reading, many community members; from movie and theater actors, to parents, to student leaders, to our very own superintendent Dr. Mafi; recorded themselves reading a story for Marshall students as well as explaining the importance of reading. Awards such as books and bookmarks continue to be presented to students as they progress with their reading. Ultimately, however, we believe the greatest gift Marshall students will receive from our Read-a-Thon will be their lifelong love of reading.

McGarvin *Intermediate School*

9802 Bishop Pl., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/663-6218 • mcgarvin.ggusd.us



Bill Gates
Principal

California Distinguished School

Recently, Sarah McGarvin Intermediate School was recognized as a 2021 California Distinguished School! The 2021 California Distinguished Schools Program recognizes California schools that have made exceptional gains in implementing the academic content and performance

standards adopted by the State Board of Education for all students. We are so honored to be one of only 11 Orange County schools to receive this honor. This is an outstanding achievement that recognizes the hard work and effort of our school staff, students, and families despite the adversity, hardship, and challenges we all have faced over this past year. In true McGarvin fashion, we continue to be "WISE," and to soar to new heights!



Mitchell *Elementary School*

13451 Taft Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6131 • mitchell.ggusd.us



Chris Francis
Principal

Welcoming Students Back

Mitchell has been so excited to welcome students back to campus! Every day students are on campus following safety protocols while participating in engaging classroom instruction. While the smiles on their faces are hard to see due to the masks, the joy in their eyes is clearly evident. Our

Apple School one-to-one iPad Program has been integral in transitioning students to Distance Learning and then back into classrooms. Our MTSS (multi-tiered systems of support) work as a pilot school has allowed us to get a head start in addressing the inevitable learning gaps brought on by the pandemic. Many students have been able to participate in an extended day of live instruction as teachers live stream instruction to distance learning students while simultaneously teaching students in class. A big thank you to all of our school stakeholders including parents, teachers, and classified staff! It has truly been a team effort!



Mitchell Elementary School students are excited to be back on campus, learning in their classrooms.

Morningside *Elementary School*

10521 Morningside Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6328 • morningside.ggusd.us



Nathan Bellamy
Principal

Working Together for Student Success

Here at Morningside Elementary, our students are excited and happy to be back at school, learning and interacting with their friends and teachers. Since starting our 2020-2021 school year, we were able to open in fall and open again in early Spring with 75% of our students coming in person and only 25% distance learning. With the help of our amazing staff, wonderful teachers and

aides, supportive parents, and fearless students; things here are running smoothly. When students arrive on our school campus, be it from walking or getting dropped off, they follow the rules of having their masks on and keeping their distance from others. Each grade has a designated gate that they must go in/out of when entering the campus with a dedicated noon duty supervisor that takes their temperature to make sure they are ready to start their day of learning. We have placed colored spots all around the school for students to stand on when waiting for the

school gates to be opened, to grab their Grab-n-Go lunches, waiting in restroom lines, and also to be picked up after their school session. Instead of regular recess we have structured P.E., where kids learn a new way of playing, being a part of a team, and learn social skills among their peers. Inside the classrooms, students are supported by our wonderful teaching staff. Since Morningside has a morning session and an afternoon session, we are able to split the full class and set up for a max occupancy of 15 students per session. We also have over 40 students participating in our Boys & Girls Club afterschool program which helps support our parents with their student's busy schedules. As the school year comes to an end, we are sad to see our 6th graders leave but excited to welcome our new kindergarteners. Despite the challenges of COVID-19, we



Students are happy to be back in school learning alongside their classmates.

are proud that our students have been amazing and fearless Mustangs. Our staff has also been incredible with both in person and distance learning. Our Mustangs are excited and look forward to being 100% in person in the fall here at Morningside Elementary.

Monroe *Elementary Dual Language Academy*

16225 Newhope St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/663-6264 • monroe.ggusd.us



César Loya
Principal

Full-Day of Learning

In the words of the legendary Vin Scully, “In a year that has been so improbable, the impossible has happened!” Well, not nearly impossible, but improbable, maybe. This academic school year has had its insurmountable share of ups and downs. The difficulty of navigating education through a

pandemic has tested all of us – parents, students, teachers, and staff. And all of our partner groups should be commended for the diligence and dedication in providing continuation of learning to our scholars. After many months of facing this challenge, we were finally able to offer full-day instruction to our scholars beginning in March (TK/Kinder beginning in May). We could not be any happier with seeing our young scholars thrive within the safe learning environment of school. Our students are able to continue to develop their academic and, just

as important, social-emotional skills. Many challenges continue to lie ahead of us, but we are quite confident that our students, parents, teachers, and staff will be able to face those challenges with renewed sense of perseverance, grit, and resolve.



Monroe students are happy to be back in the classroom to experience the full benefits of the Spanish Immersion Academy.

Murdy *Elementary School*

14851 Donegal Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/663-6405 • murdy.ggusd.us



Marcie Griffith
Principal

Welcome Back Mustangs

2020-21 has been a year of challenge and gratitude at John Murdy Elementary. Despite starting the school year at a distance, teachers and staff remained committed to helping students continue to develop the skills they will need for college and career

success. We were excited to welcome our students back to in-person learning in March, and remain grateful to our families who have partnered with us to provide the best learning experiences possible for our students. Our Vietnamese Dual Language Program continues to thrive, and we are delighted to see the students grow toward becoming bilingual, biliterate, and bicultural. We are proud to continue to offer on-site Gifted

and Talented classes to our students. Murdy teachers and staff share a strong commitment to supporting our students and will be hosting intervention and Summer Bridge classes to help address learning loss. Stay up-to-date by following us on social media@murdyelementary.



In March, Murdy Elementary School welcomed back students for in-person instruction.

Newhope *Elementary School*

4419 W. Regent Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92704 • 714/663-6581 • newhope.ggusd.us



Adam Bernstein
Principal

Striving for Success

Newhope Elementary School is currently in its fifth year of hosting the GGUSD's STRIVE behavior modification special education program for elementary students who have had significant struggles with classroom behavior at their previous schools.

Through determination, perseverance, self-reflection, and hard work, students adhere to a structured program to foster positive behavior. Under the guidance of our three outstanding STRIVE Teachers: Stacey Carter, Araceli Garcia, and Debbie Redenbaugh, along with our excellent IBI staff, the students have been showing great progress and improvement! Jalen is pictured in the photo. Jalen joined the program as a 5th grader. In the STRIVE program, Jalen has learned many skills which have resulted in positive changes. Jalen is excited about his progress and will return to his neighborhood intermediate school in the fall! Jalen advises



Newhope Elementary celebrates Jalen and the progress he made through the school's STRIVE program.

his STRIVE classmates that "you have to work hard to change your behavior." We're proud of Jalen and all of the other hard working STRIVE students at Newhope!

Northcutt *Elementary School*

11303 Sandstone St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/663-6537 • northcutt.ggusd.us



Ryan Loberger
Principal

Building a Kindergarten Garden

With the return to in-person instruction, Northcutt students were finally able to see and use three new raised-bed garden structures in the Kindergarten yard. The beds were built and donated by a local Eagle Scout in conjunction with the Kindergarten/TK teachers. The classes are currently growing a variety of plants, including

tomatoes, snap peas, sunflowers, and carrots. Students receive hands-on learning about the growth cycle, as well as the care and maintenance of a garden.

Northcutt teachers continue to offer other community building experiences for both our in-person and distance learners, such as the 100th Day of School, Read Across America Day, and Lunar New Year. We have also kept our regular extended learning programs through the Art Masters series and the Imagination Machine writing project. These opportunities keep instruction engaging and provide connections to student learning. While it has been a challenging year, Northcutt Bulldogs have kept their commitment to keeping a strong, academic community.



Mrs. Barbeito and a group of Northcutt Bulldogs take part in the first "planting" of Northcutt's new raised garden beds.

Pacifica High School

6851 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92845 • 714/663-6515 • www.pacificamariners.com



Steve Osborne
Principal

Distinguished Mariners

The Pacifica NJROTC was established in 1996 and has been designated a Distinguished Unit with Academic Honors for the past three years. Pacifica carries three Drill, Athletic, and Academic teams in each category.

Two teams have qualified the last two years for the Area 11 Drill Championship. Pacifica won the Nevada NJROTC Drill Championships the last two years. This year, Pacifica received the honor of being selected to compete in the National NJROTC Drill, Academic, and Athletic Championships placing 11th overall. Our cadets are also honored and excited to compete in the All Service JROTC Drill Nationals for the first time this



Even with the pandemic, the Mariners continued to excel and find ways to interact, compete, serve the community, and maintain our academic success.

Paine Elementary School

15792 Ward St., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6118 • paine.ggusd.us



George Martinez
Principal

Special Springtime Lesson

When students returned to school in early March, the Special Education staff at Thomas Paine Elementary School was ready to go, with innovative educational lessons and activities in place to ensure students were not just bouncing back, but leaping forward. Students love creative lessons that grab their

attention and provide an exciting pathway for learning. In one such lesson, students first created a beautiful spring picture. This tactile activity worked on fine motor skills, strengthened muscles in the hand, and provided a great platform for listening, speaking, following directions and one-on-one bonding with their teacher and classroom aides. The lesson then progressed to writing a sentence about spring. To help students write a complete sentence, the teacher used a visual graphic, called a Tree Map, to introduce and review sentence structure. The final product was outstanding and students had a blast reading, writing, painting and learning all about spring!



Paine Elementary School's Special Education staff have done a phenomenal job helping students return to in-person instruction and flourish in a safe school environment.

Parkview *Elementary School*

12272 Wilken Way, Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6266 • parkview.ggusd.us



Ryan Baker
Principal

Committed to Student Success

Parkview Elementary School welcomed back all students on Monday, March 15th after a year of distance learning. All teachers and staff were eager to welcome students back to campus! Students did a wonderful job following new safety protocols and were so happy to see their friends and teachers. Parkview teachers did an amazing job over the past 12 months creating engaging lessons for their students and continuing the rigorous instruction Parkview is known for. For the remainder of the school year, many Parkview students opted to remain at home and classrooms were split between in-person instruction during the morning and on-line instruction during the afternoon. Parkview families know that either in-person or on-line, their students are in great hands and will be prepared for success in 2021-2022!



Parkview Elementary School students did a fantastic job following health and safety protocols when returning to in-person instruction.

Patton *Elementary School*

6861 Santa Rita Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92845 • 714/663-6584 • patton.ggusd.us



Dr. Jennifer Carter
Principal

Inspirational Mask and PTA Reflections

We are so proud of Faith Hipolito who entered and won first place in the Orange County Health Care Agency's Mask Message Contest. Orange County District 1 Supervisor Vice Chairman, Andrew Do visited Faith's class via Zoom to congratulate her for creating a beautiful and inspirational mask.

Every staff member and student received a reproduced mask displaying her artwork and the school was given \$7,000 to spend at Staples. As you walk on the Patton campus at any time you will see staff and students proudly wearing the mask that Faith designed. Many of our talented Patton Patriots participated in the PTA Reflections arts program. Congratulations to Hailey Galindo, Maya Van Ommeren, and Ahaan Goyal for being recognized by the PTA Fourth District for your PTA Reflections entries. Hailey and Ahaan's entries were also recognized by the California State PTA.



Faith Hipolito won first place in the Orange County Health Care Agency Mask Message Contest with her beautiful creation.



Kyle Benham
Principal
K-3



Gurprit Dhillon
Principal
4-6

A Successful Return

Peters K-6 celebrated a successful return to in person instruction this March! Staff welcomed students back to campus after one year of primarily distance learning. Students have done an excellent

school community to revisit our Panda and Panther Pride! Spirit wear days have returned on Fridays as have school activities such as Boys and Girls Club, Pure Game and monthly character trait activities. It has been a great start to spring on the Peters campus!

job following safety guidelines, distancing rules and mask requirements. We are so proud of them! Great news...the final renovations to the NEW kindergarten playground are completed! Both the kindergarten playground and the main playground will have new play equipment for students to enjoy when it is safe. Students and staff are also able to safely distance in brand new restroom facilities on the Peters 4-6 campus. The return of students to campus has also allowed the entire Peters



Kindergarten students enjoy the school's new playground equipment.

Post *Elementary School*

14641 Ward St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/663-6354 • post.ggusd.us



Kim Kroyer
Principal

Abundant Opportunities to Thrive

Post is a remarkable GATE-cluster school that provides a variety of opportunities for students to grow, thrive, and be innovative. We offer after-school programs for the academic scholar, artist at heart, future scientist, and inquisitive engineer. Post sixth-grade scholars are encouraged to participate in the Academic Pentathlon competition. Our students study, train, and work hard to compete in the subject areas of fine arts, literature, math, science, and social science. Our after school GATE-Plus art program inspires our artists to study the elements and principles of design, as well as experiment with art media. Students use many forms of mediums including chalk, watercolor, tempera, pastels, and mixed media techniques. Art should be experienced and better yet, shared. Post student artists enjoy the opportunity to enter local art shows, county wide and globally. The after-school GATE Science program gives students an opportunity to immerse in hands-on experimental science. Our scientists complete an authentic research project with fellow scientists,



Students enjoy coding and robotics in the school's lab.

gathering and analyzing original data. They gain an in-depth knowledge about the scientific process, as well as the core concepts of elementary science. Our students work through a series of hands-on labs, until their conceptual

understanding of the scientific process is achieved. Our most popular after-school program is our Robotics and Drone class. Students learn how problem-solving is an integral part of coding. Our engineers develop the skills to code games, robots or drones, through a series of challenges. Our Robotics-Drone class uses coding applications, websites, and animation to solve challenges and help our engineers improve their logical and computational thinking. Lastly, our students are designing, creating and problem solving using our 3D printer. Our 3D printer encourages student creativity to collaborate and design 3D objects. This hands on learning provides students the opportunity to explore technology, engineering, math, art and so much more!

Ralston *Intermediate School*

10851 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6366 • ralston.ggusd.us



Ruth Dietze
Principal

Happy to be Back

Ralston Intermediate School is now open for in-person instruction for all students

4 days each week. Staff and students continue to follow health and safety precautions

including hand washing and sanitation, adhering to mask protocols and maintaining physical distancing. These protocols are keeping staff and students safe as we've had no on campus spread and no positive COVID-19 cases. Students coming to the Ralston campus are benefiting from the high-quality in-person instruction. They are actively engaged in discussions and engaging



Students enjoyed the recent Earth Day Nature Contest.

with their teachers and classmates in-person in a safe manner. Students are loving being back on campus and they are happily socializing with their peers. We are seeing

immediate social-emotional benefits our students have gained from being back on campus. Our ASB students are providing fun and engaging in-person spirit activities that are available to our students in-person and online so all can participate. Some of our recent activities were an Earth Day Nature Contest and a celebration for National Pet Day. Ralston students are reconnecting with each other and enjoying participating in the activities being offered. We are happy that our students are back on campus.

Rancho Alamitos *High School*

11351 Dale St., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6415 • www.ranchoalamitoshs.com



Mary Jane Hibbard
Principal

Strong Spirits, Safe School

The excitement level was palpable as our Rancho family welcomed back over 800 Vaqueros to in-person learning the week of March 22nd. Months of meticulous planning and implementation of numerous safety measures across campus, from individual desk dividers to

disinfecting classrooms between periods, made returning to campus safe for everyone. Although the school's physical environment may have temporarily changed, that did not dampen anyone's spirits as students walked back into the classrooms for the first time since last March.

Since returning to school, our athletes have celebrated numerous victories including our 3rd league title in a row for Football and 4th

in a row for Boys Cross Country. Our amazing ASB and dedicated clubs continue to keep school spirit high by offering students a variety of opportunities to participate in virtual/in-person spirit weeks that include cooking contests, talent shows, and an International Week.



Rancho Alamitos students quickly transitioned to in-person instruction when school reopened in March.

Riverdale *Elementary School*

13222 Lewis St., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6563 • riverdale.ggusd.us



Chris Ash
Principal

A Safe Return

Riverdale Tech Academy welcomed back students to in-person learning on March 3rd after almost a year of full distance learning. Riverdale students, families and teachers have demonstrated perseverance, self-motivation and determination during these uncertain times, and we are all excited to be back learning in-person through our current hybrid model. This year Riverdale has seen numerous upgrades to our campus to keep students and staff safe. These upgrades included new outdoor learning areas under a large shade structure, new water bottle filling stations and additional hand washing and hand sanitizing stations across the campus. All year Riverdale students have been doing their part to stop the

spread of COVID-19 by practicing the 3W's by Wearing a mask, Washing hands and Watching their distance. These practices have allowed for a safe return to campus. To stay up to date on everything happening at Riverdale Tech Academy please follow us on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook @RiverdaleGGUSD



Students at Riverdale Tech Academy practice frequent hand-washing to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Rosita *Elementary School*

4726 W. Hazard Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92703 • 714/663-6418 • rosita.ggusd.us



Cheryl DeLos Reyes-Ruiz
Principal

Recognizing Scholarly Habits

We are so excited to welcome our students back to campus for in-person instruction. Rosita had a successful reopening in March. Staff and students were delighted to have our classrooms filled with our beloved students whom we have missed after nearly one year of distance learning. One of our school and district goals is equipping students with personal skills. We are focused on helping all learners develop the personal skills necessary to achieve their academic and social-emotional goals.



Rosita honors one of our second graders with the "RED" Student of the Month Award.

To support this goal, we have launched our PBIS program, recognizing students who "Think and Act RED." The "R" stands for RESPECT, "E" stands for "EVERYONE CARES" and "D" stands for "DO YOUR BEST." Students who display scholarly habits are identified monthly by their teachers. They are recognized by the school and receive a Student of the Month certificate. Students are so excited to receive this honor and proud to show their Rosita Roadrunner Pride! We strive not only to mold their academic minds but to also support the whole child. The implementation of PBIS provides students the skills to become productive members of our community. We are so proud of our Rosita Roadrunners!

Russell *Elementary Language Academy*

600 S. Jackson St., Santa Ana, CA 92704 • 714/663-6151 • russell.ggusd.us



Kai Chang
Principal

Engaging our Community

As students, parents and staff close the final chapter of the 2020-2021 school year, which was marked by a transition to in-person classroom instruction, one constant remains at the Russell Elementary Language Academy: community engagement. School wide traditions such as Día de los muertos/Day of the Dead celebration, along with monthly RAMS spirit assemblies, and the upcoming Día del Niño/Day of the Child assembly in late April, while adapted virtually, continue to embrace Russell's cultural diversity and foster a sense of community. Additionally, a "Tech Tuesday" workshop series and more recently, a COVID community forum facilitated by the school nurse, helped empower parents and families to bridge the digital divide as well as access vital health information and care, respectively. One event that captured the Russell community spirit this Spring was a mathematics-themed virtual Family Bingo Night in late

January. This event was characterized by collaboration between various school community members dedicated to connecting parents and families with digital and physical resources to support math instruction at home in an engaging manner. Who doesn't like Bingo, right? Community engagement will continue being a foundation for school wide activities and programming as Russell prepares for full-day in-person instruction in the Fall.



The Russell community enjoyed the school's virtual Family Bingo Night.

Santiago *High School*

12342 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6215 • www.santiagohs.org



Christine Pijl
Principal

Earning College Credit

Santiago High School leads the way in our successful programs to prepare students for college and career success. Santiago is one of two high schools, and the first, in GGUSD that currently offers an Early College dual enrollment pathway program for students. In April, Santiago High School sent out acceptance letters for the Early College Academy to the third tier of incoming high

school students for 2021-2022. The Early College Academy's dual enrollment program allows students to be enrolled at Santiago High School and Santa Ana College. Courses are taught by a Santa Ana College professor and a Santiago High School teacher. Students meet GGUSD graduation requirements and receive Santa Ana college units that are transferrable to UC/CSU and most private universities. Benefits of being a dual enrollment student include no costs on tuition or books and students generate a college transcript of lower division general education courses. Santiago is leading the way!



Santiago High School is proud of its success with the Early College Academy program that allows students to earn college credit for free while still in high school.

Simmons *Elementary School*

11602 Steele Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6096 • simmons.ggusd.us



Jaemie Johnson
Principal

Mentors and Friends

Students at Simmons Elementary School participate in a district program called the College Career Mentoring Program (CCMP), championed by our Superintendent, Gabriela Mafi. CCMP small groups meet weekly throughout the year and are composed of sixth

grade students, college mentors, and teachers who oversee them. The unique thing about this program is that the leaders are our own prior students who are now adults that attend college. These Simmons alumni return to facilitate activities with our current Simmons students to teach them how they can follow in their footsteps and achieve personal success in middle school and beyond. The mentors guide our students in learning specific

skills and strategies to make choices that will help them become their own best-selves. In addition to sharing stories about personal success and challenges, the mentors teach students how to set their own goals, persevere through challenges, and take charge of building their future.



Simmons Elementary School's College and Career Mentoring Program inspires sixth grade students to pursue their goals, following in the footsteps of former Simmons students who currently attend college.

Stanford *Elementary School*

12721 Magnolia St., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6458 • stanford.ggusd.us



Jamie Wells
Principal

Celebrating School Reopening

On March 1st, the Stanford staff was excited to welcome students back to in-person instruction through our hybrid model. Stanford staff along with district guests cheered our students through designated

gates adorned in balloons and signs made by our 6th grade student council. It truly was a celebration. As we conclude this year, we begin thinking of what our goals will be for the next year. We are excited to continue building on our AVID program by implementing school-wide systems and practices that support students with their organizational skills, having a college mindset, and improving their note-taking and study skills. We are also excited to reopen our STEAM (Science, Technology,

Engineering, Art, and Math) Lab next year! The STEAM Lab will be a space where students can create, collaborate, explore robotics and coding, and engage in project-based learning that supports our state standards. Students will be able to practice problem solving and critical thinking skills in more engaging and meaningful ways.



The Stanford staff welcoming our students back to in-person instruction.

Stanley *Elementary School*

12201 Elmwood St., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6484 • stanley.ggusd.us



Jamie Shippee
Principal

Welcome Back!

The Stanley Elementary School staff was excited to return to in-person instruction in March, 2021. When students returned, they were greeted with enthusiasm from the staff and teachers. Everyone was excited to have students back on campus.

To keep students safe, students have access to individual plexiglass desk shields, individual supplies, GGUSD logo masks, new hand washing stations, and automatic hand sanitizers at every gate and classroom entrance. In addition to the new health and safety site upgrades, teachers have been able to incorporate new technology into learning. Every classroom was upgraded with a short throw projector. This allows teachers to go wireless for the first time! The new projectors also support student engagement through interactive white board features and serve as a new way for students to share their work with the whole class.



Stanley siblings are excited to be back at school.

Sunnyside *Elementary School*

9972 Russell Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/663-6158 • sunnyside.ggusd.us



Susie Dollbaum
Principal

Preparing for the Pentathlon

Sunnyside continues to shine with our commitment to academic excellence despite the challenges of the 2020/2021 school year. We are excited to be able to send two sixth grade teams consisting of 9 students each to the Orange County Academic

Pentathlon Competition this spring. The focus area for study this year has been The Cold War. Students have been meeting regularly via Zoom and will also be competing online. Our amazing sixth graders have committed to intensive and rigorous study in addition to their already challenging sixth grade curriculum. The teams collaborate about what they have learned in the areas of math, science, social, science, literature,

and fine arts under the leadership and direction of one of our dedicated sixth grade teachers. Their commitment is strong as they demonstrate initiative and take risks to go above and beyond. We are so proud of their learning success and desire to grow their academic skills.



Sixth grade students meet regularly to prepare for the Orange County Academic Pentathlon competition.

Violette *Elementary School*

12091 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6203 • violette.ggusd.us



Sarah Van Dam
Principal

Committed to Healthy Habits

Violette Vikings participated in the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge. Students were challenged to make one of three pledges:

to move more, to choose water over sugary drinks, or to be kind. They participated in weekly challenges including exercise, dance, games, and lessons about healthy habits for the mind and body. Students earned badges and prizes for completing activities. Our Violette Vikings also raised over \$1,500 for the American Heart Association! Because they met this goal, they will receive \$150 in playground equipment for the school and got to see their principal, Mrs. Van Dam get slimed!



Violette Elementary School Principal Sarah Van Dam agrees to get slimed to help students raise money for the American Heart Association and to reward them for meeting their healthy habit goals.

Virtual Learning Academy at Skylark *TK—6*

11250 MacMurray, Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6336 • skylark.ggusd.us



Cammy Devereux
Director

Innovative Learning Environment

We can do VIRTUALLY anything together at the GGUSD VLA! At the Virtual Learning Academy, we offer online learning for our students at home. Our teachers excel at creating connections and engaging learning experiences for our students! Students at the VLA have opportunities to develop technology skills as well as academic skills to be ready for college

and career. Teachers at the VLA take pride in their ability to provide hands on learning experiences with “grab and go” science and art kits, math tools, and novel studies. In addition to the learning that happens in the online classrooms, VLA students have enjoyed Virtual Field Trips, Kennedy Center Performances, Family Game Night, Family Art Night, and a Book Tasting Event to promote literacy. Designing and testing a Zipline is just one of the many events hosted by the Virtual Learning Academy. Innovation and engagement make the impossible POSSIBLE at the VLA!



Virtual Learning Academy students enjoy many online learning activities including Family Art Night.

Virtual Learning Academy at Lincoln Education Center 7— 12

11262 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6291 • vla.ggusd.us



M'Liss Patterson
Director

A Caring Community

This year GGUSD launched the 7-12 Virtual Learning Academy (VLA). Students enrolled in VLA benefit from a flexible schedule while still having access to a robust a-g course offering. Additional benefits include a strong focus on digital literacy, scholarly habits, social emotional learning,

and a flexible schedule. Experienced and credentialed GGUSD teachers meet with students in Academy classes, offer subject specific virtual and in-person tutoring hours, and meet weekly 1:1 with students and families to review coursework progress through Edgenuity. The VLA culture fosters a community of inclusivity within and across grade levels. VLA students participate in virtual field trips, college tours, assemblies, and extra-curricular activities. This year students selected the Phoenix as the school mascot, a perfect symbol for this 21st century

learning environment. The VLA Leadership Club planned student activities and participated in district activities like BRC, Ethnic Studies Focus Group, and more. We are truly proud of all that our wonderful VLA teachers and students have accomplished this year!



VLA students participate in on campus tutoring.

Wakeham *Elementary School*

7772 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6407 • wakeham.ggusd.us



Michelle Rushall
Principal

Roaring with Student Success

The majority of Wakeham Wildcats are back for in-person instruction with the remaining few finishing the school year in distance learning. Teachers, students, and staff have been providing state of the art lessons and instruction via Zoom, Path Blazer, Eduplace, and teacher-created slides

and movies. As our school continues to receive additional technology, it is exciting to see the advancements that are being made by students.

In addition to academic standards, Wakeham focused on providing students with opportunities for Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). Weekly lessons were designed around our R.O.A.R. School-Wide Matrix. Students took part in activities and reflected in their writing and projects on (R) Respect Others and Their Property, (O) Own My Own Behavior, (A) Always Be Safe, &

(R) Responsibility Is My Key for Success. In February, an online Wakeham store went “live” and students were able to spend their points earned when SEL learning objectives were met. We are proud of both the academic and social-emotional successes of our students.



Students collect their prizes from the online Wakeham R.O.A.R. Store!

Walton *Intermediate School*

12181 Buaro St., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6040 • walton.ggusd.us



Sandra Valencia
Principal

Rising Scholars

Over the past six years, Walton's Wildcat Pentathlon team has risen through the ranks of Orange County's six divisions to become a veritable force to be reckoned with, taking first or second place over the past four years in each of their respective grades. Walton scholars have outperformed the nine other GGUSD intermediate schools and closed in on Fairmont Prep Academy, one of the top rated private schools in Orange County. Even last year, in the middle of an unprecedented global pandemic, the Walton Pentathlon Team continued to meet and prepare over Zoom and had their best showing yet in the individual portion of the event (there was no team

competition last year). This year, Walton's Pentathlon team, led by Mrs. Stevens, Ms. Rosas, and Mrs. Salamah, have been working hard over Zoom to prepare themselves and decided to meet in person over the weekend to encourage one another towards another strong showing at the 2021 Pentathlon. Go Wildcats!



**Walton's award-winning academic pentathlon team with coaches:
Mrs. Stevens, Ms. Rosas, and Mrs. Salamah**

Warren *Elementary School*

12871 Estock Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6331 • warren.ggusd.us



Chris Holland
Principal

Focusing on the Positive!

P.R.E.P. Prepared, Respectful, Effort, Problem Solver. These are the core values of our amazing Warren scholars. When Warren students returned to campus for hybrid learning, they were met with a new set of school-wide positive behavior expectations. These expectations were built around Warren's core values. Our school-wide expectations define the positive behaviors Warren Scholars are expected to show throughout the campus. We recognize students can only meet the behavioral expectations if they know what they are, so we have taken the time to teach all students what it means to show P.R.E.P. throughout the school. Warren staff constantly praise our students for meeting the school's expectations and reward them with "Pawsitive Praise". All of the planning and explicit teaching of the expectations have paid off. Warren was able to re-open school safely, with an environment that focuses on the positive and celebrates students' success.



Mr. Holland teaches fourth grade students about the new school-wide expectations.

Woodbury *Elementary School*

11362 Woodbury Rd., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6461 • woodbury.ggusd.us



Rose Jansz
Principal

Learning through Change

This year, the Woodbury community found the courage to try new things, develop new systems, and embrace new challenges. We acknowledge that change is part of maturing and growing, so what a perfect opportunity to teach our students how to embrace change by putting into action our core values of P.R.I.D.E. (Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Excellence). As learning partners with our students, we fostered a school wide learning community where we all feel physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually safe. Teachers were able to build classroom climates that took advantage of every moment to grow and learn from one another implementing many learning modalities whether virtual,

hybrid, or in-person. We continue to empower students by encouraging collaboration with each other, their teachers, and by creating unique ways to express their learning and understanding. As this school year closes, we are extremely grateful for health and wellbeing of our school community!



Woodbury Elementary students embraced the opportunity to return to school for in-person instruction.

Zeyen *Elementary School*

12081 S. Magnolia St., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6535 • zeyen.ggusd.us



Gary Gerstner
Principal

Finding the Silver Lining

At Zeyen Elementary School, we are always looking for the silver lining in everything we do and/or experience. The pandemic was no different. Because of the pandemic, additional funds were made available so that we could purchase Chromebooks for every student who attends our school. Chromebooks and hotspots were made available so that students could actively participate in distance learning during the “stay at home” order. With these new technical devices, students were able to connect with their teachers online, complete a wide variety of curricular assignments, and check out books from the electronic library. Now that we are back in a hybrid schedule, our students have been able to take these devices back and forth between school and their home. Our students demonstrated GRIT throughout this pandemic by committing themselves to doing their best in an online environment. We are all looking forward to the Fall of next year when we plan to be back full time. Way to go Cobras!



Zeyen scholars remain committed to academic success and are happy to be back for in-person instruction.

Daniel's Review



Daniel H.

Funny and Silly

Title: *Cat Kid Comic Club*

Author: Dav Pilkey

Do you like funny and silly books? If you do, you will love *Cat Kid Comic Club* because it's about Li'l Petey from the Dog Man series and this book will make you laugh!



Li'l Petey starts the Cat Kid Comic Club where he and his friend, Molly the tadpole, teach their friends how to make comics.

My favorite part of the book is the show and tell party where everyone in the club shows the comics that they created. Everyone agrees that it's okay to make mistakes because you can always improve yourself.

You should read this book because it is a funny book that has no scary parts, no violence, and teaches a good lesson. The author also uses silly words and pictures in this book. I read this book very quickly with a smile on my face and you will too!

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

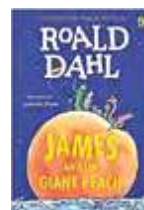
Kailani's Review



Kailani T.

Whoa, a Giant Peach!

James and the Giant Peach is a classic children story written by Roald Dahl. The story is about James, an orphan boy who was forced to live with his wicked aunts after he lost his parents in a horrible rhinoceros accident. One day,



James received a bag of magic crystals from an old man. The man said these crystals would change his life forever. James accidentally spilled the crystals on his aunts' peach tree. The peach fruit kept growing bigger and bigger. It grew big enough for James to fit inside. From that point on, his adventure began.

The story is magical and suspenseful. Reading this book taught me the importance of friendship and having hopes and dreams. I recommend this book for anyone who loves magic and mystery. Since this book is not very warm and fuzzy, it may be best for kids who can separate facts and fiction or younger kids to read with parents.

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

Novelist –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 GGUSD in the subject line.

Entries must be received by July 15, 2021

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

COMPUTER	BROWSER
EDITOR	GOOGLE
IPAD	INTERNET
SPELLCHECK	BING
PRINTER	ASPIRIN
PUBLISHER	KEYBOARD
NOTEPAD	TELEPHONE
READERS	WIFI
PENCIL	IMAGINATION
IDEAS	
PEN	



increased transmission and school reopening or in-person learning.”

Dr. Robert Redfield, former CDC Director says, “The truth is, for kids K-12, one of the safest places they can be, from our perspective, is to remain in school.”

At each school, health and safety is maintained through numerous procedures including a daily health screening check through our ParentSquare app, temperature checks at all school entrances, masks, distancing between student desks, hand sanitizer and hand washing stations, and top-of-the line HVAC filters and cleaning and disinfecting equipment.

In addition to these health and safety measures, GGUSD opened the first education vaccination pod in Orange County and all GGUSD staff have had the opportunity to be vaccinated.

With vaccinations underway across Orange County and stringent precautions in place, we know that the best and safest place for students to learn is in the classroom. It's better for both the academic growth and the social-emotional well-being of our students.

Students who are learning on campus now are thrilled to be able to have more engaging classroom discussions, receive face to face help from their teachers, and participate in athletics, arts, and fun on-campus activities. And they are doing it all safely.

Families still on distance learning: contact your school's principal today to discuss options for coming back before the end of the school year to ensure your child acclimates to in-person instruction before the Fall!

We care about the health, safety and mental wellness of all GGUSD students and families! We have all of the precautions and supports in place to give all of our scholars the best learning environment right here in the classroom and on our campuses. That's the Garden Grove Way!

SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 4

Los expertos de salud de la nación y del estado han reforzado repetidamente este mensaje. El Dr. Ghaly, secretario de la Agencia de Servicios Humanos y de Salud de California dijo, “No hemos visto una conexión entre el aumento de la transmisión y la reapertura de las escuelas o en el aprendizaje en persona”.

El Dr. Robert Redfield, exdirector de los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC) dice, “La verdad es que, para los niños de Kínder al 12.º grado, uno de los lugares más seguros en los que ellos pueden estar, desde nuestra perspectiva, es permanecer en la escuela”.

En cada escuela, la salud y la seguridad se mantienen por medio de numerosos procedimientos que incluyen una evaluación de salud diaria por medio de nuestra aplicación de ParentSquare, la toma de temperatura en todas las entradas de las escuelas, mascarillas, distanciamiento entre los escritorios de los alumnos, estaciones para desinfectar y lavarse las manos, y filtros para la calefacción, ventilación y el aire acondicionado (HVAC) y equipos de limpieza y desinfección de primera línea.

Además de estas medidas de salud y seguridad, el GGUSD abrió el primer sitio de vacunación educativa en el Condado de Orange y todo el personal del GGUSD ha tenido la oportunidad de vacunarse.

Con las vacunas en progreso en todo el Condado de Orange y las estrictas precauciones establecidas, sabemos que el mejor y más seguro lugar para que los alumnos aprendan es en el salón de clases. Es mejor tanto para el crecimiento académico como para el bienestar socioemocional de nuestros alumnos.

Los alumnos que están aprendiendo en el plantel escolar ahora están contentos de poder tener diálogos más interesantes en el salón de clases, recibir ayuda en persona de sus maestros y participar en deportes, artes y actividades divertidas en el plantel escolar. Y lo están haciendo todo de manera segura.

Tiempo de Robert Redfield, Cofundador de CDC para decir: “Según los expertos de salud de la nación y del estado, han reforzado repetidamente este mensaje. El Dr. Ghaly, secretario de la Agencia de Servicios Humanos y de Salud de California dijo, “No hemos visto una conexión entre el aumento de la transmisión y la reapertura de las escuelas o en el aprendizaje en persona”.

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of students. Teachers provided clearly-defined teaching and learning schedules with set instructional minutes designed to support academic growth. Our schools worked hard to ensure students had access to one-on-one help from their teachers and college and career mentoring and tutoring continued. We expanded our social-emotional and mental health supports, provided wellness checks, and worked hard to get all students back on campus when it was safe to reopen. We continued to pour resources into programs that support college and career readiness and our counselors worked hard to ensure our seniors were on track with the college application process.

As a district, we continue to receive numerous recognitions highlighting our successes including:

- 3 of the only 11 intermediate schools in Orange County to be named 2021 California Distinguished Schools are in GGUSD!
- 2019-2020 California Honor Roll District and 48 Honor Roll: We were 1 of 28 districts to receive this recognition and more than 73% of our schools were named Honor Roll Schools.
- California Golden Bell Award for our College and Career Mentoring Program
- Named among nation's best for music education
- Continue to outperform local districts and state/county on all measures including English Language Arts and Math state testing, Advanced Placement pass rates, and a-g requirements for admission into CSU and UC schools

We look forward to the 2021-2022 school year and the many successes that our students will surely achieve in the year ahead.

BOARD OF EDUCATION • From Page 5

de por vida, una misión a la que nos hemos aferrado durante la pandemia.

A pesar de los obstáculos del aprendizaje a distancia, nuestros administradores, maestros y personal de instrucción permanecieron enfocados en apoyar las necesidades académicas de los alumnos. Los maestros proporcionaron horarios de enseñanza y aprendizaje claramente definidos con minutos de instrucción establecidos diseñados para apoyar el crecimiento académico. Nuestras escuelas trabajaron arduamente para asegurarse de que los alumnos tuvieran acceso a la ayuda en persona de sus maestros y continuó la mentoría universitaria y de carreras profesionales. Ampliamos nuestros apoyos socioemocionales y de salud mental, proporcionamos chequeos de bienestar y trabajamos arduamente para que todos los alumnos regresaran al plantel escolar cuando fuera seguro reabrir. Continuamos invirtiendo recursos en los programas que apoyan la preparación universitaria y de carreras profesionales, y nuestros consejeros trabajaron arduamente para asegurarse de que nuestros alumnos del doceavo grado estuvieran en buen camino con el proceso de las solicitudes universitarias.

Como Distrito, continuamos recibiendo numerosos reconocimientos que destacan nuestros éxitos, los cuales incluyen:

- 3 de solamente 11 escuelas intermedias en el Condado de Orange que fueron nombradas Escuelas Distinguidas de California del 2021 ¡son del GGUSD!
- Distrito del Cuadro de Honor de California 2019-2020 y Cuadro de Honor 48 : Fuimos 1 de 28 distritos en recibir este reconocimiento y más del 73% de nuestras escuelas fueron nombradas Escuelas del Cuadro de Honor.

tâm vào việc hỗ trợ nhu cầu học tập của học sinh. Các giáo viên đã soạn giáo trình và lịch học rất rõ ràng theo đúng quy định về số phút giảng dạy để giúp học sinh tiến bộ trong việc học. Nhà trường đã cố gắng bảo đảm các học sinh nhận được hỗ trợ riêng từ giáo viên; đồng thời với việc dạy kèm cũng như dìu dắt các em trên bước đường vào đại học và chuẩn bị ngành nghề vẫn tiếp tục. Chúng tôi đã mở rộng các nguồn hỗ trợ về sức khoẻ tâm thần và cảm xúc-giao tiếp, liên lạc thăm hỏi và nỗ lực để mọi học sinh trở lại học trong lớp khi tình hình an toàn cho phép mở lại trường. Chúng tôi cũng tiếp tục hỗ trợ các chương trình chuẩn bị vào đại học và chọn nghề, đồng thời các tư vấn giáo dục đã tận lực hướng dẫn học sinh lớp 12 trong tiến trình nộp đơn vào đại học.

Học khu vẫn tiếp tục được tuyên dương về những thành công đáng kể, bao gồm:

- Trong số chỉ 11 trường trung học cấp I thuộc Hạt Orange được tuyên dương Trường Xuất Sắc Năm 2021 của California đã có 3 trường thuộc GGUSD!
- Học Khu Danh Dự của California Năm Học 2019-2020 và 48 Trường Danh Dự: Chúng ta là 1 trong 28 học khu nhận được danh hiệu này với hơn 73% số trường trong học khu được tuyên dương là Trường Danh Dự.
- Giải Thưởng Chuông Vàng California dành cho Chương Trình Dìu Dắt vào Đại Học và Chọn Nghề
- Được tuyên dương là một trong những học khu đứng đầu trên toàn quốc về ngành giáo dục âm nhạc.
- Tiếp tục vượt trội các học khu tại địa phương và trong tiểu bang/quận hạt về mọi mặt bao gồm: kỳ thi tiểu bang dành cho môn Anh Văn và môn Toán, tỷ lệ đậu các lớp thuộc Trình Độ Cao, và tỷ lệ hội

See BOARD OF EDUCATION • Page 46

Nuts about Nut Butters



**Carol Berg Sloan,
RDN, FAND**

A jar of creamy peanut butter used to be your only choice when shopping. Fast forward to 2021 and the nut butter aisle has become one of the fastest growing segments in the grocery store. Popular nut butters or spreads now include almond, cashew, walnut, and pecan. Many brands are combining nuts, adding various flavors such as coconut or popular taste combos. Nut butters continue to be used as the traditional sandwich spread, but also as a main ingredient in entrée sauces, toppings for waffles or pancakes or ice cream, stirred into hot cereal, or as a dip for fruits or veggies.



**Kelly Sloan,
MS, RDN**

Nut butters are full of good fats (monounsaturated/polyunsaturated) and are very satisfying. You can easily make your own nut butter by adding canola oil and sea salt to your favorite nuts and blending in a food processor. There are various ways to use nut butters that can also add good protein and fiber to your diet, such as in baked goods, desserts, or smoothies!

Try my Jumbo Peanut Butter Cup recipe.

Jumbo Peanut Butter Cup

Makes 10 cups

Ingredients:

Chocolate Layers:

- 3/4 cup dark chocolate chips
- 1/4 cup milk chocolate chips
- 1 tablespoon coconut oil

Peanut Butter Layer:

- 1 cup all-natural creamy peanut butter
- 3 tablespoons fine almond flour
- 2 stevia packets

Directions:

Prepare muffin tin with liners. Set aside. In a microwave safe bowl, combine chocolate chips and coconut oil. Microwave for 1 minute stirring at 30 second intervals. Repeat until chocolate is melted and smooth. Spoon melted chocolate into liners, spread evenly to cover the bottom. Place in freezer for 10 minutes and prepare peanut butter layer. (You should have melted chocolate leftover for last layer.) On the stove top in a pan, combine peanut butter, almond flour and stevia. Mix well and cook for about 5 minutes or until peanut butter is smooth and flour is dissolved. Take muffin pan out of freezer and add peanut butter layer on top of solid chocolate layer. Spoon about 1 tablespoon on top of chocolate layer (you can add more peanut butter if you want a thick middle layer), spread evenly to cover chocolate. Place back in freezer for 10 minutes. With leftover melted chocolate, spoon chocolate over peanut butter layer and spread evenly. Freeze for 10 minutes, sprinkle with sea salt and enjoy immediately! Note: Peanut butter cups can last about a week in the fridge or a month in the freezer.



Nutrition Facts per serving: 171 calories, 13 g fat, 77 mg sodium, 12 g carbohydrates, 1 g dietary fiber, 9 g sugar, 4 g protein.

This column provides insight from Carol Sloan RDN, FAND and her daughter, Kelly Sloan, MS, RDN. They provide tips to help you make healthier food and beverages choices.

BOARD OF EDUCATION • From Page 45

- Premio de California Golden Bell por nuestro Programa de Mentoría Universitaria y de Carreras Profesionales
- Fuimos nombrado entre los mejores distritos del país por la educación musical
- Continuamos superando a los distritos locales, estatales y el condado en todas las medidas que incluyen las pruebas estatales de Artes del Lenguaje en Inglés y Matemáticas, los índices de aprobación de Asignación Avanzada y los requisitos a-g para la admisión a las Universidades Estatales de California (CSU) y Universidades de California (UC)

Esperamos emocionados el año escolar 2021-2022 y los muchos éxitos que nuestros alumnos seguramente lograrán en el próximo año escolar.

đủ yêu cầu a-g để được nhận vào các trường đại học thuộc hệ thống CSU và UC.

Chúng tôi đặt niềm tin vào năm học 2021-2022 cùng những thành quả mà các em học sinh chúng ta chắc chắn sẽ đạt được trong năm tới.

Classified School Employees of the Year



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Classified staff members are known for performing essential roles that promote the health, safety and success of all students.

In the face of a global pandemic, however, their actions were nothing short of awe-inspiring. Exhibiting ingenuity, creativity and dedication, these school employees more than met the moment to support schools and families.

If you're not familiar with the term "classified employees," you are certainly aware of their contributions. This group includes office clerks, custodians, instructional assistants, technicians, bus drivers, maintenance workers and other non-certificated staff members who make our schools and district facilities run smoothly and efficiently.

Classified employees are often the first to greet students as they arrive on campus, and they're the ones who clean our schools and lock the doors at night. As such, these employees forge strong connections with our communities, and they are deeply invested in student achievement.

It was no surprise then that these workers went above and beyond in the COVID-19 era to ensure that Orange County students had access to healthy meals, technology for remote learning, health and wellness supports, and campuses that met the highest safety standards once in-person instruction resumed. They performed these roles with patience, grace and reassuring smiles that were apparent in spite of face coverings.

Of course, many of these unsung heroes prefer to work quietly behind the scenes. But now is the time to pull back the curtain and give them a standing ovation.

The California Department of Education created the Classified School Employees of the Year program about 13 years ago to spotlight the contributions of these professionals, and while there are so many who are worthy of our praise and admiration, the Orange County Department of Education recently selected nine local winners by job category.

The 2021 Orange County Classified School Employees of the Year are:

- Allison Goettman, school clerk, La Habra City School District (Clerical and Administrative Services)
- Miguel Laris, senior custodian, Westminster School District (Custodian and Maintenance Services)
- Rosemary Tamayo, food services lead, Garden Grove Unified School District (Food and Nutrition Services)
- Cassandra Palacios, licensed vocational nurse, Los Alamitos Unified School District (Health and Student Services)
- Jessica Lee, paraeducator, Huntington Beach City School District (Paraprofessional)
- Patricia Mendez, activity monitor, Santa Ana Unified School District (Security Services)
- Adrian Prieto, HVAC technician, Anaheim Union High School District (Skilled Trades)
- Chris Martinez, systems network technician, Magnolia School District (Technical Services)
- Mathew Sobelman, bus driver, Huntington Beach Union High School District (Transportation Services)

These individuals will be formally celebrated by OCDE and Schools First Federal Credit Union during Classified School Employee Week, which begins May 17. Each is also eligible to compete for state and national honors.

They are certainly deserving of that and more, because these employees weren't just honored for their technical skills; they were selected for the care, empathy and compassion they showed to others.

In the words of President Abraham Lincoln, "Kindness is the only service that will stand the storm of life and not wash out."

We have endured a great storm over the past year. But the kindness and dedication of our classified workers was never more evident, and these are traits that will endure long after the pandemic is over.

SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 44

Las familias que aún están en el aprendizaje a distancia: ¡comuníquense con el director de su escuela hoy mismo para hablar sobre las opciones para regresar antes del final del año escolar y asegurarse de que su hijo se acople a la instrucción en persona antes del otoño!

¡Nos preocupamos por la salud, la seguridad y el bienestar mental de todos los alumnos y familias del GGUSD! Tenemos establecidas todas las precauciones y apoyos para brindarles a todos nuestros alumnos el mejor entorno de aprendizaje aquí mismo, en el salón de clases y en nuestros planteles escolares. ¡Eso es a la manera de Garden Grove!



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