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Covering the Garden Grove Unified School District



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November 2016

GGUSD Equips Students for College, Career and Lifelong Success



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Improving Student Success

Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD) welcomed back nearly 45,000 students during the start of the 2016-2017 school year. It will be an exciting year with new instructional programs, curriculum roll-outs, modernized school sites, increased access to technology, and community partnerships that all share the same goal of improving student success.

Among the new programs, GGUSD successfully launched full-day kindergarten and full-day transitional kindergarten for the first time in district history. Approximately 3,500 kindergarten and transitional kindergarten students are reaping the benefit from a full day of robust curriculum and enhanced hands-on exploration through science discovery, art, and dramatic play.

More than 170 kindergarten and first grade students are enrolled in the district's first-ever Dual Language Immersion Academy at Monroe Elementary School. The students have made a multi-year commitment in the K-6 dual language immersion program and are already learning to think, read, and write in both English and Spanish.

Also new this year is expansion of our GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) instruction, upgraded technology and wireless infrastructure, new iPads and Chromebooks funded by a \$1 million grant, expanded college and career mentoring program, and new STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) enrichment opportunities.

The district's Strategic Plan, the Garden Grove Way, is in its third year and we are so proud that it has resulted in a stronger district and more successful students. The plan focuses on equipping students with the academic and personal skills needed to achieve lifelong success. Some of our recent successes include:

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Mejorando el Éxito de Los Alumnos

El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Garden Grove (GGUSD) le dio la bienvenida nuevamente a cerca de 45,000 alumnos, durante el comienzo del ciclo escolar 2016-2017. Será un año emocionante con los nuevos programas de enseñanza, la implementación del nuevo currículo, planteles escolares modernizados, mayor acceso a la tecnología, y alianzas comunitarias en donde todos comparten la misma meta de mejorar el éxito estudiantil.

Entre los nuevos programas, el GGUSD lanzó exitosamente, por primera vez en la historia del Distrito, el kínder regular y el kínder de transición de tiempo completo. Aproximadamente 3,500 alumnos de kínder regular y kínder de transición se benefician del sólido currículo de tiempo completo y de la exploración práctica mejorada, a través del descubrimiento científico, las artes y el juego dramático.

Más de 170 alumnos de kínder y de primer grado están inscritos en la Academia de Inmersión en Dos Idiomas, que el Distrito ofrece por primera vez en su historia, ubicada en la Escuela Primaria Monroe. Los alumnos se han comprometido a continuar por los siguientes años en el Programa de Inmersión en Dos Idiomas K-6, y ya están aprendiendo a pensar, leer y escribir tanto en inglés como en español.

Otras novedades de este año es la expansión de nuestro programa de enseñanza para los Alumnos Superdotados y Talentosos (GATE), la tecnología actualizada y una infraestructura inalámbrica, nuevos iPads y Chromebooks financiados con un subsidio de \$1 millón de dólares. Además, la expansión del programa de mentores para la Universidad y las carreras profesionales, y nuevas oportunidades de enriquecimiento del Programa de Ciencias, Tecnología, Ingeniería y Matemáticas (STEAM).

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BẢN TIN HỌC ĐƯỜNG ĐẶC BIỆT

Trong ngày khai giảng niên học 2016-2017, Khu Học Chính Garden Grove (GGUSD) đã tiếp đón gần 45,000 học sinh đến trường. Niên học này sẽ hào hứng với những chương trình giảng dạy mới, học trình mới, trường sở mới được tân trang, thêm phương tiện kỹ thuật và sự hợp tác với các cơ quan trong cộng đồng có cùng mục tiêu giúp con em học sinh thăng tiến.

Bên cạnh những chương trình mới, GGUSD đã thành công với chương trình mẫu giáo và mẫu giáo sơ học trọn ngày vừa mới khởi đầu lần đầu tiên trong lịch sử của học khu. Học trình trọn ngày mang lại nhiều lợi ích thiết thực cho gần khoảng 3,500 học sinh mẫu giáo và mẫu giáo sơ học với chương trình học phong phú khi được khám phá một cách thực tiễn về môn khoa học, vẽ, thủ công và tập đóng kịch.

Trên 170 học sinh mẫu giáo và lớp 1 đã ghi danh vào Chương Trình Song Ngữ Hội Nhập đầu tiên của học khu được tại trường Tiểu Học Monroe. Những học sinh này đã quyết tâm theo đuổi chương trình song ngữ hội nhập trong nhiều năm từ lớp mẫu giáo đến lớp 6 và sẵn sàng để học cách suy luận, tập đọc và viết văn bằng tiếng Anh lẫn tiếng Tây Ban Nha.

Ngoài ra, một điều mới trong năm nay đó là chương trình GATE (Chương Trình Học Sinh Giỏi và Có Năng Khiếu) của chúng tôi được mở rộng thêm với các phương tiện kỹ thuật được cập nhật và các hạ tầng cơ sở dùng sóng điện từ, máy iPads và Chromebooks mới nhờ vào quỹ phụ cấp \$1 triệu mỹ kim; chương trình diu dắt vào đại học và chọn nghề cũng được phát triển cùng nhiều cơ hội để tham gia chương trình STEAM mới (khoa học, kỹ thuật công trình và toán).

Sách Lược Toàn Diện của Học Khu, chính là Đường Lối của Garden Grove, và nhờ vào đó mà học khu chúng ta trở nên vững mạnh hơn khi bước vào năm thứ ba. Sách lược này chú trọng vào việc trang bị cho học sinh kỹ năng học vấn và năng lực cá nhân cần thiết để thành công ngoài đời sau này. Sau đây là một số thành quả chúng ta đã đạt được:

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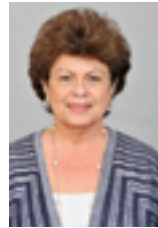
BOARD OF EDUCATION



Dr. George West
President

Dr. George West is the President of the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education. He is a retired public school teacher, school and district administrator and Dean of the College of Education at Hope International University. Dr. West earned a Bachelor of Art and Master of Art degree in History from California State University, Long Beach and Doctorate of Education from the University of La Verne.

Dr. West is the recipient of the CTA "We Honor Our Own," ACSA State Business Services Administrator of the Year and the Rotary District Leadership Excellence Award for community service. Elected in 2008, Dr. West's present term expires November 2016.



Teri Rocco
Vice President

Teri Rocco is the Vice President of the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education and has dedicated her career to GGUSD, serving 14 years as an instructional aide and school community liaison and 19 years as a first grade bilingual teacher at Russell Elementary School. While at Russell, she also served as a district bilingual mentor teacher and a parent educator. She retired from GGUSD after 9 years at the District Office as the Supervisor of Parent and Community Outreach. A long-term resident of Garden Grove and a GGUSD graduate of Pacifica High School, Teri received her Master of Science and Administrative Credential at Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology and her B.A. at California State University Long Beach. Appointed in 2015, her present term expires November 2016.



Bob Harden
Member

Bob Harden is a trustee on the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education and represents the district on the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly. He is also a computer consultant; graduate of California State University, Long Beach; and former member of the City of Garden Grove General Plan Advisory Committee. Bob was elected in 1994 and his present term expires November 2018.



Lan Quoc Nguyen, Esq.
Member

Lan Nguyen is a trustee on the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education. His is also a practicing attorney. He earned a Bachelor Degree from University of California, Riverside and a law degree from UC Hastings College of Law. Lan is also a former Garden Grove Planning Commissioner and graduate of Bolsa Grande High School. Lan was elected in 2002 and his present term expires November 2018.



Linda Reed
Member

Linda Reed is a trustee on the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education. She is also a retired elementary and middle school principal and former elementary school teacher. Linda is a proud product of the district as are her children. She has served as a Board of Education member in GGUSD and other school districts for 20 years and has demonstrated commitment to the community by supporting successful school modernization programs and maintaining open lines of communication. Linda earned a Master of Art degree from California State University, Fullerton and is a graduate from GGUSD. She was elected in 1996 and her present term expires in November, 2016.

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SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Gabriela Mafi is serving her fourth year as Superintendent of Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD). Prior to being appointed Superintendent, she served the district as Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, Director of 7-12 Instructional Services, Director of Personnel Services, and Principal.



Dr. Gabriela Mafi

Dr. Mafi is proud of “The Garden Grove Way,” the district’s strategic plan which she spearheaded in 2013-2014 through a collaborative process involving parents, staff, and students. The Strategic Plan includes three primary goals: academic skills, personal skills, and lifelong success. The roadmap has paved the way for real results, including improved scores across all grade levels on the state’s SBAC test; high survey rankings from students about their school’s climate and culture, and a higher pass rate on Advanced Placement exams than the state, national and world average.

“The Garden Grove Way” also refers to the warm and approachable manner in which district and school staffs interact with all stakeholders. Dr. Mafi takes pride in Garden Grove’s family feel and takes time to meet and talk to staff, parents, and students.

As a first generation college student, Dr. Mafi is passionate about addressing issues of equity and access. Under her leadership, the number of students meeting rigorous college entrance requirements has doubled and access to Advanced Placement coursework has grown significantly.

Dr. Mafi personally mentors a group of approximately 100 seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students and has been instrumental in establishing wide-spread district mentoring programs where alumni students return to their home schools to share their successes and inspire new generations of students.

During the 2016-2017 school year, with Dr. Mafi’s leadership and support, the district successfully launched full-day kindergarten and its first-ever Spanish Dual Language Immersion Academy to put students on a path to become bilingual, biliterate, and bicultural.

Dr. Mafi was chosen as a 2015 Orange County Hispanic Woman of the Year for education by the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Santa Ana Council #147 and received the 2010 Madrina Award of the UCLA Latino Alumni Association. She also serves on the Board of Directors for CORE, a nonprofit organization that is comprised of California’s largest school districts and is committed to improving student achievement.

Prior to joining the Garden Grove Unified School District as a principal, Dr. Mafi held administrative positions as an assistant principal, district coordinator, and curriculum writer as well as a teacher at various levels. She earned her master’s and doctorate degrees in education at the University of Southern California, where she served as Executive Director of the Ed.D. program and continues as adjunct faculty.

She and her husband, Eugene, a high school teacher, are the proud parents of three children: two adult children and a severely disabled infant.



Reading is fun at GGUSD!



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik

This is our first issue covering the Garden Grove Unified School District. We asked the Superintendent, Board of Trustees and Principals to share their bios with you. They all have varied backgrounds with one common thread — dedication to educating students to be the best they can be.

Thank you for reading *School News* and we look forward to bringing you the excellence from the classrooms.

Our next issue is May 10. In the meantime, have a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

School News

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**Covering the
GARDEN GROVE
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

ADVERTISING SALES:
562/493-3193 • Fax: 562/430-8063

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim DeLacy

COPY EDITORS:

Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

Netragrednik by Neta Madison



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Steven Jensen, M.D.

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General Pediatrics,
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Business Services

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Rick Nakano
*Assistant
Superintendent*

Rick Nakano has served as Assistant Superintendent Business Services since January 2013. He joined GGUSD in January 1991 and has held positions in the business and information systems departments. Prior to GGUSD, he held IT positions in the OC tech industry. Rick earned his Bachelor of

Business Administration at the University of Texas at Austin and also completed the Chief Business Official certification program at Cal State Fullerton. Rick lives in Trabuco Canyon with his wife, Michelle, 21 year old son and 17 year old daughter. Rick's hobbies include hiking, exercising and traveling.

Career Technical Education

11262 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove CA 92843 • 714/663-6187 • <http://cte.ggusd.us>



Myra Clarke
Director

Myra Clarke joined GGUSD in 2014 as the Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE). She was born in New York City, grew up in Southern California, and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Smith College in Massachusetts. Myra later earned her Master of Science degree in Instructional Technology from Cal State Fullerton. Previously she worked in student

support services for Long Beach City College and as a CTE administrator with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, serving nine high schools on the Westside. Prior to management, she was a Teacher On Special Assignment for ABC Unified. In her free time she enjoys travel, live music, and outdoor recreation.

"I'd rather learn from one bird how to sing than to teach ten thousand stars how not to dance." – E. E. Cummings.

Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6488 • <http://www.ggusd.us>



**Cheryl Delos
Reyes-Ruiz**
Supervisor

Cheryl joined GGUSD in 2005 and has served as an elementary GATE teacher at Allen and Patton elementary schools, an instructional coach at Hazard Elementary School, and a K-6 TOSA (teacher on special assignment.) She earned a Bachelor of Art's degree in Psychology and Social Behavior from the University of California, Irvine, a

Master's in Curriculum and Instruction and Educational Leadership from Chapman University. She lives in Cerritos with her husband Kevin, son Logan and Pekinese named Hercules. She enjoys watching musical theater, singing, and spending time with family.

"The best way to predict your future is to create it."
— Abraham Lincoln

Elementary Education

10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6333 • <http://www.ggusd.us>



Sara Wescott
*Assistant
Superintendent*

Sara Wescott has been the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education since 2008. Since joining GGUSD in 1999 she has served as the principal at Sunnyside and Stanley elementary schools, and director of K-6 Instructional Services. Prior to GGUSD she was a teacher and an assistant principal in the Capistrano Unified School District. She received her Bachelor of Arts in English

Literature and linguistics from UCLA and her Master of Sciences in Educational Administration from Cal State Fullerton. She resides in Long Beach with her husband, Bud. She has three children, three grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. She enjoys traveling, boating, and staying active.

"A good education is the greatest gift you can give yourself, or anyone else." — Mahtab Nasihan

K-12 Educational Services

10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6143 • <http://www.ggusd.us>



**Dr. Lorena
Sánchez**
Executive Director

As Executive Director of K-12 Educational Services, Lorena oversees categorical state and federal programs, the departments of GATE, English Learner Programs, Evaluation and Research, Parent and Community Outreach, Visual & Performing Arts (VAPA), and the Assessment and Registration Center. She joined GGUSD in 2005 as an assistant principal at Los Amigos High School and then served as a principal at Santiago High School. Prior to joining GGUSD, Lorena served in multiple educational roles in the Long Beach Unified School District beginning her career as a high school teacher of Spanish. She also worked in the Office of Program Assistance for

Language Minority Students as a program specialist before becoming a high school assistant principal. She graduated from CSULB with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish, holds a Master's degree in Education from CSU, Dominguez Hills, and a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership & Administration from USC. Lorena lives in Westminster with her husband Jesse and son, Jesse Jr., a Bolsa Grande HS graduate and current CSU, Fullerton student. She loves to spend time with her family, mentor youth, and train for half marathons.

"For every one of us that succeeds, it's because there's somebody there to show you the way out. The light doesn't always necessarily have to be in your family; for me it was teachers and school." — Oprah Winfrey

Personnel Services

10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6464 • <http://www.ggusd.us>



Joli Armitage
*Assistant
Superintendent*

Joli Armitage has served as Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services since 2006. She joined GGUSD in 1998 as principal of Ethan Allen Elementary School. Joli has held several administrative roles in both GGUSD and LAUSD and got her start as an elementary school teacher. She graduated from San Diego State University with a B.A.

in Liberal Studies and holds a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from California State University, Los Angeles. Joli lives in Garden Grove with her husband Mark, a realtor. They have one son: Connor Armitage, a Student Naval Aviator. Her hobbies include reading, walking her dogs and traveling.

"Even the smallest person can change the course of the future." — Galadriel, Lord of the Rings, JRR Tolkien

Secondary Education

10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6222 • <http://www.ggusd.us>



Kelly McAmis
*Assistant
Superintendent*

Kelly McAmis has served as Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education since 2013. She joined GGUSD in 2002 as principal of Marshall Elementary School and later served as Principal at Walton Intermediate School for three years. Kelly has held several positions in various school districts throughout Orange County and got her start as an English and ELD teacher. She graduated from California State University, Fullerton with a B.S. in

Human Services and holds a Master's degree in Education and Administration from Azusa Pacific University. Kelly has two grown daughters who live in Orange County. Her eldest is an intermediate school science teacher and her youngest is in college finishing her degree in social work. She and her husband recently are excited for the birth of their first grandson. Her hobbies include hiking and kayaking in the desert area as well as spending time with her family.

"Be bold in what you stand for and careful what you fall for."

Special Education

10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/663-6233 • <http://www.ggusd.us>



Lorraine Rae
*Assistant
Superintendent
Special Education
& Student Services*

Lorraine Rae has served in an administrative position since 1994. She joined GGUSD in 2000 as principal of Barker Elementary School and also served as principal of Bell Intermediate and Pacifica High schools. Lorraine went on to become Director, Executive Director and now Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Student Services. Lorraine is a past president of the Garden Grove School

Administrator's Association. She graduated from United States International University, San Diego with a Bachelor's of Arts degree and a Master's degree in Education from the Irvine campus. She also studied at the Mexico City campus as an undergraduate. Lorraine lives in North Tustin with her husband Mike, a retired NFL player and currently, a community college teacher. Lorraine has three married children and four grandchildren. She loves to travel, garden, cook, read and spend time with family.

"If you can dream it, you can do it." — Walt Disney



Christine Pflughoft
Principal

Alamos *Intermediate School*

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

Christine Pflughoft has served as the principal of Alamos Intermediate School since 2014. She joined GGUSD in 1996 as a science teacher and coach at Rancho Alamos High School. She has also served as RAHS' Title I Facilitator and has held several administrative roles throughout GGUSD.

She graduated from the University of Kansas with a B.S. in Education and holds a master's degree in Education from Chapman University. Christine lives in Irvine. She has a boyfriend and two four-legged canine children. Her hobbies include reading, traveling, and exercise. Her favorite quote about life and that she provides to her students is "Be the change you want to see in the world" by Mahatma Gandhi.



Andrew Heughins
Principal

Allen *Elementary School*

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

Andrew Heughins joined GGUSD in 2006. Prior to becoming the principal of Ethan Allen Elementary School in 2010, Andrew served as principal of Anthony Elementary School. Previously, he worked

as a middle school principal in Torrance. Andrew earned his Ed.D. from the University of Southern California. He and his wife Kim live in Huntington Beach with their sons Jack (2) and Garrett (1). In his spare time, Andrew enjoys soccer, reading, and history.



Tricia Chinn
Principal

Anthony *Elementary School*

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

Tricia Chinn is the principal at Susan B. Anthony Elementary School and has been a part of GGUSD since 2000. Prior to becoming a principal, she was a Resource Specialist Program (RSP) teacher at Skylark Elementary and served as a TOSA (teacher on special assignment). Prior to GGUSD, she was an RSP teacher at Esplanade Elementary School. She received her Bachelor of Arts in

Special Education from William Patterson University, and a Master of Science in Special Education from California State University, Long Beach. She lives in Irvine with her husband Jonathan, and children, Jenna and Dylan. She enjoys spending time with her family, running, traveling, and watching her kids play sports.

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."
— Mahatma Gandhi



Wayne Kelley
Principal

Barker *Elementary School*

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

Wayne Kelley is the principal at Barker Elementary School. He began working at GGUSD in 1999 and has held various positions as a teacher, student program facilitator, vice principal, and principal. Prior to joining GGUSD, he spent five years as a teacher in San Diego. Wayne has both a master's and a bachelor's degree.

He currently lives in Foothill Ranch with his wife Terri, daughter Danielle, and son Bryce. In his free time, he likes to read, golf, travel, and woodwork.

"The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called truth."
— Dan Rather



Bell *Intermediate School*

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

Matthew Lambert
Principal

Matthew Lambert has served as the principal of Bell Intermediate since 2014. He joined GGUSD in 2001 teaching science and AVID at Rancho Alamitos High School. He also coached water polo and swimming. In 2009, Matthew assisted with curriculum development and support through the

GGUSD 7-12 Instructional Services Office as a Teacher on Special Assignment. In 2011, he became an assistant principal at La Quinta and Pacifica high schools until he was called to Bell Intermediate as principal. He earned

his Bachelor of Science degree in Human Biology and his Master's degree in Secondary Education from Biola University. He also earned a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Azusa Pacific University and his Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California. Matthew resides in Yorba Linda with his wife Kendra and daughters Mackenzie and Hailey. He enjoys rock climbing, golfing, and surfing.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Bolsa Grande *High School*

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

Louise Milner
Principal

Louise Milner has served as principal of Bolsa Grande High School since 2010. She joined GGUSD in 2005 as principal of La Quinta High School. Louise has held several administrative roles in school districts throughout Orange County and got her start as a math and science teacher. She graduated from California Baptist College with a B.S. in Finance and holds a Master's degree in Education from Pepperdine

University. Louise lives in Irvine with her husband Ronald, a retired administrator from the Anaheim Union HSD. They have five grandsons and two daughters: Elizabeth Wivagg, a partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers and Kristen Kirschner, an elementary school teacher. Her hobbies include reading and traveling.

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

— Eleanor Roosevelt



Brookhurst *Elementary School*

9821 Catherine Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6556 • <http://brookhurst.ggusd.us>

Dianna Rangel
Principal

Dianna Rangel is the principal at Brookhurst Elementary School and has been a member of the GGUSD family for the past eight years. Prior to joining the district she was a primary teacher and a TOSA (teacher on special assignment) in another school

district. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Comparative Literature from University California, Irvine and her Master of Science in School Leadership from California State University, Fullerton. She has one son and resides in Rancho Santa Margarita. Her hobbies include swimming, running trails, yoga, and crossfit.



Bryant *Elementary School*

8371 Oranewood Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92841 • 714/663-6451 • <http://bryant.ggusd.us>

Tanya De Leon
Principal

Tanya De Leon has served as principal of Bryant Elementary School since 2015, the year she joined the GGUSD family as an administrator. Tanya has held several administrative roles in school districts throughout Orange County and Los Angeles and got her start as a bilingual Spanish

dual immersion elementary teacher. She graduated from Vassar College with a B.A. in Film and Latin American Studies, holds master's degrees in Education from Harvard

University and UCLA and a doctorate of Educational Leadership for Social Justice from Loyola Marymount University. Tanya lives in Los Alamitos with her husband Michael, a photographer. They have two children: Charles (8), and David (4). Her hobbies include an appreciation of vintage furniture, independent music, cooking at home and adventures with her family.

"Three words seem to answer most vexing problems: Start. Simplify. Serve."

— Brendon Burchard



Kim Kroyer
Principal

Carrillo *Elementary School*

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

Kim Kroyer has served as principal of Leo Carrillo Elementary since 2012. She has served as an administrator for GGUSD for the past 18 years. She started in GGUSD as a teacher in 1988 and continued as a Program Facilitator at both school site and district office. She is proud to be a product of GGUSD, attending Stanley and Crosby

elementary schools, Ralston Intermediate School, and Garden Grove High. She graduated from CSU, Long Beach with a B.A. in Liberal Studies and holds a master's degree in Education Administration from Azusa Pacific University. Her hobbies include traveling, camping and photography.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." — Nelson Mandela



Sharla Staab
Principal

Carver *Early Childhood Education Center*

1150 Santa Rosalia St., Stanton, CA 90680 • 714/663-6177

Sharla Stabb is the Principal of the Carver Early Childhood Education Center. She joined GGUSD in 2014 and served as the Program Supervisor for Office of Special Education. Sharla has experience as a preschool special education teacher and general education elementary teacher. She earned a Master of Science in Education

and a Bachelor of Art's Degree in English. In 2013, Sharla earned National Board Certification in teaching. She and her husband Robert have two sons Keegan (second grade) and Grady (kindergarten). Sharla's hobbies include day trips with her family, volunteering, and baking.

"Making an insanely great product has a lot to do with the process of making the product, how you learn things and adopt new ideas and throw out old ideas." — Steve Jobs



Sue McClellan
Principal

Clinton Corner *Family Campus*

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

Sue McClellan has served as principal of Clinton Corner Family Campus since 2012 where she oversees the GGUSD state preschool program. She joined GGUSD in 1999 as a Program Supervisor in the Office of Special Education. Prior to coming to GGUSD, Sue taught special education and was a Program Supervisor in Los

Angeles USD. She holds a master's degree in Educational Administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Sue grew up in Orange County and enjoys anything associated with our beautiful coastline. She currently lives in Huntington Beach.

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." — Maya Angelou



Jason Shabet
Principal

Clinton *Elementary School*

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

Jason Shabet is the principal of Clinton Elementary School. Jason joined the district in 2004 and has served as a Resource Specialist Program teacher at Simmons Elementary School as well as the Program Supervisor in Special Education. Jason has

a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Master of Arts in Special Education. He currently resides in the City of Orange with his wife Denise and their foster children. Jason's hobbies include enjoying the great outdoors and fishing.

"Every mistake you make is progress."



Sandi Ishii
Principal

Cook *Elementary School*

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

Sandi Ortiz Ishii is the principal at Cook Elementary and has been with GGUSD since 1987. She has also been an elementary bilingual teacher as well as a GATE teacher and supervisor during her time in the district. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with a Spanish concentration from CSU, Long Beach and her Master's

in Educational Leadership and Administration from Pepperdine University. She has been a resident of Garden Grove since the 1960's. She is married with two children, a son and a daughter. She enjoys gardening, RV camping, reading, and babysitting her granddaughter in her free time.

"Patience, persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success." — N. Hill



Kristine Levenson
Principal

Crosby *Elementary School*

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

Kristine Levenson joined GGUSD in 2012 as principal of Crosby Elementary School. Kristine taught sixth and seventh grades and served as an assistant principal and principal in Rialto Unified School District. She graduated from Loma Linda University with a B.S. in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology and holds a Master's degree

in Education from UCLA. Kristine lives in Brea with her husband Alan, an economic consultant, and their daughter, Hannah. Her hobbies include reading, hiking, cycling, snowboarding, and shopping.

"A teacher affects eternity. She can never tell where her influence stops." — Henry Adams



Louie Gomez
Principal

Doig *Intermediate School*

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

Louie Gomez has served as principal of Doig Intermediate School since 2014. He joined GGUSD after moving from Central California. He previously taught and served as an administrator in McFarland, California. He graduated from CSU, Bakersfield with a B.A. in History and a double minor in Psychology and Political Science. He holds a

Master's degree in Education from Point Loma Nazarene University. Louie lives in San Clemente with his wife Jaime, and his three young children who keep him busy attending soccer games on the weekends. His hobbies include traveling, camping and spending time at the beach with his family.

"Believe in them until they believe in themselves." — Lloyd Stone



Beth Cusimano
Principal

Eisenhower *Elementary School*

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

Beth Cusimano joined GGUSD in 2001 and served as principal at Paine and Gilbert elementary schools prior to becoming principal at Eisenhower Elementary School. Before joining the Garden Grove family, Beth was a an elementary and middle school teacher and principal in western New York. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from

Grove City College in Pennsylvania; a Master of Science degree at State University of New York, Fredonia; and a Certificate of Advanced Study from State University of New York at Brockport. Beth lives in her Rancho Santa Margarita and enjoys reading, running, and dogs.

"Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right." — Henry Ford



Michelle Askew
Principal

Enders *Elementary School*

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

Michelle Askew is the principal at Enders Elementary School and has been with GGUSD since 1999. During her time with the district she has also been a teacher and a teacher on special assignment. She was a liberal studies major, has a multiple subject teaching credential, a Master's in Reading

and Administration, an administration credential, as well as a reading specialist credential. She lives in Long Beach. Her family includes David Askew, her pet Lucy Delphine, and her mom Jana Pesak. During her free time, she enjoys hiking at her cabin in Big Bear, yoga, cooking, and traveling.

"Learn, Play, Grow Together."



Tyleen Perez
Principal

Evans *Elementary School*

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

Tyleen Perez came to GGUSD in 2000. Before serving as principal of Evans Elementary School, she worked as a teacher and a TOSA (teacher on special assignment). Tyleen earned her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies Master's degree, and administration credential at CSU, Fullerton. She is happily married, has three

sons, and lives in Aliso Viejo. She loves the outdoors including boating and going to the beach.

"There is nothing more important than what we do for our students. Our teachers focus on meeting not just the academic needs of students, but social and emotional needs as well. It is this strong commitment to a vision of student learning that makes Evans a great place. I am proud of what we do!"



Sarah Mershon
Principal

Excelsior *Elementary School*

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

Sarah Mershon is the principal at Excelsior Elementary School and has been with GGUSD since 1999. In addition to her role as principal, she has been a teacher at Riverdale Elementary School for nine years and supported school sites as a TOSA for four years. She received her Bachelor's of Science in Elementary Education from Bethel

College in Minnesota and her Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Azusa Pacific University. She resides in Orange with her husband Andrew and their two children Daniel and Candice. Her hobbies include reading, music, and traveling.

"Success is not a destination, but the road that you're on. Being successful means that you're working hard and walking your walk every day." — Marion Wayans



Lorrie Klevos
Principal

Faylane *Elementary School*

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

Lorrie Klevos has served as principal of Faylane Elementary School since 2012. She joined GGUSD in 1992 as a teacher at Cook Elementary School. Lorrie has taught a variety of grade levels as both an elementary and a secondary teacher. She served for eight years as the district preschool coordinator

University with a B.A. in music, and holds a Master's degree from California State University at Fullerton. Lorrie lives in Orange with her husband Larry, a retired teacher from Anaheim Union HSD. They have three children and two grandchildren. Lorrie enjoys playing the piano and singing in various groups.

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world."

— Gandhi

and was a district TOSA (teacher on special assignment) in K-6 Instructional Services. She graduated from Chapman



Mischelle Repsher
Principal

Mischelle Repsher joined GGUSD in 1992 and has served as principal of Fitz Intermediate since 2011. Mischelle taught English, ELD, and drama at both the intermediate and high school levels before serving as the English Teacher on Special Assignment at the district office. Her administrative role began in 2008 at Los Amigos High School where she served

as an Assistant Principal. She earned her Bachelor's Degree from California State University at Long Beach and her Master's Degree from Pepperdine University. Mischelle resides in Huntington Beach with her husband, Barry. Her hobbies include reading, hiking, and traveling.

"You know who you are when your mission is clear and you burn with the inner fire of unbreakable will."

— Chief Seattle

Fitz *Intermediate School*

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



Steve Osborne
Principal

Steve Osborne has served as principal of Garden Grove High School since 2010. He joined GGUSD in 1989 as a high school teacher in World History, US History, Economics and Civics. Steve became a site administrator in 1996 and served as assistant principal at La Quinta, Bolsa Grande, and Santiago high schools. He then served as principal at Donald S. Jordan Intermediate from 2004 to 2010. He graduated from UC Irvine in 1987 and holds a

Master's Degree in Education from CSULB. Steve lives in Huntington Beach with his wife Terri, who is an English teacher. They have two high school age sons. Steve's hobbies include mountain biking, hiking, gardening and cooking.

"Nothing in the world is worth having or worth doing unless it means effort and difficulty. I have never in my life envied a human being who led an easy life."

— Theodore Roosevelt

Garden Grove *High School*

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



Michelle Morales
Principal

Michelle Morales has served as principal of Garden Park Elementary School since 2014. She joined GGUSD in 1989 as an elementary school teacher at Stanley Elementary. Michelle has held other administrative roles in GGUSD, including Assistant Principal for three years at Pacifica High School. Michelle taught at the elementary and intermediate school level in GGUSD, teaching in the GATE program and as an English teacher at Bell Intermediate School. She also served as a 7-12 Teacher on Special Assignment

(TOSA). She graduated from CSU, Fullerton with a B.S. in Child Development, holds a Master's degree in Education from CSU, Fullerton, and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Pepperdine University. Michelle lives in Anaheim with her husband Eddie, who runs their family bread and bakery business, SLO Distributing, Inc. They have three adult children: Kylie, Kellie, and Joseph. Her hobbies include traveling, concerts, gardening, and attending Los Angeles Angels baseball games.

"Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do."

— John Wooden

Garden Park *Elementary School*

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



Charise Santana
Principal

Charise Santana is the principal of Gilbert Elementary School. Prior to being a principal in GGUSD, Charise served as teacher, K-6 teacher on special assignment (TOSA), and as an elementary school assistant principal. Before joining GGUSD in 2007, she served as the full-time Beginning Teacher Support Assessment (BTSA) provider

and professional development trainer at Ontario-Montclair School District. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Sciences and a Master of Arts in Education. She lives in Long Beach with her husband and two children. Her hobbies include kickboxing, cooking, and baking.

"You must do the things you think you cannot do."

— Eleanor Roosevelt.

Gilbert *Elementary School*

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



Todd Nirk
Principal

Hare *High School*

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

Todd Nirk serves as principal of Hare High School. He joined GGUSD in 2006 and has worked as assistant principal at Santiago high and Bolsa Grande high schools. Prior to coming to GGUSD, Todd taught social studies in Redondo Beach for nine years. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from UCLA,

a teaching credential in social studies from University of California, Santa Barbara, and a Master's in Education from National University. Todd lives in Rancho Palos Verdes with his wife Marisa, and their nine-year-old twins Lucas and Lacy. For fun, Todd enjoys golf and basketball.

"It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer." — Albert Einstein



Melissa Sais
Principal

Hazard *Elementary School*

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

Melissa Sais serves as principal of Hazard Elementary School. She joined the district in 2000 and served as an elementary school teacher and teacher on special assignment (TOSA). She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business, a Multiple Subject Credential, a

Master's degree in Education Administration and a doctorate in K-12 Urban Leadership. Melissa lives in Irvine and enjoys exercising, cooking, and traveling.

"The quality of your thinking determines the quality of your life." — A. R. Bernard



Michelle Pinchot
Principal

Heritage *Elementary School*

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

Michelle Pinchot is the principal at Heritage Elementary School and has been a part of GGUSD since 1997. Prior to becoming a principal she was a teacher at Bryant and Peters 4-6 elementary schools, a TOSA (teacher on special assignment) with K-6 Instructional Services, and the principal

at Peter's K-3. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Child and Adolescent Studies and a master's degree from Chapman University. She resides in Rancho Santa Margarita and enjoys traveling and cooking in her free time.

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." — Helen Keller



Erin Lara
Principal

Hill *Elementary School*

9681 11th St., Garden Grove, CA 92843 • 714/663-6561 • <http://hill.ggusd.us>

Erin Lara joined Garden Grove Unified School District in 2001 and has served as a science and math teacher, teacher on special assignment, and assistant principal before becoming principal of Hill Elementary School. Before coming to GGUSD, she taught sixth grade at St. Michael's in Maryland. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Education from

Miami University and earned her Master's in Administration from Pepperdine University. Erin lives in Santa Ana with her daughter Liliana (8), son Xavier (6) and son Sebastian (4). She spends her free time with her children and enjoying beach activities.

"Fair isn't everybody getting the same thing... Fair is everybody getting what they need in order to be successful."

Irvine *Intermediate School*

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



Bill Gates
Principal

Bill Gates has served as principal of Irvine Intermediate School since 2014. He began his career in GGUSD at McGarvin Intermediate School 19 years ago as an assistant principal. He continued in that same role at Doig Intermediate School, eventually becoming principal at Alamitos Intermediate School, where he served in that position for 10 years. Prior to his years in GGUSD, Mr. Gates was an elementary and middle school teacher, and an assistant principal at schools in

Central California and Orange County. He graduated from the University of California, Irvine with a BS in Psychology, and he holds a Master's Degree in Education. Mr. Gates lives in south Orange County with his wife, Michele, four children, four dogs, and a bearded dragon. His hobbies include spending quality time with his family, golfing, exercising, coaching, and watching sports.

"Siempre Adelante - Always Forward"

— Saint Junipero Serra

Jordan *Intermediate School*

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



Tracy Conway
Principal

Tracy Conway is the principal at Jordan Intermediate School. Since joining GGUSD in 1993 Tracy has served as a teacher, a teacher on special assignment, and as an assistant principal. She received her Bachelor of Arts in English from College of the Holy Cross, and her Master of Science in Secondary

Education from University of Bridgeport. She has subject credentials in English, is a language development specialist and has a K-12 Administrative credential. She lives in Huntington Beach with her husband, two sons, and two daughters. Her hobbies include golfing, traveling, dining, and reading.

La Quinta *High School*

10372 McFadden Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/663-6315 • <http://www.laquintahs.org>



Denise Halstead
Principal

Denise Halstead has served as principal of La Quinta High School since 2010. She joined GGUSD in 2000 and was principal of Bolsa Grande High School until 2010. Denise has held several administrative roles including assistant principal and coordinator of student activities in other school districts throughout Orange County. She started her career in education as a high school band director. Denise graduated from CSU, Long Beach with a B.A. in Music Education and holds a

Master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of California, Irvine. Denise enjoys living close to the beach in Carlsbad with her husband Al, a retired police officer. She has 3 children, 5 step-children and a total of 11 grandchildren so far! Her hobbies include golf, hiking, and traveling.

"We would accomplish many more things if we did not think of them as impossible" — C. Malesherbes

Lake *Intermediate School*

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



Margaret Feliciani
Principal

Margaret Feliciani grew up in Garden Grove. She attended Lawrence Elementary, Alamitos Intermediate and graduated from Rancho Alamitos High School. Margaret was a choral music and English teacher at Jordan Intermediate School. She has held many roles within the district which have included teaching, ASB director, Title Facilitator, Assistant Principal, district office positions, and Principal. This is her 32nd year with the district. She currently is the

principal at Lake Intermediate School. Margaret graduated from Long Beach State with a Bachelor's in Music, holds a master's degree in Education from Azusa Pacific University. Margaret lives with her husband and has two adult sons. One of her sons is a high school English teacher and the other is a senior at CSU, Fullerton. Her hobbies include reading, cooking, and traveling.

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow."

— Albert Einstein



Marie Kennedy
Principal

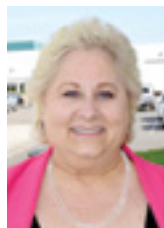
Lawrence *Elementary School*

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

Marie Kennedy joined GGUSD in 1990. Prior to becoming a principal, she served as a teacher, math mentor, coach, and program facilitator. Marie earned a B.A. in Psychology from UC Santa Barbara and her master's in Education from University of La

Verne. Marie lives in Long Beach with her husband Steve. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, music, and sports.

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." — Albert Einstein



Connie Van Luit
Director

Lincoln *Adult Education Center*

11262 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove CA 92843 • 714/663-6291 • <http://cte.ggusd.us>

Connie graduated from Kent State University in Ohio with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and began her career teaching sixth through eighth grade hearing impaired students in Ohio. Moving to California in 1980, she began her 35+ year career in GGUSD teaching hearing impaired students at Rancho Alamitos High School. She then taught in the Resource Program at Fitz Intermediate School. She completed her Multiple Subject Credential and her Master's Degree in Special Education from Cal State LA and her Administrative Credential from Cal State Fullerton. She

has held the following administrative positions in GGUSD: Instructional Specialist in 7-12 Instruction, Coordinator of Student Services, Assistant Principal at La Quinta HS and Rancho Alamitos HS, Principal of Irvine Intermediate, Director of Business Services, Principal of Los Amigos HS and Director of Student Services. She lives in Mission Viejo and frequently visits her family in Ohio. She enjoys reading, shopping, swimming, being at the ocean, and visiting with friends.

"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."



Vicki Braddock
Principal

Los Amigos *High School*

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

Vicki Braddock joined GGUSD in 1996. Prior to becoming principal of Los Amigos High School, she was a principal at Cook and Mitchell elementary schools as well as Fitz and Irvine intermediate schools. Previously, she was a teacher in Fullerton Elementary School District, and an assistant principal in Bonita Unified School District and Ocean View School District. Vicki earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Long Beach and a master's

from Azusa Pacific University. She resides in Huntington Beach. In her spare time, Vicki enjoys early morning walks on the beach, her Book Club, and football. She is a Rams season ticket holder, and her favorite teams are the Green Bay Packers and Wisconsin Badgers.

"Be more concerned with your character than with your reputation. Your character is what you really are while your reputation is merely what others think you are."

— John Wooden



Chad Ouellette
Principal

Mark Twain *Special Education Center / Jordan Adult Transition Program*

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

9915 Woodbury Rd., Garden Grove, CA 92844
714/663-6486 • <http://jslc.ggusd.us>

Chad joined Garden Grove Unified School District in 2006 as an assistant principal before his current role as principal of the Special Education Center at Mark Twain and the Adult Transition Program at Jordan. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in

Education and a Master's in Educational Leadership. Chad lives in Laguna Niguel with his family Leslie, Gavin and Dylan. He enjoys mountain biking, surfing and golf.

"When challenge and skill are in balance the activity is its own reward." — Carol Ann Thomlinson

Marshall *Elementary School*

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



Melanie Mathovich
Principal

Melanie Mathovich has served as the principal of Marshall Elementary School since 2012. She joined GGUSD in 1998 as a teacher at Lawrence Elementary School after having completed student teaching there. Prior to her serving as the principal at Marshall, she was the principal of Rosita Elementary School from 2006 – 2012.

Throughout her career in GGUSD she taught at Lawrence Elementary, Cook Elementary, and was a TOSA (teacher

on special assignment) at the district office. Melanie graduated from CSUF with a Bachelor's of Science in Child Development and received her Master's in Administration from Pepperdine University. Melanie lives in Mission Viejo with her husband Steve who also serves the students of GGUSD as a sixth grade teacher. Melanie enjoys family time with her 3 year old son Lennon and their dog, Bruiser.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." — Nelson Mandela

McGarvin *Intermediate School*

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



Tahnee Phan
Principal

Tahnee Phan is in her first year as the principal at McGarvin Intermediate. Since 2000 she has been the principal at Lake Intermediate, assistant principal at Patton Elementary, Lake Intermediate, and Walton Intermediate. She has also been a TOSA program facilitator at Bryant Elementary, and has taught at Morningside Elementary

and Fitz Intermediate schools. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from UCLA and her Master's Degree in Education Administration from National University. She lives in Laguna Niguel with her spouse and their dog. Her hobbies include gardening, hiking, reading, and playing ice hockey.

"Our collective efforts will help all scholars achieve lifelong success!"

Mitchell *Elementary School*

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



Chris Francis
Principal

Christopher Francis is serving his second year as principal of Mitchell Elementary School. He joined GGUSD in 2000 and has served as an elementary school teacher, intermediate school math teacher, and as assistant principal at McGarvin Intermediate School. He is a past president of the Garden

Grove Education Association. Christopher earned his Bachelor of Science in General Studies and teaching

credential from the University of Southern California and a Master of Science degree in Curriculum and Instruction from California State University, Fullerton. He resides in the city of Orange with his wife and three daughters ages five, two, and three months. In his spare time he enjoys playing golf, basketball, and traveling.

"Believe in them until they believe in themselves."

— Lloyd Stone

Morningside *Elementary School*

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



Nathan Bellamy
Principal

Nathan E. Bellamy is serving as the principal at Morningside Elementary. He joined GGUSD during the 2008-2009 school year. He has been working in public education for 27 years, starting his teaching career in Los Angeles. He completed his

undergraduate work at Brigham Young University and his graduate work at Loyola Marymount University. He is a native of Southern California, grew up in Lake Arrowhead, and presently resides in Long Beach. He enjoys being up in the snow and visiting family in Argentina.



César Loya
Principal

César Loya is the principal of the district's first-ever Spanish Dual Language Immersion Academy launched at Monroe Elementary School this year. He joined the district in 2012 as the principal of Lawrence Elementary School. Prior to coming to GGUSD, César was a teacher and assistant principal in a Dual Language Immersion program in Capistrano Unified School District. He earned a Bachelor

of Science degree in Political Science from San Diego State University and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fullerton. He and his wife Esmeralda live in San Juan Capistrano with their children Tlatoani, Paloma, and Quetzalli, who are all enrolled in a Dual Language Immersion program. César enjoys coaching baseball and supporting local sports leagues. "To have a second language is to possess a second soul."

— Charlemagne

Monroe *Elementary Dual Language Academy*

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



Marcie Griffith
Principal

Marcie Griffith joined GGUSD in 2004 and has served as a teacher and GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) Supervisor before becoming principal of Murdy Elementary School. She earned a Bachelor of Art's degree in Geography from the University of Southern California and a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Pepperdine.

She and her husband John, a marine microbiologist, live in Garden Grove with their children John, Madison, Abbie and their dog Louie. In her free time, Marcie enjoys reading, art, and being creative. "Every child deserves a champion, an adult who insists that they become the best they can possibly be." —Rita Pierson. As educators, we are in the best position to be that champion and have a moral obligation to do so.

Murdy *Elementary School*

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



Adam Bernstein
Principal

Adam Bernstein has served as principal of Newhope Elementary School since 2013. He joined GGUSD in 2000 as a principal. Prior to joining the district, Adam worked as a teacher and administrator in a variety of school districts, including the American School Foundation in Guadalajara, Mexico. Adam received his Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of California

at Santa Barbara. He received his Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from Santa Clara University and his administrative credential in Education from CSU, Long Beach. Adam lives in Huntington Beach with his wife and three sons. For fun, he enjoys playing piano, hiking, and traveling.

"I am proud of the work the Newhope staff does to make the school a positive and welcoming place for the children and community."

Newhope *Elementary School*

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



Gary Gerstner
Principal

Gary Gerstner has served as principal of Northcutt Elementary School since 2014. He joined GGUSD in 2000 as principal of Cook Elementary School. Mr. Gerstner has held several administrative roles in school districts throughout Orange County. He started as a general education teacher for grades 3-7. He graduated from CSU Fullerton with a B.S. in

Human Services and holds a master's degree in Education from CSU Long Beach. Gary lives in Tustin with his wife Robyn, a teacher for GGUSD. Together, they have two grandchildren and four children. Mr. Gerstner's hobbies include reading, traveling, and spending quality time with his family.

"One kind word can warm three winter months."

— Japanese Proverb

Northcutt *Elementary School*

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



**Robin
Patterson**
Principal

Robin Patterson is serving her third year as principal of Pacifica High School. She joined GGUSD in 2008 as an assistant principal at Los Amigos High School and also served as principal there for five years. Previously, Robin worked in Ventura County for 16 years as a science teacher, guidance counselor, dean, and assistant principal. She graduated from Ohio Northern University

with a B.S. in Biology and Health and is a member of the university's Athletic Hall of Fame. She earned a Master of Science degree in School Counseling from the University of La Verne. Robin enjoys visiting her family on the east coast and playing golf.

"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence."

— Helen Keller

Pacifica *High School*

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

Paine *Elementary School*

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



George Martinez
Principal

George Martinez has served as principal of Paine Elementary School since 2012. He grew up in Anaheim, California and graduated from Anaheim High School. He earned a B.A. in History from Chapman University. He also holds an M.A. in Education from Chapman University. George taught history and

coached football at Mayfair High School for many years. He joined GGUSD in 2010 as an assistant principal at Rancho Alamitos High School. George lives in Mission Viejo with his spouse, two children and a cat. His hobbies include traveling and off-roading.

"Working in education keeps me young."

Parkview *Elementary School*

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



Mike Ingalls
Principal

Mike Ingalls currently serves as principal at Parkview Elementary School. He began with GGUSD as principal of Newhope Elementary School and previously served as a teacher in the Duarte, Los Angeles, and Pasadena unified school districts. He holds an M.A. in Cross Cultural Studies from Fuller University, a Multiple Subject Credential from

Azusa Pacific University, and an A.B. in Psychology from Occidental College. He resides in Fountain Valley with his wife Jane, son Zac (16), son Caleb (15), and twins Abbi and Grace (12). Mike enjoys surfing, Kenpo karate, soccer, and spending time at the beach with his family and their dog.

"Take courage, set the bar high, establish excellent supports, then "Smove."

—Smile & Move

Patton *Elementary School*

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



**Dr. Jennifer
Carter**
Principal

Jennifer joined Garden Grove Unified School District in 1994 and has served as principal at Patton, Faylane and Marshall elementary schools, a teacher at Carver Elementary School, and site facilitator at Hazard Elementary School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Riverside, a Master's degree

from the University of La Verne, and her Doctorate degree from the University of Southern California. She lives in Irvine and enjoys spending time with her nephews and niece, reading, traveling, and baking.

"The more that you read, the more that you will know, the more that you learn, the more places you will go."

— Dr. Seuss



Kyle Benham
Principal

Kyle Benham joined GGUSD in 1997. Prior to becoming principal of Peters K-3 Elementary School, Kyle served as a teacher for 16 years, teacher on special assignment for K-6 Instructional Services, and assistant principal at Eisenhower Elementary School. Outside of the classroom, he has coached boys basketball at Los Amigos and Rancho Alamitos high schools as well as girls and boys tennis at Los Amigos High School. He earned a Masters of Arts in Education: Educational Administration degree from

Concordia University; a Master of Arts in Education: Middle Grades from California State University, San Bernardino; and a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Minnesota State University.

He and his wife Lisa, an elementary teacher, live in Rancho Santa Margarita with their daughters Maya, 12 and Olivia, 9. He enjoys spending time with his family, mountain biking, and golfing.

“Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world.” — Nelson Mandela



Gurprit Dhillon
Principal

Gurprit Dhillon is the principal at Peters (4-6) Elementary School and has worked at GGUSD since 2008. She was previously an assistant principal at Pacifica High School and worked for the Centinela Valley Union High School District as a science teacher and project facilitator. She earned a Bachelor of Science, teaching credential and Master's

in Education from UCLA and a Master's in Educational Administration from California State University, Northridge. She lives in Newport Beach with her husband Ning Wong and daughter Mya. She enjoys spending time with her daughter, exploring new places, and reading.

“The Function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.” — Martin Luther King



Joy Ellsworth
Principal

Joy Ellsworth is the principal at Post Elementary School. Joy has been a part of GGUSD since 1997. She earned her Master's degree in Education Management at the University of La Verne and her Bachelor's degree in Spanish education with an ESL minor from Brigham Young University. She resides in Glendora. She has four siblings,

20 nieces and nephews, 27 great nieces and nephews, three dogs and two cats. Her hobbies include traveling and gardening.

“You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go.”

— Dr. Seuss, Oh, The Places You'll Go!



Ruth Gómez Dietze
Principal

Ruth Gómez Dietze is the principal at Ralston Intermediate School and has been in GGUSD since 1999. She has also served in the district as a teacher, student program facilitator, elementary school principal, and intermediate school assistant principal. Prior to her time with GGUSD, she was an elementary school teacher for the Fontana

Unified School District. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Literature from University of Redlands and her Master of Arts in Educational Administration from California State University, Long Beach. She resides in Huntington Beach with her husband Joseph, dog Jack, and new baby Jonah.

“Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think.” — Albert Einstein



Mary Jane Hibbard
Principal

Rancho Alamitos *High School*

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

Mary Jane Hibbard joined GGUSD in 2001 and currently serves as principal at Rancho Alamitos High School. She has also been an assistant principal at both Los Amigos and Pacifica high schools. Prior to her time at GGUSD, she was a teacher at Whittier High School from 1995 to 2001. She received her

Bachelor of Science in Math and her Master's in special education from CSU, Los Angeles. She resides in Huntington Beach. Her hobbies include scrapbooking, reading, going to the beach, cooking, traveling, and playing ball with her cocker spaniel Noelle.

"I am proud to be part of the Rancho family."

Riverdale *Elementary School*

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



Chris Ash
Principal

Chris Ash joined Garden Grove Unified School District in 1996. Prior to serving as principal of Riverdale Elementary School, he was a teacher at Cook Elementary School, the district Director of Evaluation and Research, and the district Director of Instructional Technology. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Montana State University, a Master's

degree in Educational Technology from Azusa Pacific University and an Administrative credential from CSU, Fullerton. He and his wife Kathleen, a kindergarten teacher, have two sons and live in Orange. Christopher enjoys spending time with family, playing basketball, spending time outdoors, coaching and watching his sons play sports.

"There are no secrets to success it is the results of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure."

— Colin Powell

Rosita *Elementary School*

4726 Hazard Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92703 • 714/663-6418 • <http://rosita.ggusd.us>



Don Terreri
Principal

Don Terreri has served as principal of Rosita Elementary School since 2012. He joined GGUSD in 1987 as a teacher at Russell Elementary. Don has held several teaching and administrative roles throughout GGUSD with Rosita being his eighth school he has worked at in the district. He is a product of GGUSD, graduating from Los Amigos High School. He graduated from San Diego State University with a B.S.

in Business Administration and holds a master's degree in Education from Azusa Pacific University. Don lives in Garden Grove with his wife Karen, an elementary school teacher in Centralia School District. They have two children: Alexander, a UCI Grad working in the Tech Field and Adam, studying to be an architect at CSU, Fullerton. His hobbies include water sports and traveling.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." — Nelson Mandela

Russell *Elementary School*

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



Kai Chang
Principal

Kai Chang is the principal at Russell Elementary School and has been in GGUSD since 1998. He has also been a teacher, site programs facilitator, and principal at Northcutt and Brookhurst elementary schools. Prior to joining GGUSD he taught in the Long Beach Unified School District from 1996 to 1998. He earned his Bachelor of

Arts in Psychology from Michigan State University, Master of Arts in Education from University of Massachusetts at Boston, and an administrative credential from California State University, Fullerton. He lives with his wife and their two children. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his family.

"Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think." — Albert Einstein



Santiago *High School*

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

Michael Kennedy
Principal

received his master's degree in Education Administration from CSU, Fullerton. Michael lives in Cypress with his

Michael Kennedy has served as principal of Santiago High School since 2014. He began working in GGUSD in 1991 and has worked as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal in all levels K-12 and Adult Education. He graduated from the University of Iowa with a bachelor's degree in Music Education and

wife Jennie, and all four of his children attended schools in GGUSD, including: Eric, website programmer in San Francisco; Katherine, doctoral candidate at Boston University; Stephen, junior at UCSD; and Maureen, freshman at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. His hobbies include playing music, biking, and backpacking.

"Education then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer." — Horace Mann



Jaemie Rivero
Principal

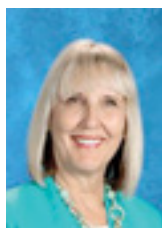
Jaemie Rivero is the principal at Simmons Elementary School and has been in the GGUSD since 2001. She has also been a teacher and a teacher on special assignment in the district. Prior to joining GGUSD she was employed by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Azusa Pacifica

Simmons *Elementary School*

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

University, and her Master of Science from California State University, Fullerton. She resides in Riverside County with her husband and two children.

"Synergy is what happens when one plus one equals ten or a hundred or even a thousand! It's the profound result when two or more respectful human beings determined to go beyond their preconceived ideas to meet a great challenge." — Stephen Covey



Lynn Hardin
Principal

Lynn Hardin is the principal at Stanford Elementary School and has been with GGUSD since 2002. Prior to Stanford, she was a TOSA for instructional technology and principal at Ethan B. Allen Elementary School. Before joining GGUSD, she was a third grade teacher in Irvine. She received her Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology

Stanford *Elementary School*

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

from Texas A&M, Master of Health Administration from University of La Verne, and her teaching and administrative credential from University of California at Irvine. She lives in Irvine with her husband Michael. She has 3 children, 2 sons and 1 daughter. She enjoys oil painting, running, and traveling.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." — Nelson Mandela



Jamie Shippee
Principal

Jamie Shippee is the principal at Agnes Ware Stanley Elementary School and has been in GGUSD since 2004. She has also been a teacher at James Monroe Elementary School, a teacher on special assignment, and GATE supervisor in her time at GGUSD. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with a math concentration from

CSU, Long Beach and her Master of Science in Education Administration from CSU, Fullerton. She resides in Westminster with her husband Brian Shippee, who works for the city of Irvine. They have one son named Luke. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, cooking, and doing yoga.

"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new." — Albert Einstein

Stanley *Elementary School*

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



Susie Dollbaum
Principal

Sunnyside *Elementary School*

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

Susie Dollbaum has been the principal at Sunnyside Elementary School since 2000. Prior to joining GGUSD, she spent 15 years as a teacher in the Cypress School District, teaching kindergarten, second, and fifth grades. She also spent two years as an assistant principal in the Bellflower Unified School District. She earned her Bachelor of

Arts and Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction at California State University, Long Beach and a Master of Sciences in Administration from California State University, Fullerton. She lives in Huntington Beach with her husband Mark and two children, Mark and Amy. Her hobbies include spending time with family and friends, baking, cooking, and reading.



Ryan Baker
Principal

Violette *Elementary School*

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

Ryan Baker has served as principal of Violette Elementary School since 2011. He joined GGUSD in 2008 as an assistant principal at Irvine Intermediate. Prior to coming to GGUSD, Ryan taught 8th grade, U. S. History in both Long Beach and Saddleback Valley unified school districts. He graduated with a B.A. in History, earned

his teaching credential and his M.A. from CSU, Long Beach. Ryan lives in Trabuco Canyon with his wife Katie and two daughters Whitney and Delaney. His hobbies include playing ice hockey, rooting for the LA Kings, running triathlons and spending weekends watching his daughters play club soccer.

“Educating the mind without educating the heart, is no education at all.” — Aristotle



Michelle Rushall
Principal

Wakeham *Elementary School*

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

Michelle Rushall joined Garden Grove Unified School District in 2002 and currently serves as principal of Wakeham Elementary School. She earned her Bachelor's degree from San Diego State University and her administrative credential and Master's degree

from California State University, Fullerton. She lives in Newport Beach with her husband Graham and their son Jack. Michelle enjoys reading anything by John Wooden, cooking and traveling.

“Life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it.” — Charles Swindoll



Janis Cody
Principal

Walton *Intermediate School*

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

Janis Cody has served as principal of Walton Intermediate School since 2013. Entering the district in 1985, she has been principal of Ralston Intermediate, an athletic director, a high school teacher, and is a product of GGUSD. Jan graduated from California State University Fullerton with a B.A. in Business Administration and Economics and holds a master's degree in Educational Administration

from Azusa Pacific University. She lives in La Crescenta with her husband Keith, a third grade teacher in Glendale USD. They have three sons: Thomas who works for Lowe's Corporation, John a veterinarian, and Joseph a high school Mathematics teacher. Jan's hobbies include traveling with family.

“The only way to do great work is to love what you do.” — Steve Jobs



Eileen Young
Principal

Warren *Elementary School*

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

Eileen Young is the principal at Warren Elementary School. She joined GGUSD in 2005 and previously worked in the Long Beach Unified School District as a classroom teacher, language arts specialist, program facilitator, and an assistant principal. She

has a Master's of Arts in Educational Administration. She lives in Long Beach with her husband Gregg and two sons; Chase and Shane. Her hobbies include exercising, dancing, and music.

"Warren Elementary – A Great Place to Learn!"



Rose Jansz
Principal

Woodbury *Elementary School*

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

Rose Jansz joined GGUSD in 2001 and has served as teacher and teacher on special assignment (TOSA) before becoming principal of Woodbury Elementary School. Prior to coming to the district, she was a teacher in the Westminster School District. She earned a Bachelor's of Art degree from

California State University, Long Beach and a Master's degree in Education from Pepperdine. Rose lives in Fountain Valley with her husband Brad. They have two college-age daughters, Jacqueline and Jennifer. Her hobbies include hiking and cooking.

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." — Winston Churchill



Sarah Van Dam
Principal

Zeyen *Elementary School*

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

Sarah Van Dam has been the principal at Zeyen Elementary School since 2014 and has been a part of GGUSD since 1997. Prior to being a principal, she was a teacher at Warren, Enders, and Patton elementary schools, a TOSA (teacher on special assignment), and the assistant principal at Russell Elementary School. Before coming

to GGUSD, Sarah served as a teacher for the Diocese in both Orange County and Washington, D.C. She received her education at the Catholic University of America and National University. She resides in Garden Grove with her husband of 22 years, John, and their three children. Her hobbies include reading and cooking.

"Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel." — Socrates

BẢN TIN HỌC • *From Page 2*

- Trong kỳ thi tiểu bang Smarter Balanced (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) viết tắt là SBAC năm 2016, GGUSD vượt trội tỉ lệ trung bình của tiểu bang về số học sinh đạt hay vượt trên tiêu chuẩn của mỗi cấp lớp. Học sinh của chúng ta cũng ngang bằng với tỉ lệ của quận hạt về môn ngữ văn trong toàn khối lớp 2; chúng ta cũng vượt trên tỉ lệ trung bình trong toàn hạt về môn toán lớp 6 và lớp 8.
- Trong bản thăm dò ý kiến hằng năm, 96 % học sinh cho biết trường học của các em là nơi khuyến khích và nâng đỡ các em học tập.
- GGUSD vượt trên hạt và tiểu bang về tỉ lệ trung bình của học sinh sẵn sàng vào đại học với tỉ lệ 53.8% so với tỉ lệ của tiểu bang là 43.4 %.
- Trong năm 2016, tỉ lệ trung bình của học sinh GGUSD tham gia và học thành công các lớp AP (Lớp Thuộc Trình Độ Cao) cao hơn tỉ lệ trung bình của học sinh trên toàn hạt, tiểu bang và trên thế giới.

Trong lúc các học sinh của chúng ta vẫn đang học hành tấn tới thì các trường học của chúng ta trong tình trạng cũ kỹ

cần được sửa chữa và trùng tu. Nhiều trường học của chúng ta được xây dựng từ 40 đến 95 năm trước, các lớp học cũ kỹ, phòng máy điện toán và phòng thí nghiệm khoa học lỗi thời cần được cập nhật để giữ an toàn và phù hợp với việc giảng dạy trong thế kỷ 21. Một nửa các lớp học vẫn không có máy điều hoà không khí nên nhiệt độ trong lớp học vượt trên 90 độ F vào những ngày nóng bức.

Dự luật A (được các cử tri bầu thuận vào năm 2010) cấp quỹ sửa chữa khẩn cấp cũng như trùng tu cần thiết cho hệ thống hạ tầng cơ sở. Quý vị cũng thấy là nhu cầu trùng tu các trường học cũ kỹ trong GGUSD luôn vượt quá số ngân quỹ sẵn có. Hội Đồng Giáo Dục đã chấp thuận đề nghị đưa dự thảo công khổ phiếu \$311 triệu vào cuộc bầu cử ngày 8 tháng 11 năm 2016 sắp tới để có thêm ngân quỹ lắp đặt máy điều hoà không khí, gia tăng biện pháp bảo vệ an toàn phòng khi động đất, thay mái mới, nâng cấp hệ thống điện, các lớp học, phòng thí nghiệm khoa học và kỹ thuật nhằm đáp ứng nhu cầu học vấn của con em học sinh chúng ta.

Chúng tôi mong đợi một năm học mới thành công và luôn giữ vững trọng tâm đào tạo tất cả học sinh thành đạt.

IMPROVING • From Page 2

- On the 2016 state SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) test, GGUSD beat the statewide average of students meeting or exceeding standards in each and every grade level. Our students also matched the county in all secondary grades in ELA (English Language Arts) and beat the county average in math in grades 6 and 8.
- In our annual survey, 96 percent of students say their school is supportive and inviting.
- GGUSD beat the county and state in percentage of college-ready students at 53.8 percent compared to the state's 43.4 percent.
- In 2016, GGUSD's average AP (Advanced Placement) score and pass rate was higher than the state, county, and world average.

While our students excel, our aging schools require critical repairs and upgrades. Many of our schools are between 40 and 95 years old and have aging classrooms with outdated computer and sciences labs that need to be upgraded for safety and to support 21st century instruction. Half of our classrooms do not have air conditioning and classrooms temperatures reach over 90 degrees during periods of excessively hot weather.

While Measure A (approved by voters in 2010) funded the first phase of urgent repairs and allowed us to make critical infrastructure improvements, it was always known that the needs of GGUSD's aging schools would exceed the funding available. The Board of Education approved placing a \$311 million bond measure on the November 8, 2016, ballot to fund air conditioning, seismic safety improvements, roof replacements, and building electrical systems upgrades, as well as classrooms, science labs, and technology to support the academic needs of our students.

We are looking forward to a successful school year and remain focused on preparing all students for success.

MEJORANDO • From Page 2

Ya va en su tercer año la implementación del Plan Estratégico del Distrito, a la Manera de Garden Grove, y estamos muy orgullosos por los resultados de ser un Distrito más fuerte y tener más alumnos exitosos. Este plan se enfoca en equipar a los alumnos con las habilidades académicas y personales necesarias para lograr el éxito de por vida. Algunos de nuestros éxitos más recientes son:

- En el examen estatal SBAC (Consortio de las Evaluaciones Smarter Balanced) del 2016, el GGUSD superó el promedio estatal de alumnos que cumplieron o sobrepasaron los estándares en todos los niveles de grado. Todos los alumnos también tuvieron los mismos puntajes que el condado en todos los grados secundarios, en la Artes de Lenguaje en Inglés (ELA), y sobrepasaron el promedio de matemáticas del condado en los grados 6.º y 8.º.
- En nuestra encuesta anual, 96 por ciento de los alumnos expresaron que su escuela era acogedora y les brindaba apoyo.
- El GGUSD sobrepasó el porcentaje, del condado y del estado, de alumnos que están listos para ingresar a la Universidad en un 53.8 por ciento, en comparación con el porcentaje del estado de 43.4 por ciento.
- En el 2016, el índice de aprobación y el puntaje promedio de la Asignación Avanzada (AP), del GGUSD, fue más alto que el promedio del estado, el condado y del mundo.

Mientras nuestros estudiantes sobresalen, nuestras escuelas están viejas y requieren reparaciones y actualizaciones críticas. Muchas de nuestras escuelas tienen entre 40 y 95 años de antigüedad y tienen salones de clases viejos, con computadoras y laboratorios de ciencias obsoletos que necesitan ser renovados por motivos de seguridad y para apoyar la enseñanza del siglo XXI. La mitad de nuestros salones de clase no tienen aire acondicionado y las temperaturas dentro de los salones sobrepasan los 90 grados durante la temporada de calor excesivo.

Mientras la Medida A (aprobada por los votantes en el 2010) financió la primera fase de las reparaciones urgentes y nos permitió que hiciéramos mejorías críticas a la infraestructura, siempre se ha sabido que las necesidades de las escuelas viejas del GGUSD, excederán los fondos que están disponibles. La Mesa Directiva de Educación aprobó incluir una iniciativa electoral de emisión de bonos de \$311 millones de dólares en la boleta electoral del 8 de noviembre de 2016, para así financiar el aire acondicionado, las mejorías de seguridad para sismos, remodelación de los techos y actualizaciones en los sistemas eléctricos de los edificios, al igual que salones de clase, laboratorios de ciencias y tecnología para apoyar las necesidades académicas de nuestros alumnos.

Esperamos tener un año escolar exitoso y seguir enfocados en preparar a todos los alumnos para el éxito.





Lucy's Book Review



Lucy Davis

Marvelous!

*The Land of Stories:
An Author's Odyssey*

Author: Chris Colfer

I had been waiting for this book to arrive at my local library, and after much suspense, the story continues! Conner and Alex travel into Conner's short stories; in hopes of recruiting an army of different storybook characters: their own! With help from some leftover Portal Potion, which allows people to travel into stories, the twins hope to recruit the Zibblings, Auburn Sally's crew, the British Navy, and many more.

Not much better things are in the other dimension: the Masked Man's Literary Army rebels and joins evil witches who plan to take over the Otherworld. Will they succeed?

Chris Colfer succeeds once more in continuing the series and relying on a readers imagination to create a marvelous story further extending the fairy-tale world we thought we already knew.

I give this book four bookworms for its imagination.

Lucy is a fifth grade student that enjoys theater, playing guitar and singing. She's a Harry Potter fanatic and hopes to one day publish a series of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.



Whole Health Everyday 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 Garden Grove in the subject line)

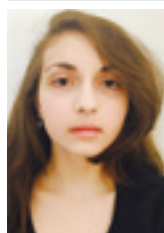
Entries must be received by December 15, 2016

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

ALKALINE	MINERALS
ALMONDS	NATURAL
APPLES	NOURISH
CARROTS	NUTS
CHICKEN	PROTEIN
FIBER	SALMON
FRUITS	SEEDS
HEALTH	VEGETABLES
HUMMUS	VITAMINS
KALE	WATER
LEMONS	



Christina's Book Review



Christina J.

Captivating to Read

Emily Windsnap and the Ship of Lost Souls, written by Liz Kessler, is about the main character Emily, who keeps seeing a mysterious ship appearing and disappearing



without a trace, only at certain hours each day, growing fainter each time. Emily and her friends try to figure out the mystery behind it, and the closest they could get to solving it is that a similar looking ship had recently disappeared with all its passengers on board. Later Emily finds herself near the ship and bravely accepts the challenge to solve its mystery once and for all. She meets people having a good time, without any care in the world about their past. Emily comes to realize that these people are the missing passengers of the missing ship and that they had their memories of the past slowly erased, and now they are stuck on this ship that is temporarily suspended in between our world and Atlantis. Emily only has a few hours to save the doomed passengers before they are all trapped in another dimension forever. With quick thinking Emily manages to find a way to save everybody and reunite them with their families.

I liked this book a lot. The story unfolded smoothly and was very captivating to read, keeping me guessing and worrying along the way with the main character. The suspense is great and the story itself is mind-boggling.

I rate this book 5 out of 5, with five being the best.

Christina J. is a 7th grader. She is an avid reader, who enjoys some peace and quiet with a good book about some great adventure. Christina is a young author herself, in 5th grade she wrote a book *Melody's Stories: I Am a Spy Now*, published by Studenttreasures Publishing (PIN #3582798).

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Naomi's Book Review



Naomi

A Magical Box

The Secret Kingdom by Rosie Banks is a book full of mystery, suspense, adventure, thrills and excitement.

This book is about three girls called Jasmine, Ellie and Summer who found a magical box that gave them a riddle. That the girls couldn't solve. Therefore the box sent the three girls to another world where they saw fairies, kings, queens, and trolls. Where they also went through different stages in weather. After going through all that adventure the three girls solved the riddle. Then the box sent the three girls back home. Where they made sure to put the box in a safe place where no one could ever find it again.

I give this book 5 stars because it is interesting and has many different scenes that just make me want to keep reading it over and over again. This is why I recommend this book to everyone.

Naomi is a fourth grader that enjoys reading and writing. But aside from her joy of reading she loves to play the piano, drawing, coloring and be involved in any school event. She rates her book from 1-5 stars with 5 being the highest.



Richard's Book Review



Richard J.

Follow Through Pays Off

The book, *Froggy Plays in the Band* by Jonathan London, is one of the series of books about Froggy by this author. Froggy and his friends wanted to be in a band, but they weren't good at it, so their music teacher told them they had three weeks to practice until the march, and if they did good they might win a prize. At first Froggy and his friends didn't play well, but after they practiced hard for 3 weeks they ended up sounding very good in the marching band and got a Golden Trophy in the shape of a saxophone as a reward.



I liked how the story is that in the beginning Froggy and his friends were discouraged, but practiced hard anyway, and all their hard work had paid off, because practice makes perfect, and everyone should stay determined and work hard to follow through to reach their goal. I also liked many fun illustrations in the book by Frank Remkiewicz.

Richard J. is a second grader who likes math, coloring, fun activities, playing on the playground and reading. Richard rates the book 5 out of 5, with 5 being the best.

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