

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the La Habra City School District



Volume 6, Issue 16

October 2019–January 2020

Kindergartners Starting Their Year



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LHCSD – FILLING BUCKS #COMMITT



Dr. Joanne Culverhouse
Superintendent

La Habra City School District is off to a great start and our buckets are overflowing. In fifteen months, we reconfigured, redesigned, and revitalized our entire educational system. All of our schools have a magnet focus with a Transitional Kindergarten (TK) through sixth grade model. We

successfully completed our first year of the reconfiguration and we have now moved into our fourth “R” - Results. We are experiencing increased test scores, attendance and enrollment. We are also experiencing an amazing culture of pride and positivity.

Over the summer I was reminded of the simple book by Tom Rath and Don Clifton Ph.D *How Full is your Bucket*. It is a quick read and it features powerful stories and actionable strategies from a 50-year study. The theory is that everyone has an invisible bucket. It is constantly emptied or filled, depending on what others say or do to us. Kids depend on us to fill their buckets and that is what we do on a daily basis. All staff have the potential to change



the life of a child. With each commitment we create for our students, it fills their bucket on a daily basis.

We are united as a team and continue to focus on #1Team1Vision. It is our culture and operating as a team is what we do. The “why” of our focus is clear and our kids need us. They come to us with buckets filled at varying levels and individually and collectively, each of us has the ability to fill their buckets each day...it is what we do in LHCSD.

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Welcome back to another new school year. By now students are settled into their routines, which is evident as you read the articles in this issue.

Superintendent Dr. Culverhouse begins this issue with her message of the District's commitment to fill each student's invisible bucket. My book

selection for this weekend is *How Full is your Bucket*.

This is our 6th year publishing *School News* covering the La Habra City School District. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. Our next issue is February 12, 2020.



PROUD TO BE A LA HABRA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT!



DRE#
01895143

Dear "Parent",

I'm Ray Fernandez & my wife Krista and I own a home in La Habra. We have 3 kids, Reagan, Grayson and Logan, plus a dog named Getzy. We love our fun & safe, family neighborhood with its great public schools.

As the top performing Realtor® in La Habra and La Habra Heights for 2018 – 2019*, I work closely with people every day, buying & selling local homes. Since I own a home in the market I serve, the success of the nearby real estate market directly affects the value of our neighborhood as well as yours. Simply put, what matters to you, matters to me! If you're considering selling your home I would encourage you to call me to discuss your real estate needs!

From our family to yours, Ray Fernandez



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* Statistics pulled from CRMLS 1/1/2018 to present.

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School Readiness

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Ready to Serve

The La Habra City School District's School Readiness Program is open and ready to serve children (birth to five) and their families living in La Habra. Our engaging and interactive classes are offered daily at all four of our sites; Las Lomas School, El Cerrito School, La Habra Library, and Hillcrest Health and Wellness Center. Through our classes, children and their families explore

hands-on learning activities in the areas of math, reading, writing, music, and science. We are proud to announce the addition of Spanish and nutrition classes for our families. All classes are free for La Habra residents.



If you have further questions, please contact Debbye Viveros, School Readiness Coordinator, at (562) 690-2386.

We look forward to seeing you soon at School Readiness!

Educational Services

500 N. Walnut St., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2305
www.lahabraschools.org



iReady Diagnostic

Have you heard your student or their teacher talking about iReady? iReady is a Diagnostic test given to most students Districtwide in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. (At the Dual Immersion Language Academy at Ladera Palma, students take the Math Diagnostic in Spanish only.) Students in 2-8th grade are taking both Diagnostic tests through September 13th, and students in Kinder and first grade

will take their Diagnostic tests September 23rd through October 11th.

The iReady Diagnostic results help teachers know what ELA and Math skills students have mastered. With this information, teachers can plan lessons and interventions to support students' growth. Some students need remediation, while others need reinforcement or enrichment. Teachers will share the iReady Diagnostic results at our first parent conference in October.

We are so proud of our teachers' efforts to differentiate instruction and help all students grow!

District Wellness

500 N. Walnut, La Habra, CA 90632 • 562/690-2344x302
www.lahabraschools.org



La Galaxy OC Coming to LHCS

An exciting program has begun at all seven Elementary Schools as LHCS, in partnerships with LA Galaxy Orange County will be delivering a six-week after school soccer club for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students. This program is designed to give students an opportunity to develop their soccer skills in a fun and safe environment. Each week students will focus on different soccer skills, including passing, dribbling, and shooting. Students will be given a basic fitness test at the beginning and end of the program to show the increase in fitness levels and the positive results of students being physically active!

Jessica Stout-Ryder
Lead



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Texting and Driving: A Killing Combination



Teens love to text. They'll send messages any time and anywhere. But if they text from behind the wheel of a car, the results could be deadly.

Studies show that texting and driving is as dangerous as drinking and driving. If you text while behind the wheel, you're 23 times more likely to crash. Although many states have laws making it illegal to text while driving, teens (and many parents) still do it, even though they know it's dangerous. When teens are driving, any activity besides keeping their eyes on the road and their hands on the wheel -- like emailing, downloading music, taking pictures -- is a huge no no.



So how can you make sure your teen is phone-free while behind the wheel?

- **Make it non-negotiable.** Teens need to understand that keys and phones simply do not mix. Let them know that distracted driving is just as dangerous as drunk driving.
- **Set clear rules.** Tell your teens to turn off their phones and put them in the glove box before they start the car. If you're not sure your teen has the will power to do this consistently, consider using apps that specifically restrict texting while driving.
- **Download an app that disables the phone when you're driving.** If you don't trust yourself, get an app that will keep you honest.
- **Set an example.** Resist the impulse to check your own phone while in traffic. Your kids are watching what you do. And chances are, they'll copy your behavior.

There's no denying that texting is here to stay. So managing when and where your kids do use their phones is critical -- not just for their development, but for their safety as well.

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At 26 weeks, Stephanie's water broke and she was rushed to her local hospital. At the recommendation of her doctor, Stephanie was transported to MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach. Maternal-fetal medicine specialists and neonatologists, who are in-house 24/7, delayed delivery, and Izabell was born at 33 weeks. Izabell was taken just down the hall to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit under the same roof as Stephanie -- so mom and baby were never separated during their care.



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Arbolita (TK—6) Visual & Performing Arts

1001 E. Brookdale Ave., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2352 • www.lahabraschools.org



Jennifer McCully Rodriguez
Principal

We Rock!!

Arbolita Visual and Performing Arts Academy had a fantastic first year, and we were all so excited to kick off the new school year!! Our staff greeted students with a red carpet, pom poms, and some rock n roll outfits. We had drums, guitars, and a rockin' photo backdrop for pictures! We saw smiles all around as our excited rock star students entered the campus through our new security gate. Our theme for this year is "Arbolita Rocks—we are learning like Rock Stars!" We are so excited to be in the second year of our new mathematics program in addition to continuing our language arts and Visual and Performing Arts programs. This year, we are working with Art Masters to provide visual arts lessons. We kicked off the school year with dance assemblies, and piano lessons and choir have started right away. Our students have been working hard on their diagnostic testing for our new iReady intervention program.



Additionally, each classroom will participate in Restorative Circles each week to address any concerns, build classroom relationships, and work on the social-emotional needs of our students. Our Disney Musical in Schools team will be producing the musical, *The Lion King*, in the spring. We will also be holding our 2nd Annual Arbolita Arts Festival in May, which will include student drama and dance performances, artwork, and family fun! We continue to emphasize the spirit of #1Team#1 vision and uphold our high expectations and success for all students that allows us the opportunity to Collaborate, Innovate, Commit, and Achieve to our highest levels!

El Cerrito (TK—6) Computer Science Magnet School

1051 N. Hillside, La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2340 • www.lahabraschools.org



Emily Szary
Principal

A Computer Science Magnet School

El Cerrito School, serving students in grades TK-6, is one of two Computer Science Magnet Schools in Orange County. All students are issued their own iPad to be used at school and at home! Students share solutions featuring computer programming with a real-world audience beyond their teacher and collaborate with experts in the world as they use computer programming to solve problems. These experiences contribute to student ownership of their work, and deeper, longer-lasting learning in all content areas.



Students are engaged in a structured Computer Science Program that provides lessons and activities regularly. These activities include learning programming languages and how to apply what they learn using Scratch 2.0, LEGO Robotics, and Minecraft Education. As the school year progresses, lessons are woven into other core subject area instructional time. Teachers help students solve relevant and authentic problems which will be showcased throughout the school year to the community; these showcases, known as "Epic Builds," will occur several times this year. El Cerrito students will be equipped with skills to ensure success in the future! We are very excited about this opportunity!

Imperial (6—8) International Baccalaureate

1450 S. Schoolwood Dr., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2344 • www.lahabraschools.org



Cathy Seighman
Principal

Becoming an IB School

Welcome back! The excitement of a new school year reverberates through our campus. Staff and teachers alike are digging into a new year of learning. Fresh off solid academic growth from last year, Imperial is well into the candidacy phase of becoming an International Baccalaureate (IB) school.

Through this process, our students continue to meet the positive challenges of rigorous academics and character development with great success. Our commitment to the visual and performing arts continues to edify our students, building well-rounded young people.

Imperial classrooms are places where students make real-world connections through engaging curriculum. Our students grow into life-long learners excited to acquire new knowledge. Through the IB learner profile, they become Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-Minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced, and Reflective.

We invite you to partner with our school community this year. Together we will collaborate, innovate, commit, and achieve success for all students!



Ladera Palma (TK—6) Dual Immersion Academy

2151 E. Brookdale Ave., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2348 • www.lahabraschools.org



Dr. Rosa Murillo
Principal

Positive Educational Journey

Welcome y Bienvenidos to the 2019-20 school year! At Ladera Palma Dual Immersion Academy, we are excited to have such a large community of bilingual, bi-literate, and bicultural learners.

This year, we are able to offer TK to 5th grade classrooms. Ever since returning from our summer break, our school is a whirlwind of activities to welcome our students and families. Kinder and TK Orientation had our students meet their teachers and gave our parents a brief orientation of our procedures and protocols for our youngest students.



Our First Day of School was a wonderful success with our entire school community pitching in to make sure it was a happy day for all! Our Back to School Night was packed with our families! Our PTA and several community partners came to support our families with information as teachers explained our program and their expectations. At school, our students have learned so much already like our PBIS behavioral expectations and rewards.

Overall, learning in TWO languages has been happening since day one, and we are eager to continue this positive educational journey into the school year.

Las Lomas (TK—6) Entrepreneur Exploration

301 Las Lomas Dr., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2353 • www.lahabraschools.org



Pam Cunningham
Principal

A Fantastic Beginning

The students and families at Las Lomas School were welcomed back to the 2019-2020 school year with smiling faces and excitement on the first day of school. While the students were enjoying their summer, the staff and PTA were gearing up for another fantastic year!

The teachers were busy

reviewing standards, designing curriculum, and developing lessons to promote the 21st Century skills of communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking that our students need to be college and career ready.

While the teachers were busy on the academic front, our PTA was busy planning a fun-filled year for our students to complement the curriculum and provide our students and their

families with events that build a strong school community. Our wonderful PTA and volunteers started the year off with a free Ice Cream Social enabling the students and their families to get to know each other a little better. This free event was a huge success and provided our families with the opportunity to learn how they can get more involved in the PTA.

We are off to a fantastic start!



Las Positas (TK—5) International Baccalaureate

1400 S. Schoolwood Dr., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2356 • www.lahabraschools.org



Sharon Hensley
Principal

We are Bucket Fillers!

Las Positas Elementary students, staff, and community members are bucket fillers! We have had a terrific opening to our 2019-2020 school year showing kindness and respect to all. Our school community is embarking on our second year of IB PYP Candidacy, and are gearing up for full authorization soon. The Learner Profile of the International Baccalaureate Primary

Years Programme (IB PYP) displays the attributes necessary to be bucket fillers, and our students are living these attributes. Our students are becoming balanced, open-minded, caring, thinkers who are principled, knowledgeable, communicators. Students are courageous to become inquirers and reflect on their learning. Students are becoming lifelong learners, problem solvers, and bucket fillers.

Our students learn how to “Think Globally and Act Locally.” We are excited for the endless possibilities of student growth at Las Positas! We are thankful for our community support! For more information and/or school tours, please call 562.690.2356 to schedule an appointment.



Sierra Vista (TK—6) No Excuses University/Music

1800 E. Whittier Ave., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2359 • www.lahabraschools.org



Anna Dorado
Principal

Supporting our Student's Needs

As the proud principal of Sierra Vista School, we are excited to kick off the 2019-20 school year! In our fourth year as an official “No Excuses University School,” we are focused on our students’ successes and preparing them for the future.

Whether that future means college or career, we want

to ensure that EACH child is educated in a way that will prepare him/her for whatever path they may choose. Sierra Vista is rich in college symbolism as we encourage our students to broaden their horizons and see beyond the four walls of their classroom.

In addition to our school focus, we will deepen our systems in addressing how we support ALL our students’ needs, whether those be academic, social/emotional, behavioral, or physical health. Our emphasis is on the whole child and developing, refining, and strengthening

our students’ skills across all areas and specifically to what their needs are. Our staff is working diligently to make data-informed decisions on how to best do this and include our students and families as much as possible in being part of the solution for all students’ success!



Walnut (TK—6) STEAM Academy/AVID

625 N. Walnut St., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2369 • www.lahabraschools.org



Dr. Alma Noche
Principal

New and Important Changes

The force is strong at Walnut STEAM Academy! For the second year in a row, staff, students, and their families welcomed new and important changes at Walnut. They were met with new gates, a freshly painted cafeteria and

resurfaced black tops.

The staff at

Walnut started the school year with plenty of energy and excitement at the school pep rally. Students played games, danced with their friends, and learned about the school’s focus, which is showing kindness to everyone. Students are encouraged to show kindness daily through their actions and with their words to make everyone feel cared for and loved.

Walnut STEAM Academy is geared up and we will continue to integrate STEAM in our school. All students in TK through 6th grade have received their iPads and are ready to work on 21st century skills such as coding and engineering. We will be holding STEAM showcases throughout the year. Hope to see you there!



Washington (7-8) Project Lead the Way/STEM/Music

716 E. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/960-2374 • www.lahabraschools.org



Dr. Edward Resnick
Principal

Welcome Back Patriots

The Washington Patriots' staff is eager to welcome our returning 8th grade students and new 7th grade students. We welcomed our 2019-2020 Washington Patriots by asking students, parents, and staff to write inspirational chalk

messages across campus. Smiles were abundant on the first days of school.

Washington Middle School is embracing its new role as a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics (STEAM) Academy. This year we enhanced our elective choices for students. Patriots may select from PLTW (Robotics and Engineering), AVID, ASB, PALS, Business Academy, Theater Arts, Choir, and now, Band. In addition to our electives, we now provide our students with access to Code To The Future in our 7th and 8th grade Math classes.



With strong support from our School Board and Superintendent, we have new fencing, new paint, and curriculum upgrades that make Washington a great place to go to school.

Things to Sit On—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 LaHabra in the subject line.

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| SOFA | GROUND |
| CHAIR | GRASS |
| CAR SEAT | BLANKET |
| TRACTOR | BLEACHERS |
| TRIKE | SIDEWALK |
| BIKE | STREET |
| MOTORCYCLE | TRUCK |
| BED | VAN |
| BUNK | SWING |
| ROCKER | |
| BENCH | |

Entries must be received by **December 15, 2019**
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.



Congratulations to Greg Hernandez
Winner of our April Word Search Contest!

Yoona's Review



Yoona C.

Dog Heroes

Did you know that dogs can be heroes and save people's lives? In this book, there are 20 inspiring stories of dogs. One dog that I loved



the most was Togo. People didn't believe that Togo, a Siberian husky, could be one of the hardest-working sled dogs in history. At first, he made a lot of trouble--one night, he even broke glass from a window to escape. But he got trained and became the lead sled dog. He traveled 200 miles to deliver the medicine to cure diphtheria under very cold weather. One of the awards that he got was Most Traveled Dog in Alaska.

I like this book because I could read 20 different dog heroes' amazing stories. I also like the real photos of the dogs included in this book.

Yoona is a 2nd grader. She likes playing soccer and the piano. She likes to create stories as well.



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Richard's Book Review



Richard J.

Finding the Right Way of Doing Things

Big Nate Flips Out
by Lincoln Peirce

Nate is a 6th grader, known by everybody for his sarcasm and sloppiness. A lot of things happen with Nate and his friends. The main thing

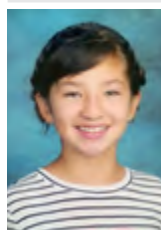


is that Nate and his friend Francis are participating in putting together a school yearbook, but things do not go easy. Another student Gina, also involved in this project, hates to work with Nate, because he's messy and irresponsible. One problem after another, and Nate runs out of patience and excuses for himself. He takes a drastic step and asks a hypnotist to hypnotize him to become neat and responsible. But does it work and does he and his friends like it? You'll have to read the book to find out.

I enjoyed this book; it is funny and relatable. Half of the book are comics, which are fun to read. I rate this book 5 out of 5 stars.

Richard is a curious 5th grader. His favorite subjects are math and P.E. He likes to play sports with his friends, read funny books and watch nature documentaries. He likes writing book reviews because he hopes they will interest other kids to read these books.

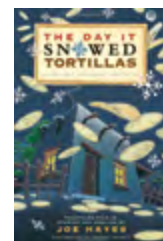
B is for Book



Bailey

Folk Tale Galore

"The Day it Snowed Tortillas" by Joe Hayes is an awesome Mexican folktale book with ten interesting tales to learn from.



Ranging from "La Llorona" to "Juan

Camison", my favorite one is "The Best Thief" where a boy must prove to the king that he's the best thief. In "Good Advice", a boy spends three months of earnings on advice. His parents drive him out of the house, thinking it was a waste. Were they right? In "The Prince", a few friends made along the way may be the only thing a prince needs to win.

I love this book because there are many important lessons, like always listen to your parents, lying will only get you into trouble, and intelligence is stronger than physical strength. I also enjoyed this book because it includes all the stories in Spanish too. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars.

Bailey is an eighth grader who loves to read whenever she's not dancing or with her friends.

Note-ables



Kate Karp

'Can You Feel It?'

Can You Feel It?

is a collection of original songs about natural science, played simply and organically.

Banjo, bass, steel guitar, drums and keyboard blend with Jessa Campbell's lilting voice as she sings to both young people and adults about sun and shadow, a salmon's circular journey from birth to spawning adulthood, burrowing mammals, fractals...



Wait—*fractals?*

Yes, fractals. And alevins, bract, trillium and frass. *Can You Feel It?* doesn't play cute with science. The selections enchantingly introduce science vocabulary without being didactic or windy. They sneak up on anthropomorphism but don't diminish or trivialize the concepts through fantasy. "Waltz of the Trillium and Ant," for instance, encapsulates the natural partnership of flower structure, ant colonies, pollination and germination in a waltz melody. It's like a fairy tale, but the sprites are unarguably real. "Mole in the Ground," written in the Appalachian mountain tune manner, speeds up or slows down each verse depending on the pace of each animal.

The title song has a silent tone and focuses on feeling instead of sound. The listener can feel the waves as the salmon roll from freshwater to saltwater and back, changing from alevin to smolt to adult. The bouncy "T-Rex in the Forest" begs to be acted out by children who'll enjoy snoring like a prehistoric reptile. "How I Love You, Sun" is a worthy love song to the star that gives light, energy and life to everything on Earth.

How Campbell manages to pack so many ideas about each topic into every song without cramming it all in is a marvel, like her subjects themselves.

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

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GIFT CARDS (FOR INDIVIDUALS & TEENS)

- Wal-Mart
Target
Grocery Stores
Restaurants
Movie Tickets
Bus Passes
Gas Cards

GIFT WRAP

- Gift wrap
Scotch tape
Gift bags
Tissue paper

VOLUNTEERS

Please call the Community Center if you would like to donate, volunteer and be a part of this community giving program. (562) 383-4200

FINANCIAL DONATIONS (ANY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!)

Checks payable to City of La Habra
Cash and Credit Card donations accepted
Please deliver or mail to the La Habra Community Center



TAMALE FESTIVAL

Sunday, December 1, 2019 - 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Over 20,000 people attended the 2018 Tamale Festival

HOSTED BY

Presented By:



City of La Habra Tamale Festival

To join our 2019 food and general vendor mailing list please go to

LaHabraTamaleFestival.com