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School News



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Covering the La Habra City School District

Volume 7, Issue 19

October 2020–January 2021



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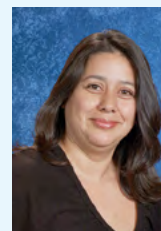
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SUPERINTENDENT

LHCSD – A Different Beginning, But the Same Passion for Learning



Dr. Joanne Culverhouse
Superintendent

There is a phrase that states, “Distance makes the heart grow fonder.” As we head into the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, with Distance Learning 2.0 and Virtual Learning, we are reminded that distance cannot extinguish the commitment and passion we have for our students and each other. During these unprecedented times, there are nearly 1.5 billion children around the globe impacted by online learning and more than 60 million

teachers committed to providing distance learning to their students in their homes. Although there are still a lot of uncertainties surrounding this pandemic, there is one thing for certain, our commitment to support and take care of one another.

In times of crisis, a successful organization is defined by not only how it responds to the situation but also how it turns it into an opportunity of growth. As this pandemic strips away the predictability of our daily lives, LHCSD has responded with a strong sense of dedication, ingenuity, compassion, and kindness. As we continue to pave the path to educate our students in this pandemic, LHCSD is there for every student, every day. Although our “family” may not be tied by genetics, we are deeply connected with love and support for one another and the families we serve.

I am overwhelmed with a sense of pride for our teachers and support staff who have shifted their strategies and opened their hearts and minds to a different way of educating our students. We are “Stronger Together More Than Ever” and we continue to focus on a growth mindset as we enter the 2020-2021 school year.



Happy Halloween

School Readiness

301 W. Las Lomas Dr., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2386
<http://www.lahabraschools.org/school-readiness>



Debbye Viveros
Coordinator

A Free Program Birth to Five

School Readiness is celebrating its 20th year in La Habra supporting young children and their families! School Readiness is a free program offered to children, birth to five, and their families to prepare them for success in transitional kindergarten, kindergarten and beyond. We have online classes designed to support the growth of our children in all developmental areas. Registration is open and classes have begun! Please visit our website above for more information. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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Kay Coop
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Covering the LA HABRA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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endorse the advertisers in this publication.

Welcome back to another school year. This is our 7th year publishing the La Habra City School District *School News*. There have been many changes throughout the years; however, I think we all agree this is the most challenging. Americans are innovative and educators are at the top of the list. Zoom has taken on a whole new meaning to this generation of students. Fortunately, students and educators were proficient with technology to help with the seamless transition to distance learning. Families stepped up to the challenge.

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Be sure to enter our word search contest on pages 10. All ages may enter. Also, if your child would like to be a columnist reviewing his/her favorite books, email me for information.

Our next issue is February 10, 2021.



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Arbolita (TK—6) Visual & Performing Arts Academy

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



Jennifer McCully Rodriguez
Principal

Arbolita World Tour

Even though the start of the year looked different, our staff and families were ready to rock the 2020-2021 school year. The theme for Arbolita Visual and Performing Arts Academy this year is Arbolita World Tour. We will explore different cultures, music, traditions, and more from around the world. We enjoyed kicking off the school year virtually and trying out new tech tools for increasing student engagement. Our students are participating in weekly music classes, PE, and art classes! Our teachers set up virtual classrooms both at school and at home, and our home school communication is going strong through Class Dojo, Seesaw, Remind, Facebook, and Twitter! We are taking advantage of this time of distance learning to build stronger relationships with families and run small targeted skills groups with students. We are excited for the coming year, and we look forward to when we can return to school safely in person!



Mrs. Kruij preparing for her day with her kindergarteners VIRTUALLY!

El Cerrito (TK—6) Code to the Future (Computer Science)

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



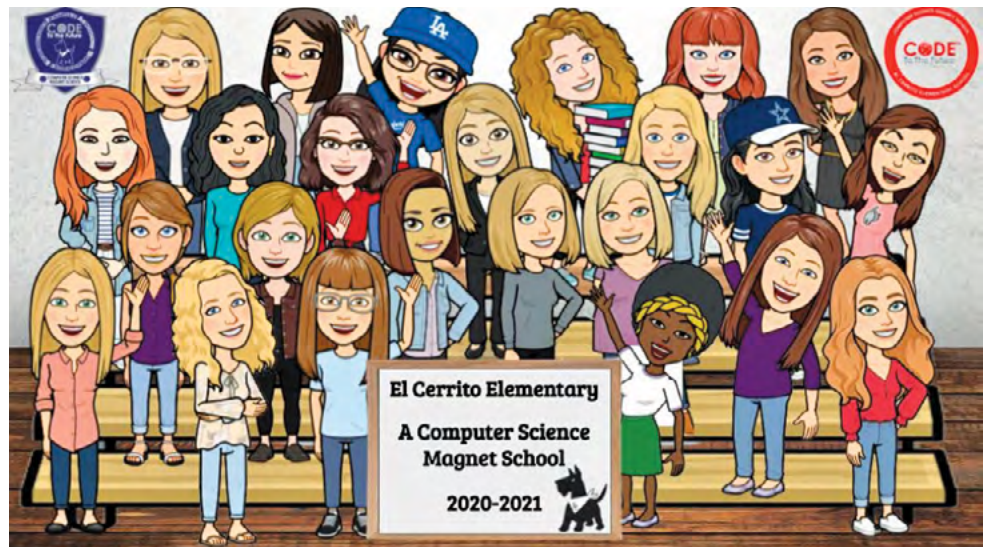
Emily Flesher
Principal

El Cerrito's Distance Learning Success

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

Though our Scotties are not physically at school in classrooms with their teachers, their minds are constantly thinking while engaging in learning at home. Distance learning is in full swing and has been since the first day of school. Our dedicated staff work endlessly to ensure all of our students are not only showing up to their "Zoom" sessions, but they are thoroughly engaged in the learning opportunities provided to them as evidenced by their completed work posted virtually for all to enjoy.

We are now more than ever committed to producing confident, self-directed learners in a highly motivating, student-centered virtual environment.



Pictured via bitmoji is our tremendous Scottie staff who will not rest until all student minds are engaged and ready to think be it virtually or in person!

Imperial (6—8) International Baccalaureate & Visual Performing Arts

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



Cathy Seighman
Principal

An International Baccalaureate School

As we continue our exciting journey at Imperial Middle School, this year brings opportunity for growth and learning. Once again, Imperial staff has shown resilience and

commitment to our students as we continue with our authorization process to become an International Baccalaureate School. We kicked off the year with several parent/student virtual events, which allowed for building relationships and connections, providing transparency for the year, and an opportunity to set high expectations to ensure student success.



The dedicated team at Imperial believes in working together with colleagues, students, parents, and the community to provide an inquiry-based learning environment that also supports the social emotional needs of our students. Our goal is to empower all students with the skills and knowledge to become compassionate, inquisitive, principled young people who will create a more peaceful

world through global awareness, critical thinking, and a commitment to action and service.

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

Ladera Palma Strong!

The beginning of the 2020-2021 school year has definitely had its own share of challenges! One thing our Ladera Palma community of students, families, and staff does is to rally together to meet these challenges. Our

staff has been able to transform the way our students receive Dual Immersion instruction to create an amazing and rigorous virtual program collaboratively. Our support staff, while keeping safe and socially distant, has been working in unison to provide virtual and in person support to our families and staff. Finally, our fabulous PTA has been meeting often to plan community virtual events, like our monthly Loteria event, to maintain our sense of togetherness through this pandemic. We're off to a great start, Ladera Palma Strong!





Debbye Viveros
Interim Principal

Lion Pride

On behalf of the staff at Las Lomas School, we would like to thank all of our children and families for an amazing start to the 2020-2021 school year! We are grateful for your commitment, dedication, and participation in your child's education.

Las Lomas staff worked diligently over the summer to create a new positive behavior system that supports our students. Students that demonstrate Lion pride have a proactive attitude, show resilience, have integrity, are digital and entrepreneurial citizens. The staff celebrated our children with a parade through our attendance areas to acknowledge our student's behavior. Our Las Lomas Lions are working hard during distance learning! They are participating in Zoom classes, completing assignments, and demonstrating Lion pride! We are so proud of our outstanding Lions and look forward to a great year of learning!



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Sharon Hensley
Principal

We are on an Amazing Journey!

Las Positas International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme Candidate Elementary School continues to rise to the conditions set by distance learning. Our dedicated teachers are continuing the IB Programme of Inquiry ensuring our students are using inquiry in their learning. All teachers are maintaining

the IB standards and state standards, creating innovative and interactive learning experiences for students through distance learning. Students are responding and our parent community is inspired by how their children are able to articulate the IB transdisciplinary theme and show action in their learning. Students are participating in IB Spanish, IB Art and IB Personal Social Physical Education, as they would if they were on campus. An IB team conducted a virtual IB visitation for verification on September 17 and 18, to verify Las Positas is ready to be an IB PYP World School! Exciting things are happening at Las Positas, even while distance learning!



Mrs. Olynyk, a second grade teacher, working with students on Zoom through the IB Programme of Inquiry - Who we are. Discovery, inquiry, response and action taking place!



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Sierra Vista (TK—6) College Pathways-No Excuses & Music/Art Exploration

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



Anna Dorado
Principal

No Excuses

ZOOOOOOOOOMMMMMMMMMMMMM!

This describes our experience as we begin the year with online learning. To say it has been an immense undertaking is putting it lightly, but as a true No Excuses Learning Community, we make NO excuses for getting online, connecting and learning!

The face of teaching and learning has dynamically changed and our students,

families, and teachers have made it all possible. With great patience, grace, and perseverance, we are engaging daily in live core instruction, assessing students either through our online programs or our one-on-one Zoom classes, and have even begun our afternoon enrichment activities in music, physical education and extra support groups for our English learners.

We have become creative with school connectedness through virtual assemblies, virtual community circles to engage students in their social-emotional learning, and finally virtual parent education and support. Everyone has jumped into this digital world to make teaching



and learning a rigorous, engaging, and highly relevant experience. We could not be more proud and excited to get our students and families learning in this new environment and continuing to make a difference in our students' lives!

Walnut (TK—6) STEAM Academy/AVID

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



Dr. Alma Noche
Principal

One of America's #Healthiest Schools

We opened this school year with flying colors. We're proud to receive a Gold Award for our success in prioritizing nutrition, physical activity, and strong wellness policies. With the support of our staff and community, Walnut STEAM Academy has been named one of America's #HealthiestSchools.

For the 2020-2021 new school year, our students showed tenacity and grit by jumping right into distance learning. Walnut STEAM Academy continues to improve our attendance every day and we are proud of all our students' efforts in this new digital platform. It is wonderful to see our four-year-old students all the way to 6th graders highly involved and active in their daily Zoom. Our students will continue to enjoy STEAM-related activities this school year. These activities will include 21st-century skills like coding, broadcasting, animation, photo/video editing, and many more. Please stay tuned for announcements about our digital showcases highlighting our students' work.



Mrs. Fisher smiles lovingly at her eager TK students' efforts in her digital classroom.

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

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



Greg White
Principal

Making Real World Connections!

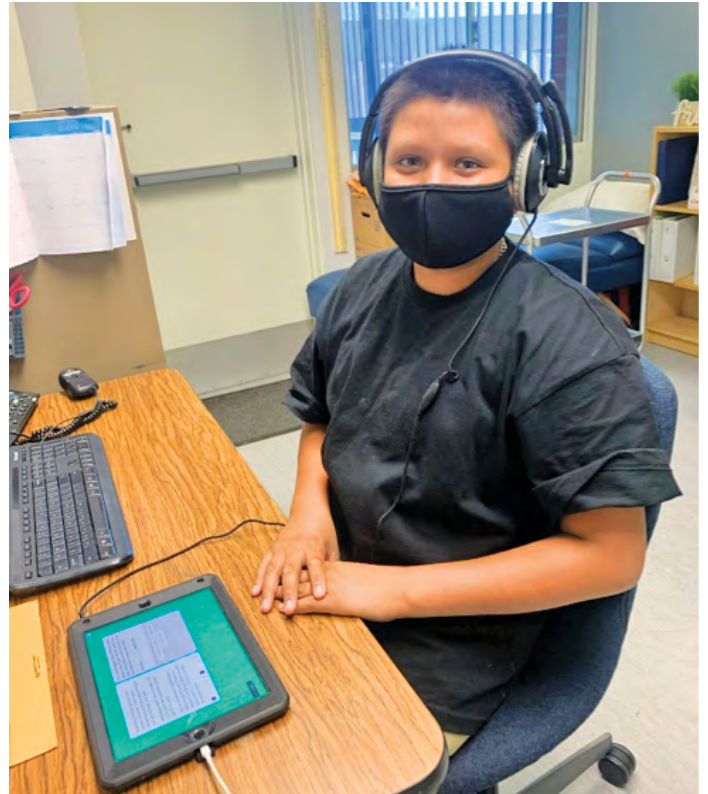
Welcome back! The excitement of a new school year typically reverberates through our campus. Students and teachers alike are digging into a new year of learning as they are fresh off a relaxing summer break that helped to recharge and refocus for a new learning adventure. However, while the excitement and efforts with new learning are well underway in our

Washington community, this energy can be felt through our Zoom classrooms.

Through this process, our students are striving to meet the positive challenges of rigorous academics and solid character development with overwhelming success. Our commitment to electives in the areas of science and technology, visual and performing arts, community service and AVID, continues to edify our students, building well-rounded young people.

Washington virtual classrooms are places where students make real world connections through engaging curriculum and grow into life-long learners.

We invite you to partner with our school community this year!



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)

Entries must be received by

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

Halloween Word Search Contest

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| BLACK CAT | HALLOWEEN |
| CANDY | JACK O LANTERN |
| CARVE | MUMMY |
| CEMETERY | SKELETON |
| COSTUME | SPIDER |
| DECORATIONS | SWAMP CREATURE |
| FRANKENSTEIN | TRICK OR TREAT |
| FRIGHTFUL | VAMPIRE |
| GHOST | WEB |
| GHOUL | WEREWOLF |
| GRAVE | WITCH |
| HAUNTED HOUSE | ZOMBIE |



Congratulations to Benjamin Abarca — Winner of the last Word Search Contest!

Jenna's Review



Jenna C.

A Rocky Road

Title: *Fish in a Tree*

Author: Lynda Mullaly Hunt

This story is about a girl named Ally who is struggling with reading words. Ally was always the "bad student," but it all changed when her teacher

had to give birth and the sub teacher, Mr. Daniels came. Almost everything flipped around. She made friends, she worked harder, she was happy, and she started chess lessons with Mr. Daniels. Only one thing doesn't change, she can't stand up to her bully. Ally tells Mr. Daniels about what's going on about the words that she can't read. Mr. Daniels says that he can help her. Next, an election goes on for class president and Ally gets nominated. Can she win? Can she learn to read? Last but not least can she stand up to her bully? I give this book a 5 out of 5 as it is such an inspiring book for all of us.



Jenna is a 5th grader. She enjoys playing soccer and painting. She likes to read fiction novels. Someday she wants to publish a book.

Yoona's Review



Yoona C.

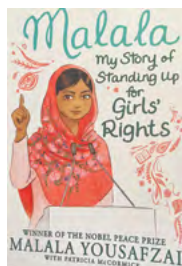
A Brave Girl

Title: *Malala my story of standing up for Girls' Rights*

Author: Malala Yousafzai with Patricia McCormick

Do you know Malala Yousafzai? Malala was born on July 12, 1997 in Mingora. Malala is

well known for standing up for girls' rights. I'm going to tell you about some important things that Malala has been through. Malala loved school, in fact her father was the principal of a school. Everything went pretty well until the Talibans attacked where Malala lived. The Talibans did not like the idea of girls going to school and learning, so they damaged a lot of schools. Things started to get worse and Malala got shot. After some days in the hospital Malala survived the shot. It was a miracle. After this miracle, what did Malala do for Women's lives? She inspired me in many ways and I want to recommend this book to anyone who wants to know more about Malala.



Yoona is a 3rd grader. She likes to read books and create stories. She also enjoys singing and listening to music.

Kailani's Review

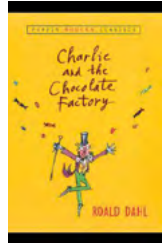


Kailani T.

Surprise for Charlie

Charlie and the

Chocolate Factory is a classic children story written by Roald Dahl. The story is about Charlie, a poor boy who lives in a small house with his parents and 4 grandparents.



One day, Charlie found some money buried in the snow. He used some of that money to buy Wonka bars. He found the fifth and final ticket to join 4 other lucky children who got to go on the tour of Willy Wonka factory. The factory is magical and mysterious. Inside the factory, the children were distracted by various wonderful creations. The tour of the factory had a hidden intention that was revealed at the end.

The story is funny and full of magic and mystery. I felt like I was on the tour of the factory while I was reading this book. I highly recommend this book for anyone who loves chocolates or anyone who loves reading a funny and mysterious story.

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

Manhar's Book Review



Manhar M.

The Wonder Ship

National Geographic Readers: Titanic by Melissa Stewart

is a book based on a true story. This book talks about what happened to the famous ship Titanic, why and how it sank and many amazing facts about it.

I got interested in this book after watching the movie Titanic. It has a lot of weird but true facts like the Titanic was as tall as a 17 story building. I also liked the ship diagram that tells about various parts of the ship. You will find great illustrations in this book. Do read this book to find out more facts about this amazing ship and the people who took this voyage!



Manhar M. is in Second Grade. Manhar likes science, math, coding, traveling, hiking and reading about world geography and trivia.



Parent To Parent



Jodie Lynn

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, often our kids were on their devices upwards of eight hours per day. What can parents do to keep them safe online and on their cell phones? It seems like more than ever, kids are getting spam emails, calls and texts from unknown sources. This is not acceptable, quite scary and exhausting to try to constantly monitor.

COVID-19 has isolated the majority of us and leaves us with levels of uncertainty, unusual scariness and frequent loneliness. Individuals are in a vulnerable place, especially our kids. This is the perfect time for sexual predators to approach them as it can come in many forms.

Give your kids a set of online safety rules that they will understand with explanations that they will believe and take to heart.

It's important for you to know which online games that your kids are playing. Many are multiplayer games where several online players can be together playing at once or just watching. These games have text and voice chat capabilities from around the world. This is highly dangerous because people can pretend to be someone else and of a certain age and can expose kids to unsuitable and unacceptable predatory language and content. These individuals can develop friendships with kids and eventually encourage them to meet in real life. It's important to recognize that each game has specific settings which you should check out and change for better online safety.

Remember not only to talk with your kids frequently about staying safe online, but also explain that anyone at any age can be cyberbullied. If a person or group want them to chime in about someone, tell them to ignore the request and don't return to that area and group. Explain why it's so important to think about what they are going to post at any given time or in any area before doing so, to keep their passwords safe, to always log off and not to click on links from people that they don't know. The right thing to do is to report the cyberbullying to an authoritative figure as well. They may just save a life.

You could also take their electronic devices away for a few hours each day, but for those hours that they're on them, rules and guidelines still need to be in place. Even if your kids seem to have level heads on their shoulders and you feel like you can trust them, they can still be sneaky.

It's easy to hide all kinds of online activities from parents with various apps:

Snapchat is a program where people can send images, videos, etc. to friends which will disappear within 10 to 30 seconds. It's pretty popular among teens. The hidden danger is that those "private" moments are not really deleted. They're hidden in files on most phones. Even more devastating and scary is that if someone takes a screen shot, the message, image or whatever can be posted anywhere.

Finsta is a fake Instagram account where anyone can create photos, conversations, etc., staying anonymous and keeping everything private through sharing with a few close friends and can be hidden on devices. But again, just like anything else, if a screen shot is taken, boom, it can show up anywhere online.

Be sure to read about popular apps and arm yourself with knowledge for options that you as the parent can do to help your kids be safe. Below you'll find a few but there's many others that you can find by doing an online search: Instagram, YouTube, Kik, Telegram, TikTok

There's also several phone apps offered to parents to help them monitor their kids' phone and online activities.

For unwanted calls or texts, it's simple to register landlines and cell phone numbers with the office of your state Attorney General's No-Call list for unwanted calls or texts. It's available online, free and will cut down on both. While it does take a few weeks to actually go into effect, it's best to get that done straight away. Do a little research and you'll also find several other government agencies where complaints can be made. Unfortunately, it's not going to totally eliminate them and that is even truer for robot calls. Learning some basic rules to share with your kids can also help.

For example: Don't answer any calls that are not in your contact list. If it's truly someone trying to reach you, they'll leave a message. If they don't, the number can quickly be blocked. The same goes for unwanted texts. The exception in this situation is going to be from "Unknown" or "Private" numbers, which are really hard to trace because no number shows up. However, there are phone apps to help with this. As far as spam email goes, if it's opened, don't click on any links. Look up how to set up filters and teach your kids how to recognize, delete and block it.

As you are well aware, this whole cyber safety situation is extremely exhausting. But, there's no way of getting around it if you're going to be proactive in protecting your children.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author. Her column Parent to Parent™ (www.ParentToParent.com) has been successful for more than 20 years. She is a regular contributor to several sites including *School News Roll Call* for 20 years and has written four books and contributed to three others, one of which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. She has authored several books including *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having Doing*, and *Surviving it All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* www.ParentToParent.com