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School News



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Covering the Newport-Mesa Unified School District

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OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER 2012

Nurturing Student Curiosity



Students enjoying their netbooks.

By Amy Nagy, Principal Newport Elementary

Samuel Johnson noted: Curiosity is one of the most permanent and certain characteristics of a vigorous mind. Nurturing student curiosity is a daily endeavor at Newport Elementary. We model the importance of “wondering” and taking the next step to find answers to our questions. Thanks to our wonderful Foundation, sixth grade students don’t have to wait until they go to computer lab to satisfy their curiosity. When a burning question arises, students can simply pull out their Acer Netbook and search for an answer. Phase Two of our Foundation’s Technology Plan was the purchase of 35 netbooks for our sixth grade classrooms. We are certainly putting them to good use. In addition to being used daily for research, the netbooks are in constant use as students refine their writing, publish their work, and practice their keyboarding skills.

Building the Team



Teamwork in sixth grade

By Jane Holm, Principal Abraham Lincoln Elementary

Learning to work as a team is one of the most important skills for the classroom and for future careers. Lincoln students focused on being good members of the Lincoln team during the first week of school. In sixth grade, students practiced working as a team as they built the highest freestanding structure they could in the time allotted. Sticks and gummy drops were the materials, and teams used only non-verbal communication as they strived to build a sturdy structure with the best design and the most creativity. Collaboration was reviewed as well. There appear to be many future architects at Lincoln! Go team!

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Getting to School Safely

On August 30, the Transportation Department began the year with our annual kick-off training event. As usual, it was an exciting, informative event. This year we were honored to have many dignitaries join us. Board Members Black, Davenport, and Foley shared some words of encouragement. So did our new superintendent, Dr. Navarro, as well as several district administrative leaders. We used this full-day training opportunity to celebrate the successes of last year and to prepare for the 2012–2013 school year. We cheered for Humberto Montalvan, our 2011–2012 Driver of the Year. However, most of the day was focused on customer service, safety, and anti-bullying training.

I thought I’d start the year with a few statistics about school buses. Each school bus replaces 36 cars, minimizing pollution. Buses also save more than 2.3 billion gallons of fuel each year. Nationally school buses keep 17.3 million cars off of roads surrounding schools each morning. Although these numbers are important, we all know that school bus safety is the most important benefit. School buses are the safest form of ground transportation available. This is due to the numerous bus construction safety features and extensive driver training. However, a vital component of our safety requires your help. Please be careful around our buses, and please stop when you see the flashing red lights.

Have a great school year!

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Kay Coop

Founder / Publisher



We are celebrating our 9th year publishing the excellence from the N-MUSD. The through the years the teaching techniques have changed a bit, technology has taken on a whole new role in the classroom, but the one constant has been focus on quality education. Thus, the district continues to celebrate student achievement at every grade level.

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

It seems summer is becoming a distant memory as the holidays will soon be upon us. Happy Halloween!



Neta Madson

School News

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Covering the
NEWPORT-MESA 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
COPY EDITORS:
Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia
CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST: Neta Madson
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Laura Brune



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Did you know:

- Learning problems may be related to vision?
- Comprehensive eye exams can detect learning-related vision problems by evaluating vision, eye tracking and eye focusing skills?



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Introduction to the Common Core State Standards




Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent


Today, more than any other time in history, educators are charged with ensuring that students are prepared with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the global economy. A large number of jobs today require a bachelor's degree or higher, and the new jobs projected to be created will incorporate a wide variety of education, training, and special skills. In Orange County, we are committed to preparing our youth for jobs that require higher order thinking, complex problem solving, and specialized skills. Those are the jobs that will command the salaries that will be needed to provide the ability to buy homes, raise families, and prosper in the twenty-first century.

As a nation, we must continue to raise the bar and ensure that all students have the opportunity to pursue post high school education that will prepare them for the specialized careers of the future. In this increasingly complex world, our job as educators is to create greater awareness of the college experience, expose youth to new and emerging career opportunities, heighten their desire to attain an education beyond high school, and help guide students in their preparation for postsecondary education, including technical and two-year degrees. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are an important step to achieving this goal.

While California's academic standards have consistently ranked at the top, the CCSS were developed to ensure the highest quality and consistency across the state and the nation. There has been a critical need for the development of a mutual set of national learning objectives in order to prepare all American students for a postsecondary education and success in life on a global level.

SEE OC COUNTY DEPT. OF ED • PAGE 13





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Adams *Elementary (K-6)*

2850 Club House Road, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7935 • <http://adams.nmusd.us/>



Gabriel DelReal
Principal

Achieving Perfection

Adams Elementary has an exciting tradition of celebrating student achievement every Friday at Flag Deck. Every Friday, parents are invited to our whole-school celebration during which students gather on the blacktop, sing a patriotic song, and develop a sense of community by recognizing the academic successes of our Adams All Stars.

Recently, four Adams students—Zaynab Olumi, Ivan Sotelo-Hernandez, Jake Alai and Stephen Mack—were recognized for perfect scores on the California Standardized Tests. Even though nobody's perfect, everyone at Adams was thrilled to recognize four of our Adams All Stars for the extraordinary accomplishment of a perfect score on the CSTs.

The students each received a gold-bordered certificate recognizing their accomplishment. These students serve as a model for our entire school. Through hard work, great teaching and perseverance, these Adams All Stars have achieved something truly remarkable.



Back Bay/Monte Vista *High School*

390 Monte Vista Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6900
<http://backbay.nmusd.us/>



Debbie Lucker Davis
Principal

Different Paths to Graduation

Back Bay is the NMSD's continuation high school, and Monte Vista is the independent high school. Both schools are fully accredited by WASC and offer A-G coursework for students wanting to attend California state college or university. Students graduating from both schools must complete the same graduation requirements. Students must apply to attend the Alternative Education Center. They may be referred through the director of student services, by an assistant principal or counselor at their home school, by parent request or through self-referral. After applying, the student must be accepted by the principal. All RSP students must have a change-in-placement IEP meeting with their home before transferring.

Back Bay High School students attend school daily and complete five classes every 60 days. Students who successfully completed all course work will earn 75 credits per year. All work is completed in class and consists of textbook work, projects, online instruction, group work and supplemental assignments. Seniors may request to test out of failed classes or to graduate early. The majority of students enrolled in Back Bay are juniors and seniors.

Before applying to Monte Vista High School, students must have successfully completed 120 credits, passed the California Exit tests in ELA and math, and be able to demonstrate evidence of academic ability. Independent MV students attend school once weekly for a minimum of two hours and complete each class in three weeks. Students who work, have medical issues or are involved in high-level competitive sports appreciate the flexibility of MV's program.

If you are interested in either program, talk to your high school counselor or assistant principal.

Roy O. Andersen *Elementary (K-6)*

1900 Port Seabourne Way, Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6935 • <http://andersen.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Shannon Bray
Principal

Triangle of Success

The 2012–2013 school year is off to a fantastic start at Andersen Elementary School. As the new principal, I am excited to be joining such an exemplary learning community and look forward to a prosperous school year.

Our school's mission is to develop character and create a positive school environment where learning is a shared responsibility in order to ensure all students experience success academically, physically, emotionally, and socially. The shared responsibility is what we refer to as our Triangle of Success, which involves equal partnership between the educational staff, the students, and the parent community. It is a winning combination which will ensure our students are provided with the best educational opportunities.

Andersen hosts Flag Deck every Friday morning. This event is a celebration of our students' commitment to the four Rs: Respect, Responsible, Ready, and Recycle. Staff, students, and families assemble on the blacktop for this special weekly event, which begins with the Pledge of Allegiance. During this time, classrooms are recognized for their hard work and exemplary behavior. Additionally, Pride Awards are given to students for showing their personal best, and the Dolphins of the Week are presented. The event concludes with a song and school cheer.

California *Elementary (K-6)*

3232 California Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7940 • <http://california.nmusd.us/>



Matthew Broesamle
Principal

A Great Start

California Elementary School is coming off of a great school year, and we are now looking forward to building on our success!

We had a very successful state testing season, with many students showing growth in both math and English language arts. And we are proud to announce that eight of our students scored a perfect 600 on the math portion of the CST.

On another note, we were very excited this year to have received a donation of school supplies from a local organization, for both student and staff use. As a gift, all of our teachers received a box of classroom supplies when they returned to school.

We also received 105 backpacks that were fully stocked with school supplies. This will help to prepare our students for the new school year.

We are off to a great start, and are looking forward to having a successful year. Go, Cougars!



Math perfection! Carlos, Saoirse, Emily, Braden, Tommy, Seane, Eli, and Abby display their accomplishment.

College Park *Elementary (K-6)*

2380 Notre Dame Road, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7960 • <http://collegepark.nmusd.us/>



Julie McCormick
Principal

All Systems Running!

The 2012-13 school year has gotten off to a great start. This year, we have two new teachers on our staff: resource specialist Alison Harris and special day class teacher Lisa Pohl. Jean Ferris is our new health assistant in the front office. We welcome these new staff members!

On Sept. 11, a firefighter, who is the husband of one of our teachers, visited and talked about the events of September 11. He also taught students about safety and gave pointers on what they could do in their own homes.

Our teachers and students are pleased with last year's academic gains, especially in STAR testing. This year, we will continue to offer enrichment activities and support for students who are academically not quite at grade level.

Our Cougar PRIDE band and choir are back for the second year and will perform throughout the year at school and community events. Our Green Team has just begun its work emphasizing recycling and conservation at school and at



Firefighter Perdue reminding to practice an exit drill in your own home.

home. Our emphasis on fitness and nutrition in the classroom and on the field will be evident all year. Our Running Club officially began the first week in October, and our parents join us Wednesdays at lunch as they run alongside their children. Geoff Ianniello and his Nutrition Network Team recently provided our parents with another class called The Case for Breakfast.

We appreciate the many extracurricular activities and programs that we can provide to our students to enhance the richness of their education.

Costa Mesa *High School (7-12)*

2650 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-8700 • <http://cmhs.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Aaron Peralta
Principal, 7-8 Grade



Dr. Phil D'Agostino
Principal, 9-12 Grade

DELTA Academy

In June, Costa Mesa Middle School promoted the first DELTA class into high school. These exemplary students took the most rigorous courses offered and maintained a minimum of a 3.0 grade-point average (GPA) in math and science as seventh- and eighth-graders. Forty-eight students were presented with gold medallions for promoting with a GPA of 3.75 to 4.0. Fourteen students were presented with silver medallions for promoting with a GPA of 3.0 to 3.74.

The majority of these promoting students are currently enrolled in Honors courses in chemistry or biology and geometry. Additionally, they will be taking field trips to visit colleges such as Harvey Mudd University.

The DELTA team is building a pathway to ensure all DELTA students will be prepared to handle university courses upon high school graduation. This rigorous pathway will allow our DELTA students to successfully meet the challenges of the University of California system.



Board member Judy Franco congratulating DELTA student Chris Hutchinson.

Corona Del Mar *High School (7-12)*

2101 Eastbluff Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6000 • <http://cdm.nmusd.us/>



Tim Bryan
Principal, 9-12 Grade



Guy Olguin
Principal, 7-8 Grade

Another Year of Success

By Tim Bryan, Principal

Corona del Mar High School (CdM) is very excited to welcome our students and their families back to school. During the summer, the new weight room has been nearly completed. Construction on the new middle school enclave has begun in earnest. Our fields were renovated by the district, and all of the trees on campus have been trimmed. Our custodial team has completed their deep cleaning of the entire school.

Last year, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Accreditation Team made their visit to CdM. They reviewed our self study and the critical academic needs that were brought to light by the self study and validated our action plan to address those needs. I'm pleased to report that CdM has been given another six-year term of accreditation by WASC. We will begin dedicated effort on the action plan this year. You can find a link to our action plan on our CdM homepage.

Every year I express our gratitude to the Corona del Mar High School Foundation, the Corona del Mar High School Booster Club, and PTA for their commitment to CdM. Without the support of these keys organizations, CdM could not successfully support our students. We are also grateful for the active role all of our parents play in guiding their children through these critical years of high school.

I'm looking forward to another year of success for our students and our school.

Davis *Magnet School (K-6)*

1050 Arlington Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7930 • <http://davismagnet.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Kevin Rafferty
Principal

Safety Plan: Be Prepared

Preparedness should be addressed by each of us at home, in our vehicles, and at our workplace.

Highlights of our comprehensive Safety Plan:

- Parents must sign out their child(ren). Parents, the area to sign-out your child would be located at the lunch tables on the playground next to the grass field and our relocatable classrooms.
- This is why your child's Emergency Card is so important. Your child's Emergency Card indicates the individuals to whom you give us permission to release your child. Your child's Emergency Card also contains all of your personal contact information. Be sure to come into the office and make any updates to the card should your information change at any point in time.

Bottom line: • Make a plan. • Assemble disaster preparedness kits in your home, in your vehicles, and at work.

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Early College *High School (9-12)*

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Kathy Slawson
Principal

Rockin' the House!

ECHS students and staff started the first day of the school year with a pancake breakfast to welcome returning and new students to school. The ASB announced the houses new students are members of and hosted the first competition of the year. New house members were welcomed with beaded necklaces of their house colors.

The ASB and eniors lead the charge in each house and organize the members into competitive teams. Students compete by participating in various academic and athletic all-school house competitions once a month. Students win points for their house through all-school competitions, academic achievement, classroom projects, maintaining a clean campus and demonstrating good citizenship. Each house strives to earn the most points overall.

At the end of the year, the house with the most points is crowned House Champions. Students and staff are looking forward to the first all-school house competition of the school year!



Eastbluff *Elementary (K-6)*

2627 Vista del Oro, Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-5920 • <http://eastbluff.nmusd.us/>



Cheryl Beck
Principal

Welcome Back!

This year we will continue our Eastbluff commitment to develop strong character traits and scholarly behaviors in our students.

Through the John Wooden "Pyramid of Pride" program we clearly define expected behaviors and procedures. We also reinforce high expectations with pride tickets and awards.

We will continue to fill each other's "buckets" with positive words and actions, too. Based upon the books *Have you Filled a Bucket Today?* and *How is Your Bucket?*, we learned that everyone has a bucket inside of them called self-esteem.

The five main strategies we are implementing are prevent bucket dipping, shine a light on what is right, make best friends, give unexpectedly, and reverse the golden

rule. We are excited to be Eastbluff bucket fillers!

Our Friday Flag Decks are also a time to recognize students for their success. It's exciting to see them strive to be their best, and work cooperatively! Parents and community members, we invite you to join our Friday Flag Deck celebrations at 8:40 a.m.



Horace Ensign *Intermediate School (7-8)*

2000 Cliff Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6910 • <http://ensign.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Gloria Duncan
Principal

Where Everyone Belongs

By Jessica Woodruff, Writer - Seabee Buzz

At Ensign Intermediate School, we have a program called Where Everyone Belongs (WEB). The program is led by two wonderful teachers, Mrs. Rush and Mrs. Grenier. On August 30, over 120 eighth-grade WEB volunteers showed close to 500 seventh-graders around the campus during orientation and gave them tips for a successful school year.

On the first day of school, eighth-grade WEB leaders welcomed the seventh-graders and wore their WEB T-shirts so the new Ensign students would know who to ask if they had questions. "Even the WEB leaders I didn't know were all really nice," said Paige Alkire, a seventh-grade student.

"When I needed to find where my classes were, they helped me get there."

The WEB teachers thought orientation was successful, too. "This is the best group of WEB leaders we've ever had," Mrs. Grenier commented. "We had almost all of the seventh-graders participating in games at orientation. We are going to have a great year!"



Estancia *High School (9-12)*

2323 Placentia Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6500 • <http://estancia.nmusd.us/>



Kirk Bauermeister
Principal

Eagles in Oz

Eight students and three staff members from Estancia High School traveled 8,000 miles to Wyndham City in Victoria, Australia, in July and August through the Australia Sister City Education Exchange Program. During their nearly four-week visit, the youth ambassadors stayed with host families from Estancia High School's sister school, Hoppers Crossing Secondary College. They shadowed their host students and staff members at school, visited primary schools, toured the University of Melbourne, and presented to students, families, the School Site Council and the City Council.

The delegation from Estancia made their way into Melbourne through their

public transit system, explored the city, traveled along the Great Ocean Road, zip-lined across Otway National Park, attended an Australian-rules football game, interacted with Australian wildlife, sampled Australian cuisine and danced the night away at Hoppers Crossing's Debutante Ball. All of the Estancia High School ambassadors agreed that it was the experience of a lifetime!



EHS Delegation at Hoppers Crossing Secondary College
(Back) Brad Wilson (12), Ginger Collins (EHS English Teacher), Padraig Mulholland (12), Joan Edgerton (Chaperone), Wayne Dill (EHS Industrial Arts Teacher)
(Front) Jennifer Chamberlin (EHS Assistant Principal), Ilene Umansky (12), Brooke Thomas (12), Alejandra Delgado (12), Serena Kao (12), Maribel Maldonado (12), Gianna Jason (12)

Harbor View *Elementary (K-6)*

900 Goldenrod Ave., Corona del Mar, CA 92625 • 949/515-6940 • <http://harborview.nmusd.us/>



Welcome Mary Manos

Newport Mesa is pleased to welcome Mary Manos, who retired two years ago from Andersen Elementary after 11 1/2 years as principal. Mary began work this week at Harbor View as interim principal.

Mary Manos
Interim Principal

Killybrooke *Elementary (K-6)*

3155 Killybrooke Lane, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7945 • <http://killybrooke.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Lorie Hoggard
Principal

Preparing Every Student for College

Killybrooke is a “no excuses university.” That’s because we promote a comprehensive model of college-readiness to all of our students the moment they enter elementary school.

Our Killybrooke students, staff and parents are committed to the idea that every child will be highly proficient in reading, writing and math. We also expect that every child will be challenged with many enriching learning opportunities, and that helping students develop strong character is important.

We work diligently to incorporate the message that our students are all bound for college. Every classroom has even adopted a real-life university. They proudly display its flag and a sign that reminds students that they will graduate from a four-year university.

We also start each day with a cheer that reinforces the message that “Killybrooke is college bound.” Our students embrace the goal of attending college, and are even beginning to consider which ones they prefer, along with their ultimate careers.

Angie in the fifth grade wants to attend Chapman University to become an archaeologist. Jared in the third grade wants to attend UC Santa Barbara to become a plastic surgeon. Brianna in the second grade plans to attend UC Irvine to become a second-grade teacher. Maxwell is a kindergarten student, and he wants to go to college so that he can own a toy store some day.

We at Killybrooke are proud to motivate our students to excel in their education. We want to connect their successes of today to their future goals of higher education and careers.

Heinz Kaiser *Elementary (3-6)*

2130 Santa Ana Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6950 • <http://kaiser.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Deborah Granger
Principal

Caring Community of Excellent Citizens

Kaiser Elementary School kicked off its 2012–12 Flag Deck program with a focus on citizenship and students uniting to form a caring community. Research tells us that students who learn and practice good citizenship excel in all parts of their lives, including academic achievement! Thanks to the thoughtful planning and organization of Emily Barry, our Flag Deck coordinator, and the wonderful support of the Kaiser-Woodland PFO, each month will emphasize a theme related to making our world a better place. With each month’s theme, students may earn a “badge of honor,” a special wristband associated with a task or activity indicating their commitment to being the best learners and members of our school community that they can be.

In October, Kaiser students will have the chance to earn their badges of honor by signing the Kaiser Unity Compact, a pledge to bully-proof our school. By year’s end, we envision students’ arms covered with colorful wristbands demonstrating a year of learning about and contributing to the Kaiser caring community.

Go Kaiser Knights—always noble in thought, word and deed!



Kaiser students show off their September “badges of honor,” wristbands they earned for memorizing the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution.



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The 2013 Children's Water Education Festival will take place Wednesday, March 27 and Thursday, March 28 at the University of California, Irvine.

School Registration

- Registration is free and funding is available to partially subsidize bus transportation costs. **Mesa Water** will again have an activity booth and provide transportation assistance for schools in its service area.
- Registration is based on first-come, first-served basis and early registration is encouraged.
- Registration must be completed online at www.ChildrenWaterFestival.com

We hope to see you there!

**Contact Mesa Water's
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or call (949) 631-1200, ext. 122**

Presenting Sponsors:





Abraham Lincoln *Elementary (K-6)*

3101 Pacific View Drive, Corona del Mar, CA 92625 • 949/515-6955 • <http://lincoln.nmusd.us/>



Jane Holm
Principal

Building the Team

Please see our article on the front page.

Newport Coast *Elementary (K-6)*

6655 Ridge Park Road, Newport Coast, CA 92657 • 949/515-6975 • <http://nce.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Duane Cox
Principal

Philosophy of Champions

"When anyone tells me I can't do anything, I'm just not listening any more." —Florence Griffith Joyner,
American athlete, 1988 Summer Olympics

The 2011–12 school year is off to a great start! Our school community is committed to the philosophies of Professional Learning Communities. Each child deserves the collective best of all of teachers on the campus. The instruction students receive is based upon ongoing assessment in the classroom. Classroom teachers use the variety of tools they have, including Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA), supplemental instructional programs and one another's resources to support our school mission: All students will learn at high levels.

The Newport Coast Elementary staff invites parents and community to team with us to move our students to their full potential. As always, it takes each and every one of us to positively impact our children and move them toward their goals.

Newport Heights *Elementary (K-6)*

300 E. 15th St., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6970 • <http://newportheights.nmusd.us/>



Kathleen Jaquin
Principal

Handball Walls Painted

Over the summer Newport Heights had school logos painted on all of the handball walls on the playground. A student group called STAY (Students Thinking About Youth) worked last year to raise money to invest back into the school. The students raised money by selling lemonade and cookies after school once a month during the school year. At the end of the year the group decided that the Newport Heights logos would boost school spirit and beautify the campus. The logos turned out amazing; they were painted by Gary Miltimore, a local artist (and Mrs. M's husband). We are grateful for such thoughtful students that gave of their time and energy to invest into the future of Newport Heights. Way to go Sharks!



Mariners *Elementary (K-6)*

2100 Mariners Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6960 • <http://mariners.nmusd.us/>



Pam Coughlin
Principal

Discovering Science Program

Thanks to the Mariners Elementary Foundation, we are able to bring the Discovering Science Program to Mariners for students in grades K–4. Its philosophy is that children learn best by doing. Research studies about this approach include the following: hands-on learning increases learning and achievement in science and mathematics content; activity-based lessons improve student attitudes toward math and science; hands-on activities increase skill proficiency, especially laboratory skills and specific math and science process skills such as graphing and interpreting data; hands-on learning has been shown to help in the development of language and reading; and activity-centered classrooms encourage student creativity in problem solving and promote independent thinking.

Mr. Fogg from Discovering Science meets with individual classes once a month. At the end of each lesson, students will bring home a product from that day's science lesson.



Mr. Fogg teaching a second grade classroom.

Newport *Elementary (K-6)*

1327 W. Balboa Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6965 • <http://newportel.nmusd.us/>



Amy Nagy
Principal

Nurturing Student Curiosity

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Note-ables

Mr. Diddie Wah Diddie, Randy Kaplan



Kate Karp

Here's how to create a blues artist moniker: Pick an ailment, a fruit, and the last name of a president and presto! you've got a groove going. It worked for Blind Lemon Jefferson.

Whether it works for musical artist Randy Kaplan is for you to discover in this extraordinary project. Blues music fuses seamlessly with education, history, biography and very clever lyrics in tunes originated by seminal blues musicians legendary or nearly forgotten—Muddy Waters, Bessie Smith, Hambone Willie Newbern and over a dozen others, all adapted as tributes, with no loss of essence or infusion of cuteness. Songs about running away from home, a two-timing babysitter, and a neighborhood bully who doesn't quite get it are rendered in yodelin' blues, scattin' blues, slappin' blues—you always drop the *g* when you're talkin' blues—and a little ragtime. In between songs, enigmatic bluesman Lightnin' Bodkins—he got *his* name from his speed in making mittens and the extra bodkins he keeps the hair out of his eyes with—rasps out facts about the artists and the social conditions that had them singing the blues. He also persists in suggesting names for a reluctant Randy Kaplan, apparently the only person alive who knows of Mr. Bodkins. Hnnmmn....

The 20-page booklet accompanying the CD broadens the history and bios. Teacher lesson plans are available for free download at www.randykaplan.com.

Mr. Diddie Wah Diddie is one of the most remarkable children's music collections I've encountered. If you have to have the back-to-school blues, these are the best kind.

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

Newport-Mesa Schools Foundation

P.O. Box 1368, Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/631-3293 • www.newportmesaschoolsfoundation.org



Eat An Enchilada, Help a Student



Barbara Rothman
President

By Pat Courter, Vice-President

The Newport Mesa Schools Foundation is excited to again offer a culinary demonstration and dinner on Saturday, October 27 at Taco Rosa Restaurant, 2632 San Miguel Drive, Newport Beach 92660. The event will include a live cooking demonstration by owner and chef Ivan Calderon. Last year Chef Calderon created an authentic multi-course meal that was out of this world, and this year promises to be just as tasty. The \$30-per-person donation supports the foundation. Reservations should be made at Taco Rosa's Web site, www.tacorosa.com.

Another way you can have a delicious meal and support the Newport Mesa Schools Foundation is to eat at any one of the six Taco Mesa or Taco Rosa locations on any Monday during the month of October. Please visit our Web site or Facebook page and print the Taco Mesa/Taco Rosa flyer. During the month of October, Newport Mesa Schools Foundation will receive 15 percent of revenues generated upon the presentation of the flyer.

The Newport Mesa Schools Foundation is also very proud of our new Facebook page. It has been up and running for a short while, but we are excited to communicate with new friends in the community. When you go to our page to print the Taco Rosa/Taco Mesa flyer, please check out the rest of the page and "like" us.

Surf's Up

Why Surfing?

By Chad Wells

I was just five years old when I was introduced to surfing. My older brother, Jeff, who had already been surfing for a number of years, brought me down to San Onofre to teach me.

Needless to say, I didn't fare so well. I spent a lot of time with my face in the sand and didn't set

foot on a board again until six years later. When I was 11, I found a Harbour Surfboards twin fin under the Christmas tree. A few difficult days falling off my new board led me to discover that I wasn't ready for such a short board. So my dad bought me a mini longboard, and my love of surfing began. I spent a few years learning on shorter and shorter boards until finally I was ready for the one I got for Christmas.

Though I had a rough start, I have been surfing for 32 years. All the other sports I played as a child have drifted away, but surfing has really stuck. Personally for me, surfing provides a break from the day-to-day grind. Once you get out on the water, you immediately forget about anything on land, as the ocean demands your full attention and respect. I plan to enjoy surfing well into my senior years, as the thrill never gets old.

Chad Wells is a resident of Seal Beach, class of 1987 Los Alamitos High School. A 2X Masters National Champion and Surf Program Coordinator for Quiksilver, Inc.



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The Dream Begins



Susan D. Marshall

“Dad while we are here in Hawaii, can we visit the university?”
 “Why?”

“When I go to college, I can surf—it will be awesome!”

Tyler, age eight, jumps out the car door and runs to the beach.

“Honey, there is no way he will get into the University of Hawaii. Besides, college is a long way off.”

Mom shrugs.

“Tyler obviously doesn’t know college is optional but since we expect him to go, we can just see the campus while we are here.”

Needless to say, the child’s first campus visit fuels his dream.

What Tyler’s parents did right was allow him to dream, explore his hobbies, and plant the seed that someday he would go to college. They encouraged him to get good grades and were an active part of his education. They let him know how education opens doors and gives him choices in life.

What they failed to realize is how quickly the time passes. College seemed like a long way off, so saving for college was not in their financial plan. Tyler’s dream may drown in the surf.

Today more than ever saving for college can be an overwhelming task.

What can you do today that will make a difference?

Start Early

The greatest benefit to starting early is being able to take advantage of the time value of money; the benefit of interest compounded over time. Even a small amount regularly can make a huge difference in future costs. There are many different types of accounts available to help families face the challenges of saving for college.

Speak with a trusted advisor

Be informed. There are many different types of accounts available to help parents put money away. Some of the most common are the 529 and the Coverdell Education Savings Accounts. Other options may include savings bonds, trusts, life insurance, annuities, IRAs, and stocks. Make sure the advisor you choose understands how each of these accounts can positively or negatively impact your ability to qualify for financial aid and the tax advantages of each.

Most Important

Let your children know how education opens doors, provides opportunities, and gives them options.

Begin saving now! No matter how small the amount. The message it sends to your child is huge.

Your child will know that you value education and college is something you see in their future.

Susan both educator and advisor specializes in college planning. She helps families save for and pay for college. If you have questions you would like answered in a future article e-mail her at Susan@College4Less.com.

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Merry Grasska
RN, MPH, FNP-C
*Health Services
Coordinator*

Welcome to the School Health Office

Now that fall is here, we are adjusting to school routines and the many associated activities. If you have not had a chance to stop by the school health office, I encourage you to do so. In the health office you will meet the nurse and health assistant. These are the caring school personnel who respond to the daily health needs of students. They provide support for ill and injured students and are part of the team which implements coordinated health programs at school. Some of these services include health screening for concerns such as vision, hearing, and dental health. School nurses are also included in the assessment of student academic needs, and they play a key role in the delivery of healthcare procedures.

It is especially important to be acquainted with the school nurse and the health assistant if your child has health concerns. During enrollment and registration, parents/guardians have an opportunity to share health information. Communication is essential in meeting the health needs of children. If your child has particular health needs, please be certain to inform the nurse. The nurse wants to know about allergies, especially food allergies, asthma, diabetes, communicable disease, medication, hearing and vision concerns, and any health condition that may impact learning, safety, and an enjoyable productive day at school. Please stop by or communicate with the health office. Be sure your child's health information is current.



Richard Greene
*Director of
Nutrition Services*

7 Ideas for Getting Fruits & Veggies into Your Diet

By Pam Williams, MPH, RD - Nutritionist

The beginning of the school year can be quite busy and remembering to add fruits and vegetables to the diet is probably one of the last items on your to-do list. This year, why not plan ahead so that the habit of healthy eating does not disappear. Here are a few ideas to keep produce in our daily meals.

- Add berries, bananas, or other favorite fruits to your favorite low-sugared breakfast cereal.
- Prepack small bags of dried fruit and nuts to grab and go on your busiest days
- Mix fresh, canned or frozen fruit into plain yogurt on the weekend so that it is ready to go on Monday morning.
- Add lettuce, thinly sliced cucumbers or zucchini and other vegetables to a favorite cheese sandwich.
- Do you have leftover veggies from the grill? They make a nice addition to sandwiches and salads.
- Pack small apples and oranges in lunches for snacks or to take the place of dessert.
- Keep sliced vegetables in the refrigerator along with a yogurt dip. When the family gets hungry, provide them with the veggies and dip.

These are just a few ideas to get you started. Be creative and keep healthy this school year.

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 is the word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put NMUSD in the subject line)

**Entries must be received by
November 30, 2012**

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$25 gift certificate redeemable at **Whole Health Everyday**.

- | | | |
|----------|----------|------------|
| ALKALINE | HEALTH | ORGANIC |
| ALMONDS | KALE | PROTEIN |
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| CARROTS | MINERALS | SEEDS |
| CHICKEN | NATURAL | VEGETABLES |
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| FRUITS | NUTS | WATER |

A	D	I	C	F	Q	R	H	F	G	V	D	Z	J	C
T	L	T	G	V	P	M	R	S	D	N	O	M	L	A
E	O	K	J	Y	Z	S	P	N	I	S	T	U	N	R
Y	X	O	A	H	A	R	C	I	S	N	E	H	U	R
O	G	S	D	L	F	H	B	M	T	O	A	E	T	O
H	L	N	M	Q	I	Y	I	A	I	U	Y	K	D	T
B	B	O	O	C	B	N	A	T	U	R	A	L	M	S
R	N	M	K	K	E	I	E	I	R	I	F	H	B	F
V	D	E	A	R	R	E	D	V	F	S	Z	S	G	C
U	N	L	A	E	H	T	L	A	E	H	H	C	I	Y
F	E	L	T	C	K	O	H	L	I	M	N	Z	O	F
A	S	A	P	R	W	R	P	E	D	O	T	W	F	N
O	W	P	R	V	C	P	Y	X	R	U	U	G	W	K
V	E	G	E	T	A	B	L	E	S	E	R	K	W	H

Congratulations to Lauren Gilliam
Winner of the September Word Search Contest!

Knowledge is Wealth & Power

By Gayle Spinks, Foundation Member

In these times, the relationship between a vibrant and flourishing library and information system, accessible to the general public, is not frivolous. Democracies require an informed citizenry. People must be informed to remain autonomous and enjoy our freedom.

Knowledge is wealth and power. Knowledge is also economic survival, especially in times of economic scarcity. And when a recession, like the current one, is coinciding with an era in which jobs are being transformed in their structure and content from year to year, access to information or to new knowledge, re-tooling, or retrofitting for jobs that didn't exist five years ago, becomes a necessity.

The American public library system, first popularized by Benjamin Franklin and largely financed by Andrew Carnegie, has grown into one of the largest and most enviable in the world. But with increasing pressure on local governments to reduce budgets, library funds, despite protests, have been some of the lowest hanging fiscal fruit as evidenced in our city. If the residents of Costa Mesa want to enjoy a new first-class library than they must let our elected officials know. It's important to all of us.

For more information, visit our website or write to us.



OC COUNTY DEPT. OF ED. • FROM PAGE 3



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

The mission of the CCSS is to provide a consistent, clear understanding of the knowledge and skills that our young people need to master in order to be prepared for success in college and beyond. The CCSS are the culmination of a collaborative effort between educators, parents, content experts, researchers, higher education leaders, national organizations, businesses, and community groups from forty-eight states, two territories, and the District of Columbia. The CCSS were developed using the best state standards and the experience of teachers, with feedback from the general public. In addition, the standards are internationally benchmarked to ensure that our students receive a high-quality education regardless of where they live.

As educators embark on the exciting work of implementing the CCSS, it will be evident that this is not a "one-size-fits-all" program, and states will be able to customize the implementation and curriculum. While common learning objectives provide a clear vision of what educators in all states should embrace, the standards do not tell teachers how to teach. Instead, the CCSS define what students should know and master so that teachers can design appropriate lesson plans.

With implementation of the CCSS, we will enable more students to be prepared for a postsecondary education and as a result improve our state's economic competitiveness. The CCSS offer an extraordinary opportunity to transform education across America, and are a critical step toward providing a common foundation for young people across the country that will prepare them with the knowledge and skills they need for success in college and beyond. To learn more, visit www.ocde.us/CommonCoreCA.

October Events



Evelyn Rogers
Children's Librarian

It's autumn, and all four Newport Beach Public Library locations will be hosting fun children's programs in October.

Dress up in your finest attire and come to the Balboa Branch Library on Thursday, October 18 at 4 p.m. for a Fancy Nancy Soirée. Celebrate Fancy Nancy and her fabulous style with stories, activities and crafts for ages four to nine.

It's spooky craft time! On Wednesday, October 24 at 3 p.m., the children at the Corona del Mar Branch will be creating some "Spooktacular" crafts. The Central Library will also hold a Spooky Craft Club on Tuesday, October 30 at 4 p.m. Both programs are for ages four to nine.

Also on October 30 at the Central Library, the YAAC will be hosting a movie screening of *Monsters, Inc.* at 5:30 p.m. This is a free event and registration is not required. Seating is on a first come, first served basis. *Monsters, Inc.* is rated G and has a running time of 92 minutes.

Stop by the Crean Mariners Branch on October 31 at 4 p.m. for the Halloween Haunt. Dare to be scared with spooky tales, chilling activities and creepy crafts.

On a more academic note, our Accelerated Reader levels are now searchable! Students participating in the Accelerated Reader program at their schools can now search books by level on the library's catalog to find out how many points are assigned to each.

Visit the Newport Beach Public Library's website at www.newportkids.org to register for the craft programs, and link to the catalog, booklists and databases.

Students participating in the Accelerated Reader program at their schools can now search books by level on the library's catalog to find out how many points are assigned to each.

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Newport Harbor *High School (9-12)*

600 Irvine Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6300 • <http://nhhs.nmusd.us/>



Michael Vossen
Principal

WASC Visitation

Newport Harbor High School is worthy of a six-year clearance term, said the visiting team of educators who spent weeks of quantitative and qualitative evaluation. This distinction was “a validation of many important elements of change being promoted at the school.”

NHHS conducted a two-year self-study of school data and discussed identifying areas of weakness and formulating methods of improvement. Critical needs included increasing cross-curricular literacy, clarifying available academic pathways, and reducing the D and F rates of students. Groups of staff, students and parents formulated a six-year action plan to address these areas. This will be the first school year in which sweeping curricular changes and a refined support system will take effect.

This frank self-evaluation and detailed response to its findings gave the visiting committee confidence that we had created a plan to maximize learning for all students and have the ability to monitor progress. In their words: “When Newport Harbor High School develops a plan of action, there is buy-in, and the staff stays the course.”



Paularino *Elementary (K-6)*

1060 Paularino Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7950 • <http://paularino.nmusd.us/>



Stacy deBoom-Howard
Principal

Changing Students' Lives

Vacation is not a word that is well understood by the passionate Paularino Elementary School education team. They were not at the beach or lazing about at the pool this summer; they were attending conferences and working together on campus to launch a super-powered year of learning for their students. Our teachers attended the Turn Around Schools conference and came back fired up to make our school a No Excuses University. Teachers have chosen universities to represent their classrooms, and we have calendared the six pillars of character education for a campus-wide focus. Step by step we intend to be the best No Excuses campus in the history of the program.

During the summer, teachers volunteered to man the library so students could check out books and fill up their Panther Reading Logs. Every Wednesday there were long lines of students checking in and checking out books. We are proud to

report that three-fourths of our student body turned in reading logs, and our committed teachers checked out over 4,000 books to eager readers this summer.

Never underestimate the power of a few committed teachers to change the lives of their students.



Pomona *Elementary (K-5)*

2051 Pomona Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6980 • <http://pomona.nmusd.us/>



Megan Elsten Brown
Principal

Pomona is Pleased to Announce Our 50 Year Anniversary!

The Panthers have a lot to celebrate including a steady rise in test scores, our first Pilot Cup Championship in the spring of 2012, and a world class team of educators that keep a close eye on student results and always put children first. Pomona's team of staff, students, parents and extended community members are busy planning a series of events to recognize this milestone, including opening a 50 year old time capsule and our 50 Year Anniversary Spring Fair. Please join us as we celebrate 50 years and our achievements of past, present and future. You just can't hide that Pomona Panther pride!

Everett A. Rea *Elementary (K-6)*

661 Hamilton Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6905 • <http://rea.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Anna Corral
Principal

Off to a Great Start

Rea Elementary School is off to a great start to the 2011-2012 school year. It promises to be a very exciting year with our very “Capable, Talented, and Intelligent Students.” We have three new staff members and are excited to welcome them. Miss Wendy Bauer actually is returning to Rea, she originally taught 6th grade 5 years ago and left to teach in the San Diego area and is now back at Rea teaching 1st grade. Miss Renee Juenger is also new to 1st grade, but student taught last year at Rea and we are very happy to have her join our teaching staff. Mrs. Megan Merrick is our new 3-4th grade special education teacher and comes to us from Santa Monica. We are very happy to have these talented educators join the Rea Family!



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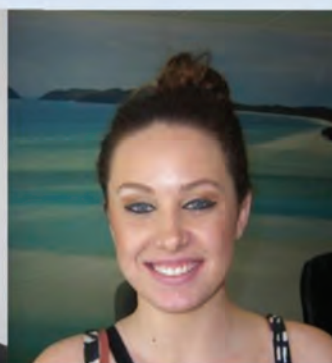
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Sonora *Elementary (K-6)*

966 Sonora Road, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7955 • <http://sonora.nmusd.us/>



Christine Anderson
Principal

Patriot Day!

Sonora celebrated Patriot Day on Tuesday, September 11th with a special flag waving, patriotic singing flag deck to honor those who lost their lives in 2001. It was quite spectacular to see 540 American Flags waving during the ceremony. Sonora, being an elementary school, decided to focus on the everyday heroes who helped on the day, weeks, months and years after the attack. The Costa Mesa Police and Fire Departments joined us so that we could thank and honor them for their service every day in keeping our community safe. After flag deck, students were given a tour of the police car and fire truck. They learned a great deal about the day in the life of a police officer and fireman.



Charles W. TeWinkle

3224 California Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7965 *Intermediate School (7-8)*
<http://tewinkle.nmusd.us/>



Rich Rodriguez
Principal

First Day of School

By Brianne Cooke and Claire Leenerts, Student Writers

How was your first day of school? For TeWinkle students, it was a blast! Seventh- and eighth-graders rushed in to see who their new teachers would be. Everyone was a bit nervous, but they came to class with a smile. The students learned about class expectations, manners and etiquette, and they met the students around them. They also saw familiar faces from the previous year.

On the first day of school, teachers woke up nervous yet excited. Mrs. McKenzie, eighth-grade math teacher, said that her students were respectful and had good manners. She said, "This will be a good year! The teachers are focused on helping the kids." Ms. Wood, seventh- and

eighth-grade language arts teacher, was very pleased with her well-behaved students. She believes that teachers will be getting students ready for high school.

Students and teachers will both be working hard to have a great year.



Staff serving parents utilizing the District's online registration system.

Victoria *Elementary (K-6)*

1025 Victoria St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6985 • <http://victoria.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Linda Tenno
Principal

Summer Reading Program a Success

Reading was the theme of the summer for Victoria. Thanks to our wonderful staff and families, we were able to open our library to our students on Wednesdays this summer. Many families took advantage of the extended summer openings, bringing all ages of kids to read. It was great to see families reading inside and outside the library. Stacks of books were checked out each week to be read at home. Moms, Dads, Aunts, Uncles, and Grandparents all came to support their children's reading.



On the last Wednesday of the summer reading program, Dr. Tenno gave out many certificates and raffled off prizes to the excited students. Two students even won bikes donated by staff members and former students. We hope to continue this great program next summer.

Whittier *Elementary (K-5)*

1800 Whittier Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6990 • <http://whittier.nmusd.us/>



Tracey Carter
Principal

Summer Scholars

By Margaret Anderson, Teacher – 4th Grade

Everyone agrees that summer school is a great opportunity to brush up on your academic skills. That's what was happening when Whittier Elementary School students went to Estancia High School for the summer Eagle Reading Academy.

Incoming students in grades four through six participated in the Language! reading program. The eager Eagle scholars were grouped with peers of similar needs in order to meet goals in decoding, comprehension, and grammar. Students were also encouraged to engage kinesthetically through a morning exercise warm up.

"I liked reading and playing the physical education games!" said a smiling Lizbeth Melendez. "I liked spelling words with the letter tiles," Danny Villanueva said happily. And Kevin Villa added, "Some of the stories in the textbook were cartoons: one about cats acting in a play. It was funny." All agreed that their reading abilities are now stronger.

Whittier's principal, Tracey Carter, noted, "The students who participated this summer had an average of seven months growth in reading!"

The Language! reading program is currently being used in fourth through sixth grades as an opportunity for qualifying students to hone the basic skills needed for academic success. We are looking forward to more scholarly enthusiasm throughout the 2012-2013 school year!



Wilson *Elementary (K-6)*

801 Wilson St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6995 • <http://wilson.nmusd.us/>



Dr. Julie Perron
Principal

Our Great Learning Community

We have been enjoying a great start to our 2012-2013 school year here at Wilson Elementary.

The Wildcats are already busy reading, writing, problem solving and being good members of our learning community. The first Wildcat spirit rally was a great success too, as we recognized over 75 students who participated in our summer reading program, the Eagle Academy, housed at Estancia High School.

We have also recognized the student Green Team, which was able to report huge savings with our "lights off" attitude. In fact, our savings have translated into \$1,600!



Our Back to School Night allowed families to interact with their teachers, beginning with a kick-off of teacher introductions and school protocols. In addition, we have also started our "Everyday English" classes for parents. This will give families an opportunity to build confidence in their conversational English so that they can connect with our teachers about student progress and learning.

Woodland *Elementary (K-2)*

2025 Garden Lane, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6945 • <http://woodland.nmusd.us/>



Lauren Medve
Principal

New Additions

Welcome to the 2012/2013 school year! Our Woodland students and staff members are off to a wonderful start. Enrollment is now at 520 students, with seven classes in the kindergarten, first and second grades.

We are very excited to have three new staff members this year. Abby Thomas and Elaine Pike have joined us as our new preschool and kindergarten special day class teachers. Natalie Hall, formerly from California School, has also joined Woodland as its new kindergarten teacher. Welcome!

The school was busy this summer in adding a second lab with 29 computers. We are also excited to expand the use of Lexia, an online program provided by the district. Lexia provides high quality instruction to the students. It gives them the opportunity to practice essential reading skills such as phonological awareness, sight-word recognition, sound-symbol correspondence and word attack skills.



This new program is designed to help children develop a solid foundation for reading success. It also supports the classroom instruction by providing students with individualized and independent practice on basic reading skills. The children are able to access the program at home by using their own username and password to further practice their skills.

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Laser-Like Focus

We are happy to begin a new school year with laser-like focus on student achievement for English Learners! Throughout our district, leaders are reading Michael Fullan’s *All Systems Go* and working on deepening our collective capacity to help all students. In N-MUSD, all means *all*! We are in an *All Systems Go* position, focused on helping each and every student.

Karen Kendall
Director

All Systems Go With Our Parent Initiative

Developed by our District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) parents, our Parent Initiative emphasizes three involvement opportunities for parents: JOIN (a school committee), LEARN (about how your child is doing in school, especially in reading), and SHARE (positive, affirmative statements with your child). We have published a brochure describing our Parent Initiative, and parents sport jelly wristbands that say: N-MUSD Parent: I am Doing My Part. Throughout the district, the emphasis is on parent engagement in the educational process of their child.

All Systems Go with CELDT

The California English Language Development Test (CELDT) is given to each continuing English Learner annually during September and October. The CELDT measures the EL’s progress in Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. From the district level, we are supporting our schools in the administration of the CELDT Annual. In Addition, we are delighted that we can also offer additional support to schools highly impacted with first graders who need CELDT Annual administered *one-to-one* in all four areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.



Peggy Nguyen
Coordinator
Early Childhood
Education

Parent and Child Together Time at Preschool

The first fifteen minutes of each preschool day is a wonderful time where parents and their children are in school together for Parent and Child Together (PACT) time. The goals of PACT are to:

- Strengthen the relationship between school and home by inviting families to participate in daily in-class literacy activities
- Provide families with a home library of high quality children’s books
- Expose families to a rich variety of early literacy activities and strategies that they can replicate at home with their children
- Create an opportunity for families to share positive literacy experiences

Parents at College Park, Killybrooke, Pomona, Rea, Sonora, Whittier and Wilson participate in PACT time. Parents have expressed that they enjoy this time with their child doing activities together and reading with them.



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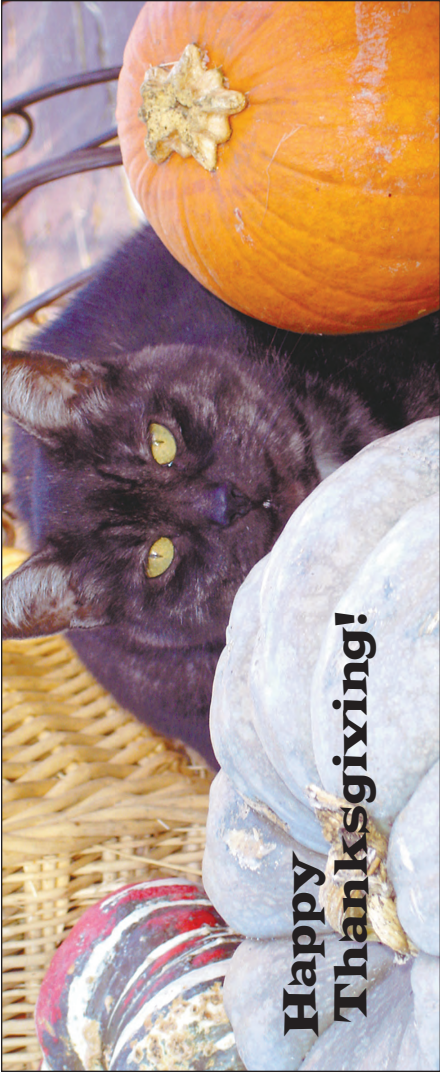
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