

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Newport-Mesa Unified School District



Volume 13, Issue 74

April / May 2017



From Outdoor Science to a friendly game of paddle tennis, NMUSD students develop Mind, Body and Heart!





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SUPERINTENDENT

Positive Behavior Supports Academic Focus at Newport-Mesa Unified School District

It is likely that since the inception of the American education system teachers have grappled with the best ways to teach citizenship, good behavior and positive decision making. In the 1850s educators began to formally accept their role in loco parentis – in the place of a parent – and public schools across the country moved beyond just preparing students for factory and agricultural work, and started looking at the development of the whole student in what became known as a holistic educational approach.

Today it is generally accepted that teachers have an obligation to promote positive behavior, build the character and enhance the decision quality of all students. While there are many ways to do this, for the past two years the Newport Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD) has chosen to implement Positive Behavior and Intervention Systems (PBIS) to develop a school culture that leads to the social, emotional and academic success of all students.

Knowing that there is no simple solution to remove barriers that occur when behaviors disrupt a learning community, PBIS focuses on creating and sustaining systems of support that engage elements of a student's personal pursuits, health, social, family, work and recreational activities. The philosophy is to use a multi-level approach that is offered to all schools, with increasing interventions being applied as behaviors escalate or lower level interventions do not to bring about proper conduct. The PBIS Initiative in NMUSD involves all 32 schools, with each school submitting to a three-year training cycle. While the District has a goal of full PBIS implementation by 2020, the initiative has been extremely well received at the sites and all schools could be done with their three-year training cycle a year earlier, in 2019.

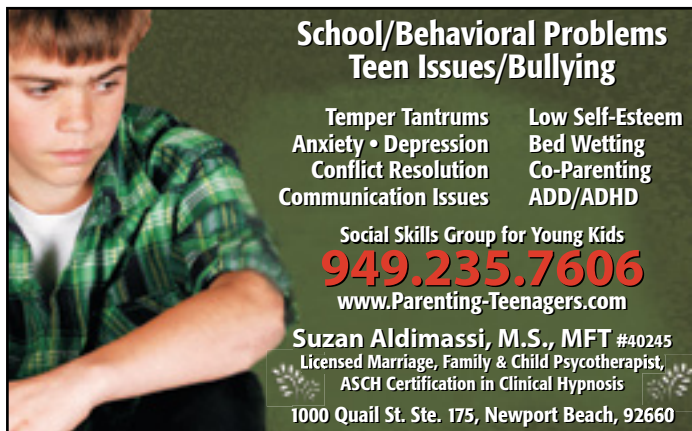


Dr. Fred Navarro

While it is common for people to assume that students should just know what they are supposed to do and that good behavior should be an expectation, all students face some sort of challenge in their lives and they need the proper modeling, reinforcement of positive social behavior, and guidance toward appropriate responses to adversity to be successful both in and out of the classroom. PBIS strives to support the social competence, academic achievement and expected behaviors of all students. The results of PBIS implementation in NMUSD have done just that.

An analysis of discipline data in the District, since PBIS implementation, has shown significant decreases in discipline issues, office referrals and classroom disturbances across all grade levels. For example, an analysis of discipline data showed that one year after PBIS was implemented there was a 25 percent decrease in elementary grade discipline referrals and a ten percent decrease in secondary grade discipline referrals. Students who are taken out of class due to office referrals lose instructional time. However, the lower referrals result in schools avoided losing the equivalent of 242 instructional hours at the elementary level and 1,164 hours at the secondary level.

The holistic development of every child will continue to be a priority for educational administrators and classroom teachers. With systems like PBIS school campuses are becoming much more inviting, accepting and structured in their approach to student behavior. Not only does this help students achieve at the highest levels of their ability, it helps teachers do their job in loco parentis.



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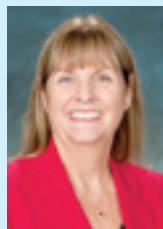
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Newport-Mesa School District Considers Adjustment of Trustee Area Boundaries and Voting by Trustee Area

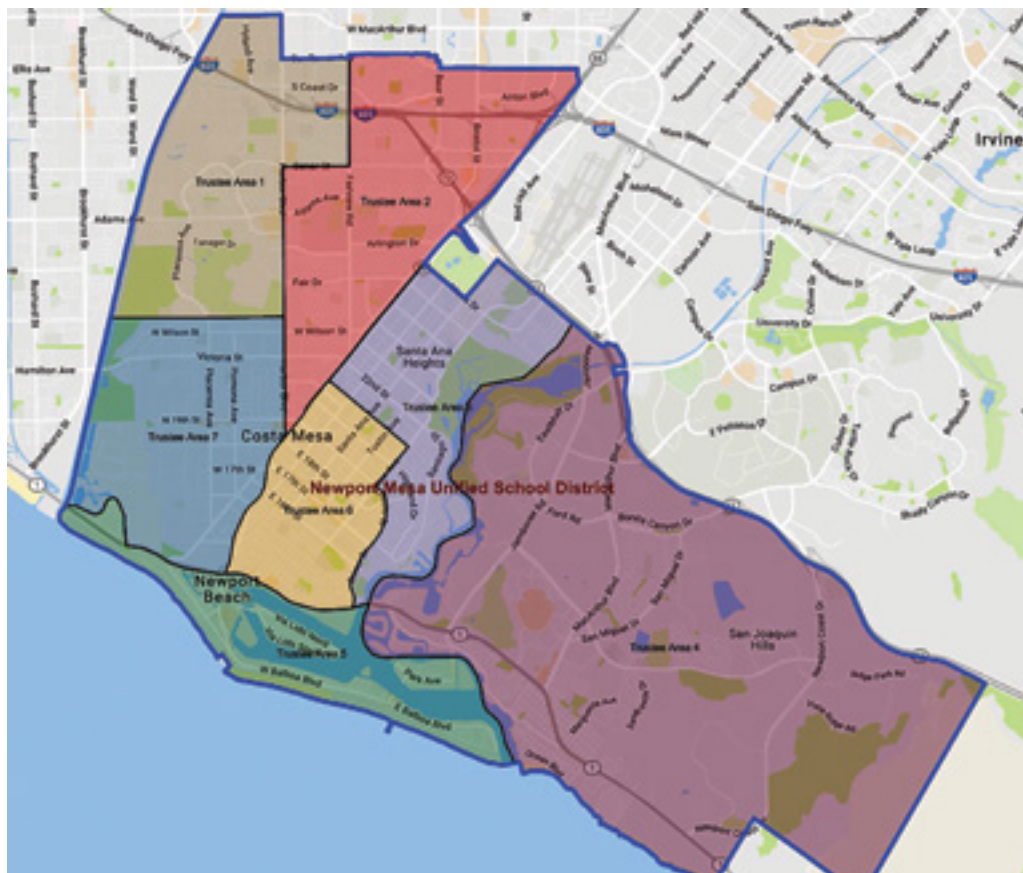
By Karen Yelsey, President

The Newport-Mesa Unified School District has seven Board of Education members who are each elected to four year terms. The terms are staggered by two years. Board elections are held during the general election in November of even numbered years. Currently, board members are elected through an at-large voting system by which each member is elected by the entire jurisdiction, but is required to reside in a particular trustee area. This is authorized by Education Code section 5030.

Due to the extensive population growth on the east side of the district, the superintendent convened a committee to review trustee areas. The committee, with the assistance of a demographer, was tasked with balancing the seven trustee areas to each have proportionate population and take into consideration traditional redistricting principles, such as: trustee area should be compact and contiguous; should consider communities of interest; should consider man-made and natural geographic features; and should continue with at least one majority-minority trustee area.

At our February 28, 2017 meeting, the NMUSD Board of Education called for the equalization of trustee area boundaries by population, and initiated the change to voting by trustee area elections, commencing with the November 2018 Board of Education elections.

As part of the adjustment of trustee area boundaries,



the District will notice and conduct two initial public hearings to receive public input and review trustee area boundaries. Upon receiving and considering from the two public hearings, the Board of Education will have two additional public hearings prior to adoption of the seven new trustee area boundaries.

Please note that changes to the trustee area boundaries do not impact the school boundary map. Student's home schools will remain the same.

Please view "District News and Announcements" on the district website (www.nmusd.us) for trustee area boundary map options and updates regarding this process, including dates and times for public hearings.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Happy Spring!

You don't have to look further than this issue to realize education in the classroom has changed from the basic 3R's. In this issue you will read about Show Choir, Kindness Week, Buddy Classes, Read Across America, CAD Program, NGSS Science, Class Act Program, STEM and so much more... It is an exciting time to be a student!

Changes reach beyond the classroom. On page 21 you will read how the School Health Services have evolved beyond basic first aid. On that same page Transportation Services bring you up to date on the changes in the school buses being safer, quieter and cleaner. (Let's hope they never become self-driving!)

Our next issue is June 7 just in time to congratulate the Class of 2017!

School News

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City of Costa Mesa



Katrina Foley
Mayor

Variety of Programs

Costa Mesa prides itself on providing a diversity of recreational and after school programs for students in all variety of neighborhoods. Some of our more populated neighborhoods are located far from parks and schools where kids can play safely.

I'm pleased to report the Costa Mesa City Council is bringing back the very successful Mobile Recreation Program. In years past, the Rec Mobile rolled out to serve local youth ages 5 to 12 with recreational needs unavailable in their neighborhoods.

The Rec Mobile will bring after school recreational programs, homework help, and activities to keep kids on a path to success directly to the neighborhood.

We are thrilled to announce the Los Angeles Chargers agreed to fund the Rec Mobile. We can now offer recreational arts and sports activities; supervised free play including table board games; and an education component that includes homework, reading assistance and even a mini mobile library.

The Rec Mobile is another way Costa Mesa is reducing at-risk behaviors and serving the needs of our working families by providing a safe supervised space where kids can play after school.

Those interested in sponsoring this program should contact the city at 714-754-5000.

City of Newport Beach



Kevin Muldoon
Mayor

Demand Interpretation Service

To help facilitate communication and give all residents and visitors the opportunity to access City services and participate in its programs, the City of Newport Beach is now offering on-demand interpretation service at six of our facilities.

The recently installed technology utilizes a tablet computer equipped with a video-remote-interpreting mobile application.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or are non-English speaking can utilize the tablet to connect virtually with an interpreter. The interpreter bridges any communication gap between the individual and the City staff member assisting them. Interpreters are available to provide assistance in American Sign Language or more than 150 spoken languages.

This free service is available to visitors during regular business hours at the following City locations: Newport Coast Community Center, 6401 San Joaquin Hills Road; OASIS Senior Center, 801 Narcissus Avenue; Marina Park, 1600 W. Balboa Boulevard; Central Library, 1000 Avocado Avenue; Mariners Branch Library, 1300 Irvine Avenue; and City Hall in the City Clerk's Office and the Permit Center, 100 Civic Center Drive.

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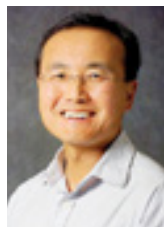
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**Kenneth Kim,
M.D.**

*Medical Director,
Pediatric ICU*

Childhood Sleep Problems

Children can make up many excuses not to go to, or stay in bed. Some childhood sleep problems are caused by poor sleep habits, while others may be hereditary or symptoms of emotional difficulties.

Fortunately, children typically outgrow sleep problems.

The amount of sleep children need gradually decreases as they mature. Newborn babies usually nap about 16 hours through the day and night, while teenagers need about nine hours of sleep per night.

For many parents, getting their children to go to bed and stay there can be frustrating, but they can help put a stop to bedtime troubles by following these simple steps: Stick to the same bedtime every night, even on weekends; Turn off the television, video games and computer at least one hour before going to bed and start winding down with



a consistent routine that includes brushing teeth, going to the bathroom and maybe reading a short story; Make sure the place to sleep is comfortable; Keep a low noise level in the house while the child is asleep.

Some childhood sleep problems called parasomnias, include night terrors, sleepwalking and sleep talking. Night terrors involve episodes of fear, flailing or screaming that

can last a few minutes while the child is asleep. They affect only a small number of children between the ages of three and 12 and usually are outgrown by adolescence. Children who sleepwalk may be at risk for injury by falling down stairs or opening windows. Parents should not try to wake children up, but instead guide them back to bed or otherwise gently reassure them.



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Adams *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Gabriel DelReal
Principal

Kindness Week

Adams students kicked off "Kindness Week" on February 13th. Kindness Week is a nationally recognized event focusing on demonstrating kindness towards others and ourselves. Kindness Week aligns with the rules at Adams School: Rule One is "Be kind." Students made great use of this learning opportunity by writing notes to teachers, friends, and others, committed random acts

of kindness, as well as donating pairs of socks to homeless families. Children and teachers at Adams wrote examples of the kind things students did and created school-wide chain of colorful slips of paper. What a wonderful way for Adams All-Stars to celebrate Kindness Week.



The Kindness Week chain of kind acts is long enough to stretch across the school campus and is now proudly hanging on display in the school's Multi-Purpose Room.



California *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Jacob Topete
Principal

Super Stars!

The California Elementary JV Show Choir recently performed The Jungle Book Kids. The students put on a magnificent performance that showcased their hard work and incredible talent. The cast of 42, was comprised of first and second grade students that committed to practice one hour

a week after school. Students sang, danced, memorized lines, and worked together as a team to put on a tremendous show. The production is funded by the California School Education Foundation and was supported by countless parent volunteers. Mr. Nick St. Royal, our music teacher did a tremendous job orchestrating the entire production. We are very proud of all our Cougars! Great job Go Cougars!!



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

Harmonious Partnership Orchestrated

Andersen Elementary is very proud to have a partnership with a symphony orchestra as a Class Act School as we continue our goal of exposing our students to the arts. We believe this experience will enhance student learning by integrating the arts into other subject areas. This partnership will also create opportunities for students to achieve 21st century skills and foster creativity.

Our professional musician, MarlaJoy Weisshaar, introduced students to the theme and composer of the year during an assembly. Every classroom will have a lesson to explore this year's theme, "Magical Journeys of Mozart," through the music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Kindergarten and first grade experience an interactive assembly incorporating the music of Mozart with singing, dancing and movement. Students in second through sixth grades enjoy a field trip to an arts complex to hear the symphony, featuring the music of Mozart. Our culminating event, the Bravo assembly, showcases our students sharing what they have learned about Mozart through presentations of art, dance, song and music.

Back Bay/Monte Vista *High School*

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



Debbie Luckner-Davis
Principal

Honors and Highlights

Congratulations, Back Bay Continuation High School! Back Bay was named one of 34 Model Continuation High Schools in the state. It's an honor to receive this title! This recognition is a compliment to the dedicated and hard work of the entire staff and administration, and it's the third time under Principal Debbie Davis's tenure that the school has received it.

In March, the Alternative Ed Center launched its senior-project presentations. These presentations are highlights for the school community.

Every year, community members, district-office personnel, teachers and staff participate on a panel for students as they present stories of their lives and accomplishments. Students share personal information about their high school experience that showcases some tough situations and explains how their perseverance helped them reach graduation. In their short lives, many of these students have faced adult problems that may include homelessness, multiple moves, supporting a family, losing family members, divorce, mothers and fathers not present, and other situations we as adults may not have experienced. When our students graduate, we know that they have committed to making a better life for themselves!

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

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



Dr. Rebecca Gogel
Principal
7-8 Grade



Kathy Scott
Principal
9-12 Grade

US History at CDM

Corona Del Mar Orchesis Dance Company presented history through dance. Performing at the Robert B. Wentz Theater, "Capture: Dancing Through America's Iconic Moments" featured 2 acts and 18 dance performances each depicting a separate moment in our

nation's history. The program was directed by Orchesis artistic director Cami Marseilles and her assistant director Lauren Anderson. The evening was choreographed by

the students. The dancers interpreted scenes of history ranging from the Civil Rights movement, World War II to even more recent events like the tragedy at Sandy Hook elementary.

Our nation's history is something that students are also experiencing in person at CdM through the Living History Project. Partnering with the Freedom Committee of Orange County, sophomore students enrolled in US History have had the opportunity to work with an actual US veteran. Students must interview the veteran, transcribing the interview and creating a documentary using footage from their interviews. The result of their work concludes with a luncheon held on March 23rd where students and veterans spend the time sharing food and memories together one last time.

College Park *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Julie McCormick
Principal

Buddy Classes

Building our school community is important to us at College Park. One way we facilitate this is with our “buddy classes.” Our 6th graders are buddied up with kindergarten classes. The classes get together for an hour each week for various activities.

The sixth graders read to the kindergarten students, lead them in STEAM activities, help them with art projects, and facilitate games during P.E., as shown in the photograph. They love taking on this mentor role, and the kindergarten students love the extra attention. It's a great way for the older students to give back to their school. And, our dual-immersion kindergarten students have even taught the 6th graders some Mandarin!



Davis *Magnet* (K-6)

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



Christy Flores
Principal

Medical Residency Day

The 6th graders recently completed their six-week Medical Residency unit focusing on the human body based on the Next Generation Science Standards. The 6th grade teachers broke the unit into three sections concentrating on the nervous, cellular, and circulatory systems. The unit consisted of hands-on lessons which integrated technology,

art, group presentations, and writing assignments. Medical Residency Day was the culminating event allowing students to participate in several unforgettable learning activities, which included working with Dr. Robert Louis, the Director of Skull Base and Pituitary Tumor Program at Hoag Memorial Hospital. He led students through one of his brain surgeries that he conducted using virtual reality. It was a wonderful learning opportunity and Dr. Louis inspired many students to become doctors.



Costa Mesa *High School* (7-12)

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



Guy Olguin
Principal
7-8 Grade



Jacob Haley
Principal
9-12 Grade

Developing student of the Mind, Body, and Heart

Costa Mesa Middle/High School commits to developing students of the mind, heart, and body. Beyond academics, our signature academies and volunteer opportunities, Costa Mesa offers an array

of Physical Education (PE) courses and sport opportunities to ensure the health and well-being of all students.

Recently we were invited to partake in a friendly game of paddle tennis in a PE class and continue to be impressed with the hand-eye coordination that is developed, the data used to measure mile times, and overall focus on individual student growth in all courses. Needless to say, the students won the friendly game of Paddle Tennis, 2-0.



Eastbluff *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Cheryl Beck
Principal

Reading Celebrations!

In March, we had our annual reading celebration, Read Across America Day. This day focused on reading and gave a special tribute to beloved author Dr. Seuss.

The day began with a special guest reader at Friday Flag Deck—The Cat in the Hat! He read one of his favorite books, *Green Eggs and Ham*, to the students. A “Cat in the Hat” poem was shared over the sound system. The poem gave clues to where the Cat in the Hat was hiding on campus. Classes listened carefully to determine the exact location of the Cat in the Hat.

There were fun reading activities in the classrooms as well as Student Council PJ Dress Day. What a fantastic reading celebration!



Early College *High School (9-12)*

2990 Mesa Verde Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/241-6108 • <http://earlycollege.nmusd.us>



**Dr. David
Martinez**
Principal

We're Gearing Up

In March, ECHS's had its Open House as we opened our campus to our parents and prospective families interested in learning more about ECHS for their children. Our school is still accepting applications for the 2017–18 school year, as the deadline is May 5. Please check our school website for more information.

Early College High School was on spring break from March 27–31, as the third quarter ended on March 24. During the month of

April, the Project YES (Youth Employment Services) Program is holding a three-day workshop for our students on three consecutive Fridays to prepare them for future employment. In early May, our 10th-graders will take college field trips to Cal State Fullerton and UC Riverside on two consecutive Fridays, bringing our total college field trips to six for the school year.

In closing, many of our Class of 2017 students have received or are anxiously waiting for acceptance letters from the colleges and universities they applied to last fall. This time of their life is an exciting chapter as they look forward to graduation on June 1.

Estancia *High School*

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



Michael Halt
Principal

Preparing for Health Occupations

In March, Estancia High School sent 39 students and two Career Technical Education (CTE) teachers in the Estancia Medical Academy to the annual Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) State Leadership Conference in Sacramento.

Students spent hours studying for the competitions, which include online assessments, practical skills assessments,

and an oral interview process. Estancia students competed in technical skills areas such as nursing assistance, human growth and development, medical terminology, forensic medicine, nutrition, behavioral health, pharmacology, sports medicine, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation/first aid.

While in Sacramento, students also had the opportunity to attend a college and career fair, visit biomedical labs, and participate in workshops. HOSA helps students to advance their identified medical career paths while developing networking skills.



Harbor View *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Todd Schmidt
Principal

CAD Program

Over the past school year, Harbor View students have had the chance to combine, engineering, technology, and history in the creation of monuments of the Ancient World. Using the CAD program, students were led in a discussion on architectural features and their purpose in



many of these ruins. From the Pyramids to the Coliseum, students worked on creating miniature models that coincided with project-based learning happening in the classroom. Huge thanks to Airwolf 3D for the donation of two 3-D printers that were used to create the students' creations.

Horace Ensign *Intermediate (7-8)*

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



Michael Sciacca
Principal

Shift to NGSS Science

The Ensign Science team has been working hard over this last semester to transition our curriculum to meet the new Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Teacher teams have been collaborating to design curriculum, plan lessons and align teaching practices to ensure our students are prepared for the increased rigor. NGSS

will require higher levels of context-based learning skills for our students and will focus on knowledge application rather than knowledge acquisition. Our team of teachers has been working with a variety of sources to create theme-centered units which address science from an integrated approach. We are committed to maintaining a productive balance of rigor, relevance and student enjoyment in our Ensign science program.

Heinz Kaiser *Elementary (3-6)*

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



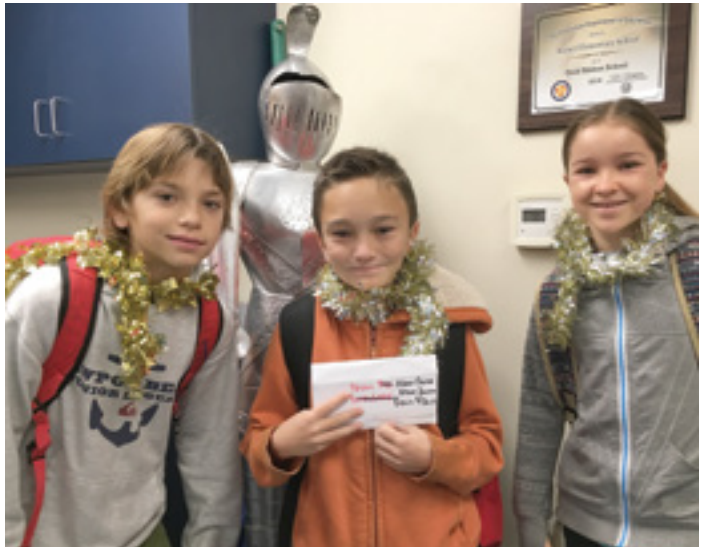
Dr. Deborah Granger
Principal

Planting Seeds of Philanthropy

Hanging outside my office door is a photo of three Kaiser Elementary School students: Devin, Aidan, and Ethan. They decided to raise money to donate to the Orangewood Foundation during the winter holidays by making luminarias and selling them to neighbors. One day, they showed up with an envelope and said, "We want to help someone with this money."

All six of Kaiser's fourth-grade classes banded together to support Orangewood this year. In addition, several classes gathered toys for the annual Spark of Love program, sponsored by the fire department. These student experiences added to our tradition of "adopting" Kaiser's families in need.

In addition to essential academic skills, our students are learning and growing into amazing human beings!



Kaiser students raise money to spread good will to youngsters in need.

Killybrooke *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Lorie Hoggard
Principal

Read Across America

Killybrooke celebrated Read Across America Day, an annual event that calls for children in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of children's author Dr. Seuss. The day began with flag deck led by Student Council. One student shared, "Our teachers help us *learn to read* in the younger grades and then how to *read to learn* in the older grades. They push us to read different types of materials and more difficult text so that we can be ready to succeed in college and in life." Every classroom hosted guest readers. Guest readers included school board members, the mayor, school district leaders, Costa Mesa Middle and High School principals, fire fighters and police officers.



Abraham Lincoln *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Carrie Gammel
Principal

Robotics

Thirty students, grades 2 to 6, participated in Lincoln's Robotics Night, demonstrating what they learned from program creators Mrs.

Claire Ratfield and Mr. Ryan Ratfield, including Tynker block coding to manipulate Spheros, Ollies and Star Wars' BB-Robots. Mini-Drones, and creating Makey-Makey inventions. Grades 2-4 showed off Apple Computer's, Jimju MeeBot Robots, their award-winning interactive



robotic building block system which provides interlocking pieces that snap together without tools. Students used I-pad Apps and 3D animated instructions with a 360-spin feature to build. Fifth-Sixth graders, created their first VEX IQ Robot, a more sophisticated platform provided by Newport-Mesa School District. Their goal was to become familiar with the product and learn to work cooperatively to prepare for the district Vex Robot contest in June.

Mariners *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Matthew Broesamle
Principal

Mariners PRIDE

I have Mariners PRIDE. I am Positive, Respectful, Intelligent, and Determined. I strive for Excellence every day! This is what students at Mariners aim for each day. And, it is part of the work that our PBIS team is doing

to teach students positive behavior and recognize students who make good choices. Students are acknowledged for good behavior with Success Awards which they enter into raffle boxes. Students love hearing the winners' names called over the PA system during morning

announcements, but they love the monthly Mariners Pride Day even more. This month's prizes included a Selfie with the Principal, a game of Capture the Flag, a cookie decorating party, free time in the computer Lab and a Lego party. Go Marlins!



Newport Coast *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Dr. Duane Cox
Principal

Class Act Program

The Pacific Symphony, through the Class Act program, performed a free concert at Newport Coast Elementary for students and families on March 8. Pacific Symphony cellist, Mr. Ian McKinnell, joined his colleagues for a stringed quintet.

Through Class Act, Newport Coast classes are given an up-close and interactive lesson on the life of composer Wolfgang Amadeus

Mozart and his "Magical Journey." Led by Mr. McKinnell, each class was transported into the world of one of the greatest composers.

Mr. McKinnell combined his talent for music and storytelling to weave history and music together and captured imaginations. Students learned about the nuances and vocabulary of music, especially when listening to Mr. McKinnell plays his 287 year old Italian cello!

It is an honor and privilege to have the Class Act program here at Newport Coast!



Newport *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Rich Rodriguez
Principal

Parts of Speech and a Musical

Ms. Elston's and Mrs. Cabellon's third grade students at Newport El recently put on a musical, *Pirates of Grammar Island*. They learned all about parts of speech through acting and singing. Such a fun way to build confidence and work cooperatively with their peers, while learning about nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, and so much more!

The students worked diligently to create a memorable performance for their families. Hudson's favorite part was when he looked down at his mom, knowing she was proud of him. When everyone cheered at the end was Peyton's favorite moment. Sophie will always remember seeing her mom in the crowd cheering her on. Way to go third graders!



Newport Harbor *High School* (9-12)

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



Sean Boulton
Principal

God Looked Away

On March 17, 12 students from the Newport Harbor High School Drama Department travelled with Mr. D'Aquino, Mr. Ramirez, and Mr. Bengco to the Pasadena Playhouse for some sightseeing, dinner, and a production of "God Looked Away," starring Al Pacino as Tennessee Williams.

Along with seeing an iconic American actor perform an original work live, students also had the opportunity to go on a private, backstage tour of the playhouse, its libraries and rehearsal rooms, the

scene shop where they build their sets, and the dressing rooms.

What made it additionally special is that this production was still in development at the time. Our students have been invited to provide feedback to the playwright, the director, and the producers!

Students are excited about digging deeper into their own work as well as the works of Williams. We also will be starting our own version a Pasadena Playhouse tradition—donating a plant to the school with the signatures of all cast members on it. We will begin with this past fall's production of "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," written, appropriately, by Tennessee Williams.

Newport Heights *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Somer Harding
Principal

Increasing Student Engagement

One major goal at NHES this year was to increase student engagement in organized games and activities. We have focused on this goal through our inaugural Intramural Sports Tournaments.

Our students descended on the handball courts last fall to learn about the basic rules and techniques of the game. The students

then advanced to finals based upon the number of matches that he or she had won. A handball champion was also honored at flag deck for each grade level. They were awarded both certificates and bragging rights!

The students are currently participating in the four-square tournament, and are looking forward to tetherball in the spring. Sportsmanship is also a big focus of our tournaments, with students being recognized with certificates of achievement.



Paularino *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Amy Nagy
Principal

STEM

When the dismissal bell rings, HUNDREDS of our students move from the classroom to one of our many after school programs! Students participate in daily programs like Project Success and

ROCKS, and/or in clubs that focus on extending academic opportunities in reading, science and math or enrichment offerings like Chess, Legos, band, and creative arts. Pictured here, students in our STEM club work collaboratively to solve STEM challenges. The challenge here was to build the tallest structure they could, from a limited amount of supplied materials. Students in the near future will be building and coding a robot in preparation for a spring competition!



Pomona *Elementary (K-6)*

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



**Megan
Elsten Brown**
Principal

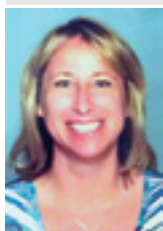
Read, Read, Read!

Just Read, Read Your Way to College, Read, Read, Read! These are a few of the mantras you will hear as you walk the halls of Pomona Elementary, a gold ribbon school where our motto is Positive Attitudes Will Succeed (PAWS). Carrying on with the theme of reading, the Pomona community enjoyed a book fair family night centered around the theme of camping out. Pomona's

awesome librarian, Summer Somera, and one of Pomona's fabulous fifth grade teachers, Pam Reynoso, teamed up and put on an event that included read alouds around the campfire, camping crafts, and camping inspired food including guacamole dogs and s'mores. Pomona families brought books into their homes, and Pomona students brought more reading into their hearts and minds. Big thanks to all who made our book fair family night a success.

Charles W. TeWinkle *Intermediate (7-8)*

3224 California Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7965 • <http://tewinkle.nmusd.us>



Kira Hurst
Principal

Career Inspiration

The TeWinkle Middle School robotics and English language arts teachers have once again brought in guest speakers to inspire students to a career in medicine and journalism.

Caitlin Harrington Brown is a fourth-year medical student from Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in Portland, Oregon. Caitlin spoke with the robotics

classes about many aspects of medicine, including: robotic surgery using the Da Vinci robot; the steps needed to

become a physician; other career options in the medical field; what residency looks like; importance of women in the field of medicine; and the daily life of a physician. She also went into a few case studies with the students to demonstrate the process of diagnosing and treating a patient.

TeWinkle would also like to thank Steve Smith for visiting the campus and delivering an interesting and informative presentation. Mr. Smith, a journalist, blogger, and advertising copywriter, presented information on fake news, credibility, and ethics. Our seventh- and eighth-grade language arts students learned many tips to become discerning readers and intentional writers.

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

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



Dr. Kalim Rayburn
Principal

STEM

STEM Family Night in partnership with Rea PTA and DPR Construction of Newport-Beach generated a night of inquiry, hands-on engagement and family fun. Led by a group of Rea teacher facilitators, Early College High School students, and volunteers from

DPR, students participated in a wide variety of activities such as robotics, building with K'NEX, creating catapults, coding, working with ST Math, and making slime. The evening's objective contributed to a site effort to bring more access to STEM activities and skills where Rea students can practice their competency in critical thinking, collaboration and creativity. Proceeds from food sales go toward more access to science and math consumables making STEM an enriching experience with access to all grades.



Sonora *Elementary* (K-6)

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



**Christine
Anderson**
Principal

Sonora Celebrates the Arts!

Sonora students are fortunate to have three Art Residency Programs this year, supported by our PTA and generous donations to the arts. John Zeretzke, Backhausedance and Baba the Storyteller, all three Master Teaching Artists from the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, are working with

various grade levels in 8 week sessions. With John Zeretzke, students learn about countries and cultures from around the world as they build and learn how to play their own flute. Students also make an additional flute that will be sent to children in Haiti, Malaysia and Thailand. With Baba students learn listening and oral delivery skills through games, music and interactive tale-telling. Students also develop

simple tales into artistic expressions and performance art while increasing self-confidence in public presentations. With Backhausedance students learn the essential tools of choreography by creating and performing a dance using different movement dynamics and motor skills. Our students are fortunate to have such amazing artists teaching them such valuable life-long skills!



Victoria *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Dr. Aaron Peralta
Principal

Outdoor Science School

Our Victoria 6th graders traveled to Arrowhead Ranch in Lake Arrowhead this month for four days of Outdoor Science School. Students were thrilled to participate in outdoor science activities. During our fun filled stay

we learned exciting concepts about astronomy, earth science, and zoology. Each day at camp was filled with songs, activities, hikes, and games. Students loved the night hike under the stars where they studied the constellations. The "courage walk" during the night hike challenged students to use their understanding of nature as they explored the wilderness. Our Voyagers also learned valuable skills of team work and collective accountability during their stay. Victoria's visit to Arrowhead Ranch created memories that will last forever!



Whittier Elementary (K-6)

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



Scott Wilcox
Principal

Accelerating Through Reading

Whittier Students are showing their Whittier PRIDE every day. One way we do that is with the Accelerated Reader Program (AR). Through daily use, the program helps students build and track their reading comprehension progress. However, every Whittier Dolphin also has their own personalized reading goals. Each trimester, Whittier Scholars work toward three AR goals:

ATOS Level (a designated reading-level target)

Points Goal (gained by the number and difficulty of books read)

Average Percent Correct (based on tests taken on books read)

At the end of each trimester, we celebrate our successful scholars with an awards ceremony. Certificates and rewards are given for students who meet all three goals and special recognition is given for those who rise above and beyond their individual goals.

Since the goals are individualized, all students can participate. According to Whittier's Vice Principal, Mrs. Clarke, "It offers opportunities for everyone to be successful!"



Wilson Elementary (K-6)

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



Mia King
Interim Principal

We Love Reading!

This month at Wilson Elementary we had the opportunity to celebrate Read Across America. The teachers dressed as their favorite book characters, and

lots of students participated in dressing up too! It was a wonderful day that included school wide silent reading as well as teachers and staff members visiting other classrooms to read aloud. The students enjoyed listening to stories and used different strategies such as predicting and visualizing to support their comprehension. Most importantly we were able to celebrate our love of and the importance of reading here at Wilson.



Woodland *Elementary* (K-2)

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



Tiffany Lewis
Principal

What A Week!

Woodland student celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday all week. Two different authors shared their writing experiences and inspirations with students. Jill Manly shared her book NOTHANDO'S JOURNEY, a journey in self-discovery, told through the eyes of a young girl named Nothando. The book tells of the Reed Festival, an important celebration in Nothando's country of Swaziland in Southern Africa. Students learned about the different animals in Swaziland and movements inspired by them.

Author Paulina Brown shared her EVANTOR series of books and shared with students how she draws inspiration from her daily life. Mrs. Brown explained that she did not consider herself to be an illustrator, but that through practice, perseverance and believing in yourself, anything is possible!

Woodland students were also treated to Dr. Seuss books read to them by some local Veterans. We could not tell who enjoyed the experience more.

The week was topped off by a trip to Newport Harbor High School to see the Kaiser-Woodland school play Shrek Jr., the Musical.

School Health Services

2985-A Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-5000



Merry Grasska
MPH, FNP-C,
RN
Coordinator

School Nurses are Super Stars

School nurses today function very differently than in the past. The responsibilities of the school nurse have evolved beyond basic first aid and caring for ill students. School nurses are part of a school team and are tasked with identifying health concerns that impact a child's education. Nurses play a key part ensuring students are healthy for school. They manage complex medical and social conditions, diseases like diabetes and asthma, as well as health care procedures like tube feedings. Several of our nurses have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to student education. The nursing team at NMUSD is excellent and on May 10, 2017, National School Nurse Day, we salute our school nurses.



District Transportation

2985-A Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-8903



Pete Meslin
Director

Transportation Change Rolls On

Recently, I was reminded of an upcoming benchmark birthday. This, of course, got me thinking about how things have changed over the last so many years. The iconic big, yellow school bus that many of us rode in as children isn't quite the same as it once was. The world has changed, and so have our buses. Though still the safest vehicle on any road, school buses have become even safer, quieter, and cleaner.

My bus drivers were always men who seemed to have an amazingly difficult time "double-clutching" through what

seemed like an unending number of gears. I remember numerous bruises from bumping into exposed metal bars. The bus was always very, very noisy as it spewed massive amounts of pollution.

There have been innumerable improvements. Our driver fleet is now gender balanced. Almost everything in the bus is padded, including the high-backed seats. Though still noisy, our buses are so much quieter and more ergonomic with their automatic transmissions. The latest engine systems are efficient and clean. In fact, we just recently applied for a grant to get our first electric bus.

What's next? Maybe hovering across the bay...

Nutrition Services

2985-A Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-5000 • www.nmusd.us/depts/ns/resources_parent.php



**Dale Ellis, R.D.,
M.B.A., S.N.S.**
Director

Creating Healthy Environments

*By Pam Williams; MPH, RD,
NMUSD Nutritionist*

Nutrition Services has been working to get the word out about healthy living. We want our community to feel great, but we also want to support a vibrant learning environment. How do we do this?

Nutrition Services and other district partners provide a range of learning opportunities on our campuses. We provide parent classes that include physical activities

such as family walks, sports, or simple things which can engage the whole family, like dancing together. Parents can also learn how to season vegetables and include them in their meals. We cook with sweet potatoes, collard greens, spinach, and other vegetables to create yummy dishes.

We also work with the classroom teachers. The students can enjoy a story such as Stone Soup, and then learn about the foods in the soup, and also get to taste a healthy version of it. Our "Harvest of the Month" is another program that teaches students about fresh produce and then gives them an opportunity to taste these foods.

Whole Health Everyday Word Search Contest

Rules! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put NMUSD in the subject line)

Entries must be received by April 15, 2017

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

Thank you Barkate Orthodontics
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FIBER	SALMON
FRUITS	SEEDS
HEALTH	VEGETABLES
HUMMUS	VITAMINS
KALE	WATER
LEMONS	



Congratulations to **Sondra Scott**
Winner of the February Word Search Contest!



Newport Beach Fire Department



Jeff Boyles
Assistant
Fire Chief

"Oh the places you'll go..."

Every year, Newport Beach Firefighters take part in the annual Read Across America campaign to promote reading with our youth. Not only does the uniform and badge capture the attention of our elementary aged kids, but having the opportunity to read Dr. Seuss provides a fun and interactive way for our firefighters to engage with students in our community. This year, Chiefs' Duncan, Boyles and Carr read to students at Newport Elementary School. Our goal is to inspire kids from a public official standpoint that reading is both fun and important.



"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child."

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Newport Beach Public Libraries



Liz Aaron
*Children's Librarian,
Newport Beach
Public Library*

Spring at the Public Library

At Newport Beach Public Library we are excited about our special spring programs. Don't miss adding these great events to your calendar, along with your favorite craft and LEGO programs. Check the events calendar at <http://www.newportbeachlibrary.org/> calendar for details. We'll see you at the library!

Fourth Annual Bunnies & Books for Kids Festival

A bunny-themed story time, face painting, arts & crafts, games, a story-walk through the sculpture garden and other outdoor activities are planned for this year's festival. This is our biggest children's event of the year so come prepared to read, create and move throughout the library and our beautiful Civic Green and gardens. The festival is a part of the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation's Making Memories for Children event series.

Saturday, May 13 @ 10 a.m.

Central Library Friends Room & Civic Green

Admission is FREE; no reservations required

Information: 949-548-2411 or nbplfoundation.org

Central Library 1000 Avocado Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/717-3800 • www.newportbeachlibrary.org/kids

Mariners Branch 1300 Irvine Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/717-3838

Balboa Branch 100 East Balboa Blvd., Balboa, CA 92661 • 949/644-3076

Corona Del Mar Branch 420 Marigold Ave., Corona Del Mar, CA 92625 • 949/644-3075

Coding for Kids!

Would you like to learn computer coding? Join us for a special hands-on workshop introducing kids to simple coding techniques.

Tuesday, May 16 @ 4 p.m.

Crean Mariners Branch Library

Admission is FREE; no reservations required

Ages 6-12. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Summer Reading Program

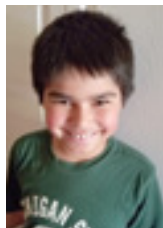
Look for us at your school in early June as librarians visit to share the excitement of Summer Reading. Participating in a summer reading program reduces learning loss while out of school and helps you perform better in class and on standardized tests when you return next fall. This summer, choose books based on your own interests and have fun reading! When you register for our summer reading program—starting June 24th—you will earn prizes based on the amount of reading you do. You're also invited to our many craft programs, performers, and other awesome events! Watch for more details in the June issue of *School News*.

Reminder: Closures

All NBPL locations will be closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 29.

Book Review by Abbas

Amazing Graphic Novel

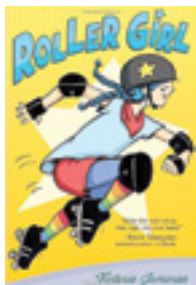


Abbas D.

Roller Girl is a graphic novel by Victoria Jamieson.

This book is about a girl named Astrid and her best friend Nicole. One day the girls go to a roller derby. Astrid later on begs her mom to go to roller derby camp and

her mother agrees by signing her up. Astrid is elated and hopes her best friend will sign up too. Nicole signs up for dance class instead. This turns her summer upside down. Astrid's nemesis Rachel is now friends with Astrid because they're taking the same dance class. Rachel is a mean girl who keeps pressuring Nicole to stop being friends with Astrid. How will Astrid survive the summer without Nicole? This book is an amazing novel because it made me feel like branching out and trying new things can lead to new friendships. This book is great for people who love graphic novels and skating. Will Astrid continue her roller derby fame? I rate this book 5 out of 5 smiley faces.



Abbas D. is a fifth grade student who enjoys cooking in his free time, swimming and loves roasted marshmallows. Abbas will rate the books 1 to 5 smiley faces with 5 being the best.

Michael's Book Review

A Hilarious Book

Greg's imagination is at it again. He talks about how he feels like his life is being filmed and people are watching his every move. He also talks about how his family

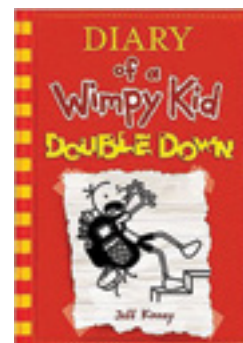


Michael H.

is secretly a bunch of robots, and worries that what his mom said about his nana watching over him since she died is literally true. His mom thinks video games and TV are turning his brain into mush. She tells him to explore his "creative side."

This is all happening near Halloween and Greg feels like frights are coming his way from every direction. He joins the band. That would make his mom happy and he would be invited to the Halloween party. Going to the party he freaks out when he realizes his mom isn't just dropping him off she plans on staying. Will she embarrass Greg and ruin his whole plan?

I give this book 5 stars although it didn't have a main story line it was hilarious and can't wait to read the next one.



Michael H. is a 4th grade student. Besides his love for reading, he also enjoys Karate, playing guitar and sharing new adventures with his mom. He will rate the books 1 to 5 stars with 5 being the highest.

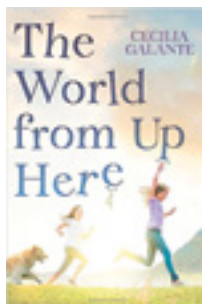
Lucy's Book Review

The World from Up Here



Lucy Davis

Author: Cecilia Galante
Wren Baker has never been brave. She hasn't ever stepped out of her comfort zone, or done something risky and unpredictable.



That all changes when her mother is put in the hospital, and Wren doesn't even know why. Her dad seems to cover everything up, and he sends her to live with her aunt and "perfect" cousin, Sliver. Soon after her move, everything she's doing is dangerous, from riding a spooked horse to trekking up a seemingly haunted mountain. To top it off, what was supposed to be research for a history project turns into one of the most scary experiences of her life. Throughout her adventures, Wren is learning more about her own past than she ever thought she would.

Cecilia Galante's novel is fantastic, and I give it five bookworms out of five for its suspense and thoughtfulness.

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



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Engagement Driving Education



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent
Orange County
Dept. of
Education

When you close your eyes and picture a public school, what images come to mind?

Do you see chalkboards, workbooks and rows of wooden desks? Or do you see iPads, STEM projects and collaborative learning spaces?

If you have children in school — or if you're a student — chances are it's the latter. That's because public schools have undergone a transformational shift in recent years, and the advancing trajectory is worth taking a moment to consider.

Since the 1990s, educators and policymakers have talked a lot about standards, assessments and accountability, and justifiably so. These are important components of a first-rate school system. But it is our ability to engage students with real-world applications, collaborative assignments and project-based learning that is proving key to success in college, career and life.

Indeed, research around the psychological concept of "flow" shows how overall learning is enhanced when students are absorbed and energized by their work. This engagement, perhaps more than anything else, is what's driving education forward, and examples abound in Orange County.

At Nicolas Junior High School in Fullerton, four students recently partnered with their teachers and industry professionals to build a smartphone app prototype that can identify poisonous plants in nature. As a prerequisite, they

first had to learn coding and the programming language of JavaScript. In the Tustin Unified School District, a Beckman High junior was just honored through the Young Innovators to Watch program after developing a drone-based system to help emergency responders locate disaster victims.

Our students are demonstrating remarkable ingenuity, and central to these success stories are elementary, middle and high schools that are changing the rules, disrupting the status quo and serving as proving grounds for innovation.

Lake View Elementary School in the Ocean View School District recently adopted a STEAM focus, embracing new technologies and flexible learning spaces while adding engineering, robotics and arts labs. Edison High School in the Huntington Beach Union High School District boasts an Innovation Lab that encourages students to conduct real-world research in biology, chemistry, physics and robotics. Canyon High School in the Orange Unified School District offers popular aviation courses that pair flight lessons with science, technology, engineering and math instruction.

The list goes on of Orange County schools and programs that are finding new ways to connect the interests of students with real-life experiences and pathways to 21st-century careers. And whether they take credit or not, the teachers, administrators and support staff behind this work are strengthening our future workforce and changing lives.

In doing so, they're also changing the way we think about public education.

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- Captains of Industry
- Progressives
- The Gilded Age
- The Great War
- The 1920's
- The 1930's
- Europe in Crisis
- World War II
- Post War 1945-53
- 1950's, 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's
- Present

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue



Dan Stefano
Fire Chief

Fire Explorer Program

The Costa Mesa Fire Explorer Program is now accepting interest cards for young adults (ages of 16 to 21) who want to explore a future in firefighting and emergency services.

Fire Exploring gives young people valuable insight into the firefighting, rescue and emergency services profession. This insight will allow the individual to decide whether or not he or she desires to pursue a greater role in fire and emergency services. Our Fire Explorers meet on Thursdays at the various fire stations throughout the city where our professional firefighters teach valuable work and life skills.

By participating in the Fire Explorer Program, an individual will gain personal confidence, become a member of a team, learn to use various tools, develop mechanical aptitude and skills, and acquire a greater awareness of life and fire safety. Our program provides an absolutely incredible life experience and is a lot of fun.

If you know someone between the ages of 16-21 who may be interested in becoming a member of the Costa Mesa Fire Explorer Program, please have them call us at (714) 754-5144.

<https://www.facebook.com/costamesafireexplorers/>

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