

FREE

School News

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Covering the Newport-Mesa Unified School District



Volume 14, Issue 79

April / May 2018



Eastbluff Elementary Students Celebrate Reading! (please see page 12)



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Newport-Mesa Unified School District Announces 2018 Classified Employees of the Year



Dr. Fred Navarro
Superintendent

Newport-Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD) announces the 2018 Classified Employee of the Year awards program winners. The winners will proceed for consideration in the Orange County Classified Employees of the Year Program.

The Classified Employee of the Year awards program recognizes employees that go above and beyond the expectations of their job duties to provide exemplary service to students, families, and colleagues.



Daniela Logan
Office and Technical

Daniela Logan serves as an accounting assistant III and has worked for NMUSD for more than 20 years and is the employee of the year in the category of Office and Technical. Daniela is a talented and dedicated employee whose customer service focus builds strong relationships with various departments and school employees across the district. Her positive attitude and ability to truly connect with people

of varying personalities, needs, and budget knowledge make her an invaluable resource to the fiscal team and district as a whole.



Maria Gomez
Para Educator

Maria Gomez has worked as a special education instructional assistant at Killybrooke Elementary for 12 years, and was selected as employee of the year in the category of Para-Educator and Instructional Assistance. She is extremely creative, animated, and models good behavior for her students. Maria takes the time to get to know her students personalities, abilities, and preferences and then uses that

to encourage success. She goes above and beyond what's expected in order to help students unlock their passion and meet their full potential.



Francine Harms
Transportation

Selected as employee of the year in the category of Transportation, Francine Harms has worked with the district for more than 10 years in the transportation department. She started as a trainee bus driver and has worked her way up through the ranks and is now a bus cover driver managing 58 bus routes. Her ability to manage bus routes, placement of students, particularly those with special needs, mentoring drivers, maintaining records, and general office management makes her a perfect fit in the transportation department.



Patricia Sanchez
Child Nutrition

Patricia Sanchez has worked for NMUSD for more than 25 years. She currently works at TeWinkle Intermediate School where she has served for the past 10 years. As employee of the year in the Child Nutrition category, Patricia has served in a variety of roles in school kitchens. She displays this invaluable experience each day as she assists in the preparation of more than 700 meals at her site.

The Classified Employees of the Year will be recognized at a future NMUSD board meeting and will be considered countywide for the Orange County Classified School Employee of the Year.

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Creating a K-12 Math Experience for Students

By Vicki Snell, President

One of our primary district priorities is to provide a challenging curriculum aligned to the California State Standards. This school year, we adopted new math instructional materials for kindergarten through 5th grade. We also are in the process of piloting math materials for 6th through 8th grade, and next year we anticipate piloting 9th through 12th grade math materials.

Upon completion of the adoption processes, our district will have the materials for a cohesive math experience across all grade levels, designed to better prepare students for future success in college and career.

Recognizing the significant instructional shifts the state standards and frameworks for math demand from math teachers our district has been providing support for them. Our district has provided increased support through additional training and supporting nine K-5 teachers to serve as Math Leads. These leads work monthly with the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) math coordinators to deepen their understanding of math content while preparing a grade-level specific professional development opportunity for NMUSD teachers for each



Teachers collaborating.

upcoming math unit. Math teachers then host a monthly two hour Moonlight Series to support teachers in preparation for upcoming units.

As part of a successful math implementation, our elementary schools have begun incorporating parent education sessions. Each school site has flexibility as to how they engage,

educate, and provide parents with resources to support their child's learning. Some schools have hosted "bring your parent to math class day" or "muffins and math day," for parents to see firsthand what math looks like in the classroom. Schools are also hosting formal parent meetings and presentations to provide a greater understanding of the state standards and how students are learning math concepts.

Teacher training and support paired with parent education and involvement makes for a more successful transition for our students.

For more information about the math curriculum please visit our curriculum and instruction webpage.

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Congratulations to the Classified Employees of the Year. Thanks to all employees for their efforts on behalf of the students.

Spring is here and summer right around the corner. This is a busy time of year for students testing and focused on their year end goals. In this issue you will read about Coding Class, PALS, Celebrating Read Across America, Making Healthy Choices, Arts and Music, and much more!

Our next issue is June 6.



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

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

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION: Charlene Erb

COPY EDITORS:
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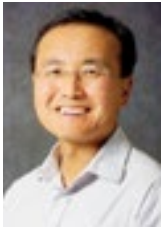
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1401 Avocado Avenue #210

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Essentials of Car Seat Safety



**Kenneth Kim,
M.D.**

*Medical Director,
Pediatric ICU*

Car seat safety may seem overwhelming with so many makes, models and options available but, the type of safety seat your child needs is primarily determined by your child's age and size.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and California Law, infants need to ride in rear-facing car seats until they are two years old unless they weigh 40 pounds or more or are 40" tall or more. Children should ride in forward-facing car seats for as long as possible. For convertible seats that have been turned from rear to forward-facing, harness shoulder straps should be moved to slots that are at or below the child's shoulders. Children should only switch to a booster seat that relies on the car's seatbelts when they exceed the height and weight limit for the car seat. California Law states that children under the age of eight



must be secured in a car seat or booster seat in the back seat. Booster seats should not be used with only a lap belt. Children should stay in booster seats until they reach 4' 9" (generally between eight and 12 years old) and adult seat belts fit correctly. The AAP recommends that all children younger than 13 should continue to ride in the back seat.

If you're not confident of how to properly secure your child in a safety seat, contact your local CHP Area Office, and ask to speak with a child passenger safety technician or visit www.chp.ca.gov.



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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

Weekly Computer Coding Class

Adams Elementary School has added its first official computer coding class for students in fourth through sixth grades. An instructor from Code Campus

provides students with a free online program which allows students to create representations based on HTML, CSS, and Javascript coding. Students can also express their individual creativity by creating stories, animations, and games. Coding classes are held every Friday and will continue for the rest of the school year thanks to funding through

Newport-Mesa Unified School District. Valerie Torelli, a local realtor, has generously stepped up to fund the coding classes for the 2018-19 school year.



Adams' students enjoying their weekly coding class.

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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

Andersen's Farm to Table

Andersen 1st graders from Mrs. Colgate's class take their lessons outside with a Farm to Table connection. Their new reading series, Wonders teaches about

how food makes it to our table. Their class garden was a great example of this concept. Students planted seeds several months ago in a small garden plot and have watched them grow. Collaboratively students discussed what plants need to grow. They wrote in their journals about growing their own vegetables, how they grew into parts of a plant, how they harvested

their crops. Before the February break students picked the mature kale leaves and made kale chips. It was a great experience for students and for some the first time they ate kale and liked it!



Back Bay/Monte Vista *High School*

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



Marc Trocchio
Principal

A Spirit of Generosity

Back Bay/Monte Vista High Schools continued the mission of supporting Newport and Costa Mesa community members this winter. Recently, in collaboration with the Roosters Foundation,

our staff delivered 20 giant boxes of food to deserving families in our community. Since 1995, the Roosters have given over 26,000 boxes of food to families. Each food box contains a 15-pound frozen turkey, potatoes, stuffing, carrots, canned fruits, and vegetables to feed about 10 people. The Roosters Foundation, a nonprofit charitable organization, is comprised of professional businessmen who donate to disadvantaged and at-risk children by supporting public and private programs. The Roosters has been active in philanthropy for 34 years, and we are honored to collaborate with them!

Back Bay/Monte Vista recently participated in the GI Go Jeans for Troops campaign. To celebrate, our staff enjoyed a day in their blue jeans promoting the program. The GI



Go Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization that provides assistance to all military veterans, with a focus on veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan, by helping them find employment, access housing, and secure veteran educational and health benefits. Back Bay and Monte Vista students and staff are proud to contribute to the mission!



California *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Jacob Topete
Principal

Show Choir Blockbuster

Last month, many of our California Cougar third-, fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders participated in the Show Choir performance of *The Little Mermaid*. They did an outstanding job! It is so much fun to see the dedication that our students put in over the

months and watch as performances come together.

The reputation of the California's Show Choir's incredible performances led to them selling out within an hour. The team decided to add a Saturday matinee, and the performers rallied for the added performance.

A very big thank-you goes to Mr. St. Royal for his continued work with our students in Show Choir. Also, a very big thank-you goes to our school's foundation for its ongoing support of the arts. A big thank-you

goes to the many wonderful parents and staff that volunteered their time for practices, costumes, set building and every detail that it takes to put on a great performance. I am so proud of all performers! Go Cougars!



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College Park *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Rich Rodriguez
Principal

Touring UCLA

Recently, our sixth-grade students were treated to a tour of University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Led by two UCLA students, the tour featured many memorable stops, stories, and experiences.

With its vast collection of books and research facilities, the university's library left quite an impression. Our students also loved the rock-climbing wall in the Student Athletic Center and the outdoor study areas, which include tables with power outlets. While passing UCLA's storied water fountain, our students heard tales of the vanquishment and defeat of UCLA's cross-town rivals at University of Southern California.

While the facilities impressed our students, the collegiate atmosphere and bustling learning environment of college life made the greatest impact.

They were very impressed by the campus' size, and they loved the fact that some of the buildings looked like something right out of a Harry Potter novel!

One thing was certain—all of them felt that UCLA would be an amazing school to attend.



On a recent tour, College Park sixth graders ask their UCLA tour guides about life on a university campus.

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

Learning Resource Center

On March 14, Corona del Mar High School will cut the ribbon for its new Learning Resource Center (LRC). With generous funding contributions from the CDM Foundation, the Corona del Mar Middle and High School Boosters, and the Corona del Mar Middle and High School

PTA, the library was remodeled to empower the global student for success in the 21st century.

This new space will have three quiet rooms designed for private meeting spaces with LCD televisions with HDMI connections and Wi-Fi. There is a multimedia presentation area with theater-style seating for larger presentations. It will have a designated classroom space dedicated for multimedia presentations and technology classes. The LRC will also include 6 12-person study corrals, each designed to encourage active learning and group discussions. Another area will host a "genius bar" style student assistance area, where students can ask questions and receive help. Finally, there will be seating areas for students to read, rest, and recharge.



Costa Mesa High School (7-12)

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



Dr. Jennifer Padilla
Principal
7-8 Grade



Jacob Haley
Principal
9-12 Grade

NMUSD Board Priority ABC's : Academics, Behavior and Community

One of our most powerful communities is the parent community. We have combined the forces of our PTSA and ELAC parent groups in joint meetings. The structure allows for

official group business and a joint meeting time that allows for discussions and presentations that affect both groups and their students. While maintaining their uniqueness, they have united with a common vision as Mesa parents and have come together to learn about requested topics such as: school safety, EL Progress, and drug/alcohol education. The topics have been important and useful, and the process of coming together has been invaluable.



ELAC Parents

Davis Magnet (K-6)

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



Christy Flores
Principal

Introducing Our PALs

For the first time this year, Davis Magnet School's fifth- and sixth-graders have the opportunity to participate in our Peer Assistance Leadership Program (PAL). Students submitted applications at the end of last year and had to receive teacher recommendations in order to be a part of the student leadership group.

The group meets twice a month.

During their time together, PAL students participate in a variety of lessons focusing on decision-making skills, conflict resolution, effective communication, and team-building activities. Recently, the students attended a student leadership retreat hosted by the Orange County Department of Education. Davis students had the chance to work with other young leaders from around the county to further develop their leadership skills.

It has been a fun and successful inaugural year for the Davis Magnet School PAL program, and the future is bright for these student leaders and the PAL program at Davis.



Early College *High School (9-12)*

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



**Dr. David
Martinez**
Principal

Calendar Review

Many events took place and also are anticipated at ECHS during the months of March and April. An important event that we all looked forward to was our WASC visitation that took place in March at our school site. This is the process we are obligated to undergo in order to renew our accreditation for as much as six years up to June 30, 2024. The process involved a four-member committee coming to our campus to visit our classrooms, staff, students and parents during this time. We enjoyed hosting the committee and receiving their findings.

Also during the month of March, Youth Employment Services based in Costa Mesa held career-readiness workshops for our students at our school site. We also

held our annual Open House the following week. All current students and prospective ECHS students with their families joined us that evening. March 23 marked the end of our third quarter, and we went on spring break the following week.

April 2 was the start of the fourth quarter at ECHS. Starting on April 6, we plan on launching a series of workshops provided by Girls Inc. on Fridays for our female students to assist them in being college and career ready. This month also is an opportunity for students interested in attending ECHS next year to take part in our second shadow day of the year with an ASB student. This opportunity will be held on April 20, and families can call our office to find out how to have their children sign up for this opportunity. Also, later in the month is our annual prom for our juniors and seniors, which will be held on April 28 at a local car showroom.

Eastbluff *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Cheryl Beck
Principal

Reading Celebrations!

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

The day began with Eastbluff's Friday Flag Deck celebration, and we had a special guest reader...the Cat in the Hat!

The Cat in the Hat read one of his favorite stories to the students—*The Cat in the Hat!* A "Cat in the Hat" poem was shared over the sound system. The poem was written to give clues as to where the Cat in the Hat was hiding on campus. Classes listened carefully to this poetic reading to determine the exact location of the Cat in the Hat.

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



Horace Ensign *Intermediate (7-8)*

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



Michael Sciacca
Principal

Teacher of the Year

Ensign would like to congratulate Amy Tupa, who was recently awarded Newport-Mesa Secondary Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Tupa is a 7th grade science teacher at Ensign. Over the past few years she has worked with her team to integrate the new Next Generation Science Standards into the Ensign curriculum. In addition to teaching science, Mrs. Tupa heads the intervention

programs at our school. She oversees student intervention placement as well as working directly with some of our most at risk students on academics and other struggles in their lives. This is the second year in a row that an Ensign teacher has been selected as the district teacher of the year. We are very proud of Mrs. Tupa and our entire Ensign staff.



Estancia *High School*

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



Michael Halt
Principal

Eagles, Sailors, and Sea Kings Collaborate

Estancia High School, in conjunction with Newport Harbor High School, produced *Shrek the Musical* at Newport Harbor High School in February.

The production was a big success, and involved students from six schools within the Newport-Mesa Unified School District: Estancia High School, Newport Harbor High School, Corona del Mar High School, TeWinkle Middle School, Ensign Intermediate School, and Lincoln Elementary School.

Pauline Maranian of Estancia directed the show, while Joe D'Aquino of Newport Harbor produced it, helping to draw in students from the feeder schools of TeWinkle and Ensign. This production was a collaborative experience for everyone involved, especially the students. They were able to work with peers from different programs and forge friendships with those whom they might not have had the chance to get to know on a creative or personal level.

Estancia's Production Drama program is hoping that this will be the first of many collaborative intradistrict theatrical experiences for years to come.



Cast and crew of Shrek the Musical

Harbor View *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Todd Schmidt
Principal

Skills for Success

Recently, a well-known Internet-related service company completed several studies on the traits of their most successful employees. While one would think that

the employees who had extensive background in “hard skills” such as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) would be most prized, it was actually the employees who had expertise in “soft skills,” such as equality, generosity, curiosity about the ideas of teammates, empathy, emotional intelligence, and safety, who were the most successful.

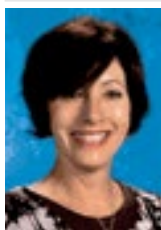


For reasons like these, Harbor View Elementary School has partnered with a company that provides life skills curriculum to bring a game-based social-emotional learning program to Harbor View. We will be the first school in the country to pilot the program, which includes classroom lessons, home-school connections, and supplemental stories and activities to train students in these very valuable skills.

This program is another example of how Harbor View believes in educating the whole child while partnering with our community to ensure the best learning environment for our students so they can succeed in whatever endeavor and passion they wish to pursue.

Heinz Kaiser *Elementary (3-6)*

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



Dr. Deborah Granger
Principal

The Play's the Thing

Mufassa, Simba, Nala, Timon, Pumbaa, Scar, Zazu and company wowed four packed houses with Kaiser's production of *The Lion King, Jr.* The show was wonderful! However, the true magic was

in the transformation of over 60 students into hard-working, team-playing, supportive, confident, risk-taking youngsters. Classmates were captivated by their friends and inspired to consider this kind of challenge in the future.

This experience was possible because of the Kaiser Woodland PFO crew of parents who selflessly threw themselves into the months of rehearsing, set building, costume designing, ticket selling, venue finding, and pizza ordering. Our community makes Kaiser a treasure. “Snapshot moments” like the school play remind us of the metamorphoses that students experience as they learn and grow.



Hamming it up for the camera before the big show!

What a gift to be a witness to this magic! You'll want to get your tickets early for next year's performance. It's sure to sell out!

Killybrooke *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Lorie Hoggard
Principal

Practicing Essential Math Skills

On February 14, more than 130 Killybrooke parents participated in Family Math Morning, an event designed to help parents learn more about how their child is learning math at school, and how they can further support their mastery of grade-level math standards.

Students and parents engaged in activities from our recently adopted K-5 math curriculum called "Bridges in Mathematics." This is a comprehensive curriculum that is rigorous, coherent, and engaging for students. Using the Bridges materials in a systematic way, Killybrooke teachers employ a combination of direct instruction, structured investigation, and open exploration, all to ensure our students master grade-level standards.

At Family Math Morning, students accompanied their parents into the classrooms before the school day began to show them the classroom "Number Corner," a skill-building component of Bridges that revolves around the classroom calendar and provides daily practice opportunities with

a variety of critical mathematical concepts. Students and parents also had the chance to engage with "Work Places," another component of Bridges that prompts students to practice essential math skills through activities that are interactive, hands-on, and game-like.

Killybrooke teachers facilitated the parent-child activities in the classrooms, answered questions, and provided parents with ideas to help their children at home. When the school bell rang to signal the beginning of the instructional day for students, the parents moved into the multipurpose room to listen to a presentation led by Dr. Hoggard, Mrs. Leysen, Mrs. Antonopoulos, and NMUSD Math Lead Teacher Shelly Ryan. They discussed the structure of and strategies used for math instruction at Killybrooke, and how parents can provide reinforcement of key skills and concepts at home.

Our parents also received handouts summarizing grade-level standards specific to their child's grade, eight mathematical practices spanning all grade levels, and the required areas of math fluency for each grade level.

Abraham Lincoln *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Carrie Gammel
Principal

Making Healthy Choices

Lincoln Elementary School's Green and Growing Team just launched a new environmentally conscious, cooking club called Conscious Cooks. This new concept, the brainchild of teacher Katherine Hewko, replaced the student Green Team.

Conscious Cooks is a lunchtime club where students learn to make healthy, plant-based, mostly raw and organic recipes that are healthy and fun. Each meeting has an environmental lesson tied into the recipe, where our young chefs explore food choices and how they can greatly impact our environment.

Students have loved working in small groups and actually creating and tasting new recipes. They have

enjoyed everything from apple nachos and raw chocolate truffles to rainbow veggie pinwheels. The students leave each Conscious Cooks meeting having enjoyed something new and healthy, while developing an awareness of the global impact we all make through choices as simple as what we eat.



Passing the Torch of Liberty on to Future Generations

Teachers supplement the
traditional curriculum with a
"Living History" program.

Veterans who have served their country in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War, 1st Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan will bring their stories to your classroom. They will share stories about Pearl Harbor, Battle of the Bulge, D-Day, air battles in the war-torn skies of the South Pacific, Desert Storm and even experiences of being Prisoners of War.



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swllmsca@gmail.com • www.FC-OC.org

Mariners *Elementary* (K-6)

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



**Matthew
Broesamle**
Principal

Colonial Life

Our 5th grade students are creating green screen productions to enhance their learning and bring a new energy to their assignments. Students in all of our 5th grade classes used the green screens to produce a

morning news show that included information about colonial life. Students simulated interviews, created commercials, and produced cooking shows to highlight what colonial life was like. They then used a flipped classroom approach to teach their classmates about life in the colonies. Students also discussed the impact of weather on resources and the effect weather had on daily life. Through high

integration of technology, the 5th grade teachers created an opportunity for students to use their 21st century skills of creativity, collaboration, and communication to learn about colonial life to a much greater depth.



5th grade students in action as news anchors explaining colonial life

Newport Coast *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Julie McCormick
Principal

The Arts are Alive!

Each year, Pacific Symphony's "Class Act" comes to our Newport Coast students with a series of lessons in music and the arts. This year's composer is Beethoven,

about whom our students are receiving monthly lessons and demonstrations. Our teachers integrate these lessons into their classrooms with a variety of extension activities. Musician Elliott Moreau performs for the students on the bassoon, for example, and he gives rich detail about history and art as they relate to Beethoven's music.



Musician Elliott Moreau from Class Act.

We will also soon be having a Class Act Family night at Newport Coast, which will be a culminating performance by several professional musicians from the Pacific Symphony. Students in the sixth grade are also participating weekly in Genius Hour. This is a movement that allows our students to explore their own passions and encourages creativity and ownership in learning.

Our students are now taking their newly acquired knowledge and developing a "Passion Project" which incorporates research and community outreach. The students will present their Passion Projects at the end of April in a community showcase.

Newport *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Amanda Estrada
Principal

Collaborative Classrooms

One of our goals at Newport EL is to teach students 21st century skills, including collaboration, communication, critical thinking and creativity, and provide lots of opportunities for students to practice those skills. As a result, some of our classrooms are looking a little different these days!

Several teachers have incorporated flexible seating in their classrooms. Instead of rows of desks, there is a variety of heights of tables and seating options like wobble chairs, yoga balls, stools, and floor cushions. By rethinking the classroom environment, teachers are providing spaces that are more conducive to collaboration.



Students have responded really well to the change and love being able to choose where they will be able to focus best and be comfortable. And teachers have seen improvement in productivity, creativity, behavior and restlessness. Mrs. Saba's first-graders enjoy the flexibility of choosing different seats during reading time.

Our specialty: **Pulmonology**

Lei's specialty: **Mighty Roars**

Born at 23 weeks, Lei Mason's lungs were severely underdeveloped. For six months, he was in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach – giving his lungs the critical time they needed to grow. From the hospital to home, Miller Children's & Women's comprehensive team of pediatric specialists and respiratory care practitioners have monitored Lei's pulmonary progress. Now, with the team by his side, Lei not only has strong lungs, he's developed a mighty roar!



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Lei Mason, 2-years-old,
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Newport Harbor *High School* (9-12)

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



Sean Boulton
Principal

Carnegie Hall Debut

This past February the Advanced Mixed Choir and Advanced Women's Ensemble from Newport Harbor High School's Newport Choirs program took on their first performance tour with new director Mr. Jeffrey Ledón. The eager sailors traveled to New York City where they made their Carnegie Hall debut while sharing the iconic

stage alongside current Broadway A-Listers such as Lea Salonga, Norm Lewis, Ramin Karimloo, Sierra Boggess and more in a Broadway Classics Concert! The star-studded performance was a night to remember and a great accomplishment for our growing choral program. While on tour, our students had the chance to see a Broadway musical, take a tour of the city, partake in a Q&A forum with the Broadway singers from the show, and perform at the One World Trade Center Observatory.



Newport Heights *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Somer Harding
Principal

Love, Love, Love!

I attended Eastbluff, Lincoln MS, and CdM HS, and my best friend was Beth. We did everything together. In fact, one year at Christmas, we even asked for just a single pair of roller skates to share between us. She wore the left one and I wore the right one!

But who knew that I would grow up to be the principal of Newport Heights Elementary, and that she would be in charge of a great local senior citizens facility? I care for children, and she cares for seniors, and we still make a complete pair, sort of like our pair of skates.

This past Valentine's Day my students created special notes for her seniors and helped share some love between the two groups. The children really enjoyed making their special cards, and they clearly brightened the seniors' big holiday occasion.



It was fun for the both of us to share this together. There is nothing like a best friend for life!

Paularino *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Amy Nagy
Principal

Habits of Good Health

Learning to lead a healthy lifestyle can be both easy and fun. It is difficult to make changes all at once, and so our NMUSD Nutritionist Pam Williams is teaching us to start small and make a few adjustments in our diets.

Everything we eat and drink matters, and so to get the right nutrients we need to focus on all five food groups. We're learning to use

nutrition labels and ingredient lists to find foods low in saturated fats, sodium, and added sugars. Each lesson also includes a delicious healthy snack for all to enjoy!

In addition to these nutrition classes, we had a school-wide "Fuel Your Body" assembly that included nutritional tips and a variety of fun and interactive games to get our hearts pumping. We have also added an after-school "Garden Club" to learn farm-to-table practices.

We are now on a healthy living journey, building good habits that will last a lifetime!



Students participating in our after school Garden Club.

Pomona Elementary (K-6)

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



Megan Elsten Brown
Principal

Literacy

Pomona values literacy. We do a variety of things to both teach, support, and celebrate this core value including setting goals every six weeks and celebrating students who reach them, deploying a team of 8 credentialed teachers to provide

foundational reading instruction and support, and introducing a new comprehensive English Language Arts/ English Language development program. During the whole month of March, we celebrate reading and all things literacy. We host authors, we dress in silly outfits to honor Dr. Seuss, and we roll out elaborate book fairs to get books into our students' homes. And we have an awesome librarian who is instrumental in planning and facilitating all of the above.



Mrs. Somera with some of her fan club.
She is a big part of the reading the kids at Pomona love reading!

Everett A. Rea Elementary (K-6)

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



Dr. Duane Cox
Principal

Team Kids Make a Difference

Throughout an eight-week period, Marissa Camacho and three additional Team Kids leaders empowered the children at Rea Elementary School to make a difference in their world. It all started with a kick-off assembly, where students were challenged with

taking on leadership roles, attending lunchtime meetings, collaboratively agreeing on philanthropic projects, and planning a school-wide fund-raiser.

The fourth- through sixth-grade student leaders decided on three organizations that would be Rea's focus: Southern California Bulldog Rescue, Costa Mesa Senior Center, and the Someone Cares Soup Kitchen. The Team Kids work resulted in hundreds of Valentine's cards written to senior citizens and many blankets

and towels donated to the rescue center. The culminating event was a lunchtime carnival created by students, at very little expense, and generated over \$300 dollars for the Someone Cares Soup Kitchen.

Thank you to Team Kids and all of our Rea student leaders.



Sonora *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Christine Anderson
Principal

Smile!

You're on *Candid Camera*! About 30 Sonora Students in grades five and six participate in our after-school Photography Club, sponsored by Mrs. Farnsworth, one of our amazing sixth-grade teachers! The Photography Club just recently went on a field trip to the San Juan Capistrano Mission and to the Arboretum at UCI as a part of their club experience. Students took pictures

of things depicting California history at the mission and plants of the native-California landscape at the Arboretum.

Students in the club are learning how to tell stories through pictures with their high-level digital cameras. Students also learn other photography skills such as perspective and how light affects photography. Students will choose one photo to enter in this year's Youth Expo, held in April at the fairgrounds.



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

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



Dr. Dipali Potnis
Principal

Working Together

Is there anything our Medical Detective students can't do? Not only are they working to analyze and pull their own DNA, but they are using their problem-solving

skills to develop fun toys tailored to individual Special Education students.

Mrs. Wood's class met as a team with Mr. Ristow's Special Education students and tailored toys to fit the individual needs of the

students. Both classes then combined to present their research, building methods, and final products.



There is much collaboration being done at TeWinkle Middle School between both students and teachers. This collaboration is prevalent throughout the campus. You will often spot a class split in half as a science teacher reviews content while the librarian focuses on research. Associated Student Body and publication classes often mingle and develop great events for TeWinkle as well.

TeWinkle can do it all, because we're Trojans!

Victoria *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Dr. Aaron Peralta
Principal

Library/Media Center

One thing we help our students learn is how to set and work to achieve goals. But the start of goals is dreams, because dreaming inspires students with ideas for the future. And, while we work in the classrooms every day to help students establish and refine their goals, we recognize that they need to explore the world around them and to see what they can become.

So many of these dreams come from books, where children can learn to “see” places they’ve never been, or experience careers they have never even heard of. Combined with collaborative conversations, visits from professionals sharing what they do, and video media showing careers in action, everything works together to help dreams become goals. The heart of this exploration at Victoria is the Library/Media Center.

In the past few years our beloved library has been in need of a makeover. Our PTA decided that something had to be done. And so they started to dream! Allison Mann, our PTA president, worked with our team to write a grant request.

A few short months later the dream became a reality when the PTA was awarded a grant for \$35,000 from The Argyros Foundation! This grant will be used to convert our Library into a more interactive and collaborative space featuring flexible and soft seating options, new technology, better book storage, and more technology to challenge and encourage students to reach beyond what they know.

We have an amazing plan in place, and we can’t wait to see it come together in the months ahead. The equipment will be ordered soon, and we’re already planning for a grand (re)opening in September of 2018. So here’s to the dreamers who made it possible, and who inspire us every day: our students. This one’s for you.

Wilson *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Mia King
Principal

A Passion for Music

We are so proud of our Wilson Wildcat Orchestra! They were invited to play at the Newport-Mesa Arts Commission on February 9th at Orange County Music and Dance located in Irvine. The students in the orchestra have been refining their skills in music performance, particularly in technique, tone, and playing cohesively.

During their performance, they played the Wildcat Orchestra theme song, written for them by our music teacher, Mr. Stephen Coss. Learning music facilitates learning other subjects and supports language and spatial development. Being involved in the music program at Wilson has allowed students to discover musical talent, develop a passion for music, and to create new friendships.



Whittier Elementary (K-6)

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



Scott Wilcox
Principal

Go Team Kids!

Are you looking for heroes? Then look no further than Whittier Elementary. With the assistance of the popular Team Kids program, our Whittier students recently had the opportunity to put on their superhero capes and “do good” for others.

First there was the task of collecting blankets and towels for a local animal shelter. Got it! Next, our heroes were asked to make Valentines for a local senior center. Check! The following

assignment? Collect stuffed animals and toys for an orphanage in Mexico.

Done!

Lastly, our Whittier Student Council also organized a fund-raising carnival for the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation. All of the booths were created by students! Our Whittier Dolphins in kindergarten through sixth grade were able to participate in either running a booth or trying their hand at various skills.

When Whittier students are asked to step up and help their community, they are right on it. The future is looking bright, and we're in good hands. Go Team Kids!

Woodland Elementary (K-2)

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



Tiffany Lewis
Principal

Coding in Kinder!

The students in Mrs. Ordaz's class have been working on coding utilizing robots and the Blockly app to program them. Mrs. Ordaz first has students generate ideas, and then they write and draw pictures showing what they would like the robots to do.

Students are placed in teams. Mrs. Ordaz discusses what it takes to work cooperatively in teams and how to handle the robots carefully. Programming a robot brings the concepts of coding to life. The end result is completely different from coding that stays within an app or a website. The eyes of students interacting with robots are alight with excitement and anticipation. Students can't wait to find out if their program works and what will happen when “Run” is pressed.

A willingness to persevere in the presence of challenges persists even in the most frustrated child. We are so excited to have this at Woodland!



School Health Services

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



Merry Grasska
MPH, FNP-C,
RN
Coordinator

Vision Is Important

By Karen Manning, School Nurse

Good vision is important to a child's success in school. Children perform visual tasks daily. These include reading, writing, board work and using computers. Vision changes can occur without parents or the child knowing. Signs of vision problems include avoiding reading or other near work, frequent eye rubbing, squinting or blinking, headaches, head tilting, an eye turning inward or outward, and sitting close to screens.

Children should have yearly vision exams with a medical

provider, followed by a comprehensive optometric eye exam for specific vision concerns. The earlier a vision problem is identified and treated, the more likely the treatment will be successful. For example, regular vision screening early in childhood reduces the risk of persistent amblyopia by more than 50 percent. Amblyopia, known as lazy eye, results in decreased vision in an eye that otherwise appears normal. If not caught and treated early, the treatment is less effective and vision may not be restored.

School nurses are trained in vision screening and available to address concerns. Please contact your school nurse for assistance with vision or health issues.

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

Encouraging Students

Encouraging Students to Select More Fruits and Vegetables with Meals

The evidence supporting the benefits of increased fruit and vegetable consumption is strong. However, it is not strong enough to convince a child to trade in their candy bar for an apple. With kids, taste typically trumps healthfulness. So how does the team at nutrition service encourage students to select more fruits and vegetables with their meals?

1. We Captivate Interest with Posters:

Just as an ad for melty, hot pizza stimulates an appetite for it, our professional photographs of juicy oranges, ripe strawberries, and crisp lettuce can make produce more appealing. Our posters, strategically placed in the cafeteria, change with seasonal fruits and veggies offered to help kids get excited about their meal options.

2. We Mix it Up

Kids can get bored of the same old apples slices and

carrots sticks or whatever daily option is served. Offering a variety of different fruits and vegetables keeps healthy eating interesting and gives kids more options to choose from. At least two different options of seasonal, locally sourced fruits and veggies are provided at each meal.

3. We Pair for Participation

A tasty dip or sauce can lessen the bitter aftertaste that certain veggies may have to a child's unaccustomed taste buds. Allowing kids to pair broccoli (or other seasonal veggies) with our low-fat ranch can make vegetable eating more enjoyable. Moreover, we creatively incorporate vegetables into our entrées items. Examples include Asian Chicken Salad and Pasta with Tomato Marinara.

While the candy bar may still be in the picture, a stomach full on fiber rich produce may likely lessen the appeal to it. With these three strategies, the nutrition services department makes fruits and vegetables a more attractive option, encouraging students to test the waters with more produce.

Fruits & Veggies –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 May 5, 2018

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble

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Congratulations to Dr. Aldimassi Winner of our February Contest!



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Note-ables



Kate Karp

Songs of Peace & Love

Vocal group

Ladysmith Black Mambazo had long been cultural-music heroes in their native South Africa when musician Paul Simon made them world famous by weaving their quiet yet powerful



harmonies into his unforgettable *Graceland* album and the subsequent tour. Today, parents, grandparents and teachers can pass the group forward to younger generations in *Songs of Peace and Love*.

Ladysmith's latest children's collection, a 2017 Grammy nominee, carves a restful, thoughtful space into a world that has been too full of noise and confusion for both children and adults. Both lyrics and vocals are sung in a spirit of humanity and harmony and in tribute to late South African president Nelson Mandela.

"We know firsthand how hard it is to raise children in a world of conflict, in a world where children need positive role models and positive words," group member Albert Mazibuko said. "We hope our songs can be an important part of the lessons of peace and love that all parents want to impart to their children."

"Everything's So Stupid" lays out the honest frustration in parent-child communication—from both sides. "Different Colors Mean Nothing to Me" tells of how different races and languages are not things to be overcome but part of the world's beauty. And there's a Zulu version of "Old MacDonald."

The overall message of Ladysmith is that talking to one another can pave the way for communication and, hopefully, peace. Let these songs move you along—they'll put diamonds on the souls.

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

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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!

National Library Week, April 8-14, 2018

Come see how "libraries lead" at this year's National Library Week events. We will have amazing shows for kids as well as an author visit and reading groups for adults! We will also have special guests from the Newport Beach City Council, Library Board, and other City Officials to read to you at our regular story times. Visit <http://www.newportbeachlibrary.org/calendar> for details.

Fifth Annual Bunnies & Books Festival for Kids

Start the weekend with a stuffed animal sleepover Friday, May 11! Bring your stuffed animal to the Central Library Friday at 4 p.m. for pajama storytime and crafts and kiss your stuffed animal goodnight. On Saturday, May 12, you can pick up your stuffed animal at 9:30 a.m. and then join the fun at Bunnies and Books for Kids, starting at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the annual bunny-themed story time, arts & crafts, games, and a

Storywalk® through Civic Center Park. The festival is a part of the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation's Making Memories for Children event series. To register your stuffed animal for the sleepover, go to the library's online event calendar. For more information: 949-548-2411 or sgroux@newportbeachca.gov

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 is fun and keeps your brain active all summer! Find out how to register for our program, beginning June 23, and earn prizes for reading during the summer. 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 28.

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

Milestones and Firsts—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 May 5, 2018

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble

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Spring and Bugs

By D.H. Coop

When I was a child, the spring was a time of wonder. It was a time of bugs that would fascinate people into writing songs and poems. There are June bugs—some called it the May bug, ladybugs, and then there are the fireflies found in the East and Midwest.

The June bug has 100 species and is in the beetle family. There have been at least six songs written about the June bug. The best known is “Junebug” by the B-52’s.

When I was young, these little bugs would fly into me and then just fly off as if to challenge me to try to catch them. Then there was the one everyone tried to catch—the firefly. The firefly had the ability to create a chemical reaction to glow. This set about a degree of mayhem on the poor insect as children rushed to collect the glow. Bracelets and other jewels were made, or jars were filled to make a lantern.

Finally, there is the one bug that everyone protected—the ladybug. Although the ladybug is not truly a beetle, there are 12 species of the insect. These dear little bugs are treated with kindness and care. They are replicated in garden art, designs for clothes and jewelry

D.H.Coop is a retired fire/paramedic and retired teacher having taught IB and AP World History 30 years. He continues to substitute, tutor and consult. www.HistoryDepot.com



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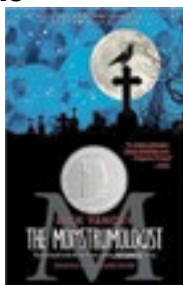
Book Review By Katrina



Katrina D.

Breathtaking Writing Style

The Monstumologist by Rick Yancey is undoubtedly one of the finest pieces of Gothic fiction I've ever read. Our main character Will Henry works for the local Monstumologist, Pellinore Warthrop, after



the unpleasant death of his parents. As the man's 'invaluable' assistant, he follows the doctor on his searches to investigate a string of brutal murders, the work of a breed of monsters called Anthropophagi, gigantic humanoid cannibals that have managed to leave their native Africa and come to the Americas. As Warthrop and Will Henry investigate, they find there's far more to the beast's arrival than meets the eye. This has to be Rick Yancey's finest work, with morbidly funny characters, a breathtaking writing style and a plot that will have you gagging. His descriptions are positively disgusting, and for anyone looking to read a well written novel on what goes bump in the night, this book is absolutely perfect. I rate this book 5 crescent moons.

Katrina is a tenth grader who loves reading books as much as writing her own stories and enjoys watching Anime. Katrina hopes to be an author one day very soon. Katrina will rate her book reviews from 1 to 5 crescent moons with 5 being the best.

Jenna's Review

The Best Part of The Day



Jenna C.

By Sarah Ban Breathnach

This book talks about the best part of the day by season. What is the best part of the day in fall? Was it picking the apples or raking the leaves? What about winter? Was it building a



snowman or staying near the fireplace with marshmallows and cocoa? Now spring has arrived with fresh air and plenty of flowers. What is the best part of the day in spring? Was it taking care of the garden or cuddling lambs? Finally, the summer. Lemonade and a jump into the pool. What is the best part of the summer? Was it the fireflies flickering all the way home or was it our picnic together with friends? Lastly, this book concludes with one best part of the day in all the seasons. I really liked this book because it is like a poem story and the pictures are so beautiful and detailed.

Jenna is a second grader. She likes reading books and her parents reading books to her. Besides reading, she also likes art, dance and soccer.

Christina's Book Review



Christina J.

The Secrets to Ruling School (Without Even Trying) by Neil Swaab

The story is written in third person, and plays out as smoothly as a movie. You are a new student at William H. Taft Middle School and are approached by Max Corrigan, your life coach, who will help you to become popular



among the cliques at school, so you start by trying to join into the Class Clown table that won't let you in, unless you can get them a good artists for their comics, so you go to a good artist who agrees to help you, only if you get the Band geeks away from their table at the cafeteria, so she can display her graffiti on that wall, they agree to leave, but only if you help them raise money to save their Music program, so you ask a rich girl for money, she agrees to help, but only if you rig the football team to lose, so she could win a bet... and this interestingly problematic cycle continues on and on, until you reach your goal.

I really liked reading this book, so I will give it 5 out of 5 stars.

Christina J. is an 8th grader. Christina is a hard-working student who did a community service project "Quilts for the cold" last school year. She is an avid reader, who enjoys some peace and quiet with a good book about some great adventure. Christina is a young author herself. In 5th grade she wrote a book *Melody's Stories: I Am a Spy Now*, published by Studenttreasures Publishing (PIN #3582798).

Katie's Review



Katie C.

Reading Can Be Fun

By Munro Leaf

This book is for anyone, old or young. This book is about why reading can be fun! It talks about how many of you may think that reading is boring. But then this book talks about



without reading, your mind won't grow. Reading can take you places that you've never been in before--for example, an exotic jungle! More so, however, reading will teach you how to WRITE. To become a good writer, you need to read, so you can see how authors write and try it out in your own writing. So, the next time someone asks you to read, say yes. It will not only be a lot of fun, but it will also give you the experience of learning. *Reading Can Be Fun* is an amazing book that made me read more. I rate this book a five out of five stars. Go on, read it! It will be a lot of fun.

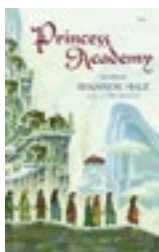
Katie is a 8th grader that loves to read and write. Fictional books are her favorite. Besides writing and reading, she loves soccer, acting, dancing, and playing the violin. She hopes to publish her own book someday.

B is for Book



Surprising Twists

Princess Academy by Shannon Hale left me craving for more. It's the perfect combination of adventure, princesses, friendship, and even a little romance!



Bailey

When the people of Mount Eskel receive message from the lowlanders saying their prince is looking for a princess and all young girls will be sent to an academy, everyone is in shock, especially Miri. Without a choice, Miri, her friends, and a strange lowlander girl named Britta, set off to the academy, only to find themselves with a horrible tutor and homesick. Now, the pressure is on to be the best of the academy and marry the prince. Will Miri find out that even though she's small for her age, her voice is big? Will she stand up for what's right?

I couldn't put this book down! Shannon Hale always describes the moment just right and the twists were surprising! I give this book 5 out of 5 stars. Don't forget to read the rest of the series!

Bailey is a 6th grader that likes to read fantasy and daydream about adventure when she isn't dancing ballet or playing with her friends and siblings.

Sophie's Choice



An Adventure!

This book really takes you on an adventure. I'm not kidding, it's an adventure book!! Now on to the info or quick summary of *Mysteries of the Attic Trunk*.



Sophie O.

The book is about a girl named Sue who was adopted from China and had hoped to explore California with her grandmother. Her grandmother ends up getting sick and is unable to come and take Sue on their California Adventure.

For Sue's 10 birthday, she gets to open a trunk that her grandmother left her. The trunk is no ordinary trunk. Once opened, it takes Sue on unexpected adventures to California, visiting historical or famous places. During her travels, Sue learns new things and visits new places. A little bit of history is at every stop and the excitement of never knowing where the trunk will take her next and who she will meet keeps the journey a mystery.

If you like mystery then this is a good book for you to read to yourself or others. I give this book a big thumbs up and 5 stars.

Sophie Olko is a 5th grader who loves to read and write her own stories. She enjoys soccer, loves to bake, act, draw and sew. One day she would like to have her own baking show.

Isabella's Book Review



Intertaining and Informative

Anastasia, The Last Grand Duchess, Russia, 1914, by Carolyn Meyer is the diary of a 13-year-old Russian Duchess.

Anastasia the youngest of the 4 daughters of the Russian Tsar, Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodora.

Life was perfect. The sisters wore expensive jewelry and they lived in many palaces. The only downside for Anastasia was her school work and her brother's hemophilia.

In the winters, they got to play in the snow and had dances. Then, WW1 breaks out. Under pressure, the Tsar abdicated the throne and the family was arrested. While imprisoned in the palace they attempted to stay happy and even continue their studies.

However, the family is executed. It is commonly believed that Anastasia escaped. Scientist have been able to prove Alexie and either Marie or Anastasia might have escaped.

I rate this book 4 stars because it is entertaining and informative, yet it can be rude.

Isabella is a 6th grader who loves to read, write, volleyball and plans on becoming an author of children's books. She rates books 1-5 stars with 5 being the best.



Unforgettable Books



The Baby-Sitters Club

Dawn Schafer is moving from sunny California to freezing Connecticut. She is eager to accept her first big job as a babysitter in the Baby-Sitters Club. But things don't go exactly

as expected. Taking care of three kids whose mom seems too busy to even care about is a hard task. And getting along with the leader of the club, Kristy, isn't as easy as it looks, either. But Dawn finds a way to steer through all these obstacles and makes joining the Baby-Sitters Club a success.

I really liked this novel because it teaches you about responsibility yet in a fun and interesting way. I rate this comic book 4 out of 5 stars, because the drawings were very detailed and funny.

Sofia is a fifth grader who loves writing. When she isn't submerged into a book, she enjoys doing gymnastics, acting, and singing. Her favorite kind of books are informational books, as she loves learning about new topics. She wants to become a writer or designer when she grows up, and hopes to someday publish a book, called Painting a Path, which she wrote for a school competition.



City of Costa Mesa



Sandra Genis
Mayor

Love Costa Mesa Event

Mark your calendars for April 28, the day of the very first Love Costa Mesa event made possible by Trellis, a local faith-based organization that works closely with the city on homeless issues.

Trellis decided to pursue this idea, which is done in other communities in the county, with the hope of bringing civic organizations and schools together, along with nonprofit groups, businesses and churches to help others through this city-wide serve day.

In other cities, students and community members volunteered to paint and spruce up schools, to plant gardens, assist or visit with the elderly and other philanthropic activities. PTA groups, ASB students, sport teams and others at your school are encouraged to take part in this family friendly event. The goal is to get more than 1,000 people out there that day. Go to <https://www.lovecostamesa.org/> to sign up.

Love Costa Mesa begins at 8 a.m. in the parking lot of the Newport Mesa Church at 2599 Newport Blvd. At the end of the day, there will be a big celebration in the church auditorium. Hope to see you there.

77 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/754-5107
www.costamesaca.gov

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue



Dan Stefano
Fire Chief

New Firefighters

Over the course of the past year, the Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue Team has proudly welcomed the addition of 16 new firefighters to our fire family. While each of our newest firefighters have journeys distinctly different, each journey started with interest, engagement, action, and hard work to pursue a passion in serving others.

There are many ways to serve, so for those interested in learning about fire, rescue, safety, and emergency/disaster preparedness, we encourage you to engage and take action! Our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) & Teen CERT Programs, Fire Explorer Program, Fire Corps, Citizens Fire Academy, and Fire Intern Programs are all highly valued community based programs offered to teens, seniors, and everyone in between!

If you know someone who may be interested in learning more about one of our programs or actively participating, please have them call our team at (714) 754-5144 and we will help connect them. And please remember... IT TAKES A COMMUNITY TO PROTECT A COMMUNITY!

P.O. Box 1200, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 • 714/754-5106

City of Newport Beach



**Marshall
"Duffy" Duffield**
Mayor

Teen Programs at the NBPL

The Newport Beach Public Library's Teen Services program offers a host of resources for students in grades 7-12, parents, caregivers and teachers. A special Teens section of the library's website (newportbeachlibrary.org/teens) provides booklists specially tailored to teenage readers and book reviews written by teens for teens. There is also a list of research databases, accessible at no cost for anyone with a Newport Beach Public Library card, for help with school projects.

For students considering attending college, the College Prep page provides a list of free practice tests and college planning workshops available at the library. The workshop scheduled for May 1 at 7 p.m. will be on Highly Selective College Admissions. Attendees will learn how students can set themselves apart from other applicants when applying to the country's most selective colleges. Then, on June 5 at 7 p.m., students and parents can attend the free, Secrets of College Admissions workshop to learn what college admissions committees really look for in prospective students.

For more information about the NBPL's Teen Services, including its college planning offerings, please call 949-717-3860 or email teenservices@newportbeachca.gov.
www.newportbeachca.gov

Newport Beach Fire Department



Jeff Boyles
Assistant
Fire Chief

Practice Safety

The Newport Beach Fire Department would like to challenge residents this month by pushing the smoke alarm button in their home and practicing what to do in case there is smoke or fire. Your number one priority is to get low and go. Get out fast. Preparing for these types of situations requires planning and should be discussed with your family members.



Crawling out of your home allows minimal exposure to fire, smoke, and harmful gases. Studies have proven that people succumb to smoke and heat injuries well before the fire makes contact with them. Practicing exit drills in your home will allow for a quick exit to prevent injury and/or death.

P.O. Box 1768, Newport Beach, CA 92658 • 949/644-3104

Our Kids Deserve Safe and Secure Campuses



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

More than anything, we owe it to our students to provide them with safe and secure campuses where learning thrives. Moreover, we owe it to parents to return their children each day just as healthy and happy as when they arrived.

Yet we have seen so many instances nationally where acts of violence break the sanctity of school communities, including horrific tragedies like the recent mass shooting that took the lives of 17 people at a high school in Florida.

To say school shootings occur too often in the United States is an understatement. Once is too often.

I wish it weren't necessary to write this column. However, I want to offer my most heartfelt condolences to anyone impacted by senseless violence, and I want to reaffirm the ongoing commitment of the Orange County Department of Education and leaders throughout our region to proactively protect our schools — and specifically our students and staff.

Let's start with some background. Each year, campuses in California are required by law to update their Comprehensive Safe School Plans, which, among other things, outline each site's planned responses to various crises. These are routinely reinforced through site-level drills including evacuations and shelter-in-place exercises.

The strategies that schools employ to promote safety will vary by campus and are ultimately up to each district's school board and superintendent, in partnership with teachers, staff, students and communities. But OCDE has long supported this work with trainings and workshops throughout the year, covering a raft of topics including school safety plans, earthquake preparedness, behavioral threat assessments, resilience strategies and active-shooter behavioral indicators.

Our department also works closely with the Orange County Sheriff's Department and other local law

enforcement agencies to discuss everything from cyberbullying to securing school facilities. Additionally, OCDE and the Sheriff's Department team up every summer to host the [Safe Schools Conference](#) with the California Department of Education. This three-day event brings together more than 500 educators and law enforcement representatives from throughout the state to discuss issues and trends related to campus violence, bullying, social media, human trafficking, gangs and substance abuse.

In the case of critical incidents impacting schools, OCDE's Crisis Response Network deploys psychologists, nurses, social workers and other personnel to support students and staff during and after emergencies. This team also provides training to schools, youth service providers, parents and students.

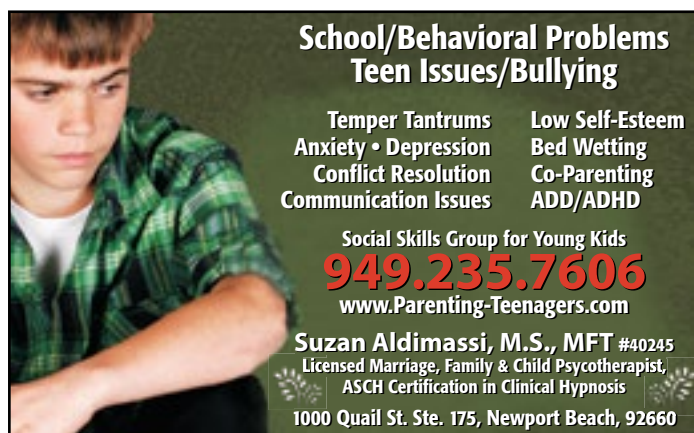
I would add that OCDE continues to promote positive school climates and anti-bullying through such initiatives as [the Multi-Tiered System of Support framework](#), Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports — often referred to as PBIS — and [our One Billion Acts of Kindness campaign](#), which was launched in 2016 to promote character and amplify civility in our communities.

Our perception of the world changed forever on April 20, 1999, when a pair of high school students killed 12 of their classmates and a teacher on the campus of Columbine High School. From that day forward, educators have worked closely with law enforcement to continually assess schools and implement protocols to make them safer.

Suffice to say, this is a race that has no finish line — not now, not ever.

If game-changing technologies emerge that can enhance our work, we will pursue them. If there are better practices elsewhere in the world, we will adopt them. Simply put, we will vigorously research any measure that protects our students and staff from internal or external threats.

The stakes are too high to rest for a second on this issue, and we owe our kids nothing less.

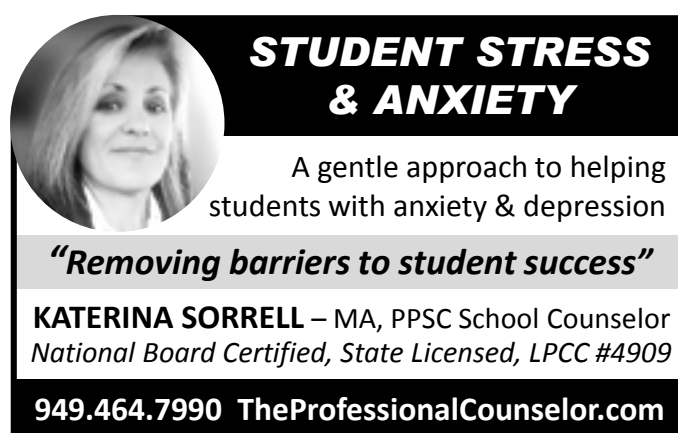


**School/Behavioral Problems
Teen Issues/Bullying**

Temper Tantrums	Low Self-Esteem
Anxiety • Depression	Bed Wetting
Conflict Resolution	Co-Parenting
Communication Issues	ADD/ADHD

Social Skills Group for Young Kids
949.235.7606
www.Parenting-Teenagers.com

Suzan Aldimassi, M.S., MFT #40245
Licensed Marriage, Family & Child Psychotherapist,
ASCH Certification in Clinical Hypnosis
1000 Quail St. Ste. 175, Newport Beach, 92660



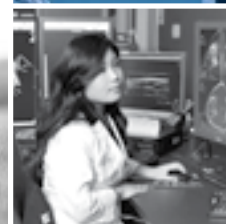
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KATERINA SORRELL – MA, PPSC School Counselor
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St. Joseph Hoag Health alliance

*Limited to general questions, valid for new patients only, no insurance required. Anything related to diagnosis and/or treatment would designate the need for a separate medical appointment.

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