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School News



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Covering the Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Volume 11, Issue 61

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December 2014 / January 2015



W.E.B. club stands out as a promoter of Ensign Intermediate's community of kindness. (Please see *page 12*.)



Newport Elementary students went to Catalina for 6th grade Science Camp. (Please see *page 16*.)

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Dr. Fred Navarro

N-MUSD is Going Solar...

In the District's continuing efforts to go GREEN, on September 9, 2014, the Newport-Mesa Unified School District Board of Education approved the installation of solar photovoltaic structures in the form of carports and lunch shelters to be installed across numerous sites within the District. The District is currently finalizing the design

and location of the structures at thirty-two (32) district sites where such structures are feasible and cost effective. The first phase of the planned projects is scheduled to commence at the four comprehensive high schools during the District's winter break.

Installation of the District owned solar structures will be by Borrego Solar Systems, Inc. The total project budget is \$13 Million. A portion (\$3 Million) will be funded with a no interest loan from the California Energy Commission, \$5 million will be funded from Proposition 39 funds and the remaining \$5 Million will be funded from the District's Special Reserve Funds for Capital Outlay. The savings from the photovoltaic installations will pay back the District its investment and provide an income stream over the twenty-five (25) year life of the system. No general funds which could have been used in classrooms will be employed in the projects.

In an effort to inform the neighbors surrounding the school community of the planned projects, we have established a meeting schedule and would like to invite community members to attend information meetings hosted by Newport-Mesa staff. Meetings will commence on January 5, 2015 and continue through February 26, 2015. A complete list of the meetings is available on our dedicated webpage at: <http://web.nmusd.us/solar>

If you have questions about the meetings, please contact the Public Information Office at feedback@nmusd.us or 714-424-8977.

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Rush N. Hill, II
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Quality of Life

We are privileged to enjoy a significant quality of life in our Newport-Mesa corner of the world. Yes, we have great weather, beaches, a bay and mountains close by. You can add the best of the best in first responders including police, fire and lifeguards. We have excellent health care. And then there are the restaurants, shopping and entertainment venues. One should not

forget the attention paid to the arts and cultural activity opportunities.

But is all of that really the reason so many wish to live in the Newport-Mesa area? I know from my personal experience, property values are often more reliant on the quality of education available for our children than any other factor.

As a community, we all want our kids to be happy and reach levels of accomplishment higher than we have achieved. And we recognize that education is the foundation, heart and soul of achieving this important, nearly universal goal. The Newport Mesa Unified School District provides us with one of the most important elements of our quality of life in the Newport-Mesa area. Quality public education is at the core of our success as a desirable community in which to live.

As mentioned before, the quality of the teacher in the classroom and the attitude of the parents at home are the two most important factors in helping our children and grandchildren succeed.

We are blessed to live here and have the support we regularly receive from parents, faculty and staff. All sincere efforts aimed at helping to make the Newport Mesa Unified School District the best it can be.

Thank you for participating in our children's and grandchildren's education. Keep up the good work. It's tremendously important to our youth and our community.

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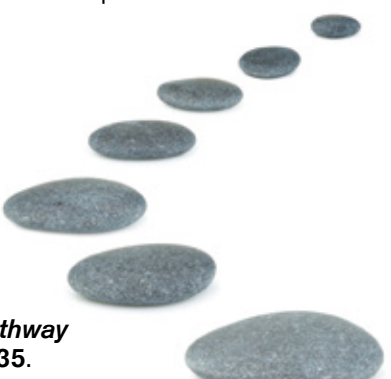
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Scott Poster
Fire Chief

Avoid Holiday Fires

October was fire prevention month and, if you didn't do it then, now is a good time to talk to discuss with your family about fire safety.

You must have a working smoke detector in your home; and most need batteries. If you did not change the batteries in your smoke detectors last month, do it now. Change the batteries and then test the smoke detector.

All too often the fire department goes to house fires where the smoke detector has been removed, and/or the battery is dead. It is usually not a good outcome. Smoke detectors save lives. Remember, when you hear the smoke detector alarm it is time to exit and meet at a prearranged spot near your home.

At dinner, talk with your family about what to do when the alarm activates at night. How do you get off the 2nd floor? Who is checking on the baby, your grandparents or your pets? These questions need to be asked and answered before the fire. Firefighters practice and so should your family.

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Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Inside the Outdoors

José was struggling in school. He knew he needed to complete his core classes to graduate from high school, but could not imagine how he would ever need those skills outside of school. José needed an experience that would help him grasp the connection between classroom learning and real life. Recognizing that hands-on lessons would make the difference for students like José, his teacher signed-up for Orange County Department of Education's (OCDE) Inside the Outdoors field program. As part of the field program experience, José performed water quality tests and biological studies in the foothills of the Cleveland National Forest. He used science to identify plants, mathematics to document results from experiments, and language arts to record his observations. José felt successful and inspired to learn more.

Jose's situation is not unique. The evidence is clear: Project-based learning creates a platform for academic success. In the book *Getting Ready for College, Careers, and the Common Core*, author David Conley shares that "in many cases, learning never goes beyond what and how," so students often lack the ability to conceptualize how to apply what they have learned to real life situations. Conley

contends that activities that encourage students to engage actively in learning and provide them with opportunities to process and integrate what they have learned are more effective and sustainable. Hands-on activities allow students to develop deeper learning skills that connect knowledge (what) and procedures (how) to the appropriate conditions (when) and concepts (why). For José, that meant figuring out which science, mathematics, and language arts skills he needed to use to find and articulate what he discovered during his field studies.

Deeper learning is an essential element to college and career readiness. The mission of OCDE is to ensure that all students are equipped with the competencies they need to thrive in the 21st century. We achieve our mission by providing students with hands-on learning opportunities through programs such as Inside the Outdoors. An important part of OCDE's portfolio since 1974, Inside the Outdoors offers a variety of programs.

- **Field Programs:** Daylong STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) outdoor education K-12 programs that use nature's classroom to bring textbook lessons to life
- **Traveling Scientist:** hour-long classroom programs that engage K-12 students in a variety of hands-on labs
- **Service-Learning:** In-depth multiple experience programs that allow students to apply what they have learned to community-based action projects
- **Teacher Trainings:** Webinars and in-person trainings that provide teachers with strategies to integrate Common Core Standards into classroom lessons
- **Community Programs:** STEM-focused family activities designed to support student college and career readiness and parent engagement

Inside the Outdoors' programs support Common Core and other relevant academic standards, as well as 21st century skill development. I invite you to learn more about engaging Orange County students in Common Core experiences through an Inside the Outdoors program. For additional information, visit www.insidetheoutdoors.org or contact Stephanie Smith at 714.708.3885 or ssmith@ocde.us.

For more information, visit www.ocde.us/EdTech.

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RSV Infections

Almost all children have a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection by their second birthday. In most cases RSV causes only minor cold-like symptoms. Some children may develop more severe infections that require hospitalization.

RSV is spread through infectious respiratory secretions that are inhaled or passed through direct contact. The virus also can live for hours on toys or door handles.

The peak RSV season starts in the fall and ends in the spring.

Signs of RSV usually appear about 4-6 days after exposure to the virus. Older children typically have a runny nose and decrease in appetite. Coughing, sneezing and a low-grade fever may develop 1-3 days later. The only signs of RSV in very young infants could be irritability, decreased activity, and problems with breathing. Full recovery from RSV takes about 1-2 weeks.

Severe cases of RSV can lead to infections such as bronchiolitis and pneumonia. Hospitalization may be necessary for infants who require intravenous fluids, supplemental oxygen, suctioning of mucus from the airways, or a breathing machine to ease breathing. Antibiotics may be administered for bacterial complications.



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Children at increased risk for developing severe cases of RSV include:

- Infants under 6 months old
- Babies under 1 year old born prematurely or with congenital heart or lung disease
- Children with weakened immune systems from a medical condition or treatment

There is no specific treatment or vaccine for RSV. Symptoms can be relieved by creating moist air to breathe, sitting in an upright position, drinking fluids, avoiding exposure to cigarette smoke, and using saline nasal drops or over-the-counter pain relievers to reduce fever and relieve a sore throat. A medication called palivizumab may be prescribed for children at increased risk for serious complications from RSV. The drug does not stop RSV infections, but it can prevent severe cases from developing.

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

Embracing the Common Core State Standards



Dr. Shannon Bray
Principal

What a wonderful beginning to the school year at Andersen Elementary School! Students continue to work hard, making each day of learning rewarding. With the implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), learning has changed to allow our students to think critically, work collaboratively and solve problems creatively.

The implementation of the CCSS in English language arts will have students reading challenging texts in every class. Students are being prepared to read, analyze and write about all types of texts at a higher level, in fiction and nonfiction. They will be asked to use evidence from the text when writing papers or making oral presentations. In addition, there is an increased focus on vocabulary across all grade levels.

With the implementation of the CCSS in mathematics, students will cover fewer concepts than in the past but go into much more depth on each concept. Students will be asked to understand why math works and to prove their understanding in writing. Students will not just memorize formulas or methods, but they will learn strategies for solving problems they could encounter in real-world situations.

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

Adams Elementary *(K-6)*

Enhancing Learning at Adams School



Gabriel DelReal
Principal

Since September, our Adams Elementary School's fifth- and sixth-grade students have been participating in a 1:1 Chromebook program. The students can use their Chromebooks in school or at home to enhance learning and share their knowledge with teachers and peers.

Our teachers are excited about the children learning via this state-of-the-art technology. It boosts student engagement, allows information to be shared digitally instead of on paper, and is easy for everyone to use.

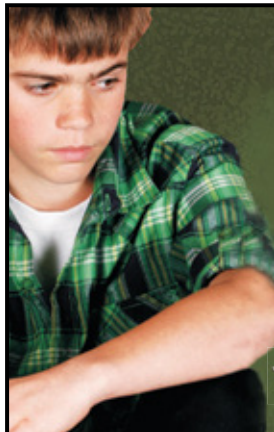


Students in Mrs. Mulholland's 5th grade class.

The children can use their Chromebooks to access Scholastic News and Swun Math videos, create videos through Animoto, and participate in the Typing Club, Accelerated Reader, Accelerated Math and Reading Plus activities. They can also participate in discussion threads to analyze literature (such as Glogster), and use interactive sites to create presentations such as Nearpod.

The Chromebooks were funded through a combination of donations and the Adams School's site budget.

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Back Bay/Monte Vista *High School*

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**Debbie
Lucker-Davis**
Principal

Back Bay is our district's continuation high school, and Monte Vista is the independent high school. Both schools have district graduation requirements and require referral from a school official or parent to attend. The principal makes the final decision.

Back Bay students attend school daily and complete five classes every 60 days, receiving individual teacher support for their work.

They earn 75 credits per year for successfully completed work in a number of forms. Seniors may request to test out of failed classes and to graduate early.

Before applying to Monte Vista, students must have successfully completed 120 credits, passed the ELA and math tests, and demonstrated academic ability. The independent program requires a minimum of two hours attendance in one weekly class and completion of each class in three weeks. Students who work, have medical issues or are involved in high-level competitive sports appreciate the program's flexibility. Monte Vista doesn't accept athletes who work with the NCAA for college sports.

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

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

California *Elementary (K-6)*

Halloween Hoot



**Matthew
Broesamle**
Principal

California School hosted its annual Halloween Hoot on October 30th. It was a fantastic night that brought members of our school community together for an evening of fun that included carnival games, great food, and a haunted house. Students came dressed in their Halloween costumes to get in the spirit of the event as well. At the end of the night, an award was presented for the best costume, which went to a third grader who

appeared to be holding his head in his arms.

This is just the first of many opportunities we create for our families to come together in support of our school. The money raised during these events directly supports our school's vision of academic excellence through technology and the arts.

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**Third grade student Spencer,
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College Park *Elementary (K-6)*

Plenty to Be Thankful For



Julie McCormick
Principal

College Park Elementary School is was recently officially accepted into the No Excuses University network. We believe that

all students can achieve success and become college ready through a supportive, nurturing, and rigorous academic environment.

Mrs. Clark's fifth-grade class was excited to learn that Donors Choose had funded their grant for a new electronic tablet and green-screen set up. Students are looking forward to choosing videos and backgrounds to accompany their upcoming explorer reports and speeches. Social studies just got even more fun!



This month, second-graders from Mrs. Viramontes' class (pictured below) read the story "Thanksgiving is For Giving Thanks" and brainstormed a list of things they are thankful for. Each student wrote these things on a leaf and added it to the classroom's "thankful tree."

Once again, we are pleased to have Vanguard University students offering a reading intervention program called Let's Read to many of our students. Vanguard students come one afternoon a week to work with small groups of students to practice and reinforce reading skills. We are very fortunate to have these partners in education.

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

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

CDM Students Engaged in Civic Role



Dr. Rebecca Gogel
Principal
7-8 Grade



Kathy Scott
Principal
9-12 Grade

Election Day, November 4th, 2014 brought community citizens and Corona Del Mar High School senior students together as over 30 CDMHS students participated as Student Poll

Workers across the community at various polling locations. Students set up polling locations, helped voters to sign in and register provisional voters, assisted voters in understand how to use the digital polling machines, and reported results to voting officials. Students attended training prior to November 4th and were taught key skills and laws pertaining to being a poll volunteer. One senior student poll volunteer said, "Being 18, I'm excited to vote this year, have my voice be heard in politics, and volunteer in my community".



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

Costa Mesa High School (7-12)

College Center is Buzzing



Guy Olguin
Principal
7-8 Grade



Jacob Haley
Principal
9-12 Grade

The CMHS Career and College Center is buzzing with student inquiries and the walls are covered with timelines, important dates, and helpful information. Allison Hatch, a new addition to the counseling department, is the first full-time employee exclusively dedicated to assisting students with college



and career readiness at CMHS. Between meetings about college options and action plans she is planning on-campus college visits, field trips, and parent information nights.

In the midst of college, scholarship, and financial aid season it has been crucial to have someone available full-time to assist with those tricky processes. The collaboration between the counselors, career specialist, and now Hatch, CMHS is creating a system where all students will feel secure and able to thrive. See the latest CMHS Counseling information at: <https://cmhs.schoolloop.com/counseling>

2650 Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-8700
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Davis Magnet (K-6)

Students Rocked the Vote!



Christy Flores
Principal

On Tuesday, November 4 when our nation was selecting their elected officials, Davis Magnet School 4th, 5th, & 6th grade students also voted for their new student council officials. A record high of thirty-three students ran for six positions. All candidates had to follow a certain protocol which included writing a speech, creating one poster, and then finally delivering their speech to the upper grade students.

The six positions included president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, reporter, and spirit leader. Candidates' speeches included ideas about how to improve campus clean-up, school spirit, and lunchtime activities. Students then had a chance to cast their vote inside of real voting booths donated by the Orange County Registrar. Congratulations to all of our candidates!

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



Early College *High School (9-12)*

Tools for Tomorrow



Kathy Slawson
Principal

Since 2011, seniors at Early College High School (ECHS) have been learning from real-world experiences through a program provided by a national investment firm. During the months of September and October, seniors were busy learning how to choose what types of credit cards are best for different types of purchases. They learn how to maintain good credit, save money and invest wisely. They learn how to plan for their dream jobs, including writing a resume and practicing interview skills. In addition, they work with financial markets, chart compounded interest, bargain



for commodities, negotiate loans for small businesses, and plan for retirement. At the conclusion of this program, participating seniors are invited to visit the investment company's headquarters in Newport Beach.

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

Eastbluff *Elementary (K-6)*

Positive Behavior System



Cheryl Beck
Principal

Eastbluff School has a strong commitment to teaching its students about character building and the development of positive, scholarly behaviors. This is achieved through a focus on a school-wide positive reinforcement and character development program from John Wooden called "Pyramid of Pride."

Our positive school-wide behavior system clearly defines expected behaviors and procedures. We also continue to "fill each other's buckets" with positive words and actions. This is modeled after Have You Filled a Bucket Today? and How Full Is Your Bucket? The five main strategies we use are how to prevent bucket dipping, shine a light on what is right, make best friends, give unexpectedly, and reverse the Golden Rule. We are very excited to be Eastbluff bucket fillers!

The Friday Flag Decks are a time to celebrate and recognize our students for their successes. It is so exciting to see our students strive to be the best that they can be, and also work together cooperatively to achieve their goals! Parents and community members are invited to join us during these events, which begin each morning at 8:40 a.m.

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

Horace Ensign *Intermediate (7-8)*

Weaving a W.E.B.



Dr. Gloria Duncan
Principal

W.E.B. club stands out as a promoter of Ensign's community of kindness, striving to make our campus a better, cleaner and kinder place to grow. Headed by teacher Kari Rush, students work to create a positive environment for all children to experience success.

Ms. Rush says that students should be a part of W.E.B. "because being kind to others not only makes other people feel better but it helps build positive relationships."

On the first day of school, W.E.B. leaders could be seen in their bright-blue shirts, glad to direct or advice any seventh-grader who was lost or confused. Hannah Hiromoto says that "we try to make the school a nicer place so everyone feels welcome." W.E.B. truly makes Ensign a community of kindness.



2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6910
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Eagles in Australia



Kirk Bauermeister
Principal

Eight students and two teachers from Estancia High School traveled to Costa Mesa's Sister City, Wyndham, Australia through the Australia Sister City Education Exchange Program in summer 2014. During their three week stay in Wyndham, they stayed with host families at Estancia's Sister School, Hoppers Crossing Secondary College, attended classes with their host students, presented to the student body, School Council and the Wyndham City Council and visited several primary schools, secondary colleges and universities. The Estancia students also organized a pep assembly for students entering Year 8 at HCSC.

The Estancia delegation visited the local fire brigade and police station, toured the Shrine of Remembrance, learned about aboriginal art, went to an Australian rules football game, attended a debutante ball, and traveled along the Great Ocean Road.



Jennifer Atkins (EHS Teacher), Laura Belle Morel, Eliza Jason, Joe Hume, Chris Perez, Jake Mullison, Emma Wexler, Alex Adkisson, Morgan Miller, Hayato Yuuki (EHS Teacher).

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

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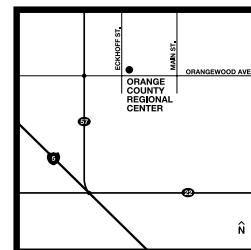
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16793

Harbor View *Elementary (K-6)*

Superheroes Read!



Dr. Todd Schmidt
Principal

Countless research has shown that students who read 400 minutes a month will not only read nearly 2 million more words than someone who doesn't read, but they are shown to be more successful in school as they are better writers, readers, and thinkers. To incentivize

Harbor View students to work towards reading 400 minutes each month, several Harbor View Dads and the Principal dressed up as superheroes to kick off the program. At the end of the month, the superheroes returned to award two winners per class with personalized Harbor View capes! In just the first month, over 200 students read a minimum of 400 minutes each for a total of over a million words read! Way to go, Vikings!

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



Heinz Kaiser *Elementary (3-6)*

Talk A LOT! You're in School!



Dr. Deborah Granger
Principal

Common Core State Standards have arrived and Kaiser is READY! Visitors to Kaiser Elementary School see students talking lots these days. Conversations range from how to figure out that tricky math problem about the swimmers in the race to who the most patriotic early American was. Students read, talk, and write about

"farting" dinosaurs and methane production while reading and discussing the qualities of leaders of industry. October ended with students presenting, sampling, and comparing "disgusting" recipes. Kaiser's teachers provide excellent instruction using creative, fun, and meaningful opportunities for students to learn. We are grateful to our PFO for funding the Thinking Maps tools we use to promote articulate classroom conversations.

If Kaiser kiddos are quiet after school, they're all talked out after a busy day at school!

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



The topic of a recent classroom conversation!

Killybrooke *Elementary (K-6)*

Integrating Knowledge



Dr. Lorie Hoggard
Principal

At Killybrooke School, we are devoted to providing our students with high quality learning experiences during their elementary years to ensure each child has a strong foundation for success in his or her future college and career endeavors. Our 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students are now using 1:1 Chromebook devices to access content, collaborate, and create across all curricular areas.

We believe the use of the Chromebooks will help our students integrate their knowledge between content areas and increase student-directed learning, leading to the development of skills that are critical in the 21st century workplace. Using this technology in the hands of each student, teachers are empowered to make their lessons more substantive, engaging, and aligned with common core state standards.

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



Abraham Lincoln *Elementary (K-6)*

Healthy Harvest



Carrie Gammel
Principal

Kindergartens at Lincoln are digging deep into RCD! As we dig we become:

Scholars,
artists, readers,
scientists, authors,
mathematicians
and historians. The month of October we explored "The Healthy Harvest".

We read aloud a variety of literature and text. We made predictions, answered questions about key details in literature and began the writing process through dictation, drawing and writing. We used art through each step.

"Tops and Bottoms" was our favorite book. We collaborated with partners and wrote about our opinions of why we liked or disliked the book. After re-reading it for more information and details we discussed the

different types of vegetables and where they grew. We graphed our favorites. Our students are flourishing in our Kindergarten program!

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



Mariners *Elementary (K-6)*

Team Kids



Pam Coughlin
Principal

This year Mr. Qualey introduced a new program called Team Kids. The core program is a five-week Team Kids Challenge (TKC), a research-based and empirically validated approach to youth development that is offered at no charge to participating schools. Every student is invited to work alongside police, firefighters, parent volunteers and Team Kids mentors to address real-world issues, such as homelessness, hunger, safety and the environment.



A Leadership Team helps the students fulfill three weekly service challenges that address community needs, while planning a fundraising carnival that occurs during the final week and benefits a cause chosen by the students. The TKC is comprised of a kickoff assembly, Leadership Team meetings, a student run carnival and a celebration meeting.

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

Newport *Elementary (K-6)*

Sixth Grade Camp



Rich Rodriguez
Principal

Sixth grade students visited Catalina Island last week for their annual Science Camp! Check out these poems written about their experiences:

Paddling, Jumping, Racing

We paddled through the water in kayaks of two or three people, racing with our friends to each destination. We laughed and observed our surroundings. When we got to our last destination, we jumped into the water. All along the way we looked at the animals around us that we had just studied. —Trish Harano

Gaping, Swimming, Looking

We got to see some amazing sea life as we snorkeled. It was so fun swimming around in the glaring water looking at really cool fish. We even saw some of the fish we learned about during our lecture. Swimming around the kelp was a blast. It was a trip I will never forget. —Marcus Rock
1327 W. Balboa Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6965
<http://newportel.nmusd.us>



Newport Coast *Elementary (K-6)*

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports



Dr. Duane Cox
Principal

Throughout the years, the Newport Coast Elementary School (NCE) staff has created a safe environment where all students can learn at high levels. Three years ago, our staff decided to widen our focus to include behavioral, as well as academic, support for our staff and students. NCE embraced a different approach in order to bring out the best behavior in each child. Specifically, students are challenged to be honorable, organized, wise leaders.

This approach is guided by the researched-based Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program. Through PBIS, we clarify positive behavior expectations for students and staff, emphasize the importance of catching students doing the right thing, recognize and validate appropriate behavior, and communicate consequences for poor behavior. Most importantly, our students are excited to be in a positive school environment, with teachers who focus on their academic and behavioral achievements.

Newport Coast is a school that understands that we all have a role teaching students to behave in a manner that supports success in school and in the work place.

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

Newport Heights *Elementary (K-6)*

Purposeful, Respectful, and Responsible



Kathleen Jaquin
Principal

This year Newport Heights has been chosen to participate in PBIS, a school-wide program that fosters positive behaviors in our students.

PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports. It applies evidence-based strategies and systems to help our school increase academic performance and student safety, as well as decrease problem behaviors.

We are also proud to be "AOK," which stands for Ambassadors of Kindness. This slogan means that our school is purposeful, respectful and responsible. It also outlines the specific student behaviors that will support a positive and safe learning environment.

At Newport Heights, behavioral expectations are taught in real contexts. Our students are also quickly recognized by the school when they display these expected behaviors. This helps to create an overall environment that can benefit everyone, as well as increase academic performance. When rules and expectations are followed, students have the opportunity to get recognized for their efforts through a variety of rewards and acknowledgements.

We are dedicated to creating a positive and safe learning environment. We value your continued dedication and support, because together we can make a difference!

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



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Newport Harbor *High School (9-12)*

Buenos Días to Our New Language Lab!



Sean Boulton
Principal

Students at Newport Harbor high school are saying *holà* and *bonjour* a lot easier! The recent acquisition of a language lab is exactly what was needed to up the ante for students learning Spanish and French at NHHS, thanks to the hard work of the Newport Harbor Educational Foundation, which secured the donations to purchase the lab. The lab is state of the art and comparable to language labs installed in California colleges.

It's essentially a learning facility that meets the demands to use technology outside the classroom.



Students are happy that they can finally have conversational groupings or pairings in a virtual setting to improve their skills. Now they can listen to our world languages and will sound like native speakers before you know it!

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

Paularino *Elementary (K-6)*

Character Counts!



Dr. Amy Nagy
Principal

We believe that teaching our students that Character Counts! is as important as teaching them how to read, write, add and subtract! Character is doing the right thing, even if no one is watching! We began the year with a general overview of each of the pillars: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Throughout the year, we will focus on each individual pillar. The student council will create and



perform a skit at flag deck and teachers will incorporate the pillar in lessons. Every student signed our character pledge, promising to give their best effort in displaying these pillars. This banner is proudly displayed on campus with an additional banner that highlights the pillar of the month.

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

Pomona *Elementary (K-6)*

Estancia Zone of Schools



Megan Elsten Brown
Principal

Pomona is proud to be part of the Estancia Zone of schools. Teacher, parents and administrators work together to develop programs that prepare students for a new world, and in the EHS zone, our students' futures look bright. EHS elementary schools have launched E-explore, a program that offers science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) opportunities for our students. These experiences will prepare our students to take advantage of the

Engineering and Design Academies recently developed at TeWinkle and Estancia. One component of E-explore at Pomona Elementary is studio art. All students participate in studio art either as an optional activity during lunch time or as a whole-class instructional activity.



They learn the elements of design that they will see in the secondary design academies. E-explore offers students the opportunity to explore STEAM and create a pathway to TeWinkle, Estancia and beyond.

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

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

Aspiring Artists



Dr. Kalim Rayburn
Principal

*By Ms. Jessica DeLloyd,
2nd grade teacher and
Rea Director of Visual &
Performing Arts*

The Visual and Performing Arts program at Rea was selected as 1 of 4 Orange County schools to receive the Disney Musicals in Schools grant through Segerstrom

Center for the Arts. With the support of two Disney Teaching Artists on site, this year's production of *The Aristocats KIDS* will take our program to the next level and provide our students with an experience that will nurture their love of theater production. Select Rea teachers will also engage in the theater production process, growing the Rea VAPA program. Our dynamic cast of aspiring theater artists is



Aspiring theater artists warm-up before auditioning to be a Lead Cat.

rehearsing for the big show on March 18th - 19th followed by a Student Share Celebration at Segerstrom Concert Hall.
661 Hamilton Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6905
<http://rea.nmusd.us>

Sonora *Elementary (K-6)*

Veterans' Day



Christine Anderson
Principal

Sonora Elementary School hosted their annual Veterans' Day Flag Deck on Friday, November 7 in honor of the men and women of the armed forces. Each year we are honored to host Pearl Harbor survivors and others who served in World War II. Parents and grandparents who have served or are currently serving our country also joined us.



Student Council President Kyle Anderson and Vice Presidents Matthew Fesili and Andrew Flores hosted a breakfast reception before the ceremony.

Our school Girl Scout troops presented the flag and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Our choir sang the "Armed

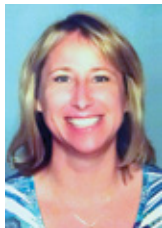


Forces March" and the school sang our national anthem while 550 students waved American flags. First-graders from Mrs. McVeigh's class recited a poem.

Happy Veterans' Day, America!

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

Celebrating Memories



Kira Hurst
Principal

Charles W. TeWinkle Middle School was named after businessman and former mayor of Costa Mesa, Charles TeWinkle, in 1964, the year it was built. Since then, TeWinkle

Middle School has delivered five decades worth of stellar education to generations of Costa Mesa families.

Many of these students returned in October to share their stories, hear testimonials from fellow students, look at old yearbooks, and celebrate the many memories of their shared experiences at TeWinkle.

A highlight of the Expo Night was the discovery of an old fight song written by Dixie Bliss in 1964. Our current band director, Mr. Tim McFadden, found this old music in a file at the back of his stacks. He transferred the hand-written piece onto a modern music program, and then had



Members of the Costa Mesa City Council Steve Messinger, Sandra Genis, Wendy Leece and Mayor Jim Righeimer joined TeWinkle Principal Kira Hurst at the 50th Anniversary celebration at the Chuck Jones Center for Creativity.

the band play it for the audience that evening. The song so inspired alumnus Ken Wong that he sang the words for the audience right after hearing the music!

The following evening was an anniversary dinner attended by members of the Costa Mesa City Council, the Newport-Mesa School Board, various alumni, and current and past district employees and spouses. There was live music, dancing, games and a silent auction.

The 50th Celebration was a wonderful trip down memory lane. Our students, staff and graduates all learned a little more about each other, and the wonderful community that TeWinkle has inspired over the years.

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

Victoria *Elementary (K-6)*

Red Ribbon Week



Dr. Aaron Peralta
Principal

The first graders at Victoria Elementary celebrated Red Ribbon Week at an all school parade. Their sign read Room 9 is Flying Away From Drugs with butterfly handprints. The other days of the week they dressed up in Hawaiian clothes

to declare that they "Lei Off Drugs", in team shirts to "Team Up Against Drugs" and in rock star clothes to say "A Drug Free Life Rocks". The students also wrote a letter to their parents declaring their choices to remain drug free, eat healthily, stay active in sports and remain in school. The PTA gave the students pencils and awards and decorated the whole school.



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

Whittier *Elementary (K-6)*

New and Improved



Scott Wilcox
Principal

As Whittier Elementary School students arrived on their first day of school, they were pleasantly surprised to see fresh new improvements. Upon entering through the front gates, eager young eyes were treated to new shrubs and flowers, which had been lovingly planted near the walkways. New murals depicting happy dolphins and offering gentle reminders greeted the giddy scholars as they made their way to meet their new teachers. Classrooms sparkled with clean windows and touched-up paint. Meanwhile, on the playground, refreshed walls and lunch benches gleamed colorfully, just waiting to be enjoyed by the children.

The first day of school is always a treat, but the new improvements made the day seem brighter. These improvements were the result of 80 hardworking volunteers, who spent the better part of Saturday, August 23 planting, painting and cleaning. This day of beautification was the fortunate result of the generosity of a local church. Thanks to these spirited volunteers, our first day was first rate!

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

Wilson *Elementary (K-6)*

Jog-a-Thon Success



Dr. Julie Perron
Principal

Wilson Wildcats are proud of the \$5300 they raised at the PTA Jog-a-Thon. The challenge was to raise \$5,000 and we exceeded our goal! Our funds will support exciting theater and enrichment programs for students. This was the first time that our students have raised this amount of money and their incentives included extra recess, popsicles and lunch with the principal.

In other exciting news, we are launching a math/tech club for intermediate students. This group will focus on mathematical problem solving and troubleshooting tech issues for primary students under the supervision of one of our certificated teachers.



Julie and Mena rally for Jog-a-Thon.

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

Woodland *Elementary (K-2)*

Friendship, Enthusiasm and Hard Work



Lauren Medve
Principal

The end of the first trimester at Woodland Elementary School brings us to the first set of Principal Awards assemblies. Woodland's character education program is based on Coach John Wooden's Pyramid of Success and his book *Inch and Miles – The Journey to Success*. Each year the students study the blocks of the pyramid as they progress from kindergarten to second grade. At the November Principal Awards, students are recognized for friendship, enthusiasm and hard work. Parents and family members enjoyed the ceremony and the recognition students received.

Once again, our wonderful Parent Faculty Organization designed this year's Healthy Choices Week. Each student received his or her very own jump rope, and a physical education activity using the jump ropes was provided for each class. Students learned how to build healthy snacks using the colors of the rainbow. Healthy Choices Week culminated with the announcement of the classroom with the most collective jump-rope jumps.

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

Contest!!

This girl is somewhere in this publication.
When you find it, email the **page number**
to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
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Your entry must be received by January 15, 2015.
From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble.

Congratulations Celeste Antenucci
Winner of the August Contest.

Our Contests are Sponsored by
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Nutrition Services

Sometimes Change is Good News



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

*By Kim Robins, Nutrition Intern,
Orange Coast College*

Students are eating healthier this year at the Newport-Mesa Unified School District, thanks to Nutrition Services Director Dale Ellis. Ellis has been hard at work incorporating new governmental guidelines for school meals. And these goals of reducing sodium, improving whole-grain content, and increasing the portion sizes of fruits and vegetables are just the start.

Take a walk through the District's central kitchen and you will see a wide array of colorful fruits and vegetables assembled for transport by our hard-working staff. Another strategy Ellis integrated is getting the students involved with taste-testing to prevent waste. Healthier snack alternatives and revamping recipes helps to improve nutritional content. The hard work pays off when you see the students eating and enjoying nutritionally balanced meals.

Introducing these new and healthier options is a "win-win" situation for both the students and Nutrition Services. Studies have shown that students who eat nutrition-dense foods are more successful in the classroom than those who don't. And this is good news!

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

District Transportation

Summer Was Busy



Pete Meslin
Director

Student transportation really is a year-round business. In answer to a recent question I've highlighted below some of our summer activity.

During this last summer we prepared for and operated 30 summer school and field trip routes, plus 10 buses in support of the summer reading academy.

Aside from the usual tasks of creating bus routes to serve almost 5,000 students, some other tasks which were completed during the summer include:

- Receiving and assigning field trips for fall sports.
- Generating more than 3,000 bus passes for 2014-15.
- Scheduling Bus Evacuation training to occur during September and October.
- Training a new class of school bus drivers.
- Training and certifying four new behind-the-wheel trainers. (Scott Parks, Jose Hernandez, Blanca Guzman, and Mike Marsh.)

We were also able to welcome several quality employees into new positions as Operations Supervisor, Dispatcher, and Cover Driver.

Despite all of the activity, we did manage to recharge and it showed with a great start to the school year.

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

School Health Services

School Health Matters



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

During the past few months, there has been a lot of concern about protecting the public's health particularly considering Ebola has made it to the U.S. Each year there are illnesses that sweep through our communities and threaten our health. Some of the most recent include pertussis, measles, illnesses caused by enteroviruses, and influenza.

How we manage health at school matters. We want school to be a safe, healthy, and fun place for children to learn. Whenever

groups of people come together, there is a risk of sharing "bugs" that cause illness. Prevention is important. We can minimize the transmission of illnesses at school by:

- Frequent hand washing
- Coughing into our elbow
- Not sharing eating utensils or personal grooming items
- Getting plenty of rest and fluids
- Keeping children home when ill
- Keeping immunizations current and seeking yearly flu vaccine

If you have concerns about student health, please contact the friendly staff in the school health office.

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

English Language Learners

English Learners



Karen Kendall
Director

Begun by parents, our Parent Initiative boasts a brochure as well as jelly bracelets stating: "N-MUSD parent—I am doing my part!" Thus, our parents and guardians are busy learning about our educational culture and language. Our District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) meets once per month to help our parents navigate these often-complex explanations. At DELAC, we are led by eight elected co-officers who demonstrate extraordinary leadership and vision. On November 20, we had officers' training for one hour prior to the DELAC meeting.

Our students are intent upon learning. Therefore, each school has many interventions to ensure that each English learner is receiving targeted instruction. We have assessed every student as to his or her instructional reading level in English so that we are sure to target the appropriate reading interventions. Over 800 students who are struggling with grade-level reading goals attended our 2014 Summer Reading Academy! Further, our goal is to reclassify every English learner to Reclassified Fluent English Proficient (R-FEP). This is an exciting time of celebration!

We continue with our laser-like focus on student achievement for all English learners!

2985-A Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-8983



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher

Happy Holidays!

As we go to print it is Thanksgiving Break and we have much to be thankful for. We are thankful for the NMUSD dedicated educators who continue to keep our youth focused on academic excellence. We are thankful for the men and women in our armed forces and grateful for their service. We are thankful for our families and our health. We are thankful for you the readers who continue to include

School News among your reading choices. Thank you for caring about education.

In this issue: Superintendent Dr. Navarro informs about the District going Green! The Mayor of Newport Beach brings us up to date on the many reasons we have to be thankful for the Newport Beach community. The Newport Beach Fire Chief makes us aware of how to avoid holiday fires. Dr. Kim of the Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center shares information about respiratory syncytial virus. Of course, each of the schools share the happenings in their classrooms. If you haven't already had a cup of coffee/tea, now is a good time to do so while you sit and enjoy every article in this issue.

Our next issue is February 4, 2015. Happy New Year!

School News

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Newport Beach Public Libraries

Arts, Crafts, and Ballet

By Evelyn Rogers

The Nutcracker Story is a holiday tradition for many people. The Newport Beach Public Library has several picture-book versions of this classic story available for borrowing, but it is the Nutcracker Ballet that really brings the story to life and makes it memorable. On December 20, the Newport Beach Public Library will host "The Nutcracker for Kids" at the Central Library. The hour-long narrated version of the holiday classic, presented by Festival Ballet Theatre, is the perfect way to introduce children to The Nutcracker story and ballet. The show begins at 11 a.m.



Mariners Branch Library Events

Lego "Block" Parties in December will be on the 8th, and 15th at 3p.m. Come to the Mariners Storytime Room and design, build, and invent with LEGOs at this fun, creative program!

Join us for Winter themed crafting fun for ages 3-8 at Winter Holiday Crafts on Tuesday, December 9 at 4 p.m.

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

Balboa Branch Library Events

It's all about cool winter crafts on Wednesday, December 10 at 3:30.

Balboa Branch 100 East Balboa Blvd., Balboa, CA 92661 • 949/644-30760

Corona de Mar Branch Library Events

Don't forget to stop by the library during Corona del Mar's annual Christmas Walk. There will be magic, crafts and refreshments, not to mention, just some good, old-fashion family fun.

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

Central Library Events

The holidays are the perfect inspiration for getting creative. Drop-In Crafts for December will be on Saturday, December 6 from 12–3pm. A variety of fun crafts will be available. Kids can work at their own pace and enjoy an afternoon at the library. This event will be held in the Children's Storytime Room, and is for ages 3-8. Children will also enjoy a winter wonderland of crafting fun at Winter Fun Crafts at the Central Library on Thursday, December 18 at 4p.m.

Central Library 1000 Avocado Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660
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