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School News

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Covering the Newport-Mesa Unified School District



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NMUSD Receives Three 2016 Golden Bell Awards



Bus in the Classroom – One of three award winning programs. (please see page 3)

Inside:

Superintendent.....	3
Board of Education.....	4
NMUSD Schools	8-20

City of Costa Mesa Mayor...	6
City of Newport Beach Mayor	6
Newport Beach Fire Dept ...	6
Costa Mesa Fire/Rescue.....	6
FV Reg. Hosp/Med Center...	7

NMUSD Health, Nutrition, Transportation	21
OC Dept. of Ed	22
Newport Beach Libraries ..	23
Word Search.....	22

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NMUSD Receives Three 2016 Golden Bell Awards



Dr. Fred Navarro
Superintendent

I am pleased to announce that Newport-Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD) received three 2016 Golden Bell Awards from the California School Board Association (CSBA) for its Psychological Support Services Program, Bus in the Classroom Program and Data Dashboards.



The CSBA Golden Bell Awards, now in its 37th year, promotes excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and governance practices of school boards in school districts and county offices of education throughout California.

Here is a brief overview of our three award winning programs:

Psychological Support Services

NMUSD's Psychological Support Services programs provides support for educationally related mental health services and also supports the social and emotional well-being of students by providing support to students struggling with homelessness, drugs, bullying and other related circumstances.

The program recognizes that school-based mental health services are far more than just counseling. Comprehensive mental health services range from prevention and skills development to intervention and evaluation, referral and collaboration, and consultation and counseling.



NMUSD Psychological Support Services Team

The Psychological Support Services program includes partnerships with parents, school-based professionals, and more than 30 community agencies to provide a comprehensive continuum of care for all students.

Data Dashboards

NMUSD's Data Dashboards provide consolidated and meaningful from a variety of sources, such as the Local Control Accountability Plan, student grades, testing information, discipline, attendance, benchmarks for math, English, and reading benchmarks.

Each dashboard is custom designed by NMUSD staff and includes dynamic information with high levels of interactivity, allowing data to be seen at a high



Data Dashboards Presentation

level or drilled down to specific schools, classrooms and students.

District staff and school administrators use the data dashboards in "Data Chats", which includes collaborative teams reviewing data to find trends to set goals, discover areas of need, manage attendance and discipline, identify professional

development needs, create interventions for students who need support and more.

Bus in the Classroom

One of the primary goals of special education is to create learning environments that lead students to be as independent as possible. The Bus in the Classroom Program goes beyond the classroom and into the bus, teaching transportation skills to students with special needs, by fostering independence, a safer school career and a more productive post K-12 life for students with special needs.

The program takes teams of transportation professionals to school sites to teach one-hour sessions for four weeks. The sessions teach students basic skills, such as waiting for the bus, boarding the bus, riding the bus and exiting the bus. A fifth session involves community-based instruction where the bus delivers the students to their bus stops to practice these essential skills, oftentimes with the assistance of parents.

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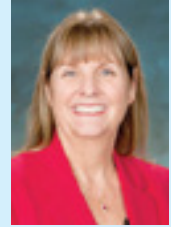
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NMUSD Celebrates a 50 Year Legacy of Excellence

By Dana Black, President

July 1, 1966 is when the Costa Mesa Union School District, Newport Beach City School District and the Newport Harbor Union High School District unified to become the Newport-Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD).

For more than five decades Newport-Mesa Unified School District has created lasting memories and nurtured the talents of its students. NMUSD is a leader in educational innovation; delivering a rigorous, broad-based curriculum through exceptional, high-quality instruction supported by a team of dedicated educators and support staff.

Throughout the District's rich 50 year history, it has strived to help students find their passion, purpose, and

potential, to prepare them to venture into the future in careers, college and active citizenship. Whether through academics, arts, athletics or other interests, NMUSD has opportunities to match every student's talents and interest.

While much has changed in education throughout NMUSD's fifty year history, the District takes pride in continually evolving and adapting to changing educational needs. NMUSD has exceptionally bright and forward-thinking students, teachers, staff and leadership team that remain committed to ensuring that students are well-prepared for future successes.

I invite you to please visit www.nmusd.us/anniversary to learn more.


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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Congratulations NMUSD receiving three Golden Bell Awards. It has been a busy year!

After the holidays please consider donating your holiday cards to St. Jude's Ranch for Children. They recycle the cards to support their programs and services for abused, neglected and homeless children, young adults and families. The Operated by Kids' Corp. children and volunteers make the "green" cards. Visit their web site for specifics www.StJudesRanch.org.



We are always mindful of our men and women in the armed forces and appreciate their service.

Our next issue is February 8, 2017. In the meantime, have a fun Winter Break, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year!

School News

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**Covering the
NEWPORT-MESA
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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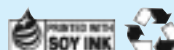
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Heidi B. Starnes, DDS, MS

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City of Newport Beach



Diane Dixon
Mayor

All You Need is a NBPL Card

Did you know that the Newport Beach Public Library (NBPL) has resources that can help you with your creative projects? NBPL customers over the age of 18 can borrow from a selection of "Tech Toys" for up seven days at no charge. The collection, donated by the NBPL Foundation, includes Go Pro cameras, camcorders, digital cameras, portable hard drives, USB turntables, and more.

The only thing needed to borrow any of the Tech Toys is a NBPL card. Library cards are available and free to anyone – whether you reside in Newport Beach or another city.

The Central Library also offers a Media Lab with 14 workstations with software for video and audio editing, photo enhancement and other creative design projects. There is also a Sound Room for recording music, voiceovers or other audio projects. The Central Library is located at 1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach.

For more information, visit www.newportbeachlibrary.org or call the NBPL Reference Desk at 949-717-3860.

Wishing you happy holidays!

100 Civic Center Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/644-3004
www.newportbeachca.gov

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue



Dan Stefano
Fire Chief

Safety First

One critical topic of discussion with parents, educators and public safety professionals alike is the safety and health of our students and school staff while at school, specifically in regard to Emergency Preparedness.

Throughout each school day, communities and families have clear expectations that our schools will keep our children safe from hazards and threats, whether natural or human caused. NMUSD has demonstrated a strong commitment to this endeavor, enhanced by a valued partnership with our fire/rescue and police departments in Costa Mesa and Newport Beach.

A core component of this partnership includes open communication and conducting relevant safety trainings/drills with students, school staff, and parent volunteers. These interactive trainings are essential to properly prepare staff and students for a variety of potential emergency situations including earthquakes, fires, active threat scenarios, and other crises.

The world today requires more vigilance from each one of us, in concert with elevating our situational awareness at all times; plan ahead and be prepared! To that end, please take a look at ReadyOC - <http://www.readyoc.org/> and If You See Something, Say Something - <https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something>.

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

City of Costa Mesa



Stephen Mensinger
Mayor

Scholarship are Important

As we move into the holiday season of giving, I am reminded of the many causes that I support, and high on that list is the Simon Family Foundation and the Simon Scholarships.

The Simon Scholarships were developed to aid low-income and economically disadvantaged high school youth fulfill their dream of a college education.

Many of us take college education and the financial support of our families for granted. We don't realize how many students come from families who just can't afford to write that check. That's where Simon Scholarships have helped hundreds of students from Orange and San Diego counties and as far away as Atlanta and Washington D.C.

Students at Estancia and Costa Mesa High Schools have been recipients of Simon Scholarships. These scholars are able to pursue college education at some of the top-ranked universities in the country. A dream that would have been unattainable if not for Simon Scholarships.

Founded in 2003 by Newport Beach philanthropist Ronald Simon, the Simon Family Foundation is an example of how we as a community can work together for the betterment of others who aren't as fortunate as us. I urge you to learn more about the Simon Family Foundation and lend your support at <http://simonfamilyfoundation.net>.

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

Newport Beach Fire Department



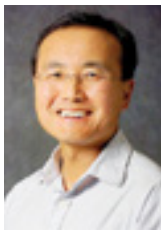
Scott Poster
Fire Chief

Be Aware

Well now that the election is behind us, we can focus on some other important things. Remember from your history books, December 7th – a day when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and opened the door to World War II. I think of history regarding fires in public places, it is never a good thing. As we learned that World Wars are not a good thing, we also know that fires in public assemblies are deadly. So, I ask all of you to report suspicious things and people to your parents or teachers. Things like chains on exit door hardware, entrances to restaurants that are locked, or people throwing cigarettes into trash cans. We know that locked exits can trap people inside when they want to get out. Help us keep you safe and if you see it, report it. That said; have a Merry Christmas and keep the candles away from the tree and curtains! Be safe – go LED.

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

Sports Nutrition for Children



Kenneth Kim, M.D.

*Medical Director,
Pediatric ICU*

A healthy diet, with the right combination and amount of food, is essential for an athletic child's higher level of activity and energy needs. Here are some tips to help children perform at the best levels:

- It takes time to digest food - stop eating two hours before game-day activity starts to save energy levels for the event.
- High-fiber foods are nutritious but may cause stomach upset – don't eat them before activity.
- High-fat foods take longer to digest – avoid them up to three hours before a game or event.
- Eat plenty of carbohydrates (in fruits, vegetables and whole grains) along with a moderate amount of proteins (in meat, eggs and dairy).
- Fluids are critical in preventing dehydration during activity. Experts recommend drinking water or other fluids in 15 – 20 minute intervals during and after the activity to replenish fluid levels lost through sweat.

- The body depletes its readily available energy supply after one hour of exercise. Sports drinks help replenish electrolytes and are a good option for kids who are active for 60 – 90 minutes.
- Athletic kids need calcium and iron in their diets to build strong bones and sustain energy. Dairy products, green leafy vegetables, meat, dried beans and fortified cereals are good sources.

Many children participate in sports that place a heavy emphasize on appearance and weight. This can cause pressure and potentially an unhealthy obsession with weight gain or reduction that could last a lifetime. Dieting is usually not a good idea for athletic kids because they need the additional calories to sustain high energy levels for activity. Dieting also can prevent a growing child from reaching his or her intended height. Parents should discuss diet options with a doctor or nutritionist if a coach recommends that a child lose weight.



Putting Patients & Safety First

Our physicians, nurses and ancillary staff work hard to prevent infections, double-check medications and keep patients free from harm. Thanks to them, we've earned the top distinction for patient safety with an "A" grade from the Hospital Safety Score for being one of the safest hospitals in America.



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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

Estancia Zone Chromebook Initiative

Estancia High School Zone schools will have significantly more access to educational technology this year, thanks to a Chromebook initiative that makes countless educational online applications available to students. Kindergarteners through fifth-graders can access a cart of Chromebooks shared among all classes in the grade level, fourth- through sixth-graders will have one-to-one Chromebook access, and fifth- and sixth-graders will receive Chromebooks to use throughout high school and will be able to complete outside assignments. By increasing access to technology, our students will be better prepared to productively contribute to their community.



Sixth grader/s using chromebooks at Adams School.

Ongoing staff development will be in place all year to provide teachers with the latest instructional tools and techniques. For more information, please attend one of our upcoming parent information meetings.

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

Overcoming Adversity

The theme for Red Ribbon Week at Andersen Elementary was “You Only Live Once #YOLO!” Students wore TEAM jerseys as they Teamed Up for Good

Health. A student photo booth was held during recess where students took photos of healthy lifestyle choices. Additionally, students wore RED and welcomed a special guest speaker, Mr. Brent



Poppen for a fun-filled and inspirational two days. Mr. Poppen is an author, teacher and Paralympian. He shared his message of overcoming adversity through perseverance and hard work. Mr. Poppen told the students to never give up on their dreams and to always believe in possibilities. Because of this mindset Mr. Poppen competed in the Paralympics and won a bronze medal for rugby.

Back Bay/Monte Vista *High School*

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



Debbie Lucker-Davis
Principal

Dealing with Obstacles to Attendance

Back Bay students are fast approaching the end of the first trimester. For those students who have been on track with good attendance, it means that they'll have earned 25 credits. By the end of the third trimester, hardworking students will have earned 75 credits as opposed to 60 in the regular comprehensive program. This helps students repeat and earn credit for previously failed classes.

Students are required to earn 230 credits to graduate from our district. Students who failed requirements must

retake those classes to graduate. Many students failed classes because of poor attendance. The reasons are numerous and often beyond the students' control. They include “skipping” to hang out with friends, drug or alcohol use, family situations, financial crisis, personal mental and physical health reasons, incarceration of the student or a parent, and the death of a close family member.

Life can be challenging for adults, and some of these situations have been handled by 16-year-olds. That's why Back Bay Continuation High School exists and why Monte Vista independent study provides opportunities for students to stay in school and graduate!

California *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Jacob Topete
Principal

Cougar Buck Celebrations

California is currently in its second year of Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) training. As part of our positive reinforcement system, students receive Cougar Bucks for exemplifying Cougar P.R.I.D.E. The Cougar Buck looks much like a sporting-event ticket on which the large portion of the ticket goes home to share with parents and the smaller tear-off portion goes into a raffle.

Students place their ticket stub into a raffle box of their choice. Each month, there are three different raffle boxes to choose from for primary and upper grades. Each day, names are pulled out of the raffle boxes and announced during our morning announcements. The winners get to collect during our monthly Cougar Buck Day. Some of the fun activities students have participated in this year have included board games in the MPR, a dodgeball game against the teachers, and my favorite, a pizza party with the principal.

It has been so much fun celebrating the amazing students we have at California Elementary. Go Cougars!

College Park *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Julie McCormick
Principal

PBIS Incentive Program

As a part of our school-wide PBIS incentive program, students can choose to attend “Mad Science” based

on STEAM. Each Thursday afternoon they have become chemical engineers and made their own Oobleck, this month they are engineering their own Turkey Marionettes, and in December they are helping out the Gingerbread Man and becoming structural engineers — building him an earthquake safe house! Lots of science and creativity visible in the science lab.



Students who made winter caps for the One Global Family Foundation.

College Park students have loomed (a form of knitting) over 80 winter caps for the One Global Family Foundation. These beautiful caps will be sent to refugees worldwide, and to the country of Nepal before the holidays.

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

Sea King Connection

The fall semester heralded the opening of Sea King Connection on campus. Sea King Connection is home to ONE Recovery, a community-based support group aimed at providing art-infused enrichment and intervention to the Corona del Mar High School community.

Sea King Connection provides students with the opportunity to connect with their peers through lunchtime workshops on topics related to acting, writing, film, poetry, surf, skate, science, music, and more. These workshops are led by experts in the fields, giving students the added benefit of connecting with professionals at each session.

Aside from enriching our student body with great programs, Sea King Connection is a safe place for students who may be seeking help. Our licensed social worker is available on a drop-in basis for those in need of support or encouragement.

Costa Mesa *High School (7-12)*

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



Guy Olguin
Principal
7-8 Grade



Jacob Haley
Principal
9-12 Grade

Random Acts of Kindness

In this season of giving and thanks, I want to highlight the outstanding events and commitment to community service by the Costa Mesa student body. Last year the CMHS campus had over 17,000 hours of community service. This year the CMHS campus has started a Mesa GIVES

(Gratitude—Impact—Volunteer—Empower—Service) campaign. We provide ideas and notes year long. We want to make sure that all students feel welcome and feel a part of our school community. In addition to campus connection, each month we are focusing on a different way to give to our greater community.

September/October – Kindness

- We are building a chain of kindness that is made of links with names of students, teachers, staff and community members taking a pledge to conduct Random Acts of Kindness.

November – We Scare Hunger.

- Thanksgiving Food Drive to help our local families, neighbors and community through our local food pantry, Share Our Selves (SOS).
- Awareness campaign about hunger during lunch at school.
- Volunteer at SOS.
- WE Youth Summit & Educator Workshop – students and advisors we will be attending this Summit on Saturday, November 19.

Davis *Magnet (K-6)*

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



Christy Flores
Principal

Reflections Art Program

Almost forty students ranging from preschool through 6th grade participated in this year's PTA Reflections Art Program. The program kicked off at Davis Magnet School in September. Students had the opportunity to participate in various workshops with professional artists offering suggestions in each of the areas including literature, dance,

film, music composition, photography, and visual arts. Students created masterpieces focusing around the theme of "What is Your Story?" The winners were announced in each category in three age brackets, K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. There are ten students who are moving onto the next round. Congratulations and best of luck to all of the Davis artists!



Early College *High School (9-12)*

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



Dr. David Martinez
Principal

Fall Events

ECHS will celebrate its tenth birthday on December 16. Much progress has been made with the landscaping, field, and asphalt courts that are due to be completed throughout the school year and summer.

We also started a community service club involving over 40 students who just recently partnered with the Costa Mesa Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs. Our students meet twice per month to cover upcoming community events where they can be deployed to perform volunteer service.

On October 29, ECHS was granted the opportunity to send six of our eleventh- and twelfth-grade female students to the ACSA Young Women's Leadership Conference at Concordia University. This event was a great experience for our six future leaders to learn skills such as networking and building capacity.

ECHS has also started up a ninth- and tenth-grade combination AVID class this school year in which we have partnered with UCI's Global Connect program. This connection not only allows our students to study and discuss global issues weekly, it also gives them the opportunity to go on two college field trips later this school year.

Eastbluff *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Cheryl Beck
Principal

Amazing Outdoor Science Camp!

Our Eastbluff sixth-graders just returned from their Outdoor Science Camp, where they had an amazing learning experience!

When asked about their favorite activities, they said they loved rock climbing and zip lining. They also thought the ropes course was exciting and challenging. At Camp, they learned to communicate clearly, trust

each other, and really work together as a team. They also learned a lot about our native California plants, insects, and animals.

Our sixth-grade students were engaged in innovative, hands-on learning activities. This was such a great experience and opportunity for them to get to know each other better as well. They all became closer by working, eating, and camping together while experiencing new and exciting ways to learn about science!



Horace Ensign *Intermediate (7-8)*

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



Michael Sciacca
Principal

Focus on Writing

The Ensign Intermediate School staff spent the entire day on November 2 working on writing across the curriculum. National writing expert Carol Jago worked with staff on advanced writing strategies to incorporate into every classroom, from science to history to physical education.

The science team discussed effective writing techniques in lab write-ups, while the

history department designed lessons requiring students to use multiple original source documents to argue a specific historical perspective. Teachers are aligning writing practices to ensure students receive consistent, research-driven practices in every class.

Although a laser focus on writing is not the flashiest focus, it will empower our students to make a claim, support that claim with evidence from valid sources, analyze the information, and organize the information into a coherent argument—a very useful skill in life.

Estancia *High School*

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



Michael Halt
Principal

Eagles Promote Unity and Inclusion

In October, Estancia's Link Crew sponsored Unity Day and Mix It Up at Lunch Day. Unity Day's purpose was to show that students are against bullying and united for kindness, acceptance and inclusion. Students and staff wore

orange to show solidarity and created a short video about the impact of bullying.

During Mix It Up at Lunch Day, Link leaders asked students to move outside their comfort zone. Seating in the Commons was reconfigured, and leaders positioned themselves at different tables to encourage students to "mix it up" and interact with students outside their normal lunchtime social group. Conversation starters were placed at every table to encourage dialogue.

Link Crew will continue to work with ASB to ensure that our campus remains an inclusive, welcoming community.



Link Leaders make it orange on Unity Day.

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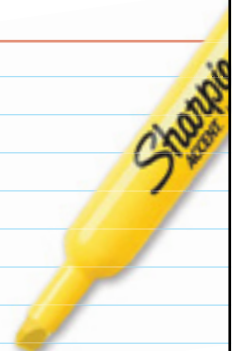
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www.TargetedHistoryTutoring.com



Harbor View *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Todd Schmidt
Principal

Honoring Our Armed Forces

On 11/9, Harbor View continued its tradition of honoring our BRAVE men and women who served in our military during our Veterans' Day assembly. Not only did our choir perform songs like God Bless America and an Armed Forces Tribute, but we also focused on the question, "How are Veterans like superheroes?" Our ASB shot a brief video and two of our 6th grade students read

award-winning essays that answered this all-important question. Then, each veteran had a chance to introduce themselves, say who invited them, and tell the audience what branch they served in and an interesting story or lesson from their service. The experience ended with an emotional playing of "Taps."

Harbor View thanks those amazing men and women who protect our country and our freedoms by serving in our armed forces. We salute you!



Heinz Kaiser *Elementary (3-6)*

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



Dr. Deborah Granger
Principal

STEM = LOVE at Kaiser!

Every Monday, students excitedly make the journey to the STEM enrichment lab where students appreciatively learn the engineering-design process while building all sorts of cool things from airplanes to roller coasters. Mrs. Sebastian creates a space where "failures" and multiple

iterations are celebrated. Mr. De Vusser reinforces this kind of thinking with his robotics competition team and club and also Tech Days, when all his students experience the magic of coding, successfully following technical instructions, and figuring out how technical devices work.

Teachers across campus have jumped onboard the STEM train to prepare our Knights for life ahead. In addition to Mr. Schinhofen's amazing STEM instruction, we've caught the STEM bug and love seeing it catch hold and grow!



Robotics Club students making the catapult on their robot work!

Killybrooke *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Lorie Hoggard
Principal

No Excuses

At Killybrooke School, we are a No Excuses University school. We promote a comprehensive model of college readiness to all students the moment they begin elementary school. Killybrooke students, staff, and parents are committed to this message: that every child will be highly proficient in reading, writing, and math; that every child will be challenged with enriching

learning opportunities; and that helping children develop strong character is important.

We work diligently to incorporate the message that students are college-bound. Every classroom has adopted a university and proudly displays its flag and a sign to remind the children that they will graduate from a university. We start each day with a cheer to reinforce the message that “Killybrooke is College-bound.” Our students embrace the goal to graduate from college and are beginning to consider their ultimate career goals and which colleges they’d like to attend. This fall, we hosted a parent-child guided tour of California State University, Fullerton.

At Killybrooke, we are proud to motivate children to excel in their education today and connect their success to their goals for higher education and careers.

Abraham Lincoln *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Carrie Gammel
Principal

Lincoln ROARS

Lincoln Elementary School’s Respect others, Own your actions, Always try your best, Ready to learn, and Safety first (ROARS) program helps our students to demonstrate a growth mindset by taking ownership of their learning. We teach students it is okay not to know something, but our students know they are always expected to try. By encouraging our Lincoln Leopards to embrace the important life skill

that “failure leads to success,” we are helping them to build a mindset of creativity, grit, and clarity.

The “growth mindset” comes from Stanford University’s Dr. Carole Dweck. In her book *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*, Dr. Dweck discusses the tremendous impact mindset can have on our achievement and success. Teaching a growth mindset creates motivation and productivity while enhancing relationships.

At Lincoln, we want to create a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment in whatever our students pursue.

Mariners *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Matthew Broesamle
Principal

An Engineering Exercise

Halloween is a great time of year as students and staff get into the spirit of the holiday with creative costumes and activities for the students. We

started off the day with a whole school parade for students to show off their costumes to their friends and family members. Students then took part in academic activities in their classrooms that were Halloween



Sixth grade students in Mr. Evans’ class prepare to build their structure.

themed. Students in second grade decorated pumpkins that coincided with a character from a book and presented book reports to their class. Students in third grade took part in the Pumpkin Caper where they were challenged to estimate the weight, circumference, and number of seeds in their pumpkin before cutting it open. Our sixth grade students took part in an engineering exercise and were tasked to create the tallest structure using candy corn and toothpicks.

Newport Harbor *High School (9-12)*

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



Sean Boulton
Principal

Our New Drama Teacher

Joe D'Aquino joined Newport Harbor in August 2016. He's worked in for-profit and nonprofit entities since 1990 and trained with some of America's theater, TV and film icons. Before coming to Southern California in 2001, he co-founded a not-for-profit theater company in New York and has been a member of the Actors Studio's Playwright/Director Unit since 2001.

Mr. Aquino has also written and directed over two dozen plays in New York and LA. In May, his play *Members of a*

Family was produced as a staged reading with Barbara Bain at Hollywood's Fountain Theatre.

Besides his work in the theater, Mr. Aquino taught middle school through graduate school for 13 years, most recently at LA's American Academy of Dramatic Arts. He expects his approach to directing and teaching will reshape NHHS's performance quality; he also believes in the necessity of developing a solid academic program that serves both theater and non-theater students.

"Although passion is an important factor, passion wanes," Mr. Aquino said. "So if skill and knowledge do not support that passion, the classroom experience for the student will fall short."

Newport *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Rich Rodriguez
Principal

Science Camp

By Josh Keirstead, 6th Grade

Science camp was one of the best experiences of my life! My favorite part was being part of a group and doing activities with different people. For my whole life, I will remember eating a leaf, swimming in the 64-degree ocean water with only board shorts on, putting squid ink on my eyelids, eating with yellow jackets, and running down a hill to get to OTS.

I liked my group. I hung out with people I never really realized were fun to hang out with. I also got to have a really nice teacher, Bee. She inspired me not to freak out when I see stingrays, to eat a leaf, and to have fun even if you are learning. In addition, it was fun to play the additional activities, volleyball, basketball, Ping-Pong and tetherball. Everyone played the additional activities before their camp activities started.

My cabin was called Oak Oam. It was the last cabin. Science camp went by fast, and I know the whole sixth grade wants to go back to Campus by the Sea.



Newport Coast *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Dr. Duane Cox
Principal

Readers Are Leaders

Students who read in the 98th percentile read over 60 minutes every day. Newport Coast Elementary School (NCE) motivates our students by fostering a love of reading.

Beginning with a strong foundational reading program, we then build comprehension through quality literature. Guest authors, including A.J. Low of the Sherlock Sam series, speak to our students

about the writing process and draw students into reading their most recent yarns. The Imagination Machine, a local acting group, takes selected student writings and acts out

the stories for students. Beyond being hilarious, the acts model the power of the written word.

We need to engage students in texts that provide them with ample opportunity to discuss, dialogue, and write, so teachers engage students in new texts through classroom and the school libraries and motivational programs, including Accelerated Reader, literature circles, and e-books.

Parents play an instrumental role by supporting literacy at home by using home and public libraries, having family discussions of reading, and more.

We are building leaders at NCE, and leaders must be strong readers and writers.

Newport Heights *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Somer Harding
Principal

Buddies Who Make a Difference

Marie Hisaka, SAI teacher for the multidisabilities/medically fragile special day class, has created a special program in which the focus is empathy, self-esteem and helping others.

“We have wonderful, wonderful general-education buddies that come in for reverse mainstreaming during recess,” Ms. Hisaka

said. “The students come in and pick a job such as working with a student, art prep for an individual student or classroom organization. This is an educational opportunity to help demystify disability and explain it in kid-friendly terms so they gain some understanding as to why my students are the way they are and to help motivate them to interact with them as typically as possible. It’s a great way to help boost self-esteem and confidence.”





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Orthodontic Specialist
UCLA Faculty & Lecturer



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Paularino *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Amy Nagy
Principal

Literacy Consortium

Paularino, Adams and Pomona Schools have formed a Literacy Consortium! Recognizing the importance of a strong literacy program, the three principals participated in intense literacy training over the course of the 2015-16

school year and began planning for the consortium last spring. On September 1st, teachers from each school met at Paularino. Divided into grade level teams, the principals facilitated professional



development focused on the five essential components of reading instruction. On November 1st, the teachers met again, this time at Adams. After meeting in grade level teams, they participated in a variety of literacy workshops facilitated by principals, district specialists and consultants. The response from teachers has been very positive! We look forward to our continued collaboration around literacy!

Pomona *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Megan Elsten Brown
Principal

Certain Access for Pomona Students

Pomona Elementary is excited to provide certain access to technology for our students. As part of the Estancia Zone "Certain Access" technology plan, each student in fifth and sixth grade will be issued

a chrome book to use both in class and at home. Chrome book access



will allow our students to preview lesson material, turn assignments in virtually, and access other on-line learning opportunities. In order to support the 1:1 chromebook initiative in the classroom, Pomona has enjoyed the support of the Education Technology support teachers. The photo above shows Mrs. Martha Felix, Ed Tech TOSA, and Mr. Jeff LaVal, super sixth grade teacher, working together to bring technology into the classroom.

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

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



Dr. Kalim Rayburn
Principal

Thankful for Our Parents

Rea parents make significant contributions to our school that aligns with our current initiatives. During weekly Flag Deck announcements, parent leaders promote upcoming events that support site programming such as AVID Family Nights (Advancement Via Individual Determination) and WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization and Reading) strategies. In

November, Family Night featured an evening exclusively focused on Family Traditions and reading, including the Book Fair. Using two-column notes, families will create a patch with their family's tradition that will be put together making the Rea Family Quilt. Proceeds will be donated



back to the Rea Library where we are in need of growing our selection of books for primary readers. We are thankful for all our parents and their efforts.

Sonora *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Christine Anderson
Principal

Sonora is Invaded by Darth Vader

October is Star Wars Reads Month and on Friday, October 28th, as a culminating activity to our Red Ribbon Week – “We STAR in

the WARS against drugs,” Darth Vader and his storm troopers invaded Sonora School! They visited classrooms, read to students and entertained them by riding around on the tricycles on the Kindergarten

Playground, swinging on the swings, shooting hoops and dancing - all to the delight of Sonora Students! This group,

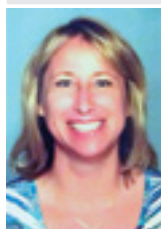
known as the Southern California Garrison of the 501st Legion, are volunteers who make appearances as Star Wars character in hospitals, schools



and charity events around southern California. Their consistent message is to make good choices in life, never give up, listen to your teachers and read, read, read!

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

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



Kira Hurst
Principal

United Way Grant

TeWinkle and United Way have partnered to promote health and fitness. Representing a pilot middle school for a grant, TeWinkle ASB has to meet seven objectives that show growth in health. Some examples of these objectives are showing improvement in PE skills and adding a weight-lifting club after school. ASB will make health posters and

have Fit Fun Fridays, surveys, social-media contests and informative articles promoting fitness and health on the ASB blog and “TMS Times.” To reach out to the parents, health presentations will take place at ELAC and PTA meetings.

ASB has conducted a water assessment at the site, evaluating all of the water fountains in preparation for a donated hydration station from United Way. Through ASB, PE and United Way, TeWinkle is on its way to being a healthy middle school!

Whittier *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Scott Wilcox
Principal

Whittier Fall Festival

Yeehaw! It was that time of year again: Whittier School’s annual Fall Festival.

Our school had a western theme this year. The Whittier PTA worked hard to organize interactive booths for our little cowpokes and their families. Many upper-grade students and former students, now attending Ensign and Newport Harbor, also came after school to lend a helping hand.

There was so much to do – lassoing “cows” and “horses,” pumpkin painting, cupcake decorating, a witch hat toss, a bottle ring toss, sack races, a costume contest, a live DJ, all sorts of yummy food, and even a jail, where one could playfully “lock up” a loved one for a quick photo-op.

Once again our teachers’ lounge was transformed into one of the most popular attractions, the Whittier Haunted House. Our Fall Festival is such a treasured tradition that plans are already in the works for next year’s festival.

Victoria *Elementary (K-6)*

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



Dr. Aaron Peralta
Principal

STEM Opportunities

How do we prepare our students to fill the current shortages in science, math, and engineering professions? At Victoria Elementary, we expose our scholars to these STEM opportunities that may

ignite a passion to pursue.

Recently, our 5th graders attended a week of immersive STEM learning at the Tiger Woods Learning Center (TWLC). Students participated in Crime Lab 101, teaching students



about forensic science that included hands-on activities such as fingerprinting, DNA analysis, and chromatography. Our teachers participated in STEM professional development that included building content knowledge, a lending library, and ongoing support in the use of technology in their classroom environment.

At Victoria Elementary we are driven to prepare our students for the opportunities of the 21st Century!

Woodland *Elementary (K-2)*

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



Tiffany Lewis
Principal

Woodland Dragons Make Healthy Choices!

Students at Woodland spent Healthy Choices Week learning about Red, Yellow and Green Light foods. Students took a closer look at their snacks and lunches to determine how healthy their choices are. They learned that healthy choices help us to

get the nutrients to grow and play. Students learned about “red” light foods as the “extras” which should be consumed in moderation and only after we have eaten our “green” light foods that are the healthiest foods. Parents were invited to a presentation on how to create healthy snacks and meals for growing bodies and minds. The highlight of the week was an afternoon of hip-hop provided by Kim Davis, from Newport Dance and Fitness.



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

Smarter Lunchrooms

By Pam Williams, MPH, RD; NMUSD Nutritionist

Smarter Lunchrooms is a movement that encourages students to make healthy choices in our school cafeterias. Although schools provide fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and other healthy choices, the students may or may not choose them.

The Smarter Lunchroom Movement includes an assessment of school cafeterias to determine possible changes to help nudge our students towards healthy foods. These changes are easy to implement and are inexpensive.

But are these changes effective? According to the Cornell Center for Behavioral Economics in Child Nutrition Programs, they do impact our students' food choices. For example, the study reports that students often overlook fruit, but will take more if it is placed in a visible location and presented attractively. Cafeteria managers can place a colorful bowl or basket in a high-traffic area such as the cash register.

This increased visibility will help to remind our students to eat more fruit. Here at NMUSD, we are now placing attractive baskets with produce in these high-traffic areas to motivate our students to add an apple or other piece of fruit to their meals.

The Smarter Lunchroom Movement is indeed an added value in getting our students to eat healthy!

School Health Services

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



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

Holiday Time is Here

Although this is a time to celebrate, give thanks, and reflect, many of us wonder if we will stay healthy through all the excitement, travel, and fun. There are some things both children and adults can do to stay healthy. Here are the top five.

1. Wash hands frequently - this is probably the one most important thing to do to prevent illness and avoid spreading germs.
2. Stay warm and dry with appropriate dress for the weather.

3. Manage stress - balance activities and commitments and get plenty of rest.

4. Travel safely - allow adequate time, use seat belts, size appropriate car seats for children, and adhere to safety rules.

5. Watch the children - keep an eye on the kids as they are at risk for injury from potentially dangerous toys, play equipment, hotel pools, and choking hazards with items that have small parts. With balance and moderation, good health and safety can be part of the holidays. Health Services wishes you an enjoyable holiday season and healthy new year.

District Transportation

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



Pete Meslin
Director

Bus In the Classroom Update

A year or so ago I wrote about an innovative program that our transportation team has developed. This program, called "The Bus In the Classroom," brings our drivers and staff into special education classrooms to teach transportation safety and life skills. We have taught this program in more than 20 special education classes, with great results as measured by the students' abilities to demonstrate these new skills.

Our school board and administrative staff have been

wonderfully supportive as we developed, piloted, and implemented this program. In fact, the board nominated the program for a California School Board Association Golden Bell award. I am very proud to announce that we have recently been notified that we won the award.

The program is now being implemented in dozens of school districts from coast to coast. Thanks to the phenomenal commitment of our staff, and encouragement from non-transporters, we are in the process of converting the program to be effective in the general education kindergarten classes. We plan to start teaching in some of those classes before the school year is out.

Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92628 • 714/966-4000 • www.ocde.us



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

United By Kindness

For many, 2016 has been an immensely challenging year, culminating with one of the most toxic and divisive elections in the history of our country.

The latest election cycle has, it seems, reopened old wounds, and electoral maps suggest we live in a nation increasingly divided by politics, ideology and values. Yet there is one trait that unites all Americans,

and it is a trait we need to embrace now more than ever. It is kindness.

In May, the Orange County Department of Education launched the One Billion Acts of Kindness initiative as a way to promote civility, character and positive school climates in Orange County and beyond. We also envisioned this campaign as a way to spotlight the compassion that occurs each and every day, often quietly or unnoticed.

So far, we haven't been disappointed. Well over half a million good deeds have been logged on www.kindness1billion.org and on social media with the hashtag #kindness1billion. And scores of new ones roll in each week.

We've heard heartwarming stories from everyday people who are providing food and clothing for the homeless, baking cookies for veterans and finding lost dogs. We've heard from children who have welcomed newcomers to school, and we've heard from more than a few kids who have spotted someone sitting alone at lunch and invited them to dine together.

One girl said she simply complimented a classmate she didn't know on her new haircut — and now the two are friends.

As you can see, kindness doesn't have to be a sweeping movement that immediately impacts thousands. But each compassionate act has the potential to start a chain reaction that can change the world. At the very least, kindness reveals an inner humanity in all of us that transcends politics, race and other barriers used to divide us.

Since the One Billion Acts of Kindness campaign began, a number of local school districts and community organizations have reached out to let us know they're on board, and many are organizing their own activities and logging their counts on www.kindness1billion.org. Included among them are the Girl Scouts of Orange County and the Boy Scouts of America Orange County Council, which asked its members and volunteers to commit at least one act of kindness per day in November.

We hope this momentum will continue into 2017, with benefits that cascade across the state and throughout the country. And OCDE will continue to champion this cause, because kindness is a sustainable resource that drives society. It's also a virtue that powerfully manifests character, and character defines who we are.

Our electoral maps may show stark patches of red and blue, but we are certainly more than a nation of two political parties. We are, and will continue to be, a country of compassion, love and inclusion, reinforced every day, one kind act at a time.

Weather 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.

Thank you Barkate Orthodontics for sponsoring our contests.

Entries must be received by January 15, 2017

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

BAROMETER	FROST	STEBER
BLIZZARD	HAIL	STEVENS
CELSIUS	HUMIDITY	SWARTHOUT
CIRRUS	HURRICANE	TEBALDI
CLOUD	HYDROMETER	THERMOMETER
CUMULUS	ICE STORM	THUNDERSTORM
CYCLONE	MIST	TORNADO
DEW	RAIN	TRAUBEL
DUST STORM	SLEET	TYPHOON
FAHRENHEIT	SNOW	VANILLA
FOG	SQUALL	



Congratulations Benjamin Hellermann
Winner of our October Contest!

Newport Beach Public Libraries



Liz Aaron
Children's Librarian,
Newport Beach
Public Library

Warm Up with a Good Book

Snuggle up this holiday season with a good book. Try some of our new favorites:

"Oskar and the Eight Blessings"

by **Tanya Simon**

Fleeing Nazi Germany after Kristallnacht, a young refugee is treated to eight small acts of kindness while walking through New York City on Christmas Eve 1938, which is also the seventh day of Hanukkah.

"Little Babymouse and the Christmas Cupcakes" by **Jennifer L. Holm**

Thank goodness Babymouse ate all of Santa's cookies. Now she can make him something he really wants—CUPCAKES! But wait...what's that rumbling? OH NO! A DRAGON! Can Sir Babymouse defeat her fiery foe and save Christmas?!

"A Poem for Peter: The Story of Ezra Jack Keats and the Creation of The Snowy Day"

by **Andrea Davis Pinkney**

This is a tribute poem to picture-book creator Ezra Jack Keats; a love letter to the man who gave readers the beautiful and enduring image of a "brown-sugar boy" in a red snowsuit.

Please join us for these upcoming free programs!

Also check the events calendar at www.newportbeachlibrary.org/events for our ongoing LEGO and storytime programs.

Central Library

Friday, December 9, 4 p.m.: Fabulous stories, hot chocolate, and holiday cookie decorating.

Saturday, January 7 starting 10:30 a.m.: Drum or dance with Chazz and Teresa as they present exhilarating African rhythms, songs, and stories. Then drop in between 12-3pm to make food-themed crafts.

Mariners Branch

Tuesday, December 13, 4 p.m.: Make Disney movie crafts in honor of Walt Disney's birthday.

Tuesday, January 24, 4p.m.: Make Wild Animal crafts.

Balboa Branch

Wednesday, December 14, 2 p.m.: Celebrate the season at this winter drop-in craft program.

Wednesday, January 18, 3:30 p.m.: DIY; make it fly! Learn about the science principles of force and motion as we launch stuff in the library.

Reminder: Closures

All NBPL locations close at 1 p.m. on December 24 and 31. All locations are closed December 25-26 and January 1-2. Please check www.newportbeachlibrary.org for holiday hours.

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

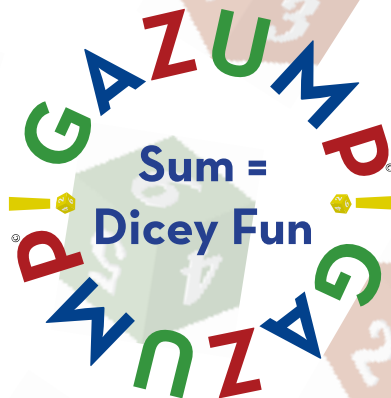
Balboa Branch 100 East Balboa Blvd., Balboa, CA 92661

949/644-3076

Corona Del Mar Branch 420 Marigold Ave., Corona Del Mar, CA 92625

949/644-3075

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newportbeachca.gov/recreation

Adults \$25 MPBPAA | Kids \$15 MPBPAK

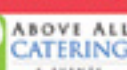
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Cash Bar provided by:



Marina Park
1600 W Balboa Blvd.
Newport Beach, CA 92663

Catering provided by:



For more info please contact: 949-270-8150