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# School News

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**Covering the Newport-Mesa Unified School District**



**Volume 12, Issue 66**

**October / November 2015**



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**School News**

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## SUPERINTENDENT

### Looking Forward to Another Exceptional Year

It's wonderful to have the entire organization on board as we prepare for the coming school year. As always, I would like to acknowledge the contributions of those employees who worked throughout the summer. Whether they were here to make sure our facilities were ready for the opening of school, or worked with students over the summer to make sure they stayed on track academically, their efforts are greatly appreciated.

We have so much to look forward to in the upcoming school year. Almost all of our schools have new solar structures in place and three schools are being fitted with air conditioning. Additionally, groundbreaking for a stadium renovation at Newport Harbor High School and field upgrades at both Costa Mesa and Corona del Mar High Schools are eagerly anticipated sometime this fall. These projects ensure that we are making progress towards providing state-of-the-art facilities for our students.

This is also the first year that results from the new state assessments will be available. As part of the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC) – the organization that wrote the exams – not only do we get to assess how effectively we taught the new standards, for the first time we will be able to compare ourselves to other states that are also part of SBAC.



**Dr. Fred Navarro**

SBAC results provide us with a solid foundation to continue preparing students for success in college and career. To this end, N-MUSD has aligned its local priorities and adopted new standards, curriculum, and assessment methods.

The first California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CASPP) test results that were released by the California Department of Education (CDE) show that a much higher proportion of N-MUSD students met or exceeded the state average for the California State Standards in both English language arts and mathematics.

At every grade level, the percentage of elementary students who met or exceeded standards in ELA and math surpassed those percentages at the county and state level. This is good news and reinforces what we already know -- that N-MUSD is offering a top-notch, high-quality learning experience for its students.

As a school community, we will continue to strengthen programs and meet the needs of every student. I know that our diligent and dedicated teachers and administrators will use these new baseline results as a diagnostic tool to set a course for the future that will ensure the best possible outcome for "Every Child...Every Day."

This is going to be another exceptional year for N-MUSD.



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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher

Welcome back to another exciting school year. This is our 12th year publishing the excellence from the NMUSD. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

This issue we asked the principal's to share with you their bios. It is interesting to learn about their families, hobbies, pets and where they went to school. Several of the principals are products of the NMUSD, have served in the armed services, left corporate careers to pursue a teaching career, have children in the District, etc.

Our next issue is Dec 2. In the meantime, have a fun Halloween and happy Thanksgiving. We are always mindful of the men and women in the armed services.

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## NEWPORT-MESA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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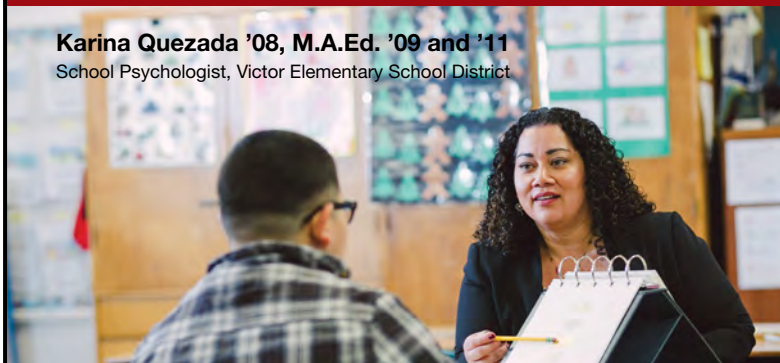


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## City of Costa Mesa



**Stephen M. Mensinger**  
Mayor

### Improving the City

In Costa Mesa, we have been spending time working on behalf of the residents and business owners to improve the quality of life to make our town an inviting place to live, visit and shop.

In that regard, we've taken a number of steps to improve conditions at our city parks so that residents can feel comfortable bringing their children to use playgrounds and open space, and we recently approved a new pedestrian and bike trail realignment that will make Fairview Park more accessible to those with disabilities.

We have hired several new police officers and promoted some of our best and brightest to top-level positions and we've launched a new part time bike patrol.

Finally, on Friday Oct. 16, residents are invited to come Walk with the Mayor through some of the city's neighborhoods and parks. The group meets at 5:30 a.m. at Estancia High School before embarking on a 90-minute walk. Then on Oct. 17 and 18, the Scarecrow Pumpkin Festival will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Fairview Park Goat Hill Junction.

We hope you will enjoy the improvements to our City.

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## Newport Beach Fire Department



**Scott Poster**  
Fire Chief

### Have a Safe Halloween!

Fall has arrived, daylight is getting shorter, wind will blow leaves from many trees. In a couple of weeks, carved and decorated pumpkins will adorn the fronts of homes in preparation for Halloween.

Halloween is on a Saturday this year, and at 6:30 p.m., it will be dark. Thousands of young people will fill the streets and sidewalks. I hope you will assist us having a safe Halloween Night.

So, when you are walking from home to home in the trick-or-treat ritual, please think of the following important tips.

Wear a glow stick so that drivers can see you. Walk on the sidewalk of well-lit streets whenever possible; use a flashlight to shine on the street when crossing so that a driver can see you—and don't ever shine a flashlight at a driver! Walk in groups, and ask an adult with a mobile phone to walk with you to provide extra security. Don't stay out late—try to be off the street before 8 p.m. When dressing up, wear a colorful outfit that drivers easily can see.

An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure. When you get home and after you sort through all the goodies, remember to set the clock back one hour before you go to bed. At 2 a.m. Nov. 1, daylight saving ends and you get an extra hour of sleep on Sunday to rest from a busy night! Please be safe and have a good Halloween night.

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## Real Estate Matters



**CathyLyn  
Brooks**

### Disclosure Laws Help or Hurt?

Effective October 1, 2015 (unless delayed again; this was originally set for August 1) another portion of the Dodd-Frank legislation will take effect. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has revised the forms that disclose mortgage financing information to consumers. Overall this is a good thing. Legal forms and contracts should be in easy to read language. This is the trend

and it is helpful to the public. They have also made some other changes that cannot be fully covered in the space here.

The CFPB did a good job of simplifying and re-styling the materials that lenders must deliver to buyers throughout the loan process. However, they may have not realized that the sale of a piece of real estate in California is a "team sport" and everyone has to really stay on track or delays are caused.

In their infinite wisdom, they have decided that the new Closing Disclosure must be delivered to the loan applicant no less than 3 days before the actual closing date. And further, that any subsequent material changes to this disclosure will re-start the 3 day time period and delay the closing by that same period of time.

As closings are planned months ahead, moving trucks are ordered, utilities are set to be shut off, and belongings are packed away, a delay of 6 days at the last week is sure

to throw a rock into that wheel of progress. Not to mention that if it is a chain of sales where a series of homes are sold and people are moving in a large procession from one home to another, what a mess that could create. This could cause some real unhappiness and it can be stressful enough just buying the home and packing to move.

For any loan originated prior to the implementation date of October 1, the new regulations will not apply. Escrows in process on that date will not be affected. Buyers and sellers can now expect to have escrow periods of at least 38 days, and that is if everything goes smoothly unless the buyers are truly pre-approved by an underwriter.

Also any change in the buyer's choice of loan program will require other changes and delay the process. Your broker or agent has likely attended a class on this new protocol. You will be able to spot them. They leave the class looking depressed and frustrated. If your agent has not taken the class, I suggest further discussion with your lender and escrow provider to ensure an efficient escrow.

CathyLyn Brooks has been a local real estate broker since 1980, earning the advanced credentials of Certified Residential Specialist and Graduate Realtor through advanced education and sales volume. She has completed the American Bar Association's approved Paralegal certification and is an instructor at UCI in the Paralegal program. She also teaches real estate related courses in the extension program. The NASD, the NYSE, and the National Futures Organization have appointed her as a public arbitrator. Her degree is in finance and marketing from the University of Southern California. CathyLyn is affiliated with Main Street Realtors and can be reached at: 562/719-2530 or cathylyn@earthlink.net Consumers should seek legal tax advice from professionals in each field.

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## Backpack Tips for Parents



**Debra Hodges**  
Director,  
Orthopedics and  
Surgical Services

Its school supplies shopping time again. If a new backpack is on your list, here are some tips to find the right backpack for your child and use it correctly.

A good backpack has two wide, padded straps and a waist strap. Although your child may want to sling the pack over one shoulder, encourage them to place both straps across the shoulders and wear the waist strap. This helps distribute the weight in the pack more evenly. A backpack with a padded back will increase comfort and keep sharp objects from poking through the fabric.

- Carrying too much weight may force the child backward. To compensate, the child leans forward at the hips or arches the back. This may compress the spine and cause shoulder, back or neck pain.
- Teach your child to lift properly — bend at the knees, grab the pack with both hands and then lift it to the shoulder.

Continue to watch if your child is carrying too much in a backpack. Is he/she:

- Struggling to get the backpack on or off?
- Leaning forward or hunching over while carrying the bag?
- Talking about back pain or numbness or weakness in the arms and legs?

If your child continuously complains about physical symptoms of back or neck pain, you should consult a doctor.

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[www.fountainvalleyhospital.com](http://www.fountainvalleyhospital.com)

## Backpack Safety Tips

- Carry no more than 10-15 % of your body weight in a backpack. That means an 80 pound child should carry no more than 8-12 pounds of books and supplies.
- Check that the backpack rests evenly in the middle of the back, not falling below the curve of your child's lower back.

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## Adams *Elementary (K-6)*



**Gabriel DelReal**  
*Principal*

Gabe Del Real has served the Newport-Mesa Unified School District for fifteen years. This is his sixth year as principal at Adams Elementary School. Prior to joining the Adams team, Gabe was a classroom teacher at Rea and Newport Heights Elementary Schools. In addition to his work in N-MUSD, Gabe has taught as an adjunct professor of Children's Literature for Vanguard University and has conducted many university lectures

on topics such as technology in education, differentiated literacy programs, and transforming organizations.

Gabe completed his Bachelor's and Master's degrees at California State University, Fullerton. He also earned his multiple subject and reading specialist credentials at CSUF. Gabe received his administrative services credential from University of California, Irvine. Gabe attributes his success to his supportive wife, Chrissy and their two children Sonya (8) and Lucas (5).

Gabe is honored to be the principal of Adams Elementary School. Working with the dedicated staff and parents to provide an excellent education for every one of the Adams All Stars is one of his greatest experiences.

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

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



**Dr. Shannon Bray**  
*Principal*

Dr. Shannon Bray is delighted to begin her fourth year as the principal of Andersen Elementary. Dr. Bray began her educational career in Clovis Unified School District as an elementary teacher. She served nine years as an administrator in Clovis Unified at the secondary and elementary levels, with the majority of her administrative experience at the elementary level. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies and Masters of Arts in Educational

Leadership from California State University, Fresno. In May 2010, she earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fresno. Dr. Bray has also been a part-time faculty member at California State University, Fresno in their Educational Administrative Program.

Dr. Bray's two greatest passions are her family and her work as an educator. She lives in San Clemente with her husband Jim and enjoys spending time with their children and grandchildren. She looks forward to serving the Andersen learning community as they continue to offer a rigorous instructional program, which is both academically challenging and rewarding for ALL students.

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

## Back Bay/Monte Vista *High School*



**Debbie Lucker-Davis**  
*Principal*

Deborah Davis has been the principal of the Alternative Education Center since 2002. Moving from a principal's position in Puyallup, Washington, Debbie relocated to enjoy the many benefits of Southern California.

A graduate of the University of Washington, with a double major in psychology and English, Ms. Davis obtained a teaching credential and began her career at a junior high school. She later earned a master's degree in educational administration at

Western Washington State University in Bellingham. Throughout her career she has never lost sight of the reason why education captured her interest: it's because of the students!

Working at the Alternative Education Center has truly been the highlight of her career. In 2011 and 2013 Debbie was named the Continuation Principal of the Year for Region 10. She continues to be the president of region 10 Continuation High schools. In 2010, Back Bay Continuation High School was awarded the prestigious title of California Model Continuation High School, an honor that was well deserved.

Additionally, in 2012, the solar photovoltaic classes at Back Bay were recognized by the California State CCEA as an exemplary program. These classes have also been recognized by Golden West College as deserving of college and high school credit. And in 2013, Back Bay earned Model Continuation High School recognition for the second time! This honor is only given to continuation high schools that meet rigorous standards set by the state.

Monte Vista, the independent high school located on the same campus, has recently gone online so that its students can access academic work when they are unable to attend school daily. Both schools are exemplary in promoting career readiness and college-bound seniors.

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## California *Elementary (K-6)*



**Matthew Broesamle**  
Principal

Matt Broesamle enters his 5th year as principal of California Elementary School and he is excited for the upcoming school year. He completed his bachelor's degree, teaching credential, and master's in education at Concordia University, Irvine. During his undergraduate work at Concordia, Matt played on the baseball team as a pitcher, first, and third baseman. He earned his administrative credential in 2009 and completed his tier II credential at National

University in 2013. Prior to becoming principal at California School, Matt was a fifth and sixth grade teacher at Adams Elementary School for eight years. Matt is blessed to have an amazing family. He and his wife Gina have two incredible boys. Matt enjoys spending time with his family and playing golf in his free time. He is honored to be the principal of California School

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

## College Park *Elementary (K-6)*



**Julie McCormick**  
Principal

Julie McCormick has been principal at College Park Elementary School for six years. She has 29 years in education, beginning her teaching career in Santa Ana Unified School District. Since joining the Newport-Mesa Unified School District in 1999, Julie has served as School Readiness Coordinator in the preschool programs, elementary teacher at Eastbluff School, and principal at Pomona School.

Julie grew up in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District attending Mariners, Ensign and Newport Harbor. She graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.A. in Spanish interpreting and translating. She received her teaching credential from University of California, Irvine, and a master's in educational administration from U.S. International University. She is married with five children, and looks forward to another great year at College Park.

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



**Kathy Scott**  
Principal  
9-12 Grade

Kathy is beginning her third year as the high school principal of Corona del Mar High School. Before coming to NMUSD she served for seven years as the principal of Oxford Academy in the Anaheim Union High School District and for seven years as an assistant principal and then principal in the Santa Monica- Malibu Unified School District. She is a graduate of Texas Tech University with a Bachelor of Science in math and special education. After 18 years as a classroom teacher, she received her Master's degree in administration from the University of the Southwest and has been an administrator for the past 18 years.

Kathy and her husband originate from Texas and have loved living in Southern California for the past 16 years. They have two married sons with four grandchildren who still reside in Texas.

"I am very excited about continuing our focus on implementing impactful instructional strategies in every classroom and building strong collaborative teams among the CdM teachers. We are determined to make a difference for every student."



**Dr. Rebecca Gogel**  
Principal  
7-8 Grade

Dr. Gogel is in her second year as Principal of Corona del Mar Middle School. Prior to coming to Corona del Mar, she served as the Director of Student Services for Newport-Mesa. She received her doctorate in education from the University of Southern California and is credentialed in Music, Special Education, School Counseling and Administration. Becky has a son, age 10, and a daughter, age 7, who both attend elementary school in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District. "I am thrilled be a part of the team at

Corona del Mar Middle School. The students, parents, staff and community are committed to working collaboratively on behalf of students, providing a foundation for excellence in academics, athletics and the arts."

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## Costa Mesa High School (7-12)



**Jacob Haley**  
*Principal*  
9-12 Grade

Mr. Haley is in his 19th year as an educator and has been an administrator, a mathematics teacher, and a basketball and football coach. He is a certified teacher in mathematics & special education, with a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Whitworth University where he was also an Academic All-American for football, a master's degree in teaching from Grand Canyon University, an administrative credential from City University, and a

doctoral candidate in educational leadership from Grand Canyon University.

Mr. Haley is in his second year as principal of Costa Mesa High School after previously serving as a principal for Bainbridge High School in Bainbridge Island, WA. Prior to his time at Bainbridge High School, Mr. Haley was in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District and was an assistant principal at Laguna Hills High School and for four years served as a mathematics teacher and head football coach for El Toro High School. Mr. Haley started his career and served for 8-years as a mathematics teacher, basketball, and football coach for Bainbridge High School. Mr. Haley has an educational philosophy that is deeply rooted in meaningful connections with students, quality teaching practices, community support, and providing support for students and staff to ensure success.

On a personal note, Mr. Haley is married to his wife Julie and has two kids—Makena and JJ. Makena is in First Grade and JJ is in Kindergarten at Woodland Elementary School. Mr. Haley enjoys outdoor activities, sports, and time with family. Mr. Haley is honored to work in the Newport Mesa Unified School District, the Costa Mesa High School & Middle School community, and looks forward to sharing the vision for Costa Mesa High School as the school continues to evolve and meet the growing needs of students.

## Early College High School (9-12)

**David Martinez**, *Principal*

Dr. Dave Martinez is entering his 1st year as Principal at Early College High School and 24th year as an educator going into the 2015-16 school year. Prior to arriving at Early College High School this school year, Dr. Martinez was a high school teacher for 11 years in Mathematics and Physical Education (South Pasadena High School, 1992-98; Esperanza High School, 1998-2003) and Assistant Principal for 12 years (Newport Harbor High School, 2003-2013; Estancia High School, 2013-2015). Dr. Martinez earned his B.A. from Occidental College, M.A. and Professional Clear Teaching credential from Cal State Long Beach, and Doctorate in Education (Organizational Leadership) from Pepperdine University in 2002. Dr. Martinez has been married to his wife, Kelly, for 21 years, and has two children (Mikayla, 15 years & Joshua, 13 years).

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



**Guy Olguin**  
*Principal*  
7-8 Grade

Mr. Guy Olguin is now in his second year as principal of the Costa Mesa Middle School Mavericks. Guy's connection to Newport-Mesa began at Killybrook elementary school as a fourth grade student. After graduating from Estancia high school in 1980, Guy remained connected to the district through coaching and eventually obtained his first assignment teaching second grade at Wilson elementary school. After two years, Guy spent one year at TeWinkle middle school before moving on to Ensign Intermediate School. Guy found a home at Ensign for the next 13 years. After receiving his Masters' in Education along with his Administrative credential from Cal. State Fullerton in 2005, Guy moved across the bay to Corona del Mar middle school where he was principal for nine years. Guy is excited to be the new principal at Costa Mesa MS and working with students, staff and the community!!

Newport-Mesa USD has been Guy's teaching home for over 25 years. Guy says the best thing about spending his entire career in Newport-Mesa has been the opportunity to teach alongside those who made such a significant impact while he was a student. Guy is married to his wife of 17 years, Tracey Olguin, who just retired from teaching after more than 25 years of service in the Newport-Mesa USD.

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

## Davis Magnet (K-6)



**Christy Flores**  
*Principal*

Mrs. Flores is looking forward to the 2015 school year as she begins her thirteenth year in education and her third and a half year as principal at Davis Magnet School. Mrs. Flores is most excited about returning to school to work alongside the dedicated staff and devoted parent community to support student learning and success. Mrs. Flores attended Chico State on a volleyball scholarship and received her BA in Liberal Studies with a minor in Spanish. She remained at Chico for a fifth year to receive her BCLAD Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. Mrs. Flores then received her Master's in Educational Leadership and Administration from Chapman University. In addition to working with her school community, Mrs. Flores enjoys working with local universities to help mentor and support student teachers. Mrs. Flores is an avid sports fan who also enjoys running, yoga, reading, and baking. Mrs. Flores lives in Irvine with her husband, who teaches 7th grade history at TeWinkle Middle School and coaches football at Estancia High School. They have a nine month old daughter and a black lab.

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



## Eastbluff *Elementary (K-6)*



**Cheryl Beck**  
*Principal*

Ms. Cheryl Beck is the principal of Eastbluff School. She considers herself a life long learner and is celebrating her 28th year in the field of education. She loves working with children and has two wonderful children of her own. Ms. Beck enjoys spending time with her family, reading books, scrap booking on Shutterfly, going to the beach, and walking her two Labordoodles. Born and raised in Bellflower, Ms. Beck is a native Californian.

She began her career in education first as an instructional aide in Long Beach while completing her college education at California State University, Fullerton. She then furthered her career earning her masters in administration at Azusa Pacific University. Mrs. Beck has 10 years of teaching experience and 18 years of administrative experience. She has also been a mentor teacher and a literacy trainer for the Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District. Mrs. Beck began her administrative career as an assistant principal in Norwalk-La Mirada. She then was an assistant principal in the Centralia School District. She joined the Newport Mesa Unified School District eleven years ago as the assistant principal at Davis School. Mrs. Beck was the principal of Davis School the following two years. She is very much enjoying and honored to continue her administrative career as the principal of Eastbluff School.

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

## Horace Ensign *Intermediate (7-8)*

**Michael Sciacca, Principal**

Michael Sciacca began his career with Newport-Mesa Unified School District in 2003 as a teacher in the Business Academy at Costa Mesa High School. In 2011, he served as a Teacher on Special Assignment working in the department of Career Technical Education at the district level and was hired as an assistant principal at Estancia High School in 2012. Most recently, Michael served as the assistant principal of Newport Harbor High School before being hired as the principal of Ensign Intermediate School.

Michael received his bachelor's degree from the University of Arizona and his master's degree and teaching certificate from Chapman University, and he is currently working on his doctorate at Johns Hopkins University.

Michael is excited to continue working in the Newport Harbor/Ensign community to ensure a seamless transition from elementary school to middle school and from middle school into high school. These smooth transitions establish a strong foundation of knowledge to propel our students into the college and the careers of their choice.

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

## Estancia *High School*

**Michael Halt, Principal**

Michael Halt, an education veteran with more than 20 years of experience and colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, is excited to start his new job as the principal of Estancia High School.

As an educator, Halt taught history and coached track and field at Cathedral City High School in the Palm Springs Unified School District from 1993–1997 and at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School in Oak Bluffs, Mass. from 1997–2000. In 2000, he became an assistant principal at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School. He has been a principal since 2004, leading schools in both Massachusetts and California. During this time, Halt has earned a reputation as a dynamic, student-centered leader.

Halt became an active duty Marine officer in 1987. He served as a combat leader in the Persian Gulf War, where he earned a Combat Action Ribbon and a Navy Commendation. Since 1992, he has served in the Marine Corps Reserve. He has been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan and earned a Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit.

Halt earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Southern California and master's degrees from Chapman University and Endicott College.

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



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## Harbor View *Elementary (K-6)*



**Dr. Todd Schmidt**  
*Principal*

Dr. Schmidt is starting his nineteenth year in education and his fourth as the lead learner at Harbor View Elementary. This past school year was a big year of accomplishments for Harbor View! We have continued to grow in our signature practices including the Response to Instruction (RtI) program that provides students who need it with additional time and support to master key grade level standards while also providing enrichment opportunities for students who have mastered the standard.

In addition, this year, Harbor View will be implementing a school-wide STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) program covering such things as robotics, coding, 3-D printing, Art Masters, and project-based learning. In addition, with the growth of our iPad program, students in grades 4-6 have a 1:1 iPad to use as an instructional tool with students in grades K-3 having access to grade-level carts. This has allowed for greater differentiation and opportunities for students to be 21st century learners!

Dr. Schmidt completed his doctorate at USC, his Masters in Curriculum and Instruction at Cal State Long Beach, and his undergraduate degree in history at the University of San Diego. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, exercising, and pretending he can golf!

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

## Heinz Kaiser *Elementary (3-6)*



**Dr. Deborah Granger**  
*Principal*

Deborah Granger has served as the principal of Kaiser Elementary School since 2012. She joined Newport-Mesa USD after a multifaceted career in education including previous service as a teacher and administrator at the secondary level as well as extensive experience in the areas of curriculum and instruction as well as administrative coaching while working with the Orange County Department of Education. With her undergraduate degree in history from UCLA and an MA in Educational Leadership

from Chapman University, Dr. Granger became her own cross-town rival after completing a doctorate in Educational Leadership at USC in 2009.

Dr. Granger loves the fact that this year, school began on her birthday. Her office recently was flooded with student-made cards and wishes for a happy year. What better birthday present could there possibly be than spending the day with 700 exuberant youngsters and the perpetually young-at-heart adults who help our little ones grow into successful students and wonderful human beings. Go Knights! We're off to a great start!

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

# Ships 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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) Please put NMUSD in the subject line.

**Entries must be received by November 15, 2015.**  
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

BATTLESHIP	FRIGATE	SUBTENDER
CARGO	GUNBOAT	SUPERLINER
CARRIERS	ICEBREAKER	SUPERTANKER
CONTAINER	LANDING SHIP	TANKERS
CRUISER	MINE SWEEPER	TRANSPORT
DESTROYER	OILERS	TUGBOAT
FERRY	REPAIR	YACHT
FREIGHTER	SUBMARINES	



**Congratulations to Jinx Hansen**  
**Winner of the June Contest!**



## Killybrooke *Elementary (K-6)*



**Dr. Lorie Hoggard**  
*Principal*

Lorie Hoggard is proud to begin her fifth year as the principal of Killybrooke School, where the exceptional staff and outstanding families are determined that every child who attends Killybrooke is college bound. She is entering her 27th year in the field of education, having served as teacher assistant, tutor, camp counselor, elementary teacher, early childhood director, and principal.

Dr. Hoggard was born and raised in Long Beach. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology, a teaching credential, and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from California State University, Long Beach. After teaching elementary school in both southern and northern California, Dr. Hoggard earned her doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Southern California. She joined the Newport-Mesa Unified School District (N-MUSD) staff in 1999 as the principal of Sonora Elementary School, which, under her leadership, earned statewide honors as a California Distinguished School and Title I Achieving School. As Director of Early Childhood Education for the district from 2002 through 2011, Dr. Hoggard expanded N-MUSD's early childhood education programs from three to 10 sites and secured grant funding for N-MUSD early childhood programs.

As the principal of Killybrooke School, she is passionate about fostering a school culture that sends a clear message to every child that he or she can and will become prepared for college and be inspired to choose an exciting career path. Killybrooke students continue to achieve at high levels, consistently exceeding statewide expectations in core subject areas. The state has an established target of 800 points on the Academic Performance Index (API) for all schools. Killybrooke's current API score is 867 - a reflection of continued excellence in academic performance. Killybrooke's statewide ranking score increased from 7 of 10 to 8 out of 10 possible points and the Similar Schools Ranking continues to score a 10 out of 10 (comparing Killybrooke to schools with similar student demographics including ethnicity, English Learner status, special education status, socioeconomic status).

Dr. Hoggard and her husband, Bill, have two children who love to play sports and spend time at the beach. She is looking forward to another outstanding year of learning at Killybrooke.

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



## Abraham Lincoln *Elementary (K-6)*



**Carrie Gammel**  
*Principal*

Carrie Gammel is excited to begin her third year as the principal of Lincoln Elementary School, home of the Leopards! The strength and passion of the community, students, parents, teachers and staff make Lincoln school a wonderful place for learning. Together their accomplishments have been tremendous. Lincoln has been honored as a Blue Ribbon School and recognized three times as a California Distinguished School. In fact, Lincoln was one of only 30 schools in the state of California to receive the Exemplary Arts Award in 2014.

Ms. Gammel received the Excellent Teacher Award from the California State Senate. Her twelve years of classroom teaching and seven years of administrative experience enabled her to work with the school community to create a positive learning environment where every student can excel. In addition to her training as a GATE Coordinator and Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Coach, Ms. Gammel designed and implemented core-curricular academic programs integrated with the fine arts and sciences. She coordinated and trained with the GATE department on how to identify, develop and support the intellectual talents of students who are academically advanced. To support this work, Ms. Gammel completed a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fullerton.

Ms. Gammel looks forward to continuing to build a strong partnership with her school family and local community to create a foundation for even greater success at Lincoln Elementary School.

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

## Mariners *Elementary (K-6)*



**Dr. Laura Sacks**  
*Principal*

Laura Sacks is thrilled to be a part of the Newport Mesa Unified School District as the new principal at Mariners Elementary. She has ten years administrative experience with the Saddleback Valley Unified School District. She has a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Southern California, a master's in educational technology, and is an instructor in the School of Education at Concordia University. Prior to administration Dr. Sacks taught grades 3-8, and was named Orange County Teacher of the Year for Secondary Theater. A former business owner, Laura left a successful manufacturing company to pursue her dream of teaching. She is eager to serve the talented teaching staff, the extraordinary community, and all the students at Mariners. She is proud to be a Marlin!

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

## Newport *Elementary (K-6)*



**Rich Rodriguez**  
*Principal*

Rich Rodriguez is excited to begin his third year as the principal of Newport Elementary School. He has worked in the Newport Mesa district for 18 years. Mr. Rodriguez taught and has been a principal at the elementary and middle school levels. As the principal of Charles W. TeWinkle Intermediate School and Newport Coast Elementary School, he was part of a collaborative team that implemented a targeted and systematic pyramid of interventions and enrichment model. As part of the TeWinkle Middle School team, they were successful in implementing an intensive intervention and enrichment model that met the needs of all students. Also, a successful positive school wide behavior model was implemented which focused on academic and social skills in order to give the students the tools they needed to be successful in high school. During his three years, 2010 through 2013, at TeWinkle Middle School, the school experienced continuous academic growth and for the first time past the 800 mark on the academic performance index benchmark with an API of 813 points in 2012.

During his four years, 2006 through 2010, at Newport Coast Elementary School, this model propelled proficiency rates to the 90% level. They also successfully implemented a character education program based on coach John Wooden's pyramid of success.

Last year the Newport El team successfully implemented a positive behavior and character model. They also implemented a response to intervention and enrichment model to ensure all students receive extra support and enrichment on a daily basis in a systematic way. They are achieving these positive changes because Newport El operates as a professional Learning Community wherein collaboration, planning and data are utilized to create student success. Mr. Rodriguez works with school districts across the nation assisting them in the implementation of this successful PLC/RTI model.

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



**Our office tortoise, Cheeseball, celebrating his first Thanksgiving. You'll need this page number for the contest on page 22.**

## Newport Coast *Elementary (K-6)*



**Dr. Duane Cox**  
*Principal*

Dr. Duane Cox is thrilled to begin his sixth year at Newport Coast Elementary School (NCE), home of the Coyotes! He shares in the school and community pride for NCE's accomplishments. NCE was recognized in 2010 and again in 2014 as a California Distinguished School. For 2014, NCE has also been recognized as an Exemplary Arts school. Dr. Cox believes that the NCE staff, parents, and students are truly distinguished. He feels privileged to serve with a staff that prides itself in their commitment to continuously growing student achievement and a culture of Professional Learning Communities. The parents provide tremendous support to the school, and the students at Newport Coast Elementary absolutely shine!

Dr. Duane Cox earned his B.S. in Biological Sciences at the University of California, at San Diego and his doctorate at the University of La Verne. He has 19 years of experience as an educator. He has had a variety of classroom teaching and leadership opportunities in Orange County schools. While at the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) he served students and school districts throughout Orange County. Prior to his work at OCDE, Dr. Cox served as a principal at Dwyer Middle School and as a classroom teacher in the Huntington Beach City School District for 10 years. Dr. Cox and his wife Sandy are proud parents of a six year old son, Cameron and a four year old daughter, Kibo Grace. Dr. Cox stated, "I am truly blessed in my work and in my home."

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

## Newport Heights *Elementary (K-6)*



**Kathleen Jaquin**  
*Principal*

I am very excited to start my fifth year as principal of Newport Heights Elementary. This year we are focusing on developing a growth mindset school environment- a place where all students believe that with effort and perseverance, they can succeed. We are encouraging students to learn from mistakes. Instead of becoming frustrated about a mistake, children can think about it as a way to grow their brain.

Before coming to Newport-Mesa Unified School District, I spent five years in the Ocean View School District where I served as an elementary school principal. Before that, I was an assistant principal in the Torrance Unified School district and an elementary teacher in the Oceanside Unified School District. I have an undergraduate degree in social work from Niagara University and my Masters is in Elementary Education from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh.

We will work together to develop a positive, productive experience with our school. We believe in "Educating for Success" and are committed to working with our families so that our students can have the best education possible.

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<http://newportheights.nmusd.us>





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## Newport Harbor *High School (9-12)*



**Sean Boulton**  
*Principal*

Sean Boulton earned a bachelor's degree in History from Drury University in Springfield, Missouri, and taught social science for two years in the Springfield Unified School District. After completing his first master's degree in English Education from Drury as well, he came back home to Southern California in 1998 to teach English in the Los Angeles Unified School District at Charles Maclay Middle School in Pacoima. After a year there, it was onto

Ensign Intermediate School to teach English for the next four years. While at Ensign he earned his second master's degree in Administration from Cal State Fullerton. Sean Boulton's first administration position was at Estancia high school as an assistant principal, and for three years the "Home of the Eagles" was a wonderful place! In 2006, it was onto Saddleback Valley Unified School District and Laguna Hills High School-Sean severed as an assistant principal there for two years, and principal for five. After many wonderful years at the "Home of the Hawks," it was back to Newport-Mesa Unified and Newport Harbor High School! Sean is entering his third year as Principal of Harbor, and enjoying every minute of this adventure.

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

## Pomona *Elementary (K-6)*

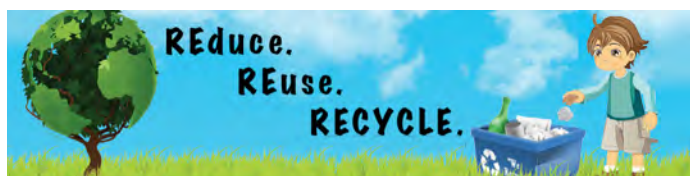


**Megan Elsten Brown**  
*Principal*

Megan Elsten Brown is returning for her fifth year as Principal at Pomona Elementary, a school where all staff are committed to inspiring students to believe they can succeed. Megan's career has taken her around the globe as she has served as an elementary and high school teacher both home and abroad, a technology teacher leader and trainer, an ELD and intervention teacher, and family literacy coordinator. Mrs. Brown has a deep love and appreciation for literature and literacy that she attributes to

growing up in a family of educators, receiving a wonderful well-rounded education as a student in N-MUSD, and attending UCLA where she graduated with a degree in English literature. She also holds a bilingual teaching credential, a Masters in multi-cultural education, an administrative services credential, and completed N-MUSD's Leadership Institute. Megan is in her third year at Cal State Fullerton's Ed.D. program where she pursues a doctorate in P-12 educational leadership. When she's not focused on the field of education, Megan enjoys spending time with her four boys who are the light of her life.

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



## Paularino *Elementary (K-6)*



**Dr. Amy Nagy**  
*Principal*

Amy Nagy is beginning her third year as Principal at Paularino and twelfth year in NMUSD. She has worked in the field of education for more than 25 years. Throughout her career, she has been an elementary counselor, a teacher, a curriculum coordinator, and a principal. Dr. Nagy earned her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University, her teaching certificate from the University of Michigan, her master's degree from Eastern Michigan University, and her

doctorate from the University of La Verne. In addition to her role as principal, she is a wife and mother of two college students, Michael, 21 and Nick, 19. Dr. Nagy shared, "This year, with the support of our dedicated staff, enthusiastic students and supportive parents, we will continue to build on the school-wide systems and curriculum we've implemented, as well as begin an exciting new writing program. As part of the No Excuses University Network, we are working to make college a reality for ALL students! Paularino is a great place to learn and I am honored to serve this amazing community!"

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

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



**Dr. Kalim Rayburn**  
*Principal*

Dr. Rayburn brings to Rea extensive experience in working with K-12 and higher education students in public, private and nonprofit educational organizations. Her professional experience is all encompassing in science, technology, engineering and math subjects (STEM), college and career readiness, dual-immersion language programs, professional development in line with 21st-century learning initiatives, and online learning and teacher

preparation. In her 3rd year as Principal of Rea Elementary School, Dr. Kalim Rayburn is excited about her school's commitment to providing student's quality learning experiences in STEM, VAPA (Visual & Performing Arts) and Leadership.

Bilingual in Spanish and English, Dr. Rayburn received her doctoral degree in educational administration at USC's Rossier School of Education; her M.S. in educational leadership and policy analysis, administrative and director of curriculum and instruction licenses at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and her B.A. in human development (with a minor in elementary education) and her Multiple Subject Teaching Credential at Long Beach State, where she also received an athletic scholarship to compete on the women's golf team. While not at Rea, you can find Dr. Rayburn teaching a course for USC doctoral students or teeing it up at the golf course, attending an athletic event at USC or Long Beach State or volunteering for the Long Beach State Athletic Department.

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



## Sonora *Elementary (K-6)*



**Christine Anderson**  
*Principal*

Christine Anderson has been a passionate educator for over 35 years, excited about being a positive influence in the education of all students! Christine was born in Glendale, California, grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, and spent most of her adult life in the metropolitan Phoenix area. She attended William Woods College in Fulton, Missouri for two years and received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Arizona State University. She earned her administrative credential years later from Northern Arizona University.

Christine taught for many years as a primary classroom teacher in Arizona, with the exception of a two year position, as a Curriculum Resource Specialist, with the Santa Ana Unified School District. Before joining the Newport-Mesa Unified School District in 2002, as the principal of Sonora Elementary School, Christine had been an assistant principal of an alternative high school, principal of a K-8 school, in collaboration with Arizona State University, and principal of the Thomas J. Pappas School for Children of Homeless Families in Phoenix and Tempe, Arizona.

For the past 13 years, Christine has been the principal of Sonora Elementary School in Costa Mesa. Sonora School is one of four "No Excuses University" Schools in Orange County, promoting college readiness at the elementary level. There are approximately 185 schools across the country in the NEU network of schools. As an NEU School, Sonora Staff believe that all students deserve an education that prepares them for college and the work place ~ and that begins in elementary school! The arts have been a huge part of the culture of Sonora School. The school was part of the ArtsConnect Grant for 7 years where dozens of Master Teaching Artists worked with students at the school each year. During this time, teachers learned how to infuse the arts into their academic curriculum, thus enhancing student learning. Sonora was the first elementary school in Costa Mesa to have an elementary band and Suzuki hand bell choir. The Sonora show choir has performed musicals such as "Annie," "Little Mermaid" and "The Wizard of Oz." A part-time art teacher provides visual arts to all students in grades 1st – 6th. Each student makes at least one ceramic piece during the school year, which gets fired in the school's kiln.

Christine feels privileged to be a part of the Sonora School family, where exceptional teachers teach the best students each and every day, and outstanding, involved parents contribute to the success of all students! Sonora Students are college bound!

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

**Please drive safely – students are back in school.**

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



**Kira Hurst**  
*Principal*

Kira Hurst came from the Huntington Beach Union High School District where she was an administrator in Activities, Supervision, Guidance and Special Education. Prior to becoming an administrator, Kira taught many years in Social Studies and Spanish at both the middle and high school levels. She was also extensively involved in extra-curricular activities both in coaching and ASB.

Kira brings a strong multi-cultural background with her to Newport-Mesa Unified School District. She lived twenty-eight years overseas as both a student and later an educator for the Department of Defense Dependent Schools. Kira attended U.C. Irvine where she earned a Bachelor's degree in History and Spanish. She also attended the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru where she studied South American and Andean History and Politics and Spanish. Finally, Kira earned a Master's Degree in Educational Administration at Long Beach State University. Kira has two sons, Kyle and Ryan and has lived the past twelve years in Costa Mesa.

Since arriving at TeWinkle, Kira has focused on supporting the teachers in their implementation of Common Core Standards and instructional strategies, expanding the athletic experience for the TeWinkle Students, raising school spirit through the addition of murals, supporting the new TeWinkle Cheer Squad, encouraging a more active ASB role in student spirit and including the surrounding community in school activities.

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

## Wilson *Elementary (K-6)*



**Dr. Julie Perron**  
*Principal*

This is Julie Perron's 26th year as an educator, and her sixth year as Wilson Elementary's Principal. She began her career with Long Beach Unified School District as a bilingual elementary school teacher. She then moved to Washington state to attend graduate school at Gonzaga University, where she received her MA and her PhD. While working on her doctorate, she taught ELD at the high school level, before becoming an elementary school principal in Forest

Grove, Oregon and then Spokane, WA. Returning to Southern California is returning to her roots. Julie spends her free time enjoying her family, attending all three of her children's sporting events, playing guitar and traveling. She also enjoys spending time with her 99 pound Yellow Labrador Retriever, Rudy. She is excited to have the opportunity to continue to serve the families and community of Wilson Elementary, a place where great things are happening.

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

## Victoria *Elementary (K-6)*



**Dr. Aaron Peralta**  
*Principal*

Dr. Aaron Peralta will begin his eighth year as a principal. This year marks his second year as principal at Victoria Elementary. In his 18 years of service in the field of education, Dr. Peralta has served as a middle school English and history teacher, a high school history teacher and wrestling coach, and administrative positions which include middle school and high school vice principalships. Dr. Peralta

earned his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science/Public Administration from California State University, Long Beach, his Master's Degree from Point Loma Nazarene University in Educational Leadership, and his Educational Doctorate from the University of Southern California.

He is proud to work with a staff whose core values include the social and academic well-being for every student. At Victoria Elementary we are committed to providing our students with the tools to succeed in secondary education while developing the whole child to produce productive, servant leaders in our community.

Our staff and parent leaders began the new school year with a morning of activities to create a shared vision of what a "Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum" means at Victoria Elementary. Our commitment to honor the traditions of the past and charter the future at Victoria remain a top priority as the school begins its 51<sup>st</sup> year of excellence. We look forward to working with you as a school community to maintain the highest levels of student achievement, campus pride and customer service. Welcome to what is sure to be a great school year!

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

## Woodland *Elementary (K-2)*

**Tiffany Lewis, Principal**

Tiffany Lewis began her career with Newport-Mesa Unified School District at Newport Elementary School in 2004. She earned her bachelor's degree from Pepperdine, her master's degree from CSU Fullerton, and administrative certificate at UC Irvine. Prior to becoming principal of Woodland, Tiffany was as a TOSA for the district working on the implementation of the ELA CCSS, including the ELA Units of Study, SIPPS and NMUSD's Standards Based Report Card. Tiffany is excited to work together with her staff to provide an outstanding educational environment where all students succeed and all members of the school community feel welcome.

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

## Whittier *Elementary (K-6)*



**Scott Wilcox**  
*Principal*

Mr. Scott Wilcox is beginning his third year at Whittier Elementary School. The Principal reports that he loves being at Whittier with dedicated, caring and knowledgeable teachers and staff. Mr. Wilcox has been in education for over 25 years. He decided to go into the field in order to make a difference in people's lives. He graduated from Cedarville College, and received his teaching credential from California State University, Fullerton. He later received

his M.A. and administrative credential from California State University, Long Beach. Mr. Wilcox has taught both elementary and middle school students, and has been a Principal at three different schools. He is also bilingual in Spanish and English, and enjoys using this ability to engage the Whittier community. He says that Whittier parents are the best. They care deeply about family and have great expectations for their children. Mr. Wilcox loves working directly with the students and teachers. When asked about his favorite thing in the field of education, he replied that it was seeing the light of knowledge come on in a child's face.

Whittier opened a new Dual Immersion Program (Spanish/English) in September. The program will eventually be Kindergarten through 6th grade. The Principal taught sixth grade in a Dual Immersion Program and knows the benefits this type of program can offer students. Mr. Wilcox reports that Whittier has hired a Kindergarten, first and a second grade teacher to teach in the Dual Immersion Program. NMUSD is very excited to offer this program to the Whittier Community.

Along with focusing on transitioning to the Common Core Mr. Wilcox said that Whittier will continue to work on building partnerships with the community. St. Andrews Church of Newport Beach began partnering with Whittier in the spring of 2014. The Principal said, St. Andrews has been absolutely phenomenal in their support of Whittier Elementary School. On a recent Saturday morning St. Andrews painted murals, planted vegetation and repainted areas, which needed touch up. Mr. Wilcox believes that it literally does take a village to raise a child and is thankful for the community support. Mr. Wilcox volunteers at Community Hospital in Long Beach. His dog Zelda is a therapy dog, and they like to visit the patients in order to brighten their days.

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





## School Health Services



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

For the past 25 years, I have enjoyed serving the school communities initially as a school nurse and currently as the Health Services Coordinator. I am married to a wonderful man and we have two adult children who are passionately engaged in their careers. Our son is a paramedic firefighter and our daughter is an attorney in the field of public interest. As a parent, nurse and administrator, I value the importance of education and I believe for children to learn they must be healthy, nourished, and nurtured. Our school district leadership recognizes the link between

health and learning and offers multiple student support programs including School Health Services. To help students learn, staff must understand the needs of children and when there are specific student health concerns, it is important for families to communicate those to us. The Health Services staff always appreciate communication with families to learn about students. It is a pleasure and a privilege to serve the Newport-Mesa community. I hope you share my enthusiasm for a wonderful, healthy, safe and fun school year.

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## Nutrition Services



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

Dale Ellis, R.D., M.B.A., S.N.S., has worked as a school nutrition professional for over 24 years. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in foods and nutrition from Iowa State University, and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix.

Dale has been a registered dietitian nutritionist for 32 years, and holds a School Nutrition Specialist Credential from the School Nutrition Association.

Dale has been the director of Nutrition Services for the past 2 years after serving as district nutritionist for 12 years. As director of Nutrition Services, she is passionate about "feeding the future" and supporting student academic achievement by promoting healthy lifestyles.

Dale leads the Nutrition Services team in providing healthy and nutritious food choices for students and providing nutrition education activities for the school community.

When not working, Dale enjoys an active outdoor lifestyle of golf, tennis, walking, Disneyland, reading and listening to music.

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[www.nmusd.us/depts/ns/resources\\_parent.php](http://www.nmusd.us/depts/ns/resources_parent.php)

## District Transportation



**Pete Meslin**  
*Director*

Pete Meslin has been in the school transportation field for more than 30 years. For the last 11 he's been NMUSD's Director of Transportation. Pete is a sought after presenter at national, regional, and state conferences on topics including transportation management, leadership, and special education best practices. He is also a member of several national standards committees, advisory, and editorial boards. He has published numerous articles in school transportation, special education, and school business journals. He also has published the California State Guide for transporting students with disabilities. Pete is the proud recipient of several honors including NMUSD Administrator of the Year, Orange County Friend of Special Ed, and the School Transportation News National Leadership Award.

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## Lucy's Book Review

### Magical!



Lucy Davis

*The Land of Stories –*

*Beyond the Kingdoms*

Author: Chris Colfer

The Masked man uses

a portal potion to jump from story to story to recruit a powerful army of the worst fairytale villains!

Alex has been un-godmothered, so she and Conner are in trouble. No one believes her except Mother Goose. Conner, Alex and Mother Goose along with a few other friends they make along the way, follow the Masked Man through some of literature's most loved fairytales. Meanwhile, Bree discovers a family secret that you just won't believe.

The author delivers another MAGICAL book, while using different fairytales than the first three books of the Land of Stories series. The book jumps back and forth from one setting to another so you must pay attention to what's happening. For those that haven't read the first three, I encourage you to do so before reading this book.

Another five bookworms out of five, it's a brilliant read!

Lucy Davis is a 4th grade student at Beryl Elementary in Redondo Beach. Besides reading, she enjoys riding her bike, theatre, and playing guitar. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.



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# Newport Beach Public Libraries

## Back to School in Information Style



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

As you head back to school this year, keep in mind these helpful resources, available at the Newport Beach Public Library:

Not sure what to read? Check out our booklists: <http://www.newportbeachlibrary.org/kids/books>:

Each clickable list links directly to our catalog to see what is currently at your branch. Lists include suggestions by grade level, genre, and more. Be sure to try "readalikes" in our booklists and the Novelist K-8 database for a book similar to one you've already enjoyed.

### Databases at Your Fingertips: :

<http://www.newportbeachlibrary.org/kids/database>

Explore cultures, biographies, geography, and much more. Try linking to Live Homework help any afternoon or evening!

**Accelerated Reader (AR) stickers:** We display the AR level on the spine of most books, and our staff is happy to help you look up the level of any book.

Stretch your brain at our fun and creative programs.

We offer different events at each of our four locations:

### Central Library Events:

- Creepy Crafts: October 20 at 4 p.m. - Celebrate the season with monster trivia and Halloween-themed crafts.
- Drop-In Crafts: November 7 - Drop in between 12 and 3 p.m. for crafting fun the first Saturday of every month.
- Minion Madness: November 12 at 4 p.m. - Crafts and activities based on the popular movie.

### Mariners Branch Events

- Lego Block Party: Every Monday at 3 p.m.
- Fairy Tale Crafts: October 27 at 4 p.m.
- Thankful Fall Crafts: November 17 at 4 p.m.

### Balboa Branch Events

- Spooky Stories: October 21 at 3:30 p.m. - Stop by for a bit of spooky fun! Kids are welcome to wear costumes.
- Fall into Minecraft: November 18 at 3:30 p.m.

### Corona del Mar Branch Events

- Trick or Treat Crafts: October 29 at 3 p.m. - Create pumpkins and bats, ghosts and black cats.
- Thankful Thanksgiving Crafts: November 19 at 3 p.m.

**Reminder:** All NBPL locations will be closed for Veteran's Day on Wednesday, November 11. All locations will close at 6 pm on Wednesday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday and remain closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27.

Central Library 1000 Avocado Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660  
949/717-3800 • [www.newportkids.org](http://www.newportkids.org)

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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to schedule your tour:



## www.girlsinc-oc.org



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- Character Development & Service Learning
- Full Day Summer, Spring Break & Winter Camps
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### Main Afterschool Care Locations NEWPORT-MESA FAMILY YMCA

Location	Phone
DAVIS YMCA	(714) 549-1882
MARINERS YMCA	(949) 548-6770

\*Nationally accredited site

YMCA OF ORANGE COUNTY | [ymcaoc.org/asc](http://ymcaoc.org/asc)

## Note-ables



Kate Karp

### 'Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!'

This collection arrives just in time for the beginning of the school year, when teachers are scoping out their annual plans and parents are looking for some good, entertaining stuff to enhance their children's knowledge base. *Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!* is a real find—a brass-and-woodwind-heavy hail to the Civil War era.

The collection is a compilation of traditional songs, some familiar and others obscure, as well as tunes written by artist Lloyd H. Miller in the sense of the era and what came out of it for better or worse. In the CD, Miller tells the traditional story and sings the well-known tune of radical abolitionist John Brown and adds his own lyrics and music to flesh out the hero's activism and bravery. "Follow the Drinking Gourd," the hymn to Harriet Tubman's night-sky navigation to the land of freedom, is given a celebratory treatment. Another lesser-known Brown—Henry Box Brown—reached the North in another singular way: he shipped himself in a box to Philadelphia, and Miller thought he'd make a great subject for a song. He was right. Equally obscure and of note is the story of Weeksville, one of the first free black enclaves. Weeksville was established in Brooklyn in the 1830s by a former slave, and Miller graced it with a song, too.

A sequenced narration of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address squares the corners of this enlightening collection. And best of all, an online curriculum guide is in development to further link this rich era to our present.

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



### Contest!

Our office tortoise, Cheeseball, is hidden somewhere in this issue. When you find him, email the **page number** to:

[Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com)  
Please put NMUSD in the subject line.

Your entry must be received by November 15, 2015. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a Barnes and Noble \$20 gift certificate.





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## Fathers & Sons

Sons in program range from K - 5th grade



The Mighty Corona Nation exists to administer the **Father and Son Explorer Guides Program** within the greater Newport-Mesa area of Southern California. The Explorer Guides program was developed in a very deliberate way to support the father's vital family role as teacher, counselor and friend to his son, and this is the focus in all that we do.



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Angel Stadium • Pinewood Derby • Balboa Island

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## Fathers & Daughters

Daughters in program range from K - 5th grade



The goal of the **Dads and Daughters Program** is to foster understanding and companionship between father and daughter. One of the greatest gifts that a father can give a daughter is quality time spent together. The purpose is to develop the foundation for a life-long relationship. The program provides opportunities for fathers and daughters to spend quality time together.



Camp Pendleton • Catalina Island • Sock Hop Dance  
Balboa Island Parade • Family Fun Day

(949) 760-8591, ask for Robert Lewis  
[RLewis@pdgcenters.com](mailto:RLewis@pdgcenters.com)  
[www.NaranjaNation.com](http://www.NaranjaNation.com)





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