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2013 – 2014

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7th Annual Edition

Covering the
Orange County
Public Schools K-12
Superintendents

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Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher



This is our seventh edition of the Orange County Superintendent K-12 publication, which we publish annually in July. Thank you for including *School News Roll Call* among your reading choices.

The quality of our communities are directly related to the quality of our public schools and we have much to be proud of. The brief articles herein are only an introduction. Each of the district web sites are in their mastheads where you can go online to read indepth information.

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Technology & the Education Revolution



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

In today's world, technology drives innovation and affects virtually every aspect of our lives. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that at least 8,654,000 U.S. science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) jobs will exist in 2018. Additionally, out of the 50 states in the nation, California ranked number one in projected STEM jobs by 2018. The bulk of these jobs (71%) will be in computing. Internationally, countries like China, Japan, and India proportionally produce more engineers than the United States. For example, the 2012 report by the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) revealed that only about 4% of the world's engineering degrees in 2010 went to U.S. students versus 34% to China, 5% to Japan, and 17% to the remaining Asian nations. Additionally, Europe and Latin America are also challenging the United States to produce enough workers to fill future STEM jobs or risk losing the country's footing as the world economic leader.

Today's students, at a glance, look very much the same as the students of yesterday. However, the twenty-first century student is walking into school classrooms with more significant technology experience than ever. Our students have multi-tasking abilities and technological experiences that call for a revolution in how we teach and engage them to their full capacities. Educators are preparing students for jobs that do not yet exist, and our students may not realize the vast possibilities that open up with a degree or training in the STEM fields. In order to best support our students, we must not lose sight of the fact that the future supply and demand for a workforce to fill STEM careers is enormous. From robotics engineering to cloud computing, the possibilities and opportunities within the STEM fields are endless.

We should be motivating and preparing our students to enter the STEM pipeline by capturing their imagination and supporting their aspirations and interests. We must continually shift teaching methods in order to foster the innovation and creativity that keeps our students engaged in their education and is the driving force behind prosperity and economic progress in this country. This requires educators to inspire and support the success of students by providing relevant curriculum and utilizing the technologies that are a part of their daily lives. As educators, we must take advantage of the technology explosion that drives our students in order to woo more kids into STEM fields.

The growth of online learning environments and the introduction of Common Core State Standards represent a shift in instructional strategy. The role of educators is changing to one of collaborator in learning with the students we serve. This allows teachers to individualize instruction from student to student, across a diverse group of learners, and represents a fundamental rethinking of traditional instructional models. It also opens up

opportunities for STEM professionals to collaborate with educators to mentor and inspire our students and capture the excitement of a STEM career.

At the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE), we recognize that learning environments need to foster global innovation while meeting the diverse needs of students. The OCDE Educational Technology Department has established four key pillars that support the educational community and twenty-first century learners, including partnerships, events, consultations, and professional development.

Through partnerships, we welcome the opportunity to grow and improve our ways of connecting with the districts and schools we support. For the past 11 years, the Orange County Technology Showcase event has created an opportunity to highlight the innovative, replicable ways teachers integrate technology and to share the successes students achieve on a regular basis. The best projects participate in a statewide conference that serves to inform parents, teachers, administrators, legislators, and higher education representatives about curriculum-based student technology projects in K-12 public schools in Orange County.

OCDE provides consultations to our district technology leaders to develop and write technology plans, implement digital learning environments, and design custom training programs to support each district's unique technology vision for the future. Additionally, OCDE delivers training in technological devices such as the iPad and Google Chromebooks while demonstrating the pedagogy of teaching in a blended learning environment.

These options allow teachers to see the potential of technology and how to implement its effective use in their classrooms to build self-guided learning, critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication skills that can lead students on their path to college and into a continually evolving job market.

According to Bill Gates, "...innovation has been the engine of prosperity in this country. Now, economic progress depends more than ever on innovation. And the potential for technology innovation to improve lives has never been greater.... If we make the right choices, the United States can remain the global innovation leader that it is today." It is up to us to empower and motivate our young people to pursue their interests in STEM. We should reiterate at every opportunity that the best-paying and most secure jobs of the future will be in the STEM fields. There will never be a shortage of opportunities for STEM professionals who are motivated, innovative, and driven by curiosity, and we will never run out of the real world problems they will be tasked with solving. The world of education is changing rapidly. Just as technology has revolutionized the world, it is also influencing the classroom. The Orange County Department of Education is committed to supporting educators in preparing today's students for tomorrow.

Reading Electives:

05 Anaheim City
05 Anaheim Union High School District
06 Brea Olinda Unified
06 Buena Park
07 Capistrano Unified
07 Centralia
08 Cypress
08 Fountain Valley
09 Fullerton
09 Fullerton Joint Union High School District
10 Huntington Beach City
10 Huntington Beach Union High School District
10 Irvine Unified
10 La Habra City
12 Laguna Beach Unified
12 Los Alamitos Unified

13 Lowell Joint
13 Magnolia
14 Newport-Mesa Unified
14 Ocean View
15 Orange Unified
15 Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified
15 Saddleback Valley Unified ...
16 Santa Ana Unified
16 Savanna
17 Tustin Unified
17 Westminster
18 The Central Orange County CTE Partnership
18 Capistrano-Laguna Beach ROP
18 Coastline ROP
18 North Orange County ROP

Educational Excellence



Dr. Linda Wagner
Superintendent

Anaheim City School District provides a high-quality education to the 19,200 TK-6 students in its 24 schools. Results from the 2012 STAR test showed that, despite a week of furlough days and other budgetary reductions, teaching and learning remained at forefront of district initiatives. ACSD's API and percent of students scoring Proficient or above held strong. The overall District API of 776 is just 24 points shy of the state's benchmark of 800. ACSD's API has increased over 250 points since 1999, narrowing the gap between the district and the state from 139 points in 1999 to just 39 points in 2012.

Anaheim City School District's instructional program consists of literacy, numeracy, science, social studies, the arts, and physical education and reflects high expectations for all students. Rigorous and challenging, the District's curriculum ensures that students become literate, self-directed and interactive learners, proficient technology users, effective communicators, adaptable problem solvers, and productive, involved citizens. Instructional practices are well planned, include activities appropriate to students' developmental levels, and support the achievement of every student. Assessment is a natural part of the instructional process and facilitates improvement of teaching and learning.

A Common Core taskforce, established in 2011-12 and consisting of 80 teachers, coaches, and curriculum specialists, continues to review and align the curriculum with the California Common Core Standards. The common core units created by the team integrate science, social studies, and technology into the language arts block and engage students in real-life application of skills and concepts via performance tasks.

Anaheim City School District is home to multiple dual immersion Spanish language programs, benefitting students by creating bilingual, biliterate graduates.

Anaheim Union Takes the Lead



Dr. Elizabeth L. Novack
Superintendent

"We want to clone this across California." That was the quote in the *Orange County Register* from Mr. Tom Torlakson, state superintendent of public instruction, following a visit to the AUHSD to celebrate our P-21 initiatives, which strive to teach real-world college and career readiness skills.

At Savanna High School, Mr. Torlakson praised the multiple college-prep programs and career technical pathways, calling the initiatives a model for the state. It's always affirming when our schools are recognized for excellence, especially by California's top education official.

Yet as we shift curriculum and instruction toward the real world skills called for under the Common Core standards, we must recognize that it's going to be a brave new world for teachers, students, and parents. The AUHSD has been preparing for this shift with a four-year implementation plan focused on strategic initiatives including:

- Focus on designing lessons that support literacy in every content area, including electives
- Ensure that students have access to a broad, relevant curriculum
- Improve instructional practices through teacher-led learning walks
- Develop systems to address academic and behavioral needs of students so they can stay on track toward 21st Century learning

As we move toward full implementation of the Common Core in 2015, we will continue to communicate about the vastly different ways students will learn and be assessed on that learning. Instead of assessing low-level recall skills, testing will be in the form of online evaluations based on writing and providing of document-based evidence.

This massive shift in expectations for teaching and learning will undoubtedly cause new challenges in the lives of students, parents, and educators. However, the rewards will be no less significant than helping our country stay globally competitive.

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Brea Olinda Unified School District

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BOUSD Charts Course with Compass 2020



Dr. Arthur J. "Skip" Roland
Superintendent

The year 2020 seemed like a distant target when we first began our conversations about BOUSD's Compass 2020 vision and strategic plan. Now, less than seven years away, the District continues its focus on 21st Century learning for every student. Brea Olinda is committed to continuing to provide high quality learning experiences in an "any time, any place, any path, any pace" environment that creates and supports the foundation for every student to lead a healthy, successful and fulfilled life.

Our students, schools and staff continue to receive local, statewide and national accolades, honors and recognition. This past year's graduating class at Brea Olinda High School earned over \$5.8 million in scholarships and awards for post-secondary studies, averaging almost \$12,000 per student! Our Global Information Technology Academy (GITA) and Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA) programs have won numerous awards and competitions this past year, and are great examples of the pathways to college, workforce and career readiness available in BOUSD. Our students' success stories begin in elementary school and culminate with over 97% of our high school graduating class attending the college of their choice next year!

Our commitment to Character Education is founded on our strongly held belief that preparation for success in life is not complete if we do not help support our families in developing positive core values and resilient attitudes in all our students.

Finally, creating opportunities for students to express and showcase their talents and skills through the arts and athletics help to make a Brea Olinda Unified School District education one that paves the road to future success in school and life!

Buena Park School District

6885 Orangethorpe Ave., Buena park, CA 90620 • 714/522-8412 • www.bpsd.k12.ca.us

Thinking Globally & Acting Locally



Greg Magnuson
Superintendent

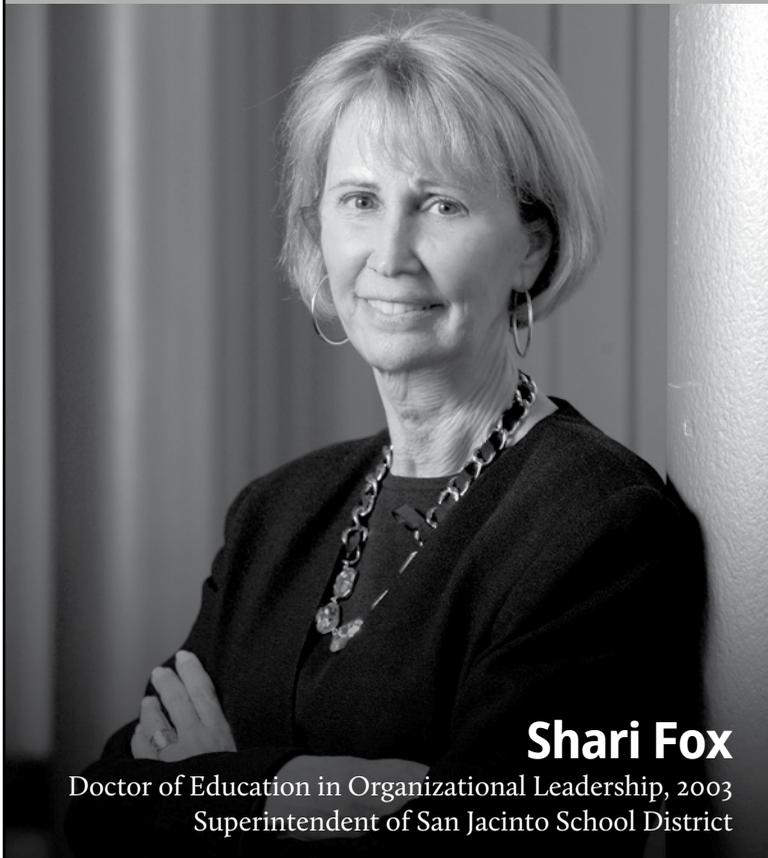
At Buena Park School District (BPSD) we know that each day presents an opportunity for learning and preparing our students for high school and a global society. Just four years removed from BPSD our students will be college and career ready. It is our purpose to ensure they are in a position to excel in high school, and will be prepared for an information rich and dynamic world in which they may compete with their global peers for future college and work place opportunities.

Building from our planning efforts and successes in 2012-13, this year we are excited to roll out curriculum aligned to California's Common Core State Standards and nurture even deeper thinking and learning to support higher levels of academic performance and capability for each student. We will continue to develop our "digital footprint" to integrate more technology and digital resources into our students learning experiences; and finally, following years of difficult fiscal conditions, we look to expand program and service levels.

In addition to rigorous academic study, BPSD students benefit from a caring community of teachers and support staff, community partnerships, before and after-school programs and social services that provide parents with confidence that their children will not only have a wide range of academic opportunities, but access to services critical to their physical, emotional and social development.

At BPSD we take great pride in *Improving the Lives of Our Students and Families* in the North Orange County communities we serve. We welcome you to visit one of our seven campuses, follow us on Facebook and visit us at our website at: www.bpsd.k12.ca.us.

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Shari Fox

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Capistrano Unified School District

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Success & Recognition Continues



Dr. Joseph Farley
Superintendent

The communities of the Capistrano Unified School District can again be proud of the District's many years of success and recognition. District schools have been repeatedly recognized as the best in the state and country, earning many California Distinguished School awards and national Blue Ribbon School recognition.

During the 2013-2014 school year, Bernice Ayer Middle School was recognized as a California Distinguished School, and 36 of our schools were named to an honor roll created by a consortium of California businesses to identify high achieving schools.

Our high school campuses were identified among the best in the nation by national news magazines.

We can also boast some of the top teachers and students in the county.

Randy Hudson, a marine biology teacher at Dana Hills High School, was selected as a Teacher of the Year finalist in the county competition. Yossymar Rojas, a 2013 graduate of Dana Hills High School, has been named the Boys & Girls Club California Youth of the Year.

These accomplishments reflect our ongoing focus on classroom instruction and support for that instruction. We want our graduates to be prepared to compete and succeed in the "post-secondary school world," including higher education, specialized career training, and the workplace.

Centralia School District

6625 La Palma Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3100 • www.cesd.k12.ca.us

Implementing Change



Dr. Diane Scheerhorn
Superintendent

As a nation we are at one of those rare, once in a lifetime moments where true educational reform in education is not only possible, but within our grasp. The nation coalesced around a common and rigorous set of expectations and goals that will put all students on a trajectory to graduate from high school, and be ready for college, career and citizenship through the new Common Core Initiative.

We have all heard of or read about change, but every now and then one comes across a metaphor that really sticks in your mind and clears your vision. Jonathan Haidt in his book, *The Happiness Hypothesis* explains that our emotional side is the elephant and our rational side is the rider. Perched atop the elephant, the rider holds the reins and seems to be the leader. Often educational leaders see themselves as the riders leading the way and setting the path. But the rider's control is vicarious because the rider is small compared to the elephant. If the 6-ton elephant disagrees with the rider, the elephant is going to win. The elephant is the passion, energy and drive that enable change to happen. As educational leaders, our goal is to set the stage for the rider and the elephant to work together as a dynamic duo.

Centralia School District has developed a strategic plan that enables the rider, our Instructional Guidance Team (IGT), to rationally create the path through a series of instructional professional development presentations. With this approach, the IGT and teachers provide the strength, passion and energy to accomplish this task. The Superintendent's Cabinet in collaboration with the Board of Education has developed a Strategic Plan reflecting the rational approach and the staff will provide the humanistic/emotional support to make the Common Core Initiative successful. We look forward to this collaborative effort and the success of all our students.

Are you looking for this chicken for the contest on page 14? You'll need this page number.



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Cypress School District

9270 Moody St., Cypress, CA 90630 • 714/220-6900 • www.cypsd.k12.ca.us

Achieving Excellence Together



Beverly M. Hempstead
Superintendent

High student achievement has always been a top priority for Cypress School District. Although we have our challenges for the 2013-14 school year, staff will continue to work together to provide a high quality education for all students. In reviewing this past year's accomplishments, the hard work of our staff, students, and parents clearly shows this commitment.

Each of our schools has been recognized as a California Distinguished School. Each school is well above the 800 API target, while the District achieved an 893 score. Together, as a team, the District made strides and met all Federal AYP targets.

Cypress School District continues its emphasis on enriching the instructional program to move forward with 21st Century Learning. Schools are maintaining a strong focus on Differentiated Instruction while refining the Response to Instruction and Intervention (Rti2) programs. Rich professional development programs, such as Cognitively Guided Instruction and Thinking Maps, provide support for critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills.

The District will again offer its Study Island Summer Academy, along with a new Extended School Year Program and a VMath Summer Academy. These programs reinforce important skills and engage students in critical thinking activities designed for the individual student. In addition, advanced learners may participate in an expanded enrichment program.

With hard work and determination, our modernization program continues on schedule and on budget with Vessels, King, and Morris Schools completed. Luther School will reopen at their newly modernized site for the 2013-14 school year. Modernization will continue with Arnold and Landell Schools over the next two years.

In Cypress School District, "Achieving Excellence Together" has become a proud tradition.

Fountain Valley School District

10055 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/843-3200 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us

The China Trip



Dr. Marc Ecker
Superintendent

A delegation from the Fountain Valley School District visited three schools in three cities in China over the span of one week, April 6-13. This was a trip sponsored and underwritten by the American Education Federation. The project was part of an education and cultural exchange with two schools in Beijing and Xi'an. The delegation included Chris Christensen, principal of Courreges Elementary School and Jay Adams, principal of Tamura Elementary School, Anne Silavs, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Board Member, Ian Collins and Superintendent, Marc Ecker. The delegation arrived in Beijing where it toured Tsinghua Primary University School, then traveled to Chongqing and visited

Nankai Secondary School and then finished up in Xi'an where the delegates visited Xi'an High Tech Zone International School. Our team met with staff and discussed the similarities and differences in our teaching techniques and strategies. Many pictures and videos were taken of absolutely amazing facilities, programs and instructors. The host of the trip was Ray Yu, from the American Education Federation. He made this trip highly professional, personal and very much a learning experience for the Fountain Valley team. Ray arranged for the delegates to see the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, the famous Gorges of the Yellow River, the inner workings of the largest city in the world, Chongqing, the Terra-Cotta Warrior Museum and the old city wall of Xi'an. A video presentation is being prepared for the May board meeting where the team hopes to bring a taste of this adventure to the Trustees. Plans are already in place to bring teachers next year to China to participate in a teacher demonstration lesson exchange. The learning opportunities for American educators are unlimited. We expect to see great benefits of the exchange to advancing our own instructional initiatives in small group differentiated instruction and the development of professional learning communities through our classroom learning walk program.

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Fullerton School District

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Great Schools—Successful Kids



Dr. Robert Pletka
Superintendent

Education of today's young people is the most vital activity we can undertake to ensure the well being of our nation. Working in today's public schools coupled with the art of teaching is a profession characterized by skill, knowledge, discipline, tenacity, perseverance and creativity in the delivery of instruction to meet the diverse educational, social and personal needs of each child.

Fullerton School District educates over 13,700 children from the Fullerton community in fifteen K-6 elementary schools, two K-8 schools, three comprehensive junior high schools and a variety of preschool/childcare programs. District and school site staff work diligently to promote high academic standards as well as help students apply knowledge and skills in preparation for college and career readiness. As part of the developing 21st century skills, the District develops creativity by providing a comprehensive arts education for every kindergarten through 8th grade child. Also of high value is the District's commitment to integrating technology with 21st century skills for teaching and learning.

Working alongside District and school site staff, parent support and involvement in educating children is extremely important to the success of all students. To this end, Fullerton School District values the partnership with its parent and business community. It is through the spirit of collaboration and teamwork that helps to ensure that our students will be successful and well prepared for their future in the 21st century.

It is our belief that all students in the Fullerton School District can and will learn, achieve and grow each year. Our motto, "Great Schools – Successful Kids," exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic proficiency, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society.

Fullerton Joint Union High School District

1051 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/8702801 • www.fjuhsd.k12.ca.us

Productive Environment



Dr. George Giokaris
Superintendent

Serving more than 15,000 students, the District works to ensure that all students learn how to learn to become responsible citizens and contributing adults. District operations and programs emphasize moral and civic values education.

The Board of Trustees sets the positive tone and vision, creating the productive environment where the strong belief in the mission to all students and the communities served is firmly established. This dedication, mutual respect, collective responsibility, and belief in improvement and the potential of all students form the foundation of all District successes.

By working as partners with the parents and the communities served, recruiting and keeping dedicated and highly skilled employees, and paying very close attention and effectively working to meet the needs of all students by supporting their intellectual, social, civic, creative, emotional, and athletic development, the District has gained statewide, national, and worldwide recognition. Since 1990, District schools have been awarded California Distinguished School recognition 17 times, four National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, California Model Continuation High School, all six comprehensive schools ranked in the top 7% nationwide in 2013, national Science Olympiad champions nine times, best Speech and Debate program in the nation in 2008 and 2013, best Agriculture program in the Western United States in 2010, and all five JROTC programs are recognized as Distinguished Units.

It's all about the students and meeting their needs through ethical relationships among all District members. The most recent survey results indicated that 99% of the staff members believe that the District is a good place to work; 96% of the parents are satisfied with the schools; and 90% of the students are satisfied with the overall learning environment at the schools.

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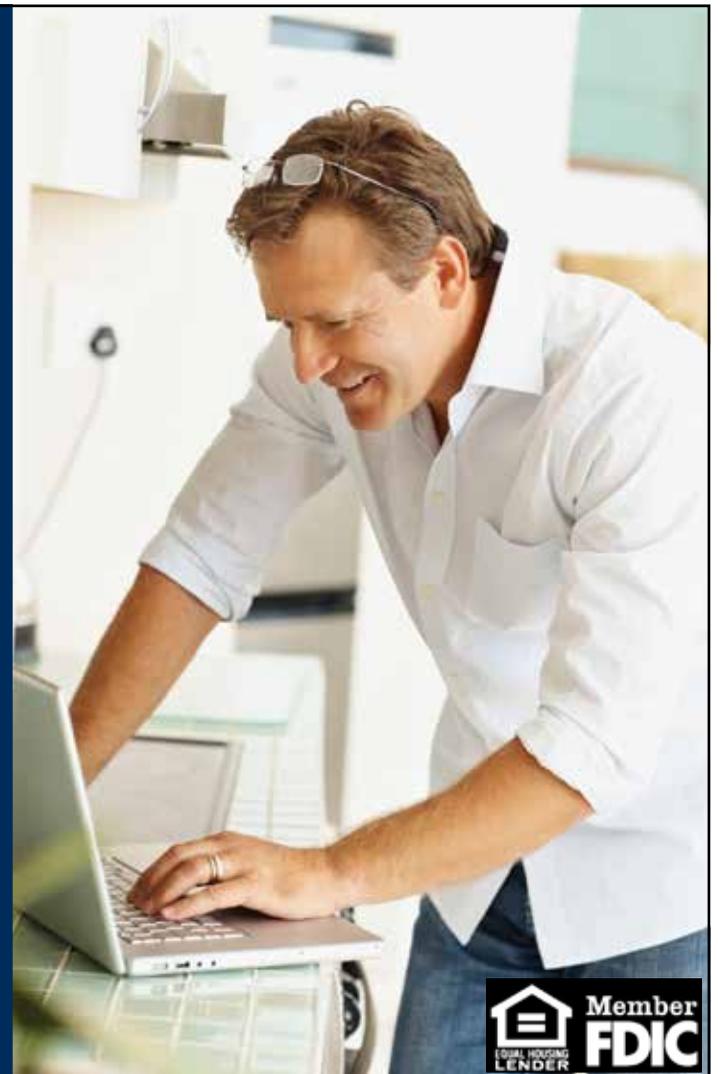
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Huntington Beach City School District

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It's Always Sunny in H. B. City Schools



Gregory Haulk
Superintendent

Incredible teachers who demonstrate the art of teaching on a daily basis, wonderful drama performances that pack the house, musical productions that bring audiences to their feet, athletics that show individual determination and teamwork, these are just some of the awesome things that are happening in Huntington Beach City School District each and every day.

Huntington Beach City School District (HBCSD) has seven elementary schools and two middle schools and serves our population from pre-school through the 8th grade. Our boundaries cover all of the miles across the Huntington Beach coast and some of the inland areas as well. We have over 7,000 students and are proud to have many students transfer to our district each year. More importantly,

HBCSD is an amazing group of people that have come together to provide each of our students high academic standards with a strong belief of the potential of each student! We do that through collaboration among our staff, students, parents, and our community for the benefit of our students utilizing data and research-based instruction. You can see this collaboration through the work of our PTA/PTSA that provides incredible support to our schools every day, through our Educational Foundation that has developed community partnerships showing our students just how important they are, and most importantly with our staff. Our staff is an incredible group of people that go above and beyond each and every day to provide our students a wonderful educational experience in a safe and supportive atmosphere.

We continue to hear about the challenges of public education and how some schools are not rising to the challenge. In HBCSD, ALL of our schools score above the required 800 mark on the Academic Performance Index, our students and staff are not only rising to the challenge, we are thriving each and every day. HBCSD is building responsible, well-rounded individuals who are able to achieve success and fulfillment by supporting their academic and personal development. Great things are happening which makes each day a sunny day in Huntington Beach.

Irvine Unified School District

5050 Barranca Pkwy., Irvine, CA 92604 • 949/936-5250 • www.iusd.org

Empowerment & Collaboration



Terry Walker
Superintendent

This year, the Irvine Unified School District marked its 40th anniversary, prompting some reflection on what has made our schools successful, and you might be surprised to hear that there was little mention of awards or test scores.

Instead, our discussions centered on our culture of empowerment and collaboration, as well as our ongoing pursuit of continuous improvement. Though we certainly celebrate our accolades and honor our accomplishments, IUSD's vision is trained on the future of education, focusing specifically on two critical areas— implementation of the Common Core standards and the use of new educational technologies.

Common Core will take learning substantially deeper by encouraging investigation, collaboration and discovery. These new standards, already approved and adopted by 45 states, will serve as a framework for promoting understanding at a deeper conceptual level, and they strategically align with our own essential learning capacities, which are articulated in our "Continuous Improvement Efforts" document.

Meanwhile, we are also exploring the possibilities afforded through new technologies that will support 21st century opportunities for our students and leverage the talents of our extraordinary staff. We believe future classrooms will utilize personalized and adaptive tools that enhance skill and promote fluency, and we envision an environment where students are empowered to bring their own computers and tablets. To that end, we're currently discussing the feasibility of a technology bond to help us build the kind of technological infrastructure necessary to cultivate these innovations.

IUSD was established four decades ago on a set of founding principles, including a proclamation that we should "strive for momentum, not stability." By embracing new 21st century teaching and learning paradigms that promote higher-level thinking, and by empowering our students and staff with proven technologies, we are continuing this district's pursuit of momentum and fulfilling our promise of providing the highest quality education we can envision.

Huntington Beach Union High School District

5832 Bolsa Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/903-7000 • www.hbuhsd.edu

"Don't Blink"



Dr. Greg S. Plutko
Superintendent

The 2013-2014 school year is upon us...wow that is amazing to write! We can all surely recall the excitement of the year 2000, and the long ago concern of Y2K (whew, we survived). As the successful country artist Kenny Chesney writes in his hit song, "Don't Blink," the time we spend in school moves by so quickly... that song title rings so very true, as yet another successful class has crossed the adorned graduation stages in Huntington Beach Union High School District. As a school community we are so very proud of their many accomplishments and of course their personal growth as young people. I am willing to bet there are levels of "blink" depending on your view of the time. For our

hard working students, one might see a long extended blink that is filled with challenge, joy, new friends, and feeling of accomplishment. For their families that provide the support that is a hallmark of the success in Huntington Beach Union, it must be a "rapid fire blink." A blink that seems almost undetectable... today a gangly, hopeful freshman, and a blink later we are taking the precious graduation day photos with a thoughtful, focused, and determined young adult. I am very proud of the work our students, teachers, and staff do to remain "in the moment" of each day. It can be tempting to look too far down the high school road, but the building blocks that are needed for success take their foundational place as freshmen and day after day are joined and exercised. Remaining "in the moment" while wrestling with what you know will be just a "blink" is what provides us energy to find the success we want for all of our students and their families across the Huntington Beach Union High School District. Wishing our school community all the very best for another impactful year in 2013-2014...still just as amazing to type that date the second time!

La Habra City School District

500 N. Walnut St., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562/690-2305 • www.lahabraschools.org

Education for Today, Tomorrow & Beyond



Dr. Susan Belenardo
Superintendent

In the La Habra City School District we continue to evaluate and refine our teaching practices to help our students reach their highest potential. We are proud to be on the cutting edge of implementing instructional practices and technology to support all students in achieving their potential. We have embraced the Common Core State Standards and are working to implement the 4 C's – Creativity, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, and Communication. This past year every student had the opportunity to participate in a Project Based Learning opportunity to support and enhance their 21st Century skills.

Our Middle School Academies have had an awesome first year of enhancing their programs with their focus on the Fine Arts, Math, Science, and Technology. While both schools maintain a rigorous curricular program including the integration of technology, Imperial Middle School enhances their core curriculum with visual and performing arts while Washington Middle School focuses on STEM.

As we continue our journey, to create 21st Century learning environments, we are expanding the integration of technology to support and enhance instruction. Thanks to Measure "O", a General Obligation bond passed in November, we began the implementation of a 1:1 technology initiative in 2012-13.

Our focus also includes constructing new definitions of the 21st Century teacher and student. Teachers need to be managers of learning supporting students to arrive at their own understanding and produce a product of their own knowledge! These are definitely exciting, changing times. In the La Habra City School District we are embracing these changes to how students learn to truly create 21st Century schools.



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Validate & Elevate: Our Road to Success



Sherine Smith
Superintendent

The Laguna Beach Unified School District used the theme Validate and Elevate for the 2012-13 school year and I am thoroughly pleased with the outstanding outcomes of our efforts. We have extended our impressive upward trajectory; once again our schools have been recognized as exemplary models for other schools because of our student-centered learning environments, high student achievement levels, depth and breadth of educational opportunities, network of student supports, and parent and community involvement.

Our two elementary schools achieved API scores over 900 and were given Honor Roll status by the California Business for Education Excellence. Thurston Middle School was recognized as a California 2013 Schools to Watch—Taking Center Stage Model Middle School. Both Thurston and Laguna Beach High School earned California Distinguished school status. Laguna Beach High School was recognized as a top tier high school by both *Newsweek* and *U.S. News & World Report*.

We continued with our successful educational “best practices” and challenged ourselves to reach for the next level. We fulfilled our goal to “Validate” by focusing on Values, Achievement, Loyalty, Intention, Dedication, Actions, Tradition, and Excellence. We met our goal to “Elevate” through a focus on Expectations, Learning, Energy, Vision, Awareness, Teamwork, and Enthusiasm. I am proud to report that in Laguna Beach Unified School District, Validate + Elevate = The Gold Standard of Education.

Are you looking for this chicken for the contest on page 14? You'll need this page number.



Los Alamitos Unified School District

10293 Bloomfield St., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 562/799-4700 • www.losa.org

Los Al Igniting Unlimited Possibilities!



Dr. Sherry Kropp
Superintendent

We have two mottos in Los Al that exemplify the excellent support from our parents and community; the outstanding skills of our teachers, staff, and administrators; and, the visionary leadership of our Board of Trustees.

Igniting Unlimited Possibilities represents our goal of ensuring students discover their passions and special talents, transform them into goals for the future, and graduate fully prepared to achieve these goals. We expect students to dream big and achieve these dreams throughout their lives.

As a unified school district, we have the joy of seeing the culminating results of our hard work through the accomplishments of our seniors. LAHS ranked in the top 1% of high schools in the country by *Newsweek*, in the top 2% in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*, and was named three years in a row to College Board's Honor Roll. In addition, we were honored by Educational Trust – West as the second highest performing District in the State for closing the achievement gap for low income students and students of color, and the *OC Register* ranked our elementary schools number one in the County. These exemplary results for all students, preschool through high school, demonstrate the enduring commitment of all stakeholders.

Our second motto is I heart Los Al. We love our community, schools, staffs, and mostly, our students. This work is a labor of love, and while we value data, our driving purpose is to ensure that our students thrive in academics, athletics, activities, and the arts in a loving, supportive, and nurturing environment. We always remember to get to the heart of the matter: 9,900 Students, 950 Staff Members, 10 Schools, 3 Communities, ONE Mission: *Igniting Unlimited Possibilities for Students!*

Leadership 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 OC Super in the subject line)

Word Search by Gunnar Coop

Entries must be received by September 15, 2013
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Accomplished | Organized |
| Caring | Powerful |
| Confident | Responsibility |
| Determination | Role Model |
| Drive | Strong Willed |
| Enthusiastic | Suitable |
| Focused | Teamwork |
| Independent | Trustworthy |
| Initiative | Understanding |
| Intelligent | |

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T	S	T	R	O	N	G	W	I	L	L	E	D	R	T
V	G	O	Y	N	R	O	L	E	M	O	D	E	L	D

Lowell Joint School District

11019 Valley Home Ave., Whittier, CA 90603 • 562/943-0211 • www.ljds.org

Educational Excellence



Dr. Patricia A. Howell
Superintendent

The Lowell Joint School District strives to be among the leading school districts throughout the state of California. Our students receive a quality education from outstanding teachers whose top priority is the success of their students. All schools have received the California Distinguished School Award. Over half of our schools have also been recognized by the California Business for Education Excellence.

The District is located in the southeastern portion of Los Angeles County and the northwestern portion of Orange County. It serves families from the communities of La Habra, La Habra Heights, and Whittier.

The District serves the educational needs of approximately 3,100 students in Kindergarten through eighth grade at five K-6 elementary schools and one junior high school. The District is committed to providing a strong academic program of basic skills having achieved API scores ranging from 864 to 915. All six schools acknowledge the importance of education, the family, and traditional American values. There is an emphasis on higher education, personal integrity, social responsibility, Character Education, and an appreciation of our national heritage.

Special programs provided at the schools include art and vocal music (K-8), instrumental music (6-8), drama (7-8), and physical education (K-8). Libraries and computer labs are available at all of the schools, and before- and after-school day care is available at four of the elementary schools. Honors classes and after-school sports are offered at the junior high school.

Parents will see that Lowell Joint schools offer the best educational opportunities.

Magnolia School District

2705 West Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/761-5533 • www.msdk12.ca.us

Continued Excellence



Dr. Ellen Curtin
Superintendent

Magnolia School District is nestled in the far western corner of Anaheim on the border of Buena Park and Stanton. We are a PreK-6 school district with approximately 6,400 students. Exciting district initiatives include a Spanish Dual Immersion Program, a third grade Swim Program for all children and a robust GATE program in every school. Seven of our schools participate in AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination), a study skills/organizational program which helps students focus on preparing to attend college. The AVID program continues in junior and senior high school.

An exciting partnership with the Anaheim Ducks resulted in their generous donation of a volunteer built street hockey rink, raised vegetable gardens and a beautiful mural.

The district has a reputation of an excellent pre-school/school readiness program followed by either a TK (transitional kindergarten) two-year program or a traditional kindergarten program. Both programs are full day.

Our dedicated team of teachers, classified specialists, administrators, and Board Members are excited to provide wonderful learning experiences for all of our children.

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Newport-Mesa Unified School District

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

The New Educational Frontier



Dr. Fred Navarro
Superintendent

We continue to witness the ongoing evolution of teaching and learning in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District that is making a tremendous difference in what students know and are able to do. Our dedicated teachers, classified staff and administrators have developed a laser-like focus on instruction and support opportunities and, because of this, ALL students are working towards individual academic success.

We are entering an era which I consider to be unprecedented in my history as an educator on a couple of fronts. We are truly entering a "new educational frontier." On the horizon is the future implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Newport-Mesa Unified School District has been diligently working to develop the Common Core for the past year and a half. The variables are the unknowns that are still to be determined by the State as to the full implementation of the Common Core. However, I am confident that the collective work we are doing will keep us ahead of the curve.

The second "new educational frontier" is the world we are preparing students to enter. As educators, we are tasked with preparing students to be educated, skilled and ready for a world that we ourselves have never lived in. The opportunities for our students to enter the global world has never been more of an unknown than it is today. Within the next few years, our students will need to have one to one technology at their fingertips in the classroom, everyday. Students will focus on the how and why, as well as the what. The educational system as it currently operates will have to change. The walls of the classroom will continue to expand beyond the bell. For N-MUSD students to be competitive, we must continue to pursue expanded learning opportunities to meet the demands. College readiness, career technology programs, online education, and the development of flagship programs are a few avenues we need to focus our energy in N-MUSD to ensure ALL students continue to achieve individual academic success.

Ocean View School District

17200 Pinehurst Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2551 • www.ovsd.org

World Class Education Experience



Gustavo Balderas
Superintendent

The Ocean View School District has proudly served the communities of Huntington Beach, Westminster, Fountain Valley, and Midway City from preschool to eighth grade for over 139 years. Since January 2013, I have served as the Superintendent of this exemplary School District. As I had a chance to visit all schools and departments, one of my immediate observations has been the outstanding instruction delivered to our students on a daily basis by our highly trained and talented teaching staff. This observation was further validated as one of our middle schools, Mesa View Middle School, was named a 2013 California Distinguished School this past May by the California Department of Education.

One of the practices initiated since January has been Community Listening Sessions. It is important that our school leaders hear from our school community—our parents, residents, and business members on such vital topics as school safety, budget, transportation, and curriculum issues such as the Common Core State Standards. The Community Listening Sessions are held during the school year at different schools throughout the District. The dates and times are posted on our website at www.ovsd.org. I encourage you to attend and be part of this ongoing dialogue. Your input and feedback are important to us!

The successes of the District's schools today, under the leadership of the Board of Trustees, have been many years in the making. These successes are a direct reflection of and compliment to the talents and support of the people, students, and communities served by the District and the professional competency of District teachers and staff members. We are committed to providing a world class education experience where all students succeed!

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Contest!!

This chicken is hidden 2 places in this publication. When you find it, email the **page numbers** to:

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
(Please put OC Super in the subject line)

Your entry must be received by September 15, 2013. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

Orange Unified School District

1401 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/628-4040 • www.orangeusd.org

Student-Centered Focus



Michael L. Christensen
Superintendent

The Orange Unified School District (OUSD) has been very proactive in dealing with the fiscal crisis that has played havoc with California school districts since the 2008-09 school year. We are extremely fortunate to have employees and trustees who understand that our mission is to continue to provide the best education possible for our students in spite of the fiscal challenges. The cooperation of our employee groups and the reasonable bargaining positions of our trustees have worked in unison to provide a learning environment that focuses on moving students forward.

The District's Academic Performance Index (API) scores continue to excel with a 16-point increase from 820 to 836 this past school year. The two-year gain of 33 points was the largest increase for a K-12 Unified School District in Orange County. Additionally, our English Learner students are doing better than ever as their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills increase. The hard work of our students, teachers and leadership staff are evidenced by, not only our increasing test scores, but also by the recognitions earned by our schools. Three secondary schools, Cerro Villa Middle School, El Rancho Charter Middle School and Villa Park High School, were recognized as California Distinguished Schools for 2012. Moreover, Fairhaven Elementary validated recognition with the National Blue Ribbon Award and Sycamore Elementary has been nominated for the same award for 2013. These schools are the first to receive this recognition in OUSD!

Orange Unified School District is a district with a student-centered focus where individuals are celebrated as they progress in their personal mission to achieve their best. That is only possible through the unwavering support of our parents, teachers, support staff and trustees with whom I am proud to serve.

Saddleback Valley Unified School District

25632 Peter hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234 • www.svUSD.k12.ca.us

Collaborate Effort=Academic Success



Dr. Clint Harwick
Superintendent

For the past three years, teachers, support staff, and administrators have sacrificed their time and finances to help SVUSD recover from the economic downturn while continuing to provide high quality educational opportunities for students. Community partners, volunteers, and generous donations have kept libraries functioning, computer labs staffed, and performing arts programs running while we worked our way back to restoring the 180-day school year and vital staff development days designed to implement the new 'Common Core' standards adopted by California.

During the time of economic crisis the efforts of many helped students flourish with rising API scores, championship athletic teams, professionally recognized performing arts, and daily successes in all grades. Students from five cities and multiple neighborhoods have been able to access Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs, participated in dual immersion programs, and used technology in all phases of learning. From smartboards and iPads to hand held devices students have a variety of access points for instruction, writing applications and assessments. Currently over 6,000 students bring their own devices to school in our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program.

The wide variety of academic and extra-curricular opportunities has led to 30 California Distinguished Schools and 13 Blue Ribbon Schools. It is great to see that the investments of support staff, dedicated administrators, and highly qualified teachers have made a difference in the lives of children.

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

1301 Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7000 • www.pylusd.org

The PYLUSD Advantage



Dr. Doug Domene
Superintendent

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District is committed to being a dynamic learning community that prepares each and every student for success now and in the future. To this end, the Board of Education and a large group of stakeholders joined together this past year to develop a new district strategic plan. This strategic plan, referred to as "The PYLUSD Advantage," provides the framework for making the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District a unique place to learn by guiding our decision-making and ensuring that our students will have the advantage of an outstanding education.

As we embody The PYLUSD Advantage, we align our organization around specific core values that support our employees and students as they work together to realize the PYLUSD vision and mission. These Core Values are what we stand for and represent and include the following:

- Excellence—We relentlessly pursue excellence in all academic and organizational endeavors.
- Collaboration—We work together with all members of our school community to ensure student success.
- Integrity—We foster relationships that promote respect, service and honesty to ensure the well-being of all students.
- Innovation—We embrace a culture that celebrates ingenuity and inspires intellectual exploration.

The PYLUSD Advantage provides clarity of direction and keeps our focus on what is important for our students, our staff, and our community partners. To learn more about The PYLUSD Advantage, please visit our website at www.pylusd.org.

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~Henry Brooks Adams



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Santa Ana Unified School District

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Celebrating a District of Success



Dr. Thelma Melendez de Santa Ana
Superintendent

We have much to be proud of in the Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) this year. We continue to be a leader in the implementation of the Common Core State Standards. This spring, we were featured in a statewide newsletter on Common Core where we were recognized for identifying “key components to explicitly and purposefully address the needs of all English Learners in a coherent and consistent manner.” We were also recognized by the State School Attendance Review Board for proactive and innovative strategies to reduce student absenteeism and named a Distinguished Model for 2012-13.

Many of our schools were also recognized for their excellence this year. Middle College High School was named a California Distinguished School for demonstrating a strong commitment and innovative approach to improving student academic achievement. Middle College was also named a Title I Academic Achievement School along with Muir Fundamental Elementary School for sustained progress in academic improvement among low-income students. This was Muir’s sixth consecutive year receiving this outstanding honor. Our Saddleback Boys Varsity Soccer Team clinched the CIF Division 5 Title, and our Valley High School Inc. Academy Culinary Arts students won the national Cooking Up Change competition in Washington, D.C. for the second consecutive year.

In the Santa Ana Unified School District, we remain focused on our overarching goal of providing a world-class education that ensures all of our students are prepared for college and career and prepared to assume their roles in the global citizenry.

With the vision and direction of the SAUSD Board of Education, our district continues to have a rich tradition of excellence as one of America’s leading urban school districts.

Savanna School District

1330 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3800 • www.savsd.k12.ca.us

Great Expectations



Dr. Sue Johnson
Superintendent

What a special place Savanna School District is! Savanna School District, encompassing parts of the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress and Stanton, is an elementary school district with approximately 2400 students. These students attend one of our four schools: Cerritos, Hansen, Holder and Twila Reid Schools.

Our philosophy of “Great Expectations...The Best Is Yet To Come” can be evidenced through our positive learning environment and strong academic program. Great Expectations can be evidenced in our ‘shift’ to integrating the Common Core State Standards across the curriculum in 2013-14. Our Great

Expectations are that all students can and will learn as we strive to ensure that all students will be college and career ready when they leave our schools; we know that “The Best Is Yet To Come” as teachers shift their instructional practices to integrate hands-on learning based on clear, consistent, rigorous, and relevant lessons that will help to provide students with a strong foundation on which to build. Infusing technology into all lessons, across the curriculum is an essential component; teaching students how to use the available technologies for research as well as for developing projects to demonstrate their learning is equally essential.

The entire Savanna School District staff and Board of Trustees welcomes you to the 2013-14 school year and look forward to a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate “The Best Is Yet To Come” as we prepare our students to be successful, contributing members of the community. Savanna School District truly is a special place to be!

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Tustin Unified School District

300 South C St., Tustin, CA 92780 • 714/730-7339 • www.tustin.k12.ca.us

TUSD Bonds for a Successful Year



Dr. Gregory A. Franklin
Superintendent

The Tustin Unified School District had an extraordinarily successful 2012-13 school year! Significant progress was made in each of the District goal areas through the corporate efforts of the school board, management team, teachers and staff with incredible parent and community support. As a result, student achievement is up, facility projects are on schedule and on budget, and the community approved the \$135 million Measure S bond initiative that addresses student technology needs for years to come. Tustin Unified students are being well served, and the District is poised to continue to grow in every success indicator.

The 2012-13 highlights include:

- More students are achieving at higher levels than ever before. Scores are up on California Standards Tests and the California High School Exit Exam, more students are passing Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams, and more students are meeting the A-G college admission requirements.
- Three schools were selected as California Distinguished Schools – Orchard Hills School, and Pioneer and Utt middle schools.
- Beckman, Foothill and Tustin high schools were named to *U.S. News & World Report's* list of the top high schools in the nation. Beckman and Foothill were also included on Newsweek's and Washington Post's lists of the best high schools.
- The passage of Measure S is accelerating the District's ability to prepare students for successful adult lives. The integration of technology into classroom instruction, the use of the Internet and digital curriculum, the use of powerful analysis and communication tools, and 24-hour access to technology will change the trajectory of many students' lives as they leave school prepared to compete in a global and technology-based economy. It's a great time to go to school and work in the Tustin Unified School District.

Westminster School District

14121 Cedarwood Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7311 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us

Looking Forward with Hope & Optimism



Richard Tauer
Superintendent

As we bring the 2012-13 school year to a close, I would like to express my admiration for our staff members for sticking together through some very difficult times and staying focused on the best interests of our students. We faced unprecedented fiscal challenges over the last few years but it looks like we are finally emerging from the storm. The Governor seems to be making public education a budget priority and our future is definitely looking brighter. In fact, looking forward, I am filled with hope and optimism!

The Westminster School District has much to be proud of and just a few highlights of the school year include:

- Our API score increased an impressive 17 points to 838. We are well over the statewide goal of 800 and we are 50 points above the statewide average of 788!
- Johnson, Stacey and Warner are nearing the end stages of their magnificent Measure O transformations which will be unveiled in the fall.
- Clegg and Warner were selected to become the District's first STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) Magnet schools and all of our schools are moving toward providing STEAM programs.
- Randy Upmeyer from Food Services was named an Orange County Classified School Employee of the Year and Johnson teacher Colleen Dudas was a semi-finalist for Orange County Teacher of the Year.

We are nearing the end of our 3-year board goals which focused on achievement, resources and facilities and next year we will be embarking on some new and exciting goals. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you all in the fall!

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The Central Orange County CTE Partnership

2323 N. Broadway, Suite 301, Santa Ana, CA 92706 • 714/966-3528 • www.ocde.us/ctep

New CTE Model Curriculum Standards



Diana S. Schneider
Sr. Director

On January 16, 2013, the California Board of Education adopted California's new Model Curriculum Standards for Career Technical Education (CTE). These new standards were carefully designed to prepare students for success in both college and careers.

Research on the effectiveness of "real-world" projects in teaching academic and technical skills is not difficult to find. Students often become more motivated when they realize there is a need for academic knowledge in careers such as Sports Therapy, Engineering, Animation and International Business.

Thanks to teachers who are already implementing the new CTE standards, students across California are building energy-efficient racecars, designing computer games, creating culinary delights, teaching preschool, and using 3D printers to produce prototypes.

Examples of student achievement abound. In Santa Ana USD, the Pre-Engineering class won First Place at the California State Fair for their 3D Printed RC Rocket Car, and the Culinary Arts Academy again came in first at the National "Cooking Up Change" Competition. A Criminal Justice student from Orange USD was recognized for solving an arson crime committed in Virginia, and at the UCI Energy Invitational, Garden Grove USD's team beat 10 other high school and college teams when their fuel-efficient vehicle went the furthest on one dollar's worth of energy.

We have seen that many students become more engaged when they are offered a variety of challenging learning experiences. To be successful in the 21st century, students must be able to apply their academic and technical skills with equal ease. If practice makes perfect, then putting the new CTE Model Curriculum Standards to work is a great way to begin.

Coastline ROP

1001 Presidio Square, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/979-1955 • www.coastlinerop.net

Students Find Meaning & Motivation



Darlene LeFort
Superintendent

Each new year brings both challenge and opportunity, and this year was certainly no exception. Despite the uncertain economic conditions and increasing pressures on public education, Coastline ROP remained steadfast in its determination to provide a dynamic career technical education program that supports and showcases student success.

This year, Coastline ROP has focused on expanding its STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programs. Relationships with our partner high schools and local community colleges were strengthened, and students benefited from new relationships with university and industry partners including

UCI, Disney and Dreamworks. In collaboration with our high schools, we created and offered new engineering and computer programming classes that provide students with competitive engineering and design skills, with terrific outcomes: ROP students garnered prizes at regional engineering competitions for designing energy efficient vehicles, outscoring even some college teams! Additionally, the STEM elements of our digital media arts curricula were also enhanced, generating STEAM! ROP students won accolades and awards for creative and technical work in digital photography, video production and graphic design at a variety of local and regional shows and competitions.

CTE remains an essential component of a robust high school program, preparing students to purposefully choose a pathway from among the multitude of post-secondary options available to them. For more than 40 years, Coastline ROP has played a critical role in secondary education, helping students find meaning and motivation in their coursework, and preparing them to thrive in a rapidly changing, technology-rich workplace. Together with our industry and district partners, Coastline ROP will continue to provide students with the 21st century skills they need to make a successful transition to college and careers!

Capistrano-Laguna Beach ROP

31522 El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675 • 949/496-3118 • www.capolagrop.org

Where Education Means Business



Kimberly Thomason
Superintendent

In order for our students to be prepared for future success, we actively partner with business and industry members. Our advisory committees consist of local business and industry leaders with the main purpose to evaluate and provide annual input on our course curriculum, student competencies and expected schoolwide learning results. In addition to business involvement in course development and student learner outcomes, they serve as mentors to our students and provide work-based internships.

From our Small Business Management/Entrepreneurship course, students participate in a mock version of the hit television show *Shark Tank*. Students work in teams to create a product or service that is presented to a panel of local business members. Each team uses a variety of strategies such as prototypes, charts, graphs, and statistics to present their product with the hope of "securing" the funds necessary to bring their idea to fruition. At the end of each team presentation, the business panel provides constructive feedback and offers suggestions to the students.

This year over 370 businesses provided internships to our students and through this experience, our students see relevance to the real world. We have a vast number of rich success stories from these partnerships, and one of those success stories is Charles Georgos who took our Dental Assistant program as a high school student. Charles interned at a local dental office and, after completing his internship, went on to become a Registered Dental Assistant. He continued his education by attending a dental laboratory school, and for the past five years, he has owned and operated his dental lab in Mission Viejo.

Our business partners not only contribute greatly to the success of our students by providing relevance to the students' coursework, serving as role models and creating opportunities for achievement in the workplace; they also are developing the local workforce needed within our communities.

North Orange County ROP

385 North Muller Street, Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/502/5858 • www.nocrop.us

Students Succeed Nationally



Dr. Michael Worley
Superintendent

North Orange County ROP students are demonstrating their superior skills as they compete in career technical contests this year.

Two groups of students who will compete nationally in late June are the ROP/Los Alamitos High School InvenTeam, who won a grant from MIT. They created an ozone water purification system capable of serving fifty people daily. ROP medical careers and LVN students won 15 gold, 14 silver, and 6 bronze medals at the California state Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Leadership Conference in Sacramento. Rebekah Catron, senior in the ROP Medical Sciences Academy at Esperanza High, was named president of California HOSA.

ROP Auto Technician students took first place nationally at the annual Hotrodders of Tomorrow Engine Challenge. ROP Auto Technician students won first, second, third and fifth places in the Orange County Automobile Dealership Association troubleshooting contest and the Loara team placed seventh nationally.

Western High School's ROP Dance team placed first, second, and third, in Sharp International's regional dance competition. ROP Building Industry Technology students at Magnolia, Brea Olinda, and Valencia High Schools took first, second and third places in the HBC annual Orange County Design/Build contest.

And these are just a few of the successes.

Classes at North Orange County ROP help lay the groundwork for career and college success. Students can earn advanced placement and credits for many ROP classes at area colleges, and UC elective a-g credits in several classes.

To see photos of successful students and learn more about North Orange County ROP, visit nocrop.us or [facebook.com/roponorthoc](https://www.facebook.com/roponorthoc).

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