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2010 – 2011

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Kay Coop

Founder / Publisher



This is our fourth edition highlighting each of the Orange County public school Superintendents K-12.

The quality of our communities are directly related to the quality of our public schools. On the next page Orange County Department of Education Superintendent William M. Habermehl provides specific Countywide information.

There is much to know about each district and the brief articles herein are only an introduction. Please visit the individual district websites for indepth information. This edition will be posted on our website for one year. www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

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

Advertising Sales

562/493-3193 • Fax: 562/430-8063

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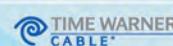
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Superintendents Urge Local Control of Education Funding



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent

The quality of education that our younger generation receives has the power to affect the economic future and community well-being of Orange County and California.

Orange County has long been known for its outstanding student achievement. However, given the state's economic realities our students and educators are being faced with increased class sizes; elimination of key education programs, including summer school, arts, and music; additional layoffs

of teachers, administrators, librarians, custodians, and counselors; decreased salaries; furlough days; and a shortened school year.

Despite these difficulties, educators continue to promote student success. Orange County students consistently outperform, outscore, and outrank the state average; five southern California regions; and most other California counties on standardized tests, drop-out data, college enrollment, and other measures of achievement. Our schools continue to meet the challenge of holding all students to an academic content standard that is among the most rigorous in the nation.

In order for California to maintain its competitive edge during difficult financial times and in the future, Orange County superintendents have united to urge lawmakers to give school districts local control over budgeting and spending to lessen the impact of the state's ongoing fiscal crisis.

The 29 superintendents, representing half a million students and 55,000 employees, have outlined a series of reform measures designed to permanently allow school boards and communities to determine spending priorities based on their most pressing local needs. The superintendents' reform measures focus on three key areas.

First, legislation is needed to gain permanent local control over restricted categorical spending. This will allow local school boards and local communities to determine spending priorities based on their most pressing needs with effectiveness and efficiency.

Second, the superintendents are advocating for an overhaul of state mandates. Currently, districts are responsible for fulfilling dozens of state-ordered mandates. The California Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) determined that inefficient state-ordered programs cost \$400 million annually and burden the state with billions of dollars in unpaid reimbursements to schools.

The third area of focus is seeking federal legislation to achieve a five-year pay down of special education unfunded mandates, or relief from some of the mandates if the pay down plan does not succeed. Last year alone, Orange County's share of unfunded special education mandates totaled \$321 million, forcing money to be shifted from general purpose funds to make up the difference.

There is no denying that the state finds itself in an extremely difficult situation regarding the budget. The reform measures may be ambitious, but there has never been a more urgent need for reform. I strongly urge you to voice your support for our effort. Please take the time to contact your local elected officials and share these ideas with them. It is important for our stakeholders to speak out about these viable options that we believe will offer tangible, systemic economic relief.

I am confident that Orange County educators, administrators, and school board members will continue to strive for excellence in our schools. It is imperative that families and community members understand the challenges that our schools face and be willing to seek creative solutions to ensure rigorous and relevant educational opportunities for our students. Our children deserve no less than a world class education where every student succeeds.

Your Reading Electives Roll Call by District

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For information about the following districts please visit their websites.

Garden Grove Unified School District

10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840
714/663-6111 www.ggusd.k12.ca.us

Saddleback Valley Unified School District

25631 Peter Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691
949/586-1234 www.svusd.k12.ca.us

Anaheim City School District

1001 S. East St., Anaheim, CA 92805
714/517-7500 www.acsd.k12.ca.us

Elementary Excellence=Success



Jose Banda
Superintendent

Anaheim City School District is a diverse family of 24 schools, serving 19,200 K-6 students in a dynamic, standards-based learning community. As one of the largest elementary school districts in California, we offer a broad range of programs and learning opportunities, enhanced by strong partnerships with families and the community.

Over the past five years, student test scores have increased 21% in language arts and 28% in math. In addition, District API scores have increased by over 150 points since 1999, more than double the state's annual growth target. Our schools have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools and Title I Academic Achievement Award winners. Innovative approaches in

education are resulting in gains in English, science and math, and students are learning in safe, upgraded facilities due to the careful use of school construction funds.

Measure BB, a general obligation bond measure passed in 2002, has been a tremendous success. It enabled the District to relieve classroom overcrowding by adding 2500 seats district-wide through the construction of two new elementary schools. Measure BB also paid for the modernization and expansion of ten existing schools including the replacement of outdated portable classrooms.

Finally, we are proud of our talented teaching staff, with over 50 percent holding a master's degree or higher and several National Board Certified teachers. We have had several semi-finalists and finalists for the Orange County Department of Education Teacher of the Year program as well as school administrators winning regional and state awards.

Anaheim City School District is proud of its long standing reputation as a great place to learn. Many factors contribute to the District's success, including talented teachers, dedicated support staff, innovative leaders, challenging curriculum, high expectations, and outstanding community support.

Anaheim Union High School District

501 Crescent Way, Anaheim, CA 92803
714/999-3511 www.auhsd.k12.ca.us

Employees Step Up in Budget Crisis



Dr. Joseph Farley
Superintendent*

As anyone associated with the Anaheim Union High School District will attest, it is an extraordinary school district because of its students, parents, staff, and communities. Support from those groups has helped the district contend with the economic crisis that all schools districts have faced in recent years.

The AUHSD projects an income drop of \$37.1 million for the 2010-2011 school year, following similar losses over the previous two school terms. The reductions have had significant impact on staffing, programs, and services in the schools. It has saddened everyone in the AUHSD community to lose excellent teachers, counselors, support personnel, and valued programs because of the budget reductions.

As hard as it may seem to believe, however, there is a silver lining to the district's unfortunate budget woes, which reflects the support for the district from its students, parents, and staff. Employee associations representing teachers, counselors, most classified employees, and management stepped up to help balance the district's \$315 million budget.

The district's budgeting process was successful because staff worked through the collective bargaining processes to help the district identify short-term budget solutions that were palatable to most staff members. The above-referenced employee groups approved a shorter school year, and less staff preparation time, among other budget saving measures.

None of this is to say that we are happy with our current funding levels. Like educators everywhere, the staff of the Anaheim Union High School District looks forward to the reinstatement of the excellent programs and staff members that were released in recent years.

* Note: After five years in the top spot in Anaheim Union High School District, Dr. Farley has been appointed as superintendent of the Capistrano Unified School District.

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**Dr. Arthur J.
"Skip" Roland**
Superintendent

With the many challenges facing all schools at this time, just trying to “stay alive” can be viewed by some as a worthwhile goal... not so in Brea Olinda. Faced with budget shortfalls never seen before in California, BOUSD remains focused on a core of professional commitment to excellence combined with innovative programs that have made Brea Olinda a district of distinction for many years. All schools in BOUSD have been recognized by the *OC Register* as medal winning schools, the best in Orange County. Arovista Elementary was recognized this year as a California Distinguished School and our Districtwide API grew 14 points to 854.

Our commitment to providing the highest quality learning experiences for our students remains strong. Our students' success stories begin in elementary school and culminate with over 90% of our high school graduating class attending the college of their choice next year! The learning experiences that we provide allowed this group of seniors to earn almost \$4.2 million in scholarships and awards!

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, athletics and career pathways 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
714/716-4241 www.bpsd.k12.ca.us

Student Success...Watch Us Grow!



Greg Magnuson
Superintendent

Each day presents an opportunity for success for the students and staff at the Buena Park School District. Educating students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, BPSD teachers and support staff seek to develop the character and academic potential of each student, empower them to achieve at the highest levels, and be fully prepared for high school and beyond. In 2009-10 BPSD student academic achievement, and District-wide growth, were recognized in several ways to reveal a very successful year.

As the 2010-11 year starts, BPSD's 5,350 students may attend one of our seven schools. Schools that in 2009-10 received the highest of academic recognitions including: a United States Blue Ribbon School nomination, two California Distinguished School awards, three Title I High Achieving school awards, the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness District Champion for Fitness Award, one of only two statewide California School Boards Association Golden Bell Awards for exemplary English Language Arts programs, and two California Business for Education Excellence "Honor Roll" School awards. As student proficiency levels in English and Math have more than doubled, BPSD schools' Academic Performance s Index (API) is pushing to and through the 800 and 900 marks. We are proud that many have taken notice.

These 2009-10 awards underscore the commitment and hard work of our staff and students, as well as the strength of BPSD's academic programs. Yes, 2009-10 was a successful year for Buena Park School District students. 2010-11 looks to be even better!

We welcome you to follow our success and watch our students grow. Visit one of our seven campuses, or visit our website at www.bpsd.k12.ca.us.

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Capistrano Unified School District

33122 Valle Road, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
949/234-9200 www.capousd.org

New Superintendent Sets Course



Dr. Joseph Farley
Superintendent

Known as a highly skilled and respected instructional leader who can tackle complex challenges while maintaining positive relationships, Dr. Joe Farley has been appointed as CUSD's incoming Superintendent who will be entrusted with setting a positive course for the future. "We found a leader who will bring the focus back to academic achievement and guide it even beyond the next level," admitted CUSD Board of Education President, Anna Bryson.

Dr. Farley is honored to be selected to lead CUSD, a district celebrated for its strong academic standing, serving as the highest achieving large school district in the state of California. Working together with its parent and community groups, focused instructional staff, including talented teachers and administrators, and the district's committed support staff, the CUSD Board of Trustees recently approved a 3-year strategic plan which highlights goals in the areas of Community Relations, Safe and Health Schools, Academic Achievement and Enrichment, Character Development, and Effective Operations. Dr. Farley looks forward to working with CUSD stakeholders to realize the goals set forth in this plan, setting the district on a positive course for the future.

Like many districts throughout the state, CUSD persevered through a challenging year which faced a budget shortfall of over \$35 million in 2009-2010 and was forced to identify over \$36 million in budget cuts moving into the 2010-2011 school year. In as much as possible, student programs remained the focus of preservation.

Centralia School District

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

It Does Take a Village to Educate a Child



Dr. Diane Scheerhorn
Superintendent

Diminished income through loss of State revenue and continued declining enrollment can have a devastating impact on programs and student learning, however, the teamwork, dedication and professionalism of our teachers, classified staff, administrators and parents are keeping the momentum of educational excellence for all our students who continue to score above the state average. Two schools were honored as State "Distinguished Schools" with one receiving a "Title I Academic Achievement Award."

Mrs. Shanin Ziemer of Fourth District PTA brought *Reflections* and *Meet the Masters* programs back to our schools with financial support from the Centralia Education Foundation and P.T.A./PTSO organizations at each school. "When arts are included, children learn to think creatively, score better on tests, and are more enthusiastic about school," said Mrs. Ziemer. Meet the Masters provides children an opportunity to learn about the lives and works of master artists through slides, prints, props, games, dress ups, voice and music.

Under the direction of Mr. Sid Viles, a 20-year instructor in our district, students come from all schools to learn to play wind instruments in our after-school instrumental music program. Over 99% of these students continue with instrumental music in middle school.

Centralia School District provides our students with an exceptional California Standards- Based Education, preschool and after-school programs, all-day kindergarten, preppie-K, integrated special needs programs, special education, GATE, and Technology. With parent nights, second language opportunities for parents and students, and meaningful, fun educational experiences, our children are stars. They shine academically, artfully, and are growing physically and emotionally. The Centralia village is keeping an eye on our future, our children.

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Cypress School District

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Distinguished Schools Status



Sheri Loewenstein
Superintendent

With the release of the 2010 California Distinguished Schools awards for the 2010/11 school year, all of the six Cypress District schools will be recognized with this honor. Joining Landell School, which was recognized in 2006 are **Arnold School, King School, Luther School, Morris School, and Vessels School.**

In order to be recognized by the state, each school had to meet a variety of eligibility criteria, with an emphasis on test scores and criteria based on No Child Left Behind legislation. Winning schools must have a growth score of at least 720 on the California Academic Performance Index and show that they are closing the achievement gap.

All five schools listed meet this criterion and submitted an application, including a description by each school of two educational practices successfully implemented. Following a visit from a validation team to confirm full implementation of the practices, each was notified that they had been awarded the honor for 2010. Congratulations to Cypress School District schools. The Cypress School District is proud to offer programs at all schools that are recognized by the State Department of Education to be outstanding.

Vessels School Modernization Completed!

The modernization of Vessels School is complete, and the work was finished on schedule. The school is beautiful and is ready for staff and students to return in August 2010. There will be a grand re-opening scheduled for the community in the fall. The modernization of King School will begin in September 2010, for completion by the end of the 2010/11 school year. We appreciate the community support for Measure M.

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Fountain Valley School District

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

A Gracious Thanks



Dr. Marc Ecker
Superintendent

The "May Revision" to the state budget certainly has not brought any relief to the continued fiscal woes that are being felt by school districts throughout California. The budget development process continues to include massive cuts to critical instructional programs and in the case of Fountain Valley, little is left to reduce or eliminate outside of salary and benefits. In this light, the district sought salary concessions from all of its employees. Management and confidential employees were asked to give up the equivalent of five days of pay for 2010-11 and our bargaining units negotiated the same concession with the district. Additionally, it is expected that out of pocket increases for health care premiums will also be absorbed by our employees.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the parent and student community, I want to extend my deep and sincere appreciation to all of our employees for their sacrifice. In an effort to keep our district fiscally sound and position us to take advantage of a recovering economy, the teachers and our classified and administrative support staff chose to stand tall for the students we serve. We see too often today bitter squabbles over personal interest and individual gain. We read sadly about efforts to undermine solutions for political purposes. Yet in Fountain Valley, I can proudly point to each and every employee and thank them for joining together to preserve to the extent possible the outstanding instructional services we offer to our constituents. We are all sincerely grateful to our staff members who have put those we serve above their own needs. Only through their sacrifice and collaborative efforts can we point to a brighter and healthier future for the Fountain Valley School District.

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Positive Tone and Vision



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, three National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, California Model Continuation High School, all six comprehensive schools ranked in the top 6% nationwide based upon AP/IB programs in 2010, national Science Olympiad champions eight times, best Speech and Debate program in the nation in 2008, best Agriculture program in the Western United States in 2009, and all five JROTC programs were recognized as Distinguished Units in 2009.

It's all about the students and meeting their needs through ethical relationships among all District members. In the 2009 survey, 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.

Fullerton School District

1401 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833
714/447-7400 www.fsd.k12.ca.us

Great Schools—Successful Kids



Dr. Mitch Hovey
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 along 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 learned in preparation for moving all students to proficiency and achieving success in today's society.

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.

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Huntington Beach City School District

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714/964-8888 www.hbcasd.k12.ca.us

Committed to High Expectations



Kathy Kessler
Superintendent

Despite the required budget reductions, the staff of the Huntington Beach City School District remains committed to a high quality program of learning for all students. Our schools provide strong programs to enable students to achieve proficiency and above in all areas of literacy, mathematics and all areas of core curriculum. The district's high expectations are reflected in high Academic Performance Index data and student performance levels. We know that experiences in art and music support this academic growth. A wide range of instrumental and vocal music programs are provided at elementary and middle schools. Students experience many art activities throughout the year culminating in a Student Art Fair at the Huntington Beach Art Center. Participation in the Orange County Arts Advantage program provides student field trips as well as teacher training in performing and visual arts.

Education in HBCSD starts very early. Students get a great start through our Early Learner programs. Three and four-year-olds may attend the fee-based preschool where students are provided balanced developmental and academic experiences and instruction based on state preschool standards in an appropriate setting. Parent may choose to send their kindergarten age children to "Preppy K" where they are provided a developmental program to prepare them for regular kindergarten the following year. Students who turn five years old after December 2nd and before the start of the program may enroll in "Extended Kindergarten" which begins second semester. These students learn social skills and study skills to prepare them for success in kindergarten in September.

Huntington Beach City District enjoys the rich support and participation of our strong community who understands and values the importance of learning.

Huntington Beach Union High School District

5832 Bolsa Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92649
714/903-7000 www.hbuhd.org

Programs Keeping Students in School



Dr. Van W. Riley
Superintendent

I am proud to recognize the heart-felt diligence of many of our staff members that kept kids in school this year. Even with a tight-ened budget that lessened resources, we were able to sustain existing programs and positively tackle the H1N1 pandemic with our own flu vaccination clinics. I want to recognize our six school nurses, their health clerks and school administrative staff for collaboratively providing H1N1 vaccination clinics at each of our high schools last winter. I believe that with the thousands of vaccinations given, many of our students were able to remain flu-free to stay in school.

Next, I want to acknowledge the Orange County Probation Department, local law enforcement, Deputy District Attorney Patti Sanchez, and the Truancy Court Judge Donna Crandall. In collaboration with our SARB administrators and attendance clerks, these agencies worked rigorously to help families change their poor attendance habits. I am pleased that the Truancy Response Program is so effective that the percentage of students that attend class daily has risen every year since its inception in 2004. Our district schools have consistently maintained 96% student attendance rates this year.

Lastly, with justifiable state legislation that assists students considered homeless and for those placed in foster care, district support staff are conscientious and thoughtful in their efforts to comply with all laws that serve students in these situations. Our McKinney-Vento school staff ensure that students are immediately enrolled or stay enrolled in their home school. Students living in foster care homes are served by schools issuing partial credits. While our families have complicated needs, all staff is committed to help students receive the best possible education. It is my pleasure to lead such a professional staff that encourage all our students to stay in our schools.

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Optimal Learning Environment



Dr. Gwen Gross
Superintendent

We've talked a lot lately about the resources our schools don't have – specifically, the revenue lost as a result of this unprecedented state budget crisis.

Yet, as we gear up for another year, I'd like to take a moment to focus on what our schools do have.

Let's start with our staff, which has done a remarkable job with the resources available to provide an optimal learning environment for students. Even as last year's budget conversations progressed into very sobering decisions resulting in program cuts and furlough days, we saw a tremendous demonstration of collaboration, purpose of mission and shared sacrifice across all levels of our organization.

Meanwhile, our community stepped up in a big way, contributing fresh ideas, as well as countless hours of volunteer time and much-needed funding. The Irvine Public Schools Foundation was a phenomenal partner again in 2009-10, along with our PTAs, the Irvine Company and the City of Irvine.

Finally, our students continue to inspire, exhibiting dedication and leadership traits well beyond their years. Though test scores do not define our district, it is worth noting that IUSD students continued to move the needle on standards tests, posting a districtwide score of 910 on the state's latest Academic Performance Index.

Yes, our challenges have been great, and we expect more budgetary hurdles in the months ahead. But there is much to celebrate in public education in 2010, and we have so much to be grateful for in Irvine.

La Habra City School District

500 N. Walnut St., La Habra, CA 90631
562/690-2305 www.lhcsd.k12.ca.us

Where Children Count



Dr. Susan Belenardo
Superintendent

This has been a very exciting and challenging year for the La Habra City School District. As other districts in California, we are faced with providing a rigorous educational program to meet the needs of all students with significantly less revenue from the State. Fortunately for the students and families in the La Habra City School District, we have an outstanding staff that maintains their focus on student achievement during these challenging times.

Among our many exciting accomplishments in 2009-10, Las Positas School was named a California Distinguished School in recognition of their efforts in student achievement and narrowing the achievement gap. Arbolita School received the Title I Academic

Achievement Award in recognition of their academic growth for all students. Not to be outdone, our School Readiness Program's Annual Literacy Fair was the recipient of the California School Board Association's prestigious Golden Bell Award.

The La Habra City School District prides itself on providing support to our students, families, and staff. Through RtI – Response to Intervention – students are provided scaffolded support in both academics and behavior to remove barriers and achieve their academic potential. Families are provided support through the many parent involvement activities available at all schools. Our staff has access to high quality professional development which has been enhanced this year with the introduction of Academic Coaches to support the implementation of our District initiatives.

In these challenging budget times, we must all work together to provide our students with the educational program they deserve. The La Habra City School District continues to live up to its primary belief in being a district, "Where Children Count."

Laguna Beach Unified School District

550 Blumont St., Laguna Beach, CA 92651
949/497-7700 www.lbusd.org

The Winning Formula for Success



Sherine Smith
Superintendent

I began serving LBUSD as the new superintendent on July 1.

When I was researching the district, I found it appealing for many reasons. It is a district with a clear, unwavering focus on student learning. It is recognized for the quality of leadership on the school board and in the schools. It is a district that sets high goals and works diligently to accomplish those goals. It is a district that has strong community support. An educational organization can only be successful if there is a clear vision and people willing to do the hard work required to meet goals. Dr. Fraisse has set a high bar and accomplished many great things that I will have the opportunity to build upon. Laguna Beach is a community that is proud of LBUSD and I am proud and honored to join it.

Dr. Robert Fraisse, Retiring Superintendent

The 2010- 2011 school year promises great things for the students and families of Laguna Beach Unified School District. One of the ongoing components of the school program that our students will experience includes access to a wide and rich curriculum inclusive of the arts. Beginning in the early grades and transcending through the high school years, each level of the educational program is focused upon a two-fold emphasis of academic rigor and extra and co-curricular opportunities. Additionally, we feel fortunate and proud to be able to maintain some of the lowest class size ratios in the state at the elementary, middle and high school levels. The winning formula of great kids and families, taught by talented and caring teachers, bolstered by small class sizes and great curricular breadth leads us to foreshadow a great educational experience on the horizon for the upcoming school year.



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Los Alamitos Unified School District

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Excellence Never Rests!



Dr. Gregory A. Franklin
Superintendent

The students and staff of Los Alamitos Unified had an incredibly successful year. Even as the State's fiscal crisis continued to deepen, employees, Board members, and parents pulled together to reduce the effect on students. As a result, students continued to thrive.

The employee associations and Board members reached agreements last spring to reduce the number of work days for all employees in order to maintain class sizes and programs for students. Employees gave up \$2 million in salary, the District matched it with \$2 million in reserves, and parents continued to contribute in many significant ways. This is the proven method of success in Los Al – employees, parents and the community pulling together in order to provide the high quality educational experiences that has become synonymous with Los Al schools.

This same recipe for success is at work in each of the District's schools. The sense of community and shared commitment is palpable, and it produces great results, including five schools with API's over 900, a District API of 893, nationally recognized choirs and bands, championship high school teams, and a myriad of engaging programs and activities.

Another example of the community coming together was the completion of the McGaugh modernization project just 16 short months after the passage of Measure K. McAuliffe and Los Alamitos Elementary have broken ground this summer and the other seven schools will follow close behind. We appreciate our voters and tax payers for their support of schools and children.

Los Alamitos Unified – Excellence Never Rests!

Magnolia School District

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

We Make a Difference...for Children



Dr. Ellen Curtin
Superintendent

Magnolia School District, located in West Anaheim, has a proud heritage of providing outstanding education in a family oriented setting. Our motto, "We Make A Difference for Children!" guides our efforts to ensure that children succeed today, and for the future. Our dedicated team of teachers, classified specialists, administrators, and Board Members are excited to provide wonderful learning experiences for all of our children.

We are very proud this year to have had two of our schools— Lord Baden-Powell School and Dr. Albert Schweitzer School, recognized as Title I Achieving Schools and Dr. Albert Schweitzer School was also honored as a 2010 California Distinguished School.

District Goal

A district goal of providing school readiness programs for every child before entering kindergarten is realizing incredible success. We are part of a model program for Orange County and the state to demonstrate how that can be achieved. Our full-day kindergarten program has been in place for six years, and when coupled with the school readiness efforts, provides students with an incredible start to their schooling experience.

In addition to our modernized classrooms, the use of computers and technologies to support student learning is evident in all classrooms. Check out Magnolia School District at www.msdk12.ca.us.

Lowell Joint School District

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

A Tradition of Excellence



Dr. Patricia A. Howell
Superintendent

The Lowell Joint School 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. An independent study program is provided for families wishing to home school their children. The District is committed to providing a strong academic program of basic skills having achieved API scores in the 800's. 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, All-day Kindergarten at two schools, and before- and after-school day care is available at four of the elementary schools. Honors classes, AVID, and after-school sports are offered at the junior high school.

All five elementary schools received the 2010 California Distinguished School Award this year. Parents will see that Lowell Joint schools offer the best educational opportunities.

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Newport-Mesa Unified School District

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714/424-5000 www.nmusd.us

Supporting Instructional Programs



Dr. Jeffrey C. Hubbard
Superintendent

Newport-Mesa Unified School District will begin the 2010/11 school year with a continued focus on supporting the integrity of our instructional programs to ensure student learning.

Despite the unprecedented fiscal crisis in the state of California, N-MUSD students and staff continue to excel and learning is the focus as evidenced by the continuing rising test scores and award winning schools. Newport-Mesa's strength and resiliency comes from the dedicated and exceptional staff, students and families who continue to support the schools and community.

Of notable mention, three of N-MUSD's high schools: Costa Mesa, Corona del Mar and Newport Harbor ranked in the top 6% of US high schools according to Newsweek's 2010 list. Also released this spring in a recent study, N-MUSD tops the list of schools with the highest graduation rates.

For the 2010/11 school year, N-MUSD will launch implementation of the Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) Competitive Grant. N-MUSD received \$429,600 in funding for 2009/10, 2010/11, and also received the highest grant rating. This funding opportunity will enable N-MUSD to significantly increase the technology resources and bridge the digital divide for students attending Costa Mesa Middle School, Davis, Killybrooke, Paularino, Sonora and College Park elementary schools.

There is much to celebrate in public education in 2010, and we have so much to be grateful for in Newport-Mesa!

We are committed to working together and maintaining our relationships with all stakeholders to meet and endure the challenges ahead. Because at the end of the day... it's about the kids and they are counting on us.

Ocean View School District

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

Focused on Student Achievement



Dr. Alan G. Rasmussen
Superintendent

Still unresolved, California's budget crisis continues to effect school funding. As schools and districts up and down the state are struggling for fiscal solvency, I commend the staff of Ocean View School District for their unwavering focus on student achievement despite these challenging times. Research shows the most significant impact on a child's education is his or her teacher. Even in the face of an uncertain future, our schools remain focused on the job of providing the highest quality education for the children of our community.

During the 2009-2010 school year, our teachers participated in professional development opportunities in support of powerful teaching and learning. Through District involvement in various state and federal grant programs, including Enhancing Education Through Technology, California Mathematics and Science Partnership, and Effective Reading Intervention Academy, Ocean View teachers have further honed their skills in order to meet our students' diverse needs and prepare them to successfully contribute to a 21st century society.

This past year also saw the opening of our Ocean View Preparatory Preschool (OVPP) offering a full-day program for 3 and 4 year old children. OVPP is based on the California Preschool Leadership Foundations and provides children with enrichment opportunities to develop cognitive, social, emotion, physical, linguistic, and creative abilities. Our Preparatory Preschool has been a resounding success and we are all excited about expanding the program in the coming year.

As I contemplate the further reductions that will be required next year, I want to assure our community that Ocean View School District will continue to keep children first and provide an outstanding educational program for our students. We appreciate the support of our community as we travel the uncertain road ahead.



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Orange Unified School District

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

Focused on Student Achievement



Dr. Renae Dreier
Superintendent

The Orange Unified School District serves approximately 30,000 students in grades kindergarten through 12th, and encompasses all or part of the cities of Anaheim, Garden Grove, Orange, Santa Ana, and Villa Park. In 1953, the citizens of the area voted to form a "unified" school district, combining the original five elementary districts with the high school district into one unified district, now known as the Orange Unified School District. The District has a long history of excellence that continues to grow and be enriched by the accomplishments of its students, teachers, staff and community.

Since 1987, twenty-four OUSD schools have been awarded the honor of California Distinguished School, with four of these schools receiving the award more than once. California Elementary received the Title I Academic Achievement Award for the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. West Orange received it in 2004-2005 & 2005-2006.

Each of the high schools in our District offer programs to provide students enrichment opportunities. For example: Canyon High students may participate in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. The OUSD Laptop program is offered at Canyon, El Modena and Villa Park, and students at Orange High School have the opportunity to take part in the Agriculture and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) programs.

As we move forward in these most challenging times, it is more important than ever to keep our focus on student achievement. Our 2009-2012 Strategic Plan will include the following six goal areas: 1) Student Achievement; 2) Student Engagement; 3) Safe, Welcoming Schools; 4) Parent and Community Partnerships; 5) Communication; and, 6) Effective Use of Resources.

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

1301 Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870
714/996-2550 www.pylusd.org

Remarkable Results



Dr. Dennis Smith
Superintendent

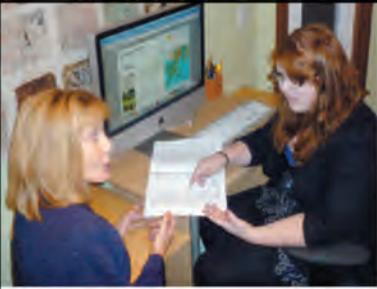
As the 2009-2010 school year concludes, it is gratifying to reflect on the achievements of our students, the hard work and dedication of staff and the invaluable partnership the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District continues to enjoy with the community.

Even as California experiences the worst fiscal crisis in history, our students continue to excel academically, and our standards-based curriculum is enriched through electives, special programs, and the visual and performing arts. Parents, students, and staff now access grades and attendance online and 88 percent report using this on a daily or weekly basis.

The PYLUSD is also on track to become one of the few school districts in California to offer interactive technology in every classroom. This is possible thanks to our community's support of not one, but two bond measures for modernization of existing schools, construction of four new schools, and upgrades/new construction of performing arts, athletic, and career/technical education facilities. Together, we achieve remarkable results:

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This is indeed an exciting time to be part of the award-winning Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District. Thank you, community!



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Santa Ana Unified School District

1601 E. Chestnut Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92701
714/558-5512 www.sausd.us

Success is the Standard



Jane A. Russo
Superintendent

Facts: 54,000 enrollment, Grades K-12, 6th largest school district in California, the largest in Orange County.

The year 2009-10 was an impressive one filled with milestones and achievements for many areas in which the school district administration, students, staff and parents took much pride. For the third year in a row, SAUSD schools were among the top 10 most improved schools in Orange County. Six SAUSD schools of nine in Orange County have exited federal Program Improvement status – a major milestone. We salute our 2009 National Blue Ribbon School, Middle College High, and applaud our 2010 Blue Ribbon Award candidate, Harvey Elementary.

This year six schools received the 2010 California Distinguished School Award – the largest number of recipients at one time in the history of our school district.

Since the passage of Measure G two years ago, the school district has completed over 100 projects affecting every school campus, including construction and opening of 164 new permanent classrooms at nine schools. Our students, staff and parents are delighted with the new facilities.

SAUSD boasts three Gates Millennium Scholars: Century High School's Jannet Sanchez, Saddleback High School's Vy Truong, and Santa Ana High School's Aura Carrillo. Our outstanding cadre of employees is as impressive with the naming of secondary principal, confidential employee, Countywide classified employee, and nurse of the year to name a few.

Though we have much to celebrate, we also have some major challenges that lie ahead in making systemic changes that positively impact academic achievement for all students while addressing budgetary concerns. Now more than ever our leadership team, staff, students and parents are committed and determined to continuing our record of excellence and toppling any obstacles that threaten to stand in the way.

Savanna School District

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

The Best is Yet to Come



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 that focuses on reading, writing, and mathematics. We strive to develop all students to their individual capacity to prepare them for future learning experiences. Great Expectations can also

be evidenced in our reading program that provides a balanced approach with the integration of phonics and literature throughout all grade levels as well as in our writing program that provides students with a systematic structure for learning writing skills while providing opportunities for regular writing assignments appropriate for each grade level. Our Great Expectations are demonstrated in math where concepts and skills taught reflect those identified in the state standards. History/social science, science, health, physical education, music and art are integral parts of the K-6 educational program in Savanna School District. Technology is infused throughout the instructional program.

The entire Savanna School District staff and Board of Trustees welcomes you to the 2010-11 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

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History of Excellence Continues



Richard Bray
Superintendent

The Tustin Unified School District has a long history of excellence that continues to grow and be enriched by the accomplishments of its students, teachers and staff. TUSD serves over 22,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grade and offers a wide range of services and programs.

Tustin Unified schools consistently score well on state tests and students receive top scores on annual standardized tests. The SAT scores at TUSD high schools rank higher than state and national averages. More than 90 percent of high school seniors go on to college.

Over the past several years, Tustin Unified schools have received top awards at the national and state level: four National Blue Ribbon School awards, 21 California Distinguished School honors and six Title I Academic Achievement School awards.

Additionally, three Tustin Unified teachers have been selected as Orange County Teachers of the Year and over 25 principals and District administrators have been chosen as Orange County Administrators of the Year in recent years.

TUSD continues to move forward. The new state-of-the-art Orchard Hills K-8 School will open this fall. As part of the Measure G and L modernization programs: Foothill High School's Science Center opened last fall and its new Aquatics Center will be completed this summer. The Tustin High School Plaza was unveiled this spring and the school's new Science Center is on the way.

For more information about our award-winning school district, please visit the TUSD Web site at www.tustin.k12.ca.us. You can also follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/TUSDschools.

Westminster School District

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

WSD is a Great Place to Be



Dr. Sharon Nordheim
Superintendent

Budget challenges aside, this has been a great year. Our district-wide API score exceeded the state goal of 800 for the first time with an 802. Congratulations to our students and teachers! Eastwood Elementary school was named a 2010 California Distinguished School and Karri Hamm, office manager at Anderson Elementary, was named an Orange County Classified Employee of the Year! These are just a few of the honors that have been bestowed upon our district this year.

Strategic plans have been developed for the use of our Measure O bond funds and they will be used to improve our facilities and enhance 21st century learning for our students for years to come. I am very proud of WSD and I am retiring feeling confident that the district is headed in the right direction.

Mr. Richard Tauer will be the new superintendent upon my retirement and I can assure you that the district will be in good hands. Mr. Tauer has been our Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for the past three years and he has 38 years of experience in the field of education.

I am not terribly fond of the word "retirement" so I have coined my own word for the adventure... "inspirement." I wish each one of you in the Westminster School District community continued success and want everybody to know that I considered it a privilege to be your Superintendent.

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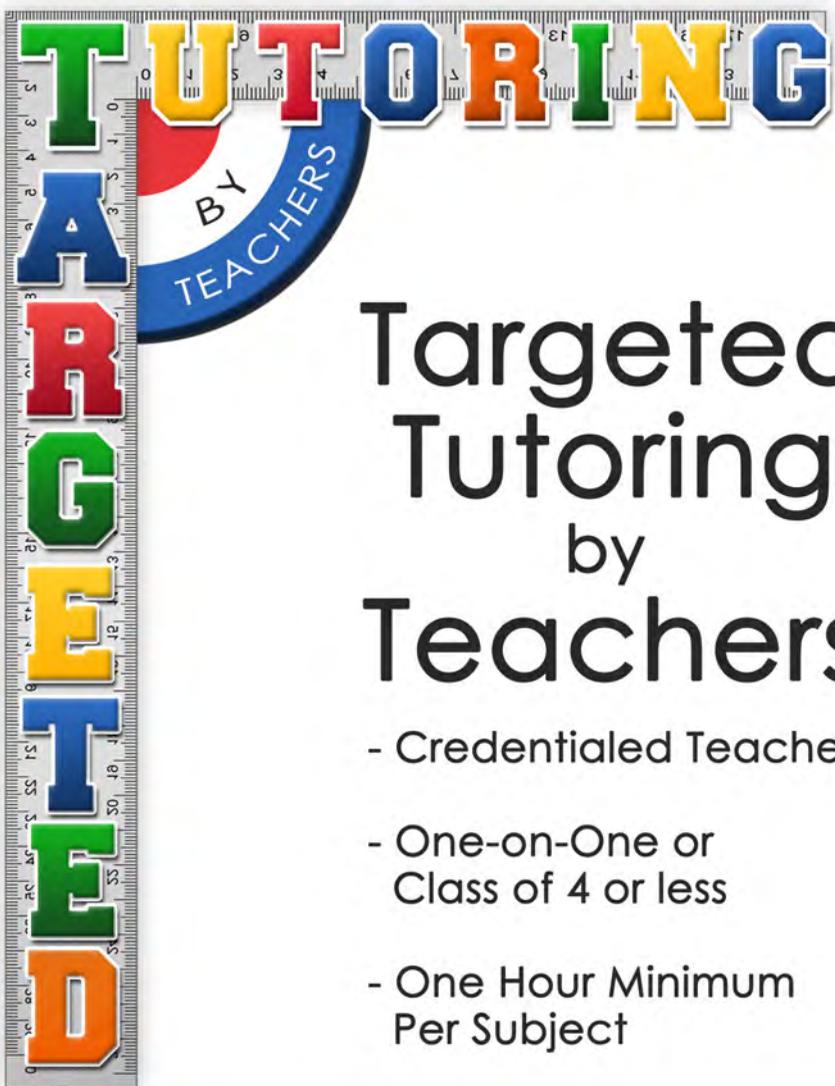
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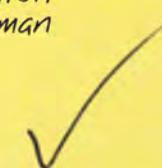
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Study Habits

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Critical Thinking Skills

562-852-5241

Central County ROP

2323 N. Broadway, Suite 301, Santa Ana, CA 92705
714/966-3528 www.ccrop.org

Project GreenSTEM



Diana S. Schneider
Senior Director

Over 300 high school students from Garden Grove, Orange, and Santa Ana participated in “Project GreenSTEM,” a grant-funded initiative that exposed them to environmentally-conscious careers in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (S.T.E.M.). Grant highlights included:

Project-based Learning—Students learned to use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software and participated in an Arboretum Mapping Project with Santa Ana College which mapped the plant life on campus using GIS and then made recommendations regarding campus water, energy conservation, and “Green” alternatives.

Field Trips—“GreenSTEM Day” was a one-of-a-kind student field trip that included guest speakers from major corporations and grass roots start-ups, a hands-on high-tech treasure hunt competition using GPS devices, and more. Teachers also participated in industry-related externships that helped them develop real world hands-on projects in their field.

Central County ROP (CCROP) has received additional grant funding and will expand the project’s “Green” focus in 2010-2011 to include an emphasis on careers in Design, Rapid Technology, Engineering, Art, and Manufacturing (D.R.E.A.M.). Demand is high for workers who can problem-solve environmental issues from both a logical and creative point-of-view so next year’s activities will include an introduction to sustainable design using Rapid Technologies with the integration of rapid prototyping design modules into existing ROP courses, and new course development in the areas of Production Design, CAD and 3-D Drafting, Engineering and Rapid Technologies. Project GreenSTEM is a Career Technical Education Community Collaborative Grant which was awarded to the Rancho Santiago Community College District in partnership with CCROP. Website: www.ccrop.org.

Capistrano-Laguna Beach ROP

31522 El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
949/496-3118 www.capolagrop.k12.ca.us

Baton Principle—Passing on a Legacy



Dr. Richard L. Bogart
CEO

Last month the Capistrano-Laguna Beach Regional Occupational Program (ROP) celebrated a milestone – it completed 40 years of providing high quality Career Technical Education to South Orange County. The ROP has sustained a reputation for “Charting the course for the students’ futures.”

The ROP has proudly served tens of thousands of high school and adult students who reside in the Capistrano and Laguna Beach Unified School Districts. The names of the classes and the content of the courses may have changed due to advances in various professions, but the quality of instruction and the relevance of the curriculum have not changed over four decades of opportunity.

New Chief Executive Officer

It is also time for the “baton” of leadership to be passed to a new chief executive officer for the ROP. Kimberly Thomason will assume her new CEO duties on October 1, 2010. Mrs. Thomason has served the ROP with extraordinary dedication for over 20 years – the last fifteen years as Director of Instruction.

Kim Thomason will bring outstanding leadership and total commitment to a special organization that engages over 4,000 students each year in ways designed to match their interests with potential careers. The legacy of distinction and student achievement will continue to be advanced at the ROP. The baton is being passed and our legacy continues.

Coastline ROP

1001 Presidio Square, Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714/979-1955 www.coastlinerop.k12.ca.us

Enriching the Secondary Experience



Darlene Le Fort
Superintendent

In the past few years, Regional Occupational Programs (ROPs) have taken on a new look. Today, ROPs offer a more vibrant career technical education program that includes integrating academic knowledge with technical skills and sequencing courses across middle schools, high schools, and colleges.

ROP courses provide students with rich curricula that have been aligned to state standards and evaluated by members of industry. Some courses meet the University of California’s visual and performing arts or elective requirements. Many classes include internships at local business and industry sites where ROP students continue to improve their problem-solving skills, critical thinking skills, and work attitudes. All ROP classes are designed to strengthen and broaden students’ secondary experience, and research shows that students who take ROP courses improve their grade point averages, feel a greater connection to learning, and are more successful in college and careers once they graduate.

In collaboration with our partnering districts, Huntington Beach Union, Irvine, Newport-Mesa, Saddleback Valley and Tustin Unified School Districts, Coastline ROP will continue to offer programs that improve student achievement and keep kids connected to school.

Coastline ROP has earned a six-year term of accreditation from the Western Association of School and Colleges and has been named a Top Workplace for 2009 by the *Orange County Register*.

North Orange County ROP

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

Rewarding Year



Dr. Michael Worley
Superintendent

This has been a banner year for students at North Orange County ROP. Despite funding cutbacks, teachers demonstrated enthusiasm for involving their students in competitions. The outcomes have been rewarding.

Auto Technician students Ben Hicks and Jonathan Greenhalgh were named “USA Technicians of the Year” in the National Automobile Dealers Association-sponsored contest, and won more than \$100,000 each in scholarships and equipment.

ROP Multimedia Design and Production student Corey Grbavach won *Special Category Best Animation* in the 44th Annual California Student Media Festival.

Medical Sciences Academy high school students were gold, silver, and bronze medal winners and finalists in the state HOSA (Health Occupations students of America) conference, and one was elected to state office.

Culinary Arts student Emmanuel Osornio won first place at the regional Teen Chef competition at the Arts Institute in Santa Ana.

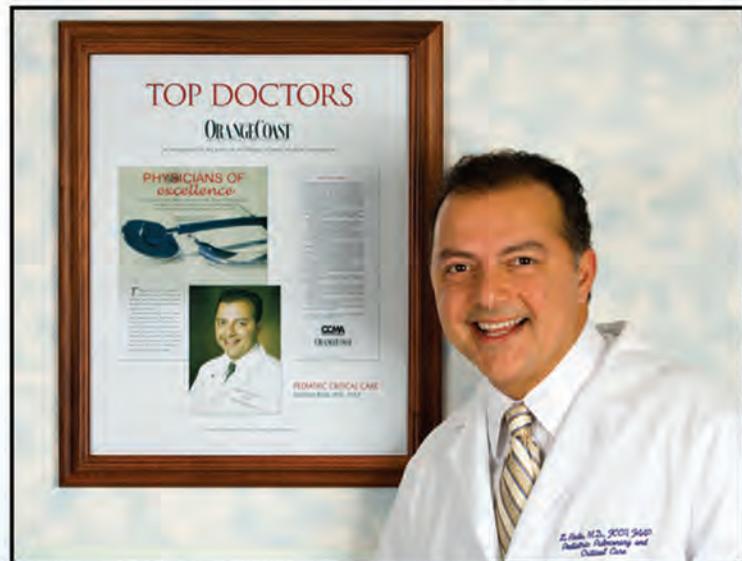
A three-girl, two-boy ROP automotive technician team set a national record—36 minutes, 18 seconds in the *Hotrodders of Tomorrow Engine Challenge*—a timed engine tear-down and build contest. They compete nationally in November.

Six of the fourteen high school teams in the HBC annual Design/Build contest were from North Orange County ROP, and took first place and third place.

Parents and teachers hope their students can be prepared for both college and career, and classes at North Orange County ROP help lay the groundwork for both. Students can earn advanced placement and credits for many ROP classes at area colleges, and UC elective a-g credits in several classes.



Serving O.C. for 35 Years



Zacharia Reda, M.D., F.A.A.P., F.C.C.P.
 Dr. Reda was recognized by his peers at the O.C.M.A. in his field as one of the TOP DOCTORS in Orange County and California.

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- ★ *Top Doctors in O.C.*
(Orange County Medical Association)

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- *Fitness Testing and Injury Prevention*



Top Row L-R: Dr. Ferdinand Del Mundo, Dr. Elsa Fernandez, Dr. Zacharia Reda, Dr. Angela Gagliardi, Dr. L.Michael Feingold
Bottom Row L-R: Dr. Jay Rothman, Dr. Christine Kornu, Dr. William Holm

Fashion Island Office: 1401 Avocado Ave., # 802, Newport Beach, CA 92660 PH: 949-644-0970
 Hoag Office: 1640 Newport Blvd., # 210, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 PH: 949-642-7332
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