

FREE

School News

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Covering the Orange Unified School District

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Educators Earn National Board Certification

By Larry Hausner, Administrative Director – Communications and Educational Technology

The Orange Unified School District (OUSD) is proud to announce that two district teachers, Helen Barney, a mathematics teacher at Yorba Middle School, Academy of the Arts, and Cynthia Higley, a science teacher from Cerro Villa Middle School, have earned the status of National Board Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Ms. Barney has taught at Yorba for eight years. Her National Board Certification is in early adolescent mathematics. Until this recent certification, there were only 148 National Board Certified Early Adolescent Math teachers in CA. "This process was challenging, but it gave me an opportunity to reflect upon my practice and how I can better serve the students and parents here at Yorba," stated Ms. Barney.

Ms. Kerrie Torres, Yorba principal, added, "This accomplishment is the most prolific display of professionalism. Ms. Barney has demonstrated a commitment to learning and is a great example to our students and her colleagues."



Cindy Higley



Helen Barney-Yorba

Ms. Higley has taught eighth-grade chemistry, physics, and astronomy at Cerro Villa for four years, after spending 20 years in a neighboring school district. She said of the accomplishment, "I wanted to push myself beyond the regular classroom duties and see how I measure up against other National Board Certified teachers."

Dr. Ken Miller, Cerro Villa principal, said, "This is an incredible accomplishment for Ms. Higley. She has reached the pinnacle of teacher certification. This is an honor for our students, parents and school."

National Board Certification is an advanced teaching credential. It complements, but does not replace, a state's teacher license and is valid for 10 years. National Board Certification is achieved upon successful completion of a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize effective and accomplished teachers who meet high standards based on what teachers should know and be able to do.

As part of the certification process, candidates complete 10 assessments, which are reviewed by trained teachers in their certificate areas. The assessments include four portfolio entries, which feature teaching practice, and six constructed-response exercises, which assess content knowledge.

Other OUSD National Board Certified teachers include: Maribelle Donaldson, West Orange Elementary School; Catherine Hunsberger, Santiago Charter Middle School; Lauren Johnston, McPherson Magnet School, and Genie Roney, Cambridge Elementary School.

SUPERINTENDENT



Renae Dreier, Ed.D.

The theme for this issue of *School News Roll Call* focuses on opportunities for student leadership and teamwork on our campuses. While there are numerous examples of student leadership at school sites, there is a unique avenue for students to have their voices heard at the District level.

Every year, the Orange Unified School District Board of Education invites each high school to select an outstanding student to represent them at Board meetings. These representatives form the Student Advisory Council to the Board of Education (SACBE). SACBE representatives attend Board meetings, inform the Board about

programs and activities taking place at their school and then return the communication about decisions made at Board meetings. For SACBE representative, this is often a pathway that may lead to other future leadership opportunities.

At the conclusion of the school year, each SACBE representative informs the Board of Education and community of their future plans after graduation which most often includes pursuing higher education.

The members of the 2010-11 Student Advisory Council to the Board of Education (SACBE) are Andrew Grant, Canyon High School; Eden Loi, El Modena High School; Bryanna Hernandez, Orange High School; Jorge Munoz, Villa Park High School and Daniel Saldivar, Richland High School.

BOARD OF EDUCATION



Rick Ledesma
President

It is my sincere privilege and pleasure to once again serve as Orange Unified School District Board of Education President for 2011. The OUSD community is dedicated to serving our students and providing an exceptional educational program for all learners. I am proud to be a part of that effort. However, the budget challenges still persist and our district has met these challenges head-on and will continue to do so in the year ahead. Nevertheless, our main focus will continue to be on the achievement of our students through a

SEE BOARD OF EDUCATION PAGE 18



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Kay Coop

Founder / Publisher



The theme for this issue is leadership and teamwork. It is exciting to see this focus at all grade levels. The students in OUSD certainly have role models for leadership. Congratulations to teachers Cindy Higley and Helen Barney-Yorba earning their National Board Certification.

We had a record number of entries in our December Contest and the winner is announced on page 12 where you will find the Word Search Contest—The contest is open to all age levels so enjoy!

Our next issue is April 20.
Happy Spring Break!

School News

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Covering the
ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Implementing Quality Preschool Education



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent

If we could do one thing to improve education for all children, it would be to implement a high-quality preschool program for all four-year-old children. Research tells us that such programs provide children with the foundation they need to enter kindergarten prepared to learn and to succeed. Yet we invest very little, from an educational standpoint, in early childhood programs.

Kindergarten is not what it used to be. We have far higher expectations for five-year-olds who enter the school system today. Kindergarten teachers are often faced with the challenges of meeting the varying needs of students who are delayed in the areas of language development and school readiness skills. Quality preschool programs allow children to receive an advantage in both of these areas.

Children who start kindergarten after having high-quality preschool experiences are much further ahead academically and socially than children who have not, and they have a greater chance of success. The Chicago Longitudinal Study examined the long-term benefits of high-quality preschool programs and found that such early interventions improved students' later

performance on standardized tests in reading and math, decreased the likelihood of special education placement, and minimized the risk of repeating a grade.

In addition to providing benefits in the area of academic achievement, high-quality preschool yields returns to our economic and community well-being. Every dollar invested in early childhood education produces significant benefits to society, including a lower dropout rate, a higher graduation rate, a more highly skilled workforce, and reduced crime rates. In looking at the data from the Chicago study and other longitudinal research, we see that for every dollar spent on high-quality preschool, there is a return on investment of \$7- \$16 from increases to tax revenue and reductions in government spending on education, the criminal justice system, and public assistance.

With all of the talk about education reform, now is an opportune time to think creatively and stretch the conventional thinking of educators, board members, and community leaders to find new and different ways of making our existing dollars work better for us.

It is time to think differently about getting children a quality preschool experience and finding an affordable way to do it. By involving educators, families, and community members in exploring this concept, a workable solution could be developed. Let's start the dialogue on how we can invest in high quality preschool now so we can begin to experience the benefits sooner than later.

Let's start the dialogue on how we can invest in high quality preschool now so we can begin to experience the benefits sooner than later.

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Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

6450 E. Serrano Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6169



Sandra Miller
Principal

Achievable Resolutions

The AHES 1st Grade Students

To start the year of 2011 the first graders of Anaheim Hills Elementary decided to make some resolutions that could be achieved through cooperation and peer leadership for the New Year! Here are the things the children thought would be appropriate! We will be better listeners and follow the directions the first time they are given.

- Get to the top of the chart!
- We will make more books to read in the classroom.
- We will clean up the classroom everyday.
- I will make at least 5 new friends this year!
- We will do MORE homework!
- We will not get any pink slips.
- We will get our marble jar filled to the top with 100 marbles!
- Be really early for school and not get tardy slips.
- We will make good decisions and get our math right.
- Get all our marbles in the jar in one day!
- Be nice to people and don't get in trouble.
- Get a lot of table points.
- Try not to clip down.
- Listen to our teachers all day.
- No talking when the teacher is talking.
- I will follow all of these rules.

Our final resolutions are to have fun, and always do our best! By working together, we can achieve anything! We wish you a very Happy New Year!

Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/998-5000



Dr. William Gee
Principal

Teamwork Opportunities on Campus

The students at Canyon Hills have many opportunities to learn and practice teamwork on our campus. Teamwork is included in nearly every IEP for our students because it is such a critical social skill for every student. The range of teamwork skills varies greatly from student to student. Some students work on the simplest levels of teamwork including taking turns while playing a game, seeking help when faced with problems, and sharing an object with a peer when asked to do so. Other students work on higher levels of team work including holding a conversation in a topic of interest

to another person, assisting another student when they need help, and working in a small group with other students.

Leadership opportunities at Canyon Hills arise in many settings. When in the community, for example, students are used as models for other students when purchasing items at a grocery store, when ordering food at a restaurant, or when checking out books from the Anaheim Hills library.

Learning to communicate is the most important skill for all of our students. Students who initiate communication learn to ask for what they want and are less frustrated by their disabilities. We encourage communication through direct oral language, sign language, the use of a Picture Exchange Communication System, and through simple signs including pointing or looking at an object. Students who communicate become leaders in their classrooms and become more social and satisfied students. Students who learn to communicate develop the capacity for teamwork and the skills for leadership.

California *Elementary*

1080 N. California St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6104



Cyndi Paik
Principal

California's Student Council Ready for Action

By Patty Ruiz, 4th Grade Teacher

The California Bears are excited to announce the return of Student Council. It has been quite some time since we have had a student council committee, and it is sure to bring amazing results. The 2010-11 Student Council members made their grand entrance on federal Election Day, November 2, 2010. Candidates were required to write a speech and present it in front of a camera videotaped by the district. Teachers then shared the CD with their students as a way of not only piquing their interest to vote for the best candidate, but as a way to promote voting as they enter early adulthood.

Headed by teachers, Tara Saraye and Rich Everakes, this year is sure to bring activities to encourage schoolwide participation. Already slated for the agenda are planning spirit days, recycling, and other educational activities to support our school's focus of literacy and reading comprehension. Student Council members are excited and eager to make a difference.

Cambridge *Elementary*

425 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6103



Karen Merkow
Principal

Leadership at Cambridge Elementary

By Mrs. Cardenas, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Wyckoff

The PAL Peer Assistance Leadership Program is an independent leadership program that is currently active here at Cambridge Elementary School, and is used in hundreds of K-12 schools in California. It is built upon a philosophy of students helping students. PAL peer leaders were chosen by teacher input and even went through an interview process. With the help of PAL advisors, Mrs. Wyckoff, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Cardenas, their role at Cambridge varies from helping/mentoring, helping with Red Ribbon Week, and assisting with other various school activities. The group meets on a monthly basis, working on leadership skills, social skills, and creative and critical thinking skills. These leaders are a vital part of our Cambridge program and school atmosphere.



Canyon *High School*

220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/532-8000 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/canyon



Dr. Greg Bowden
Principal

Leadership Opportunities

All of our students have the opportunity to experience and practice leadership while at Canyon High School. The school offers a formal ASB (Associated Student Body) program, complete with a "Tribal Council" of representative students from each class to provide opportunities in representative government. In addition, there are many leadership opportunities in the 55 student clubs – usually, a complete set of offices for each one, and our the athletic program also provides many different leadership opportunities as well.

As a preparation for their future working life, our students also have the opportunity to experience environments that foster teamwork. Many of the activities already mentioned give students the opportunity to work in collaborative environments with their peers, practicing skills that will serve them in the workplace. Our motto of "Parents, Students, Staff – the while tribe contributes" is a value statement we live every day, and our students reap the benefits of being included in the mix. Beyond these mentioned activities, we also sponsor the Mock Trial, Science Olympiad, and Solar Boat competitive teams, which allow our students to challenge their collaboration skills at an even higher level.

Finally, our student representative to the OUSD School Board this year is Andrew Grant. He has the opportunity to represent the students of Canyon in a public forum, and he has done a great job of providing an overview and insight to life as a Comanche!

Canyon Rim *Elementary*

1090 S. The Highlands, Anaheim, Ca 92808 • 714/532-7027 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/cr



David Appling
Principal

Student Council Rocks with Leadership

Canyon Rim students have many opportunities to increase their leadership experience when they participate in our active Student Council. Over 80 students in upper grade placed their names on the primary ballot for seven school positions: President, Vice President, Spirit Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, and our newest group position Green Team to support the school and local community in going green. The finalists prepared imaginative campaigns decorating the school with posters and stickers. These finalists also prepared clever and humorous campaign

speeches presenting them to the registered voters. The election results were solidified and the Student Council Officers for 2010-2011 are: Green Team: Shayan Zargar and Copper Westmoreland; Sergeant-at-Arms: Zoe Ligor; Treasurer: Grant Gaynor; Spirit Director: Cassie Bangle; Secretary: Kyle Hart; Co-Vice Presidents: Justin Liles and Turner Shelton; and President: Paige Walker.

The officers and classroom representatives are dedicated students already hard at work. They have created a Welcoming Committee for new students, chosen Spirit Day activities for the school year, gathered coats and canned goods for the shelters, participated with the Sparks of Love toy drive, and getting ready to raise money for an end-of-year gift for the school through unique fundraisers.



(Back) Turner Shelton, Justin Liles, Grant Gaynor, Cassie Bangle, and Shayan Zargar
(Front) Kyle Hart, Copper Westmoreland, Paige Walker, and Zoe Ligor

Cerro Villa *Middle School*

17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6251 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/cv



Dr. Ken Miller
Principal

Emphasis on Teamwork

At Cerro Villa Middle School, we pride ourselves on promoting student leadership and teamwork.

Our leadership and teamwork commences before the school year even begins. During the first week in August, our ASB Leadership students welcomed Yorba Middle School and Santiago Charter Middle School to campus to participate in the inaugural Orange Unified Middle School Leadership Camp. Our students planned two jammed packed days of fun and preparation in mapping out the upcoming year's events, participating in team building and character education activities, becoming more acclimated with middle school and being a middle school leader.

During our QSP Magazine Drive in the fall months, our students take ownership of fundraising opportunities for our school. The students all took part in an interactive assembly introducing the program. Over 40% of our students sold more than one magazine subscription leading to total fundraising effort of over \$50,000!

Our students also are encouraged to participate in our world famous "lunchtime" games. Each student is prompted to play electric car races, "Name That Tune" and run ladders on stage. The games involve a teamwork emphasis. We are finding these activities get all students involved in the CV Viking school experience!

Finally, the students are driven to be leaders and self-advocates during our Student-Led Conferences in early February. The students compile their best work throughout the first half of the year and formally present a "showcase" portfolio to their parents at an after school conference. All students participate in this valuable Team Viking activity!

Chapman Hills *Elementary*

170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/532-8043 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/chapman



Julie Lucas
Principal

Student Leadership and Teamwork

Bobcat pride shines throughout the school at Chapman Hills! The students are continuously demonstrating their leadership and teamwork skills both on and off campus through various service projects, school-wide activities and positive student behavior.

Third through sixth grade students at Chapman Hills have the opportunity to participate in Student Council. The student council officers put on a weekly live television broadcast, Good Morning Bobcats!, where they share school-wide information, celebrate student achievements, and report on local sports and weather.

The student council members plan occasional, fun lunchtime activities that all students enjoy. Through fundraising efforts, the student council has recently purchased a laptop that will be used to enable a pre-recorded broadcast of Good Morning Bobcats so that more graphics and special effects can be utilized to make the production even more realistic and exciting.

This past holiday season, the students at Chapman Hills "adopted" 19 local Foster and Adopted families in Orange County. In total, 44 children were supported and these families' holidays were made a little brighter because of our efforts. This is the second year that our school has partnered with Orange County Social Services to "adopt" needy families. In addition to the gifts, our generous students and families donated over \$800 in gift cards! On December 10th, a hot chocolate and gift wrapping party was held and students and families put the finishing touches on the donated gifts.

The leadership and teamwork demonstrated daily on our campus continues to amaze and dazzle me! Go Bobcats!

Crescent *Elementary*

5001 E. Gerda Drive, Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6371 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/ci



Randi Leach
Principal

Student Council Shows Great Leadership and Teamwork By Barbara Buckett and Michelle Venckus Student Council Advisors

Crescent Elementary's Student Council provides the opportunity for over forty students to get involved in student leadership. Meetings are held weekly with student officers conducting our council's business. Paramount is the focus of working together to make our school and community a better place.

In the spirit of promoting a stronger home/school connection, our student leadership team has organized a series of family picnic spirit days. Our first event will be a Pajama Day held on Friday, January 14th. Student Council representatives work in teams to plan, organize, and carry out various games and activities during the event.

Community Service is another integral part of Student Council. Most recently, our student leaders participated in the Bag of Hope Project for Anaheim. We were amazed to learn that there are nearly two thousand children living in Anaheim whose families move from one small room to another to stay compliant with regulations regarding motel occupancy. Through this project, our students were able to provide some of these children with a few comfort items as well as a sturdy bag that they can carry with them from place to place. Our Student Council felt it was important to send the message that people in this community do care, and that there is hope for a brighter tomorrow!

Somewhere, sometime, the leader within each of us may get the call to step forward. —James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner.

El Modena *High School*

3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6331 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/emhs



John Briqueteau
Principal

What's a Vanguard? By Eden Loi, El Modena High School SACBE Representative

The El Modena Vanguard mascot is a frontline soldier leading a military unit. However, I questioned the value of this mighty soldier positioned to die before all others. Rather than have teachers dictate the mascot's meaning, I searched myself for examples on campus. I soon understood why the school's founders selected the symbol and how current Vanguards reflect innovative leadership.

I discovered examples of Vanguardian ideals all over campus. For example, ASB organized Red Ribbon Week outreach assemblies performed at elementary schools. Students initiated clubs focused upon political debate, environmentalism and other important social topics. In addition, teachers like Mr. Pongco implemented dynamic Smart Board lessons and Mrs. Pedroza organized science field trips. Also, Mrs. Hemans offered students the opportunity to spend Spring Break in Costa Rica and Mr. Benner chaperoned summer trips overseas. Furthermore, the Athletics Department established a community swap meet to fundraise for sports programs, and administration implemented student ID cards worn on lanyards to increase campus safety and a new discipline policy to recognize outstanding behavior. This innovative leadership has led to increased API scores for two consecutive years.

My enhanced understanding of the Vanguard's meaning left an impression that will extend beyond my El Modena years. Vanguards accept the responsibility to not only excel in school, but also to exceed boundaries and limitations throughout their lives. Acting like an El Modena Vanguard means accepting a leadership role and striving beyond mediocrity, no matter how daunting or unconventional the challenge.

El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

181 S. Del Giorgio Road, Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/997-6238 • www.oranged.k12.ca.us/rancho



John Besta
Principal



Michele Walker
Principal

Leading by Example

The middle school years can be the most trying for children as they explore who they are and want to become. They are constantly looking for role models to emulate, someone to guide them into who they want to become. There are many students on El Rancho's campus that make a positive impact on their peers each day.

After participating in the Rachel's Challenge presentation about creating positive change in the way we treat others through attitude, actions, and words, the Chain Links Club was formed. Meeting at lunch, students brainstorm ideas for change and positive ideas to help both the school and local communities. Members also seek out new students to make the transition to a new school easier.

ASB students are also leaders on campus. They work to involve the student body in activities, run interactive meetings, resolve conflict, and make presentations to a variety of groups on campus. ASB students organize the recycling program, present at PTA meetings, and show new students around campus. As part of the Leadership class, students must complete ten hours of community service each quarter, which can include volunteering their time on and off campus.

Both Chain Links and ASB provide great leadership opportunities, but most of all these students, along with our CSJF and AVID students, lead by example. They are involved in campus activities as well as participate within the community. Students are getting involved, and through their interactions, are making a positive impact.

Esplanade *Elementary*

381 N. Esplanade St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6157



Amy Hitt
Principal

Student Council Leadership

The 2010-2011 school year marks Esplanade's third year with a Student Council. Each fourth- through sixth-grade classroom elected two student council representatives who sit in on monthly meetings and assist with fundraisers, leadership opportunities, and service projects. Our Student Council is led by three amazing girls who were nominated by their classmates after campaigning and delivering position speeches: Serena Zarate – President (6th grade) and Stela Martinez – Vice President (5th grade).

Over the past two and a half years, the Student Council has been responsible for events including gathering food for the Second Harvest Food Bank, collecting donations for the Ronald McDonald house, supporting the math pentathlon team, and, most notably, coordinating a school-wide recycling effort. In the 2009-2010 school year, the students at Esplanade were able to completely fill a huge 21-foot storage bin with recyclable plastic bottles and cans, an effort which raised almost \$800 to assist with student programs. We also filled the bin in November 2010, raising almost \$1,000 for the student group.



**Sixth grade student council members
Serena Zarate, Natalie Hensley, and Danny Perez
assist with the recycling effort at Esplanade.**

Fairhaven *Elementary*

1415 E. Fairhaven Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6178



Andrew Fisher
Principal

Fairhaven Elementary Receives \$1000 Grant

Fairhaven Elementary School provides opportunities for students to gain leadership in determining expenditures of grant money. Fairhaven School has received a \$1000 out of \$102,000 in grants from local business partnerships as part of their effort to enrich educational programs and close the funding gap created by state budget cuts. Together the business partners believe in the importance of education and created a program which makes donations to support local schools in Southern California. In keeping with the spirit of team work and good food for “healthy minds and bodies,”

the Fairhaven student council has chosen to use the grant money to purchase equipment that will support the school’s physical education program. Fairhaven’s Student Council will provide leadership in choosing the equipment most desired by the students

The student council appreciates the grant and the value of local business partnering with schools. The students, parents, and staff of Fairhaven Elementary School thank you for caring. You are making a difference.



With Mr. Fisher are Brad Maehara and Debbie Romero representing the business partnership

Fletcher *Elementary*

515 W. Fletcher Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6181



Helen Chung
Principal

Falcons Foster Student Leaders

By Dana Encheff, Fourth Grade Teacher

At Fletcher Elementary we are making new opportunities for students to develop student leadership skills through our Fletcher Student Council. We held an upper grade election in November, and our students elected four executive members. Those who ran but were not elected will serve alongside the executive board as representatives. We have a total of twenty-one students serving as leaders on student council.

During our first meeting, we were pleasantly surprised to hear how many great ideas our Fletcher Student Council has. The entire lunch break was spent discussing student-generated ideas about how to increase school pride, student achievement, and give back to our community.

For our first event, Hat Dance Day, students will donate food to a local foster home. All students who contribute to the food drive will be allowed to wear a hat at school and participate in dance at the end of an upcoming Friday. We are very proud of the initiative and creativity our student leaders have demonstrated and look forward to the contributions they will make to our school and community.

Handy *Elementary*

860 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6183



Sandra Schaffer
Principal

Student Leadership

Student Council has always been an active organization at Handy Elementary. This year, however, the students are taking on more leadership roles than ever before. The Council members are selected by their classmates because they possess the qualities that make them strong leaders: they are organized, articulate and service oriented. They meet monthly to plan projects that benefit the school and the community. They discuss and put into place ideas that will make Handy Elementary a better school.

Last month, the North Orange Rotary Club held their weekly meeting at Handy. The Student Council members greeted each of the Rotarians and walked them to the classroom. They shared with the Rotarians some history of the school and answered questions, too! Another group of Student Council members served as “tour guides,” taking the Rotarians to different classrooms to see our new technology in action. Once again, they answered questions about Smartboards, responders, laptops and other details of our school. It was a wonderful opportunity for our school leaders to interact with such a gracious group of community leaders.

Imperial *Elementary*

400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6282 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/imperial



Tim Biland
Principal

Enhancing Sense of School Community

Imperial Students embrace opportunities for teamwork and leadership. Throughout any given week, classrooms meet with one another for projects, PE, or peer assistance. Because of this, students understand that the students at their grade level in other classes are learning the same material and are working on the same projects. When lower grade students can benefit from help from upper grade students for activities such as reading buddies or with assistance on computer reading quizzes, peer mentorship and leadership opportunities present themselves. These partnerships contribute to a sense of school community.

Student Council works together to improve our school and to assist in our community. To become a Student Council member, students must campaign by making posters and speeches to persuade students for their support. Once chosen, members meet regularly and representatives also attend and provide input at PTA and School Site Council meetings. This experience working with the teacher leaders, principal, and other adults promotes the effective communication and planning skills of select students.

Student Council also plans many activities. During spirit days, students may dress to a theme such as crazy hat day, pajama day, twin day, and backwards day. When classes win by having the highest percent of participation, they receive the Spirit Stick. The student council collects the count from each class and determines the percent of participation. The Student Council also coordinates projects such as Toys for Tots, Pennies for Prevention and Jump Rope for Heart.

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BY SUSAN PETERSON

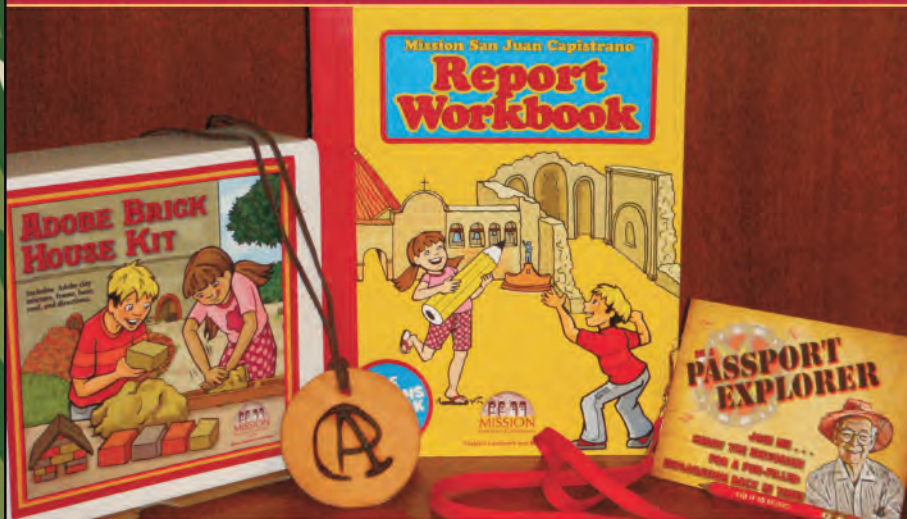
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THE WORD "SUMMER" brings to mind a myriad of images from my childhood — *going to the beach, reading a good book, eating popsicles, building a treehouse, and hanging out with my friends.*

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What are your kids doing this summer?

The City of Orange has plenty of activities planned to keep your tots, kids, tweens, and teens busy throughout the summer months! A variety of fun and exciting specialty camps and classes such as sports, art, music, dance, engineering, science, cooking and much more will be offered this summer. Visit cityoforange.org.



Summer Day Camps

The City is also proud to offer its ever-popular Summer Day Camps at various City parks. Beginning June 20, 2011 kids are invited to join our themed, 9-week program with a structured schedule of games, activities, crafts, songs, special events, and excursions. Your child will experience a summer packed with adventure and excitement! Registration accepted NOW! For more information or to register visit www.cityoforange.org or call (714) 744-7293.

Day Camp Locations:
Handy & Shaffer Parks



Days/Times: Mon–Fri, 7 a.m.–6 p.m.
Ages: Children entering 1st grade–11 years old
Fees: \$95 per week, per child for Orange residents
\$110 per week, per child for non-residents
Optional weekly excursions vary in cost.
A complete list of excursion activities will be available in the summer issue of Our Orange magazine available the week of May 2, 2011.

Teens-4-Team Orange

This program offers teens the fun and excitement of our traditional teen camp, as well as the opportunity to make a difference in their community by participating in various service projects throughout the City of Orange. Teens will not only build friendships and create memories to last a lifetime, but they can also earn required school service hours!

Day Camp Location: Hart Park
Days/Times: Mon–Fri, 7 a.m.–6 p.m.
Ages: 12–15 years old
Fees: \$95 per week, per child for Orange residents
\$110 per week, per child for non-residents
Optional weekly excursions vary in cost.
Registration accepted NOW!
For more information or to register visit www.cityoforange.org or call (714) 744-7293.

Thank You to Our 2010 Community Partners!

Your contributions made it possible for the City of Orange to offer another year of family, fun special events to our community. We hope to have your support again in 2011! To receive information on how you can become a Community Partner, please contact Lisa Tamburelli at Ltamburelli@cityoforange.org.





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Full Day 9am to 3pm \$150
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Half Day 9am to 12pm \$110
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All Sessions are hosted at
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Parent to Parent

Sign Up Now for Spring & Summer Activities



Jodie Lynn

Q. We have four kids in school, ages six to twelve, and are being bombarded with sign up forms. Is it really necessary to get our kids signed up in February for spring and summer activities? With as many kids as we have, it gets expensive very quickly. Are there any other options when a family is on a budget?

A. While it may currently be financially overwhelming, getting kids signed up in February for activities that begin in the spring and summer can be crucial in securing a spot. However, let me remind you things happen and even in early April, there may be vacancies for the summer due to other conflicts, so don't panic yet.

Also, be mindful that due to the current economy, many organizations, including sports, art activities and classes, dance, music, science, math and even computer programs, etc., are trying their best to offer scholarships to families who qualify. Many are trying to cover everything pertaining to the cost, uniform, equipment and shoes by offering a full scholarship, while others are trying to help with at least a twenty to thirty percent savings with a partial one. Before you make any final decisions, call the organizations your children are interested in and ask if they offer any type of financial assistance, full scholarship, or a partial one for their spring and summer program. Ask where the information is posted or printed so that you can get a copy. Once you do, look it over carefully and call with any concerns or questions regarding the criteria guidelines. Check to see if there are any rules against submitting more than one application per household. For example, sometimes kids will be grouped together according to a specific age range and will be assigned to play on the same team but both may not qualify for help by the same organization.

If you cannot secure financial aid soon enough, perhaps think about allowing the older kids to participate in one sport for the spring and one for the summer. This way, they will be signed up, ready to go and if a scholarship comes through or even a partial, you will have the freedom of signing them up for one other important activity, or even passing it on to the younger kids.

You may also want to ask if there are any active volunteer positions that need to be filled that might offer an advantage of lowering the cost of an activity and take that into consideration as well.

Last but not least, get yourself organized early by also planning activities for the little ones to do that will still be a ton of fun, yet free:

- trips to various parks that offer different activities during the week that are free to the general public
- visits to the local libraries, which continue to add new things for kids to do at no cost whatsoever
- neighborhood plays (or, just one for your family right in your own back yard), creating costumes, jewelry, hats, scenes and music from things simply lying around the house
- movie nights with kids helping to cook same/similar type of theme as movie via special meal; loads of fun!
- take the younger kids to the older kids' games as a family; it shows continued support and is truly a family affair to have fun.

Jodie Lynn is an award-winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best-selling author. Her column Parent to Parent™ (www.ParentToParent.com) has been successful for more than 14 years. She is a regular contributor to several sites and has written four books and contributed to three others, one of which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. She has authored several books including *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having, Doing, and Surviving It All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* Check www.ParentToParent.com for details on new radio talk show, Inside Parenting Success.

School News

To place your ad in our next issue

(714) 856-9884

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com



2011/12 CLUB TRYOUTS U9-U14

Canyon PSA is an organized youth soccer club for girls and boys ages U9 to U19 since 1998. Under the direction of Club Director **Eddie Carrillo** (Men's Soccer Coach Chapman University, teacher with OUSD), Asst. Club Director **Sal Lopez**, Technical Director **Luis Balboa**, and Goal Keeper Coach, **Bob Ammann**, (Men's Soccer Coach Cal State Fullerton), this leadership brings over 90 years of coaching experience and knowledge of the game. **Ultimately, our success will be measured by the number of Canyon PSA players that participate in soccer at the collegiate level and by the success our players achieve in all aspects of their lives.**

Tryout Dates			
Sun	2/13	2:15-3:45p	BU10 & GU10
Sun	2/27	2:15-3:45p	BU10 & GU10
Sun	3/13	2:15-3:45p	BU10 & GU10
Sun	2/13	12:30-2:00p	BU11 & GU11
Sun	2/27	12:30-2:00p	BU11 & GU11
Sun	3/13	12:30-2:00p	BU11 & GU11
Sun	2/13	10:45-12:15p	BU12 & GU12
Sun	2/27	10:45-12:15p	BU12 & GU12
Sun	3/13	10:45-12:15p	BU12 & GU12
Sun	2/13	9:00-10:30a	BU13 & BU14
Sun	2/27	9:00-10:30a	BU13 & BU14
Sun	3/13	9:00-10:30a	BU13 & BU14

All tryouts are hosted at Riverdale Elementary School, Anaheim

www.canyonpsa.com

Note-ables

Learning in Two Languages



Kate Karp

When I first began teaching, I heard one of Hap Palmer's award-winning recordings in one of my methodology classes—I can still picture the little chalkboard drawings on the album's dust jacket. I thought, hey, I can just let this guy teach my whole class with these songs.

Hap Palmer's first recording, *Learning Basic Skills through Music*, was released in 1969. Over 40 years later, Mr. Palmer is still singing, playing musical instruments and teaching teachers how to teach basic skills through music and movement. The only

changes from the early years are the CD format and the brightly colored pictures on the booklets. His latest release, *Learning in Two Languages*, teaches clothing, opposites, days of the week, colors, directionality, body awareness and adverbs in paired English/Spanish versions of songs, delightfully performed by Mr. Palmer and a band of accomplished studio musicians. The instrumental tracks for each number are included in the last section, to use when children have learned the words. The songs are perfect for assemblies, teaching language at home, and second-language classes in either language, and production quality is as excellent as the CD's contents—during "What Is This Sound?" I rushed to answer a nonexistent doorbell and the cats perked up at a *meow* from the speakers.

Mr. Palmer's coupling of music with body movement, or Total Physical Response (TPR), is a long-recognized best practice for teaching language development: "If you're wearing pants, stand up. If you have any pockets, stand up." The familiar sequence of days of the week gets an additional boost from the idea that the week doesn't stop at Saturday—or Sunday in Spanish—but starts over again. In "What do the Animals Say?" Mr. Palmer cleverly teaches the importance of listening by singing, "But the rabbit says nothing—it just listens, listens, listens."

Listening, music, movement and learning—Hap Palmer's still expertly combining them all.

Lyrics and activities for each CD are available at www.happalmer.com.

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Homework



Dr. Shari Sweetnam

I was listening to a popular talk-radio show host and a person called in on Friday about a kid who has “no passion” for school. The child is ten. She hates reading and is completely unmotivated about homework. I think she described her as feeling “dead” and bored about it. They determined that the child wasn’t depressed and it was only a schoolwork thing.

Dear Dr. Shari,

The “radio show host” said that “some people develop later” and to just demand that she get at least C’s and let her figure it out. Is it true we should let kids who hate school “fend for themselves?” I am in a similar situation (but mine is only six) and really need to know this answer early. I am uncomfortable with saying a “C” is okay.

Gretchen , California

Dear Gretchen,

I strongly disagree with that advice. Though being unmotivated to do homework is not uncommon, parents can do a great deal to shift that mindset. Please do not give up on your child. Take the extra steps necessary to create powerful experiences for your child. Those experiences will be a part of them forever.

Homework? Special memories? Can you possibly bridge the two? Absolutely. It doesn’t have to be a week long trip to DC that enhances the lesson... Your connection to your child through conversation, interest, exploration and support changes how they experience their homework... and even how they study.

Lessons as simple as learning “spelling” can be done while curled up in blankets by the fireplace. Make up funny stories to study vocabulary. Help your child develop ways of studying, ask your child to read aloud to you or go find a story related to a lesson your child is studying, and read to them.

Make studying fun by using memory tricks . Develop acronyms, songs and rhymes to help your child memorize. Be a part of the action. At six years old, you are helping create study habits. Take this seriously and have fun with it. It will have an enormous effect on their future habits.

Assist your child by teaching them how to use study tricks, testing them and engaging them but also step back and allow space for accountability. At times you should be working together and the child should have “alone time” as well.

You can help your child a great deal by setting the parameters for that time. “After you have studied your spelling words alone, let’s go for a walk and I will test you” or “Once you finish writing your paragraph, you can read it to me.”

Most parents will acknowledge having experienced frustration with homework. However, always remember that you set the emotional tone for every experience. Don’t yell at your child if you are having difficulty getting them to follow through. Like anything else, give the clear directive and the clear consequence. Stay calm and cool and keep it simple.

Standards are necessary for children. Doing the bare minimum to get by should never be acceptable. If a child is capable of getting A’s (and if you are not sure... open up that conversation with their teacher) then you should set high grades as the expectation. If they struggle with academics, evaluate their effort. Expecting a child to “do their best” sets that habitual flow as they move into higher grades.

Children who are not held to standards early on have much greater frustration as time goes on and life gets more difficult..

Challenge yourself Gretchen. Motivate your child, inspire your child.. it is really what parenting is all about. Enjoy this special time in life and write back. I would love to hear about it.

Dr. Shari is the founder of the “Brainpower” program for schools, Author of “*The Learning Toolbox - Memory Skills for Everyone*” used in schools nationwide, “*Inspiring the Love of Learning*” and “*The Algebra Toolbox - The UN MATH Solution*” in schools Fall 2011. Dr. Shari is a syndicated columnist, radio host and author of over 200 articles on the topics of Learning and Memory. Contact Dr. Shari at [info@ doctorshari.com](mailto:info@doctorshari.com). For a schedule of radio and television appearances see www.doctorshari.com.



NEW Rules!!!

Circus Word Search Contest

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 is the word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put “Contest OUSD” in the subject line)

Entries must be received by March 15, 2011

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

- | | | |
|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Acrobats | Horses | Tent |
| Bareback rider | Lions | Tigers |
| Barnum | Nets | Tightrope |
| Brothers | Popcorn | Trapeze |
| Clown | Ringling | Tungsten |
| Cotton candy | Ringmaster | Zinc |
| Elephants | Rings | Zirconium |

**Congratulations to
 Grant Santos
 Winner of the December Contest!**

B	J	S	Z	U	V	R	C	Q	B	N	C	Y	C	O
A	C	R	O	B	A	T	S	W	S	R	M	F	A	F
R	M	U	I	N	O	C	R	I	Z	Z	I	N	C	D
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R	I	N	G	L	I	N	G	Z	K	I	G	Q	M	L
N	K	D	R	U	M	T	A	F	E	S	Y	D	X	L

Jordan *Elementary*

4319 E. Jordan Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6187



Bertie Anderson
Principal

Building Leaders for Tomorrow

“The one thing I like about being President is that I can be a good example for the younger people,” states Student Council President, Angel De Rosas. Angel, along with three other sixth-grade students are the elected officers for the Jordan School Student Council. Students from grades 4-6 also sit on the Student Council as class representatives.

The Student Council is compiled of an eager group of students who possess strong leadership skills, as well as those who set positive examples to their peers. Being a quality role model and an encouraging influence to the student body is what makes this group of students special. This year the Council hopes to implement different activities across the Jordan campus promoting a positive and exciting learning environment. They hope to make an impact on the younger students and are eager to see their leadership influence students on the Jordan campus.



La Veta *Elementary*

2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6155



Gwendolyn Green
Principal

Student Leadership Opportunities and Teamwork

At La Veta, our students have the chance to participate in student leadership and teamwork opportunities. La Veta has an

active Student Council that is responsible for organizing various campus activities. Our Student Council is lead by fourth grade teacher Miss. Kauten and fifth

grade GATE teacher Ms. Brehm. Student elections were held at the beginning of the year and monthly council meetings are held throughout the school year. During the month of December, La Veta's Student Council sponsored a holiday Pajama Drive in which new pajamas ranging from new born to adult sizes were collected to go to needy individuals living in group homes, shelters, foster care, and orphanages. The pajama donation drive proved to be a huge success and over 100 pajamas were collected for donation. Along with school spirit days and Red Ribbon week, La Veta's Student Council is an active and welcome part of everyday campus life.



Linda Vista *Elementary*

1200 N. Cannon, Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6201



Sally Hughson
Principal

Student Leadership

On September 17th, Constitution Day, Mrs. Peal's 5th grade class presented the history of the Constitution to our Linda Vista students. Mrs. Peal's students dressed in colonial costumes representing Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Betsy Ross and many others.

Our Veteran's Day Salute was lead by Mrs. Burd's, Mrs. Murray's and Mr. Holmes' 5th grade classes. Their students brought in photographs and created posters of their family members who are serving or have served in the military. They shared information including the branch in which they served and the duties they performed. Mark Wayland, OUSD Board Member, attended our salute and shared his heartfelt appreciation for all men and woman who serve in the military.

Friday December 10th, 4th, 5th and 6th grade students who were candidates for Student Council gave entertaining and informative speeches. The election was held that afternoon. Congratulations to: Ashley Rock—President, Kaitlyn Meeder—Vice President, Chloe Husain—Treasurer, Alexis Rivas—Secretary, Public Relations Representative—Gabrielle Southall and Gabe Rojas—Communication Specialist.

The Student Council's first community project was the 'Warm Hearts—Warm Feet' sock drive. They collected over 1,000 new pairs of socks which were donated to the Orange County Rescue Mission.

Thank You Mrs. McCausland for your continued dedication to Linda Vista students and for organizing our Constitution Day and Veterans Day Assemblies.

Lampson *Elementary*

13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/997-6153 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/lampson



Laurie Dieppa
Principal

Leopards Team Up for Success

Throughout the school year Lampson Leopards have many opportunities to team up for school success and leadership opportunities.

Students in fourth and fifth grades can become a part of student government by participating in class elections of Student Council Members. Members represent their class constituents by leading morning music, raising the flag, and making school announcements. They also hold fundraising events to contribute to school beautification projects and philanthropic endeavors, such as planting flowers around the school and buying canned goods for holiday meals.

At Lampson every classroom and grade level has set academic goals together. In this way all students work together to contribute to class and school-wide success. All students have an interest in helping their classmates succeed.

Finally, the character education and “Stop Bullying” campaigns put into place this year, according to students, parents, and teachers have contributed to a greater sense of belonging and empowerment. Students participated in an interactive assembly on the characteristics of bullying. Students have learned how to interact with each other and how to handle bullying behaviors as they occur through the use of student centered podcasts and role playing. Now, more students are able to say, “stop” when they see inappropriate behaviors and many are able to recognize when they are participating in those behaviors and stop themselves.

Empowered Lampson Leopards are setting goals and teaming up for academic success.

McPherson Magnet

333 S. Prospect, Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6384 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/mcpherson



Holiday Spirit

At McPherson Magnet School, the Leadership students worked hard to ensure that the holiday spirit was contagious. Students helped spread the holiday cheer by selling and delivering holiday grams to the K-8 students. Our "Fun Friday" lunchtime activities included holiday music and dancing, Pin the Nose on the Reindeer, Find the Polar Bear in the Snow, and other fun games to build school spirit. The students looked great dressed in their holiday colors and school spirit was all around.

Jeanne Bentley
Principal

Within the community, Leadership students helped spread the holiday cheer to those less fortunate and organized Operation Santa Claus. Parents and students in all grades were able to choose a name from the "Angel Tree" and buy a gift or two for a child in need. Students and families were able to enjoy the holiday cheer in many ways at McPherson this year.



Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

4100 E. Nohl Ranch Road, Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6203



Opportunities for Student Leadership and Teamwork

Nohl Canyon Roadrunners in upper grade have the option of joining student council. Student council provides many leadership and teamwork opportunities for our young students. This year, students are under the direction of 6th grade GATE teacher, Stephanie Munoz and 5th grade teacher, Jamie Rose.

Dominique Polchow
Principal

Along with donating to various charities, our focus this year will be on character education and team work. One way all students will be involved is during Roadrunner Organized Play Stations. During lunchtime, student council members will lead organized sports and games focusing on our character traits, which are reflected below.

Additionally, members will plan special events around these themes, so that students truly embrace what it is to be a Responsible Roadrunner at Nohl Canyon Elementary.

- Respectful – to others and self
- Organized – prepared and ready to learn
- Attentive – listens to others
- Diligent – works hard
- Resourceful – seeks ways to problem solve
- Unselfish – shares with others
- Noble – shows good character at all times
- Nice – polite and courteous
- Effective – produces expected results
- Reflective – thinks about actions

Olive *Elementary*

3038 N Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/637-8218 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/olive



Calling All Oceleaders!

When Olive Ocelots reach the upper grades at Olive, they have the opportunity to become integrally involved through Oceleaders. Oceleaders are student volunteers that embody school spirit, problem solving, positive behavior and giving to others. Led by two classroom teachers, Ms. Parrish and Ms. Leon, the Oceleaders meet weekly to plan and implement spirit days, philanthropy projects and school-wide improvement. They are peer leaders and conflict managers. What makes the Oceleaders a proud and unique group is that the numbers are unlimited; anyone who keeps their grades up and maintains good citizenship can join!

Kathryn Martin
Principal

Students also look forward to their opportunities to be involved with Olive School News (OSN!). With Mr. Kavanaugh at the helm, students write, film, produce and broadcast a weekly school news program. Every Monday morning, classrooms eagerly watch their peers share news stories, act out positive behavior tips, and even present weather reports!



2011 Olive Oceleaders

Orange *High School*

525 N Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6211 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/ohs



Many Choices to Lead

There are many opportunities for students to develop leadership and teamwork skills at Orange High School (OHS).

The Associated Student Body Officers (ASB) attended a leadership camp at Pali Mountain this summer. The students worked together through activities like rope and zip lining courses. After camp, the ASB students felt their experience equipped them with the necessary skills to be influential leaders on campus.

Ernest Gonzalez
Principal

Chapman University is partnering with OHS to organize a leadership retreat this year. The retreat is designed to target a cross section of students not in traditional leadership positions. The goal is to create positive leaders across the campus.

OHS also participates in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Pennies for Patients Drive. Working together, the school helps in the fight against cancer. We have consistently ranked among the top fundraisers in the nation. Last month, the society honored OHS with the prestigious School and Youth Award.



ASB officers navigate a ropes course at leadership camp.



Director of Activities Ms. Arthur, Former Principal Mr. Johnson, and Principal Mr. Gonzalez accept School and Youth Award.



ASB officers learn leadership concepts through activities like archery.

Palmyra *Elementary*

1325 E Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6207



Connie Smith
Principal

Students Wrote Selfless Wishes

Many students at Palmyra Elementary put their writing skills into action by writing letters to Santa as part of Macy's Believe campaign to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Nearly 300 letters were turned in and then dropped off at the Macy's mailbox on National Believe Day, raising just under \$600. Palmyra is proud of our part in contributing to the total \$1 million collected nationally for the foundation.

This charity is near and dear to Palmyra's heart after one of our second-grade teacher's son was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia last year. Palmyra's students and staff have shown great compassion for pediatric cancer patients and children with other life-threatening diseases. Many students made selfless wishes in their letters, such as asking for Santa to "help children who have diseases" and wishing "for all of the sick kids who have cancer and other diseases to be healthy." Palmyra's staff and parents couldn't be prouder!



Parkside *Pre-K*

2345 E, Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6202



Kristi Franco
Coordinator

Never Too Young to Learn Character Traits

Parkside students may be young, but teachers are already working towards developing their leadership skills. Each classroom has student assigned jobs such as calendar helper, song leader, weather helper, flag leader, and line leader. Students are chosen daily or weekly for the various responsibilities and take pride in performing their delegated duties.

Children are never too young to learn the important character traits necessary to be a good leader. Character traits like leading by example, being fair and following through with responsibilities are taught and promoted through the classroom responsibilities program.

Students at Parkside also work on teambuilding activities in the classroom during small group and whole group instruction. Students work in small groups and are often requested to perform an experiment and complete a chart or graph displaying their experiment's results. In our kindergarten classrooms students will be completing a weather graph for science.

Teamwork is also promoted throughout the day during snack, recess and instruction because we know that the ability to work together is necessary for our students' academic and personal success.

Panorama *Elementary*

10512 Crawford Canyon Road, Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6265



Michelle Moore
Principal

What Does Student Council Bring to School?

*By Courtney Tibbetts,
6th Grade Student Council Member*

Our Panorama Elementary Student Council loves to show our school spirit throughout the school with different, fun events. In order to have these events we hold fundraisers to help our school. These fundraisers go along with a theme for the month like, Shamrock Shakes in March, or Valentine Grams in February. All of the money from the fundraisers goes directly back to the students at Panorama with either a give-back event like a skate party, a fun activity, or something we vote on as a school. We also like to have fundraisers to help others in need like Hat Day for cancer.

School Spirit means a lot to us as a school. Being on Student Council is an honor and a privilege. You get many opportunities to show support for the students at our school like at our Panther assemblies. During our Panther Pride award assemblies each of our Student Council members get to congratulate our award winners along with our principal. We also get to create many fantastic memories that have affected our school in various ways.

Being on our Student Council has given the students a terrific opportunity to be leaders on our campus. We make sure that our grades stay strong and that we are role models for other Panthers. We are all thankful for this opportunity!

GO PANTHERS!

Portola *Middle School*

270 N. Palm St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6361



Deborah Backstrom
Principal

Role Models of the School

By Laura Somers, Teacher and ASB Advisor

Portola's ASB and Leadership Team currently have many talented and enthusiastic sixth, seventh, and eighth graders. The Leadership team is led by seven elected positions that were chosen by the student body. Students must maintain high academic and citizenship grades to remain in ASB & Leadership as they are role models of the school. Students meet during their lunchtime for ASB meetings on a weekly basis. They are very excited to make Portola the best.

ASB and Leadership have been working really hard since fall preparing for school dances, fundraisers, grade-level competitions, community awareness projects and other various school events. One of ASB's recent projects was the Thanksgiving canned food drive. ASB involved the entire school in donating canned food. They then provided six needy families with bountiful food baskets. Students were very excited to help others and make a difference in the community.

Portola's ASB and Leadership Team are part of Portola's solid foundation. We encourage all students to become involved.



Portola's ASB and Leadership Team

Prospect *Elementary*

379 N. Virage St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6271



Elena Stoces
Principal

Students Take the Lead at Prospect

Each year at Prospect, 5th and 6th grade students have the opportunity to participate in student government by running for student council positions. This year we had an extraordinary number of candidates running for most of the offices. Besides the President, the Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary our school added the position of Spirit Director to the list of critical roles on our student council. In fact, we had a total of nine highly qualified candidates just for Spirit Director.

Each candidate was required to apply for the position, have two recommendations, campaign for their position and present a speech that was televised to the student body about why they should be on student council. Ultimately, the vote was close and the winners were: Spirit Director-Grace Garcia, Treasurer-Duncan Mercer, Secretary-Evelin Sanchez, Vice President-Bridgette Pasco and President-Lynn Covarrubias.

Under the direction of their advisor, Mr. McGuire, this eager and dedicated student council meets weekly during their lunch time. In their short time they have been in office together, they have already put into place plans for spirit days, community outreach ideas and have communicated the sincere drive to play a bigger role in development of school policies and daily procedures by working closely with the staff and Mrs. Rodriguez, the principal.

We are eager to watch these student council members really develop their leadership skills by making a positive impact at Prospect and hopefully we will be able to track their progress in student government as they continue on their educational journey. Who knows, we may have a future President of the United States here among us at Prospect??

Running Springs *Elementary*

8670 E. Running Springs Drive, Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/281-45120



Lydia Roach
Principal

PAL, RSN and Student Council

There are many opportunities for student leadership and teamwork at Running Springs Elementary School. Student leadership is demonstrated through Student Council and the Peer Assistance and Leadership (PAL) program. The elected Student Council officers meet with classroom representatives and teacher advisors to plan lunch time activities, school spirit events, and community service projects. PAL members organize the school wide recycling program. PAL members will soon be trained in conflict resolution techniques to assist their peers in resolving playground issues.

Student teamwork is demonstrated through the weekly broadcasts of the Running Springs News (RSN). Students were selected to write, produce,

film, and broadcast a weekly news show that highlights school events and achievements. Opportunities like Student Council, PAL, and RSN allow students to become active members of their school community.

Thank you to these hard working students who continue to make Running Springs a fun, safe place to learn!



RSN Members and Student Council Officers:
Brandon Wee, Samaa Masoud, Alice Chi, Tori Apodaca, Abbey Choi, Raveena Jhaj, Skyeler Sperber

Richland *High School*

615 N. Lemon St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6167



Ed Madrid
Principal

Student Leadership and Teamwork

Richland offers several opportunities for students to stretch their leadership skills while earning elective credit. We have an ASB class that provides students the opportunity to get involved in student government. The students are involved in school wide projects such as campus clean up, fund raisers for the needy, the Red Cross blood drive, and various student fun events. Groups are formed within the class that require students to discuss the various projects, break up into teams and plan out the details for the completion of the various school projects that are undertaken.

Leaders emerge from the groups as they go through the process of working on a project. This class builds school spirit.

Richland also has a leadership class that gives students the opportunity to study the various roles of leadership in a formalized setting where they take on specific roles as leader, researcher, and presenter. All roles require our students to build their planning, building, speaking, and presenting skills. This is a popular class because it allows students the opportunity to work as teams in a guided setting. Each member of the class rotates into a new role as they complete their theme or task.

Our goal is to help students become stronger individuals. They learn to work as a team and produce a product they take pride in as they complete their project.

Santiago Charter *Middle School*

515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6366 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/santiago



Mary Henry
Principal

Leadership Santiago

Santiago makes it a priority to involve students in the leadership of our school. We are home to a variety of classes and clubs in which students can make important contributions to their school. At the top of the list of opportunities are the ASB /Leadership and Yearbook homerooms. In these, students strive to bring excitement to the school life of their peers through events such as spirit activities, dances, and preparation of a yearbook. In addition to these leadership options, Santiago offers membership to multiple academic clubs, which range from Academic Pentathlon to a Science Olympiad team. In these, students lead their groups through study sessions, intellectual exercises, and, of course, the end competition. Other leadership opportunities Santiago provides are NJHS, New Generation, and Rachel's Challenge Chain Reaction. Students in these clubs lead special events in order to assist our community. At Santiago, students make a difference!



Serrano *Elementary*

17741 E. Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6275



Dr. Bobbie Lansman
Principal

Positive Leadership Experiences

Serrano Eagles are developing leadership skills with a very involved student council facilitated by LuAnn Fisher and Diana Karr. The election process is exciting, involved, and comprehensive for all upper grade students interested in running for the executive board positions. Each candidate presents a campaign speech on SETV (Serrano Eagles Television) which is simultaneously broadcast to all classes. In order to make the election process a positive leadership experience, students also have an opportunity to volunteer in a student council committee position.

Our goal is positive leadership experience. Once the election process is complete, the fun really begins.

Student Council members escort guests, lead the Pledge of Allegiance at events, make SETV announcements, and become “holiday elves.” In addition,

they coordinate Spirit Days, helps with the school wide recycling project, student store, book fairs, talent show and other leadership opportunity activities throughout the school year. Through school service and lots of fun, the Serrano Student Council prepares students who have future political aspirations.



Taft *Elementary*

1829 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6254



Antionette Coe
Principal

Leadership Opportunities for Positive Environment

*By Antoinette Coe, Principal
and Robert Rosselli, Student Council Advisor*

For the last two years, Taft Elementary has provided leadership opportunities for fourth through sixth grade students through student council to enhance our school environment, increase school spirit, and support our local community through service projects. These dedicated student representatives attend meetings during their lunch to form a cohesive, collaborative unit focused on planning special events and supporting our school. This year student council, led by Michelle Pham, has planned monthly themed school spirit days, decorated the school for Red Ribbon Week, and organized a canned-food drive to support the Orange County Friendly Center.

Taft also offers leadership opportunities for all third through sixth grade students. We began with our “put bullying to bed” campaign. Students attended school on December 17th in their pajamas to demonstrate their commitment to leave bullying in the year 2010. Our upper grade students were paired with primary grade students. The upper grade students read a story about bullying to the primary students and discussed the negative aspects of bullying. The upper grade students worked at instilling anti-bullying habits in themselves and their primary grade mentees. These habits included not hitting, pushing, teasing, excluding others, or name calling. They learned to stand up for “no bullying” and to tell the bully to stop, as well as report the incident to a responsible adult. We finished this undertaking with a school wide pledge to eliminate bullying. The upper grade students were then challenged to continue to be a role model to their primary student mentees.

Sycamore *Elementary*

340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6277 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/sycamore



Erika Krohn
Principal

Student Council 2010-2011

Bradley Moore & Janeen Wegrocki
Student Council Advisors

During the bustling month of October, the Sycamore Student Council initiated its 2010-2011 year of operation by its annual recruitment of student council representatives. All student representatives were selected by the criteria that representatives must possess a GPA of 2.0 or higher, be of quality character, have good citizenship, and be willing to collaborate and work with other council members.

In addition to the recruitment of new council members, the student council creatively designed posters and sold Halloween-grams to their eager fellow students. The monetary funds will be used for designated school purposes.

If you were searching for council members during the months of November and December, you would find them engaged in the busy activity of promoting and collecting food for the annual holiday canned food drive. The event was successful considering hundreds of various food items were collected. The food was distributed to various designated Sycamore families who were in need of assistance.

As the 2010 year came to an end, the student council look forward to 2011 which will find the council members entrenched with February’s Valentine Gram sales and other fabulous and exciting leadership opportunities that will benefit our entire school.

Villa Park *Elementary*

10551 Center Drive, Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6281



Debra Larson
Principal

Our Student Council

The Villa Park Student Council began its meetings in October. The student-members meet regularly to help decide on things like school spirit days and the different ways to raise funds. So far this year they have been very busy with several exciting events.

In October, the students worked at a local market bagging groceries and helping people to their cars. They worked long and hard hours, and valued the experience as a great way to raise money for programs. The Red Ribbon Week was another event in which the council participated, and they were also in charge of the “Pennies for Prevention” activity. Here they counted all of the pennies that were collected for the week!

Together, our school collected approximately 400 pounds of pennies! This money will go directly to supporting local alcohol, tobacco and other drug- and violence-prevention programs, as well as educational activities for our youth.

Our first spirit day was “College Day” on November 5. The student council made posters to advertise the event, and everyone enjoyed displaying their favorite college’s colors. Go, Trojans!

In late November the students also organized and collected toys for a local program called “Holiday of Hope,” which provides presents for local families in need. The students once again came together and made posters to help advertise the event. They also spoke about the need for giving to those who are less fortunate.

This young group of fourth- through sixth-grade students are dedicated to their school and the community. Thank you for all of your hard work.

Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/628-4300



Ed Howard
Principal

Many Unsung Leaders

One of the most important jobs of any comprehensive high school is to identify, promote, create, and encourage our future leaders. At Villa Park High School we pride ourselves in doing just that. For over 45 years we have been producing leaders in the areas of business, law, medicine, science, entertainment and education.

When we look for leaders it is easy to get caught up with our leadership students, but the story just begins there. We have many unsung leaders on this campus.

While David Tafuna and Kapena Olsen received most of the press in our CIF semifinal run in football, it was the quiet leadership of DJ Westfall and Andrew Yoon that brought consistency to the team. We all know that Matt Simon is a tremendous ASB President but it is the everyday efforts of leadership students like Eric Lidgard, Joey Ehlert, and Kady Amsbary that make VPHS a special place. From our classrooms to our fields, from our clubs to our community there are hundreds of leadership opportunities and we never seem to have a void filling them. I have the privilege of witnessing leaders emerge every year.

Although it is popular for our older folks to think that there will be a leadership void with this next generation, well that is not the case. I am here to tell you that the future is bright and I am sure that the leaders of tomorrow will certainly be prepared to lead this great nation into the future.

Yorba *Middle School*

935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6161 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/yorba



Kerrie Torres
Principal

Student Leadership

Student leadership is very important to the both the school and the student body. Student leadership is the process of involving students in meaningful ways both in and beyond the classroom.

Leadership is providing opportunities for students to demonstrate their talents, skills, and interest while continuing to develop new skills. It is also about giving more ownership over the programs that students attend. Primarily, student input can improve and strengthen programs in ways that teachers and administrators cannot. Students bring new energy, ideas and perspective to the school and the programs. It also allows students to learn characteristics and traits that will transfer into the workplace and have real-life applications. Finally student leadership deepens their commitment to the school and improves their communication skills.

At Yorba Middle School, we offer several opportunities for students to engage in leadership opportunities. We have our Associated Student Body which is made up of 30 students from 6th, 7th and 8th grade. They are responsible for providing activities for all of our students on campus. We also have several clubs such as Drama, Dance, Cheer, Sports, Music, DJ, Arts and crafts that allow students to be a participant and take a leadership role. Let your student(s) know that they will learn how to operate in a group, make presentations and practice their speaking skills, all essential skills for the workplace. Encourage your student(s) to join a group and be a part of something that contributes to the school and meets their own interests.

West Orange *Elementary*

243 S. Bush St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6283 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/wo



Michael Olander
Principal

Student Council Leads the Way at West Orange

By Dana Johnston

Opportunities for student leadership abound at West Orange Elementary School. We have an active Student Council led by teachers Laura Urquhart and Dana Johnston. The Executive Board (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) are 5th grade students elected by 4th and 5th grade students after a week of positive campaigning and giving election speeches.

The Executive Board is responsible for leading the rest of Student Council through many exciting and helpful projects throughout the year. Other Student Council members are chosen to be Committee Leaders for teams that tackle posters, school spirit, Jump Rope for Heart, green team and fundraising. The Executive Board and Committee Leaders are learning invaluable lessons in time management, effective note taking, working within a time schedule, completing tasks and motivating fellow team members. Our Warrior Patrol members work on the playground with primary students to mediate conflicts. All Student Council members are learning to be leaders through positive behavior and being good role models for the rest of our students.

This year, the Student Council has decided to actively participate in raising money to help fellow 5th grade students attend science camp. They have come up with many creative ways to raise money. This teaches them good citizenship, and allows them to see how a few hard-working people with good intentions can make changes that positively affect other people. We are very fortunate to have such outstanding students learning to be great leaders!

BOARD OF EDUCATION • FROM PAGE 1

number of strategies. For example, OUSD is working to improve student achievement with a kindergarten through twelfth grade articulation. Earlier this year, during the first annual Data Conferences, our principals presented an analysis of their schools' data along with creating strategies based on that information to meet the needs of all students. In addition, our Strategic Plan calls for our District to create a newly designed Curriculum Council to insure that our students are receiving the best instruction available. Also, our hard working teachers are dedicated to supporting students through strategic and focused instruction. Finally, while there are challenges before us, I have the utmost confidence in our teachers, staff and administrators to continue to make OUSD a great place for students to learn and become contributing members of society.

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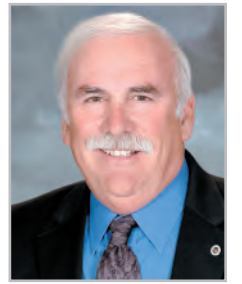
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Ankle Sprains



Dr. Doug Richie

Long distance running is a relatively safe activity with many long term health benefits. Occasionally injuries will happen, and these are usually due to overuse or poor footwear. However, even runners are susceptible to the most common injury in sport: the ankle sprain. Ankle sprains remain one of the most poorly understood injuries and this may explain the fact that over 25% of all people who suffer an ankle sprain never fully recover and will go on to suffer long term problems.

Most ankle sprains occur in people who have suffered a previous sprain. This illustrates the problem that poorly treated first time sprains will commonly lead to recurrent sprains in the same individual. The old term notion that "it's only a sprain" after an ankle injury is now outdated as we have learned that injuries to the ankle ligaments can be more serious than a bone fracture.

The message here is that all individuals should seek immediate professional evaluation of any ankle sprain, even if it appears benign. New techniques of protected immobilization of the injured ankle as well as functional rehabilitation therapy can almost assure a complete recovery. On the other hand, simply applying ice for a few days and wearing an ace wrap will potentially prevent healing of ligaments and lead to long term problems. Yes, it is recommended to apply the "RICE" treatment after an ankle sprain: rest, ice, compression, elevation. But this is only the beginning. Medical evaluation can determine if there is ligament damage to the ankle after a sprain, and will determine if long term bracing or physical therapy is indicated.

When ligaments fail to heal, athletes will have a constant feeling of a weak or unstable ankle. Furthermore, many unstable ankles will develop debilitating arthritis which is almost impossible to treat in later life. All of these negative effects from a simple ankle sprain can be prevented with proper medical evaluation and treatment.

Dr. Doug Richie is a sports podiatrist who has practiced in Seal Beach for 28 years. He is president-elect of the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine and serves as a medical advisor to U.S.A. Track and Field. 562/493-2451

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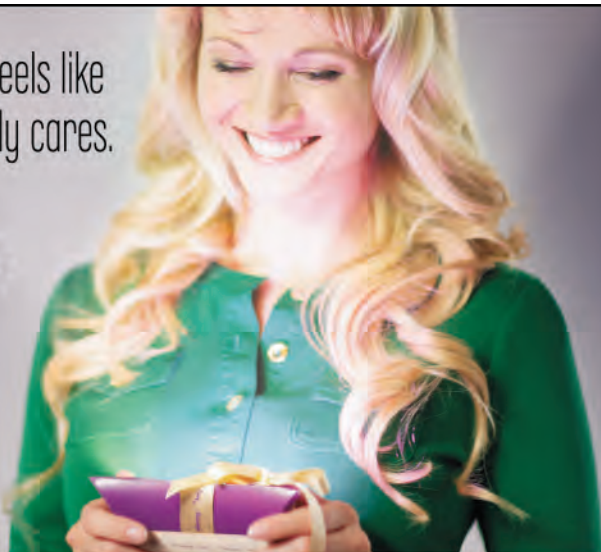
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Orange Unified School District Full-Day Kindergarten Registration and Open Enrollment Information

Kindergarten registration will begin on
Wednesday, March 2, 2011
with the exception of McPherson Magnet School

The process for kindergarten registration is as follows:

- To receive a kindergarten registration packet a parent **MUST** have all the required documentation: birth certificate, current immunization records, and two address verifications (even if a sibling already attends the school, the family may have moved).
- Parents may choose to complete the registration packet at the school site but are not required to do so. Each school site determines the date that packets must be returned to their site.

Open Enrollment Information:

K – 12 Open Enrollment will be held during the two week period of **March 1 – March 14, 2011**. Open Enrollment lotteries will be conducted by each school.

For more information regarding kindergarten registration parents are asked to contact the school site directly or go to the OUSD website at <http://www.orangeusd.org/scs>. For specific questions regarding open enrollment, parents are asked to contact the school site they are interested in their student attending directly. For general questions or information on inter-district transfers, please contact Student and Community Services at (714) 628-5424.

Orange Unified School District is located at
1401 North Handy Street, Orange, CA.