

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Orange Unified School District

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 35

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2011

SUPERINTENDENT



Michael Christensen is the new Superintendent of Schools for the Orange Unified School District, effective August 2, 2011.

Mr. Christensen has served as Deputy Superintendent in Orange Unified for the past year. Prior to his assignment as Deputy Superintendent, he was the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services and the Chief Business Officer (CBO). Mr. Christensen has worked in education for over 15 years, including three years in the Riverside Unified School District and the balance at Orange Unified.

Board President, Rick Ledesma stated, "Mr. Christensen has provided exemplary leadership during these trying fiscal times. He is intimately familiar with the District's goals and will provide organizational continuity, with the primary goal of increasing student achievement while guiding the organization through difficult financial decisions."

Mr. Christensen has received numerous awards and recognitions throughout his career. He received the Orange Council PTA Honorary Service Award in 2004, was named the 2010 Greater Orange Person of the Year by the Greater Orange Community Organization and, most recently, the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region XVII 2011 Business Services Administrator of the Year.

Mr. Christensen earned his Master's degree at California Baptist University and his Bachelor's at the University of Redlands. Additionally, he has earned the School Business Management Certificate from the University of Southern California.

OUSD STAR Test Results Show Improvement



Students in a OUSD classroom.

From the District

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson released the results of the 2011 Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program from Spring 2011. The STAR program measures student learning in grades 2 through 11. The STAR program includes the California Standards Tests (CST), the California Modified Assessment (CMA), the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) and Standards-based Tests in Spanish (STS).

The Orange Unified School District saw the percentage of advanced and proficient students increase District Wide with the highest grade level gains in Grade 5 Mathematics (10%) and Grade 2 Mathematics (7%). In addition, all significant subgroups advanced in proficiency with the special education students demonstrating the largest gains (12%).

OUSD STAR TEST • PAGE 11

Orange Unified School District Board of Education



Rick Ledesma
President



John H. Ortega
Vice President



Dr. Alexia L. Deligianni
Clerk



Kathryn A. Moffat
Member



Diane Singer
Member



Timothy Surridge
Member



Mark D. Wayland
Member

Electives Inside:

Orange County Department of Education....Page 2
OUSD Schools
Principal Bio's3-7, 11-15
Word Search Contest8
(See who won the June Contest)

Our next issue is December.



Sign up on our website to have this publication emailed to you each issue!
www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Dr. Marc Lerner is New Medical Officer



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent

The research is clear; healthy children are more likely to have positive outcomes in school. Until now, financial restraints have made it difficult to expand health related services in our schools. The scale of this challenge was understood by our partners who have stepped up to make a new investment on behalf of our youth. It is with this generous support that we are pleased to announce that Orange County children and families have a new health champion, Dr. Marc Lerner.

As Medical Officer (M.O.) with the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE), Dr. Lerner joins a proactive education community that is focusing on student well-being as a critical feature that leads to academic success. Dr. Lerner is an

esteemed professional, an Orange County resident, and an active leader in the medical community. As a Board Certified General, Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician, and a Clinical Professor of Pediatrics and the Chief of the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics for the University of California Irvine, Medical School, Dr. Lerner has addressed important clinical issues and research for Orange County children and their families. A recipient of the Halo Award from the Orange County School Nurse Association in 2007, Dr. Lerner is well respected in the community as a leader in the field of pediatrics.

Dr. Lerner's will offer consultation services on youth related medical and health issues for the education community. He will join with members of the existing OCDE health and wellness team to support the physical health and mental well-being of children from preschool through high school. A comprehensive approach to health, wellness, nutrition, physical education, the prevention of mental health problems, and emergency preparedness supports Orange County youth to develop the foundation they need to achieve excellence in their learning and to reach their full potential.

SEE OC DEPT OF ED • PAGE 13



Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher



The end of summer has arrived and you can hear the cracking of books as the students prepare for another successful year at OUSD. This is one of our most popular issues when we highlight the principals. It is motivating to read where they each earned their degrees, about their families, pets and outside interests. Students particularly are always amazed that principals and teachers actually eat, sleep and study just like they do. I'd like to thank the principals personally for their dedication to our youth and commitment to education.

Enjoy and thank you for reading *School News*.

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation
www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Covering the
ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



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

ADVERTISING SALES:

714/856-9884 • Fax: 562/430-8063
Leslie Rawlings • Leslie@schoolnewsrollcall.com

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

COPY EDITORS:

Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST: Neta Madison

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Laura Brune

SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com
Copyright © 2006, School News Roll Call LLC
Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest columnists are their views and not necessarily those of *School News Roll Call*. This publication is privately owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content. The school district does not endorse the advertisers in this publication.



Help your child build and strengthen fundamental reading and math skills

Hoppy2Learn Online Tutoring

- Programs are done completely online
- Programs are easy for students of all levels to use including special needs, ESL, GATE or accelerated readers
- Lessons are aligned to CA standards
- Free placement test

Programs k-5 Math & Reading

- Low cost
- Uses critical thinking skills
- Engaging and fun
- Supplement your child's current school curriculum



www.Hoppy2learn.com

LHD, Inc. Psychological Services

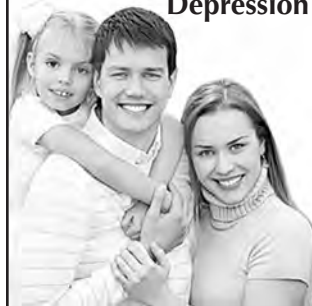
Children and Family Counseling Center
Depression • ADHD • Anxiety • ODD • PTSD

FREE 30 min. Consultation

Counseling Services

- Children \$35*
- Adults \$65*
- Couples \$85*

*Fees reflect services performed by MFT Interns.
MHN, Kaiser, Health Net, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Insurance accepted



2140 W. Chapman Ave., Ste. 253 • Orange, CA 92868
(714) 264-9446 • Fax (714) 538-7680
www.lhdinc1.net • lhdinc1@gmail.com

Save Green!



Go Yellow!



School Bus Ride
Round Trip only \$335 per year
Bus Pass Office (714) 538-8295

WHY PAY MORE TO PRINT?



Savings Quality Environment

Cartridge World

www.cartridgeworldusa.com

\$4 OFF INK REFILL

\$10 OFF TONER REFILL

Located in Orange:
(714) 282-7120
1852 N. Tustin St.
Orange, CA 92865

Must bring in empty cartridge.
Limited time offer, must have coupon.
Not valid with other offers or prior purchases.
Code SN

Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

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



Sandra Miller
Principal

Sandra has been in education for 16 years serving as an elementary teacher, vice principal, and principal. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English with an emphasis in Literature from California State University, Fresno and a Masters Degree in Education with an emphasis in Early Childhood Development from California State University, Long Beach. Sandra and her family live in San Clemente. She has two school age daughters, Marisa 13 and Emma 10.

California *Elementary*

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



Cyndi Paik
Principal

It is a privilege to be serving as California Elementary Principal because of the fabulous staff that I am able to work with. Our staff has high expectations for the students, themselves and their colleagues. Also, it is a delight to work with families at California, as they are supportive of the school's programs and focus on increasing student achievement.

My situation is unique in that I have a long standing history at California Elementary. I began teaching at California, served as the Assistant Principal and now serving as the Principal. When I was a classroom teacher, I enjoyed teaching students to overcome their barriers by stretching their potential through the use of various strategies. I am pleased to be working with a staff that also has the same mindset.

My educational background includes a Bachelor degree from UCI, Master's degree from Alliant University and Doctorate from USC. Go Trojans! In my spare time, I enjoy golfing because it is a fun sport that is difficult to master and reminds me that there is always hard work and frustration before every success.

Cambridge *Elementary*

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



Karen Merkow
Principal

A native Californian, Karen Merkow has spent her career as a life long learner, right along with the hundreds of students she has taught and teachers she has lead. She celebrates and values her career in education of over 35 years. Karen earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from UCLA, holds elementary teaching and reading specialist credentials, and an administrative credential. Beginning her teaching career in Los Angeles, Karen taught grades K-6 and served in many leadership roles. She began her Orange Unified career teaching at Chapman Hills Elementary. Mrs. Merkow then served as Assistant Principal at California Elementary and Principal at Anaheim Hills Elementary and Chapman Hills Elementary before coming to Cambridge three years ago. Proud of her continuing participation advancing education for children, Karen has served as a member of curriculum planning and presentation teams, Leadership Team-Orange Board of Directors, and has been awarded the California Distinguished School recognition at Anaheim Hills Elementary and the California Businesses for Educational Excellence Award at Chapman Hills. She attends numerous trainings to refine and develop innovative educational programs at her school.

Karen's children are both graduates of OUSD. Daughter Deanna followed her mom's passion for teaching and teaches in Nevada and son Phil is working as a producer in the online social media industry. Husband of 35 years, Jeff, owns advertising agencies in Tustin and Glendale.

Mrs. Merkow is excited to begin the new school year as continuing principal of Cambridge Elementary School. She looks forward to a wonderful year working with her staff and community to provide an outstanding educational program.



- Quality Dental Care with a Gentle Touch
- Family Dentistry
- Restorative Dentistry
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Most Insurance/HMO Plans Accepted
- Evening Appointments
- Walk-ins Welcome
- Credit with Affordable Payments Plans

**Grand Opening
in Anaheim Hills
714.974.0054**



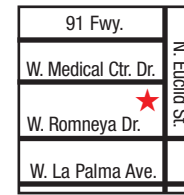
Jason H. Morgan, D.D.S.
Dr. Morgan comes from a family of dentists and is a graduate of the University of Southern California's School of Dentistry.



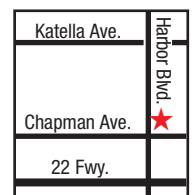
Aliso Viejo
26888 B S. La Paz Rd.
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656
949.362.5600



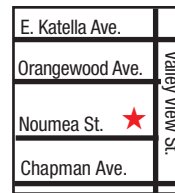
Anaheim Hills
140 S. Fairmont Blvd.
Anaheim Hills, CA 92807
714.974.0054



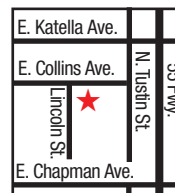
North Anaheim
1221 N. Euclid St.
Anaheim, CA 92801
714.491.2732



South Anaheim
2300 S. Harbor Blvd.
Anaheim, CA 92802
714.750.3030



Cypress
11741 Valley View St., #E
Cypress, CA 90630
714.826.3000



Orange
1502 E. Collins Ave.
Orange, CA 92867
714.288.8464



Riverside
3845 Pierce St. #A
Riverside, CA 92503
951.359.1900



Friend Us
on Facebook
for More
Special Offers

Call for an Appointment Today!
www.califdent.com

**FREE
Exam &
X-Rays**
\$330 Value

New patients only!
Exp. 9/30/11

**FREE
Teeth
Whitening**
Home Teeth Whitening
\$300 Value

New patients who qualify.
Exp. 9/30/11

\$200 OFF
Minimum Services
of \$399 or More

Not valid with any
other offer or discounted
HMO plans.
Exp. 9/30/11

Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6171



Karen Hanson
Principal

Dr. Karen Hanson is new to Canyon Hills School this year, although she is not new to the Orange Unified School District. A native of Orange, she attended elementary through high school, returning as school nurse in 1990. Dr. Hanson brings with her a unique blend of experience in the fields of both health care and education. As a Registered Nurse, she has worked in the hospital setting, as a school nurse, and as a school health administrator. She then transitioned into the area of special education administration, serving most recently as the district's Director of Special Education and earning a doctoral degree in education. Dr. Hanson has spent much of her career working with students with special physical and educational needs. She is committed to becoming part of the positive work done by the students, staff, and families at Canyon Hills School.

Canyon High School

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



Dr. Greg Bowden
Principal

Dr. Bowden has had broad experience in his 33 years in education. He taught a variety of subjects at the elementary, middle school, high school, and university levels. His administrative career began at El Rancho Middle School as assistant principal, and he was promoted to be principal at Crescent Intermediate. He then moved to become principal of Running Springs Elementary, which was recognized as a California Distinguished School in 2006. In 2007 he became Principal at Canyon High School.

Dr. Bowden holds degrees from San Diego State University, Pepperdine University, and the University of San Diego. In addition to his experience in public schools, he has taught face to face and online courses for Azusa Pacific University and Concordia University. In 2005 he was honored as OUSD Elementary Principal of the Year, and recognized in 2011 as the ACSA Region 17 Orange County High School Principal of the Year.

Cerro Villa Middle School

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



Dr. Ken Miller
Principal

I have been a member of the Leadership Team in Orange Unified School District for the past four years serving as Assistant Principal, Curriculum/Instruction and Athletics at El Modena High School and now Principal at Cerro Villa Middle School. Before joining Orange Unified, I served as social studies teacher and football coach at the comprehensive high school level for four years and a vice principal for nearly ten years in the Downey Unified School District. I sought a leadership position in Orange Unified because I wanted to be part of the outstanding team that provides such a great education for all children including my children.

My wife Jennifer and I have two children: Katelyn, 15, attends Canyon High School and Kenny, 13, attends Cerro Villa Middle School. We have a black Labrador retriever named Justice and a cat named Chaplin. These individuals firmly believe they are the third and fourth Miller children.

My daily experiences in Orange Unified have been excellent as the District Leadership and staff have truly made me feel right at home. I am thrilled to be a part of the OUSD leadership team and I am absolutely elated to be part of the Cerro Villa Middle School family. I look forward to working with the wonderful Cerro Villa staff and surrounding community this year and leading our students to reach optimal levels of mastery knowledge.

Canyon Rim Elementary

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



David Appling
Principal

During David's career in education, he taught multiple grade levels also serving as a master teacher and BTSA Support Provider. Leaving the classroom, Mr. Appling spent four years as a reading intervention resource teacher where he implemented the Scholastic Read180 technology reading intervention program. Moving to the district level as a curriculum specialist for three years, David supported the interventions, ELD, and CORE curriculum professional developments in the 24 Anaheim City School District schools. David served as a vice principal for Clara Barton and Horace Mann before moving to Orange Unified School District. For the last two years, Mr. Appling has led the Canyon Rim staff, students, and community as Principal. David A. Appling, Jr. is entering his third year as the Principal of Canyon Rim Elementary School. The past two years has brought focus to data, interventions, in-class instruction, and common and consistent practices across the grade levels.

Appling was raised in the city of Los Alamitos, California and a product of its K-12 educational system. After graduating from Los Alamitos High School, he continued his education earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the California State University of Long Beach. David received his teaching credential and Masters of Science in Educational Administration from National University in the city of Costa Mesa, California.

Away from the principalship at Canyon Rim Elementary School, Mr. Appling enjoys traveling around the world. Appling belongs to the Orange County/Long Beach Softball League where he spends much of his time at practice, weekend games, or traveling to various states competing in tournaments. Lastly, he enjoys spending time with his family.

Appling looks forward to collaborating with the teachers, parents, students, and community of Canyon Rim Elementary School as they move forward achieving student success.

Chapman Hills Elementary

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



Julie Lucas
Principal

Julie Lucas will begin her fourth year as Principal of Chapman Hills this fall. A transplant in California, Mrs. Lucas graduated from the University of Akron in 1998 with a degree in Elementary Education. After teaching for one year in Ohio, she moved to Southern California, which she now calls home. Before receiving her Masters in Educational Administration from Concordia University in Irvine, she taught for 9 years in the Tustin Unified School District. In her years as a teacher, Mrs. Lucas taught Kindergarten, third, fourth and fifth grades. Once she earned her Administrative credential, Mrs. Lucas was an Assistant Principal in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District for two years.

Mrs. Lucas has two children with her husband Matt; Abbey, age 3 and Matthew, 15 months. Her husband is a teacher and coach at El Dorado HS in Placentia. In addition to her position as Principal at Chapman Hills, Mrs. Lucas enjoys spending time with her family, reading, golfing and the beach.

Teaching and leadership have always been a passion for Mrs. Lucas. From her early days as an athlete and student, then as a coach and teacher, to her current role as an administrator, she has always pursued excellence in all that she does.

"I am proud to be the Principal at Chapman Hills," Lucas stated. "I have an outstanding staff, the students are bright, happy and hardworking, and the parent community is actively involved and supportive!" "I am looking forward to another successful and memorable year."

Crescent *Elementary*

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



Randi Leach
Principal

Randi Leach earned her undergraduate degree from UCLA, and then attended USC where she earned her Masters Degree in Special Education and both an elementary and learning handicapped teaching credential. She began her teaching career as a 3rd – 8th grade Special Day Class teacher in the Castaic Union School District.

Randi Leach taught for 12 years in the Westminster School District where she served as a New Teacher Mentor and Math Mentor for many years, creating their District “Math Mania” competition. Over the years, she also provided staff development for teachers in Orange County and presented annually at county and state reading and math conferences. In 1996 Randi received the OCDE Excellence Award for Outstanding Contributions to Education and was named Westminster School District’s “Teacher of the Year.”

Randi Leach began her administrative career in 2001 as the Assistant Principal of Handy Elementary in the Orange Unified School District. She then served seven years as principal of Canyon Rim Elementary and the past two years as principal of Crescent Elementary. Randi’s passion for curriculum and instruction continues as she was a member of the OUSD writing team for years, creating and presenting Staff Development for teachers and principals in order to support effective instructional strategies. She was honored as an OUSD 2008 “Administrator of the Year” and she is currently serving on the Science Steering Committee and the District’s Curriculum Council.

Mrs. Leach looks forward to working with a wonderful staff and a dedicated and supportive community as Crescent Elementary joins together on one campus for the 2011-2012 school year.

El Modena *High School*

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



John Briquet
Principal

John Briquet began his career in education as a district intern and Language Arts teacher at Foshay Junior High School in South Central Los Angeles. He then spent two years at Washington Middle School in La Habra City School District before joining the Sunny Hills High School staff as an English teacher and football/wrestling coach.

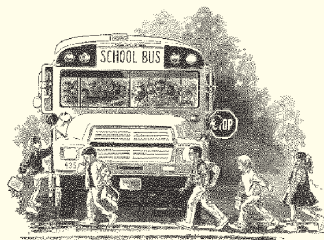
After five years as a Lancer, John and his wife anticipated buying a home in central Orange County, so he headed to Tustin High School where he served as a teacher and English department chair. Although John truly enjoyed being a Tiller, he found himself drawn toward a career in school administration; therefore, after four years at Tustin High, he accepted a position as assistant principal at Loara High School in Anaheim. During his four years at Loara, John served in virtually every administrative capacity, including summer school principal.

In 2006 John rejoined old friends in La Habra City School District and served as an assistant principal at Imperial Middle School, a change that permitted him to finally experience the “full spectrum” of secondary administration, before joining the staff of El Modena High School in May of 2007. John is beginning his fifth full year as a Vanguard and remains thoroughly convinced there is no better place to be.

John, his wife Jill, their twins—Grace and Griffin, and their bulldog Maggie live in Huntington Beach.

Please Drive Safely

Students
Are
Back In School



Fund Raising Solutions

- World’s Finest Chocolate
- Cookie Dough
- Gift Catalogs

Pete Hambrick

(714) 657-7127

(714) 357-6837 Cell

14340 Bolsa Chica Rd., Suite J
Westminster, CA 92683
wfcpc@aol.com



Great for the entire school or clubs, AVID, Outdoor Science, classroom projects

Summer Special

Color & Cuts

Teri

Family Hair Stylist

Call for Appointment

(714) 392-4042

Feathers \$10 each

Men or Women

Shampoo & Style Cut

\$5 Off (Reg. \$20)

Kids Cut

age 12 and younger

\$3 Off (Reg. \$15)



1337 E. Katella in Orange
(at Katella & Tustin)



Massage Envy®

\$39*

Introductory
1-Hour Massage
Session

ORANGE HILLS
7536 E. Chapman Avenue
Near Pacific Ranch Market
(714) 281-1800

ORANGE TOWN AND COUNTRY
745 S. Main Street
Near Barnes and Noble
(714) 921-3900

ANAHEIM HILLS
5769 Santa Ana Canyon Rd.
Near LA Fitness
(714) 637-2300

Franchises Available | **MassageEnvy.com** | Convenient Hours
Open 7 days: M-F 8am-10pm, Sat-Sun 8am-9pm

*See center for details.

© 2010 Massage Envy Franchising, LLC.

El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

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



John Besta
Principal



Michele Walker
Principal

El Rancho Charter School will continue with a concept seen at few schools throughout the United States—two principals.

Mrs. Walker oversees the academic programs with a specific goal of ensuring all students learn at a high level. Mr. Besta is responsible for business and operations functions of the school. His goal will be to build a new science building and a new arts building on the El Rancho campus. John Besta has just completed his 14th year as the El Rancho principal and has

worked in Anaheim Hills schools a total of 24 years. Michele Walker has just completed her first year as El Rancho principal and has been at El Rancho a total of 7 years.

Esplanade *Elementary*

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



Amy Hitt
Principal

Amy Hitt has been the principal at Esplanade School since 2008. Before that time, she worked in Anaheim City School District where she served as a vice principal, curriculum specialist, teacher on special assignment, and classroom teacher. Ms. Hitt has worked at several schools teaching third through sixth grades, and specializing in curriculum, program evaluation/assessment, and technology. She has an Administrative Credential from California State University, Fullerton; a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Azusa Pacific University; and an undergraduate degree in Professional Writing from Baylor University.

Ms. Hitt's roots in Orange run deep—she attended Orange Unified schools as a child and still lives in Orange, very near Esplanade. Her children also attend Orange Unified schools as sixth and ninth graders in the 2010-2011 school year. Most importantly, Ms. Hitt loves the community of committed learners represented by Esplanade's staff, teachers, parents, and students. The school's similar schools ranking shows how seriously the whole community takes teaching and learning.

Fairhaven *Elementary*

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



Kelli Keller
Principal

I remember being young and feeling disturbed when I watched a group of girls from my elementary school make fun of an elderly man who had taken a custodial position at our city's first McDonald's restaurant. As the frail, graying man stooped to pick up the trash they had left behind, I forever vowed to stand up and to fight for others. I never forgot that day or that emotion, but little could I know that this experience through my seven-year-old eyes would be consistent with the person I am today.

I am an educator who believes that my position as an educational leader is to stand up for the future of our community's children.

I believe that all our students deserve the right to learn in an environment that is safe, accepting, engaging, and provides the opportunity for continued success throughout life. Our students must be competitive to thrive in society and I am determined that Fairhaven will serve as their first step to meeting this worldly challenge.

I am a member of the Fairhaven community and live within a stone's throw from the school with my husband and two children. I received my Masters' degree locally from Chapman University and join the Falcon team after serving as assistant principal at Yorba Middle School in Orange.

Fletcher *Elementary*

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



Helen Chung
Principal

As I continue my third year as principal of Fletcher Elementary School, it has been my sincere pleasure and honor to be a member of this great school community. I feel fortunate to continue at a school culture focused on student learning, a commitment to high expectations, innovation and collaboration. It is my intention to carry on these important traditions and practices. I am excited to continue as part of the Fletcher family and to closely work with everyone to make our school even better. My goal is to provide the leadership that will facilitate a school environment to provide differentiated instruction to meet the needs of each student to the

best of our ability. The educational program must be academically challenging, engage each student by linking the curriculum to previous knowledge and experience, and also to promote further exploration of new ideas. Parents, teachers, support staff, and administration all have an important role to encourage our children to become active learners. It is my sincere desire to provide expanded opportunities for our students to acquire the skills to become productive citizens in a vastly changing society. We are looking forward to another successful year at Fletcher Elementary School!

Handy *Elementary*

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



Sandra Schaffer
Principal

It is my pleasure to say that this is my 14th year working for the Orange Unified School District. I began as an Assistant Principal at West Orange and Fletcher and have since been principal at Fletcher Elementary and Handy Elementary schools.

I received my Bachelors of Business Administration from Loyola Marymount University, my teaching credential from Chapman University, and my Masters of Education Administration from Cal State, Fullerton. Although my formal education has given me the foundation needed for this job, I learn something new every day at school!

I am thrilled to return to Handy Elementary for the 2011/2012 school year. This will be my seventh year at Handy so I will have the opportunity to see my original kindergarteners move on to middle school. I am looking forward to a productive year and know that the Handy Hornets are destined for great things!

UCLA Extension

explore. experience. expand.

Earn a TESL/TEFL Certificate

With UCLA Extension's Convenient Online Program

Want to teach English to students as a second or foreign language? Consider the UCLA Extension advantage:

- Basic introductory 4-course, 2-quarter program (24 units with practicum)
- Courses offered online or in hybrid format (part online, part classroom)
- International students can complete the program online from their home country.

For more information contact education@uclaextension.edu or (310) 825-9631.

Imperial *Elementary*

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



Tim Biland
Principal

I began my career in education as middle school teacher of English and History. My emphasis in education shifted to reading intervention, English Language Development, and working with struggling students, families, and school staff. My experience in school administration began in Orange Unified School District in 2004, as assistant principal of Portola Middle School. In 2007 I became assistant principal of McPherson Magnet School. Since fall of 2008, I have served as principal of Imperial Elementary. In this time, we have implemented Thinking Maps as a school-wide best practice, developed a school wide technology plan which resulted in the addition of document cameras and LCD projectors in every classroom and broadening the role of technology on campus, and we have had an increase in both our school API and statewide and similar school rankings. I have had the fortune of successful experience because of individuals who have provided great guidance and camaraderie.

When I'm not working, I stay busy with my wife and three children. I participate whenever possible in my children's activities such as coaching or assisting with soccer or little league. Overall, I am blessed to be supported by my terrific wife and family and to share a common role as parent with the families I have the opportunity to serve.

Jordan *Elementary*

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



Andrea Roman
Principal

Ms. Andrea Roman has devoted her career to public education. Prior to becoming the Principal of Jordan Elementary, Ms. Roman had the privilege of teaching Kindergarten, Second and Third Grade in two large districts. From her teaching experience, Ms. Roman was able to gain a sound perspective on how to address the various needs of diverse student populations. In addition to her teacher experience, Ms. Roman has also worked as an Elementary and Secondary site administrator for the Pajaro Valley Unified School District.

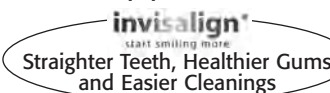
She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree and her teaching credential from the University of California, Riverside and her Master's Degree and Administrative Services Credential from the University of Redlands. Ms. Roman strives to inspire all children, even at the youngest age, to look toward a higher education and make those pathways available to them and their families by providing them a positive and academically challenging learning environment.

Ms. Roman loves her job and enjoys working with teachers, parents, and most importantly students. Her family is also very important in her life. She is married to her wonderful husband Albert, and has two amazing children, Ashley and Albert, Jr. When she sees the students she interacts with on a daily basis she also sees her own children in them. She treats them as if they were her own children. When she is not spending time with her family she uses her time to give back to the community. She is a proud member of a Kiwanis Service Club and has also served on various community boards. In addition, Ms. Roman has also been involved with several scholarship committees that directly assist students pay for their college education.



765 N. Tustin Street
Orange, CA 92687
(714) 771-7474
www.brightdental-orange.com

- As you start the school year, why not prepare for prom? Visit our office for a consultation we can help you have a whiter, brighter smile!
- Clear Braces available so it will not interfere with your social life.
- Play Safe Ultimate Oral Protection Sports mouth guards available at a very low price.



Get Acquainted Special Offer

\$35.00 (\$149 value)

- X-ray • Oral Cancer Screening
 - Evaluation • Diagnosis & Treatment
- some restrictions apply

Extractions

\$150.00 (\$195.00 value)
some restrictions apply

Orthodontic Braces

\$2999.00 (\$6000.00 Value)
• Will Cover Ortho Records
some restrictions apply

Three Days of Shopping, Entertainment, & Prizes!

HARVEST FESTIVAL® Original Art & Craft Show

September 23-25

Long Beach Convention Center

Fri. & Sat. 10am-6pm; Sun. 10am-5pm

SHOP 24,000 items of handmade, original jewelry, pottery, clothing, specialty food items and more.

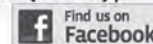
ENJOY all-day stage and strolling entertainment featuring, stilt walkers, mimes and more.

WIN an original, handmade Americana quilt, an Apple iPad 2, or Harvey Bucks to spend at the show. Visit our website for details.

VISIT the Kidzone, sponsored by the Boys & Girls Club of Long Beach.

FREE health clinic offering free screenings sponsored by Pacific Hospital of Long Beach.

TICKETS-CASH ONLY: \$9.00 Adult; \$7.00 Senior (62+); \$4.00 Youth (13-17); 12 & under free. One ticket good all three days.



For advance tickets & information:
www.harvestfestival.com
or 800-346-1212



HARVEST FESTIVAL
ORIGINAL ART & CRAFT SHOW

SAVE \$2.00

on one adult or senior admission with this coupon

LBSN

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



To place your ad in our next issue
and reach **YOUR** target market:

(714) 856-9884 • leslie@schoolnewsrollcall.com

Aha!TM

FOR KIDS

This section features enrichment opportunities for children to find their passion!



Dabi's Jumpers

Where your fun is our job!

Combo Slide Special

Any Combo Jumper with Slide **PLUS** 2 tables & 20 chairs
Only \$160
 Reg. \$180
 (714) 744-4016
 Not valid with any other offers or prior purchases.

Super Special

Only \$100
 Regular Jumper, 3 tables, 30 chairs
 1 pinata or 1 dozen balloons
 (714) 744-4016
 Not valid with any other offers or prior purchases.

The Sweet Deal

Any Regular Jumper, 2 tables & 20 chairs **PLUS** any Fun Food Machine
Only \$120
 Reg. \$140
 (714) 744-4016
 Not valid with any other offers or prior purchases.

See Our Website for More Coupons!
www.dabisjumpers.com

PLAN YOUR FIELD TRIP NOW FOR FREE ADMISSIONS AND CLASSES!



Book before October 31, 2011 for Free Mission Matter & 4 Free student admissions

Please see our ad on the back cover for more information.



Birds

Word Search Contest

Entries must be received by November 15 2011
 From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| Bittern | Cormorant | Hummingbird | Pelican |
| Blackbird | Cowbird | Junco | Pheasant |
| Bluebird | Crow | Killdeer | Robin |
| Bluejay | Eagle | Loon | Sparrow |
| Bobolink | Flamingo | Meadowlark | Swallow |
| Bobwhite | Goldfinch | Mockingbird | Tanager |
| Cardinal | Gull | Nuthatch | Woodpecker |
| Chickadee | Hawk | Oriole | Wren |
| Condor | Heron | Owl | |

Congratulations to Kevin VU
 Winner of the June Word Search Contest!

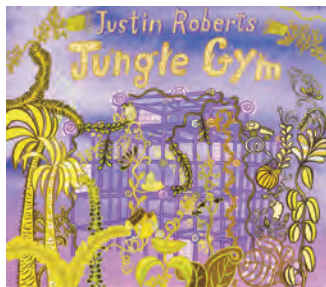
NEW Rules!!!

One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
 When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that is the word you email to:
Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
 (Please put OUSD in the subject line)

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

Note-ables

Jungle Gym



Kate Karp

Jungle Gym by award-winning singer-songwriter Justin Roberts's could be a musical soundtrack for *Tales of a Fourth-Grade Nothing* or *Alexander and the Terrible Horrible No-Good Very Bad Day*. For every instance of childhood angst and glee, Roberts, who's a former preschool teacher, has created clever lyrics that children will relate to.

"I write stuff that makes me feel something, and then I hope kids will like it, too," Roberts said. Children will not only like them but will also easily relate to songs about a truck-obsessed younger sibling, sleepovers and homesickness, and getting lost in the mall.

Each song is a vignette of a child's life. There are fun and games—"We Go Duck" expresses delight at a rainy day that brings indoor recess and Duck Duck Goose to kindergarten; in "Gym Class Parachute," a child who admittedly isn't the athletic type sees his teacher dragging out the giant parachute and knows that they'll all be playing games in which there's no winner or loser. "Sign My Cast" has the temporarily dethroned self-anointed King of the Jungle Gym telling his friends, with the swagger of youth, to choose a "color with a good contrast" and "form a line while there's still time" to sign his cast. And there's "Snow Day," which of course we don't have in Southern California, but your child may nag you to move to Minnesota after hearing it.

You can pick a favorite jelly bean out of the *Jungle Gym* bag for a classroom lesson or a family situation. You can also just play it through and enjoy Roberts's songs backed by the Not Ready for Naptime Players, a group of talented musicians who play flutes and French horns, Wurlitzers and Moog synthesizers, ashtrays and hair clippers. And ducks. Of course.

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

South Coast Repertory



KIDS/TEENS ACTING CLASSES

- Increase confidence, creativity, self-esteem
- Gain new communication skills
- Work as part of a team
- Make new friends

**Fall Session
Weekly Classes Start
Sep 13**

ADULT ACTING CLASSES ALSO AVAILABLE!
Enroll Today! (714) 708-5577 or visit scr.org/education



Community Services Department

Special Events Hotline (714) 744-7278

Treats in the Streets Autumn Festival

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Old Towne Orange Plaza • 4-7 p.m.

Celebrate the fall season with an evening full of fun activities for the entire family to enjoy. Activities include games, trick or treating, a costume parade and entertainment for participants of all ages. Our local non-profit groups will provide delicious food items and tasty treats for a nominal charge. Parents, please leave masks and pets at home.



Veterans Day Tribute

Friday, November 11, 2011

Veterans Memorial at Depot Park

100 N. Atchison St. Orange, 92866 • 2 p.m.

Help us honor past veterans and current military personnel with patriotic music and inspirational speeches. If you are a veteran or active military member interested in participating in the program or you have a photo to share for the display at the event, please contact Lisa Tamburelli at (714) 744-7294 or ltamburelli@cityoforange.org.

Tree Lighting Ceremony & Candlelight Choir Procession

Sunday, December 4, 2011

Old Towne Orange Plaza • 3:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening of holiday cheer and family fun as we sing traditional carols of the season with the Orange Community Master Chorale led by Musical Director, Michael Short. Our local non-profit groups will provide delicious food items and tasty treats for a nominal charge.



A XEROX Company



Thank You!

These events would not be possible without the generous contributions of our Community Partners! To receive information on how you can become a Community Partner, please contact Lisa Tamburelli at (714) 744-7294 or ltamburelli@cityoforange.org for brochure, more information.



Did you have an amazing adventure today? Non-stop fun with incredible friends? Develop values, leadership skills and confidence you need for success, now and in the future? Today's Girl Scouts offers more choices and more reasons than ever to join!



WHAT DID YOU DO TODAY?



Watch for meetings at your local school, call 800.979.9444, or visit us online at www.GirlScoutsOC.org/Join

Positive Parenting Establishing a Routine



Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel

One of several issues child advocates are concerned about these days is that children are not getting enough sleep at night. A regular bedtime is essential to the health and growth of your child.

If eight o'clock is the child's bedtime, it is made clear that there is no room service or further negotiating after eight. "I am done with my mothering/fathering for today. Your job is to get some sleep. Once I leave the room, any requests, complaints or fooling around noise will cost you fifteen minutes off of when you go to be tomorrow night. Two complaints means you go to bed tomorrow night at seven thirty. It is time to sleep. I will be glad to see you tomorrow." Hugs and kisses are given and the

line drawn in the sand—no more communication.

Children need a regular study time each day. This is sometimes difficult with the multiple interruptions provided by the after school extra curricular schedule. To the extent the time is regular will the child be able to adapt to doing the work at hand.

With a child who has trouble focusing, it is best to have the child show you what the homework is and then show you what he/she has accomplished at the end of the homework period. Tell the child up-front that work must be legible (Your teacher will love you for this one!) and the work must be done. Work that is not legible will be copied over.

Keep an eye on your child's progress. Too many children flounder in school and then don't have the initiative or skills to catch up again. Ask the teachers for a grade report long before the school schedule provides one. Let the teachers know you will support them and that you want to know if your child slips behind. A letter to the teacher might say, "Thank you for choosing to teach school. We want our son/daughter to be successful this semester and request that you let us know if he/she begins to fall behind, not do homework or otherwise fail to do his/her job in school. Thank you for your time and caring."

Inspire your child, help your child and do not do for your child what he/she needs to learn to do for self. As a former classroom teacher, I can tell you that it is easy to spot work that is done by a parent, not the child. This is especially true with projects. When one California mission is crudely glued together with popsicle sticks and another one has architectural design involved, a teacher knows that the parent probably took over the project.

Working together on a project is great fun, and it is important not to take the "child" out of the project. A good grade is not as important as a sense of doing something yourself. And, if the child puts off a project let him/her fail. Failing is an important lesson that inspires a child to make better choices. Rescuing a child does not teach responsibility.

Most important, make it clear that your child has two jobs in your home: (1) to be a good human being and (2) to do his/her best in school.

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel has written three books. She has taught school, raised two children, worked as a consultant to schools and has taught parenting for the past 20 years. Sandy lives in Meridian, Idaho. www.ParentingSOS.com



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**BELIEVE
IN
ME**

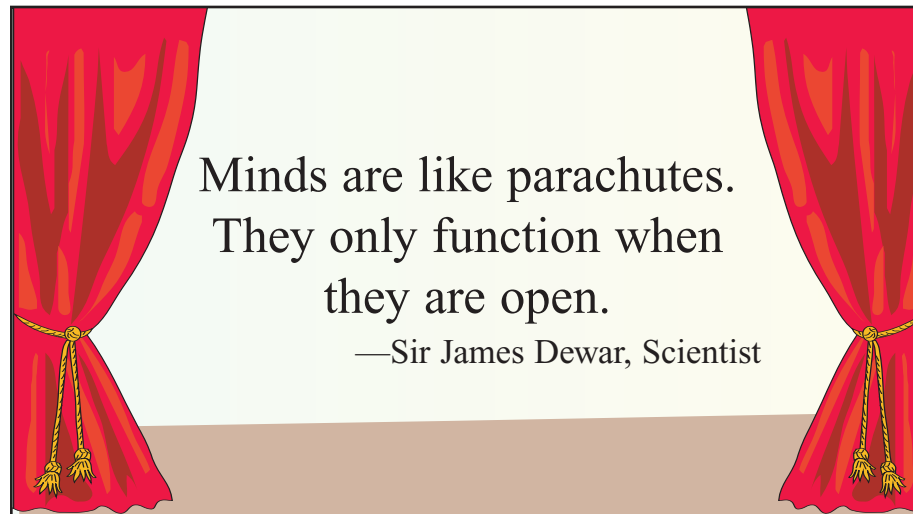


YMCA of Orange
Afterschool Childcare
Preschool
Parent/Child Programs

REGISTER NOW

www.ymcaoforange.org

714 633 9622



**Minds are like parachutes.
They only function when
they are open.**

—Sir James Dewar, Scientist

La Veta *Elementary*

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



Connie Smith
Principal

La Veta Elementary new Principal, Connie Smith, celebrates 30 years in education. Her experience includes classroom teacher, mentor teacher, IBM education consultant, site administrator and district curriculum coordinator. She joins the La Veta team after eight years as Principal at Palmyra Elementary.

Connie's many professional associations and accomplishments include former Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region 17 Elementary Administrator Representative, Adjunct Professor at Concordia University, past member of the Tustin Public Schools Foundation Board of Directors and Orange Unified School District's 2010-2011 Administrator of the Year. Connie also shares her administrative expertise by serving as an assessor for the Orange County Department of Education in their Developing the 21st Century Principal program.

Connie was born and raised in Orange County. She has been married to Phillip Smith for 18 years and has two sons in high school, Garrett and Grant. Smith says, "I am really excited about my new assignment and look forward to leading the professional learning community at La Veta Elementary."

Lampson *Elementary*

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



Laurie Dieppa
Principal

Mrs. Laurie Dieppa is happy to be returning to Lampson. This will be Mrs. Dieppa's fourth year as principal. She holds an Administrative Credential, a Reading Specialist Credential, as well as a Multiple Subject Credential and CLAD certification with the state of California. Her background in elementary education and reading instruction has served her well as the instructional leader at Lampson. Mrs. Dieppa has been an employee of Orange Unified for 13 years.

She and her family are twenty-six year residents of the City of Orange. Her husband and three sons are all products of OUSD. Mrs. Dieppa looks forward to the continuation of her work with the Lampson staff and parent community who are committed to insuring the success of all students. Plans for the new school year include a continuation of successfully implemented programs and an emphasis on Best First Instruction.

Linda Vista *Elementary*

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



Sally Hughson
Principal

Mrs. Sally Hughson became the principal of Linda Vista Elementary School in August of 2008. She has been an educator for 20 years. She has worked at Cambridge, Handy, West Orange and Running Springs where she was the Assistant Principal. Mrs. Hughson taught lower and upper grades and was a reading resource teacher, ELD resource teacher and an Instructional Coach.

Mrs. Hughson grew up in the Orange area and attended Orange Unified schools beginning in kindergarten and graduated from El Modena High School. She earned her BA in Communication Disorders and a Master degree in Educational Administration from California State Fullerton; she earned her teaching Credential from Chapman University.

Mrs. Hughson lives in Santa Ana with her husband Steve of 31 years. Her son Grant lives at home while attending ITT, daughter Katie and new husband Danny Quesada live in Orange. Mrs. Hughson enjoys trips to Catalina, relaxing in the desert, walking in Peter's Canyon and spending time with her family and friends.

2011-2012 will be Mrs. Hughson fourth year at Linda Vista. She looks forward to working with the supportive teachers, staff and the community.

McPherson Magnet

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



Jeanne Bentley
Principal

Jeanne Bentley is beginning her seventh year at McPherson Magnet School, two of these years as an assistant principal. She has twenty-five years of experience in education. Prior to receiving her Master's of Science in Educational Leadership and an administration credential at CSU Fullerton, she taught in first through sixth grade classrooms, in both Stockton and Tustin, California.

Mrs. Bentley passionately believes in public education. She is committed to doing everything in her power to ensure the highest success for all children. "McPherson Magnet School is a unique and very special place for our students. I am looking forward to continuing my work with our school community of educators, support staff, parents and guardians. It takes a team to maintain and improve the educational experience for our students." McPherson thrives in its accomplishment of its mission of KIDS – Knowledge*Inspiration*Discovery*Success.

Mrs. Bentley is looking forward to an exciting year filled with learning and growing together. She believes in challenging all students in a 21st Century world, through math, science, and technology. It is her firm belief that these are tools necessary for students to become the next generation of innovators and leaders for the future.

OUSD STAR TEST • FROM PAGE 1

Other content area and subgroup increases for OUSD included:

The 5th grade Mathematics Special Education subgroup increased 40%, from 15% to 55% proficient/advanced

75% of all district 4th grade students scored proficient/advanced in Mathematics with 49% of them scoring advanced

In 4th grade Mathematics, 6% more students scored proficient/advanced

In 5th grade Science, 5% more students scored proficient/advanced

In 7th grade English Language Arts, 6% more students scored proficient/advanced

In 8th grade History, 6% more students scored proficient/advanced

In 8th grade Algebra, 13% more students scored proficient/advanced

In Physics, 11% more students scored proficient/advanced

District-wide the English Learner subgroup increased in the number proficient/advanced by 9% in Mathematics and 7% English Language Arts (subgroup information is estimated.)

District-wide the Socioeconomically Disadvantaged subgroup increased in the number of proficient/advanced by 7% in Mathematics (subgroup information is estimated).

In addition, the percentage of students scoring Far Below Basic and Below Basic decreased in all content areas indicating that students are advancing toward proficiency. The percentage of advanced and proficient students grew in all content areas, except in High School World History.

Superintendent Christensen stated, "The teachers and support staff have kept the focus in the classroom on individual student learning, as evidenced in the improved results! We are proud of the students' efforts and the fine work teachers continue to do."

Updates will continue to be provided as more information is received.

Orange Unified School District
1401 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us

Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

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



Dominique Polchow
Principal

As a former roadrunner, who attended Nohl Canyon, Mrs. Polchow is looking forward to her fourth year as principal. With homegrown roots in Anaheim Hills, she truly enjoys serving the community she lives in. Polchow always knew she wanted to work with children and make a difference in their lives. With this in mind, she obtained her bachelor's degree at California State University Fullerton, in Child Development, with a minor in sociology. She continued her education at National University, where she received her master's in cross cultural education, a multiple subject teaching credential, with Cross Cultural Language and Academic Development (CLAD) certification, as well as her administrative credential.

On a personal note, Polchow is a wife and mother. She has been married for ten years and has a son who is in first grade. She enjoys reading, loves shopping and decorating, and traveling with her family.

As we return to the 2011-2012 School-Year, Principal Polchow looks forward to again, working with a top notch school community. Polchow's passion as an educator is offering the very best to each child, so he or she can reach their highest potential as a learner.

Orange *High School*

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



Ernest Gonzalez
Principal

Ernest Gonzalez, principal of Orange High School, is looking forward to his 2nd year in Pantherville. He grew up in a small city east of Los Angeles. After high school, he completed his undergraduate work at the University of San Diego. Go Toreros! After completing his teacher credentialing program, Mr. Gonzalez earned a Master of Arts degree and administrative credential from Azusa Pacific University.

Mr. Gonzalez has served eighteen years in education. In that time he has been a teacher, AVID coordinator, activities director, federal and state project director, and assistant principal. Although his experience has spanned kindergarten through twelfth grade, his passion lies at the high school level.

On a personal note, he is married to Denise Quan, a high school counselor. They have two children Christian and Kaleiah, ages 8 and 10. The Gonzalez family enjoys traveling together and spending time with friends and family.

"The school community is nothing short of amazing," Gonzalez says, "I am inspired by the hard work and dedication of our parents, students and staff." Everyone at Orange High School is looking forward to another great year!

Olive *Elementary*

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



Kathryn Martin
Principal

It is an honor and privilege for Mrs. Kathy Martin to begin another fabulous year as the Principal of Olive Elementary School. Mrs. Martin is a product of Orange Unified, having attended OUSD schools for kindergarten through twelfth grade. Mrs. Martin earned her BA in psychology from UCLA, and will forever be a "Mighty Bruin." She admits she morphed into an Anteater for a short time while earning her teaching credential at UCI. She received her MA in Education from Concordia University in Irvine.

Having been in education for more than twenty years, Mrs. Martin can attest to the fact there is no nobler profession or purpose than helping to shape the next generation. Not a day goes by that she is not grateful for and humbled by the staff and families at Olive. John Wooden put it best when he said, "The main ingredient of stardom is the rest of the team." Mrs. Martin is proud of her team at Olive.

On a personal note, Mrs. Martin and her husband met at UCLA and continue to run The Solid Gold Sound Foundation, a support organization for the UCLA Marching Band. Their two fabulous daughters attend Mission Viejo High School.

Palmyra *Elementary*

1325 E Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6207



Larry Hausner
Principal

Larry Hausner is currently beginning his first year as principal at Palmyra Elementary School. Prior to this assignment, he served as Administrative Director, principal at both Villa Park and Cambridge Elementary Schools. "Palmyra is a terrific school community, and I am looking forward to continue working with the parents and staff to maintain the excellent educational experience Palmyra offers." Hausner said.

Education was second career for Hausner after 10 years as a sportscaster. He hosted and produced a weekly television show for SportsChannel. In addition, he was a segment host for both the Angels and Dodgers pre-game shows. Also, he was the play-by-play voice of the Honolulu Sharks and Hilo Stars of the Hawaii Winter Baseball League, along with the San Bernardino Spirit, Rancho Cucamonga Quakes and the Palm Springs Suns.

Hausner began his teaching career as a substitute teacher in both Tustin and Saddleback Valley Unified School Districts. He said, "I taught everything from kindergarten through 12th grade, including many different special education settings. My goal was to teach anything and everything so I could find where my true love was." He quickly realized that elementary students were his true calling.

He grew up in Tustin and graduated from Tustin High in 1986. Hausner earned a bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis in radio, television and film in 1991 from California State University, Fullerton. He later earned his multiple subjects credential from Chapman University and his master's degree in school administration from Azusa Pacific University. Currently, he is in the Doctor of Education program at the University of Southern California.

Currently, Hausner resides in Rancho Santa Margarita with his wife, Nicci and his children Riley (13) and Jacob (11).

Three Days of Shopping, Entertainment, & Prizes!
HARVEST FESTIVAL®
Original Art & Craft Show

Sept. 23-25 Long Beach Convention Ctr.
Fri. & Sat. 10am-6pm; Sun. 10am-5pm

SHOP 24,000 items of handmade, original jewelry, pottery, clothing, specialty food items and more. ENJOY all-day stage and strolling entertainment featuring, stilt walkers, mimes and more.

TICKETS-CASH ONLY:
\$9.00 Adult \$7.00 Senior (62+)
\$4.00 Youth (13-17)
12 & under free.
One ticket good all three days.

For advance tickets & information:
www.harvestfestival.com or 800-346-1212

Find us on Facebook

HARVEST FESTIVAL ORIGINAL ART & CRAFT SHOW
SAVE \$2.00
on one adult or senior admission with this ad

Partners: Foodbank, Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach, Metro, Pacific Hospital of Long Beach, Knights of Love

Don't forget to enter the
Word Search Contest
on page 8.
Congratulations to Kevin VU
Winner of the June Word Search Contest!

Panorama *Elementary*

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



Michelle Moore
Principal

Principal Michelle Moore was born and raised in beautiful Southern California and has spent most of her life living in South Orange County. She has been happily married to her husband for eleven years and they have a beautiful daughter, Faith. She was educated in Orange County and attended California State University of Fullerton for her Bachelor's degree. From there, she went on to pursue her Master's degree in education. Throughout her career she has taught various grade levels Kindergarten – 8th grade. She has been serving in the Orange Unified School District (OUSD) for approximately twelve years. She has enjoyed teaching in OUSD as well as serving two years as McPherson Magnet School's Assistant Principal and now as Panorama Elementary School's principal.

Moore states, As we are now opening the 2011-12 school year, the beginning of a new school year has always had special meaning. It is a time that marks a fresh start, exciting possibilities, and great promise. For students, it also means new friends, new learning, discovery, and growth. As Panorama's Principal, I am privileged to be going into my seventh year with our outstanding team. When I reflect on what makes our school so special, it is evident that it is our entire community. I could not imagine a better family of staff, students, and families; it is truly a unique environment. For the 2010-11 school year, Panorama achieved California's Highest Ranking Public School Award (10-10) for its fifth consecutive year: Thanks to the efforts of the entire community. Congratulations Panorama, we are all very proud.

Go Panthers!!

Prospect *Elementary*

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



Elena Rodriguez
Principal

Prospect Elementary's principal Elena Rodriguez is an alumnus of Orange Unified School District. Once graduated from Canyon High School, Ms. Rodriguez, pursued a degree in Child Development at Cal State University at Fullerton. She realized then, that she loved working with children, but was unsure of what career path to take.

Mrs. Rodriguez went on to earn her teaching credential at Chapman University and begun her career in Orange Unified School District as a bilingual 1st grade teacher at Sycamore Elementary in 1994. A few years later she became the Assistant Principal at Sycamore while it was still a multi track school. After three years as Assistant Principal and completing her Masters Degree at Azusa Pacific University she became principal at Imperial Elementary in Anaheim Hills.

Mrs. Rodriguez served as principal at Imperial Elementary for five years. The time at Imperial was an outstanding training ground to develop skills a principal needs to lead a school community which had prepared her for her next principalship at Fairhaven Elementary, a Title I/Program Improvement school. The three years at Fairhaven enabled her to enhance her leadership skills in working with the diverse communities our district serves. Now entering her fourth year at Prospect, she looks forward to continue the path to increased student achievement by working collaboratively with staff, students and community.

Mrs. Rodriguez' children are also products of Orange Unified School District. Her 18 year old son Robert, just graduated from Canyon High this past spring. Now after getting remarried in September of 2010, she now has a 7 year old son, Angel, attending Prospect Elementary School with her. Having had her own children attend the same schools she did and now her step son at Prospect, it brings her enormous pride to be a member of the Orange Unified School District family.

Portola *Middle School*

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



Deborah Backstrom
Principal

Mrs. Debbie Backstrom was born and grew up in Southern California. She began her education in Downey, where she attended elementary, middle and high school. She continued her education receiving an Associate of Arts Degree in Sociology from Cerritos College. She continued her education graduating from California State University, Long Beach with a degree in Sociology. She also received her teaching credential from California State University, Long Beach. Mrs. Backstrom received her Administration credential and Master of Science Degree from California State University, Fullerton.

Mrs. Backstrom's career in education began in 1984 where she was employed as a teacher for Orange Unified School District. Her passion has always been working with students and guiding them to be the "BEST" they can be. Since 2000, Mrs. Backstrom has served in an administrative capacity. Before coming to Portola, Mrs. Backstrom was the Principal at Richland High School in Orange.

Mrs. Backstrom has been married to her high school sweetheart for 39 years. He retired this year after teaching for Orange Unified for 37 years. They have one daughter who is married and two beautiful grandchildren.

"I am so excited to be a part of such a wonderful school district and especially to be at Portola Middle School." My door is always open to all students, parents and staff. I look forward to another great year.

Richland *High School*

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



Ed Madrid
Principal

I was born and raised in a small town setting. I loved the small town living that helped me become the person I am today. We moved around in the Southwest as my father sought opportunities for advancement in public education. Both my parents were in education.

My mother was a Kindergarten teacher and my father became a district administrator. Our discussions around the dinner table usually centered on schools and students. With that kind of family life it was easy for me to step into education as a career.

I taught for several years in southern California then moved into administration as an assistant principal at the middle school. I've had the wonderful opportunity to work in elementary, middle, and high school levels. Each level presented challenges which I have enjoyed. The most rewarding aspect of my profession is to observe the transformation that students undergo as they take advantage of what schools have to offer.

Richland High is a unique school that offers students a second chance. With a caring staff, support from home, and the hard work of the students we have continued to increase the number of graduates over the last three years. I look forward to working with the students at Richland.

OC DEPT OF ED • FROM PAGE 2



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent

The vision and financial support for this inaugural position of Medical Officer reflects a shared mission along with a generous investment by the Orange County Health Care Agency, Hoag Hospital, and the Children and Families Commission of Orange County. Each agency has committed financial resources and will join a select group of health and community partners who have volunteered their expertise to serve on an advisory group for this effort. The goal is to advance student wellness and in doing so, support the OCDE goal of ensuring a world class education where every student succeeds.

Running Springs *Elementary*

8670 E. Running Springs Drive, Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/281-4512



Lydia Roach
Principal

Mrs. Lydia Roach became the principal of Running Springs Elementary School in May 2007. She has been an educator for 26 years and has worked in various elementary schools in the Orange Unified School District including Handy, Riverdale, Canyon Rim, Lampson, and Running Springs. Mrs. Roach has taught both primary and upper grades, was a bilingual resource teacher, and a reading resource teacher. In addition, she was the assistant principal at both Running Springs and Lampson for four years.

Mrs. Roach grew up in the city of Orange and is a product of the Orange Unified School District. As a student, she attended Esplanade Elementary, Fairhaven Elementary, Santiago Jr. High and El Modena High School. Mrs. Roach continued her education at San Diego State University where she earned a Bachelor's degree and an elementary teaching credential. She then graduated from Cal State Fullerton with a Master's degree in Educational Administration and an administrative credential.

Mrs. Roach currently resides in the Anaheim Hills area with her husband Russ of 27 years and her two children Kyle, age 22, and Lara, age 17. She enjoys watching her children's sporting events and golfing with her family. Mrs. Roach is excited to be a Redhawk and looks forward to continuing to work with the wonderful families in the Running Springs community!

Santiago Charter *Middle School*

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



James D'Agostino
Principal

Jim D'Agostino is in his first year as Principal at Santiago Middle School. He has been in the Orange Unified School District for the past 7 years and served as an Assistant Principal at Villa Park High School for the past four years. Mr. D'Agostino served as an Assistant Principal at Orange High School prior to his time at Villa Park. He is a former social studies teacher and RSP teacher and has taught both middle school and high school. Mr. D'Agostino holds a Bachelor's Degree in History and Government and a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership. Mr. D'Agostino is currently getting his Doctorate in Educational Leadership and is scheduled to complete the program in 2013. Mr. D'Agostino

believes that "Treating people with respect and kindness is part of what it takes to call yourself a professional" and practices that through his interactions with students and adults.

Sycamore *Elementary*

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



Erika Krohn
Principal

I had a terrific first year at Sycamore Elementary School, and I'm honored to be back to serve this fine community that I've had the pleasure of getting to know. As a product of Orange Unified School District, it is with pride that I get to work with the staff, students, and families of this school and district.

I have earned a Bachelor's degree at California State University, Fullerton, a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential at Chapman University, and a Master's Degree at National University. Prior to coming to Sycamore, I taught 4th, 5th and 6th grades for several years in Rowland Heights with a concentration on English Language Development, was a vice principal/special projects coordinator for three years, and a principal for six years at a Title One school in La Puente.

On a personal note, I'm committed to public education in order to better the world for all children, including my 8 year old daughter, Kendall, and 5 year old son, Wyatt. I am an avid reader-both for entertainment and education. My favorite activity outside of school is skiing Mammoth with my husband and kids.

I am looking forward to keeping the positive momentum moving forward at Sycamore. Our staff and community have been working collaboratively to provide extraordinary learning experiences for Sycamore students.

Serrano *Elementary*

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



Dr. Bobbie Lansman
Principal

My tenure as an administrator in OUSD began in 1994, and I have been afforded many unique and memorable opportunities.

My education includes a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from USC, a Masters Degree in Reading and Language Arts, a Bachelor of Arts Degree (Summa cum Laude) in Social Studies and three teaching credentials. I am fortunate to have been principal at four different OUSD schools earning Distinguished School and Title I Academic Achievement Awards with wonderful and talented school teams. I also had the honor and privilege of planning and opening Running Springs Elementary School. Each administrative experience has truly been dynamic and fulfilling.

I feel extremely fortunate to begin my fourth year at Serrano Elementary School, and my 17th year as principal. I am proud to have been recognized as the 2006 OUSD Administrator of the Year.

Although I have lived in a number of states across the country, I am a native Californian. I currently live in the city of Fullerton with my husband. We are blessed with a wonderful family, including our brilliant two year old grandson! Our younger daughter is completing her third year of medical school.

I feel fortunate to have had such diverse, challenging, and amazing administrative opportunities. I am looking forward to a fantastic and exciting school year with the wonderful Serrano community, and all of OUSD.

Taft *Elementary*

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



Antionette Coe
Principal

Mrs. Antoinette Coe is beginning her third year as principal at Taft Elementary. She stated, "I am proud to be a part of the Taft Family and look forward to another great year." She has been with Orange Unified School District for ten years serving as a literacy coach and teacher. Before joining the Taft staff she most recently served as the assistant principal for both La Veta and Lampson Elementary Schools.

Mrs. Coe was born and raised in Southern California, attending elementary, middle, and high school in Anaheim. She received a bachelor's degree and a multiple subject teaching credential from California State University, San Marcos. Mrs. Coe earned an administrative credential from University of California, Irvine and a master's degree in administration from California State University, Fullerton.

Currently, Mrs. Coe resides in Yorba Linda with her husband Eric, a director at a local staffing firm. She has three school aged children: her daughter Taylor (18), her son Zachary (17), and her youngest daughter Madeline (14). In addition to spending time with her family, she is a member of National Charity League Yorba Linda where she volunteers to support local charities.

Mrs. Coe is passionate about learning and continues to share her enthusiasm with the students and staff at Taft Elementary. Her goal is to educate students and assist them in realizing their fullest potential. Her dream is for all students to leave Taft Elementary School with the desire to be successful and have a life plan in process.



Villa Park *Elementary*

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



Debra Larson
Principal

Principal Debra Larson is a longtime Orange County Native, educated in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District and living for 34 years in the Anaheim Hills area. She has taught for 24 years in Orange Unified School District (OUSD). Throughout her career, she taught kindergarten through sixth grade, spent three years as an assistant principal and six years as principal at Anaheim Hills Elementary School. She was chosen as the California Teacher of the Year among the state's first year teachers in 1986. She currently serves as the principal of Villa Park Elementary, where she has been for two years.

Larson earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Southern California. She did not choose a career in teaching until her youngest daughter was nearing school age. After serving as a parent volunteer in her daughter's classroom, she decided to pursue her teaching credential at California State University, Fullerton and began teaching when her youngest daughter was in first grade. She later received her administrative credential from Azusa Pacific University. "It is a privilege to be the principal of Villa Park Elementary," Larson said. "I know I have chosen the perfect profession, and I gain energy from the students, staff and parents I work with every day. What else do I need in a profession, knowing that I can make a difference in the life of one child?"

West Orange *Elementary*

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



Michael Olander
Principal

My name is Michael Olander and I am the principal of West Orange Elementary School. I was born in San Diego and lived there for 27 years before moving to Temecula, then Orange County. I have a wonderful wife, Blythe, who works as a Speech and Language Pathologist for the Cranial-Facial Team at Loma Linda Medical Center.

My career in education began when I worked as a behavior specialist and therapist-trainee at Anza Elementary School in San Diego County, as I completed a master's degree in Marriage Family and Child Counseling. While working in the school setting, I realized the true power and importance that a teacher has on a child's life. I decided to begin the pursuit of a teaching credential while finishing my master's degree in counseling. Shortly after, I was hired to teach a third through fifth grade special education class at Anza.

After working at Anza for four years, I moved to Temecula and taught at Nicolas Valley Elementary School. I worked at Nicolas Valley for four years and then was hired as the Assistant Principal at Temecula Elementary School. I worked at Temecula Elementary School as the AP for two years before being hired in my current position at West Orange Elementary School.

I am excited to begin my fourth year at West Orange. Thanks to the dedication of a wonderful staff, West Orange continues to make tremendous gains in success for all of our students!

Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/532-8020



Ed Howard
Principal

Edward (Ed) Howard became the Principal at Villa Park High School in April of 2007. Born in the Bronx, New York, Ed has been a resident of Orange since 1976. After graduating from Villa Park High School he attended Cypress Community College then transferred to California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, CA where he played baseball and was a recipient of the Sparky Anderson Baseball Scholarship. Ed received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and a teaching credential from Cal Lutheran. In 1989 Ed returned to Orange and began working in the Orange Unified School District as a government and economics teacher, as well as coaching baseball, football, and was the Athletic Director at Orange High School. After receiving his Master's Degree in School Administration, Ed took a job as the Director of Athletics for the Orange Unified School District, then Assistant Principal and Principal at VPHS.

Ed, Amiee, Savannah, (14) and Eddie (11) live in Orange and are active members in the community. The entire family believes in community and volunteerism. Ed is a Rotarian, an Elk, a member of the Santiago Canyon College Advisory Council and a past Board member of the Community Foundation of Orange. Spending time with family and friends is one of his greatest pleasures. Boating, camping, or catching a ball game, is where Ed likes to spend his recreational time.

Yorba *Middle School*

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



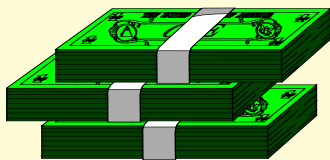
Kerrie Torres
Principal

Yorba Middle School is ready to open the doors and embrace another school year. All of us at Yorba are energized and ready to get the 2011-2012 school off to a positive start. This year our theme is "We're on the move" because we made large gains in student achievement and we are on the road to continuous improvement.

As the principal of Yorba, I look forward to working together with teachers, parents and students to create a positive and engaging learning environment for everyone. This will be my second year at Yorba Middle School. Prior to becoming principal in 2010, I spent 7 years as an Assistant Principal and 7 years as classroom science teacher. Each opportunity provided me with a unique perspective on education and laid the foundation for a career in school leadership.

As the 2011-2012 school begins, I will focus on improving school culture, building a solid instructional program and developing the arts through extensive music and visual arts programs. It is our goal to provide each student with an education that they can connect to.

Save Green!



Go Yellow!



School Bus Ride

Round Trip only \$335 per year • Bus Pass Office (714) 538-8295

PLAN YOUR FIELD TRIP NOW FOR FREE ADMISSIONS AND CLASSES!



TEACHER INCENTIVES:

- **FREE** Mission Matters and four **FREE** student admissions if you book and take your field trip before October 31, 2011.
- Four **FREE** student admissions if you book and take your field trip before December 31, 2011

**EVERY STUDENT & CHAPERONE
RECEIVES A FREE RETURN TICKET**



MISSION

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

Founded 1776

Historic Landmark and Museum

26801 Ortega Highway
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

California Missions Resource Studio

Offers timelines, research materials
& workspace for all studying the
21 missions. Open daily.

TEACHER APPRECIATION DAYS

Free Admission for Teachers
(2nd Saturday of each month)

Book Your Field Trip Today! (949) 234-1306

www.missionsjc.com