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School News

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Covering the Orange Unified School District

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 45

www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com

APRIL / MAY 2014

SUPERINTENDENT



Michael L. Christensen

The anticipation continues to build! For the past eight months, each of the District's four comprehensive high schools has been developing facility master plans with an architectural firm: Orange HS with

Lionakis, Canyon HS with GKK Works, El Modena HS with Harley Ellis Devereaux, and Villa Park HS with LPA.

During the development process, numerous meetings were held with community members and District staff, who provided voluminous input towards the creation of newly modernized campuses that are unique to each school and community. In conjunction with each community's vision for their campus, the architectural firms developed global plans that create not only great 21st Century learning environments, but facilities that will also serve our community. These plans were unveiled by each firm to the Board of Education, and the communities as a whole, at on-location Board of Education meetings.

In an effort to promote transparency and allow easier access for the community, staff and students to attend meetings and provide further input on their respective school's facilities master plan, the Board of Education decided to take their February and March meetings on the road to each high school. The overwhelming response and attendance at these Board meetings has far surpassed everyone's expectations. The visioning that has taken place developing the plans has been amazing.

In late January, a brochure and survey concerning high school

See SUPERINTENDENT • Page 23

Crescent GATE Students Place First in STEM Robotics Competitions

By Natalie Carias and Robin Nelson
GATE Teachers

Two teams from Crescent Elementary School, The Mighty Mechs and The Crescent Cougar Bots, took first place in the VEX Robotics Regional Competition at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center on February 2nd, which qualified them for VEX Robotics State and World Championships.

March 12 - 14, both Crescent Robotics teams, led by third grade teacher Natalie Carias and parent mentors, competed at the State Championships in Santa Clara, placing first and second out of 20 schools. Each team consisted of 10 students from the third-sixth-grade GATE program.

The robot they built picked up truncated buckyballs and dropped them into different height baskets for various scoring opportunities. Students were also required to develop a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) project showing emphasis on math. The Mighty Mechs STEM



The Crescent Cougar Bots, also State Finalists, won the "Amaze Award" for overall excellence.

project combined math and science as related to their robot's battery life throughout the skills challenge game. The teams also focused on robot design and programming, and received points for their overall engineering notebook components, as well as their team enthusiasm. Both teams will head to the VEX World Championships in April. We are so proud of our champions!

Canyon High School, Canyon Tribe—Winning CIF Team Members



(Please see Canyon High School page 6.)





Orange Unified School District

GRADUATION 2013-2014



Promotion & Graduation Schedule Thursday, June 12, 2014*

Special Education School

School	Time	Location
*Tuesday, June 10, 2014 Canyon Hills	10:00 am	Gymnasium

Middle School Promotions

School	Time	Location
McPherson Magnet	9:00 am	McPherson Magnet Cafeteria
Portola	9:00 am	Portola School Field
Yorba	10:00 am	Yorba School Field
Cerro Villa	10:30 am	Cerro Villa Outdoor Amphitheater
Santiago Charter	11:00 am	Santiago Charter Outdoor Amphitheater
*Friday, June 13, 2014 El Rancho Charter	6:00 pm	El Rancho Outdoor Amphitheater

High School Graduations

School	Time	Location
El Modena	1:30 pm	Fred Kelly Stadium
Canyon	4:00 pm	Fred Kelly Stadium
Orange High	4:30 pm	Orange High Outdoor Theater
Villa Park	7:00 pm	Fred Kelly Stadium
Richland Alternative Ed	10:00 am	Fred Kelly Stadium



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik
Neta Madison



So much is happening in the world of education. You have been and will continue to read about the implementation of the Common Core Standards. Modernization of schools is Superintendent Christensen's message this issue. He encourages you to continue to be informed and involved in the process.

March was such a fun time for students to enjoy celebrating Read Across America and in this issue you'll read about several classroom's way of celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday.

Our next issue is June 4.

School News

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Covering the
ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
ADVERTISING SALES: Leslie Rawlings
714/856-9884 • Fax: 562/430-8063
leslie@schoolnewsrollcall.com

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Meshel Negrete

COPY EDITORS:

Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST:

Netragrednik by Neta Madison

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If you are an advanced swimmer and would like to join the ranks of our year-round USA Swimming competitive swim team, we have try-outs every Friday and would love for you to stop by and give us a try.

We hope you take the opportunity to learn more about our programs and what we have to offer, and we look forward to serving you in the near future.

Mark Tierney
President and CEO



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Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

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Sandra Miller
Principal

Science In the Great Outdoors

March brings a lot of excitement to Anaheim Hills Elementary. It is the time of year when our sixth graders head off to Outdoor Science School. Our sixth graders left on March 3rd for a week of hands on science in the great outdoors. Students are emerged in the natural environment where they are encouraged to examine geological features, enjoy trail hikes, learn about wildlife, and plant adaptations. In addition, students get to participate in songs, stories, and skits. It is an experience they will never forget.



California *Elementary*

1080 N. California St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6104 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Laurie Dieppa
Principal

Read Across America Literacy Fair

On March 3rd California Elementary School held its second annual Oral Literacy Fair in celebration of Read Across America. This event is held each year to promote the performance of the written word. The skills of memorization and performance are important and will serve students well throughout their educational careers. These skills help students pay close attention to punctuation, prosody, and expression, and remembering important facts and formulas. Students by grade levels memorized songs, poetry, and prose to present to parents and each other. Each class also memorized different selections. Performances included The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere by fifth grade, The Sleeping Pig by first grade, and That's Amore by Kindergarten. After the performances parents joined their children in classrooms for the purpose of listening to and reading books with them.



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Cambridge *Elementary*

425 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6103 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Jeremy Mortensen
Principal

Reading and Music and Art, Oh My!

Here at Cambridge, our students are continuing to make great strides in their education. The Common Core State Standards are being fully implemented during this New Year, and so we are truly enabling our students to become positive contributors to a global economy.

Our students are getting ready for the 21st century by focusing on what we call The Four C's: communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. There is not only a shift in what is being taught, but also in how it is taught, and our children are indeed benefitting from this change in approach.

Cambridge has also looked toward the community and neighborhood schools to further integrate the curriculum with literacy and arts. We recently had a large-scale celebration of literacy during Read Across America Week. This included special guest readers, reading and writing activities in the classroom, and even Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez and OUSD Board Member Kathy Moffat reading to us at a school-wide assembly!

Our students were also treated to learning about the artwork of Matisse, and then trying their hand at drawing some examples with Art Masters. Cambridge has also gained a partnership with their feeder middle school, Yorba. Its music program treated us to a day of learning about the different instruments. We even got to make one of our own to take home!

Cambridge will continue to be at the forefront of this change in methodology. We want to make sure that learning is not only meaningful, but also, first and foremost, fun!

Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6171 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Karen Hanson
Principal

Entertaining and Educational Opportunities

We have had an excellent first semester this year at Canyon Hills School. Students continue to make educational progress in a safe, nurturing environment. Our caring, professional staff enjoys being part of your child's life each day.

Over the past few months, students have participated in a variety of school activities, including a lively winter holiday celebration hosted by the local Kiwanis Club. Our parent group provided a snow day for students, and plans are being made to restore an outdoor garden.

One of the community organizations that generously donates to our school is a local church youth group. Middle and high school students and their leaders provided an excellent dinner and entertainment for our annual Valentine's Sweetheart Dance. Approximately 50 volunteers prepared and served dinner, provided music, and encouraged Canyon Hills students to get out on the dance floor. Individual students were selected as the princes or princesses to represent their classes. This year's king and queen were Steven Robles and Elizabeth Chavez.

School activities and field trips offer an opportunity for students to utilize many practical skills in the areas of communication, socialization, and community integration. A focus at Canyon Hills is to encourage student communication. Students continue to use a variety of technologies, including tablets, to support expressive language development.

We appreciate the commitment our families have made to work with staff as we encourage the growth and development of each student at Canyon Hills School.

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Canyon *High School*

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Kimberly Fricker
Principal

Mens Basketball and the Canyon Tribe

The winds have shifted in the canyon. Over the course of the year, the Canyon High School student section, known as the Canyon Tribe, has gradually increased in size and decibel intensity. School spirit has taken on a life of its own, formalizing into a large crowd that has motivated and ignited our Comanche men's basketball team to rise above, dig deep, and strive to succeed. With more than 300 members, the Canyon Tribe continues to be one of the dominating forces supporting the success of the Canyon High Basketball Team, coached by the one and only Mr. Harrison. This is a sentiment that Steve Fryer of "OC Varsity" supports, having ranked the Canyon Tribe fourth out of the top 10 student sections in all of Orange County.

Our mens basketball program has produced more than 20 game winning season for nine seasons in a row, which is the longest active winning streak among all public schools in Orange County. Canyon entered the CIF playoffs as the top-seeded team and Century League Champions and claimed the CIF Division 2AA title in true Comanche style and pursued their dreams to state championships. The Canyon basketball team has redefined the spectator experience and has surpassed all expectations with action-packed

performances at game after game. Seniors Anthony Ballestero, Nick Anderson, and Devonte Parker have received many accolades for their contributions to the success of this team, and we honor the dedication of the coaching staff, which continues to guide such an outstanding program.



Cerro Villa *Middle School*

17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6251 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Ken Miller
Principal

The Things That Make Us Tops!

As you may know, Cerro Villa earned California Distinguished School status for 2013–17! In addition, Cerro Villa has been named as one of the top 25 middle schools in Orange County by a local paper! Congratulations to our great teachers, students and parents!

As we transition to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), our strategic focus is collaborative inquiry based upon the Balanced Instructional Design Model. Our students are in great hands every day, with our superb teachers providing instruction in the pillars of 21st Century Learning that include the four Cs: communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking; speaking and listening strategies; and academic language and vocabulary. Another important aspect of the CCSS is our infusion of technology, one of our California Distinguished School signature practices. As of March, we are proud to have nearly 300 computers and 150 iPads on campus that we are utilizing to enhance student achievement through daily interactive learning.

We have added several new electives to our repertoire of course offerings that effectively encompass our areas of select study to promote both lifelong learning and 21st Century Learning. Our new electives for the 2014–15 school year are Art with Ceramics, Up-Tempo Fitness for PE, Percussion, iFilm, Advanced Reading, WEB, Advanced Technology and Creative Writing. Our Creative Writing course will be taught by published author and English 8 teacher Jessica Kim. What an amazing opportunity for our students! Talk about being college and career ready!

Canyon Rim *Elementary*

1090 S. The Highlands Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/532-7027 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



David Appling
Principal

Academic Achievement Strategies

At Canyon Rim, our teachers and students are working together smarter – not harder – to accomplish high expectations in the classroom.

Our staff is working to increase student achievement by using three theories of action to increase our API score to 913. The first is to develop instructional expertise and analyzing of data. This is so that our teaching will be strengthened and our students will be learning in deeper and more meaningful ways.

This effort will include tools like Response to Instruction and Intervention, Thinking Maps, Step-Up to Writing, Cognitive Guided Instruction, GLAD, SDAIE strategies, Differentiated Instruction (ExCEL), and Checking for Understanding.

Second, if we monitor student progress through multiple formats over time, we can assess instructional effectiveness. Then we can develop focused intervention strategies through targeting students, data conferences, intervention collaboration with teachers, data analyzing student progress, student goal setting, and grade-level goal setting.

Last, if we develop the efficacy of students so that they can become active participants in their learning, they will begin to engage in school and develop the kind of habits that can lead to successful lifelong learning.

To accomplish this, we utilize the foundations of the Common Core. These are known as Communication Objectives and Response Frames, Differentiated Instruction (ExCEL Model), Checking for Understanding (lesson standard, goal, and objective), student data chats, and student-led conferences.

Student achievement is a high priority, and we want to support all of our learners. We want each Canyon Rim student to be a lifelong learner and a productive member of society.

Chapman Hills *Elementary*

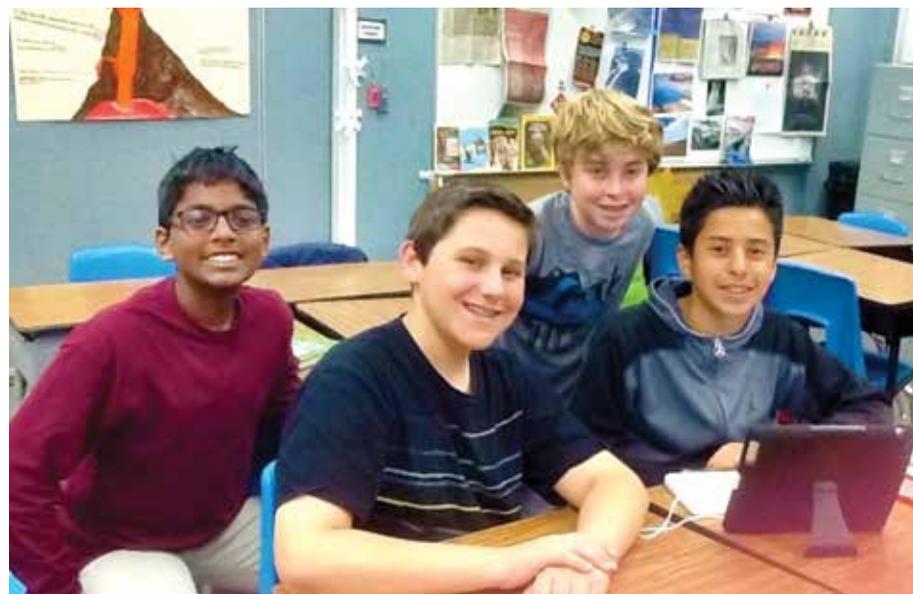
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Sandra Schaffer
Principal

Moving Forward with Technology

This year, Chapman Hills had the opportunity to purchase 40 iPads to be shared in all classrooms, Kindergarten through sixth grade. The Common Core State Standards focus on college and career readiness, thus the need to increase our student's use of technology across the curriculum. The implementation of iPads looks different in all classes. Some are using it to create power points and develop thinking maps. Other classes are utilizing them as a tool for small group instruction. Still other students are working in groups to create projects based on novels or non-fiction text. In other words, the sky is the limit for our Bobcats!



Crescent *Elementary*

5001 E. Gerda Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6371 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Randi Leach
Principal

GATE Students Place First in STEM Robotics Competition

By Natalie Carias and Robin Nelson, Teachers – GATE

In February, two teams from Crescent Elementary School, the Mighty Mechs and the Crescent Cougar Bots, participated in the VEX Robotics Competition at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center. Both teams, led by third-grade teacher Natalie Carias and parent mentors, came in first out of 36 teams in the qualifying competition. Each team consisted of 10 students from the third- through sixth-grade Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) program.

The robot these teams built picked up truncated, magnetic, metal balls and dropped them into baskets of different heights for various scoring opportunities. Students were also required to develop a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) project showing emphasis on math. The teams also focused on robot design and programming and received points for their engineering notebook components, as well as their team enthusiasm.

Both teams went to Santa Clara for the VEX State Championships and will attend VEX World Championships this month.



The Crescent Cougar Bots team qualified for this year's VEX State and World Championships

El Modena *High School*

3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6331 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Dustin Saxton
Principal

The Wrestlers Reign Supreme

By Jerry Sanchez, Staff Writer

The road to a championship is never easy. There are many intangible factors that go beyond the typical blood, sweat and tears. For El Modena wrestling, each individual on the team grappled and sprawled their way to supremacy.

The Century League championship was won by the Vanguard, and it allowed 14 wrestlers to advance to CIF individuals. Eight wrestlers placed at CIF individuals and went on to the Masters Tournament, the pivotal stop before the state competition.

These wrestlers included Osvaldo Calderon, fifth at 105; Marco Calderon, third at 120; Nick Kuchta, sixth at 126; Jeremy Huang, fifth at 132; Russell Gilchrist, sixth at 138; Andre Dahl, second at 145; Justin Saldana, fourth at 160; and Fernando Aguilar, second at heavyweight. Out of the eight, senior Fernando Aguilar advanced to Masters.

Over hundreds of hours were spent preparing for season, and hundreds more were allocated once season began. Head Coach Cory Schuld cannot commend his team enough, exclaiming that he is "proud of all his kids" for their valiant efforts.

As the Vanguard's season has officially come to a close, this past year will be one to remember for each individual member of the wrestling team.

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El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

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John Besta
Principal



Michele Walker
Principal

Best Program for Each Student

“Doing what’s best for students” is the premise for every decision El Rancho makes. Whether it is starting a new program, refining an existing one or developing interventions for students, we want what is best for our students.

We have developed supports before and after school by providing math academy, homework club and an intervention class where students can receive support in a small-class setting.

Tutorial is offered twice a week, which provides students an opportunity to use the library, finish a project, or meet with a teacher for extra help or to make up a test. In addition to our supports, the expansion of our elective program to include almost 30 different elective choices that include performing arts, three foreign languages, music, home economics, woodshop and computers has given students the ability to take classes that they find most interesting. Offering iPad English and history has provided students with technology in the classroom to prepare them for the future.

El Rancho provides many opportunities and supports to meet the needs of all students. Congratulations to the teachers, staff and students for a job well done!

Fairhaven *Elementary*

1415 Fairhaven Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6178 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Kelli Keller
Principal

Read Across America at Fairhaven

Fairhaven Elementary School celebrated Dr. Seuss’ birthday with a school-wide pajama celebration on March 3rd!

Community and District guest readers throughout the day dawned Cat in the Hat replicas atop their heads and read their most celebrated children’s books to the students. Teachers were able to select from a menu of presentations made by State Senators, Law Enforcement Officers, District Officials, Previous Administrators, and various Community Leaders for their students. Members of Parent and Teachers Association and School Council escorted guests and provided a reception area in appreciation for contributing to the day’s festivities.

Hip, hip hurray, March 3rd is the day,

We will celebrate Read Across America, In a big, big way!

Pajamas, slippers, guest readers too, Our guest readers are excited to meet all of you!

Get ready, get excited, get ready to read. We’ll have a great time, just wait and see!

Let’s honor the man that started it all, Dr. Seuss and the Cat in the Hat, you will recall.



Esplanade *Elementary*

381 N. Esplanade St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6157 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Irene Preciado
Principal

Read Across America Week

Esplanade Eagles participated in Read Across America, celebrating Dr. Seuss’s birthday and bringing to the forefront reading as a fun, engaging

activity for everyone! Mrs. Martinez, Esplanade’s librarian, organized our party and invited one and all to read and celebrate Dr. Seuss’s birthday.

On Monday, students took the Reader’s Oath and received a bookmark. On Tuesday, students and staff wore mismatched socks for *Fox in Socks*. On Wednesday, crazy hats abounded throughout the school for *The Cat in the Hat*. On Thursday, twins of all ages throughout the school celebrated “Thing One and Thing Two.” Classroom doors were decorated, and the winners were presented with a certificate for the book fair. On Friday, Pajama Day closed the week that celebrated our joy of reading.

“Read each day and each night,” as our “Reader’s Oath states!

“You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.” ~ Dr. Seuss



Esplanade Principal and Librarian as Twins.

Imperial *Elementary*

400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6282 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Ginette Kelley
Principal

Bringing Change to the World

Imperial Elementary School continues to build lifelong learners who understand they are part of a greater community. Throughout the school year, the students and staff, led by Imperial’s student council, have been participating in community service projects to bring awareness that we too can bring change in this world.

This year Imperial Eagles have already participated in a canned food drive, Pennies for Patients, Read-to-Feed, and Toys for Tots. Upcoming community service projects include Salvation Army Shoe Drive, School a Stitch Clothing Drive, and Relay for Life.

The student council president reports that she likes participating in these projects because “they help other people.”

The generous efforts of Imperial’s students, staff, and parents contribute to increased awareness of the world around us and the change each individual can bring.

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Fletcher *Elementary*

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Rebeca Nelson
Principal

Building Bridges

This school year we have a total of 52 kindergarten through second-grade students enrolled in our Mandarin Immersion Program. These students spend half of each day learning content areas in the Mandarin language and the other half learning in English.

In conjunction with Read Across America, our Mandarin Immersion students participated in a special event held at Santiago Charter Middle School. Our students visited with seventh-grade students at Santiago who are part of an exploratory foreign language program. Students from each campus were placed in small groups and had the opportunity to practice their Mandarin. The enthusiasm and depth of knowledge that our young scholars have was evident as they eagerly read aloud in Mandarin and shared in conversation with their new friends. This event was a great beginning in bridging the Mandarin Immersion Program here to the language program at the middle school.



Handy *Elementary*

860 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6183 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Michelle Owen
Principal

Community Partnerships Increase Student Opportunities

Handy Elementary has been working to provide multiple hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) opportunities for our students through community partnerships. Our students regularly apply classroom research to hands-on lab experiments supported by the Beckman Science Foundation. This year, we've added a science lab for students to explore and conduct research as well as an additional robotics team through which students can build VEX robotics in teams of two and compete, using our new robotics platform to support programming and engineering concepts.

We've been fortunate to partner with local organizations to offer our students extended learning opportunities through field trips and overnight studies. This year, the Ocean Institute has sponsored field trips that include an exploratory early-California history and maritime travel field trip for our fifth-graders and an overnight Life in the Abyss excursion where sixth-graders will study nocturnal and deep-sea animal adaptations. Additional sponsored field trips include the Water Education Festival for our fourth-graders and The Gift of History and Huntington Beach Kids Ocean Day for our third-graders.

Handy continues to grow and support our technology through funding and partnerships by adding 100 new iPads dedicated to student research, active engagement, remediation, and enhancement of learning. Handy students already have access to four computer carts, 60 iPads, and a computer lab. Community members have contributed generously toward assistive technology in classrooms.

Handy Elementary appreciates our partnerships and continues to commit to student achievement through these opportunities to enhance learning for our students.

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Jordan *Elementary*

4319 E. Jordan Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6187 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Andrea Roman
Principal

Celebrating Our Achievements

At Jordan Elementary School, we have been busy with several school events. Our parents have completed their second year of Disciplina Positiva (Positive Discipline), giving our parents the skills to support their children by building responsibility at home and at school.

We also celebrated Read Across America with Family Literacy Night and inviting community members to read to our students during our Guest Reader Day. At our Family Literacy Night, families were invited to participate in various activities that promote a love of reading hosted by our classroom teachers and school staff. Our local neighborhood library, El Modena Library, provided parents with information regarding the many services provided by the library and library card applications.

Finally, we will be recognizing the 41 students who met the rigorous requirements to reclassify from English learners to fluent English speakers! We will be hosting a reclassification celebration for our students and their families. Congratulations to all of these students!

We would also like to take the time to recognize Ms. Andrea Reid, a fifth- and sixth-grade teacher, for being selected as Jordan's Teacher of the Year by our school staff. Her ability to challenge and inspire her student to always do their best and reach their highest potential is just one reason for the deserving title. She is truly a representation of the hard working and dedicated teachers and staff at Jordan.

Lampson *Elementary*

13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/997-6153 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Maria Chairez
Principal

Giving, Learning, and Moving

Lampson Elementary School students collected more than 545 canned foods for needy families in our community. We are proud of their generosity!

Not only are we giving, but we are also learning. Students have improved their reading comprehension. We had many students move from the below basic category and we have increased the number of proficient students. Most encouraging was that the number of students in the advanced proficient category doubled. Extra reading books and time spent at home reading helped students improve their comprehension.

Our students are moving, too. After school, students are running for fun and exercise. Our running club helps students stay fit and learn to enjoy exercise at an early age. The principal started the club last year, and it has grown to over 160 students. A local athletic shoe store participates by sending volunteers. This activity supports the White House initiative to reduce childhood obesity.



La Veta *Elementary*

2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6155 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Connie Smith
Principal

Builders of the Future

By Ekko DePriest, Assistant Principal

La Veta's GATE program is facing Common Core Standards head on! Mrs. Barone, Mr. Matos and Ms. Remus-Brehm work closely together to create a rotating schedule with rigorous assignments rooted in critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity for our GATE students in grades fourth through sixth. The sixth-graders are stepping up to project-based learning with their most recent topic of engineering and building design during science with Mrs. Barone.

The students' engineering projects focused on design, development and production of earthquake-resistant structures and their importance in earthquake-prone areas of the world. They were first asked to build shake tables that would simulate a 1.0 to 9.0 earthquake. Students then tested their prototype cities on the shake tables, went back and revised their structures, and then wrote building codes according to their findings. We applaud our teachers for guiding our students to be real-world problem solvers!



Natalie Nguyen and Grace Lee
stress-testing their building.

Linda Vista *Elementary*

1200 N. Cannon St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6201 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Sally Hughson
Principal

Library News

Let the fun begin! Dr. Seuss is 110! Our second annual Dr. Seuss Breakfast in honor of the Seuss himself was held in February. Families enjoyed Seuss egg-and-ham muffins as well as juice or coffee. The students wore crazy hats and played Seuss games.

Thank you to all of the children who have shared their birthdays with us by donating a new book to the library to mark their special day. If you would like to join the Birthday Club, simply have your child bring in a new book for his or her birthday.

A special sticker will go inside the book, and a candle will be added to the Birthday Cake Wall.



Accelerated Reader points are adding up as we finish second trimester. The students are reading furiously to get up on our Gold Medal Reading Olympic Wall. Team Nolte and Papac/Place had all their students earn a Gold Ring. Team Dodd and Burd were close behind. So readers, keep on reading and feel the thrill of an adventure or the agony of suspense!

McPherson Magnet

333 S. Prospect St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6384 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Jeanne Bentley
Principal

Science Night

An important part of learning science is participating through real-life application. Science fairs offer students an opportunity to practice science investigation and invention.

In February, you could feel the electricity in the air as McPherson Magnet School students

celebrated their accomplishments: collaborating; setting up their exhibits; making last-minute design changes; building card towers; creating computer programs, or learning how bees produce honey. Students from the Robotics Club taught other students how robotic devices pick up strange-looking balls, score goals under the pressure of time, and suspend themselves on a center rod. Reports have their value, but a science fair project is a unique opportunity to experience the full science process, from asking the question to collecting data to peer review of the results.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our students!



Student Naomi Spargur and famous chemistry scientist, Richard Nesbit, one of over 50 judges for our science fair.

Orange High School

525 N. Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6211 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Ernest Gonzalez
Principal

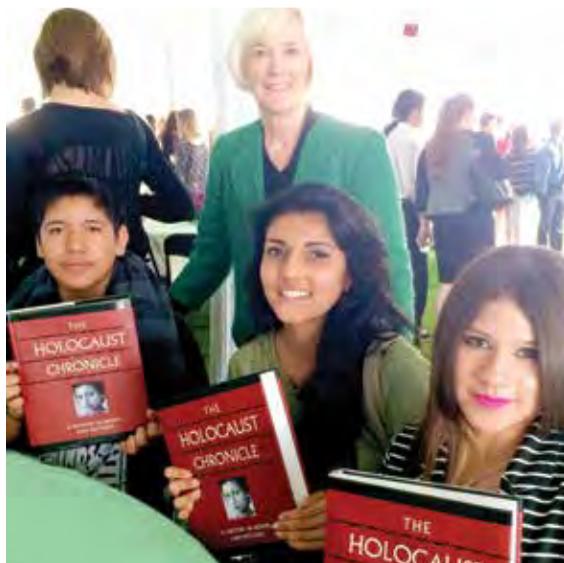
A Unique Opportunity for Students

Student finalists attended the 15th Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest Award Ceremony on March 7, 2014. The finalists received certificates and prizes, including the book *The Holocaust Chronicle*.

The ceremony was followed by a reception where the students could have their books autographed by Holocaust survivors. In addition, 35 students from Ms. Petersen's English class were invited to engage in a conversation with Elie Wiesel at Chapman University's Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library in April.

Elie Wiesel is a Holocaust survivor whose memoir *Night* is part of the ninth-grade English curriculum. Professor Wiesel was able to connect with students who were the same age that he was during his Holocaust experience. The students were given the opportunity to share how *Night* has influenced their lives.

The conversation was also broadcast to Memorial Hall, where the rest of OHS's freshman class could watch it live.



Finalists Oscar B., Paola I., and Millie A. with English teacher Ms. Petersen.

Nohl Canyon Elementary

4100 E. Nohl Ranch Rd., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6203 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Amy Hitt
Principal

Supporting All Students

At Nohl Canyon School, we are proud to highlight two programs as part of our California Distinguished School application.

We utilize a Response To Intervention and Instruction (RTI2) system, where students who need differentiated support have the opportunity to work with an intervention teacher in a small group. Grade-level teachers select the students and needs based on current assessments. While some students are working with the intervention teacher, others are being supported in small-group classroom rotations. This year, our intervention teacher sees both support and enrichment groups for reading, writing, and math.

Another program highlighted in the application is our Nohl Canyon Cares social skills groups, which meet at lunchtime. Students who need behavior support have the opportunity to reflect on their actions and interact with each other during research-based lessons. This is a positive way to remediate less desirable behaviors and teach students to be responsible Roadrunners.

At Nohl Canyon, we are proud of our fine programs which support all students.



Second graders Madeline Valenta, Charlyze Chang, and Ava Gutierrez work together as part of an enrichment group.



Third graders Carter Swann, Molly Domer, and Jaimie Rhode work together as part of a third grade enrichment group.

Olive Elementary

3038 Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/637-8218 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Katherine Rizzo
Principal

Recycling Pays Off

The students at Olive Elementary School know about the importance of recycling. Our Oceleaders run a dedicated recycling program for our school, and each week, they make sure that recyclable materials are collected all around the campus. Each year, approximately \$400 is raised and is used for schoolwide needs. When I asked some students what they thought of recycling, they told me, "Recycling is hard to do, but it's worth it in the end."

Recycling has definitely empowered the students at Olive. One person *can* make a difference! Olive students know this is true. They are doing their share to make sure this world is a better place! Going Green is a part of our school culture!

Olive's second-grade students attended the Philharmonic Society Committee's salute to the American band, sponsored by a local amusement complex. The band introduced the students to musical instruments and traced American-band music. Students were enthralled with the music and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of listening to and participating in making music.

The concert provided students with an excellent introduction to the various instruments and spurred enthusiasm for the time when they will be able to play one.

Palmyra *Elementary*

1325 E. Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6207 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Larry Hausner
Principal

Read Across America Day

By *Mitzie Larson, LMT*

Our kindergarten and first-grade students were recently visited by the Cat in the Hat himself (or Principal Dr. Hausner of Palmyra) in celebration of Read Across America Day. The “Cat” appropriately selected to read *Hooray for Diffendoofer Day!* This is a special book because it was the last

and unfinished work of Dr. Seuss.

In addition, the week before Read Across America day, the second-through sixth-grade students were each given a multiple choice quiz through the library. The quiz was taken during their free time, and was all about their teachers’ favorite books when they were in elementary school.

This test gave our students an opportunity to interact with their teachers in a way that they never had before, and briefly talk about books. The five students with the top scores earned a \$5 credit at our upcoming book fair!



Portola *Middle School*

270 N. Palm Dr., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6361 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Deborah Backstrom
Principal

We’re Soaring with Pride

Portola Middle School has had tremendous success with our English-learner student population. Our students have surpassed the district’s reclassification goals for the past five years, and they have worked very hard to obtain their goal. Our school staff has worked diligently with our EL population to prepare them for the CELDT and to successfully pass their core classes with a C grade or better.

Our EL student population understands the significance behind the CELDT, and therefore it has become an assessment that our EL students prepare for and eagerly anticipate. The entire school worked on communication goals from the beginning of the year and leading up to the CELDT testing.

We are very proud of our students’ accomplishments as they continue to make great strides in their education. Thank you to our great staff at Portola for helping our students achieve their goals. Way to go, Matadors—you are the best!

Richland *High School*

615 N. Lemon St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6167 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dennis McCuiston
Principal

Camp RYLA

Through our partnership with North Orange Rotary Club, two Richland Continuation High School students were selected to attend Camp Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA). This is a life-changing opportunity for students to learn the valuable leadership and 21st-century skills of communication and collaboration. Students learn the ethics of positive leadership, problem solving, conflict management, and the elements of community and global citizenship.

This year, North Orange Rotary will sponsor students Daneyla Vila and Gabriel Gomez to represent Richland at the leadership camp. Daneyla and Gabriel are both Level 3 students who have demonstrated personal responsibility and self-motivation to achieve their academic goals.

Panorama *Elementary*

10512 Crawford Canyon Rd., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6265 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Kathryn Martin
Principal

Hats Off to Mrs. Erin Rosselli!

Panorama Elementary School is proud to have highly skilled teachers who have deep passion for teaching and learning, as well as a love for children. It is their dedication that makes Panorama a fabulous place for students and their families.

Panorama is proud of Mrs. Erin Rosselli, 2014 Orange Unified School District Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Rosselli has spent her career learning and leading. This year, she has not only committed herself to teaching her kindergarteners to be 21st-century thinkers, she has been a model and mentor for Panorama teachers, the district, and Orange County. She has led the charge as an innovator and risk taker in the classroom, collaborating with the staff to implement the Common Core State Standards and strive to meet the needs of all children through differentiation and depth in instruction.

Mrs. Rosselli is a vital part of the Panorama Panther family!



Mrs. Rosselli and her Kindergarten class.

Prospect *Elementary*

379 N. Virage St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6271 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Elena Rodriguez
Principal

The Common Core is Here

By *Ellen Davidson, Instructional Specialist*

Are you curious about the Common Core? Then Prospect is the place for you to visit!

The transitional kindergarten through sixth-grade classes are designing and implementing units around the enduring theme that “Humans and Nature Interact in Many Ways.” The kindergarten students are discovering how weather affects everything from how we dress to what we eat.

The first- and second-graders are exploring the connection between bees and human survival. The third- and fourth-grade students are



Ms. Ceja’s third graders, Vanessa Marcelino, Efrain Rodriguez, Tarik Milhelm and Arlette Arenas collaborating on literature using Thinking Maps.

examining the effects of natural disasters on the environment and people. The fifth grade is immersed in the connection between animals and people, and what we can do to help protect other species.

The sixth grade is delving deeply into the connection between winter and science, and social studies and literature. Prospect is the place to be if you want to see the Common Core in action!

Running Springs *Elementary*

8670 E. Running Springs Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/281-4512 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Lydia Roach
Principal

Learning Assemblies

February, March and April have been busy months at Running Springs Elementary School! Each grade level participates in either an enrichment program or a field trip that extends classroom learning. Each program or field trip is selected to coincide with content standards at each grade level. The enrichment programs and field trips that were scheduled for February, March and April include grades TK-6: Art Masters assemblies and lessons; kindergarten: Animals All Around; grade 1: Scales and Slime school assembly; grade 2: Eight Legs or Six school assembly; grade 3: Reaction Lab school assembly and a social studies field trip at a local theme park; grades 4-6: Meet the Musicians school assembly and a string quartet performance; grade 5: Walk Through the American Revolution school assembly; and grade 6: Homer's Odyssey school assembly.

In addition to these standards-based field trips and enrichment programs, students had the opportunity to participate in two optional enrichment programs sponsored by the Running Springs PTA. Students were encouraged to learn the names of states and capitals in the Know Your States Challenge. They earned certificates, medals and a pizza party for meeting this challenge. Students also had the opportunity to display their talent in the annual Talent Show. Many talented students displayed their musical and performance abilities in both a daytime assembly and evening shows.

Many thanks to the PTA for organizing these two events and for funding most of the school assemblies listed above.

Serrano *Elementary*

17741 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6275 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Bobbie Lansman
Principal

Special Celebrations

Serrano Elementary School celebrated its 50th anniversary in February with a school-wide assembly, a golf tournament, an evening gala, and a family fun day. Hundreds of past, present, and future Serrano Eagles attended the fun events. It was great to see some of the teachers who were at Serrano when the school opened and former principal Bill Cully, who drove 400 miles to attend. Parents who were former students enjoyed seeing their own elementary teachers. All monies earned are going towards new technology. The new computer lab of touch-screen computers is wonderful, and we are now focused on obtaining electronic tablets.

Our kindergarten students celebrated the 100th day of school in February as well, dressing up as people who are 100 years old. We are now thinking of things to place in a time capsule that will let students of 2064 see what it was like in 2014.



Santiago Charter *Middle School*

515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6366 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



James D'Agostino
Principal

A New Addition

This year, Santiago added Mandarin Chinese to its foreign language department. So over the past few months our students worked together to put on a Chinese New Year celebration that highlighted all of the school's elective classes.

The assembly was held on January 31, and featured a 40-foot dragon made by our art and woodshop students. Our band played traditional Chinese drums, our dance team performed ceremonial dances, and our computer class and video club recorded and edited the event. It was a great time, and one of the most memorable assemblies that we have ever had.

To celebrate Read Across America Day, Santiago recently partnered with Fletcher Elementary School. We invited their second-grade Mandarin Chinese immersion students to read Chinese with our seventh-grade students. The children were amazing, and had a wonderful time reading to each other. We also went to Panorama Elementary and Chapman Hills Elementary to have our students read to our future Santanas!



40 foot Dragon made by our art and woodshop students.

Sycamore *Elementary*

340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6277 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Erika Krohn
Principal

Read Across America

Sycamore Elementary School celebrated Read Across America and Dr. Seuss's birthday the week of March 3-7. Every day of the week was a different themed spirit day such as crazy hats, hair, and socks.



In addition, Sycamore warmly welcomed the Orange Rotary to come read to our scholars. The Rotarians impressed our children with enthusiastic reading with props and dramatics. Sycamore also received a visit from the librarian from Orange Public Library. She not only engaged the students with her spirited reading, but she advertised a wealth of free library programs. The week concluded with an assembly with Ronald McDonald. What a fantastic way to foster a love of reading!

Taft *Elementary*

1829 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6254 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Antonette Coe
Principal

Parents Make a Difference

As the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) continue to unfold, our students and teachers are working diligently as they become increasingly involved. This year at Taft, the “Coffee with the Principal” activity has been continuing every month. At this event our principal shares information and strategies that parents can use at home. The parents enjoy this time because it allows them to ask questions and address any concerns they might have.

In addition, our parents are also given the opportunity to come into their children’s classrooms to observe a sample CCSS lesson in math and language arts. This provides them with some insight into what it’s like to be a student in the classroom. They can observe their children learning, collaborating with peers, and engaging in important critical-thinking skills.



In addition to the daytime events, we also provide evening math and literacy family nights to help model strategies which can support implementation at home. Parental involvement is definitely having a positive impact at Taft!

Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/532-8020 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Ed Howard
Principal

Engagement

Over the past few weeks, several parents have expressed their concern about how disengaged their students are. It made me think: Are young people today more inactive than we were growing up? Has the technological revolution created a generation of inactive humans? We want to say yes, but having witnessed these young adults in many different environments for many years, I have drawn the conclusion that they are not. When I see them doing things they love to do, when they are engaged in things that interest them, when the expectation for performance is tied directly to a desired outcome, e.g., a paycheck, they are not disengaged. In fact, when these are in place, these young adults show signs of greatness.

Legendary football coach John Madden was asked, “Is there a common trait that all of the great players have shared?” His response was “Yes.” The great ones have the ability to do the things they dislike doing with the same pride and enthusiasm as they do with the things they love to do.

At VPHS, our goal is clear. We try to create an environment in which the student loves what he or she is doing, is interested in what he or she is learning, and understand the desired outcome: graduation, with options for a bright future.

Villa Park *Elementary*

10551 Center Dr., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6281 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Debra Larson
Principal

High School Students as Science Teachers!

Last month, all three fourth-grade classes collaborated with Villa Park High School students for their science instruction. Students from the AP Physics class at VPHS were given the opportunity to be a “teacher for a day,” and then receive feedback from our own VPE teachers.

The high school students collaborated with our fourth-grade teachers to plan several science lessons that were appropriate for each class and what it was learning. The fourth-graders enjoyed these hands-on lessons about “Rocks and Minerals” and “Simple Machines.”

The high school students utilized creative methods of instruction, such as student-created marshmallow launchers, or bringing in actual minerals for observation. The VPHS students were also responsible for assessing student understanding at the conclusion of the lesson.

Overall, it was a positive experience for both the elementary and high school students.





Orange Unified School District

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West Orange *Elementary*

243 S. Bush St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6283 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Dr. Jennifer Bourgeois
Principal

West Orange Warbots are getting set to compete

Our school added its second after school STEM program: Robotics Academy. The Robotics Academy is comprised of students from grades three through five. All interested students went through an application process and needed a letter of recommendation from their previous teacher. The focus of the academy is to design, create, build, and collaborate in groups to make robots to compete in competitions.

Their first competition will be the Orange Unified School District Robotics Competition on April 11, 2014. The students in the academy also keep journals recording their work including notes and designs.



West Orange Elementary Robotics Academy fifth graders Ha-Vi Phan and Harley Grant and third grader Elias Rosales brainstorm to figure out the best design and objects needed to construct their robot.

This academy supports the Common Core goals of the four Cs — critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration. Students have the advantage of further developing these habits beyond the classroom.

OUSD Alternative Education / ROP

1401 N. Handy St. Orange, CA 92867 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Staying Informed

As the new coordinator of Alternative Education, it is hard to believe that we are already in the month of March. In addition to the on-site physical changes that are designed to improve the academic achievement and safety of our students, Alternative Education also continues to offer challenging and supportive programs to all of its students.

Over the last several months we have continued to teach our students the vital skills and knowledge they need to succeed in the 21st century. At the same time we have encouraged creativity, curiosity and a life-long appreciation for learning.

We also believe that a strong partnership between parents and staff will lead to greater academic success. Since January, Alternative Education has hosted two parent nights. In addition, parents receive a quarterly newsletter to keep them informed about various events on campus, as well as updates regarding our transition to the Common Core Standards and Local Control Funding.

We are looking forward to an amazing rest of the school year, one filled with many student accomplishments.

Yorba *Middle School*

935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6161 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



Tracy Knibb
Principal

Changing the World Through Music

Bono, the lead singer of U2, said, “Music can change the world because it can change people.” The passion of music is alive at Yorba Middle School, where music permeates the culture of the school. Over 380 students are actively involved in music classes, which include beginning and advanced guitar, beginning and advanced orchestra, and beginning and advanced band. We are proud to announce that 46 of our advanced students auditioned and earned spots in the district’s honor band and orchestra! We are proud of their hard work and commitment!

In March, the Music Department hosted an assembly for Cambridge Elementary School students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Band members, led by director Alicia Abifadel, performed, taught students the names and sounds of musical instruments, and then worked with small groups of students to build their own instruments. Cambridge students were eager to participate and actively engaged with their middle school mentors. They left clutching their instruments and proud of their accomplishments!

The Music Department takes every opportunity to engage with the local community and empowers members to bring their love of music to others. Ms. Abifadel motivates our musicians to let music be the encouragement they need to be successful in all aspects of school and life. Just as Bono said, the passion of our musicians and music director changes our world every day at Yorba!

OUSD Child Development Services

Parkside Campus: 2345 E. Palmyra. Orange, CA 92869 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca/child_care/

Aligning Preschool with Common Core

By Jim Stephens, Director

Research shows that children experience a smoother transition into elementary school when there is coordination among schools, early childhood education programs, and families. OUSD Child Development Center (CDC) provides just this, with a comprehensive education program that includes health, nutrition, and parent engagement.



For over 40 years, the CDC has provided a comprehensive preschool experience. Children receive a wide variety of learning experiences that enhance language, vocabulary, mathematics reasoning, and social-emotional development as well as developmental, sensory, health, and nutrition screenings. As OUSD continues to transition to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), CDC staff will continue to provide a high quality preschool program which will prepare children to enter kindergarten ready for the new standards. The CDC is located on the Parkside School campus and is currently enrolling 3 and 4 year olds.

For more information, please call 714-628-5570, or www.orangeusd.org under “Child Care.”



Parent To Parent

Selfies



Jodie Lynn

Question: My 12-year-old daughter and her friends are constantly taking “selfies” on their cell phones. The other moms and I think this is a bad thing. All we hear is negative comments about their faces, noses, teeth, eyes, hair, etc. What’s the best way to try to help these girls understand that these self-pictures should not be used as a testament of their true appearances, inside and out, and to try to teach them to make light of the selfies if they insist on continuing to take them?

From Jodie: Self-critiquing alone can be rough on one’s self-esteem and emotional state of mind. But if the picture is shown to friends or posted on social media the comments, which can be quite mean, can devastate the individual and really do damage. As kids get older they begin to be generally hard on themselves as well as others when it comes to just about everything they do and say and especially how they look. Recognizing this, Dove® came up with ways to help build and rethink self-esteem in growing girls. In 2004, they created The Dove Self-Esteem Project which focuses on helping girls, ages 8 to 17, become more confident and well-adjusted, even enjoying themselves for who they really are. Be sure to visit their site where you both can engage in great lessons on self-esteem and loads of other resources. Check out <http://www.dove.us/Our-Mission/Girls-Self-Esteem/default.aspx> for more details. You might also want to watch a video that they put together (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_3agBWqGfRo&feature=youtu.be). It aims to reaffirm a happy, healthy insight into the next generation of women growing up. Since our own personal opinion about ourselves is important, we have a tendency to verbally express negative comments, which in turn is heard by family members.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author. 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*.

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714.923.0100
kumon.com/orange-south



A Camp for Every Child—The Perfect Fit

Camp can last for just a few days or stretch to all summer long. It's well worth the trouble to investigate the variety of choices offered by camps before your child packs a backpack.

Ready, Set, Camp!



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! Visit www.cityoforange.org for more information.



Teens-4-Team Orange

This program provides teens fun and excitement, 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:

El Camino Real Park

Days/Times: Mon – Fri, 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Ages: 7th grade – 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.

Summer Day Camps

The City is also proud to offer its ever-popular Summer Day Camps at various City parks. Beginning June 16, 2014 kids are invited to join our themed, 9-week program with a structured schedule of games, activities, crafts, songs, special events, and optional excursions.

Your child will experience a summer packed with adventure and excitement!

Day Camp Locations:

Handy & Shaffer Parks

Days/Times: Mon – Fri, 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Ages: Children entering 1st – 6th Grade

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. A complete list of excursion activities is available to view online or will be printed in the summer issue of Our Orange magazine available the week of April 21, 2014.



Specialty Camps

The City of Orange is proud to offer a variety of fun and exciting specialty camps and classes such as sports, art, music, dance, engineering, science, cooking, and much more! Camps are designed for children of all ages. To view some of these camps visit www.cityoforange.org and click on the "Our Orange" button to the right of the screen. All camps and classes will be listed in the summer edition of Our Orange magazine available the week of April 21, 2014.



Adventure is Out There!

Hephatha Lutheran Summer Day Camp 2014

June 16 - August 15

Camp Ohana: Grades 1-8

Camp Keiki: Ages 2 yrs - K

Camp Ohana

Off Campus Field Trips

Water Days

Theme Days

A Rockin' Praise Band

Vacation Bible School

5th & Up Programming

Counselor in Training Program

Summer School

Camp Keiki

On Site Field Trips

Water Days

Children's Authors Celebrated

Chapels

Vacation Bible School

5900 E. Santa Ana Canyon Rd.

Anaheim Hills, CA 92807

(714) 637-0887, ext. 136

hephathasac@gmail.com

Visit Our Website to Register: www.hephatha.net



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SUMMER TO DISCOVER

YMCA OF ORANGE

Summer Day Camp • "Jump into Fun!" (June 16-August 18)

Join us for a summer of memories, friends and fun.

Activities Include:

- Games
- Arts and Crafts
- Fieldtrips
- Guest Speakers
- And much more!



Resident Camp • Camp Big Bear (July 19-26)

Located on lake front property at Boulder Bay in Big Bear Lake, CA Camp Big Bear offers a wide array of activities for children ages 7 to 14.

Activities Include:

- Ropes Course
- Lakefront Activities
- Archery
- Swimming
- Hiking
- Team Building
- Arts and Crafts
- Character Development
- And much more!

Summer Registration @ Healthy Kids Day

Free food, games and fun
for the whole family!

Date: April 26th

Time: 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Location: 2241 E Palmyra Ave.

Orange, CA 92869

(714) 633-9622

www.ymcaoforange.org



Registration begins
April 14, 2014

Community Services College for Kids & Teens Program

June 23 through
August 14, 2014

(714) 628-4960

8045 E. Chapman Ave. • Orange 92869

For a full list of classes & camps visit our website

www.sccollege.edu/cs

- academics
- art
- acting/modeling
- awesome sitters
- computers/keyboarding
- dance
- guitar
- horsemanship
- digital photography
- LEGO® Engineering
- movie making
- musical theater
- math
- reading/composition
- robotics
- SAT Prep
- sewing
- science camps
- Spanish
- swim lessons
- video game making
- web design
- and more...

Note-ables

Buy One Get One Flea, Dog on Fleas



Kate Karp

For some time, creators and performers of young people's music have been dispensing with the cheap, synthetic sound of electronic tracks and replacing them with real live instruments. I'm surely not the only one who's delighted beyond words. Dog on Fleas is one of the groups that plays in its own band, called the Backyard Orchestra; the combo includes but is not limited to a sousaphone, duck calls, a bass drum, a bassoon, a clarinet and several kazoos. The wacky instrumentation and the wordplayful monikers of group and band indicate one slaphappily good CD.



Turn Up The Heat!



JOIN SUMMER SOCCER NOW

The Orange Junior Soccer Club Lancers program provides children from four to fifteen years of age (born between 1997-2009) with the opportunity to play summer soccer. For many, the summer is an easier time of year to participate in sports. The atmosphere of the summer program is truly recreational and designed for fun. Children are able to "buddy" with a friend in this program. The season begins with practices in May and games begin on the 1st Saturday in June and finish the last Saturday in July (no games July 5th).

SIGN-UP INFORMATION

	Dates	
Thursday	Wednesday	Saturday
April 3rd	April 9th	April 12th
6 - 8 pm	6 - 8 pm	2 - 4 pm

Where

Lamppost Pizza
(corner of Chapman & Tustin in the City of Orange)

What to Bring

Online registration form (faster)
or fill out form at Lamppost.

Birth Certificate

Please bring a copy for us to keep. You only need to bring this if your child has not played with OJSC previously.

Payment

\$95 (Cash or Check only, no credit cards)

www.ojsc.org

Anaheim Surf Tryouts

Check Website For Times and Dates

Where

Villa Park HS - 18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, 93861
 Rock Christian Academy - 4150 E Beauty Dr., Anaheim, 92807
 (Formerly Riverside Elementary)



Directors & Coaches

Eddie Carrillo, Anaheim Surf DOC, Chapman University Men's Head Coach
Luis Balboa, Tech Director, Former Argentina Men's National Team
Sal Lopez, Asst Director, Chapman University Men's Asst Coach
Lindsey Huie, Girls Youth Director, Former US National Team
Bob Ammann, GK Director, Former Professional Player
Dale Ervine, Former US National Team, Former Professional Player

www.anaheimsurf.com

The content is composed of songs original, familiar and obscure. Imagine, if you will, "Over the Waves" and the "Grand March" from the opera *Aida* played solely by kazoos, albeit skillfully. The original songs, written by Grammy Award-winning producer and band member Dean Jones, are based on themes that both child and parent will appreciate. "Hundredaires" is about the joys and disadvantages of a simpler life and a lighter wallet. "It's a Ruse" warns about things that seem too good to be true and likely are. "Pardon My Pajamas"—well, who hasn't longed to spend an entire day in jammies?

And "Hinterlands" is plain wonderful—brilliantly arranged and tuneful, with an energy that you can jump on and ride. You're certain to get an itch for Fleadom.

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

Anaheim Tennis Center Jr. Summer Camp 2014

1st Camp Begins
 June 16, 2014



Format for all Camps: Professional Instruction, Ball Machine Hitting, Conditioning, High Performance Drills and Match Play.

Prepare to play College Tennis

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 Cost: \$175

Beginning Jr. Development Summer Tennis Camps

Day: M - T - W - Th Time: 11am - 1pm Ages: 6 - 12
 Cost: \$99

offered
 9 weeks

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anaheimtenniscenter.com



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CITY OF ANAHEIM Summer Camps

PLAN AHEAD...
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AGES 3-15



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 or visit EZRECONNECT.ANAHEIM.NET

Children's Programs

Summer Camps and Classes for Kids and Teens – Held on the Cal State Fullerton Campus

Art Camp

A two-week program designed for 7-14 year olds where students explore the exciting world of art, musical theater and creativity.

Session 1: July 7-18

Session 2: July 21 - August 1



Weekly Classes

One-week courses on topics such as algebra, geometry, drawing and painting, writing skills and public speaking. Designed to prepare kids in grades 2 through high school for the year ahead.

Classes start as early as July 7.

“Quality of art projects was amazing”

www.fullerton.edu/kidscamp

These programs are made available through the CSU Fullerton Auxiliary Service Corporation.

8723 2/14

Over My Garden Gate

Oranges and Life's Lessons



Nancy

I just spent a wonderful weekend with two little grandsons (ages 6 and 4) watching them enjoy and delight in what has become work for me after all these years at the ranch. The two boys loved climbing orchard ladders to harvest navel oranges. They picked themselves 5 twenty five pound bags to take home to sell. Aside from all the enjoyment they had they are learning some of life's lessons, i.e., where their orange juice comes from, the work involved in harvesting the fruit, the work and art of sales, and earning some of their own money. Not too bad for one morning in the outdoors, enjoying nature and spending time with their great grandmother, grandmother and parents.



Andrew's ICE CREAM and desserts

Entries must be received by April 30, 2014
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at

Andrew's Ice Cream
1549 E. Katella in Orange
(right next to Five Guys Hamburgers)

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|
| BEST | DELICIOUS | ORANGE |
| BROWNIES | DESSERTS | RASPBERRY |
| CAKE POPS | FAVORITE | SCOOP |
| CHOCOLATE | FUN | SUNDAES |
| CHUNKY MONKEY | HOMEMADE | SWIRL |
| CONES | ICE CREAM | TOPPINGS |
| COOKIES | KATELLA | VANILLA |
| CUPS | MAPLE WALNUT | YUMMY |

Word Search Contest

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

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

It is difficult to pinpoint one spot in the garden(s) of the ranch today. Over there are lilac bushes in shades of dark purple, raspberry and pink either in full fragrance or the process of opening. Along the roadway fence and the separating fence within the yards there are pink, white, dark red, bicolor roses, each adding their fragrance to the perfume of spring.



The backyard also adds in a front planting of red salvia, three spaced smoke bushes with their beautiful purple blooms, euryops in bright "look at me" yellow, and carnations in two shades of pink.

The white and pink dogwoods are budded up and soon to open, with the bird planted little dogwood sport to follow with its mauve/beige blooms. Crape myrtles are leafing out all around the house and will be in full red blossom soon. The persimmon, sycamore, linden tulip trees have just opened leaves overnight it seems and the barnyard oak is magnificent with its crown of leaves.

The patio rimming group of blueberry bushes have passed their blooms into little gray orbs of soon to be blue berries. We are trying a new pink blueberry this year and can hardly wait for it to bloom and be ready for tasting. The golden California poppies are spring up and blooming here and there.

Spring in California is truly a sight for all of your senses from the carpet of green beneath your feet to the individual wild and domestic blossoms. To walk in this beauty is to fully participate in the change of our season and to appreciate the feast before you.

Publisher's note: Nancy is a mother, grandmother, great grandmother, retired school board member, and community volunteer. Nancy is a rancher in Northern CA. I don't think I have ever known anyone quite as appreciative of nature as Nancy. She can stand in the middle of a field of weeds and find beauty in the gentle swaying of the tassels. At the end of her busy day, rather than settle down for a much needed rest, Nancy is preparing sugar water to not disappoint the hummingbirds the following morning. After much arm twisting, I convinced Nancy to share with our readers a few tidbits of her days on the farm. Enjoy!

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OCDE Strategic Plan



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Orange County Department of Education Vision:
Orange County students will lead the nation in college and career readiness and success.

As educators, we are preparing our students to succeed in an increasingly globalized and competitive workplace. It is imperative that students develop competencies in the areas of critical thinking and problem solving, creativity and innovation, communication, collaboration, and character to assure their success in college, careers, and life.

Recognizing the essential need to keep pace in education, and to assure our accountability, the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) undertook a strategic planning process. This activity will enable us to stay ahead of the vast changes in technology, culture, and the global economy - while working hard to close the achievement gap. In developing our plan for the next five years, we looked at our history, core strengths, areas of improvement, challenges, and opportunities. Through the process, we affirmed our Mission, developed our Vision, and outlined the blueprint to achieve our goals.

We come away from the strategic planning process with a living document and the compass for our ambitious journey. A journey that sets high expectations and allows us all to unite on the path to ensure Orange County students lead the nation in college and career readiness and success. The plan includes a set of strategic priorities, goals, key performance indicators, and a learning vision to guide our work. It revolves around our primary focus of student achievement, which is at the center of everything we do on a daily basis. The plan will enable us to build upon the successes of the past as we continue to enhance our services to students, parents, and the community.

To lead the nation in college and career readiness and success is a high ambition, but within the reach of Orange County students. We recognize that OCDE plays a supportive role in reaching this vision and its fulfillment is ultimately dependent on the engagement and the contributions of educators at all levels of student development from early childhood through higher education. Success will require that our students cultivate not only academic mastery but also emotional and social development in safe and supportive schools and communities. Individual student interests, choices, and capacities define college and career success, but we know students need support to acquire competencies that will allow them to succeed in learning experiences beyond their PreK-12 education.

I want to express my gratitude to the many of you who contributed to the development of the plan by responding to surveys and participating in discussions with our leadership team members. I truly appreciate your constructive, thoughtful, and valuable input. I am confident that if we work together, our students will graduate from high school prepared with the competencies they need to thrive in the 21st century.

Thank you for your interest in the students of Orange County and for your contributions to their success.

For additional information about OCDE services, visit www.ocde.us.

Taking the Pledge

Driving Is a Responsibility



Karley Cable

HAPPY SPRING! I am so glad that the days are finally longer and we are getting closer to summer vacation. As a new driver, the freeways can be pretty daunting, especially during rush hour and driving is always a lot harder for me in the dark.

It was just over year ago that I got my driver's learning permit. As excited as I was to get behind the wheel, my first few driving lessons with mom and dad were a disaster. It was much harder than I anticipated and I wondered if I would ever be able to navigate my way around by myself without nearly running into something. Add to that the fact I live in a crowded, busy, beach community. Skateboarders and cyclists are constantly flying out from alleyways and tearing down narrow streets in the wrong direction. Young kids are can always be found playing in the streets. Animals are frequently running out into the road, and nothing is worse than trying to parallel park. You need to be very cautious. I'm glad I didn't give up on learning to drive because it is just like learning any new skill, it takes practice for it to become second-nature.

I have a lot of friends who are getting their driving permits this year and other friends that don't seem the slightest bit interested in learning to drive. I can understand where both are coming from. Driving is amazing! It is so empowering and it gives me such a sense of freedom. I finally feel like I am no longer a child. However, learning to drive does require a big time commitment and expense. Training courses can take a few months and they can be very boring, not to mention pricey. And, in addition to the training, you must put in a lot more time practicing behind the wheel with an adult.

Summer is an ideal time to learn to drive. The days are longer, and for most teenagers, school is not in session so there is more time to dedicate to learning.

If you are the parent of a teen nearing driving age, I imagine you might be thrilled if your teen has no interest in learning to drive, but I would recommend you encourage them to do it. Here's why: In order to get behind the wheel and drive, you must first pass a driver's permit written exam and complete a training course which usually takes a few months. Then, if you pass your exam and get your driver's learning permit, you must get professional "behind-the wheel" training as well as put in 100 additional hours of practice with an adult. This is a great opportunity for you to help get your teen off to a good start by practicing a lot with them. For most teens and their parents, this can be a very stressful time. Just remember, the more they practice, the better drivers they will be. By the time they receive their license, you will hopefully be very confident in their driving abilities. Plus, you will become a better driver as you realize how important it is to set a good driving example yourself.

Even after your teen has mastered the driving courses, and has met all the requirements to finally get their driver's license, they still need to go to the DMV and take a behind-the-wheel driving test. Some DMV's are very tricky. After driving countless hours in crowded cities with heavy traffic, I quickly learned that a green light means nothing if pedestrians are still crossing the street or cars are in the intersection. I can give you the names of twenty people, myself included, who failed their first driving test for slowing on a green turn arrow.

Learning to drive is a rite of passage and the experience of teaching your teen to drive will no doubt provide many memories. The best part for parents is that once your teen starts driving, there is no better motivation for getting good grades, a job, and being responsible, like the privilege of driving a car. They can also run out to the store and grab a few things you need or fill the car with gas for you too! And while the thought of an auto accident is extremely scary, we can drastically reduce the likelihood of injury by wearing seat belts, obeying traffic laws and certainly NEVER TEXTING WHILE DRIVING.

I urge you to require your new driver to log onto my website:<http://themadmovement.weebly.com> and TAKE THE PLEDGE to never text and drive. Karley Cable is a junior honors student at Woodrow Wilson Classical High School in Long Beach. She recently received her second President's Volunteer Award from President Barack Obama and was a state honoree for the prestigious Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for her "Don't Text and Drive/It Can Wait" campaign efforts. For more information on Karley and her campaign, visit her website: <http://themadmovement.weebly.com>



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Dream Universities are Attainable



Susan D. Marshall

My question to parents is this; if your son or daughter could attend their dream school for the same out of pocket expense or less than another school, would this be something you would like to know ahead of time? Yes, of course. As soon as possible.

There are ways to know these things. There are things you can do even when students are in middle school that can be game changers in the world of financial aid, getting scholarships, and helping families save on college.

Navigating the financial aid process is a challenge and it needs to start sooner than parents realize. One of the biggest challenges you will face is college costs have become alarmingly high. Most families have not saved enough to even pay for 1 full year of tuition.

The other challenge is figuring out how to navigate the college financial aid process and learning how the colleges disperse financial aid. The reality is that colleges and universities don't want you to know the process or guidelines they use to distribute financial aid. Their goal is to attract as many high quality students to attend their school with as few dollars as possible.

Every college is different in how they award aid. Do they offer more need based aid or merit aid? Merit aid is awarded for the student's merit. Need based aid is based on financial need.

Regarding need based aid: The question is how much of your need the college will meet. Then the question is if they will meet your need in the form of loans or in gift aid. Gift aid is free money, money you don't have to pay back. Loans, even though considered financial aid, someone will eventually have to pay back.

By being able to answer these questions and understand how colleges' award financial aid (and the types of aid) may make a difference in your student attending their dream school or settling for a school they think is more affordable.

Susan both educator and advisor specializes in college planning. She helps families save for and pay for college. If you have questions you would like answered in a future article contact her at Susan@College4Less.com or on her Web site at www.college4less.com

SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 1



Michael L. Christensen

facility priorities was mailed to households in the greater Orange community. In addition to completing and returning the survey by mail, there was an option to complete the survey on-line. The survey asked respondents to prioritize five areas for facilities modernization based on their importance: 1) Update classrooms to 21st Century learning standards; 2) Modernize aging science labs and equipment; 3) Upgrade aging facilities with green, energy efficient building components; 4) Upgrade/modernize aging athletic facilities; and 5) Modernize/build performing arts centers. While all the priorities received support, the greatest priorities are clearly for updated classrooms and modernized science labs. These results mirror what the architects learned through the master plan development process.

As a result of the master planning process, a grass-roots effort has been mounted by community members to advocate for the modernization of our high schools. They have selected the name CARE – Community Advancement through Renovation for Education – and have registered with the State FPPC to advance this cause through fund raising and community outreach. Anyone interested in learning more about CARE can find them on Facebook at CAREforOUSD or on the web at www.CAREforOUSD.org.

The next step in the process of implementing the high school master plans is to conduct a scientific poll of the community to determine the interest of the District's voters. The Board retained the services of True North Research to develop and conduct the polling, which will take place during April with the Board receiving the results at the May 8th meeting. Depending on the results of the poll, the Board may consider taking action as early as June to ask voters in the November general election if the District should sell bonds and use the proceeds to modernize our comprehensive high schools.



Community Partners Wanted

As a City of Orange Community Services Department Partner, you'll have excellent marketing opportunities to brand your company as one of the leaders in the Orange community during our 2014 special event season.

Five major city-wide special events which attract thousands of residents and visitors are offered annually. The City of Orange prides itself on offering quality events which unite families and fosters a true sense of community. It is through the generous contributions of our Community Partners that the City is able to continue to offer these cherished events.

This Community Partner Program has a variety of contribution and marketing benefit levels to choose from. Contributions great and small benefit the Orange community! For more information detailing contribution and marketing levels, please contact Megan Hanley at (714) 744-7293 or Mhanley@cityoforange.org.

Invest in your community and gain recognition by becoming a partner today!

Thank you to our 2013 Community Partners!

Whole Orange Partners:



2 Slice Partners:



3 Slice Partners:

Community Foundation of Orange • Frank & Shannon Tucker
Santiago Canyon College Foundation • West American Rubber Company



John H. Ortega
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Vice President



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Clerk

Orange Unified School District Board of Education



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Member



Diane Singer
Member



Timothy Surridge
Member

I encourage you to stay up to date on the events surrounding this issue and other important District communications by visiting the District's website (www.orangeusd.org) and following us on Facebook at OrangeUnifiedSchoolDistrictCA. Additionally, the designs for each high school can be found on the District's website at <http://www.orangeusd.org/facilities/plan/>.

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Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the ScholarShare College Savings Plan. Visit ScholarShare.com for a Plan Disclosure Booklet containing this and other information. Read it carefully. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed, and there is a risk of investment loss. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., Program Manager. The ScholarShare 529 Twitter and Facebook pages are managed by the State of California. C12797