

FREE

# School News

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Covering the Orange Unified School District

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## The California School Dashboard

By Michael L. Christensen  
Superintendent

The California Department of Education has a new accountability system to replace the Academic Performance Index (API) that provides a more robust view into the performance of our schools.

The California School Dashboard is a Web site designed to help communities across the state access easy-to-read reports on multiple measures highlighting the strengths and opportunities for growth for schools and districts, with a specific emphasis on monitoring the diverse student populations that we serve. It is the next step in a series of major shifts in public education that have raised the bar for student learning, transformed testing, and placed the focus on equity for all students.

The dashboard is a key part of California's commitment to equity, local control, and continuous improvement. The dashboard will provide snapshots of multiple



indicators of school performance, including test scores, graduation rates, English learner progress, and suspension rates, which will give integral feedback to schools and districts to inform their planning for programs and services. It is important to note that the data currently released is preliminary; metrics and data will be added over time.

The new accountability system takes into account current performance status and growth over time. It is helpful to note that the data used in the dashboard is not reflective of the most recent school year, sometimes

significantly. The California Department of Education is aware and is working on calibrating their systems to eventually post the most current data, so as to better inform our communities as well as our schools and districts.

Although this current release of the dashboard is a field test only, the Department of Education is planning on the next release of the dashboard for the fall of 2017, to support planning purposes of schools and districts.

The Web site address for the California School Dashboard is: <http://www.caschooldashboard.org>. In addition, more information to explain the new accountability system can be found at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/dashboard>.

On this Web site, there are helpful videos and explanations for educators, parents, and community members in English and Spanish to provide further support in understanding our new accountability system.

## Spring is Springing!



**Justin Stanfield**  
Coordinator  
OUSD Alternative  
Education / ROP

Spring is in the air! The fine faculty, parents and students at Alternative Education are extremely excited about what is to come. Our students are working diligently in preparation for our Smarter Balanced testing beginning this spring.

We have had the good fortune of being able to celebrate a few events. First, our home/hospital secretary, Nancy Green, was recognized at the Board of Education meeting and acknowledged as the February recipient of the Orange Unified School District's Customer Service Award winner.

Ms. Green has proven that she is a tremendous asset to the program and works at serving the needs of our students and families to the best of her ability!

Secondly, through the kind donation of time by retired OUSD teacher Jeanne Carter, the Community Day School campus underwent a bit of a face-lift. Our planter area was torn out, and new native drought-tolerant plants are there. It is truly remarkable to see the natural beauty California has to offer!

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Spring is definitely in the air as students are anticipating the last months of school.

In this issue, you will read about students celebrating Read Across America Day in honor of Dr. Seuss, Outdoor Science Camp, STEAM, AVID, College and Career Day, Teddy Bear Clinic, Communicating with Science and so much more...

We always receive many entries in our contests and I thank you for your nice comments when you email your answers. Be sure to enter the contest in this issue on page 22.

Our next issue is June 7.

# Teachers See the Possibilities

In Jennifer Swanson's high school English class, seniors master material that prepares them for college and careers, gaining writing and communication skills that will benefit them throughout their lives.



Arroyo High School, Expository English Class, Teacher: Jennifer Swanson '96, M.A.Ed. '99

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# OUSD Child Development

Parkside Campus: 2345 E. Palmyra, Orange, CA 92869 • [www.orangeusd.k12.ca/child\\_care/](http://www.orangeusd.k12.ca/child_care/)

## Annual Science Fair

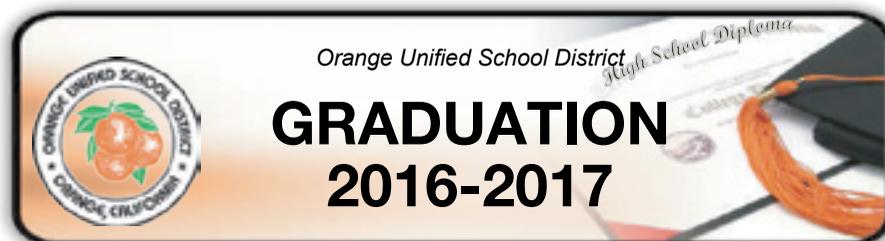
By Amie Wilson Bird, Administrative Director

The Child Development Department held their fourth annual Science Fair. The Science Fair highlights the STEM learning that takes place in our preschool and after-school CARES programs.

The Fair allowed students and families to share science projects, interact with local science and natural science professionals, and win prizes for their hard work. Organizations such as Discovery Cube, Tiger Woods Foundation and Explore Ocean participated with hands-on activities for children and families. The theme for this year's Science Fair was "Kids & Science...Naturally Good!" with a focus on natural sciences.

The event showcased projects created by three and four-year-olds in preschool as well as TK through sixth-grade children in our CARES program.

Our Child Development staff takes pride in the accomplishments of our students, and they work hard each year to make this a night of fun, family and discovery. The Child Development programs include state- and parent-paid schools, and before/after school care, serving over 2,000 students.



# GRADUATION 2016-2017

## Promotion & Graduation Schedule Thursday, June 15, 2017\*

### Special Education School

School	Time	Location
Tuesday, June 13, 2017* Canyon Hills	10:00 am	Gymnasium
Friday, June 9, 2017* Adult Transition	10:00 am	Alternative Education Site

### Middle School Promotions

School	Time	Location
McPherson Magnet	8:00 am	McPherson School 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 Outdoor Amphitheater
Friday, June 16, 2017* El Rancho Charter	9:00 am	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	4:30 pm	Orange High Outdoor Theater
Villa Park	7:00 pm	Fred Kelly Stadium
Richland	10:00 am	Fred Kelly Stadium
Alternative Ed		



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# California *Elementary*

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



**Dr. John Albert**  
Principal

## Fighting ALS

California Elementary School has joined the fight against amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Our students collected more than \$657 as part of our Make a Change in the Fight

for ALS fund-raiser. One of our students, whose great-grandmother succumbed in her battle against ALS, contributed his entire savings to help. And in a tearful presentation, two of our students who lost their great grandmother to ALS presented a check for ALS research.

Our students come from households that have plenty of love and heart but not a lot extra financially. It was important to our students and families to be able to contribute to a cause that deeply impacts so many lives around the world. It was especially meaningful that our families joined partners in the Orange community to act locally to make a difference on a national level.



# Canyon *High School*

220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/532-8000 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



**Craig Abercrombie**  
Principal

## The Highest Compliment

Mrs. Aerial May and our Canyon High School Choir were treated to a special guest appearance by renowned composer and conductor Jeffery Bernstein. Mr. Bernstein earned his degree in music from Harvard, and his Master of Music and Ph.D. from Yale and UCLA respectively.

During his visit, Mr. Bernstein worked with our CHS Chamber Singers on one of his most recent compositions, which was performed at the Spring Concert in March. The students shared how surreal it felt to be in the presence of the composer whose music they were singing.

Mr. Bernstein worked in detail with the Choir, and shared that he was impressed at the level of musicianship and focus of our students. One student reflected that, "At one point in the workshop, Mr. Bernstein said, "This is the choir that I had in my head when I wrote this piece." This was the highest compliment, and a moment that I will never forget."



# Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

6450 E. Serrano Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6169 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



**Fayroze Mostafa**  
Principal

## STEM Student Showcase

On February 4, the Orange County Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Student Showcase featured some of the county's top STEM projects from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Anaheim Hills Elementary School (AHES) was only one of 12 schools selected to represent a STEM project. And, of the schools present, AHES had the only first-grade class invited to the Orange County CUE conference.

First-grade experts Amaiah Bruce, Alex Chen, Mason Drewitz, Noah Florez, and Leah Hutt, led by Mrs. Karen Lampe and Mrs. Pam Verdone, were invited to attend the CUE conference, where they shared their knowledge of STEM through their project, "What's Under My Shell?" We are proud of our AHES student ambassadors, and we were proud of their explanation the concept of buoyancy in terms that made it easy for anyone to understand.



The Orange County Department of Education has been spotlighting curriculum-aligned technology projects produced by local students since 2001. It was an honor and privilege to share this project with schools and educators from all over the state.

Go, first-grade Panthers!

# Cambridge *Elementary*

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



**Diane Lew**  
Principal

## Smart Parents

In partnership with the PTA, Cambridge Elementary School is proud to host its third annual School Smarts Parent Academy. Throughout the program, trained facilitators Kristeena Ellson and Jennifer Cardenas will lead seven interactive sessions. The sessions are Parent Involvement, Preparing for a Lifetime of Learning, Understanding our Education System, Understanding our Local School System, Becoming an Effective Communicator, How to Take Action in Standing Up for Quality Education, and Celebrating Leadership.

During this program the families participate in individual and group activities, meaningful discussions, and art activities. They also gain a greater understanding of how to communicate with and become strong advocates for

their children. Once they have completed the program, our Cambridge parents will be more equipped to support their children at home. They will also have the knowledge to find available resources in the community.

In late February, Superintendent Michael Christensen attended as a guest speaker. He spoke to our families about how the public school system is organized, and the importance of family involvement.



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# Canyon Hills

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## Halfway Mark

We are midway through another wonderful year at Canyon Hills. Students continue to grow and progress in a safe, nurturing environment. Our caring, professional staff enjoys being part of each child's life during the week.

Over the past few months, students have participated in a variety of school activities, including the annual Winter Day, provided by our hardworking and supportive Canyon Hills Parent Group. Students enjoyed a fun and educational experience.

During the event, students had opportunities to interact with one another, learn turn-taking, experience new sensory activities, and build fine- and gross-motor skills. Winter Day remains the most anticipated yearly event at Canyon Hills.

One of the community organizations that generously donate to our school is a local church youth group. Middle- and high-school-aged students and their leaders provided a delicious pasta dinner and entertainment for the annual Sweetheart Dance at Canyon Hills. Approximately 50 volunteers prepared and served dinner, provided music, and encouraged Canyon Hills' students out on to the dance floor. Individual students were selected as the prince or princess to represent their class.

School activities and field trips, made possible in part by generous community donations, 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. At school, students continue to use a variety of new technologies and software to support expressive-language development.

**Dr. Karen Hansen**  
Coordinator

# Canyon Rim *Elementary*

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



**Erika Krohn**  
Principal

## Our Scholars Love to Read!

Canyon Rim Elementary School's scholars are motivated readers! They enjoyed celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday and promoting a love of reading by participating in Read Across America. Students wore crazy socks like Fox in Socks, welcomed adult and student guest readers, wore hats, and dressed like Red Fish, Blue Fish. Even Speedy the Roadrunner got in the spirit!

In addition to this spirit week, Canyon Rim scholars are committed to reading all year long. Prizes and incentives are awarded to students who achieve Accelerated Reader goals each trimester. At the end of the year, Classic Readers will be rewarded with a classic novel signed by the principal. All students who make the Home Run Goal will earn a movie party. Names of students who have read 1 million words are displayed prominently in the library.

Canyon Rim scholars know that reading is not only fun, it increases vocabulary, comprehension, and knowledge!



# Cerro Villa *Middle School*

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



## On the Same Page

The Cerro Villa (CV) Middle School Vikings are all on the same page—literally. CV's students started their first school-wide read. All seventh- and eighth-grade students are reading the same novel during their 20-minute reading break in

homeroom from March to May. Students are following the journey of Willow Chance, a 12-year-old genius, in *Counting By 7s* by Holly Goldberg Sloan.

By engaging students with a high-interest, age-appropriate text, we are encouraging them to participate in academic conversations on issues they can relate to while simultaneously infusing a variety of literacy practices. Teachers and students have been "marking the text" in their classrooms and will implement this strategy with the novel.

The author will visit the campus in May, providing incentive for students to make connections to the text and pose questions as they read and encouraging them to see the value of reading in our 21<sup>st</sup>-century society.



# Chapman Hills *Elementary*

170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/532-8043 • <http://www.orangesud.org>



**Jana Saenz**  
Principal

## So Much to Do!

Students at Chapman Hills Elementary School have been very busy with curriculum-enhancing programs!

To start 2017, Chapman Hills fifth- and sixth-graders had their Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) Showcase. It was a great opportunity for the fourth-grade students to see and learn about our VAPA program. The VAPA students were very impressive to watch. The theater students put on pieces from "Grease" and "Hamilton," and the visual arts students showcased their near-point drawings. Our strings and band students played a few pieces that they have been working on. A huge thank you to our amazing VAPA teachers, Mr. Hamilton, Ms. Major, Ms. Reed, and Ms. Castillo, for all the hard work and dedication to our Chapman Hills students!

Fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-grade students participated in their hands-on Walk-through History programs. Students dressed up and acted out parts in order to learn their grade level social studies standards. Kindergarten through sixth-grade students will round out the spring semester by participating in Discovery Cube science presentations that range from hands-on experiments to interactive presentations.

The Chapman Hills Bobcats participate in the Art Masters program, where students learn about a famous artist and then, with the help of our parent volunteers, create a beautiful rendering of art modeled after the work of this famous artist. This year's featured artist is Frank Lloyd Wright.

Lastly, we have kicked off our second annual Chapman Hills Bobcats Kids Run the OC program. Parent volunteers, teachers, and students participate in this 10- to 12-week program, which promotes an active and healthy lifestyle. The students participate for one hour weekly during physical education, where they are working to accumulate a total of 25.2 miles of exercise through fun and engaging activities.

# Crescent *Elementary*

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



**Shele Tamaki**  
Principal

## Learning about Different Cultures

*By Alan Saldivar, First-Grade Teacher*

Each year, Crescent Elementary first-graders engage in two culminating activities that bring authentic learning into their study of life today as compared to long ago. These activities also help them to understand how our country is made up of different cultures.

As a home project, the students first make a poster of their family tree beginning with their grandparents. They then interview an adult in their family and ask them questions about their life experiences growing up. The students later share their family tree and review this information with their class.

The students also select some aspect of their culture to share, such as food, clothing, dance, or a specific tradition. We always get a good representation of the different customs and traditions from many countries. Some of this year's sharing included countries like Vietnam, China, Korea, India, the Philippines, Armenia, Ireland, and Mexico.



**Crescent student Kylie Tan wearing her traditional Chinese dress.**



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# El Modena *High School*

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



**Dr. Dustin Saxton**  
Principal

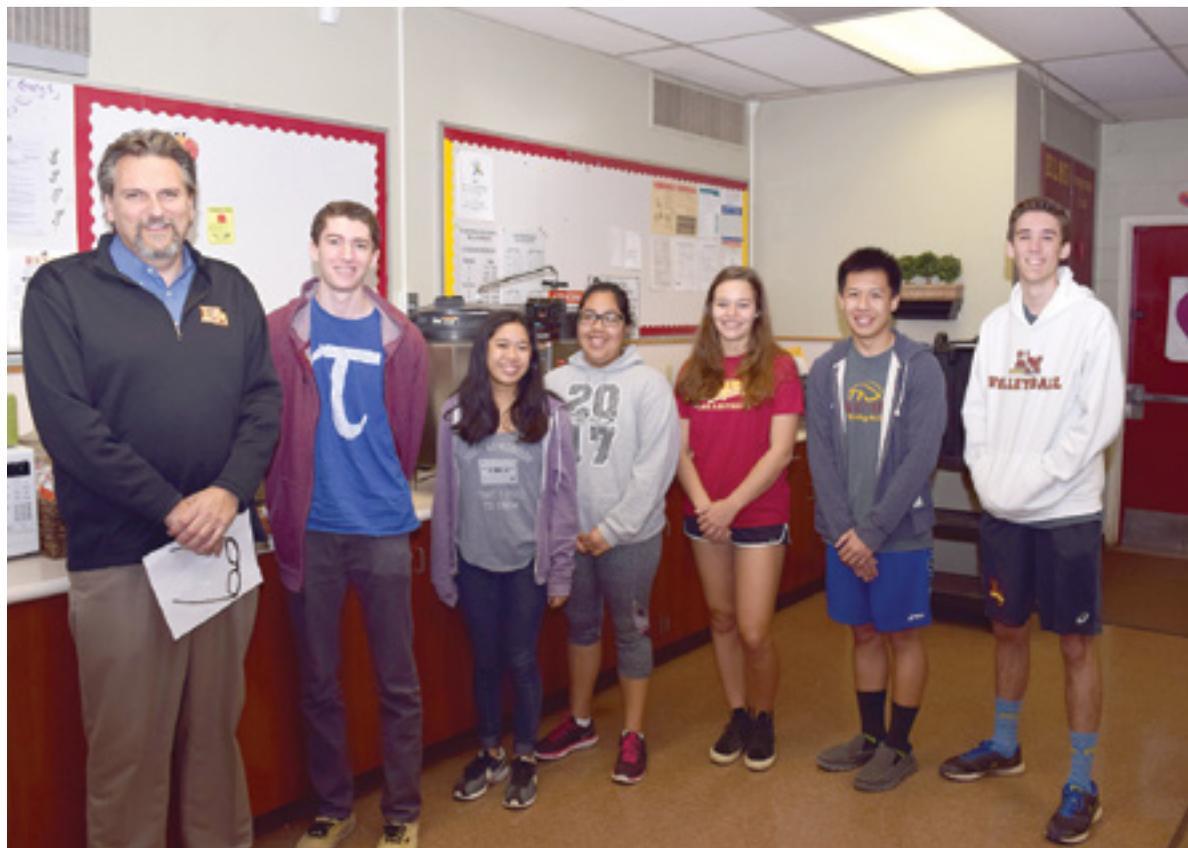
## Recognitions

El Modena is proud to announce our valedictorians and salutatorians for the 2016–2017 school year.

Salutatorians Anne Mast and Itzel Mancilla-Murillo each earned an academic GPA of 4.8286. Anne is interested in pursuing engineering, and is involved in Model United Nations, National Honor Society, volleyball, and the Scuba Diving Club. Itzel plans to study biological sciences, and is involved in National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, and Wilderness Explorers.

Salutatorian Stephanie Tamayosa has an academic GPA of 4.8333, and is interested in bio-medical engineering. Stephanie is a member of Model United Nations, Science Olympiad, tennis, Environmental Club, and Key Club. Salutatorian Seth Watkins has an academic GPA of 4.8857 and plans to study civil engineering. Seth is involved in National Honor Society, volleyball, and Eagle Scouts.

Valedictorians Kyle Nguyen and Jacob Kaufman both have academic GPAs of 4.9429. Kyle will study business, and is involved in Model United Nations, National Honor Society, volleyball, Interact, and Red Cross. Jacob is interested in aerospace engineering, and is involved in Mock Trial, Model United Nations, Science Olympiad, and Red Cross.



# Esplanade *Elementary*

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



**Christina Yokoyama**  
Principal

## We Love Reading!

Esplanade has been busy with activity! Recently, 15 Esplanade parents completed the *Disciplina Positiva* program in which parents learned how to cultivate positive family relationships.

In March, families began participating in PTA's School Smarts program. Additionally, Esplanade will be hosting English as a second language classes for parents, taught by instructors from Santiago Canyon College.

Esplanade's focus on student literacy is in full swing, with all students participating in Lexia, and they are making great gains! Teachers are using information from Lexia to target skills each student needs during small-group instruction to ensure mastery. To celebrate Esplanade's focus on literacy, Esplanade's librarian, Beth Cipres, organized Read Across America week with dress-up days related to a variety of Dr. Seuss books. Guest readers visited classrooms to read their favorite books. Visitors included GRIP officers, board members of the Orange County Public Library and AP English students from El Modena. A culminating event was Esplanade's Read-a-thon on the lawn, with students of all ages enjoying the sunshine and a good book. Esplanade loves to read!



# El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

181 S. Del Giorgio Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/997-6238 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



**Michele Walker**  
*Principal*

## Celebrating Our Cultures

Along with our PTSA, El Rancho Charter recently celebrated International Food Day in early February.

International Food Day is a wonderful festival where our students and parents can honor the variety of cultures represented by the El Rancho student body. At this event, we had many parent and student volunteers bring their favorite ethnic dish in bite-size pieces for the student body to

sample.

The students participated through their physical education classes, and the event was held in our cafeteria. The cafeteria was decorated with flags and other items from various countries, while music from these different countries also played in the background.

It was a day filled with wonderful sights, sounds, and scents, and a great way to celebrate all of the wonderful cultures in our community. Kelley Sparacino, Kathy Watson, and the PTSA did a fantastic job in running the event. We would also like to thank our P.E. department for their understanding and flexibility.



# Fairhaven *Elementary*

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



**Karen Sanders**  
*Principal*

## For the Love of Reading

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go. — Dr. Seuss  
The Fairhaven Elementary School Falcons had a great day celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday.

We started celebrating reading earlier in the year when we hosted Family Literacy Night. Our goal was to facilitate an interactive approach to partnering with parents and other family members to inspire the love of reading in children. During this fun and interactive evening, families had an opportunity to explore how learning to read begins and is supported at home. They also made and played fun literacy games with their children.

We started Read Across America Day by giving each student a new book

to read and share with family members. Families were invited to Reading with the Relatives, where they were encouraged to bring their blankets, chairs, snacks, and, of course, their favorite books to read with our students. It was a special time for both our students and their families.

Here at Fairhaven, we are building a community of readers, one book at a time.



**Family enjoying Reading with the Relatives**

# Fletcher *Elementary*

515 W. Fletcher St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6181 • <http://www.orangeusd.org>



**Sara Pelly**  
*Principal*

## Lunar New Year Celebration

Did you know 2017 is the Year of the Rooster? Kindergarten through fifth-grade students in the Dual-Immersion Mandarin Program at Fletcher School culminated the Lunar New Year celebration with a day of Chinese crafts and a school-wide performance of songs, dances, and chants for students and parents.

Fletcher's Mandarin program is in its fifth year, with 130 students enrolled. From the first day of kindergarten, Mandarin Immersion students spend 50 percent of their day receiving Mandarin instruction in math, language arts, social studies and science.

In addition, they learn about Chinese culture and traditions, including the magnificent Dragon Parade, which the students enjoyed at the end of the Lunar New Year assembly. After several rehearsals to perfect the lifelike movements, nine upper-grade students carried the enormous dragon around the playground.



What a wonderful kick off to a New Lunar Year!

## Handy *Elementary*

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



**Dr. Michelle Owen**  
*Principal*

### Extending Learning through Technology

Handy Elementary offers a 1:1 iPad program where students in grades three to six can take their devices home after school once their parents have attended a special training session.

The parents were given the option for their students to use their own devices, take home a school device, participate in after-school tutoring, or continue with paper and pencil assignments.

We are excited to share the news that 100 percent of our students are now participating in digital homework.

Our parents are reporting that their children seem more engaged and excited to be completing their assignments. The students report that they like the immediate feedback they get from using the different applications to practice the same skills they are learning in class.

The teachers note that it is exciting for them to log in and see the students working in real-time on their assignments. Our teachers can also provide digital feedback to help struggling students keep achieving, even when they are not sitting in the classroom.

## Lampson *Elementary*

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



**Heriberto Angel Jr.**  
*Principal*

### STEAM Family Night

Lampson Elementary welcomed over 300 families to our Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math (STEAM) Family Night in February. Families enjoyed science activities led by our incredible staff. They created gobs of slime, built Lego constructs, and conducted experiments like “What Floats Your Boat,” “The Force Is with You” and spaghetti towers. They also interacted with exhibitors and presenters from businesses, Chapman University and Orange High School and an entomologist from the El Dorado Nature Center. The big hit of the night was a tiny hedgehog!



STEAM education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy, and enables the next generation of innovators. Research indicates that most jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of math and science. By exposing students to STEAM education and giving them opportunities to explore STEAM-related concepts, they will develop passion and pursue a job in a STEAM field.

Lampson is ready to produce future scientists, technology-enthusiasts, engineers, artists and mathematicians!

## Jordan *Elementary*

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



**Eduardo Espinosa**  
*Principal*

### Outdoor Science Camp

It was during one of the biggest rainstorms in Orange County history when our Jordan sixth-graders boarded the buses that would take them to a week of Outdoor Science Camp. Their parents were worried, and to be truthful, I was beginning to wonder if they would have to turn around due to the snow that would be falling higher up the mountain.

One certainty was that if they did make it there, the week would prove to be the experience of a lifetime. It was a good thing we had a fantastic app that our parents had downloaded on their phones so that they could see the pictures which would soon be uploaded!

For most of Jordan's students this would be a week of many firsts: the first time away from home and parents; the first time camping; and for more than a few, the first time without access to a TV or computer game. The greatest first was that almost everyone saw snow for the very first time!

Ms. Nelson, our fifth/sixth-grade teacher, and Ms. Reid, our resource teacher, traveled with the sixth-graders for a week of learning and fun. Little did they know that they would be the first class in Jordan's history to experience snow on the ground and actually see snow falling. Our bus drivers did an excellent job of getting their precious cargo to the destination safe and sound!

While learning about the beauty of nature, animal tracks, and xylem and phylum and such, our students also solidified strong friendships. They learned about the importance of teamwork and building strong character. Their parents also loved seeing the pictures that were being uploaded almost hourly. It helped them with missing their little ones, and also gave them the peace of mind they were looking for. We are so proud of our Jaguars!

## Imperial *Elementary*

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



**Ginette Kelley**  
*Principal*

### Center for Family Involvement

Imperial Elementary School is not only the home of strong academics; it is also a center for family involvement. Though SBAC scores have not yet been released, we are confident of our strong performance. Our English Learners continue to flourish, and many of our English Learners are reclassified each year. This school year is no different, with four times as many students being reclassified than the target goal.

Our academic successes are celebrated each and every time we gather for family and community events. Recently we held our Annual STEM Night, or Science Night as it is fondly referred to. The night gave families the opportunity to participate in hands-on science activities and even a coding option. Parents and students alike found something to put their hands on, or in.



At Imperial we believe that our commitment to the whole child and their family is what makes Imperial great. Imperial, We Are Eagles, And We SOAR.

# La Veta *Elementary*

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



**Lydia Roach**  
Principal

## Celebrating Our Voyage to Excellence

La Veta Elementary School continues our Voyage to Excellence with focus on our school-wide reading initiative, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) implementation, and community involvement.

In an effort to encourage reading, we have created a school-wide reading incentive program. Our Bee a Reader program will encourage and reward students for their efforts and excellence in reading. With weekly visits to our STEM Lab, our staff and students are thriving as they continue to incorporate STEM-based performance tasks into daily curriculum. These STEM opportunities are also shared with our community through our newly implemented School Smarts Parent Academy. As part of this program, parents and community members learn how to maximize success for their children, get a chance to meet each other and school leaders, and take part in interactive arts activities to further build community.

We are proud of the tremendous progress our students, staff, and community continue to make on our Voyage to Excellence.







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# Linda Vista *Elementary*

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



**Robert Johnson**  
*Principal*

## Demonstrating Learning

S.T.E.A.M. is an acronym that stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math subjects. Linda Vista Elementary School has integrated lessons and activities that teach and reinforce various skills in each of these core areas.

One of the ways in which this has been accomplished is through monthly school-wide S.T.E.A.M. challenges. This year the students' activities have included the Marshmallow Challenge, Jumping Tinsel Challenge, Popsicle Stick Catapult, House of Cards Challenge, and Stack the Cat's Hat.

Each of these activities allows our students to solve their Challenges by using their critical thinking and problem-solving strategies coupled with creativity and communication. The students are able to reinforce prior knowledge, develop new skills, and deepen their understanding of scientific principles.

The monthly S.T.E.A.M. Challenges are both engaging and fun for our students. They allow the children to demonstrate their learning in new and innovative ways!



# Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

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



**Amy Hitt**  
*Principal*

## Many-Faceted Success!

The 2016–17 school year has been another exciting one for Nohl Canyon's Roadrunners! From new carpet in the TLC to the best-ever Jog-a-thon to district writing professional development and SBAC computer-based testing, we started the year running with student programs and stellar instruction. We have had hundreds of students participate in after-school programs and specialized activities like Vex Robotics, school musicals, clay creations and cooking fun.

The school has supported groups of students as they traveled to Outdoor Ed, ran at the Foundation Games, competed in robotics, and traveled to educational locations near and far for grade-level field trips. NCSA, our parent group, has sponsored fun activities throughout the school year: the Jog-a-thon, Red Ribbon Week, Art Masters, Donuts with Dads, Mornings with Moms, Traveling Scientist, music for kindergarten-through-fourth-grade students, and the Spring Carnival. Committed to maintaining and bettering the school facility, NCSA purchased a new electronic marquee and is looking into other permanent changes for student health. Dads' Club hosted two movie nights and has been working on other teacher- and parent-requested projects around the school. Let's not forget the second successful year of the District's VAPA program for fifth-and-sixth-graders! The assemblies show what a difference music education has made in our students' lives.

All of these facets—working together—are what combine to create Nohl Canyon's special community. We have had a great year!

# McPherson Magnet

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

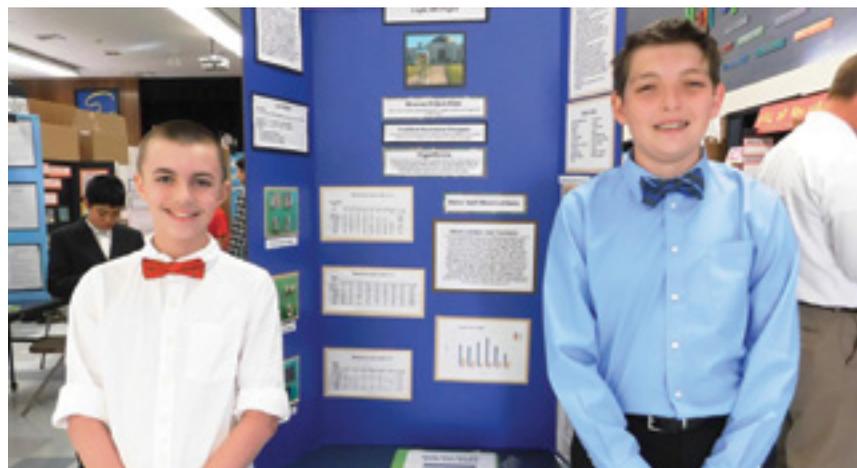


**Joe Erven**  
*Principal*

## Communicating with Science

Four months of hard work by McPherson Magnet School's sixth-through-eighth-grade students finally paid off when the fruits of their labor were showcased at McPherson's annual science fair. This year, McPherson's science fair competition focused on communication skills—each student's ability to convey project ideas and discoveries. Projects were judged by community members who are actively engaged in science and work for aerospace, technology and other science-oriented companies.

A scoring rubric developed by local scientists in conjunction with McPherson team members was used to rank each project. Twenty of the highest-scored projects will move on to the 2017 Orange County Science and Engineering Fair (OCSEF) to be held at the OC Fair & Center in April. Last year, two McPherson students advanced from the Orange County competition to the state level.



# Olive *Elementary*

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



**Heather Darrow**  
*Principal*

## Lead the Way!

At Olive Elementary, we believe that students are, and should be, the focus of all that we do. Of course, this means that we must concentrate on student achievement and academic success, but we don't stop there. Our students are also becoming the leaders of the future!

Our Oceleaders and Junior Oceleaders are some of the key members of our school community. They run our recycling program, organize charitable events, and help coordinate our PBIS and Pep assemblies throughout the year. Recently, our Oceleaders have begun a "Lunch with Leaders" program where they can partner with the primary students to offer positive peer modeling through art, organized recess games, and technology lessons.



Each Friday our Oceleaders are featured on *Olive School News*, our weekly news broadcast. Here they share the different ways in which students can make good decisions and become positive role models for others. Their positive "can-do" attitude permeates our school's daily activities, making Olive Elementary a special place to learn and grow!

# Portola *Middle School*

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



**Jill Katevas**  
Principal

## UCR Visit

Portola Middle School AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) students visited the University of California at Riverside. AVID is a college-preparatory program students take in order to learn the skills necessary to

be successful in a four-year college. A core component of the program is providing students opportunities to see the real-life applications of their learning.

Part of their visit included a tour during which time students were encouraged to ask questions and learn more about college life. The tour guides also introduced our students to the culture of UCR. They learned about its rich history and commitment to supporting young people like those in the AVID program achieve their college dreams.

This experience opened new worlds to our students. As one of our eighth-grade AVID students said, "I've always wanted to go to college, but now I'm even more motivated to succeed."



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East Orange County Water District (EOCWD) is proud to be the sewer service provider for our community. We implemented a 50 percent rate reduction over the summer and are providing high-quality service and local representation.

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Odors can also intensify with warmer temperatures and during heat waves – even underground – but they will subside as temperatures cool down.

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Odors will most likely be temporary but if they persist, contact EOCWD, and we can come out to clean the public sewer line and get those solids flowing again. To report a concern, call 714-538-5815 or email [admin@eocwd.com](mailto:admin@eocwd.com).

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# Orange *High School*

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



**Dennis McCuistion**  
*Principal*

## College and Career Ready

In early March, Orange High School held its first Senior College and Career Workshop. The students selected a career panel to attend where they could listen to various professionals from the Orange community speak about their chosen industries.

The students then had the opportunity to ask the panel members questions about their profession. The panel options included pathways from the medical, business, education, public service, arts, media, and entertainment fields.

Following the career panels, our seniors then selected a college workshop in which to participate. These included certification programs from Santiago Canyon College and a “How to Transfer from a Two-Year College, and a Four-Year College Survival Guide” hosted by Chapman University students.

Our students later reported that they were both inspired and felt more ready for the future. Orange High School is committed to preparing its students for college and career success!



# Palmyra *Elementary*

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



**Brenna Godsey**  
*Principal*

## Extending and Enriching Learning

Palmyra Elementary School provides opportunities for students to extend and enrich their learning beyond the classroom. This year, Palmyra has offered after-school classes in origami, chess, karate, and ballet folklórico. These programs engage students in learning about different cultures and new experiences.

In addition, our Palmyra Robotics Club has grown to 24 students, who are preparing to participate in the annual Robotics Showcase at Santiago Canyon College. Our track team has also been training and working hard to get ready for the Community of Orange Foundation Games in April.

Palmyra also celebrated Read Across America Day in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday in March. Students participated in school spirit days and dressed up as their favorite storybook characters in order to raise awareness and motivation for reading. The week culminated with a Family Literacy Lunch. Students and their families enjoyed lunch and books together out on the grass.



## Panorama *Elementary*

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



**Jeremy Mortensen**  
Principal

### Things Spring Up!

It has been a fun and productive winter here at Panorama Elementary, and we look forward to an amazing spring as well! Our students continue to demonstrate a CARE-ing approach to school, showing courtesy, achievement and responsibility for everyone! They have also shown excellent growth in their districtwide and schoolwide assessments and demonstrate how they are in charge of their learning each and every day!

Our students and families have been involved in many wonderful activities here at school that have included our weekly Monday morning assemblies, Funky Friday, Scholastic Book Fair, Walkthrough California and Ancient History in-school assemblies, an amazing performance by our VAPA students and our theater students performing *The Aristocats* at Orange High School's theater! And we must mention a wonderful celebration for "Read Across America Day/Week." Yet there is still more on the horizon this spring, including our Spring Carnival for our students as well as state testing beginning at the end of April. Not only this, but Panorama is also competing again in the Foundation Games and has already begun practicing every Monday and Friday, with many competitors already signed up to keep the Panorama spirit alive!

We are very proud of our children, their support from home and our teachers' tireless efforts to make Panorama the school it is. "It takes us all!"

## Prospect *Elementary*

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



**Sally Hughson**  
Principal

### Dr. Seuss Days!

In honor of the inspiring Dr. Seuss, Prospect Elementary School brought together students, teachers, parents and the community to participate in Read Across America. Mrs. Bies used her zany imagination and organized our week's activities.

On Monday, we wore crazy hats to imitate the infamous Cat in the Hat. Tuesday was the day we wore our wacky socks to be like Fox in Socks. On Wednesday, Whoville was the day we showed off our wild, wacky and crazy hair. Then on Thursday, we honored *Green Eggs and Ham* by wearing green.

On College shirt Day, Friday, the entire school knew that reading will take us to any places we desire, as told in the book *Oh, The Places You'll Go!* We also invited many distinguished community members as well as parents to participate in reading to our students. It's always wonderful to see how reading brings us all together!



## Richland *High School*

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



**Dr. Elsie Briseño Simonovski**  
Principal

### Model Continuation School

Richland High School (RHS) has been selected as a Model Continuation High School by the California Department of Education. RHS is one of 35 continuation high schools honored out of 452 schools across the state.

The announcement was made in February by State Superintendent Tom Torlakson. "I applaud the dedicated administration and staff on their work to assist and motivate at-risk students and help them reach their full potential," Mr. Torlakson said. "The positive and nurturing climate these schools have created inspires students to do well in their academic work and also to contribute to their communities."

Mr. Torlakson personally acknowledged RHS in the press release by highlighting two technology-driven instructional programs, saying, "Richland High School in Orange has developed a technology infrastructure to support its strong science, technology, engineering and math curriculum and career technical education classes."

The Model Continuation Education Recognition Program recognizes outstanding schools that provide exemplary services to at-risk youth through the use of innovative instructional strategies, flexible scheduling, guidance and counseling. This is a first-time award for Richland High School.

"We are extremely proud of our achievement and recognition," said Dr. Briseño Simonovski, Richland's principal. "This work could not have been accomplished without the amazing team at Richland. The teachers and staff give so much heart and work tirelessly to assist every student to achieve their college and career goals. I am so proud of our team!"

RHS is a very special place for students and staff. RHS school activities and services keep students focused on 21st century programs and opportunities. Thanks to the support of the district and local groups, RHS is focused on making students feel connected the moment they arrive to school.

RHS will retain its designation as a Model Continuation High School for three years.

## Serrano *Elementary*

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



**Katherine Rizzo**  
Principal

### A Variety of Events

Spring is in full bloom at Serrano Elementary School with students engaged in a wide variety of events!

Serrano's robotics team has been meeting twice weekly in preparation for the robotics competition at the end of the month at Santiago Community College. Team members are eager to put their skills to the test and compete with elementary teams from across the district. Our track team is also fine tuning their skills as they practice each Friday after school for the upcoming Foundation Games.

The Serrano Eagles celebrated the joy and the importance of reading during Read Across America Week. The week culminated with the entire school participating in a read-together activity on the field—560 students and teachers all at the same time! On Wednesday of that week, students arrived at school carrying their favorite books and dressed as characters from their books! Students also participated in a week-long book swap—bring a book, take a book—each day at recess, when books were exchanged for more reading opportunities!

Each month, Serrano holds a school-wide Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math Challenge! Recently, students were given the task of engineering a bridge out of index cards that could hold the most weight. Students worked in teams to create their team bridges and explain their outcomes. It was great to see the wide variety of bridges being built in different classes. The future of engineering is taking place right here in our school!

# Running Springs *Elementary*

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



**Joseph Vidal**  
*Principal*

## Amazing Learning Opportunities

It is an exciting and innovative time at Running Springs. In recent months we have established an education foundation geared to campaign for 21st-century learning, and which will empower all of our students to academically achieve, embrace life-long learning, and become productive citizens.

The Running Springs school community is passionate about their commitment to develop what is referred to as the 21st-century skills of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. With the support of their new foundation, coupled with the ongoing training and professional development of our teachers, Running Springs will soon be acquiring additional technological resources that can empower our students.



These resources include, but are not limited to, iPads, Chromebooks, and other OUSD-supported devices to sustain our “Bring Your Own Device Program.” There will also be TV monitors and sound amplification systems to facilitate instruction, along with STEAM instructional and Project-Based Learning materials to enhance student engagement and interaction.



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# Santiago Charter *Middle School*

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



**Dr. James D'Agostino**  
*Co-Principal*



**Ashley Pedroza**  
*Co-Principal*

## More Academic Choices

On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. our school bell rings and the students scurry to a classroom of their choice. Their destination for this special time period provides them with either extra academic support or some engaging academic enrichment.

This special time is designed to be a built-in tutorial period. Santiago Charter Middle School is excited to have introduced this enrichment and intervention opportunity for its students. In two trimesters the program has resulted in a great improvement in student performance, more passing grades than previous years, more students engaged in extracurricular activities such as college writing and innovation opportunities/contests, and a shift to a school culture where students are



taking a greater initiative in their success.

We are excited to be experiencing the endless opportunities with this program, and to be witnessing the great academic value of student choice. For more of Santiago's unique academic experiences, please follow us on Facebook @ Santiago Charter School PTSA.

# Sycamore *Elementary*

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



**Heather Bosworth**  
*Principal*

## Outdoor Science School

Sycamore Elementary School's sixth-grade students recently got to spend four days in Lake Arrowhead at Outdoor Science Camp!

The children learned about botany, geology, astronomy, meteorology,

the water cycle, ecology, habitats and adaptations, energy, and conservation in an outdoor school setting. Each science activity unit is directly connected to the science standards students are learning about in their classrooms at Sycamore.

During the week, students also spend time bonding, forming friendships, and having fun! On the first night of science camp, all the students were entertained by the staff as they perform skits dressed in crazy costumes and acting silly as different characters. This broke the ice and set the tone for the week. On the final night of camp, students took their turn on the stage.

Sixth-grader Raylene shared, "The best part was dressing up in costumes and using props for skits...oh, AND THE FOOD!"



# Taft *Elementary*

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



**Connie Smith**  
*Principal*

## Teddy Bear Clinic

*By Tina Bregder,*  
*Kindergarten Teacher*

The TK and kindergarteners at Taft Elementary were fortunate enough to have four nurses host a mock clinic for our students. In this simulation the students were the

parents, and each was given a bear to be the child-patient. The students had fun coming up with names for their bears, such as Fred or Princess Glitter.

The classroom turned into a health center with four stations to rotate through. First the students checked in. Next they had the nurse take the bear's vitals. Then the bear got a shot. Lastly, the students were able to interact with doctor's equipment, ask questions, and play with their bears.

The Teddy Bear Clinic is designed to help lower the anxiety level of children when they go to a doctor's office, hospital, or clinic. Of course, they will tell you that they played with fun doctor's stuff, and also got to take home a certificate and an adorable stuffed bear!



**Mrs. Bregder's Kindergarten Class**

## Villa Park *High School*

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



**Dr. Ken Miller**  
*Principal*

### Celebrating Our Blue Ribbon School Nomination

The Villa Park High School community is celebrating our nomination for Gold Ribbon School. The Villa Park High School Leadership Team in conjunction with our teacher leaders prepared an in-depth report inspecting the hallmark of our school: The significant closing of the achievement gap. This Model Practice will be presented to a Gold Ribbon School Validation Committee on March 27, 2017 during the committee's visit to campus. This visit will be conducted by the Orange County Department of Education. The Site Validation Team will then forward their recommendations to State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. His office will make the final decision regarding the awarding of the Gold Ribbon School Award for 2017. We look forward to sharing our progress in future issues of *School Roll Call*.

## Villa Park *Elementary*

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



**Raeanne Little**  
*Principal*

### Engineer's Week

Villa Park Elementary School celebrated National Engineer's Week in late February. Engineers Week was started in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, and was designed to coincide with the birth of our nation's first engineer, George Washington.

During Engineer's Week, our school hosted five talented engineers: Mr. Doug Sawyer, Mrs. Kirsten Zydell O'Neil, Mr. Edward Cooper, Mr. Ryan Loyd, and Mr. Zeph Varley. Each engineer spoke to the students about their job. Some examples of their work included constructing buildings, planning bridges and roads, creating electronics, and even designing a fire fighting robot! The students learned about

the types of engineering jobs available and their importance in the future.

The students also completed a hands-on simple engineering activity under the guidance of our guest engineers. Thank you to all of our fabulous community engineers for opening our students' minds to considering a career in this important STEM field.



## West Orange *Elementary*

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



**Sandra Preciado-Martin**  
*Principal*

### Celebrating Dr. Seuss!

Our Warriors welcomed in March by celebrating Read Across America Week and Dr. Seuss Day. Classrooms opened their portals to Whoville on Monday through their decorated doors. The Morning Reading Club enjoyed Dr. Seuss books daily. During their library visit, students were introduced to Theodor Geisel and his playful use of language through tongue-twisting storytelling and imaginative word construction.

On Tuesday, students, teachers and staff donned red-and-white stripes and polka dots. Third-graders took the Cat in the Hat stacking challenge in the STEM lab. There appeared to be an increased number of twins and blue-haired students roaming the halls on Wednesday for "Thing 1 and Thing 2...There Is Two of You!" Day! On Dr. Seuss's



birthday, Warriors celebrated in Fox in Socks style by wearing crazy socks and taking the Tongue Twister Challenge. On Thursday, students enjoyed classroom readers.

Whoville's portals closed on Friday with a "Who from Whoville are you?" Dress-Up Day and Parade.

## Yorba *Middle School*

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



**Tracy Knibb**  
*Principal*

### The Future is Bright

Yorba Middle School welcomed incoming seventh-graders from Cambridge, Handy, and Palmyra Elementary Schools. These future Toros participated in the annual incoming student visitation. The

purpose was to introduce incoming students for the 2017-2018 school year to the campus, staff, and students.

Current Yorba students led an interactive assembly, which included media presentations, musical performances, teacher presentations, and fun games! Yorba's student leadership team then took incoming students on a tour to see classrooms in action. They interacted with students and gathered valuable information that will help them to be involved in their middle school experience. Students left excited about all the great opportunities to come next year at Yorba!

Parents of all incoming students, we welcome you to join us at Yorba on April 20 at 5 p.m. for an information session. You are also encouraged to stay to explore the classrooms during Open House from 6 to 7:30 p.m.



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## Alana's Book Review

### Wonder



Alana F.

By: Raquel J. Palacio

At first, the Pullman family doesn't seem that different. Two kids, mom, dad, drama, fights, Star Wars infatuations- what could be different? The answer is simple- Auggie. August Pullman is the younger of the Pullman children.

Since he was born, Auggie has been different- to put it simply, his face doesn't look "normal". Auggie knows this- in fact, he's known it from a young age. But when Auggie is sent to school with other kids for the first time, will any innocence he has be shattered? Will he only witness from his peers evil and rejection, or will he receive the acceptance he deserves?

I'd give this book five stars because it really speaks to people nowadays. This book is sure to tug at your heartstrings more than a few times, and can teach anyone a thing or two about loving others no matter what.

Alana is a student columnist. When she doesn't have a book in her hands, she enjoys playing video games and writing fiction. She rates books on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest.



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## Book Review By Katrina

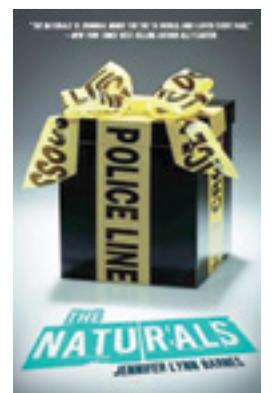
### A Gripping Crime Novel



Katrina D.

*The Naturals* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

is a book about a team of teenagers brought together because of their unique talents. But unlike other books, their talents aren't supernatural. Talents like profiling just by looking at someone, being a human lie detector and managing to remember stats just to name a few came naturally. Now, this team of teens must solve cold cases that not even the finest CIA members could. Even with an unknown murderer on the loose. This book is filled with snarky comments, obsessive mystery and a writing style that cannot be matched. Honestly I couldn't stop reading this book until the very end, hungry to learn the murderer's identity. The characters are developed, the plot moves at a perfect speed and you find yourself holding your breath with every page. If you're looking for a gripping crime novel, then this is for you! I rate this book 5 out of 5 medals.



Katrina is a ninth grader who loves reading books as much as writing her own stories and enjoys watching anime. Katrina hopes to be an author one day very soon. Katrina will rate the books from 1 to 5 medals with 5 being the best.

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## Isabella's Book Review

### Life from Another Perspective

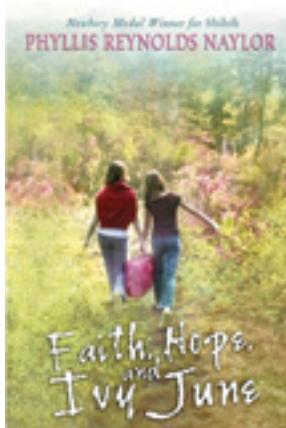


Isabella A.

*Faith Hope and Ivy June* written by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor is a marvelous story. The author is the winner of the Newberry Medal for her book, *Shiloh*. The beginning of the book describes how Ivy and Catherine will trade places. I felt bad for Catherine because no one likes Lexington.

Ivy lives in a small house with her large family. Catherine lives in a mansion. Catherine's Grandmother does not welcome Ivy. Rosemary apologizes and offers to take Ivy shopping, Ivy declines. She didn't want people to think she changed. Catherine at Thunder Creek cannot wash herself everyday uses an outhouse and learns to deal with tragedy. Ivy's great-grandmother toe gets infected. Ivy's mom has a heart condition and her grandfather goes missing after the mine floods.

A five star book. It is an amazing story that allows the reader to view life from the perspective of another person.



Isabella is a 5th grader that enjoys reading and reviewing books as well as writing fiction. She recently finished her first short book and grades the books she reads from 1 to 5 stars.

## Andys Book Corner

### Always Friends

Harry Potter—the boy who lived, Ron Weasley—the cowardly friend, Hermione Granger—the smartest girl at Hogwarts: These three become best of friends and go through many death-defying adventures, but in the end they all make it together as friends. They have their fights here and there, but then again who doesn't! One of the main points in this story is friendship because although they have fights they're always a team whether it's to find out what Draco Malfoy is up to or to face Voldemort.

I rate this story 5 out of 5 because it can relate a lot with our daily lives. It relates with us because we can all act like Harry and his friends sometimes, even with our friends and family! I recommend these books to all people who want a magical adventure and a lot of action!

Andrew C. is a 5th grader and when he's not practicing boxing he enjoys playing video games. He will rate books on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest.



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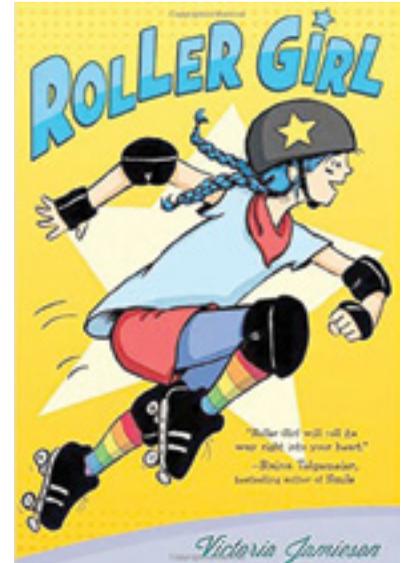
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## Amazing Graphic Novel



Abbas D.

*Roller Girl* is a graphic novel by Victoria Jamieson. This book is about a girl named Astrid and her best friend Nicole. One day the girls go to a roller derby. Astrid later on begs her mom to go to roller derby camp and her mother agrees



by signing her up. Astrid is elated and hopes her best friend will sign up too. Nicole signs up for dance class instead. This turns her summer upside down. Astrid's nemesis Rachel is now friends with Astrid because they're taking the same dance class. Rachel is a mean girl who keeps pressuring Nicole to stop being friends with Astrid. How will Astrid survive the summer without Nicole? This book is an amazing novel because it made me feel like branching out and trying new things can lead to new friendships. This book is great for people who love graphic novels and skating. Will Astrid continue her roller derby fame? I rate this book 5 out of 5 smiley faces.

Abbas D. is a fifth grade student who enjoys cooking in his free time, swimming and loves roasted marshmallows. Abbas will rate the books 1 to 5 smiley faces with 5 being the best.

## Musical String Instruments 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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) Please put OUSD in the subject line.

Entries must be received by May 15, 2017

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

- |            |             |         |
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**Congratulations to Jack Dement  
Winner of the December Word Search Contest!**

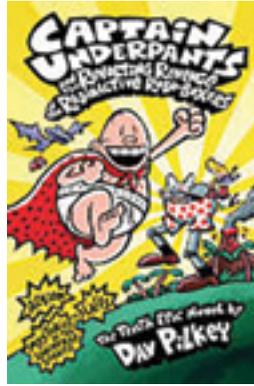


## Will the Cave People's Plan Work?



Michael H.

*Captain Underpants and the Revolting Revenge of The Radioactive Robo-Boxers* by Dav Pilkey.



Tippy Tinkletrousers had destroyed the world. Tippy made sure that George and Harold had never turned Mr. Krupp into Captain Underpants. But Tippy decided it was a mistake, so he went back in time to fix everything and destroy Captain Underpants. Tippy met up with George, Harold, and Mr. Krupp. He had a time machine, so he took them to the dinosaur age where he detonated a bomb, that had blasted all of them to the middle of the ocean. Then right before they sunk Tippy set his time machine to go back to the time of the cavemen. Then he figured out Captain Underpants weakness, water! So he trapped Mr. Krupp under a waterfall. Then Tippy found George and Harold. He was about to squeeze them to death, but they came across cavemen. Unfortunately for Tippy, they escaped. Then George and Harold made a comic book on the rock walls to make the cave people unafraid of Tippy. Then the cave people made a plan to stop Tippy. Will the cave people's plan to stop Tippy work? Will Captain Underpants be destroyed?

I give this book 5 \*\*\*\*\*. This book was exciting and funny and I think everyone will enjoy reading it

Michael H. is a 4th grade student. Besides his love for reading, he also enjoys Karate, playing guitar and sharing new adventures with his mom. He will rate the books 1 to 5 stars with 5 being the highest.

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