

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Orange Unified School District

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DECEMBER 2014–MARCH 2015

SUPERINTENDENT



Michael L. Christensen

Preparing students for college and career in the 21st century requires modern facilities that support individualized learning styles and provide uniform access to current technology.

On November 4, voters had an opportunity to

vote on Measure K to raise money to modernize the four comprehensive high schools – Canyon, El Modena, Orange and Villa Park. Orange Unified is one of only a few districts in Orange County not to have previously passed a facilities bond. Many districts have passed more than one.

As of the deadline for this article, Measure K is approximately one percent below the level needed for passage, 55%. The vote by mail and provisional ballots remain to be counted and there is a possibility, though not a high probability, that Measure K will pass. Regardless of the outcome, I'd like to thank the co-chairs of CARE (Community Advancement through Renovation for Education) Ms. Kristin Erickson Adams and Mr. Joe Greenwald. Through their leadership and passion, a committee comprised of elected officials, community leaders and parents came together to educate the electorate about the need and solution to the need that became Measure K. Due to their leadership and tireless efforts, the community was educated about the need to rebuild our schools and was engaged in debate about how to generate the funds necessary to accomplish that goal.

With the final chapter of Measure K all but written, I've been asked if it is possible to separate the District into separate voting areas where

See SUPERINTENDENT • Page 16

Panorama's Erin Rosselli – 2015 CA Teacher of the Year

By Kathryn Martin, Principal Panorama Elementary School

This October, one of Orange Unified's finest educators was named a 2015 California Teacher of the Year.

Every day, Mrs. Rosselli stands with her 31 eager kindergarteners and says the Pledge of Allegiance before they begin a day of learning and growing at Panorama. Mrs. Rosselli began her career 14 years ago as a special education teacher in Orange Unified. With a passion for early education and giving students the strongest start possible, she continued into general education and found herself at Panorama six years ago. California teachers of the year represent the very best in education. Mrs. Rosselli represents over 300,000 teachers statewide, and will serve as an ambassador for the teaching profession in 2015. The staff, students and families at Panorama could not be prouder!



Mrs. Rosselli's kindergarteners love to learn.

"The opportunity to be a part of educating our nation's future developers and leaders is truly a privilege. A teacher must have a passion for education and be dedicated to meeting the needs of children. Rewards and inspiration come daily in the faces of our students."

Orange High School Celebrates Diversity

By Ernest Gonzalez, Principal Orange High School

On October 30th, OHS celebrated the re-opening of the International Hall. In the main hallway hang flags representing the birth countries of students currently attending Orange High School. These flags serve to honor the diversity and unique attributes that each student brings to the campus. International Hall was established in 1990 by the Student Cross Cultural Action Team. The original flags had become worn, faded and torn. Students wrote letters to the community asking for donations to replace the flags. The Rotary Club of Orange answered the call and donated the new flags. Student Juan Vasquez said, "These new flags are a joy to the entire school. Entering OHS makes students feel at home."



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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



This is our 10th year publishing *School News* covering the OUSD. There have been many changes throughout the years, but the one constant is the District's focus on academic excellence for all students. We appreciate you continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is April 15, 2015. Have a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! We are always mindful of our men and women in the armed forces and grateful for their service.

School News

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Covering the
ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Orange Unified School District Provides Classes in Full-Day Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten*

Kindergarten Registration begins on
Wednesday, March 4, 2015
with the exception of McPherson Magnet School

To participate in the lottery at McPherson Magnet School (K-8),
parents must attend one of the following orientation meetings at McPherson Magnet School:
Wednesday, February 11th at 8:30 a.m. or 3:00 p.m.

For more information on the OUSD **Mandarin Immersion Program** at Fletcher Elementary,
visit the OUSD website. **

- To receive a Kindergarten Registration packet,
parents must have all the required documentation:
 - Child's birth certificate
 - Child's current immunization records
 - Two address verifications
(Even if a sibling currently attends the
school, verification is required as the
family may have moved.)
- Each school site determines the date that
packets must be returned to their site.

➤For more information regarding Kindergarten Registration,
parents should contact the school site directly or go to the OUSD website at
<http://www.orangeusd.org/scs/#enroll>.

* **Transitional Kindergarten** information — A parent information meeting
will be held Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at the District Office Rooms 1, 2 and 3,
from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

* **The birthdate requirement for Transitional Kindergarten is:**
Sept 2 – Dec. 2, 2010 (students with these birthdates – can only attend
Transitional Kindergarten. Students with birthdates between July 1 and
Sept 1, 2010 may attend Kindergarten or TK.

** **Mandarin Immersion Program** information — A parent information meeting
will be held Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at the District Office Board Room 2
from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Open Enrollment Information:

K – 12 Open Enrollment will be held
March 2 – 13, 2015

Additional information is posted
on the OUSD website.

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

Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

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



Sandra Miller
Principal

Students Want to Read

At Anaheim Hills Elementary, getting the students to read more is a top priority. We want students to WANT to read. In order to make reading more appealing teachers at AHES have started to look for more creative places inside and outside of their classrooms where students would want to go and be happy reading for a sustained period of time. In the upper grade classrooms they have done away with desks in traditional rows and have replaced them with small groups, rocking chairs, couches, and much more. In the primary grades students read in laundry baskets lined with pillows, on oversized animal pillows, in mosquito nets, and beach chairs. In addition, with the help of some very generous families, we have started to create an outdoor seating area where they enjoy reading a great book and getting some fresh air.



California *Elementary*

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



Dr. John Albert
Principal

Parent Involvement Days

California Elementary School held its first Parent Involvement Day on October 30. We had over 75 people attend our first gathering for the year.

Our Parent Involvement Days get our parents together to strengthen school and community partnerships. We start in the morning with a potluck breakfast before school. Parents have an opportunity to mingle and strengthen relationships with each other, our teachers, our support staff, and our administration. We bring in speakers to add value and to build parents' capacity as equal partners in the education of our students.

At the October meeting, the Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (GRIP) gave a great workshop on the value of school attendance and building development assets in our students. Dr. Gonzalez, the director of the Region IX Migrate Education Center, shared resources and research linking positive attendance with student achievement.



Cambridge *Elementary*

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



Jeremy Mortensen
Principal

21st-Century Learning and Thinking

It is amazing how fast this year is going. Cambridge teachers have been fully implementing the Common Core State Standards with an emphasis on our school-wide, 21st-century learning focus of "Collaborative Inquiry."

Collaborative Inquiry is a powerful design for professional and student learning. It recognizes the role of teachers and students in improving ongoing instruction. This self-directed approach to education ensures that our students are collaborating with each other to share ideas and problem-solve in order to help take responsibility for everyone's learning. They also focus on the Four C's of the CCSS: Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity.

As we move toward 21st-century learning, we are also moving toward a 21st-century mindset. We are now using a growth mindset, where all students can learn from their successes as well as their mistakes. Each student helps the other grow intellectually and emotionally through both collaboration and teacher and peer support. Here at Cambridge we are growing the whole child!

Finally, Cambridge Elementary is truly entering the 21st century! We are now on Twitter. Follow us at @Cambridge_Elem. We have new posts all the time about what is going on at the school. Join us in this fun and interactive 21st-century tool! All posts are in English and Spanish.

See you in Cyberspace!

Canyon Hills

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



Dr. Karen Hanson
Principal

Developing Independence

Canyon Hills School has already had some outstanding events this year, such as Back-to-School Night, picture day, Red Ribbon Week, and the annual pumpkin patch. These activities are enriching, multi-sensory experiences which promote learning. We all appreciate those who contribute their time, energy, and other resources to our activities.

The integration of technology in instruction is expanding as teachers explore new devices and their applications. This year, there are multiple electronic tablets in each classroom. Applications are available for students which promote fine-motor and communication skills and enhance student engagement.

There is a re-focus on academic instruction this year. Teachers have selected weekly or monthly instructional themes, such as holidays, colors, numbers, or letters, around which they build daily lessons and activities.

Students continue to participate in vocational activities, both on and off campus. In preparation for the transition beyond Canyon Hills, some students work at local businesses, performing a variety of cleaning and stocking tasks. Students on campus assist in the assembly of district science kits and help with custodial jobs.

As you can see, another remarkable year is underway at Canyon Hills!

Canyon *High School*

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



Dr. Kimberly Fricker
Principal

Team Teaching

Canyon High School (CHS) has embraced 21st-century learning at the very core of instruction. One example is our team-teaching classrooms. Implemented last year, this team approach is based on drawing connections between the English curriculum and our corresponding social studies curriculum for each grade level.

The CHS instructional staff collaborates extensively to align the curricular standards, so that topics and historical events can be analyzed by the students in a holistic format. Students interact with the content from both literary and historical perspectives in order to attain content knowledge and to integrate and connect it in order to utilize, apply and articulate it in relevant ways.



Tablet technology is being infused into the team-taught classes to enhance the curriculum and facilitate the development of 21st-century skills. Our award-winning Video Department has captured the essence of our team-teaching program, and we welcome you to go to view this model in action at <http://tinyurl.com/canyonteamteach>.

Canyon Rim *Elementary*

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



Erika Krohn
Principal

A New Century of Learning and Fun

Canyon Rim Elementary School is a busy and productive place. In addition to the regular classroom activities, our scholars also participate in enriching experiences that complement the curriculum and make learning fun!

For instance, T-K students and their families recently enjoyed the Teddy Bear picnic and planting a new garden. The kindergarten students had a sweet time at the Apple Country Fair. The second- and third-graders attended special PTA-sponsored assemblies to dig fossils and learn about the stars.

The entire school learned about the artist Georges Seurat, and recreated his style of painting as part of their Art Masters program. Upper-grade students experienced democracy by voting in the elections for student council. The sixth-graders dressed as cavemen, and experienced food and tools from ancient civilizations. Even our librarian sponsored a contest to decorate a pumpkin as a favorite book character.

Obviously, our Canyon Rim Roadrunners are enthusiastic 21st-century learners.



Sock it to Drugs for Red Ribbon Week.



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Cerro Villa *Middle School*

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



Lisa Ogan
Principal

A Community of Excellence

Cerro Villa Middle School truly appreciates our community and celebrates its commitment to enhancing our students' learning experience. Our Parent Faculty Student Organization (PFSO) continuously helps provide students with the best middle school experience possible. Their efforts can be seen and felt in every part of our campus: fundraising, chaperoning dances, helping with registration, beautifying the campus and improving facilities.

A golf cart, donated by a local foundation, became a welcome addition to our campus. Plants were donated by a local nursery, and volunteers came to plant our quad areas. Parents have repainted numbers utilized by our physical education classes on the blacktop. In September, our art classroom received new tabletops constructed by an eighth-grade parent, Mr. Ray Cerulli, to fit over pre-existing woodshop tops. They are a wonderful improvement.

We are so thankful to our community for its generosity, service, support, and time!



Chapman Hills *Elementary*

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



Sandra Schaffer
Principal

Technology In the Classroom

There is no doubt that implementing technology into the classroom is a good idea. However, acquiring all the necessary equipment to make this a reality can be quite a challenge. Teachers have decided to turn to DonorsChoose to help fund creative projects in their classrooms. So far this year, over one third of the Chapman Hills teachers have reached out to potential donors through this website in order to acquire Chromebooks and iPads for small group instruction. The teachers see these computers and tablets as a way for children to interact and engage in learning in a 21st century application that transfers to the real world. Students have the opportunity to work together to research, create, and share projects much like they will in college and beyond.



Mr. Higgins, Mrs. Lake, Mrs. Beaumont, Mrs. Adamiak, and Mrs. Taylor.

Crescent *Elementary*

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



Randi Leach
Principal

Future Leaders of America in Action

*By Robin Nelson, Teacher – 5th Grade
Gifted and Talented Education*

The Crescent Elementary School Student Council was very busy this October. This aspiring group of student leaders, facilitated by teachers Barbara Buckett and Alie Allen, sponsored a Hats Off for Cancer fund-raiser on October 30 to bring awareness to childhood cancer. Students had the opportunity to wear hats all day for a donation of \$2 or by bringing new hats to donate. All money and hats collected were donated to Children's Hospital of Orange County.

The student council also organized Safari Day and a family picnic on Friday, October 31. All students enjoyed an hour-long lunch on the lawn with their families and then participated in a variety of field activities led by the student council. This was a wonderful opportunity for the student body to see their fellow student leaders serving as positive role models.

Additionally, the group sold Halloween Grams and pencils to raise money for an end-of-the-year gift for the school.



Crescent Student Council members lead a Safari.

El Modena *High School*

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



Dr. Dustin Saxton
Principal

El Modena Congratulates National Merit Scholars

EMHS seniors Jenna McCune, Benjamin Woodruff and Patrick Crouch were recently commended for placing among the top 1% of scorers on the Preliminary SAT, qualifying them for the National Merit Scholarship. Jonathan Horwitz, also a senior, has been recognized as a semifinalist for this Scholarship. Jonathan placed in the top 16,000 students out of the 3.5 million high school students who take the PSAT annually.

AP Language teacher, Molly Chertock said of these students, "These are some of the brightest and dedicated students I have ever taught." El Modena is very proud of Jenna, Benjamin, Patrick, and Jonathan and wish them every success.



Jonathan Horwitz, Patrick Crouch, Benjamin Woodruff and Jenna McCune.

El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

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



John Besta
Principal
Business &
Operations



Michele Walker
Principal
Academic
Programs

Parent Visitation Day

In September, El Rancho held its first Parent Visitation Day of the school year. Visitation days are an excellent opportunity for parents to truly see what is going on in their children's classrooms and schoolwide.

Each year, El Rancho Charter School has two visitations, with approximately 400 parents attending each one. Our first visitation day drew record numbers, with 574 students having one or both parents in attendance. Parents begin the day by signing-in and then following their children around to all of their classes, really participating in their children's education. Parents are treated to coffee and cookies from PTSA at nutrition, and then it's back to class. It also gives teachers an opportunity to showcase their many classroom activities and projects. This is just one way that we work to bring the school and the community closer together.

Fairhaven *Elementary*

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



Karen Sandors
Principal

Proud to Be Fairhaven Falcons

Fairhaven is proud to implement the PBIS program this year. We have adopted the slogan "Fairhaven Falcons SOAR." We are...Safe, On Time, Always Respectful, Ready to Learn

PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports. It is an application of evidence-based strategies and systems to assist schools to increase academic performance, increase safety, decrease problem behaviors, and establish positive school cultures. We started the school year by reviewing the classroom, playground, and lunch bench rules. Then all the classes went to

the playground, lunch benches, and various key places around the campus to be introduced to and practice the appropriate behavior. In addition to our SOAR slogan, we have written a school spirit song!

(To the Tune of, You're a Grand Old Flag)

We're a Blue Ribbon school, We are friendly and cool, We work hard and we aim for the best!

The teachers are great, Our PTA's top rate, We soar with our Team Falcon pride!

We are safe, on time, Always ready to learn, Respect is the name of our game!

With all we do, We love our school, Keep your eye on that Fairhaven pride!

S (clap, clap, clap) O (clap, clap, clap) A (clap, clap, clap) R (clap, clap, clap)

S, O, A, R, Go Fairhaven!

We take pride in being a Fairhaven Falcon!

Esplanade *Elementary*

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



Irene Preciado
Principal

Supporting our Students

We have had a tremendous year at Esplanade. Our students are eager to learn, and they are showing pride, respect and responsibility in everything they do. We are very proud of them.

We are also fortunate to have great parents. Last year our PTA planted the seeds: in just the first couple of months we increased our membership by 300 percent! Our goal is to continue to grow.

Our parents are taking leadership roles in the School Site Council and the English Learner Advisory Committee. They are actively engaged in our Gang Reduction and Intervention Program as leaders (GRIP), and they also provide support as morning greeters. They have logged hundreds of volunteer hours already, and continue to faithfully support our teachers, staff and each other.

I am very proud to be principal of such a great community; one where the teachers, parents and staff work together to build the foundation for a greater future.



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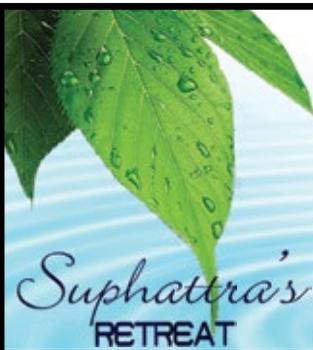
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Fletcher *Elementary*

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



Rebeca Nelson
Principal

Family Science Night

Fletcher Flacons participated in our annual Family Science Night on October 30th. This year we began our transformation into Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and expanded the opportunities for hands-on activities. We also had an exciting live animal presentation from Inside the Outdoors, complete with a Hissing Cockroach and a one-eyed Screech Owl. Families worked together on seven STEM-based projects. It was fantastic to see our families working together to strategize solutions for success.



Handy *Elementary*

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



Dr. Michelle Owen
Principal

Onward and Upward!

Our Handy Elementary School team is excited about the 2014–2015 school year! We welcomed over 560 students during the first few days of class, and observed their excitement as they geared up for a new year of learning.

As we are quickly moving towards 21st-century teaching and learning, our students are becoming more responsible digital learners, thanks to multiple technologies like Read 180, Type to Learn, ST Math, Reading Counts, and iRead. All of our students will have access to iPads this year. They are also working to demonstrate digital literacy through the use of multiple online tools.

Our staff is implementing proven strategies known to promote critical thinking, problem solving, academic language, and increased comprehension in every area of the curriculum. This year our focus will be on meeting the writing demands of the Common Core by interweaving technology, close-reading, and the Lucy Calkins Units of Study in writing.

Handy Elementary also continues to provide a number of opportunities for parent and student involvement. Parents support our school through the Morning Greeters program, where they can volunteer every morning to welcome our students. Parents are on campus three times a week to volunteer for the ESL classes. Our HSA Parent Association also helps bring Art Masters to the students, and lends additional assistance with field trips and student celebrations.

Handy Elementary believes that we can help our student scholars grow, thrive, and succeed.

Jordan *Elementary*

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



Andrea Roman
Principal

Go, Jaguars!

Our Jordan Jaguar students, parents and staff members are off to a busy year.

The Jaguar students and their families recently participated in a Jog-A-Thon which raised money to fund our Meet the Masters program! We could not have done this without the support of our Jordan families and first-grade teacher Mrs. Morris, who dedicated her time to help organize this event. Our students will now have the opportunity to learn about the different artists while also incorporating writing, which is our school's focus.

Our Jaguars also participated in the "Read Your Heart Out!" activity in November. Mrs. Roman, our principal, challenged the students to read by dedicating her whole day to reading. Yes, all day! The students came and read with the principal, and then earned a chance to win a new book.

Our school librarian, Mrs. Pavlik, has been instrumental in ensuring that our children are actively engaged in reading. She is helping to build a love for reading in each of our students. The Jordan Jaguars are being challenged to read 5 million words this school year, and they are well on their way towards meeting this goal!

Imperial *Elementary*

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



Ginette Kelley
Principal

Reading and Exploring

Imperial Elementary School understands the importance of literacy. Access to quality reading material is an important element of our focus on reading. This school year Imperial has welcomed a new librarian to the staff. She brings a passion for literature and a love of books, which she shares with students daily.

In the classrooms, teachers focus on student reading levels and monitor students' progress through the use of lexile levels, which are matched to students' reading levels and help the students select texts which will maximize their learning and reading abilities. The Imperial library has many selections that support lexiles with high-interest books.

Imperial is also very proud of the partnership between the school and parents. Our PTA works diligently to bring support and enrichment to our students. PTA sponsors our book fair and other special events that support reading and literacy.

At Imperial, students are excited to read and explore books.



La Veta *Elementary*

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



Lydia Roach
Principal

Welcome to La Veta!

We welcome Mrs. Jana Saenz, our new assistant principal, to La Veta Elementary School. She has been an educator for 14 years and has worked in various schools in the Orange Unified School District (OUSD), including Sycamore, Fairhaven, and Running Springs Elementary Schools. Mrs. Saenz was a primary and upper-grade teacher, a Special Education teacher, a Response to Intervention teacher and an instructional specialist before becoming an administrator.

Mrs. Saenz attended Chapman University, where she earned a bachelor's degree, elementary teaching credentials, and a master's degree in Special Education. She received her administrative credential from California State University, Fullerton.



Mrs. Saenz resides in Anaheim Hills with her husband, Mark, and their three children, Lucas, Alyssa, and Christian. She enjoys spending time with her family and watching her children's sporting and recreational activities.

"I am very excited to be a Viking, and I look forward to working with you all," Mrs. Saenz said.

Linda Vista *Elementary*

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



Sally Hughson
Principal

Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week was filled with many fun and educational activities. Monday was Crazy Sock Day to say "Sock It to Drugs." On Tuesday, students wore neon colors to say "I'm Too Bright for Drugs," and Wednesday was Crazy Hair Day to say "I'd Be Crazy to Try Drugs." Thursday's focus was Anti-Bullying Day. "The Power of One" assembly kicked off in the morning with student all dressed in orange to say "Orange You Glad You Are at a Bully Free School?"

Friday was the final day of collecting food for the Orange County Rescue Mission. At lunch, students participated in our Canned Goods Castle-Building Contest. Linda Vista students collected over 2,700 pounds of food for a value of over \$5,500. Great job!

"I learned a lot at the Anti-Bullying Assembly," said third-grader Natalie P. "I learned not to be a bystander because bystanders can be even worse than bullies. We cannot cheer on the bully. Linda Vista can be a Bully Free School."

"This is what I learned from Red Ribbon Week: I learned that you should never take drugs and that we should stand up against bullying so our community will be a better place," said Logan S. third grade.

"I learned that there are other kinds of bullying, like cyber-bullying," said fourth-grader Kaylee H. "I learned you have the power to tell an adult and stop the bullying."

Lampson *Elementary*

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



Dr. Maria Chairez
Principal

Parents Volunteer at Lampson

Lampson is fortunate to have a dedicated crew of parent volunteers. Most recently our parents have agreed to help create a "parent patrol". The group will help out in the parking lot at the start and end of school to improve student safety. Input on creating a Parent Patrol occurred at a community meeting where Garden Grove community police officer Kris Backouris share ideas on how parents could help out. (see pic of officer)



Lampson students who reached benchmark or showed an improvement of 50 points or more in Scholastic Reading Inventory scores were invited to attend our Green Party. The party included 313 students for the first testing period. Each student received an ice cream treat.

Congratulations to these students for their hard work in improving reading comprehension!



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McPherson Magnet

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



Joe Erven
Principal

Flowers for Algernon

In the spirit of 21st-century teaching and learning, McPherson Magnet School students are connecting with literature and creating real-life applications. After reading the short story "Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes, our eighth-grade students in Mrs. Palucki's English class had a mock funeral to pay their respects to the main character of the story, Charlie Gordon, who has lost his dear friend Algernon, a laboratory mouse that has undergone the same operation as Charlie. At the funeral, the "minister" called students, who were portraying different

characters from the story, to the podium to read the eulogies they wrote. The mock funeral ended with the singing of "Amazing Grace" and the placement of flowers on the grave. Students spent four weeks reading the story, completing a variety of activities, and discussing in detail the events and themes. Charlie Gordon became a member of their class during these weeks, and this culminating event gave the students an opportunity to pay their respects to their "friend."



Orange High School

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



Ernest Gonzalez
Principal

Orange High School Celebrates Diversity (Please see our story on the front page.)

Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

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



Amy Hitt
Principal

Supporting Our School

This month we are grateful for our super-involved NCSA parent volunteers. The following are just a few recent examples that illustrate how hard our parents work to support the school.

On October 31, we held our sixth-annual "Run for Your Lives" Jog-A-Thon at Nohl Canyon, with all students participating. This event was the concluding activity for our Red Ribbon Week, which was coordinated by Holly Schafer, an emergency room nurse. Mrs. Schafer also presented mini-lessons in the classrooms that encouraged our students to make the healthiest choices.

The Jog-A-Thon was run entirely by parent volunteers Christina Devereux, Raza Kitsigianis, and Nancy Shcharber. Each student received a T-shirt and frozen treat for his or her participation.

Steve Kitsigianis, Jeff Wartenberg and the other Dad's Club members helped create the field tracks for each grade level, with wooden stakes and caution tape. A special surprise was a "flash mob" of all fourth- through sixth-graders dancing to Thriller. It was planned by Mrs. Amsbary, Mrs. Rose, and speech teacher Mrs. Courtney. Halloween songs were played as the students ran their hearts out for a full 20 minutes.

Nohl Canyon is a special community, where all groups work together to create an environment that provides the best opportunities for student success. Everyone had a fun time! Our parent group, the NCSA, showed us once again that supporting the school can be "thrilling."

Olive *Elementary*

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



Katherine Rizzo
Principal

Art and Excitement

Greetings from Olive Elementary! Fall has been extremely busy. All of our teachers are pleased to report that participation at parent conferences is up from last year. Thank you, parents, for attending and enforcing the parent-school relationship on behalf of your Olive students.

Our student Art Club is up and running. Each Wednesday after early release our students join together in the gym for art lessons. At the end of the six-week session we will be holding an art exhibit where parents and family members can come and see the wonderful art pieces that their artisans have created. We are so fortunate to have a wonderful parent, Mrs. Talauega, who volunteers to provide this program for our students.

The sixth-grade students spent the third week of October in Outdoor Education at Arrowhead Ranch. The students engaged in hikes, science walks, habitat games and adaptation dodge ball. It was a great opportunity to collaborate, communicate, and be creative as a sixth-grade team.

Many thanks to Mrs. Saulten and Mrs. Burkhart for being our fabulous camp chaperones!

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Palmyra *Elementary*

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



Brenna Godsey
Principal

Our Growing Learning Community

Palmyra Elementary School is off to a great start this year! Our school's goal is to further the use of higher-order thinking skills through written and oral communication. Our new transitional kindergarten class, which opened in the end of September, is making strides to meet this goal.

Tanita Slattery, our transitional kindergarten teacher, is incorporating opportunities for social-emotional, language and communication development through dramatic play, small-group instruction and hands-on activities. We are so happy to welcome our youngest learners to the Palmyra community!



In addition to classroom learning, our students are participating in community events such as the International Walk to School Day we observed in October. Students, parents and staff members were joined by members of the Orange Police Department to walk to school as a visual reminder of the necessity of road safety.

Portola *Middle School*

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



Jill Katevas
Principal

Programs That Work

The Portola staff is very excited about the new school year. We believe that it truly "takes a village" to raise a child, and so we are all committed to working together. We want to reach out to our Matador families and the broader Orange community to make sure that each student will receive a well-rounded education, including character development.

Thus, Portola will continue its after-school tutoring program with THINK (Teaching, Helping, Inspiring and Nurturing Kids together). This successful program is committed to creating an opportunity for each student to discover their passion and reach their full potential. Children work with college students and professionals to blend academic support with physical activity.

Portola is also partnering with Orange County law enforcement organizations and local community members to offer GRIP (the Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership). This program allows us to work closely with families to see that their children can avoid gangs, trancies and other at-risk activities. By providing positive role models, and powerful incentives, our students will receive the support they need to make good decisions about their behavior and education.

We are also working with the anti-bullying organization GetSafe. They will soon be visiting our sixth-graders to help them make healthy choices about dealing with conflict. There will also be a parent workshop to help provide the appropriate tools to support our children through some of the challenges they might face.

Portola's strong community, parent and school partnerships will provide its students with the foundation they need for a high-quality education.

Panorama *Elementary*

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



Kathryn Martin
Principal

Erin Rosselli – 2015 CA Teacher of the Year
(Please see our story on the front page.)

Prospect *Elementary*

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



Elena Rodriguez
Principal

Stomping Out Bullying

October was Anti-Bullying Month, and Prospect Elementary School participated in a month-long focus on anti-bullying strategies, activities and discussions. We shared with our students the fact that bullying is when someone hurts or scares another person repeatedly. It is never appropriate, and it is intentional.

Our teaching staff spent a lot of time holding class discussions and working with individual students who are encountering this problem. Thanks to a group of our caring parents, the entire school participated in Stomp Out Bullying Day on October 6 by wearing blue shirts. The blue shirts helped raise awareness of this problem, which that affects millions of children.



Primary grade students showing respect for one another on Stomp Out Bullying Day.

Please join us at Prospect in saying "No" to bullies by reporting instances of habitual harassment. We learned that every one of us is different: short, tall, different ethnicities, speak different languages or living with special needs. As a community, we will continue to work on being a little more respectful, caring and compassionate with everyone we meet. That is the Prospect Way.

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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
Principal

Community Night

Santiago Middle School students have been very active in the community this year. On Tuesday October 21st, Santiago participated in a community night. Our community came out and supported the event so well that we broke the single hour sales record at the business location...TWICE in a 3 hour window! Santiago also had some great Red Ribbon Week events with a strong "Say No To Drugs" theme throughout the week. Santiago rewarded its awesome students with a free concert by MTV star Tiffany Houghton who did a free concert in our outdoor amphitheater on October 29th!



Richland *High School*

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



Dennis McCuiston
Principal

Committed to Student Success

Richland students are off to a great start! Many of them are taking advantage of their opportunity to work towards graduation. By the end of the first quarter there were 50 students who had earned their way into leadership as Level 3 students! These individuals have demonstrated their commitment to an education full of high academic achievement and personal and social responsibility. We are very proud of all the Richland students who are overcoming obstacles and getting back on track toward graduation.



Richland is also proud to introduce Student Board Member Wade Smith. Wade comes to us by way of Villa Park and the OUSD Home School. Wade is a Level 3 leadership student, and has earned a GPA of 3.0 in the first quarter. Wade is also an assistant scoutmaster, and has been sworn into the United States Army. He will report to basic training on July 13, 2015.

Running Springs *Elementary*

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



Antoinette Coe
Principal

Mrs. Okamura's Class Recognizes Heroes Everywhere

Running Springs Elementary recognized heroes on Patriots Day. Mrs. Okamura's first/second-grade class talked about Sept. 11, focusing on heroes that risk their lives to save others. Her class defined the characteristics of a hero and determined that firefighters and police officers are great examples.

The students shared their appreciation with heroes across the nation by writing a letter to the department of their choice, explaining how they were learning about the heroes of Sept. 11 and thanking them for risking their lives to protect others. The class asked the departments to write back and eagerly waited for a response.

Fire and police chiefs from as far as the North Pole responded with heartfelt messages. One police chief included a picture of himself as a child standing in front of the twin towers. The project offered Mrs. Okamura's students a chance to personally connect with heroes across the nation.



Mrs. Okamura's class share the letters they received from fire and police departments across the nation.



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Serrano *Elementary*

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



Dr. Bobbie Lansman
Principal

Maintaining High Standards

At Serrano Elementary School, academic achievement is a primary concern for all of our student wranglers. And so for this year's Serrano theme we are putting on our boots and spurs as we "Saddle Up for Success at Serrano."

As a 2014 California Distinguished School, we work hard to provide many exciting opportunities for success in every curricular area. Along with differentiated instruction in every classroom, each of our kindergarten through sixth-grade students also participate in either ExCEL (Excellence a Commitment to Every Learner) or Daily 5 reading.

All fourth- through sixth-grade students participate in "Chatters and Blabbers." This is a Junior Toastmasters program that provides reading, writing and speech practice through competition. We are proud to say that these were both signature practices in Serrano which were recognized once again in our California Distinguished School status.

Along with having our teachers meet in weekly Professional Learning Communities – to help guide and strategize the methods, resources and materials that can promote student growth and achievement – we also participate in many community wide endeavors. Recently, the entire Serrano student body walked to Orange Lutheran High School to see the musical production of Tarzan. Great thanks go to the Orange Police Department and the Orange County Sheriff's Department for guiding our safe passage to and from Serrano.

Red Ribbon Week was a huge success. Our parents are working hard with their children, the teachers, and the entire school community to help maintain high standards for all Serrano Scholars.

Taft *Elementary*

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



Connie Smith
Principal

STEM Activities

By 3rd Grade Team

In an effort to encourage students to become our future scientists, engineers, and innovators, third grade students at Taft Elementary are participating in STEM activities. STEM education experiences prioritize hands-on learning to increase student engagement, interest, and achievement in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. These projects encourage teamwork and collaboration, and allow students to explore ideas, discuss options, plan projects, and experiment with hands-on materials. The Third Grade Teachers at Taft, Miss Krill, Mrs. McFadden, and Mrs. Zuidema, believe that allowing their students the opportunity to take part in real world experiences is helping to create interest and excitement in STEM, and is helping to prepare their students for their college and career paths of the future.



Gael, Aracely, Emily and Johanna from Mrs. Zuidema's class cooperatively worked together to construct their marshmallow tower.



Jared, Anahi, Alvaro, and Isaias from Miss Krill's class worked very hard to get their marshmallow tower to stand high.

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Sycamore *Elementary*

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



Heather Bosworth
Principal

Picking Up STEAM with Robotics

Sycamore is proud to be the home of three robotics teams this year. Last year, the school introduced students to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math)-based learning by launching the first-ever Sycamore Robotics Team. The program was a huge success and resulted in an increased number of students interested in learning about robotics.

Sycamore teachers were eager to support the expansion of this program, and as a result, the school grew to three robotics teams. These 27 collaborative, committed students are known in the robotics community as The STEAM Machine3. They share the roles of designers, builders and drivers. Additionally, each team has Robot Docs—robot doctors—who are ready and willing to provide emergency services in the event of a robot breakdown. They work together to build, drive, problem-solve, and navigate in the playing field. STEAM Machine3 plans to participate in several events this year.



Villa Park *High School*

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



Ed Howard
Principal

Welcome Back!

This year is shaping up great! We're hard at work instilling the SPARTAN way into our entire community. SPARTAN stands for Spirited, with pride in self, school and community; Prepared, on time and ready to go; Achieve your best effort; Respectful of self, staff and peers; Trustworthy, reliable and honest; Adaptive to handle change and diversity; and Noble, of high intellect and ethics.

Your input is welcomed. We'll be reaching out to make sure we continue to meet the needs of our community. I employ the same

open-door and access policy that has been in place for the past eight years. My administrative team and counselors are also eager to hear from you.

The entire movement with the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) is to make schools more in tune and responsive to the community they serve—places where children want to be, with professionals working with families and community to prepare them for what's next.



Villa Park *Elementary*

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



Debra Larson
Principal

Fourth-Graders Are 21st-Century Learners

Fourth grade is off and running this year with the new adjustment to Common Core! We just finished reading the novel *Harriet the Spy*, with which students have learned how to annotate and cite evidence. The next step is to use this information to learn how to write a grade-level essay.

Parents have been generous enough to donate funds so that we can provide a wonderful writing supplement using StoryWorks, a valuable educational magazine resource to enhance our language arts skills.

We are fortunate to be able to supplement our math curriculum with Standards Plus, a Common Core -aligned daily-practice program.

Our students are sure to be excited about their study of California history with field trips to Mission San Juan Capistrano and Irvine Park for a Gold Rush reenactment.

Continue to go forth, fourth-graders!

West Orange *Elementary*

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



Dr. Jennifer Bourgeois
Principal

Our Heroes—Up Close!

Sounds of sirens ring through the air. Men and women in bright yellow suits scurry into action. Shiny red fire trucks prepare to depart.

These are some of the sounds and images that come to mind when we pass a fire station. As part of their unit on community, our kindergarteners took a field trip to Orange Fire Station #1 to learn about what these brave individuals do to serve our community. Students learned about what they can do to prevent fires and about fire safety. Isaiah Suarez commented, "If your clothes catch on fire, drop and roll to put the fire out!"

Later in the week, students received a visit from one of our parents, who is a firefighter. He answered questions that came up after the field trip. The whole experience was one of the ways we are bringing college and career information to our Warrior Scholars!



Kindergarteners in Mrs Draffen's class are ready to leave for their field trip to the Orange Fire Station #1.

Yorba *Middle School*

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



Tracy Knibb
Principal

Language in Play

Yorba Middle School is excited to partner with a theater group to bring a special program to our drama students. Actors will work in tandem with our drama and EL teachers to provide students the opportunity to express themselves through writing their own plays and acting. With a focus on listening, speaking, and writing, students will develop their communication skills through interactive activities designed to use the arts to promote motivation and engagement.

On October 22nd, the program founder presented to a group of students, parents, and teachers about the impact arts integration has on student learning. The picture shows staff and founder Tony Plana eager to support students as they begin their journey. We encourage the community to join us in the spring to celebrate the students' work through a concluding production at Yorba!



OUSD Alternative Education / ROP

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



Germaine Martell
Coordinator

ALT. ED

With the start of the 2014-2015 school year, we have new opportunities and challenges to improve the lives and futures of the students who attend the various programs at Alternative Education. Quality instruction and intervention are of utmost importance to our success. We have steadily improved student performance and welcome four new teachers to our staff. Our campus is a very busy place to learn. Communication is essential and I am thankful that we have such a talented and dedicated staff. Alternative Education is a wonderful place to be and together I know we will continue to improve services to our families. Remember, there is always an alternative!



John H. Ortega
President



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College 4 Less

Hedging College Costs



Susan D. Marshall

When you hear the word hedging, you may immediately think of the amazing topiaries at “It’s a Small World” or the Dumbo in Fantasyland you have marveled at. Hedging is also a practice that every investor should know about to protect their portfolio.

People hedge to protect themselves against an unforeseen event. They buy car insurance to hedge against the negative event of an accident. Unfortunately, it doesn’t keep the undesirable event from happening, but it can reduce the impact it has on our lives.

So in what ways can insurance hedge the cost of college for parents and students? There are a variety of insurance products on the market today. Some will help you fund the cost of college while protecting your students’ ability to get financial aid. Other types are designed solely for protection.

We all know college costs are outrageous. You must start early if you plan to fund college with life insurance and there are other strategies that can add to your success in the amount of cash you are able to accumulate.

Two other important components regarding life insurance that can protect your family to consider are: How inexpensive it is to have life insurance on yourself so in the event you are not around, your child can still continue and complete their education. The other is that if you are going to take loans against your home, a 401(k), or co-sign on a loan for your student it may be prudent to have life insurance on the student. It’s very inexpensive to purchase and this could help reduce the financial impact it could have on the family in an already unthinkable situation.

Life insurance, disability insurance and other types of insurance may be a relatively small price to pay to protect your dreams and your family’s financial future. Make sure you meet with a qualified life insurance agent and find out how affordable it can be. Look for products that offer living benefits. My recommendation is to go to an agent who has the ability to offer products from several companies. You will be more likely get the product that is right for you and your loved ones.

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



Happy Holidays from the School News Staff!

Parent To Parent

Protect Your Family from Holiday Stress



Jodie Lynn

Always File Your Receipts in a Safe Place: You never know if the gift is going to do or measure up to what you think it supposed to; so keep those receipts filed in a special place just in case. Eight-five percent of gifts are returned or exchanged. That’s a high number, but isn’t too terribly complicated if you have the receipt. Make up a folder and clearly write 2013 Holiday Receipts on the outside. For online stores, make sure you know about their return policies, especially if you are sending any type of plant, food or toy.

Keep a Running List of Names for Greeting Card Recipients: Make a list of each person you’d like to send out a card to. Get the kids to help address envelopes and even to put on stamps. Depending on how many cards you are sending out, it might be best to do this in steps so the kids will view it as Holiday joy and fun instead of work and dumb. That’s right; delegate the card sending to the kids by separating the process into steps so no one will get overwhelmed.

Meal Planner: Always plan your dinner way ahead of time. Go to the store with ingredients written on a list for each dish. If it’s a dish that uses heavy creams or other fat-laden ingredients, don’t forget to scan either a conversion chart for healthy substitutes or look them up on the Internet to see just how good or bad they might actually be. Since this is the time to gain weight, remember that kids cannot always say no to certain foods rich in fat largely in part because they taste so good. Consider what you need to have around the house for the kids to snack on and only allow a nibble here and there of special food. Compare notes and make a plan that you are comfortable with for your family keeping in mind my personal motto: “easy to add weight on...but very hard to get off.”

Utilize an Organizer: It’s never too early! If you would take a few minutes to organize every couple of days now YOU WILL FEEL SO MUCH BETTER especially if you do a little delegation to other family members and don’t put so many stressful things on any one day. Write every detail up and mark it off as it is done. It doesn’t matter how small it is, it still counts and feels great when you get to mark it off. The kids love to help with this task as well as will stay busy for hours making and marking off lists.

Take a little time for yourself: It should and must be done even if it’s only a 30-minute lunch with a long lost friend; sitting down with a brief short book; watching a loved but often missed TV show, taking a walk, or even making a visit to a local nursing home. Or, take a family trip. There’s nothing better than to take several loaves of homemade cranberry bread, pumpkin cookies or fruit pies to a nursing home that the kids have helped you bake. Let them help to pass out the food and enjoy those smiles from senior citizens. Giving to others fills your heart with incredible warmth and makes a huge impact on your kids by allowing them to see firsthand how their special made gifts bring pleasure to other people—as well as see you smile.

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*.

SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 1



Michael L. Christensen

each high school’s attendance area’s voters could decide to sell bonds for their school alone. There is a provision in law where a Board of Education can form a Schools Facilities Improvement District (SFID) to allow a school district to be broken into smaller distinct areas where those residents would vote on a tax to improve their school(s) only. We will study the poll results from each high school attendance area and see if it might be feasible to form SFID areas.

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). You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Note-ables

Love Bug



Kate Karp

Are you a Beluga Grad?

If Raffi was part of your childhood, you are. You dug into the meaning of “Baby Beluga” and had a great time singing “Down by the Bay.” And if you’re not one, here’s your chance to get a midlife diploma and mentor the children in your life.

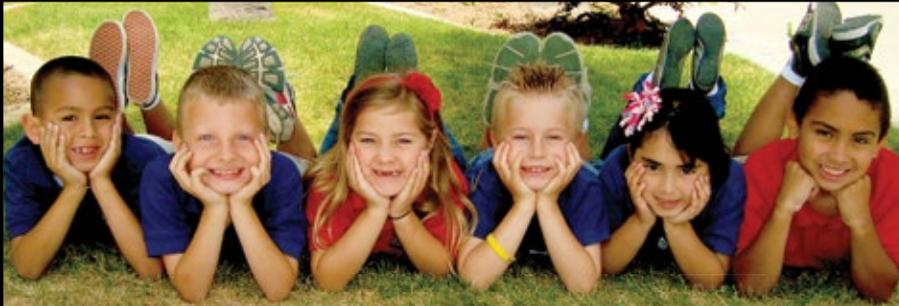
Raffi Cavoukian, known by his first name, is bridging the near generation gap he created by not issuing a children’s CD in the last 12 years. *Love Bug* honors children and the world they live in; the collection is an extension of Raffi’s social-change movement, Child Honoring, as well as his desire to create environmental awareness and action as a team of humans. Worldly wise and socially and environmentally conscious, *Love Bug* pays lip service to causes only through what comes out between Raffi’s own lips.

All songs are meaningful and tuneful; they’re instructive for children and therapeutic for adults. “Mama Loves It” sings about teamwork beginning in the home. The instrumental “Pete’s Banjo” honors Pete Seeger, one of Raffi’s social inspirations. “Seeing the Heart,” like a Zen parable, is interpretable through intuition only, and “Water in the Well”—well, surely a teachable moment for our drought-parched state.

And “Turn This World Around” brings it all together. Raffi’s music is gentle and at the same time serious about the planet, both in leaving it for children and for children doing their part to preserve it. They, too, will be adults someday.

Discover Raffi’s Child Honoring philosophy at www.raffinews.com/.

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



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higher rates of volunteerism and civic engagement,



higher rates of college education,



and higher household incomes

... than non-Girl Scout alumnae.*



Call 800.979.9444 or visit GirlScoutsOC.org/join

All girls (grades K-12) can start the experience of a lifetime--Join Today!

*Source: Girl Scouts Research Institute, 2012 Alumnae Impact Study



**WINTER CONDITIONING
BASEBALL CAMP**

Boys & Girls Ages 4 – 12

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!!!

Saturday, January 10, 2015
Orange Little League –
Sycamore Fields

As participants you will...

- Receive instruction on how to improve your skills
- Participate in drills designed to improve your fundamentals
- Receive a camp t-shirt
- Receive a hot dog + soda after camp
- Have your name entered in a drawing for prizes after camp

Equipment required...

- Glove
- Baseball clothes
- Cleats preferred
- Water



Taught By
Orange HS Varsity Baseball and Staff!

\$20 Early Registration Fee

\$30 Day of Camp

(check-in closes at 9:50am SHARP)

Camp begins at

10:00am – 1:00pm

Register Online at

www.orangelittleleague.org

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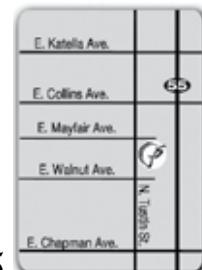
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Lacrosse–Word Search Contest

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 the subject line)

Word Search by Kai Coop

Entries must be received by December 15, 2014.
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| ATTACK | HEAD | SCORE |
| CLEATS | HELMETS | SHAFT |
| COACH | MIDDIES | SIDE LINES |
| CREASE | MOUTH GUARD | STICK |
| DEFENSE | NET | TEAMS |
| FIELD | PLAYERS | UNIFORMS |
| GOAL KEEPER | RULES | |

**Congratulations to Andrew Lia
Winner of the August Word Search Contest!**

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

Inside the Outdoors



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

José was struggling in school. He knew he needed to complete his core classes to graduate from high school, but could not imagine how he would ever need those skills outside of school. José needed an experience that would help him grasp the connection between classroom learning and real life. Recognizing that hands-on lessons would make the difference for students like José, his teacher signed-up for Orange County Department of Education's (OCDE) Inside the Outdoors field program. As part of the field program experience, José performed water quality tests and biological studies in the foothills of the Cleveland National Forest. He used science to identify plants, mathematics to document results from experiments, and language arts to record his observations. José felt successful and inspired to learn more.

Jose's situation is not unique. The evidence is clear: Project-based learning creates a platform for academic success. In the book *Getting Ready for College, Careers, and the Common Core*, author David Conley shares that "in many cases, learning never goes beyond what and how," so students often lack the ability to conceptualize how to apply what they have learned to real life situations. Conley contends that activities that encourage students to engage actively in learning and provide them with opportunities to process and integrate what they have learned are more effective and sustainable. Hands-on activities allow students to develop deeper learning skills that connect knowledge (what) and procedures (how) to the appropriate conditions (when) and concepts (why). For José, that meant figuring out which science, mathematics, and language arts skills he needed to use to find and articulate what he discovered during his field studies.

Deeper learning is an essential element to college and career readiness. The mission of OCDE is to ensure that all students are equipped with the competencies they need to thrive in the 21st century. We achieve our mission by providing students with hands-on learning opportunities through programs such as Inside the Outdoors. An important part of OCDE's portfolio since 1974, Inside the Outdoors offers a variety of programs.

- **Field Programs:** Daylong STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) outdoor education K-12 programs that use nature's classroom to bring textbook lessons to life
- **Traveling Scientist:** hour-long classroom programs that engage K-12 students in a variety of hands-on labs
- **Service-Learning:** In-depth multiple experience programs that allow students to apply what they have learned to community-based action projects
- **Teacher Trainings:** Webinars and in-person trainings that provide teachers with strategies to integrate Common Core Standards into classroom lessons
- **Community Programs:** STEM-focused family activities designed to support student college and career readiness and parent engagement

Inside the Outdoors' programs support Common Core and other relevant academic standards, as well as 21st century skill development. I invite you to learn more about engaging Orange County students in Common Core experiences through an Inside the Outdoors program. For additional information, visit www.insidetheoutdoors.org or contact Stephanie Smith at 714.708.3885 or ssmith@ocde.us.

For more information, visit www.ocde.us/EdTech.



Make the World Your Classroom.

When children get a hands-on science education at an early age, we all benefit. Inside the Outdoors offers a wide range of science-based programs for your students.

WWW.INSIDETHEOUTDOORS.ORG 714.708.3885



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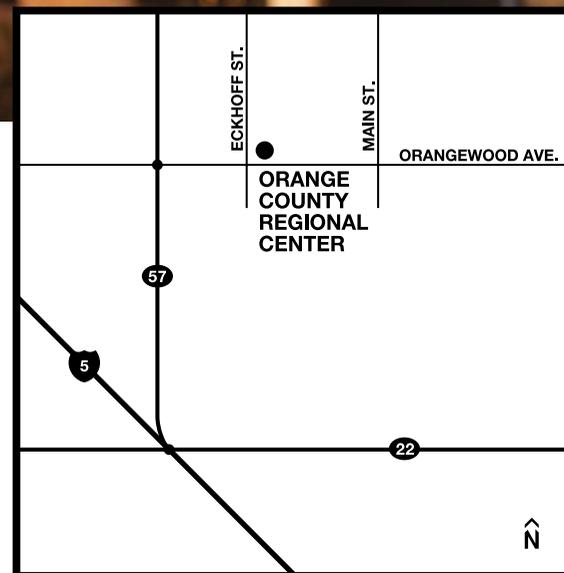
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Orange County Regional Center

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