

FREE

School News

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Covering the Orange Unified School District

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SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2016

SUPERINTENDENT



Michael L. Christensen

High School Modernization & Revitalization Program

The Orange Unified School District Board of Education, staff and involved community members have worked hard to determine how to fund the

modernization of our high schools. At the July 21 meeting, the Board voted unanimously to place the Classroom and Facility Safety, Modernization and Renovation Measure on the ballot. The proposition is designated Measure S and will appear on the November 8, 2016 ballot.

USD high schools are 40 to 60 years old, outdated and lack the number of science labs necessary to provide contemporary education to our students. Preparing students to be "College and Career Ready" means offering experiential knowledge that can only be achieved through hands-on opportunities. Learning about science, engineering, and robotics by watching videos is similar to learning to swim by watching a video of someone else performing the activity. None of us would throw our children in the pool without hands-on instruction.

The State of California is also placing a school facilities related item on the November ballot, Proposition 51. The State program is a matching program and districts can only share in the funds by having a matching funds.

Measure S calls for taxpayer protections and assurances that the funds raised would go directly toward modernizing the campuses as the voters intend. In order to accomplish this, the Board placed clear language in the resolution requiring that 25% of the funds received be spent at each of the four



Palmyra Elementary – Summer College For Kids Program

comprehensive high schools: Canyon, El Modena, Orange and Villa Park High Schools. Additionally, the resolution requires the formation of a Citizen's Oversight Committee to provide reports to the public and requires independent fiscal and performance audits.

The cost to property owners in the District of Measure S is approximately \$29 per \$100,000 of assessed property value (not market value) annually, or about \$108 per year for the average residence. It is important to note that the assessed value of a property is not the market value. The

assessed valuation calculation maintains the protections afforded by Proposition 13 and those protections are not eroded by Measure S.

The modernization of schools impacts our entire community. It is up to all of us to become educated on the issue. Please feel free to contact me or any principal to schedule a high school tour or to have any questions answered. Remember to vote on November 8, it is your right to exercise it. To register to vote online go to: <http://www.ocvote.com/registration>.

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Kay Coop
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Welcome back to another school year. Beginnings are always exciting and especially the start of school when students are looking forward to seeing old friends, making new ones, meeting their teachers and getting used to a schedule. This is an exciting time for us to begin publishing the excellence from the classrooms. We thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. This issue we thought you'd enjoy bios.

Our next issues will be December 7, April 12 and June 7.

School News

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Justin Stanfield
Coordinator

I am extremely excited to have the opportunity to serve as the Coordinator of Alternative Education. Although I may be new to the Alternative Education site, I am not new to the Orange Unified School District.

Most recently I served as an Assistant Principal at Villa Park High School for five years. While at VPHS I oversaw discipline, student records, guidance and curriculum. My time and Villa Park was amazing and I had the pleasure of working with some of the best administrators, teachers, students and parents around!

Prior to my time in OUSD I was a classroom teacher and coach in the Irvine Unified School District. I taught middle school history and PE for 2 years at Sierra Vista Middle School and then spent 4 years in the same capacity at Creekside Continuation High School.

I am extremely excited to serve the students and families of Alternative Education. If I can ever be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

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Fayroze Mostafa
Principal

I am excited and honored to be entering my second year as the Principal of Anaheim Hills Elementary School which I am proud to say is also my 17th year in education and 7th year as an administrator. Time indeed flies.

AHES is an exciting place to be as we are always looking for ways to improve our instruction for our fabulous students. Our goal is to challenge each student to grow and surpass their potential in an environment that fosters collaboration and creativity, and harnesses every effort to achieve academic excellence.

I encourage all students to find a path that excites them. Every student at AHES can tell you that after high school there is college. They can also share with you what year they will graduate high school and what year they are expected to graduate from college.

I am PROUD to be at Anaheim Hills Elementary School, home of the Panthers! None of what we do is possible without the support of our PTA and the entire AHES community who play a vital role in assuring that enrichment programs are available to our students. I look forward to another exciting and productive 2016-17 school year!

California *Elementary*

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



Dr. John Albert
Principal

Dr. Albert leads the California team with over 18 years of educational leadership experience in which he has served as a teacher and assistant principal at the high school, as a middle school assistant principal and principal, as a K-8 school principal, and supporting English learners at the district level. He has proudly served at Title I schools and has experience bridging the achievement gap, integrating technology to enhance 21st century learning, and supporting English learners. Dr. Albert earned a bachelor's of arts degree from the University of Redlands, and a master's degree and doctorate degree from California State

University, Fullerton. His wife is a second grade teacher and they have two sons, one in 3rd grade and one entering Middle School. He is first generation American. His father immigrated to the United States from Hungary after WWII

and his mother was from Ireland. Both came to build a better life for themselves and their future family. It is with this same sense of passion that he entered the education field with the goal of helping to build better lives for students.

"We continue to build upon our success that earned us a Gold Ribbon and Title I Achieving school award last year. As a team we continue our journey of being a premiere one-to-one iPad school and a leader in innovation. Our focus remains on preparing our students to be college and career ready by developing sound foundation skills in reading, mathematical reasoning, science application, and technology integration. Our students apply these skills while mastering 21st century standards. We are also ecstatic to expand upon our very successful Science, Technology, Engineer, Arts, and Math (STEAM) lab and expanding the Spanish Dual Immersion program into the 1st grade", said principal Dr. Albert.

Cambridge *Elementary*

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



Diane Lew
Principal

Diane Lew is the new principal of Cambridge Elementary School. Ms. Lew comes to this position from her administrative assignment where she served as one of the Orange Unified School District's Special Education Coordinators for the last two years. Prior to serving as Special Education Coordinator, Ms. Lew worked as an elementary school Resource Specialist and Special Day Class teacher in the Orange Unified School District. She also has experience as an elementary and middle school general education teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Ms. Lew holds a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education from San Francisco State University and Master's degree in Educational Administration from National University. Ms. Lew has a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, an Education Specialist Instructional Credential for Mild to Moderate Disabilities, and an Administrative Services Credential.

Ms. Lew believes in a collaborative school environment in which talented and dedicated teachers deliver 21st century instruction in a fun and safe environment. This approach encourages students to work together to take academic risks using communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity to solve real-world problems that will support them in reaching their full potential and becoming college and career ready.

Ms. Lew is honored to join the Cambridge Elementary School team and looks forward to collaborating with staff, families, students, and the community to ensure that the needs of all students are being met by maintaining a safe, structured, and inclusive environment that encourages students to develop a growth mindset, gives students the confidence needed to become creative problem-solvers, and promotes positive relationships and responsible behaviors.

Welcome to the 2016/2017 school year!

Canyon *High School*

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



Craig Abercrombie
Principal

James "Craig" Abercrombie is excited to start his second year as the principal of Canyon High School. He is entering his 19th year as an educator and his 14th year in the Orange Unified School District (OUSD). After graduating from college, Craig began his teaching career at Yuma High School in Yuma, Arizona. He joined OUSD as an English teacher and the head boys' basketball coach at Orange High School in 2003. While at Orange High, he also served as the athletic director before becoming an assistant principal in 2011. As the assistant principal, he was responsible for special education, interventions and curriculum and instruction.

After finishing his first year, Craig has been overwhelmed by the commitment to excellence and the countless amazing accomplishments by the students and staff at Canyon High School. He feels extremely fortunate to have been able to share in the many successes of the past year with his fellow Comanches.

Growing up in small towns in Oklahoma and Texas with educator parents, Craig understands the important role a school plays as a part of the community. He is a graduate of the University of Texas-Arlington and holds a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in education administration. Craig and his wife, Veronica, are the proud parents of a five-year-old son, Braxton, and are residents of Orange.

Canyon Hills

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



Janel Carpenter
Coordinator

Welcome to the start of another beautiful year at Canyon Hills School. We are excited about our programs and activities that are set for the 2016-2017 school year. Mrs. Janel Carpenter continues to be the site Administrator and comes with a multitude of experience in the area of education, particularly in Special Education. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Child and Adolescent Development, a clear Education Specialist Credential, and a Master of Science Degree in Special Education

from California State University, Fullerton. She has over a decade of experience as a Special Day Class teacher and was an Autism Specialist in a neighboring district. For a short time, she also worked as a Special Education Director for a virtual K-12th grade charter school. Outside of the work, she enjoys spending time with her husband and six young children; including two sets of twins. And in her free time she enjoys reading, caring for animals, and arts and crafts.

Canyon Rim *Elementary*

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



Erika Krohn
Principal

Mrs. Erika Krohn is the proud principal of Canyon Rim Elementary School since 2014. Mrs. Krohn enjoys working with Canyon Rim's dynamic group of teachers and talented staff to consistently provide the most effective teaching practices for each child, from struggling students to advanced learners. Under her leadership, Canyon Rim Elementary School was recognized as a Gold Ribbon School in 2016 for their exemplary implementation of Multi-Tiered System of Supports. Prior to coming to Canyon Rim Elementary, Mrs. Krohn was principal of Sycamore Elementary and Yorbita Elementary. Her recognitions include: Orange Unified Administrator of the Year in 2012/2013, PTA Outstanding Administrator in 2013, and Outstanding Administrator from Los Angeles County Bilingual Director Association in 2008. She has also served as a vice principal, program specialist, and teacher in Rowland Unified School District.

Mrs. Krohn is a product of Orange Unified Schools: Taft Elementary, Cerro Villa Middle School, and Villa Park High School. She earned her Bachelor's degree from California State University, Fullerton, a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from Chapman University, and a Master's Degree from National University.

On a personal note, Mrs. Krohn enjoys spending time with her husband and 2 children: 13 year old Kendall and 10 year old Wyatt. When not at Canyon Rim, she can be found bike riding around town, working out at Pure Barre, and skiing the slopes of Mammoth.

Mrs. Krohn is looking forward to another productive year at Canyon Rim Elementary. She and the staff will be working collaboratively to provide extraordinary learning experiences that the students will never forget!



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Cerro Villa *Middle School*

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Lisa Ogan
Principal

Welcome to Cerro Villa Middle School, home of the VIKINGS! Mrs. Ogan is proud and honored to enter her third year as principal of CVMS. Prior to her serving OUSD, Mrs. Ogan served as middle school assistant principal, summer school principal, teacher on special assignment, middle school math teacher, and elementary school teacher in the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) for 16 years. She also taught for nine years in the Walnut Valley Unified School District as a middle school teacher and one year as an elementary teacher in the Ontario-Montclair Unified School District.

Mrs. Ogan received her bachelor's degree in child development with a minor in mathematics and a master's degree in educational administration, both from California State University, Fullerton. She holds a multiple-subject teaching credential with an authorization in mathematics and an administrative services credential.

Along with Mrs. Ogan, Cerro Villa is proud to be showcased as one of the top ten schools in the nation recognized for its STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Math) program. This is a tribute to the dedication, performance and high expectations shared by its teachers, students, parents and community. Congratulations!

Chapman Hills *Elementary*

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



Jana Saenz
Principal

Jana Saenz will be starting her second year as principal at Chapman Hills and is very excited to have another fulfilling year. She is honored to be working with the amazing Bobcat staff, students and parent community in an effort to work collaboratively in continuing the wonderful traditions and level of success Chapman Hills has experienced in the past.

Mrs. Saenz is a transplant to Southern California. She grew up in Tucson, AZ and moved to California to attend Chapman University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. She then received her Master's Degree in Special education from Chapman University and later an Administrative Credential for California State University, Fullerton. Mrs. Saenz has served many different roles, including special education teacher, general education teacher,

instructional coach and assistant principal during her 15+ years in the Orange Unified School District. She has a passion for curriculum and instruction and conducted many trainings in the areas of Thinking Maps, enVision Math and California Common Core State Standards.

Mrs. Saenz resides in the Anaheim Hills with her husband and three children. Two of Mrs. Saenz children attend school in Orange Unified School District thus she is truly vested in the Orange Unified School District both as a professional and a parent.

She is looking forward to all the integral initiatives that teachers and students will be implementing at Chapman Hills such as increasing technology usage across the grades levels, STEM, writing, small group differentiated instruction and AVID 4th-6th grades. Let's Go Bobcats!

Crescent *Elementary*

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



Shele Tamaki
Principal

Shelé Tamaki comes from a long line of teachers in her family at the elementary, secondary and university levels. Majoring in Elementary Education, she graduated Phi Beta Kappa from CSU, Long Beach. She went on to earn her Master's Degree in Educational Administration from CSULB. Mrs. Tamaki taught for seven years in grades 2 through 5 while serving as a Social Studies Mentor Teacher and Master Teacher for the Downey Unified School District.

Mrs. Tamaki's administrative experience began in Downey as a Summer School Principal. The following year in 1990 she was hired as an Assistant Principal for the Capistrano Unified School District. After two and a half years, she became an Elementary Principal in the Newport-Mesa

Unified School District in January, 1993. In 1997 Mrs. Tamaki accepted an elementary principalship closer to home in Capistrano Unified. The next several years, she had the privilege of working with talented school teams who received various awards such as California Distinguished School and the California Business for Education Excellence (CBEE) Honor Roll with recognition for API scores over 900.

The past educational experiences afforded her a professional career opportunity to join the Orange USD leadership team in August 2015. Since that time, Mrs. Tamaki has served as principal of Crescent Elementary School. She looks forward to another year working with the dedicated Crescent staff and community to support student success.

El Modena *High School*

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



Dr. Dustin Saxton
Principal

Dr. Dustin Saxton is beginning his fourth year as principal of El Modena High School. Dr. Saxton started his education career in 1991 as a mathematics teacher at a private school. Five years later, he began teaching algebra, geometry and calculus at San Bernardino High School, where he also coached varsity football, basketball, and baseball. After serving as principal of a private K-12 school in Redlands, Dr. Saxton moved on to become an assistant principal at the high school level in the Alford and Upland Unified School Districts and at Orange High School in the Orange Unified School District. His responsibilities as a high

school assistant principal included leadership of: discipline and attendance; the Math Department; the Summer School Program; the Adult Education program; the Special Education Department; activities; and athletics.

Born in Illinois, Dr. Saxton is a graduate of Drury University, National University, and La Sierra University. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration, a master's degree in instructional leadership and a specialist degree in administration and leadership. He also received masters and doctoral degrees in divinity from Dallas Theological Seminary.

Dr. Saxton is the proud father of two sons, aged 22 and 24. His wife, Debra, has taught special education for 27 years in both private and public schools.

El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

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



Michele Walker
Principal

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! My name is Michele Walker and I am starting my 13th year at El Rancho Charter School. As a California Distinguished School as well as a Gold Ribbon and Exemplary Arts Award recipient, El Rancho is proud to offer balance between high academic standards and an extensive elective program. Students may select from a variety of courses in the fine arts, foreign languages as well as the practical arts. They may choose percussion, orchestra, dance, an array

of art and technology classes, and more traditional courses like woodshop and home economics. The use of science, technology, engineering, and math into each subject area allows for students to experience learning through a comprehensive environment. Through collaboration of the students, staff, parents, and community, the culture and atmosphere is one of support and accomplishment!

Esplanade *Elementary*

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

Christina Yokoyama, Principal

Mrs. Yokoyama is honored to be appointed as Principal of Esplanade Elementary School. She looks forward to building relationships with students, families, and staff and is committed to fostering a school environment that enables all students to achieve success.

Mrs. Yokoyama has served Orange Unified School District successfully as Assistant Principal of McPherson Magnet School for the past three years. Prior to joining OUSD, Mrs. Yokoyama was a classroom teacher and teacher leader in the Tustin Unified School District, teaching at both the elementary and middle school levels. Mrs. Yokoyama holds a Bachelor's degree from California State University, Fresno and a Master's degree from California State University,

Fullerton, both in Biological Sciences. She continued her education at CSU Fullerton by earning her teaching and administrative services credentials. Mrs. Yokoyama is a National Board Certified Teacher, she participates in WASC accreditation committees, and was a Cotsen Family Foundation Fellow, specializing in reading and writing instruction.

Mrs. Yokoyama resides in Rancho Santa Margarita with her husband, Curtis, and their three children: Kalen, age 15, Ethan, age 13, and Riven, age 8. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends and is an active volunteer in Boy Scouts of America. She is proud to be part of the OUSD family and is eager to meet her new school community.

Fairhaven *Elementary*

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



Karen Sandors
Principal

Karen Sandors is thrilled to be returning for her third year as the principal of Fairhaven Elementary School. Mrs. Sandors has been in education for 29 years previously in the Ocean View School District having worked as a teacher in a variety of grade levels, middle school assistant principal, and elementary principal. Mrs. Sandors received her bachelor's degree from Long Beach State University, master's degree from Alliant University and administration credential from UCI. When Mrs. Sandors is not working she enjoys spending time with her husband and

grown son and daughter, reading, bowling, and attending Angel games. As principal Mrs. Sandors feels privileged to have the opportunity to work with a committed staff, supportive families, and motivated and engaging students. She is dedicated to meeting the needs of all students and supporting everyone in the Fairhaven community. Mrs. Sandors is extremely excited to be returning to a school with a proven record of high academic achievement and is looking forward to another great year, building relationships, and continuing the Fairhaven tradition of striving for the best.

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Fletcher *Elementary*

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Sara Pelly
Principal

Sara Pelly, the new principal of Fletcher School, is returning to Orange Unified after eighteen years. Mrs. Pelly began her teaching career at Crescent Primary School where she taught for nine years, and then moved to Centralia School District in Buena Park to teach in the Gifted and Talented program with first and second graders. Making a change to administration, Mrs. Pelly became a Student Support Community Liaison before serving as principal for eight years. Her most recent school housed a Total Communication program that served Deaf and Hard of Hearing students all over Orange County.

A native Coloradoan, Mrs. Pelly left the Rocky Mountains to attend Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma where she earned a B.S. in Elementary

Education, as well as some hands on experience in tornado survival! After working as a college Admission Counselor for two years she traveled to California for a job interview, and fell instantly in love with the beautiful city of Orange. In spite of the earthquakes, she decided to stay in California to begin her teaching career and earn her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction and Administrative Services Credential at Chapman University, and her Tier II Administrative Credential from Brandman University.

Mrs. Pelly spends her free time running with her dog, playing the piano, and traveling back to Colorado to visit family. She and her husband Mike also enjoy fly-fishing, and are involved in the Men's and Women's Lacrosse Parent Booster programs at Chapman University as well as the Community Foundation of Orange.

Handy *Elementary*

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



Dr. Michelle Owen
Principal

Dr. Michelle D. Owen is entering her fifth year as the Principal of Handy Elementary School and her sixteenth year in education. Dr. Owen lives in Orange, California with her husband and two children. Dr. Owen holds bachelors and masters degrees in education, as well as a doctoral degree in Education, Leadership, and Policy from Pepperdine University. She is a member of the American Association of School Administrators, the Association of California School Administrators, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the California Association for Bilingual Education.

Providing rigorous and relevant learning opportunities that challenge student thinking in the areas of math, science, technology, and literacy is a priority for Dr. Owen. She works with her teachers, students, parents, and community as a collaborative facilitator to ensure data-driven school improvement, professional learning communities, targeted instructional delivery, and school and community partnerships.

Dr. Owen credits the success of Handy Elementary to her outstanding staff, students, parents, and community. Through their parent organization, ELAC, GRIP, partnerships with community organizations, and district support, Handy Elementary provides an outstanding place where all students grow and feel supported.

Imperial *Elementary*

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



Ginette Kelley
Principal

Gigi Kelley earned her bachelor's degree in Community Health Education from CSU Long Beach. After graduation, her first professional job was as a Prevention Education Specialist working in partnership with schools in Southern California. Gigi returned to school, earning her California Teaching Credential from CSU San Bernardino. Her teaching career took her first to Rialto and then to Fullerton School District as a classroom teacher.

Hearing the call of administration, Gigi returned to school to earn a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Concordia University. She remained in Fullerton, however she moved out of the classroom and into district administration. She served that district as a Program Specialist for Gifted and Talented (GATE) program and also the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Program. She also had the

opportunity to serve as Interim Junior High Assistant Principal.

Through her experiences as an educator she has had the opportunity to develop new and innovative approaches to student success by creating, planning, and implementing instructional practices for district-wide programs. In 2005 she was named an Apple Distinguished Educator, bringing innovative technology to classroom instruction.

Gigi developed and taught curriculum for teacher GATE Certification, in partnership with Hope International University and has worked as an adjunct professor for HIU, teaching a course in Educational Leadership.

This is Gigi Kelley's fifth year as Imperial Elementary School's principal. She continually looks forward to working with teachers, students, and the rest of the Imperial community. We are Eagles; Watch us SOAR!

Jordan *Elementary*

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



Eduardo Espinosa
Principal

Mr. Eddie Espinosa feels privileged to have served in the field of education for over 29 years in many different capacities. Mr. Espinosa has a passion for all aspects of education, particularly for motivating others to reach their full potential. Eddie is thrilled to have been appointed as the newest principal of Jordan Elementary. He has had an extensive career in Orange Unified, where he has served as a classroom teacher and resource teacher at the elementary and high school levels. Mr. Espinosa has also served as a counselor at middle and high school levels. Most recently, he was an administrator at the high school level for the

past four years. He has also taught high school in the Irvine Unified School District and was a resource teacher with Santa Ana Unified School District. In addition, Eddie has taught adult education while simultaneously teaching in Orange Unified.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Spanish Linguistics from California State University, Fullerton, as well as a Master's degree in Education-Counseling and a Master's degree in Education-Administration, both from Azusa Pacific University. Mr. Espinosa holds several teaching credentials including a Single Subject Teaching Credential in Spanish, a Standard Elementary Teaching Credential, a Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Counseling, a Specialist Instruction Credential in Bilingual Cross-cultural Education for Spanish, a Bilingual Certificate of Competence in Spanish, and an Administrative Services Credential.

On a personal level, Eddie recently celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary to his wonderful wife, Elsie who also teaches in Orange Unified. He is an accomplished musician who has been awarded a double platinum record as a songwriter, and loves playing the guitar. Eddie is very involved with service to the community.

La Veta *Elementary*

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



Lydia Roach
Principal

Mrs. Lydia Roach became the Principal of La Veta Elementary School in 2014. She has been an educator for 33 years and has worked in various elementary schools in the Orange Unified School District including Handy, Riverdale, Canyon Rim, Lampson, Running Springs, and now La Veta. Mrs. Roach was both a primary and upper grade teacher, a bilingual resource teacher, and a reading resource teacher before becoming an administrator. In addition, she was the assistant principal at both Running Springs and Lampson for four years before becoming a Principal. She was the Principal at Running Springs Elementary School for seven years before becoming the Principal at La Veta Elementary.

Mrs. Roach grew up in the city of Orange and is a product of the Orange

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

Mrs. Roach currently resides in the Anaheim Hills area with her husband Russ of 32 years. She has two children Kyle, age 27, and Lara, age 22. She enjoys spending time with her family and her two golden retrievers Brody and Bailey. Mrs. Roach is proud to be a "Viking" and looks forward to continue working with the wonderful students, staff, and families of the La Veta School community as they "S.A.I.L. Into 21st Century Learning".

Lampson *Elementary*

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



Heriberto Angel Jr.
Principal

Welcome to Lampson Elementary – home of the Mighty Lampson Leopards! Mr. Angel, the new principal of Lampson Elementary, comes to us with 13 years of experience in K-12 education. After earning his BA in Sociology and Global Studies from UC Santa Barbara and having the opportunity to study abroad in Spain and Mexico, Mr. Angel joined the world of education through Teach for America. In his first couple of years as an elementary teacher, Mr. Angel earned his MA in Elementary Education from Loyola Marymount University. Mr. Angel served in various educational capacities such as K/3rd-6th grade teacher, middle school dean of students, and middle and high school assistant principal.

Portola Middle School and Orange High School have been Mr. Angel's home for the past 6 years. His vision is to create endless opportunities for students by fostering a student-centered and collaborative culture. In addition, Mr. Angel believes in providing students with a safe and welcoming learning environment that provides them with quality-first instruction and the tools to be successful in the real world. Mr. Angel also believes that students make greater gains when parents are highly engaged in their child's education. Mr. Angel is extremely excited about the upcoming school year and the great things that will be happening at Lampson Elementary.

In his spare time, Mr. Angel enjoys spending time with his family, coaching his kids in basketball and soccer, traveling, and eating. He is a devoted Laker, Dodger, and 49er fan!

Linda Vista *Elementary*

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



Robert Johnson
Principal

Mr. Bob Johnson is excited to begin his second year as the principal of Linda Vista Elementary School. Mr. Johnson is a native Californian and was raised in Fullerton. He received a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and Music from Cal State Long Beach and earned a Master's degree in Educational Administration at Cal State Fullerton. Prior to joining the Orange Unified School District, Mr. Johnson worked as a teacher and an elementary school administrator in the Fullerton School District. He has lived in Orange since 1998.

Mr. Johnson is an active member of the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), a professional organization that represents school administrators throughout California. Mr. Johnson currently

serves as the Director of Professional Development on the ACSA Board of Directors for Region 17, which includes all school districts in Orange County.

One of the most rewarding aspects of his role as principal is collaborating with staff, parents, and community members to help children reach their full potential. Research has shown the strong correlation between creativity and student achievement, and Mr. Johnson is a strong advocate for arts education. He has sung in school and community choral groups throughout his life and enjoys attending live theater productions. While attending college, Mr. Johnson worked at Disneyland, and now enjoys regular visits to the Resort with friends and family as a guest. He also likes going on road trips and visiting new places.

Mr. Johnson is honored to be part of the OUSD team and is looking forward to another successful school year at Linda Vista Elementary School.

McPherson Magnet

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



Joe Erven
Principal

McPherson Magnet is excited to open our doors for the 2016-2017 school year. We all want to make this school year full of inquiry focused around STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) as we open our Project Lead the Way STEM Lab for our kinder through 8th grade students. This STEM theme will embed 21st -century learning and academic content (focusing on Next Generation Science Standards) standards that will focus on writing across the curriculum, citing evidence from non-fiction text and increasing math fluency. As always, McPherson Magnet will continue to push our technology focus

as we expand our 1:1 laptop program to all of our 4th grade classes (this is in addition to our BYOD 1:1 program for our 5th through 8th grade students). It is our goal to ensure that every student has the opportunity to fulfill the

McPherson motto: Knowledge, Inspiration, Discovery and Success.

As the principal of McPherson, Mr. Erven looks forward to working together with teachers, parents and students to create a positive and engaging learning environment for everyone. This will be his third year as principal of McPherson Magnet. Prior to his current position, Mr. Erven taught science for nine years and served as an assistant principal for five years all within the Orange Unified School District. All of these experiences have helped him gain insight into student learning and work with families to help them achieve their goals.

Mr. Erven received his degree in zoology from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and also has a master's degree in educational administration. When he isn't working at McPherson, Mr. Erven enjoys traveling and hiking, and with his family.

Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

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



Amy Hitt
Principal

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

Ms. Hitt's roots in this community run deep—she attended Orange Unified schools as a child and still lives in Orange. She has a junior daughter at Villa Park High School who is involved in water polo/swimming. Her son is a sophomore in the engineering and computer sciences programs at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. Coincidentally, Ms. Hitt's children both attended Nohl Canyon for their entire elementary careers, so she has first-hand experience with the teachers' and community's standard of excellence. She is looking forward to another great year with Nohl Canyon's Distinguished School community of staff, parents, and students.

Olive *Elementary*

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

Heather Darrow, *Principal*

Heather Darrow, principal of Olive Elementary School, is proud to join the educational team of Orange Unified. She has served as an Assistant Principal in Capistrano Unified School District. Prior to her administrative career, Mrs. Darrow was a teacher on special assignment and an elementary classroom teacher in the Rowland Unified School District. She has served on many site and district level committees, which has instilled in her a passion for helping every student succeed. As a teacher, Mrs. Darrow was the GATE Lead Teacher, an English Language Instructional Support Lead. Always looking for learning opportunities, Mrs. Darrow earned two Master's degrees, one in Educational Administration and one in Curriculum and Instruction, as well as an Administrative Services Credential from Concordia University, Irvine. Prior

to her graduate studies, she earned a Bachelor's degree and Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from California State University, Fullerton.

Mrs. Darrow grew up in Orange County and currently resides in Yorba Linda. She spent several years as an Orange resident and OUSD parent. Mrs. Darrow's positive experience as an OUSD parent and love for the community is what inspired her to the pursue an administrative position with the district.

When she is not at work, Mrs. Darrow enjoys spending time with her husband and three daughters. They often watch movies together, go on walks, and always eat dinner as a family. It is only with the support from her family that Mrs. Darrow has been able to fully appreciate the journey through her educational career.

Orange *High School*

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



Dennis McCuiston
Principal

Mr. Dennis McCuiston is beginning his second year as Principal of Orange High School and he is entering his 19th year as an educator and 22nd year with the Orange Unified School District. Mr. McCuiston started his career as a campus supervisor at Orange High School and later became a special educator at Portola Middle School where he gained tremendous experience as a teacher. He went on to work at Orange High School where he taught for 10 years, was the head baseball coach, athletic director and eventually serving as an assistant

principal. In 2011, he was appointed as the Coordinator of Alternative Education and ROP where he worked with Community Day School, ROP, Educational Options and Home School. In 2013 he was appointed as the Principal of Richland High School serving students from all OUSD High Schools. Mr. McCuiston studied Sociology and Criminal Justice at Chapman University and Education Administration at National University. Dennis is married to his wife Julia, has a daughter Avery who attends Chapman Hills Elementary and a son Luke. Dennis is a resident of Orange.

Palmyra *Elementary*

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



Brenna Godsey
Principal

Brenna Godsey is excited to begin her third year as the Principal of Palmyra Elementary School. Principal Godsey has had the pleasure of working with Orange Unified students for the last fifteen years. Prior to coming to Palmyra, she served as an Assistant Principal at Canyon High School for five years and a Science teacher for eight years. Mrs. Godsey received her Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Cell Biology from the University of California San Diego with a Minor in Law and Society. She attended California State University, Fullerton where

she earned her teaching and administrative credential along with a Master's degree in Educational Leadership. Mrs. Godsey lives in the Orange Unified community with her husband and three children, Jackson, 9, Declan, 5, and Quinn, 1. She enjoys skiing and going to the beach with her family.

Mrs. Godsey is committed to fostering positive relationships with the students, staff, parents, and community of Palmyra Elementary School. A positive school culture and climate is the key to the academic and social success of all of our students. Mrs. Godsey is honored to continue her tenure as the Principal of Palmyra and is looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Panorama *Elementary*

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



Jeremy Mortensen
Principal

Mr. Jeremy Mortensen has been involved in education for over 15 years, this being his fifth in the Orange Unified School District. He has lived and taught all over the world including Canada and later Australia where he also earned his Masters of Education degree at Griffith University and taught at Surfers Paradise State School. He later taught in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Fontana, California, where he earned the Teacher of the Year award in 2005. Mr. Mortensen taught grades three through seventh during his time in the classroom.

Mr. Mortensen believes in a 21st Century corporate-style learning environment where students not only learn the foundational skills needed to succeed, but also integrate real-world skills that will enable each

student to be college and career ready for tomorrow's Corporate America. A hands-on, technological, collaborative approach is at the forefront of his educational model. Students are given the opportunity to have fun while they learn through the guidance of their knowledgeable and caring teachers, who understand the demands of our "digital native" students of today.

2016-2017 will mark Mr. Mortensen's first year at Panorama Elementary School. He is very excited at the opportunity, given the fact that Panorama has always had an incredible reputation for academic success, parent involvement, and community ties. He feels it is an honor and privilege to be given the good fortune to be a part of such a positive culture and community.

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year!

Portola *Middle School*

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



Jill Katevas
Principal

Jill Katevas is the proud principal of Portola Middle School and someone with a long history as a public educator. Mrs. Katevas was born and raised in Long Beach, where she earned a bachelor's degree in literature from California State University, Long Beach, and later earned her teaching credential from Chapman University.

Since 1999, Mrs. Katevas has been a committed educator here in Orange Unified. She began her career at Canyon High School as an English teacher and then moved into administration as assistant principal overseeing curriculum and instruction at Orange High School in 2011. She came to Portola Middle School as principal 2014 and has proudly served its students ever since.

Education is a second career for Mrs. Katevas. She worked in business management for several years after graduating from college. During this time, she learned that success is defined by one's ability to make informed decisions,

work collaboratively with others, and persevere through challenges. Thus, she is committed to bringing these values into every classroom at Portola to best prepare all students for their futures. As part of this commitment, Portola is proud to offer new classes that focus on real-life applications, such as a Science Technology Engineering Art and Mathematics (STEAM) lab, fashion design, journalism and leadership. She is also delighted to offer field trips and relevant instruction that provide students hands-on learning opportunities and extra-curricular activities designed to enrich the academic and social education for all students.

Most importantly, Mrs. Katevas recognizes the vital role that a strong partnership between school and families plays in a child's success. Thus, she is committed to working with all Matador families and the broader Orange community to ensure that all students receive a well-rounded education that best supports their high school, college and career goals.

Prospect *Elementary*

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



Sally Hughson
Principal

Mrs. Sally Hughson is in her 2nd year as principal at Prospect Elementary School. Mrs. Hughson was the principal at Linda Vista Elementary School for 7 years; 2008-2015. She has been an educator for 25 years. She has worked at Cambridge, Handy, West Orange and Running Springs where she was the Assistant Principal. Mrs. Hughson taught lower and upper grades and was a reading resource teacher, ELD resource teacher and an Instructional Coach.

Mrs. Hughson grew up in the Orange area and attended

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

Mrs. Hughson lives in Santa Ana with her husband Steve of 36 years. Her son Grant works in Computer Animated Design (CAD), daughter Katie and husband Danny Quesada live in Monrovia with their daughter Gracie June. Mrs. Hughson enjoys trips to Catalina, relaxing in the desert, walking in Peter's Canyon and spending time with her family and friends.

Running Springs *Elementary*

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



Joseph Vidal
Principal

Joseph Vidal is in his second year as principal of Running Springs. Prior to his principalship, Mr. Vidal attended California State University, Long Beach where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology, an Educational Specialist credential, and a Master Degree in Special Education. He began working in the Irvine Unified School District as a resource specialist for students with learning disabilities, earned his second Master Degree in Education from UCLA, and was promoted into school administration.

Mr. Vidal and the faculty and staff of Running Springs have worked tirelessly to bring their vision of creating a safe, nurturing, challenging, and a rewarding school environment to life. With an emphasis on teamwork and always putting kids first, Mr. Vidal and the Running Springs team earned the 2016 California Gold Ribbon recognition for school improvement. With the 2016-2017 school year upon us, the team at Running Springs is enthusiastic to continue their momentum towards another successful year!

Richland *High School*

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



Dr. Elsie Briseño Simonovski
Principal

Richland High School is very proud to open the doors as we make our way into the 2016-2017 school year. RHS is excited to have all new and returning students at Richland High School, home of the Mighty Soaring Condors! Under the direction of Principal, Dr. Elsie Briseño Simonovski, the alternative educational setting offers a personalized program for students who have needs that cannot be met elsewhere.

Dr. Briseño Simonovski has been a part of the Orange Unified School District since 2010. Her work has spanned a variety of administrative capacities for the Educational Services Division, including Special Education, the Office of Accountability and Special Programs, and the Office of Curriculum and Instruction.

Earning her Ph.D. in Urban Leadership from Claremont Graduate University, Dr. Briseño Simonovski has served as a public school educator for over 18 years. Her educational experiences include elementary school teacher, literacy

coach, project director, middle school assistant principal, special education coordinator, and K-12 administrator.

Dr. Briseño Simonovski's primary areas of interest include high school special education, adolescent literacy, and language development for English Language Learners. She holds a Multiple Subjects Credential, a Specialized Reading Certificate from UCLA, and an Administrative Services Credential. She received a bachelor's degree in History with a minor in Teacher Education from UC San Diego, and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Argosy University. Serving in her second year as principal, she is very passionate about serving the students, parents and staff at RHS. With the arrival of new courses and programs this fall, students will be provided opportunities to build a variety of 21st century skills that will prepare students for college and career readiness. RHS looks forward to another year of celebrating uniqueness, rich diversity, and strong sense of community. Welcome Condors!

Santiago Charter *Middle School*

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



Ashley Pedroza
Co-Principal

Mrs. Pedroza is excited and honored to become the Co-Principal of Santiago Charter Middle School and join a community dedicated to the success of all Santanas. In her experience with Santiago over her time working in OUSD, it is obvious to Mrs. Pedroza the excellence that resonates the students and school and she is feeling fortunate to be a part of all of it.

Mrs. Pedroza started her career in education eight years ago as a Biology Teacher at El Modena High School and had a variety of leadership roles at the school site. In her five years of teaching at El Modena, she was named Teacher of the Year for the site and PTA Teacher of the Year. From the classroom, Mrs. Pedroza has served as OUSD's District Office Assessment Coordinator and then Principal of Serrano Elementary. During her time as an administrator, she was recognized for her work to support the district's transition to new assessments by being named OUSD Administrator of the Year and ACSA (Association of California School Administrators) Region 17 Technology Administration of the Year. Mrs. Pedroza is passionate about Educational Technology, STEM Education, early literacy and building those 21st Century Skills required for students to be active and inspired stakeholders in their education.

Mrs. Pedroza lives in Orange with her husband Robert and their 4 year-old daughter, Addisyn and 2 year-old son, Trent. Mrs. Pedroza is proud to be a "Santana" and looks forward to joining the Santiago Family.



Dr. James D'Agostino
Co-Principal

Dr. Jim D'Agostino is in his sixth year as the Principal at Santiago Charter Middle School. He takes pride in being visible to parents and students and demonstrates that by greeting everyone each morning as they enter the Santiago campus. His philosophy of making everyone feel welcomed and valued into the school, while continuing to strive toward academic excellence, is part of the leadership style that he brings to the school and the entire school community. His positive attitude and energy has helped to create a very welcoming and caring culture at Santiago which has resulted in increased enrollment and community involvement.

Dr. D'Agostino is a former history teacher and special education teacher. He has been an administrator for the past eleven years and believes that building and fostering healthy relationships is a critical component to success in life. Personalization is the one thing that he prides himself on bringing to his students and school community.

Prior to becoming an educational leader, Dr. D (as the students call him) owned a restaurant in Buffalo, NY and was involved in a family business as a licensed insurance agent. He loves working at Santiago, as it ties into both the business, and educational aspects, of his professional background.

Dr. D'Agostino credits his beautiful wife Valerie for all of her support in his personal life, and credits his staff and faculty for all of Santiago's success. Dr. D'Agostino is also very involved in the community serving on the Community Foundation of Orange Executive Board, The Santiago Canyon College Foundation Board, The National University Advisory Board, and The Pure Game Board of Directors.

Sycamore *Elementary*

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



Heather Bosworth
Principal

Ms. Bosworth is honored and excited to welcome back the outstanding staff, students, and families to Sycamore Elementary for the 2016-2017 school year! She looks forward to continuing to build collaborative partnerships with the Sycamore community to provide innovative learning experiences for all students!

Ms. Bosworth previously served Orange Unified School District successfully as Coordinator, 21st Century Teaching and Learning, in the Office of K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and GATE. Prior to joining OUSD, Ms. Bosworth was a classroom teacher, teacher leader, and professional developer in the Laguna

Beach Unified School District, and a classroom teacher in Capistrano Unified School District as well. Ms. Bosworth has significant experience and training

in the areas of professional development for teachers, instructional technology, and elementary curriculum and assessment. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Child and Adolescent Studies and Master's degree in Education and Reading from California State University, Fullerton, as well as a certificate in Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) from UC Irvine. Ms. Bosworth is a National Board Certified Teacher who holds professional educational credentials in Multiple Subject Teaching, Reading Instruction Specialist, and Administrative Services.

"Sycamore is passionate about children and enthusiastic about the possibilities for student success with 21st Century teaching and learning. We look forward to partnering with students, parents, and community members to inspire excellence within every scholar."

Serrano *Elementary*

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



Katherine Rizzo
Principal

Welcome to Serrano Elementary School, Home of the Eagles! Mrs. Rizzo considers it a privilege to be a part of a hardworking, knowledgeable and supportive school community and welcomes you to the 2016-17 school year!

This is Mrs. Rizzo's twenty-seventh year in the field of education having had experiences ranging from school secretary, teacher, coach, and assistant principal and principal. This is her sixteenth year as an elementary principal. She looks forward with enthusiasm to the new school year, providing the highest quality education for children. Her vision is to create limitless opportunities by fostering a collaborative culture whereby professionals learn in a community to empower students and truly believes that all students will be successful!

Mrs. Rizzo earned her undergraduate degree from La Sierra University, attended Chapman University where she earned her Master's Degree in

Curriculum and Instruction, and went on to earn her Administrative Credential from Cal-State San Bernardino. She also served as adjunct professor at Cal-Baptist University, School of Education and La Sierra University, School of Education. Most recently she joined Orange Unified School District and served as Principal at Olive Elementary for the past four years.

As an educator, Mrs. Rizzo makes every effort to ensure that each child is treated with respect and is in a safe school. She believes that it is important that families and staff members work collaboratively to help students succeed. She feels without a doubt, the most successful students have family members that communicate regularly with the school. Her personal mission is to ensure that students will be well equipped to impact, influence and contribute to a global society with the freedom to explore and develop their strengths. It is with great enthusiasm she joins the Serrano Elementary staff and community and is looking forward to a very successful year!

Taft *Elementary*

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



Connie Smith
Principal

Taft Elementary Principal, Connie Smith, celebrates 35 years in education. Her experience includes classroom teacher, mentor teacher, IBM education consultant, site administrator and district curriculum coordinator. She joined the Taft team in 2014 after serving as Principal at La Veta Elementary and prior to that, Palmyra Elementary.

Mrs. Smith earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Redlands and her master's degree in school administration from California State University, Fullerton. She taught in the Orange Unified School District, served as an Assistant Principal in the Capistrano Unified School District and Principal in Tustin Unified

School District. Her many professional associations and accomplishments have included former Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region 17 Elementary Administrator Representative, Adjunct Professor at Concordia University, member of the Tustin Public Schools Foundation Board of Directors and Orange Unified School District's 2010-2011 Administrator of the Year.

Connie was born and raised in Orange County. She has been married to Phillip Smith for 23 years and is proud of her two sons, Garrett, in the United States Marine Corps and Grant who attends the University of San Francisco.

Smith says, "I am really excited to continue serving at this amazing California Gold Ribbon and Title I High Academic Achieving School! We have an awesome staff, wonderful students and supportive families."

Villa Park *High School*

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



Dr. Ken Miller
Principal

It is great humility, honor and responsibility that I begin my first year as Principal at Villa Park High School on July 1, 2016. Villa Park is not only home of the Spartans...we are a School of Excellence! As the newest Spartan, I am also beginning my tenth year as a member of the Leadership Team in the Orange Unified School District.

I have served Orange Unified from 2007-2010 at El Modena High School as Assistant Principal, Curriculum/Instruction, ROP, Cheer and Athletics; Principal at Cerro Villa Middle School from 2010-2014 and most recently Administrative Director, Student and Community Services at the District Office. Before joining Orange

Unified, School District, I served in the Downey Unified School District as adult school teacher, social studies teacher, football coach and Vice Principal at the comprehensive high school level for over 13 years.

My wife Jennifer (a Canyon High School graduate) and I have two children: Katelyn, 20, graduated from Canyon High School and attends Chapman University and Kenny, 18, just graduated from (you guessed it!) Villa Park High School. Thankfully, I am now happy to report the Comanche-Spartan score at my house is now even and balanced at 2-2!

I am here to serve ALL students, parents, staff and our community. I look forward to working with you all in the upcoming years in continuing OUR School of Excellence that is Villa Park High School.

Villa Park *Elementary*

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



Raeanne Little
Principal

Raeanne Lopez Little is honored to begin her second year at Villa Park Elementary as they continue their tradition of high achievement, a caring environment, and community involvement. Under Mrs. Little's leadership, Villa Park Elementary was recognized as a Gold Ribbon School in 2016 for its results in teaching close reading of non-fiction texts in captivating real world contexts.

Mrs. Little has been an educator for over 25 years, holds a B.A. from UCLA, an M.A. from CSU Dominguez Hills, and an administrative credential from UCI. She and her husband are long time Orange Unified residents, and are grateful that their two children's education in Orange Unified prepared them for success in college and career.

Since 1997 she has served Orange Unified, receiving broad experience in the greater Orange community and gaining expertise in a variety of roles including teaching elementary grades in settings such as GATE and inclusion, and serving as a teacher trainer, and program coordinator. This breadth of experience is critical to her work as an administrator as she strives to support VPE teachers and parents in tapping all resources to ensure students success.

According to Mrs. Little, "Villa Park Elementary is already an outstanding school, yet we are continuously striving to improve. This year we are excited to increase our services to help students facing challenges at school, and to launch new programs such as AVID elementary at grade 6 and a schoolwide STEM initiative. We are looking forward to a spectacular 2016-2017 school year with our amazing staff, community, and students!"

West Orange *Elementary*

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



**Sandra
Preciado-Martin**
Principal

Mrs. Preciado began working at Jordan High School in Long Beach as an undergraduate while attending California State University, Fullerton. She worked at Jordan High School as the On Campus Alternative Suspension Monitor for a year and a half. Mrs. Preciado then moved to Milliken High School in Long Beach as a Parent Liaison. After she completed her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology with a minor in Spanish Literature, Mrs. Preciado began her tenure in Orange Unified as a Spanish teacher at Canyon High School. She taught every level of Spanish from the introductory level Spanish I to AP Spanish. During that time she also returned to California State University, Fullerton to complete her Master's Degree in School Administration. After Mrs.

Preciado's 12 year teaching tenure, she had the privilege of making El Modena High School her home for three years as the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction.

Mrs. Preciado then found a new home in 2015 as Principal of West Orange Elementary School. Mrs. Preciado is very excited to continue her service to the students and parents of the West Orange community. She is particularly looking forward to continuing her work at West Orange Elementary School with AVID implementation, targeted interventions, technology integration and quality first instruction.

Outside of school Mrs. Preciado enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, running, reading and eating food that she does not have to cook herself.

Yorba *Middle School*

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



Tracy Knibb
Principal

Going into her fourth year as the principal of Yorba Middle School, Tracy Knibb is proud to continue working with the amazing students, staff, and families Yorba has. Mrs. Knibb was the Assistant Principal at Yorba before taking the lead for the Toros. Prior to coming to the Orange Unified School District, she was an English teacher and Title I Coordinator for eight years in the Downey Unified School District.

The Yorba staff is coming back from summer rejuvenated and energized for another great school year! With a focus on student

achievement, the staff is steadfast in their commitment to provide students with interactive, engaging, and rigorous courses. With impressive and growing programs in technology, visual arts, drama, and music, Mrs. Knibb knows she is fortunate to be part of such a strong team!

Mrs. Knibb is married with two daughters: Jocelyn, 10, and Zoey, 11. She enjoys reading and strives to bring the passion of books to all students. She believes, as Frank Serafini does, "There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book." There is no excuse not to read at Yorba!

Contest!!



This chicken is somewhere in this publication.
When you find it, email the **page number** to:

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
Please put OUSD in the subject line.

Your entry must be received by October 15, 2016.
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Isabella's Book Review

Second Book of this Series



Isabella A.

Cinderella Cleaners: Prep Cool

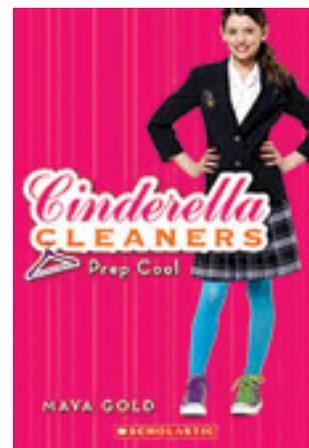
is written by Maya Gold and is the second book of the series. Diana helps her dad at the dry cleaners and she didn't like it, but now she's okay with it. When Will, a student, from their school, invites them to go to one of his concerts, Diana's best friend, Jess, gets her cell

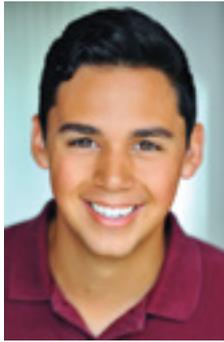
phone stolen! In order to get it back, Diana must sneak onto campus, but how?

A student from the school takes her uniform to be cleaned. Diana decides to sneak in wearing the uniform. But the trouble is sneaking into the thieves' dorm, stealing it back, and making it back out unnoticed. She meets new friends who are willing to help. Will Diana be able to steal the phone back and get out of campus without being caught? Or will she end up failing miserably?

I would rate this book three and a half stars because while it is rather fun and interesting, sometimes it can be dull and under descriptive. It also shows bad habits.

Isabella is a fifth grader who loves to write based on her experiences fictionalizing them into stories that relate to young readers. Isabella wants to be an author of realistic fiction when she grows up. She will rate the books 1 to 5 with 5 being the best.





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