**Covering the Placentia - Yorba Linda Unified School District** 

**VOLUME 4, ISSUE 12** 

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

**MAY-OCTOBER 2012** 

### **Remarkable Achievements**



**Dear Community,** 

When I joined this school district 12 years ago, I never imagined how fortunate I was to be part of such a special community. Your unwavering support of schools has made the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District one of the most highly-regarded school districts anywhere.

**Dr. Dennis Smith Superintendent** 

### The achievements have been truly remarkable and include the following:

- Academic Growth The PYLUSD's Academic Performance Index (API) has increased to 859, reflecting seven consecutive years of academic growth for our high-performing school district. (The state's API was introduced seven years ago.)
- Recognized Schools –In 2001, the PYLUSD had 12 California Distinguished and National Blue Ribbon Schools. Today, 28 schools have achieved this coveted distinction. Additionally, the PYLUSD is home to a three-time State Model Continuation High School, a California Exemplary Independent Study High School and several high schools named to Newsweek Magazine's "America's Top High Schools" list.
- National Merit Scholars PYLUSD's graduating seniors continue to receive National Merit Scholar honors, a recognition bestowed to only the top one percent of America's best and brightest students.
- Visual and Performing Arts Programs The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District is proud of its commitment to the arts, and despite the state budget crisis and economic downturn, we continue to offer a robust, comprehensive music program.
- Advanced Placement District The PYLUSD was one of only 388 school
  districts in the nation to be recognized for increasing the number of high
  school students taking advanced placement courses while continuing to
  increase the number of students passing.
  - **School Modernizations** Ten years ago, nearly 10,000 students were housed in portable buildings. Today, there are few remaining portable classrooms in the district. We are very proud of the many new and modernized class rooms, expanded parking lots, new libraries, modernized athletic facilities, renovated offices and four new schools.
- Technology The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District is one of the few districts of its size in the nation where interactive technology can be found in every district classroom to actively engage students in learning with 21st century technology.
- Academies Each of our four comprehensive high schools now offers exciting academic academies. These include the Digital Arts Academy at El Dorado, Medical Sciences at Esperanza, Technology and Building

SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 14

### **PYLUSD Names New Superintendent**

By Rosemary Gladden, Director of Community Relations/Public Information Officer

Longtime educator and community member Doug Domene has been named the next Superintendent in the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District.

Mr. Domene will succeed Dr. Dennis Smith, who is retiring at the end of the school year.

Mr. Domene began his teaching career at Whittier Christian School before joining the Esperanza High School staff in 1986. During his 19-year tenure at both Esperanza and El Dorado High Schools, Domene taught English, coached baseball, worked as Dean of Attendance, and served as an Assistant Principal and Summer School Principal. In 2007, Domene



Mr. Domene
PYLUSD Superintendent
effective July 1, 2012

was promoted to
Director of Executive
Services and played a
pivotal role supporting
the Superintendent's
Office. Since 2009,
Mr. Domene has
successfully managed
the fiscal and operational
aspects of the 26,000
student district as the
Assistant Superintendent
of Business Services.

The Board of Education began

working with a search firm in January to determine the qualifications it should consider for the district's next superintendent. After gathering input from stakeholder groups across the district and conducting interviews, the Board was confident Mr. Domene was the perfect match. Board

SEE New Superintendent • Page 14

### **Six More California Distinguished Schools**

By Rosemary Gladden,

Director of Community Relations/Public Information Officer

Congratulations to Brookhaven, Rose Drive, Sierra Vista, Van Buren, Wagner, and Woodsboro elementary schools which were selected as 2012 California Distinguished Schools!

This award identifies and honors those schools that have demonstrated educational excellence for all students and progress in narrowing the achievement gap.

The process for winning this coveted award is based on academic eligibility, an invitation to apply, an extensive application and a site visit by a team of educators to validate the full implementation of the submitted practices. The site visits are conducted as a collaborative effort between the California Department of Education and county superintendents of schools. Schools selected for recognition are honored as Distinguished Schools at award ceremonies where the State Superintendent of Public Instruction presents each school with a 2012 Distinguished School plaque and flag.

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District now has a total of 28 California Distinguished or National Blue Ribbon Schools, a three-time California Model Continuation High School and an Exemplary Independent Study Recognition Award.

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Covering the PLACENTIA - YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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COPY EDITORS: Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST: Neta Madison GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Laura Brune



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# Bernardo Yorba Middle School

5350 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • **714/986-7400** • www.byms.org



**Cameron Malotte** Principal

#### Career Day

The students and staff at Bernardo Yorba Middle School enjoyed their bi-annual Career Day in April. Organized by our school counselor, Sandy Pendleton, and her able assistant, Maureen Miller, the day consisted of seven sessions representing a wide variety of occupations. Careers represented included: bed bug detection dog and handler; firefighter and emergency medical technician; veterinary medicine; advertising; decorative horticulture; X-ray technician; finance; make-up artist; entrepreneurship; aerospace engineering; design engineering; physical therapy; nursing;

sales; banking; restaurant management; army reserves; and law enforcement.

One of the highlights of the day was the landing (and, later, the take off) of an Anaheim Police Department helicopter.

Our guests enjoyed delicious treats, which were donated by local restaurants, and music, which was provided by our vocal and instrumental music departments. The quality of the presenters was extremely high, and students were very enthusiastic with their praise of the presentations they experienced.

# Bryant Ranch Elementary 24695 Paseo de Toronto, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7120 • www.bryantranchschool.com



### **Professionally Performed!**

Performing Arts education is alive and well! Each year, the Bryant Ranch PTA sponsors a school play complete with auditions, practices and a musical performance. It's a wonderful experience for our students in third through fifth grades and emphasizes listening, speaking and reading skills through focus on the performing arts.

This year, over 80 children participated in our school play, **Debra Silverman** Cinderella. The producer, Ann Holub, is a retired Bryant Ranch teacher. As an actor, she knows how to direct the students, using

all of their talents. Linda Schnabl is the music director. Her skills as a voice and music teacher have the children singing beyond belief. The director, Wendy Caldwell, is a third-grade teacher here. She engages our students in their entrances and movement of the stage props, all designed and built by her father, Rod Schenken, and donated to our school.

Everyone comes away happy after each production. We are proud to offer our students a well-rounded and balanced education!



# El Camino Real High School

1351 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7060 • http://www.elcaino.pylusd.org/



Gordon Chamberlin Principal

### **Moving On Up...**

By Lisa Gerbacher, Science Teacher

OK, technically we're just moving down the street a little. But what a great move it's going to be!

That's because El Camino Real High School is once again preparing to move. This time we will be returning to our original location, but to an updated school. The campus has been reorganized to create more space for the students and to give it a more appealing look.

The improved campus will include a new office and entrance to the facility. There will be new landscaping and a garden area for

the life science classes. All of the classrooms will be equipped with the latest teaching technology, too, including ActivBoards.

Our ROP students will even have their own version of an Apple lab. The science rooms will have new storage facilities and more sinks and gas lines. Also, our art classes will have more room for the equipment that is needed in wood shop and ceramics. The classrooms will be organized by disciplines, thus allowing greater communication between staff members to help meet student needs.

Although our graduating seniors won't get to attend the new facility, several have stated that they plan on returning just to see it. But our returning students and faculty members are very eager to move into the permanent location. We as a staff are also looking forward to settling in and having a fresh start to the next year.





# l Dorad

1651 N. Valencia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • **714/986-7580** • www.edhs.org



**Cary Johnson** Principal

### High Expectations

All public high schools must be accredited on a regular basis by a regional accrediting agency. The Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC) is the agency in charge of accrediting schools in California and is one of six regional accrediting associations in the United States. The ACS WASC extends its services to over 4,500 public, independent, church-related, and proprietary pre-K-12 and adult schools, works with 16 associations in joint accreditation processes, and collaborates with other educational organizations.

This year was the end of the six-year accreditation cycle for El Dorado High School (EDHS), which has been conducting a school-wide selfstudy in preparation for the accreditation visit and beginning the next cycle. In late March, a visiting committee from the ACS WASC visited El Dorado for four days to validate the self-study report. One of the main components of the self-study is the development of the Expected School-wide Learning Results (ESLRs), which exemplify what EDHS believes each student should achieve upon graduation.

El Dorado High School will produce graduates who are: honorable; individuals of visible integrity who consistently set and achieve high expectations; academic achievers; well rounded; individuals who pursue excellence in a wide variety of academic and extracurricular activities; knowledge seeking; individuals who take an active role in their own learning and exhibit a genuine intellectual curiosity in all disciplines; service-oriented; and individuals who selflessly contribute to the betterment of their school and community.

Thank you to the parents and community for supporting our students in achieving these goals.

# 'airmont Elementary

5241 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7130 • www.fairmontelementary.com



**Shawn Knutson** Principal

### **Battle of the Books**

As we are quickly moving through our 40th year, exciting events occur at every turn. In February, Fairmont students participated in the Battle of the Books competition for grades 4-12, sponsored by the Yorba Linda Library. Schools throughout Orange County were invited to participate. Over 87 of the 570 students who competed were Fairmont students!

Our teams committed to read a list of 20 books that ranged from The Westing Game to Little House on the Prairie. Teams grouped by grade level were matched head-to-head in a single-

elimination competition and asked comprehension questions from any of the 20 books. Points were awarded for correct answers and for stating the authors'

All of our students did a great job! Our sixth-grade team of Katie Travassaros, Ben Guzman, Lindsay Ito, Kyle Moore and Evan Chase won the sixth-through-



eighth-grade division! Also, our fourth-grade team of Nick Jako, Kian Ramin, Harrison Lane and Madelyn Freund took third place in the fourththrough-sixth-grade division! It was an exciting day and one that our students will never forget! Way to go, Falcons!

# speranza High School

330 N. Kellogg Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • **714/986-7540** • www.esperanzahs.com

Principal

### **Closing out the Year**

The Aztecs are heading into the final stretch of the school year! Our PTSA has now selected its 2012–2013 board members. They are Luis Garcia, president; Sandee Van Oyen, first vice-president; open for second vice-president, fundraising; Heather Pawlak, third vice-president, service; Ariane AngLee, fourth vice-president, student leadership; Katy Edgerly, fifth vice-president, student activities; Bijal Patel, sixth vice-president, communications; open for recording secretary; Tiffany Lee, deputy recording secretary; Julie Nabali, treasurer; and Maria Kline, auditor.

Our Esperanza Entertainment Unit has been chosen to play at Carnegie Hall in New York City. We are also one of 15 finalists in the 17th annual Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition and Festival. The bands will compete and participate in workshops, jam sessions and more during a three-day competition and festival in New York City.

The three top-placing bands will perform with the Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center, Wynton Marsalis, as guest soloist. The Festival's finale is an awards ceremony that will honor outstanding soloists, sections and the top three bands.

The Esperanza and Yorba Linda High School athletic departments will be teaming up to provide spring physicals to all athletes for both the summer and incoming sports seasons. The physicals will take place on Wednesday, May 16 from 4-8 p.m. at Yorba Linda High School.

In closing out the year, we are now preparing for all of the many exciting senior activities that will soon be taking place. Esperanza's senior class will be graduating from Shapell Stadium at Yorba Linda High School on Tuesday, June 12 starting at 6 p.m. This should be a great commencement, and a nice farewell to the Class of 2012.

# Glenknoll Elementary

6361 Glenknoll Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7140 • www.glenknoll.org



**Doug Slonkosky** 

### **Our Ambitious Activities!**

Many activities and special projects continue to stretch our students' imaginations and thinking skills as we enter the third trimester of the year. In April, our students and staff showed off all their hard work at our annual Open House. In addition to their academic work and projects, they displayed artwork from our Meet the Masters series and our Hour of Art, led by Chapman College art students. We also thanked 11 families that have provided computers for our school.



Kindergarten students Dylan Armstrong and Isabelle Tumakay help plant the school garden.

As a part of our Garden Science program, students in grades one through three visited an interactive mobile museum, the Seed Survivor, where they learned what it takes for a seed to survive and thrive. They planted a sunflower seed to take home and grow. Finally, our Talent Show was held in May. Parents and community members are actively encouraged to join us in our many projects and activities!

# George Key School 710 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7170 • www.pylusd.org/schools/georgekey



**Deby Six** Principal

### **Learning Is Fun!**

For the third consecutive year, our local community and parents have outdone themselves in supporting George Key School's students and families for our annual Key Carnival. This event was planned by the Parent, Student, and Staff Organization (PSSO), with the total involvement of all teachers and staff members. A number of community members and students also helped to make the day a success. The Orange County Fire Authority donated their time. Eighth-grader Rachael Ehlen constructed and donated several new and exciting carnival games, including Pine Box

Derby, Plinko, Bean Bag Toss, and the Ring Toss. Several Golden Elementary School peer helpers also donated their time. As a result of so many thoughtful contributions of time, effort, products, and services, there was no cost for admission, food, and beverages!

Carnival day began with students and their families participating in a musicfilled, fun jog-a-thon. Attendees then moved on to enticing and stimulating game booths, yummy snacks, nutritious lunches, and thirst-quenching drinks.

These carnival activities were all an extension of the functionally-oriented, standards-based curriculum, implemented to address our students' needs and goals. In focusing on our student's abilities, teachers and staff have developed meaningful, creative ways to maximize the potential of our school district's most severely disabled students. The carnival was one example of addressing our students' unique physical, socio-emotional, medical, and functional educational needs. Thanks to the support of our parents and community, the carnival demonstrated an effective blending of fun and meaningful activities. We are most appreciative!

# dolden Elementary

740 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • **714/986-7160** • www.golden.pylusd.org



**Kathy Chakan** Principal

### A Great Ending

Spring has arrived and with it many special events. Our student leaders, Peer Assistance Leaders (PALs), just concluded a successful community-based drive for Pennies for Patients. It is amazing how the coins added up as our students donated nearly \$3,000 for the medical research looking for a cure for leukemia.

Open House and a book fair finished the month of April. Each year, the students eagerly share what they have learned with families who visit their classrooms during Open House. This year our PTA added to the festivities by inviting food trucks. Their addition made it an extra special evening.

May began with our sixth-graders competing in the Orange County Pentathlon. They studied hard, and we are proud of their participation in this exciting event. Of course, May also ushered in the California Standards Tests (CSTs). After all the hard work was done, it was time to celebrate. The Golden Carnival offers just such an opportunity and is scheduled for Friday, May 18. This hugely popular PTA-sponsored activity is enjoyed by all.

The final month of school is always one of mixed emotions, as students look forward to summer and sixth-graders excitedly await promotion and middle school but are sad to say goodbye to the people, students, and teachers who have made this year special. It has been a great year, and we are proud of all our Golden Eagles have accomplished!

1775 Glenview Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • **714/986-7150** • www.glenviewbulldogs.org



**Moises Plascencia** Principal

### **Helping Students Succeed**

I have the privilege of seeing what makes Glenview Elementary School a great school. Our sixth-graders have worked diligently to master the grade-level expectations and to prepare for middle school. Our students in kindergarten through fifth grade have also worked hard, not only to meet grade-level expectations but to exceed them. All of our students are demonstrating they are ready for the challenges that the new grade levels will bring.

Our students have become who they are because of their hard work and effort and the support and encouragement they receive

on a daily basis from their parents and teachers. I want to thank all the teachers, staff, parents, and extended family for the outstanding job they do each day in providing exemplary programs, services, and support to our students. Our PTA has also provided our students with educational experiences through academic assemblies and field trips. A big thanks to all of the parent volunteers who help our school and teachers, which ultimately allows our students achieve academic excellence. All of your hard work and dedication resulted in a successful year!

For more information about Glenview Elementary School and upcoming events, you can look us up on the Web at www.glenviewbulldogs.org.

645 N. Angelina Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1551 • www.kraemerms.org



**Keith Carmona** Principal

### A Full Awards Display!

Spring has been the season of high achievement for Kraemer Middle School's academic competition teams and performing groups. We are proud of the many groups that have garnered top honors.

The Kraemer Science Olympiad team was one of very few middle school teams to advance to the state competition, where they placed 15th in the state of California. The team mastered a range of science experiments ranging from CSI-type crime-busting to building mousetrap vehicles.

Also standing out this season is Kraemer's MATHCOUNTS team, which finished among the highest of any middle school in Orange County. The MATHCOUNTS Competition is a competitive mathematics program that promotes mathematics achievement through a series of fun and engaging bee-style contests.

Kraemer's MESA (Math Engineering Science Achievement) team brought home the gold medal in the Southern California championships, including firstplace individual awards in the Algebra, Geometry, and Speak-Up competitions.

Aside from excellent future scientists, Kraemer is home to spectacular dancers. Kraemer Color Guard and Dance Teams have also had successful spring seasons. The Color Guard team has earned many first-place finishes, and Kraemer's dance team has collected 17 first-place trophies and two division titles so far this year.

Kraemer musicians have shined as well. Kraemer is proud of its over 400 instrumental music students in the Kraemer Concert Band and Kraemer Orchestra. Both performing groups earned straight superior ratings at their recent adjudication events—the highest marks possible for these groups.

Great job, Kraemer performers and competitors!

### Have a fun summer!









Our next issue is November 8

# La Entrada High School

4175 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7026 www.laentrada.pylusd.org



Libby Moore Principal

### We're Moving!

This has been a wonderful school year! Our students have accomplished quite a lot! We believe that preparing our students to meet the new demands of the 21st century is a high priority, and so we've embraced technology. This year, students used their cell phones to sign up for text alerts for reminders of direct-instruction classes, testing schedules and other important items. Students taking our online courses did well, and those in direct-instruction classes enjoyed interactive technology using Promethean Smart Boards and wikis.

In our quest to continue meeting the needs of our students, we are excited to report that La Entrada High School is moving! When students return to school in September 2012, we will be located in the back of Esperanza High School's West Campus. Over the past few months, the staff and I have been meeting with district personnel and an architect to design our new campus! We will soon have a sketch of our new campus on display in the lobby. Families and community members are welcome to drop by to preview our new look and give input on how to build a new school culture in our new location.

As the school year ends, with graduation as our culminating activity on June 14, I want to thank parents and community members for supporting our school. I know there are many choices for alternative education, and I thank every family for choosing La Entrada for a personalized education. I look forward to seeing everyone next school year in our new location behind West Campus at Esperanza High.

# Linda Vista Elementary

5600 S. Ohio, Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • **714/986-7200** • www.lindavista.pylusd.org



Paula Kintsch

Principal

### **Memorable Accomplishments**

This school year has truly been a memorable one! The Linda Vista School Lions participated in events that enriched curriculum, contributed to local charities, developed a sense of community, enjoyed wonderful Family Fun Nights, and built on their educational foundation. None of this would have been possible if not for the continued dedication of our teachers, staff, parents, students, PTA, and countless volunteers.

Curriculum-enriching assemblies included reenactments of the American Revolution and California history, as well as music and

art appreciation. Students donated their time to help various charities, which developed a strong sense of school pride among the Linda Vista students and staff. Community spirit was also developed through participation in various PTA-sponsored Family Fun Nights, where families enjoyed dancing, food, and friendship.

All of our teachers and support staff have worked diligently to ensure our students receive a high-quality and rigorous education. Teachers meet regularly to analyze student progress and plan together how to meet the needs of all students.

We look forward to the adventures that await us in the 2012–2013 school year, and we are grateful for the continued partnership with our community to help support the needs of our Lions. Have a wonderful summer and enjoy your children!



Congratulations
Class of 2012



# Lakeview Elementary

17510 Lakeview Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • **714/986-7190** • www.pylusd.org/schools/lakeview/index.asp

### Thanks to You All!



Katherine Dailey
Principal

Thank you to the Lakeview families and staff! I would like to thank some terrific people who make each day at Lakeview really count.

Noon Supervisors: They have been dependable and dedicated to our students' safety and well-being, offering ice packs, opening thermos bottles, passing out forgotten lunches, and helping our students settle everyday conflicts on the playground. Thank you for what you do each day for our students!

**Custodians:** We all enjoy Lakeview's beautiful campus, maintained by our hardworking, cheerful custodians. In addition to

their daily route, they have filled many playground balls with air, retrieved lost and found items, and made our students feel special with their smiles and willingness to help our staff and students at any time. Mostly, they make sure we all enjoy a clean and safe environment every day.

**PTA:** From the very first PTA meeting, the amount of volunteer support is wonderful. Moms, dads, and grandparents, too contribute their many talents and resources, time and participation to help create a school we are all proud of.

Office Staff: Masters at multitasking, constant and steady, they care for ill children; direct deliveries; answer questions; keep records, calendars, schedules and attendance; and answer every phone call. Helpful and knowledgeable, they guide and direct us all. They are truly the heart of Lakeview.

**Teachers and Aides:** A school's strength can be largely attributed to the teaching force. We have hundreds of children who are ready and able to move forward, secure in their knowledge of the world around them, confident in facing new challenges and excited by the opportunities ahead of them. I thank all who teach!

# Mabel Paine Elementary

4444 Plumosa Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • **714/986-7210** • www.pylusd.org/schools/mabelpaine/index.asp



Tamie Beeuwsaert

Principal

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We look forward to the adventures that await us in the 2012–2013 school year, and we are grateful for the continued partnership with our community to help support the needs of our Lions. Have a wonderful summer and enjoy your children!

# Telrose Elementary

Melrose St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7220 • www.melrose.pylusd.org



Vivian Cuesta Principal

### **Super Smart Saturdays**

The students at Melrose enjoyed coming to school on Super Smart Saturdays, where they got an extra dose of English language development, reading and math!

Students attended these special Saturday sessions from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Those who were chosen to participate had received a special invitation earlier. Many students wanted to be a part of this experience, and so we had a waiting list. The invited students also received special incentives such as restaurant certificates, no-homework passes and even face painting!



**Face Painters with Spiderman** 

Our community liaison and artist, Gaby Fernandez, painted alligators, butterflies, flowers and Spiderman masks on the students' faces. In order to choose which students would receive the face painting, Gaby and her helpers walked into the classrooms and chose those who were paying attention and were actively engaged in learning.

Both the excitement and learning levels went through the roof! Everyone truly enjoyed and benefited from this extra day of instruction.

# Iorse Elementary

431 E. Morse Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • **714/524-6300** • www.morse.pylusd.org



**Kathie DiRocco** Principal

### A Brain-Powerful Year!

Morse students have had an enriching, challenging year! This year, they had many opportunities to enrich their academic and artistic knowledge through ongoing reading and math programs and many weekly after-school activities.

In reading and math, all students from kindergarten through sixth grade participate in two popular ongoing programs. In reading, students are using the Accelerated Reading program, which helps personalize reading practice to individual reading abilities. This program not only helps students improve their

reading comprehension skills but also helps build lifelong readers. In math, students are using Spatial Temporal Math through JiJi Math. This self-paced visual program teaches students how to problem-solve. Students are also able to access JiJi at home.

Several students are enrolled in weekly after-school chess classes. Thanks to the Morse PTA, students can now play chess at recess using 25-inch-tall chessboard pieces on the life-size chessboard that has been painted on the upper playground. Students are not only practicing the chess game strategies they are learning after school but are also developing logical thinking, memory and concentration skills. Students are also able to check out other board games provided by the Morse PTA, such as checkers, chess and dominoes, to play at the lunch tables during recess.

Students also were able to enroll in after-school art classes that ran for threemonth spans. These classes were so popular that students from neighboring schools took advantage of this opportunity to broaden their artistic abilities!

Students at Morse have had an enriching year and look forward to the new and exciting things to come next year.

# Parkview School Independent Study K-19.

2189 North Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7050 www.parkviewpylusd.org



**Libby Moore** Principal

### **Periaktoi Proiect**

Every school year starts with a vision of how the year will progress and grow. This year, Parkview School had a shared community vision to grow and expand its popular performing arts program. Parents, community members and students teamed together with Parkview performing arts coordinator Loree Begin to share their talents in singing, dancing, performance, costume design and set design. Parkview parent Dave Sims offered to help in any needed area and was soon put in charge of set design and construction.

After several months of research, Mr. Sims ventured to take on the Parkview Periaktoi Project. A *periaktos*—the singular form of *periaktoi*—is an ancient Greek device used for rapidly changing theater scenes. It is a revolving solidisosceles triangular prism made of wood. On each of its three faces, a piece of a different scene is displayed so that by placing many of them tip to tip, a complete scene is revealed. Revolving the periaktoi set simultaneously reveals two other complete scenes to the audience. This synchronization is achieved by coupling each periaktos by using gears at their bases.

After measuring the dimensions of the theater, Mr. Sims and team created a curved wall of periaktoi measuring 40 feet in length and over 12 feet in height, featuring a castle, a tavern and a village scene, to the wonder and delight of the community.

In April, Parkview's "cast of thousands" performed Beauty and the Beast to sold-out audiences. By changing only the scenes for each production, we can use this same set for many years. The Parkview community began the year with a vision of building its performing arts program and building community.

Mission accomplished.

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For more information contact Miriam Sims at msims@uclaextension.edu or (310) 825-0095.



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(714) 765-5219 www.anaheim.net/ youthprograms





Founder / Publisher

Congratulations to Superintendent Smith with his much deserved retirement plans. We look forward to working with Mr. Domene next school year as we continue to publish the excellence from the PYLUSD.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2012. For every graduate there are many people who helped he/she reach this milestone. Thank you to the parents, guardians, aunts, uncles, friends, relatives and teachers for your dedication to our youth. We all want future generations to be successful and are stakeholders in their future.

Summer is right around the corner. Students are concentrating on testing, graduation, college placement, advancement to the next grade and saying goodbye to friends. We hope this Camp/Activities section helps with your plans. Of course, don't forget to include the libraries and the many activities offered by

If you haven't already done so, please log onto our web site and take our survey and be entered into our random drawing for a chance to win \$100. www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Our next issue is November 8...that means you will have enjoyed your summer, back to school, Halloween and will be almost ready to enjoy Thanksgiving by the time you receive our next issue! Maybe I better not look that far ahead and just say have a fun filled summer.



### **Community Services** College for Kids **Program**

(June 18 through August 16, 2012)

If you're looking for a way to help enrich your child's summer, Santiago Canyon College has the solution.

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Registration begins April 16, 2012 For more information, visit our website at www.sccollege.edu/cs

or call (714) 628-4960

Santiago Canyon College Community Services Program 8045 E. Chapman Ave. • Orange 92869





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### **FOR MORE INFO CALL (714) 777-9622**

YORBA LINDA-PLACENTIA FAMILY YMCA 18333 Lemon Drive, Yorba Linda, CA 92886 | ymca**oc**.org

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U9 thru U14

Looking for Players

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· Asst. Club Director Sal Lopez (Men's Asst. Soccer Coach, Chapman University) Technical Director Luis Balboa (Former International Professional Player)

We provide a very experienced and professional staff Goal Keeper Coach, Bob Amman (Men's Soccer Coach, Cal State Fullerton)
 Girls Coach, Lindsey Huie-Morinaga (Former U of Portland player & National Player)
 Girls Coach, Dale Ervine (Former Professional Player)

· Boys Coach, Ivan Polic (Former Professional Player)

We are a strong competitive club that continues to grow and thrive and develop solid players on and off the soccer field. We measure success by the number of our players in collegiate level soccer and their success in all aspects of life.

www.canyonpsa.com



# Dinosaurs Word Search Contest

NEW Rules!!!

One word in the list is NOT in the word search. When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that is the word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put PYLUSD in the subject line) Contest is for ALL ages...parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles...come on you can do it!

### Entries must be received by June 15, 2012

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Slater's 50/50 6362 E. Santa Ana Canyon Rd., Anaheim Hills, 92807.

Allosaurus Anatosaurus Ankylosaurus Apatosaurus Brachiosaurus Coelophysis Diplodocus Iguanodon

Parasaurolophus

Segisaurus

Spinosaurus

Stegosaurus

Torosaurus

**Triceratops** 

Tyrannosaurus

Ultrasaurus

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# Rio Vista Elementary

310 N. Rio Vista St., Anaheim, CA 92806 • **714/630-7680** • http://www.riovistaschool.org



**Jackie Howland** Principal

### What's in Your Piggy Bank?

Rio Vista Elementary took this question to heart as they began the "Coins for a Cure" challenge on Monday, March 5.

Each classroom was given a 64-ounce plastic jug to fill with change. The generosity was amazing! Students brought in baggies full of change, emptied piggy banks, and even turned their pockets inside out. Several classes, including Mrs. Bernhardt's, Mrs. Jackson's and Ms. Awad's, filled their jugs with donations within three days.

Coins for a Cure is a fund-raising program that was initiated by a local pizzeria in conjunction with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Through it our students are introduced to facts about this fatal genetic disease and the research that is underway to find a cure. Students are asked to donate what change they can, and to tell others about supporting the Foundation's much-needed research.

Our winning class will earn a pizza party for their efforts. If the school is able to earn \$1,000 or more, the pizzeria will match up to another \$1,000 for the Foundation, and then give \$1,000 back to the school to support educational programs.

It is clear that Rio Vista students are not motivated so much by the possibility of a pizza party, or the money that they will earn, but are acting out of the compas-



sion which fills their hearts. It is such a positive to see their desire to help.

So perhaps the more important question is, "What's in your heart?" And Rio Vista answers that one loud and clear: love.

# Rose Drive Elementary

4700 Rose Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7250 • www.rosedrive.pylusd.org



**Liana Neuland** Principal

### Wild about Learning!

What an amazing spring we've had! After being nominated in October for California Distinguished Schools, a team of teachers worked diligently on the application, which was sent out in November. Our application was accepted, and the state sent a team to visit our site in February. Rose Drive was notified by the state in late March that we had indeed been named as one of 42 OC elementary schools to receive the award!

This program honors schools that have demonstrated educational excellence for all students and progress in narrowing the

achievement gap. I am so proud of our staff and their dedication and commitment to provide the best education possible for all students. We know we couldn't have achieved this without the strong support from our PTA and our Rose Drive families.

Staff Sgt. Shane Ely returned from Afghanistan, and we helped plan a surprise homecoming here for his daughter, Shelby. What a moving moment that was for us all! Our Open House was also held in March. Our students were proud to show their families their work, all beautifully displayed in their classrooms. Finally, paraprofessional Linda Tadlock was named PYLUSD's Classified Employee of the Year in a surprise ceremony by Supt. Dennis Smith. What a month for Rose Drive!

Our PTA continues to be busy sponsoring many activities such as our Father-Daughter Art Night in April, our first Dance-a-Thon in May and our Talent Show in June. We look forward to a great end of our school year as our students continue to be "Wild about Learning."

# Ruby Drive Elementary

601 Ruby Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • **714/996-1921** • www.rubydrive.pylusd.org

Monica Barrera Principal

### A Sense of Personal Responsibility

Ruby Drive had a successful open house event, with over 80 percent attendance.

A large part of the credit goes to our parent participation. We have worked all year to ensure the proficiency of our students on the California State Standards. While this is measured by standardized assessments and classroom performance, at the same time we also want to foster an enriching and safe environment of respect.

Ruby Drive encourages an environment where stakeholders work as a professional learning community. Each member partici-

pates in a culture of collaboration and shared leadership that focuses on increasing student achievement. Teachers create lessons that are engaging, standards-based, correlated to the curriculum, goal-oriented, and that prepare students for the 21st century global economy.

Our culture also includes a strong sense of personal and social responsibility. Teachers utilize the most effective research-based methods to meet the needs of a diverse group of learners from a variety of cultures.

As we prepare for the CSTs, we also remember the importance of providing good enrichment programs. As part of our after-school program we now have approximately 20 students participating in a Ballet Folklorico dance class. It is taught by professional Ballet Folklorico teacher Paulina Ramirez. Ballet Folklorico is composed of ballet steps and musical pieces that reflect the various regions and folk-music genres of Mexico.

The students will be performing two choreographed routines at our Family Game Night on May 25, at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a fun-filled evening of great entertainment.

# Sierra Vista Elementary

1811 N. Placentia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • **714/986-7270** • www.pylusd.org/schools/sierravista/index.asp



**Cynthia Rex** Principal

### **Recess Enrichment**

Sierra Vista School students use recess time to serve others and enrich their minds! Three new student clubs have sprouted this spring. The Character Club, focusing on good character traits, promotes the importance of community—our school community, the community we live in, and the global community. They welcome new students, promote family activities on campus, and sponsor Lunch on the Lawn during Earth Week. These students communicate, collaborate, and use their creative, critical thinking skills to make Sierra Vista a great place to be.

Our Techo Eagles publish student work on our school Web site by establishing a link with our school Webmaster. They participate in engaging, advanced computer programs which promote technology throughout the school and serve as knowledgeable trouble-shooters in their classrooms. Both of these clubs are advised by Mrs. Ladd, our wonderful computer instructor.

The Sierra Vista Book Club, offered by Mrs. Schall, our librarian, attracted so many interested students that there are now three groups! These groups meet regularly to choose, read, reflect on, and discuss age-appropriate books. They promote literacy, learn and share the functions of a book club, discover new genres, and plan activities around the themes of the books.

Our Ecolutions Club members, with the help of parent volunteer Mrs. Hofstetter, kicked off our school-wide recycling program during Earth Week. She was awarded a grant from Orange County Department of Education, which has provided an assembly speaker and collection bins for every classroom.

Our students also continue to participate in student council and the Big Buddy/Little Buddy Program. Leaders training leaders nurture a positive outlook for the future.

# DDAZ Elementary

3232 Topaz Ln., Fullerton, CA 92831 • **714/993-9977 •** www.topaz.pylusd.org



**Rafael Plascencia** Principal

### **How Time Flies!**

By Virginia Welch, Teacher

Time flies when you're having fun and learning! It seems as if just yesterday a new group of students was filing into their classrooms for the first time—a group of little sponges waiting to absorb all that was given to them.

Now those brains are filled with knowledge that was all ready to be tested. Students, teachers, parents and other supporters put in countless hours to ensure that everyone was ready in May, and their hard work thus far has been handsomely rewarded.

Mr. Plascencia hosted an ice cream celebration to honor the achievement made by students over the previous trimester. Students were treated to heaping mounds of ice cream covered by their favorite toppings.



Also. Topaz has been on the move, with the sixthgraders going to the Getty; fourth and fifth to the Water Festival, second to the Disney Concert, and third to a major arena for science lessons with the Ducks.

# NES Elementary

tanford Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-5550 • www.tynes.pylusd.org



Cristina McCall Principal

### Another Successful Year

Tynes School's Open House was a tremendous success! Families, friends, and community members visited classrooms, where students proudly displayed their work. Outstanding student writing samples and science and social science projects were impressively displayed in classrooms and throughout the halls. The dedicated teachers are known for taking great pride in assuring their students' work is displayed and shared with their families.

Our focus then turned to diligent preparation for Standardized Testing And Reporting (STAR) testing. Last year, our Academic

Performance Index (API) score increased by 32 points! With the implementation of Cognitively Guided Instruction in all classrooms and the new Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) focus for Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) students, we're confident that test scores will soar once again. I am always so impressed at how our students rise to the challenge of mastering the content standards and meeting individual goals!

The coming weeks will bring fun activities provided by PTA! Our school carnival and Concert Under the Stars, along with numerous field trips, are but a few of the activities to come. Our entire school community appreciates the endless hours PTA donates so students can enjoy fun-filled learning activities. On behalf of the students and staff, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for all you do!

As this year comes to a close, our dedicated staff looks to the future to continue to grow and expand our abilities to provide the highest quality education for our students! If you are interested in scheduling a school tour, please call the office.

# Travis Ranch School

5200 Via de la Escuela, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7460 • www.travisranchschool.org

Larry Mauzey

### **Your Ongoing Support is Invaluable**

Spring is here, and while the year feels like it is beginning to wind down, our academic focus at Travis Ranch is not.

For the second- to eighth-grade students, May means STAR testing. As many of you observed during our well-attended K-8 open house, we have been working hard to prepare children for these exams. They take tests in different content areas, depending upon their grade, and their scores help guide our instruction, student placement and school-wide goals.

Principal Math has been an area of focus this year, and we are proud that, thanks in part to our generous PTA, we purchased a site license to the MIND Institute's ST Math. Now our students will all have access to an amazing program that helps them understand and solve multi-step problems through visual math "games."

Elementary schoolers can use ST Math weekly and have access to a homework component. All middle schoolers may use the homework, which is also available online during the summer. Ask your child's math teacher for more information about this program.

Another priority has been raising money for a second computer lab. Proceeds from a number of PTA fund-raisers will help establish the lab, which we hope to have completed by fall. Having two labs will benefit everyone, as it will provide more computer availability on campus.

Our partnership with parents and the community is priceless. It has made this school year one in which many goals were achieved. We thank you for your ongoing support.

# Tiffree Middle School

2151 N. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7480 • www.tuffree.org



Rosie Baldwin-Shirey Principal

**BRAVO!** 

On April 29, Disneyland closed one of the most famous stages in America—Carnation Plaza Gardens. Disneyland honored Tuffree School by inviting our Jazz 1 Band to be the last band to perform on the stage in this venue's long and cherished history. Famous performers including Count Basie, Woody Herman, Harry James, and Buddy Rich have graced this stage. Thousands of student performing groups, college bands, and top American military bands have shared this privilege. Hundreds watched as music director Jim Hahn and our Jazz I students brought honor, musicianship, and significance to all who have graced the Carnation stage.

Tuffree's physical education teachers passionately teach lessons that reinforce the direct link between nutritional intake and academic performance. This



Megan Ybarra, Michael Nguyen, Luke Helmbold and Miranda Valdez enjoy personalized salads ordered on-line in Tuffree's Healthy Lunch pilot program.

spring they initiated an innovative Healthy Lunch program, a districtsupported pilot program. Students and teachers order individualized salads via on-line software. Selecting the specific proteins and vegetables they love appeals to students, and they are learning tools for a healthier lifestyle!

# Valadez Middle School Academy

161 E. La Jolla St., Placentia, CA 92870 • **714/986-7440** • www.pylusd.org/schools/valadez/index.asp



Minerva **Gandara-Boggs** Principal

### Career Day

In March, Valadez students had their eyes opened to a world of career opportunities. Over 30 members of the community—law enforcement, the medical fields, journalism, dancers, hairstylists, computer animators and the Placentia city council—spoke to students about their experiences in their chosen professions.

Each SOAR homeroom class prepared for this event by researching a career and presenting what

they learned in a door-decorating contest. Valadez student leaders from ASB, PRIDE Connection, GEAR N UP. BRIDGES and AVID hosted the speakers as well as AVID students from Kraemer and Yorba Linda Middle Schools. Students received further inspiration hearing Dr. Victor Rios share his story of making it to Harvard despite the many challenges he faced in childhood. Valadez Eagles continue to "Soar to Success"!



Work can be fun!



**Future Firefighter?** 

# Wagner Elementary 717 E. Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7180 • www.pylusd.org/schools/wagner/index.asp



**Patrick Brown** 

### **Congratulations!**

Wagner Elementary School has been named a California Distinguished School. A special ceremony recognizing its California Distinguished status, and an unveiling of the official plaque, will be announced in the near future.

A special thank-you goes to application writers Judy Lighthipe, Christa Marmolejo and Sue Farano, along with our previous principal, Katherine Dailey; and our board of education members, district maintenance department, students, teachers, staff members, parents and the PTA. These groups and individuals helped prepare

our school for the visitation. They also gave their ongoing support and effort to make our school known to everyone now as Wagner Elementary: the California Distinguished School!

Kindergarten registration packets are now available in the school office. Please communicate to neighbors and community members about this availability, and the importance of registering their children for kindergarten as soon as possible.

# Valencia High School

500 N. Bradford, Placentia, CA 92870 • **714/996-4970** • www.vhstigers.org

Jim Bell

Principal

### **Dominating Academic Competitions**

This has been another banner year for Valencia High School's academic competition teams. Valencia captured first place in Orange County in both Academic Decathlon and Chemistry Olympiad and was the only high school in Orange County that advanced teams to state competition in both Academic Decathlon and Science Olympiad.

This was the second time in four years that Valencia has captured first place in Orange County in Academic Decathlon and is also the fourth consecutive year they have qualified for state competition.

At county competition, Valencia amassed an amazing 81 individual medals and a record seven Tigers placed in the competition. Three of Valencia's students, Rachel Leiken, Christina Cui, and Laila Atalla, had the top three scores in the county. Valencia participated in state competition in Sacramento in March, where they finished 13th, scored a school record of 44,325 points, and garnered eight individual medals, including a gold medal in Super Quiz and the highest score in the state earned by Christina Cui.

On March 2, Valencia's Science Olympiad team finished sixth in Orange County, just one point behind the fifth-place team. For their effort, they qualified for an at-large berth to the state competition. In county competition, Tigers Harrison Hsueh, Sarah Bor, and Huy Anh Le captured gold medals.

On March 28, it was announced that Valencia's Chemistry Olympiad team, consisting of seniors Katherine Pierce and Megan Lee, junior Christina Cui, and sophomore Brandon Kao, finished first in Orange County for the second consecutive year, defeating both University and Troy High Schools. Kao finished in a three-way tie for first, and Lee finished fourth.

### an Buren Elementary

1245 N. Van Buren St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7100 • www.vanburenelementary.org



**Ken Valburg** Principal

### **There Goes Jupiter, Here Comes Saturn!**

10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1...Blast off! In March, 576 students "launched into space" for the start of the annual Van Buren 10week reading incentive program. This year's theme, "Rocket into Reading" promotes the joy of reading during a virtual trip through the solar system. Kindergarten through sixth-grade students read books and either complete a short book report—a choice for kindergartners and first-graders—or take an online Reading Counts test to earn points for their grade level. Each grade level has weekly benchmark totals to reach that correspond with a

location in outer space: Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, the Kuiper Belt, Pluto, Heumea, the Milky Way and then back to Earth at the journey's end.

Each grade level that reaches its goal will participate in a culminating event on May 25. So far, the fifth-grade class is leading the way, but sixth grade is starting to close the gap! Rocket into Reading, Roadrunners!



Van Buren students Rocket Into Reading!

# Woodsboro Elementary

7575 Woodsboro Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • **714/986-7040** • www.woodsboro.pylusd.org



Shirley Fargo Principal

### **Recognized as Distinguished!**

Woodsboro has been recognized as a California Distinguished School (CDS) for the first time! The California Department of Education invites schools that reached or exceeded the goals for their numerically significant subgroups on the California Standards Test. Woodsboro has four numerically significant subgroups: Asian, White, Hispanic and Socioeconomically Disadvantaged. Each one of these subgroups exceeded the goal established by the State.

The CDS application process required that two signature practices that have been implemented for at least two years be



described in detail. The two practices described are Step Up to Writing and Response to Intervention, our reading intervention program. These two practices have shown impressive effectiveness at our school and throughout the district. Woodsboro's staff, parents, students and community have done an outstanding job of working together to become a California Distinguished School.

# Yorba Linda Middle School

4777 Casa Loma Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7080 • www.ylms.org



James Hardin Principal

### **Positive Behavioral Philosophy**

Positivity is a more constructive teacher than negativity. Positive messages elevate, encourage, and foster growth. –Dr. Marvin Marshall, Discipline without Stress, Punishments, or Rewards

It is the goal of the Yorba Linda Middle School staff to provide a safe, pleasant, and nurturing environment in which the young people of our community can learn and grow academically, personally and socially. In order to accomplish this goal, our school continues to implement a School-Wide Positive Behavioral Support system. This system is research based and builds some

fundamental components.

The first is an agreed-upon and common approach to discipline throughout the staff. Our staff members are excited about the continued growth of positive behavior on our campus. We have aligned ourselves with common expectations, classroom policies, and procedures. Students hearing essentially the same expectations throughout the day will find positive behavior easier to achieve and maintain.

The staff has also implemented a positive statement of purpose. We work together to enforce and maintain the agreed-upon approaches of the Positive Behavioral Support system to ensure consistency throughout our school.

Procedures for teaching these expectations to students have also been put into place. During the first weeks of school, students received Show Your Bobcat Pride – Put Your Best Paw Forward bracelets and student resource guides from their first-period teachers. The students work through various lessons to learn skills for academic and behavioral success.

Procedures for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the discipline system on a regular basis help us to monitor student progress. We continue to keep track of the number of office referrals and consult with our teachers to ensure the effectiveness of our interventions.

# Yorba Linda High School

19900 Bastanchury, Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • **714/986-7500** • www.ylhs.org



**Dave Flynn** *Principal* 

### Congratulations, Class of 2012!

The Yorba Linda High School (YLHS) staff and students are preparing for our very first graduation and ceremony, which will be held on June 11 at 6 p.m. at Shapell Stadium. The Class of 2012 will also be honored for all their hard work and academic achievements at the first Senior Awards Night on May 21 at the Yorba Linda Community Center.

These exciting events were preceded by the Academic Mustang Achievement Awards, sponsored by the YLHS PTSA, which were held on April 30. Our PTSA recognized 206 students for their academic excellence and grade-point averages of 4.0 and higher.

More than 65 seniors qualified to receive the special Mustang Scholar Award, which includes high academic achievement, commitment to community service, and participation in a three-year co-curricular activity.

This has been a very exciting year planning all the programs and activities to honor our 400 graduating seniors. Our first graduating class has done an outstanding job of establishing the tradition of high academic standards, award-winning performing and visual arts programs, and competitive athletic programs with Empire League titles and CIF competitions.

Congratulations, Class of 2012!

#### Superintendent From Page 1

Industries at Valencia and the rigorous International Baccalaureate magnet program at Valencia. Yorba Linda High School will offer a Culinary Arts and Hospitality Academy beginning in 2013.

• Nationally-Recognized Staff – The National Health Educator of the Year, National Activities Director of the Year Finalist, National Technology Director of the Year, California Speech and Debate Teacher of the Year, and California Special Education Teacher of the Year are a few of numerous accolades staff has received for their professional expertise.

This is indeed a great time to be part of the PYLUSD, and I am confident that the district will continue to excel for years to come. As Superintendent, I want to share my heartfelt appreciation for your unfailing support in helping to make the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District a place of distinction for our students and families—we could not have reached these heights without you!

New Superintendent Names • From Page 1

President Karin Freeman noted, "Our district has a long history of high caliber superintendents. We are fortunate that a person who has already begun to build his legacy in our community has been selected as the successor to Dr. Smith. Mr. Domene is a man of great integrity, a strong educational leader, and has a passion and a vision to lead our district as we continue moving forward."

For 26 years, Domene has called PYLUSD home. "It's a dream come true to be working alongside such a deeply committed school board, amazing teachers and support staff, a highly-involved parent community, and partners in law enforcement and city government." Domene added, "I am humbled and honored to be selected as the new superintendent."

Mr. Domene will assume the position of superintendent on July 1st.

### **Placentia-Yorba Linda Celebrates Employees of the Year**

Congratulations! Teacher and classified honorees now advance to the Orange County competition.

By Rosemary Gladden,

Director of Community Relations/Public Information Officer

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District proudly congratulates this year's Employees of the Year. Honorees are selected by colleagues across the district and they are shining examples of the dedicated and talented professionals in Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified Schools. Congratulations!

### **Teachers of the Year**



Jacquie Nolan, Mabel Paine Elementary Resource Teacher -Jacquie is the school's resources specialist intervention teacher and works with students who need assistance in reading and math. If a student, parent or teacher walks into her classroom she greets them with a warm smile every time. She also makes the school fun with many positive motivational opportunities such as the school's Spirit Days, student council, school-wide charity efforts and even a bistro-like area that serves hot chocolate or cookies as a positive reward for students. Very nice!



Amy Blank, Kraemer Middle School Art Teacher - Amy goes above and beyond constantly seeking ways to make Kraemer a special place including seeking grants, organizing an annual Kraemer School Art Show to showcase student work, and serving as the Yearbook Advisor. Students flock to her Afterschool Art Studio where they can express their creativity through art. Outstanding!



Fred Jenkins, Valencia High School International Baccalaureate Coordinator/ Advanced Placement Micro and Macro Economics Teacher – Fred teaches Advanced Placement micro- and macro-economics, is one of the founding architects of one of Orange County's top-rated IB programs, and led Valencia High School to two county Academic Decathlon championships! This Valencia High School alumnus and Harvard-graduated lawyer chose to leave that professional to become a teacher. Wow!

### **Classified Employees of the Year**



Linda Marro, Educational Services Secretary - Among many duties, Linda handles all of the textbook ordering for elementary schools, reimbursements for teachers and instructional minutes so that the school district does not get financially penalized. Way to go!



Zan Hrubeniuk, Health Clerk at **Linda Vista Elementary** – Zan is the school's health clerk and takes care of children's needs when they come into the health office needing wound care, ice packs, temperature checks, medication administration, and more. She also promptly notifies parents and lets them know in a calm way about their children's needs. Every student who walks in to the health office is greeted with a warm "How can I help you?" Nice!



Linda Tadlock, Instructional Aide at Rose Drive – Linda is an outstanding, caring individual who works with special education students. She even spends her own time with students at recess and during lunch to ensure that students are enjoying their school day. Linda has also used vacation days to go to conferences to further growth as a professional—and sometimes even pays for her own training. She is one dedicated professional!

### **Managers of the Year**



Trisha Brady, Special Education **Administrator** - Trisha is always stretching herself to find the best services for special education students, help teachers and can often be found working late to make sure that all needs are met. She also creatively brought Occupational Therapists into the district, saving the district thousands in money while also make services more available to students. Bravo!



Connie Freeman, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent -Connie is always willing to help anyone, manages an extremely busy office, assists the community with calm and professionalism and coordinates all of the materials for Board of Education meetings. Fellow employees often seek out her exceptional expertise and her work is always flawless! Kudos!

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