

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Torrance Unified School District

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 9

www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com

APRIL / MAY 2016

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. George Mannon

Student Safety

For eight hours a day, five days a week, parents entrust us with the well-being of their children. I would like parents to know that we take that responsibility very seriously, and I would

like them to be confident that their children are safe when at school. We recognize that the world around us keeps changing, and, as it does, we must continue to improve existing safety infrastructures.

In my years as the Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) superintendent, I have had numerous candid conversations with parents about school safety and how we can better work together, as a community, to ensure our students' learning environments are safe and secure. Those conversations resulted in the passing of Measures T and U. Our administrators, teachers, and classified staff have always made school safety a priority. Our goal with the new bonds is to further protect our school sites.

Our ongoing emergency preparedness efforts include a collaborative partnership with the Torrance Police Department (TPD). TPD has led emergency preparedness trainings with our administrators and staff, including specific active shooter and intruder on campus scenarios. School site faculty, staff, and students participate in drills throughout the year in these protocols so that everyone is kept well-informed about current safety procedures and how to respond to any major emergency. Additionally, our principals review and update their school site emergency plans annually, with input and assessment from the TPD.

See SUPERINTENDENT • Page 18

By Julie Wood, Teacher
Career Technical Education

In today's technology-rich environment, terms such as, hacking, backdoor security, cyberspace, and online viruses all carry negative connotations. However, when you are talking to a CyberPatriot student, these terms make their eyes light up. You will see excitement in their demeanor and recognize a readiness to face new challenges.

Cyber education programs are becoming increasingly popular, as the need for professionals in the industry of cyber defense grows. The CyberPatriots program, a partnership between the U.S. Air Force and a global security firm, is intended to excite the next generation of students to pursue educational opportunities and career paths in cyber defense. The competition places teams of high school students in positions of information technology professionals and task them with managing the network of an imaginary small company. In the rounds of

The CyberPatriots



South High CyberPatriot teams compete in cyber defense challenges to learn what it take to keep a network safe from hackers and viruses.

competition, teams are given a set of virtual images representing operating systems. They are challenged to finding cyber-security vulnerabilities within the images and strengthen the system, while maintaining critical services (www.uscyberpatriot.org).

The idea to participate in CyberPatriots was presented by Chloe Busch, a South High School sophomore. After researching the program, I discovered it would provide our students with an arena to learn more about networks,

See THE CYBERPATRIOTS • Page 18

BOARD OF EDUCATION

By Martha Deutsch, President

My colleagues on the Board, as well as our district administration, strive to create an environment where consensus is achieved through collaborative efforts and effective communication. Both collaboration and communication are contributing factors to why Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) is so successful.

In my years as a volunteer, I have experienced firsthand the positive impact of collaboration. There are numerous avenues for parents and stakeholders to get involved with their local schools. First, and foremost, I encourage parents to join their local Parent Teacher Associations (PTA). PTAs have a direct impact on school sites, finding ways to provide everything from essential classroom tools to important programs such as Sacramento Safari.

Another opportunity for involvement within your school community is School Site Council (SSC). SSC is comprised of school stakeholders who work alongside the principal to determine how resources at the school should be allocated.

See BOARD OF EDUCATION • Page 18



Martha Deutsch
President



Terry Ragins
Vice-President



Don Lee
Clerk



Mark Steffen
Member



Michael Wermers
Member

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)



Gary Feldman, M.D.
Medical Director,
Stramski
Children's
Developmental
Center

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is one of the most common childhood brain disorders in the U.S. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 11 percent of children 4 to 17 years of age have been diagnosed with ADHD as of 2011.

A child with ADHD might have trouble focusing on tasks or subjects because the part of their brain that controls attention is underactive and less mature compared to a child without ADHD. Common symptoms of ADHD include difficulty staying focused, difficulty controlling behavior and hyperactivity.

A child with ADHD might exhibit the following behaviors more often:

- Daydreaming • Squirming or fidgeting
- Forgetting or losing things frequently
- Having trouble taking turns • Talking too much



There's no way to tell if a child has ADHD from blood tests or other medical investigations. Doctors diagnose ADHD based on history, interviews and special evaluations — such as rating scales, computer-based assessments and learning tests.

If your child has ADHD, you can help by providing a more structured and predictable environment. For example, teach them to use checklists to help keep them on track.

Your child may be eligible for school-based support. In order to make sure that your child is receiving the proper attention at school, be sure to discuss their needs with their teacher or counselor.

If you have concerns about ADHD, you can take your child to a specialist such as a child psychiatrist, child psychologist or developmental pediatrician.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



There have been many changes in education throughout the years including school safety. I remember when my children were in school one of the safety issues being discussed was whether to remove the rings that the students absolutely loved on the playground (today they are no longer part of the equipment.) However, now the issues are much more serious including shooting and intruders on campus. On the front page Superintendent Dr. Mannon addresses the District's procedures.

This issue is full of info...grab a comfy chair and enjoy! Our next issue is May 25.

FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

ADVERTISING SALES:
562/493-3193 • Fax: 562/430-8063

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim DeLacy

COPY EDITORS:
Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST:
Netragrednik by Neta Madison

@SchoolNewsRC

SchoolNewsRollCall

SchoolNewsRollCall

SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC
P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com
Copyright © 2006, School News Roll Call, LLC
Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest columnists are their views and not necessarily those of *School News Roll Call*. This publication is privately owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content. The school district does not endorse the advertisers in this publication.



Our specialists are the leaders
in children's health care.

Andres was a premature baby with developmental delays and started to show warning signs of autism. Concerned, his mom took him to the Stramski Children's Developmental Center at Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach. The Stramski Center experts specialize in the diagnosis, treatment and management of autism – and conduct research to best identify and treat all disorders on the autism spectrum. Today, Andres is continuing to improve and now spends his days focused on catching bubbles. *From tip-top head to itty bitty toes, Miller Children's is the leader in getting kids better.*

Follow the leader to Miller Children's.
MillerChildrens.org/Stramski 800-MEMORIAL

Our specialty:
**Autism Spectrum
Disorders**

Andres' specialty:
Bubble Catcher



Andres, 2-years-old,
Miller Children's
Autism Patient

Torrance Council of PTAs

www.torrancecouncilofptas.org

Big Doings!

By Michelle Van Lerberghe, President

In February, the 35th Annual College Fair hosted by TCPTA, the high school PTSAs and TUSD was held at North High. Over 700 students and parents attended and were able to visit with over 90 representatives from colleges, trade schools and the military. We also offered 18 informative workshops to help students and parents understand what is involved in preparing for college.

Elementary schools are busy hosting bike rodeos at their schools. Our students will participate in a variety of bike-skill events and a written safety test. The winners from each school will participate in the TCPTA districtwide bike rodeo on April 16.

In March, our director of advocacy and legislation, seven students and a chaperone will attend the 33rd District PTA's Sacramento Safari. This is an educational conference where they will be learning about how our state government works, and learning about advocacy and putting it into practice while meeting with legislators.

PTA is proud to be a powerful advocate for education and child-welfare issues. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health and welfare of children and youth.

See full ad on back cover



SCHOLARSHARE

CALIFORNIA'S 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN

scholarshare.com | 800.544.5248

Torrance Education Foundation

P.O. Box 1397, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/972-6418 • www.torranceeducationfoundation.org

Award-Winning Projects

By Susan Swinburne, Executive Director

Torrance Education Foundation applauds its STEM Scholars, recipients of STEM-Initiative Grants, who are making waves and scoring points in their activities and competitions. Programs at the elementary, middle- and high-school level engage students and families in fun and, at the higher grade levels, rigorous projects in science, math, engineering and technology.



Bert Lynn Middle School First LEGO League Robot sports a 2nd place ribbon.

TEF STEM Grants focus on five programs: Family STEM Nights, Science Olympiad, After-School Engineering Club, Robotics and Math Counts. This year, a new pilot coding program called Cyber-Patriots was added thanks to a partnership with the Air Force Association. Hundreds of students participating in TUSD STEM clubs, and teams are scoring wins and advancing in competitions throughout California, with lots of help from teachers and parent coaches.

Torrance Education Foundation is proud to congratulate all 31 recipients of STEM Initiative Grants in this academic year, along with their student teams.

Keep up the good work!

FREE Summer Classes at El Camino College!

Free college classes available to eligible high school juniors and seniors!*

Earn college credits while still in high school!

Two summer sessions to choose from:

Eight-week session begins
Monday, June 20

Six-week session begins
Tuesday, July 12

Eligible high school juniors and seniors must apply online and submit a Concurrent Enrollment Application. For more information visit www.elcamino.edu/free.



EL CAMINO COLLEGE



*Enrollment fees are waived for California residents.

Apply online today at www.elcamino.edu/free

Adams *Elementary*

2121 238th St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4480 • adams.tusd.org



Dr. Kumi Toyoda-Smart
Principal

Dept. of Education Validation Visit

Members of California's Gold Ribbon committee visited Adams in March for a site validation, with the hope of our being acknowledged as a Gold Ribbon School. The faculty and staff worked diligently to cultivate the signature practices in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program.

Our STEM program was instituted in response to research and international test data indicating that U.S. students were underperforming compared to other countries in the areas of science and mathematics. STEM permeates all facets of our daily lives, and to be competitive in the global economy, U.S. schools can serve as catalysts for change in providing foundational skills through STEM to better prepare students for the workforce.

The STEM model implemented at Adams is rooted in helping students make sense of science and math, according to state standards. It focuses on the student and teacher co-constructing knowledge from problem solving and inquiry. Through these challenging interactive experiences, students think about the material presented while the teacher prompts and questions, thus bringing about a deeper level of understanding. The goal of this type of STEM instruction is to provide students as well as teachers with rigorous and meaningful experiences for college and career readiness.

John Adams has gradually built our STEM Program, focusing on instructional practices that meet the needs of the students. The faculty and staff, driven by their desire to support the academic success of all students, moved beyond the basic skills of recall and memorization to the more difficult tasks of application and understanding. Through parent-education meetings with administration and staff, parents have been informed about these new instructional practices.

I congratulate the accomplishments that our community has made in our STEM program, and I'm thrilled that the State of California is considering our hard work and achievement for this high honor.

Anza *Elementary*

21400 Ellinwood Dr., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4559 • anzaelementary.org



Barbara Marks
Principal

You Know What You Know!

Dr. Seuss is still alive and well at Anza! His legacy lives on in the pages of his books and the smiles that his stories continue to bring to children and adults of all ages.

Anza students were recently treated to some special guest readers at their school, which included Torrance Mayor Pat Furey and School Board President Martha Deutsch. It was a day filled with whimsical rhymes, imaginative stories, and incredible illustrations.

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And you are the one who'll decide where to go." Dr. Seuss!



Arlington *Elementary*

17800 Van Ness Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4519 • arlingtonpta.com



Dr. Vicki Hath
Principal

Expect Respect Month

March is Expect Respect Month at Arlington Elementary School. This is a proactive effort to empower our community's youngest citizens to stand up to bullying. It is essential to help students understand what constitutes bullying and to teach them strategies for standing up to it. This program was developed to educate students about how to be respectful toward their peers and how to model positive behavior. Our antibullying mascot, Chirp the Bird, is the voice against poor behavior and will be a prominent part of the campaign to promote positive behavior.

Throughout March, we will spend time educating students about how they can be the force against bullying and promote a safe and healthy environment. Arlington will conduct surveys in an effort to better understand the needs of the students and how to support positive behavior.



Arnold *Elementary*

4100 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4524 • arnold.tusd.org



Justine Lang
Principal

STEM Activities

Spring is in full bloom at Arnold Elementary School, thanks to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) grants awarded by an international oil company to seven of our teachers! They have all received their items and are implementing engaging lessons that have students utilizing 21st-century skills.

Kindergarten and fourth grade are excited about their new electronic tablets. Each kindergarten classroom now has seven tablets that students can use during reading and math rotations. In fourth grade, Mrs. Hankey's class has a two-to-one ratio for electronic tablets, which are used for various partner activities, from research to video creation. In first grade, Mrs. Sasso's class is experiencing coding by



using small robots that students can program themselves! Mrs. Mastan's and Mrs. Gill's second-graders are creating adventures with plastic construction blocks made just for math. They just completed their first module and designed running tracks with various limitations.

Spring is here, and our students are blooming with STEM activities around every corner.

Calle Mayor *Middle School*

4800 Calle Mayor, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4548 • callemayor.tusd.org



Dave Mosley
Principal

A Plan for the Future

Our Calle Mayor students are learning how to write code and make apps!

Where is this all taking place, you might ask? In a PTSA-sponsored after-school club called Computer Programming, instructed by our own Dr. Franklin!

The students who are in this club are using an MIT program called Scratch. This program gives children an opportunity to create games, stories, and animations that can be posted on the official Scratch website at scratch.mit.edu. In the future, we are

looking to add some of the really great student-created projects to our own Calle Mayor website.

Our school is extremely excited to be implementing a new feature called "Naviance." What's that? Naviance is an online software platform that identifies and aligns student strengths and interests with post-secondary goals to help them get ready for college and careers. It assists students in creating a plan for the future by helping them discover their own individual strengths and learning styles.

It then uses these results to help choose a career, or pick and apply to the type of college that can best meet their specific educational needs and goals. Additionally, this program will also assist in building a timeline for important dates or deadlines, keeping track of awards won, and noting individual participation in clubs and other important activities. It can also use this data to draft a college application resume.

The Naviance program will be rolled out in the spring. Once our students are entered, the program will then follow them throughout their entire educational path at Torrance Unified.

Carr *Elementary*

3404 W. 168th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4467 • carr.tusd.org



Dick Peterson
Principal

The Conflict Manager Program

Teachers Andrea Carberry, Jeanne Coe, Nancy Jackson, and Lauri Talbott recently taught 40 Carr students to become conflict managers during two days of special training in February.

The Conflict Manager program is a very valuable asset to Carr. These skilled students help resolve minor conflicts that arise on the playground. If the conflict is more serious and difficult to resolve, the students are taken to the adults on duty for resolution. Most of the playground conflicts are able to be resolved without adult involvement because of the skill of these student conflict managers.

Children in the fourth and fifth grades are chosen to be conflict managers with the approval of their teachers, and by a vote of their peers. It is a position that is quite prestigious on the Carr campus. It is an honor to be chosen.

This year's conflict managers have been well trained, and according to the teachers, they have also shown great potential, and a desire to do a good job. This year's conflict managers are fourth-graders Wahez Ali, Owen Babb, Kimiko Evans, Iliana Fontanet, Matteo Gerny, George Goicochea, Aubrianna Grant, Thomas Harris, Yasmine Itani, Darin Nghe, Dylan Nguyen, Efrain Ramirez, Jasmin Ruiz, Vivian Tatevosyan, Angelina Dankert, and Pa'I Tui.

The fifth-graders are Eric Castillo, Joseph Cohea, Bryan Dao, Tiana Fernando, Jayda Green, Amber Hasan, Ethan Hernandez, Sarah Hernandez, Sandith Hewage, Yasmin Iqbal, Mariam Khalil, Mia Ortega, Kahli Porazzo, Astrid Ramirez, Richard Saantos, Danielle Sierra, Marielle Soriano, Nick Taylor, Chloe Therieau, Stephen Treutlein, Jacob Watson, Elijah Williams, Sorina Yang, and Alyssa Zepeda.

Need to See a Doctor?

The Torrance Memorial Physician Network offers same day appointments for patients needing a primary care physician.

Call now and schedule an appointment: 310-891-6717



Dr. Keith Chumley
Primary Care

3701 Skypark Avenue
Suite 100
Torrance



Dr. Sunil Hebbar
Primary Care

705 Pier Avenue
Hermosa Beach



Dr. Mary Beth Miller
Primary Care

3333 Skypark Drive
Suite 100
Torrance



Dr. Carmen Morales
Primary Care

824 E. Carson Street
Suite 203
Carson

Appointments scheduled: M-F 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

For more details visit TMPhysicianNetwork.org/sameday

TORRANCE • CARSON • REDONDO BEACH • HERMOSA BEACH • MANHATTAN BEACH

Casimir *Middle School*

17220 Casimir Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4498 • casimir.tusd.org



Susie Holmes
Principal

Caught Ya Reading!

Everyone in education agrees that reading is fundamental to student success. At Casimir, we have a tutorial period four days a week. During that time, students who are not getting additional help or participating in an extension activity spent 29 minutes reading. Many students truly enjoy this time to dive into their favorite book.

For other students, reading is a less-preferred option. The Casimir English teachers created a reward program called “Caught Ya Reading” to create a positive reward for reading during this time. All staff members have “Caught Ya Reading” slips that they give to students who are reading. Students then enter into a daily drawing for prizes and a monthly drawing for a gift card to a bookstore to buy their next reading adventure.



Edison *Elementary*

3800 W. 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4513 • edison.tusd.org



Dr. Erin Lahr
Principal

Works of Heart

Art at Edison is truly “a work of heart,” to state the theme of the evening! PTA Parent Mrs. Gasparro, with the help of Mrs. Diekmann, recently hosted our Family Art Night in which our community came out in a big way! It was so great to see girls, boys, moms, dads, grandparents and staff alike enjoy creating masterpieces.

Pictured here, mom and daughter are both using pastel chalk to make flower drawings. Families also experienced coloring with markers, shibori banners, vinyl painting and notan-inspired art. We were very fortunate to have North High School students from the California Scholarship Federation service group help set up, facilitate, and clean up the various stations.



Art doesn't stop there. It is alive and well throughout the year, from our fine-arts curriculum and classroom crafting to parent-docent-led Adventures in Art projects. We are thankful to have such talent and interest in the arts at Edison.

Fern *Elementary*

1314 Fern Ave., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4506 • fern.tusd.org



Debbie Mabry
Principal

CARE Crew Leads the Way!

At Fern Elementary School, students are encouraged to take an active role in their school community. This year, more than 20 fifth-grade CARE Crew members have dedicated their time before and after school and during lunch recess to serve the school and the community.

Multiple opportunities are provided for the CARE Crew to develop leadership skills. These students are dedicated and eager to tackle any task or school need. Throughout the year, they have picked up trash, set up and supported events, recycled cans and bottles, and organized donations. Most recently, Fern students created Valentine's Day cards for veterans, and the CARE Crew managed the drive.

Under the guidance, of fifth-grade teacher leader Laurie Hegge, the new program has been extremely successful. As we strive to promote a positive school climate and to provide opportunities for service learning, the CARE Crew helps us to achieve our goals.



Hickory *Elementary*

2800 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4672 • w1.hickory.tusd.org



Edna Schumacher
Principal

New Security Measures

As part of the school safety measures approved by Torrance voters in Measures T and U, Torrance Unified and Hickory Elementary will be piloting a new visitor tracking system called “The Raptor Visitor Management System.”

Part of keeping our students and faculty safe is to know who is on campus at all times. The Raptor Visitor System will allow us to do just this. It will allow us to better track visitors, contractors, and volunteers in our schools to provide us with a safe environment for our students and staff. We will be piloting this system for the district beginning the first week in March.

Upon entering Hickory’s front office, all visitors will be asked to present a valid state-issued ID, which will be scanned into the system. The Raptor system will check to ensure that undesirable individuals are not entering our campus. It will also issue alerts regarding any individuals with restraining orders or custody restrictions. It is important to note that the Raptor system only scans the visitor’s name, date of birth, and photo for comparison with a national database. Additional visitor data from the driver’s license is not gathered, nor is the system connected to any other system such as the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Therefore, any other information on the ID is not scanned by the system and is not accessible to any of the users. Once entry is approved, Raptor will issue a badge that identifies the visitor, the date, and the purpose of his or her visit.

The safety of our students is our highest priority, and the Raptor Visitor Management System provides a consistent way to accomplish this. At the end of the trial period, Hickory will present a report to the district for further consideration.

J.H. Hull *Middle School*

2080 W. 231st St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4516 • hull.tusd.org



Patty Girgis
Principal

Principal for a Day!

J.H. Hull Middle School had a new principal for a day in January! Evan Sheardown, an eighth-grader, was the winner of the Fall Fundraiser grand prize. He sold over \$750 for Hull Middle School during the PTSA Fall Fundraiser.

Mr. Sheardown spent the morning enjoying breakfast in his office and welcoming students into school. He then ran the school’s Student of the Month Assembly and spent time visiting classes before lunch. The students of Hull enjoyed their new Principal for a Day and hopefully were motivated to help in activities like this for our PTSA members, who help every day on our campus.

Thank you so much to our wonderful PTSA and to Mr. Sheardown for their continual effort to help J.H. Hull Middle School be its best!



Hull’s Principal for a Day, Mr. Evan Sheardown, with faculty members Mrs. Colclasure, Ms. Evans, Mrs. Leader, Mrs. Wareham, and Principal, Mrs. Girgis.

Jefferson *Middle School*

21717 Talisman St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4794 • jefferson.tusd.org



Kara Heinrich
Principal

Full STEAM Ahead

Students innately contemplate and navigate the world around them, trying to make sense of it. They are natural scientists, engineers, and problem-solvers, so why not build on these inherent curiosities? We recognize that, to be successful in technical fields, students must also be creative and use critical thinking. These skills are best developed through exposure to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) with inclusion of the Arts (STEAM). STEAM initiatives encourage, educate, and prepare today’s students to investigate

and pursue careers in the 21st century. This type of learning is crucial to enhancing the Common Core State Standards, where project-based learning and critical-thinking skills are implemented across the curriculum.

Jefferson Middle School (JMS) is moving “full STEAM ahead” in building students’ competencies, thanks to community, PTSA, and bond measure support. Recently JMS was fortunate to be visited by Astronaut Sunita Williams, who presented information about her career and space experiences. Bonds are bringing three new science lab modules to JMS, in addition to revamping an old shop room into a STEAM lab for the coming school year. Innovative JMS teaching staff members are offering Family Math Nights and creating STEAM electives, including rock ‘n’ roll history, digital research, technology and coding, and engineering. Grants from our Torrance Education Foundation support our competitive robotics team, and local grants will add a three-dimensional printer to our school next school year.

STEAM offerings engage students in science and technology and build teamwork skills while developing innovation through comprehensive aptitudes, including collaboration, self-confidence, and leadership. Jefferson is molding the problem solvers, critical thinkers, innovators, and inventors of the future, who are creative, technically literate, and engaging full STEAM ahead in their education.

LAUNCH *Preschool Programs*

4100 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/972-6500x2550 • launch.tusd.org



Dr. Elaine Semple
Principal

Our Community Helpers

LAUNCH Preschool has monthly curricular themes. We tie new vocabulary, activities, and pre-academics to the theme. We recently we celebrated community helpers, and would like to take this opportunity give a shout-out to a few of them.

Our school resource officer, Nicole Conner, visits our campus, provides professional development, and even arranges for police vehicles to come to school. Steve Carroll, AKA “The Snowman,” volunteers every year for our LAUNCH Winter Fling (although his child no longer attends). Steve arrives before the snow blowers in the early morning. He directs the snow layout, and then spends

the entire day raking the snow and ice so that it is fresh and safe. It is back-breaking labor, and he never complains.

Lastly, we need to thank the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at the corner for allowing our staff and parents to use their parking lot on our special days. Parking is a challenge at LAUNCH /Arnold normally, but when we have parents on campus or emergency vehicles then it is truly impossible. The Church opens the lot for us in the morning and keeps it open until our last teacher leaves.

Thank you to our Community Helpers!



Lincoln *Elementary*

2418 W. 166th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4464 • lincoln.tusd.org



Katherine Castleberry
Principal

Well-Earned Celebration

Lincoln Elementary is proud to recognize and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of its parents and community members. In February, a celebration was held in honor of a select group of parents who exemplify the spirit of volunteerism by going above and beyond to ensure that our Lincoln students are afforded rich and meaningful opportunities both in and out of the classroom. A great time was had by all as honorees and attendees were thoroughly entertained by Lincoln's amazing third-through-fifth-grade chorus. Thoughtful and amusing presentations followed that truly celebrated the evening's honorees.

Lincoln is extremely lucky to serve a wonderfully supportive community, and taking this time to honor those who have made significant contributions to our school is just one small way to show our appreciation. Thanks, as always, to everyone for working tirelessly to make Lincoln a great place for children!



Madrona *Middle School*

21364 Madrona Ave., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4562 • madrona.tusd.org



Chris Lipsey
Principal

Go, Cats!

Madrona's Science Olympiad Team makes State. This is great news!

Our Science Olympiad team placed seventh out of 40 schools overall at Occidental College, and earned a spot at the Southern California State competition to be held at Caltech. This is our best finish yet, and the first time Madrona has advanced past regionals. We are all super excited.

A special congratulations goes to Coach Rocha. She has been especially dedicated, and the long hours preparing our team are paying off and creating excitement among our students, faculty, and the community.

Madrona received medals in 9 of the 23 events, which is another school record. Events and medalists include: Anatomy and Physiology, sixth place to Joseph Bravo and Kaitlin Lim; Bio-Process Lab, fourth place to Julie Galang and Kaitlin Lim; Bottle Rocket, sixth place to David Sir and Silas John; Bridge Building, third place to Shelby Koyama; Dynamic Planet, fifth place to Ephrem Gerald and Joann Shin; Food Science, first place to Ephrem Gerald and Joseph Bravo; Reach for the Stars, first place to Kaitlin Lim and Miki Ignacio; Wind Power, fifth place to Austin Bunuan and David Sir; and Write It/Do It, fifth place to Brandon Bunuan and Maximus Lee.

Our ability to have this competitive team as an on-campus elective is just one example of Madrona's commitment to STEM activities, and to fostering the pursuit and passion in our students for their college and future careers.

We anxiously await their accomplishments at State.

Lynn *Middle School*

5038 Halison St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4495 • bertlynn.tusd.org



LeRoy Jackson Jr.
Principal

'Mini-Reef Ecosystems'

Bert Lynn Middle School is pleased to introduce a new after-school GATE module titled "Mini-Reef Ecosystems." Students meet once a week in small research teams to replicate environmental conditions similar to those found in coral reefs.

Teams study the effects of lighting, water quality and nutrition on the saltwater organisms in their care. Weekly experiments introduce basic aqueous chemistry associated with marine systems and the distribution of elements in seawater necessary to sustain a healthy aquatic biome. Additionally, our students discover the differences between a tropical-reef biome and the kelp-forest biome found off our coastal waters.

As our program progresses, we hope to include live coral and anemone propagation, and establish live food cultures.



Students testing water chemistry

Magruder *Middle School*

4100 W. 185th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4527 • magruder.tusd.org



Chris Sheck
Principal

Part 2: Learning Goes On!

As mentioned in our last article, visitors to Magruder Middle School on any day between 3 and 4 p.m. will see classrooms and computer labs filled with students setting aside extra time to achieve grade-level proficiency in ELA and math. But that isn't all. Numerous other extended-day learning opportunities provide rich academic balance and enriching, challenging options for our students, 40 percent of whom boast a grade point average between 3.5 and 4.0.

Daily after school, our campus is abuzz with multiple STEM, environmental and performing arts. Students can be seen in clubs and classes mentored by professional engineers in preparation for MathCounts and Math Olympiad competitions; creating and building science projects, including forensic science, air trajectory, and anatomy and physiology for Science Olympiad competition; programming and building snap-block robots for Robotics competitions; and building circuits and program coding in our Tech Club.

We're also excited about the recent launch of our Engineering Everywhere Club. Here, students use their environmental-engineering skills to redesign a city and control storm-water runoff. In the following unit, students will incorporate biomechanical engineering skills to create and design a safety helmet for use and testing on a crash-test dummy. And we have four STEM competition teams: MathCounts, Science Olympiad, Math Olympiad and Robotics.

Beyond STEM, we offer Model United Nations (MUN), California Junior Scholastic Federation (CJSF), Career and College, Drama and Gardening clubs. This year, our Drama Club performs West Side Story to the usual packed-house. Finally, to ensure that our students are aware of local and global dangers to our environment and to educate them to incorporate strategies to combat these dangers, our Garden Guru Club travels weekly to Columbia Park to plant, water and cultivate the plot designated solely for use by Magruder Mustangs.

Yes, there's a lot of learning happening after 3 p.m. and beyond!

North *High School*

3620 W. 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4412 • northhighschool.org



Dr. Ron Richardson
Principal

Space Oddities!

Astronaut Sunita Williams spent 322 days in space and holds the world record for total spacewalk time by a female astronaut. In March, she shared fascinating stories with more than 100 top chemistry and engineering students at North High School.

Words from Albert Einstein set the tone for this inspiring presentation: "Imagination is everything. It is the preview of life's coming attraction. Imagination is more important than knowledge."

Captain Williams encouraged the Saxons to expand their vision of themselves. She evoked laughter when she described what it is like to eat in space: "Everyone plays with their food. You just can't help it!"

When asked "What was annoying in space?" she said "You lose things. Once, my spoon floated off and was sucked into a ventilation screen. It took hours to find it. If you lose a tool, there may not be another. Space forces everyone to become extremely organized."

She recalled her first spacewalk when she had to go outside in her spacesuit, floating in the cold darkness to repair solar equipment. She had to remain in the dark for hours as engineers on Earth worked on a solution. She will never forget how beautiful it was when the Northern Lights lit up the sky.

A student asked, "How can I become an astronaut?" She said that astronauts have strong science and engineering backgrounds and get along with others. They are good at following as well as leading and love to solve complicated problems. They must take care of themselves, exercise, eat well and remain healthy.

Students at North High School have daily opportunities to stretch their imaginations in countless ways. They explore challenging subject matter through classes such as Advanced Placement Environmental Science and Calculus to prepare for entrance into top universities.

Richardson *Middle School*

23751 Nancy Lee Lane, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4790 • richardsonmiddleschool.org



Ian Drummond
Principal

Extracurricular Opportunities

Richardson Middle School (RMS) recently welcomed the return of our online school newspaper, *The Latest Hiss*. Under the guidance of sponsor Leslie Bezich, this RMS newspaper features stories about students, staff, and school events. The online format makes the content of the newspaper as current as possible. Students and staff alike are welcome to submit articles for publication. *The Latest Hiss* can be found at www.thelatesthiss.org.

The Engineering for Girls Club is up and running. This month, their club sponsors, Lisa Case and Edithza Mesta, will be leading the students through a unit from the Engineering Everywhere curriculum. Students are introduced to engineering and the engineering design process, and they work together to engineer solutions to biomechanical engineering challenges. By utilizing models, they consider what is required to design a successful prosthetic device.

The annual RMS Talent Show took place in February. The audience was entertained by a variety of exceptional performances, ranging from singers to dancers to musicians. The highlight of the evening was a lip-sync dance routine performed by several Richardson teachers.

Several members of the Richardson Math Competition Club scored well at the 2015–2016 American Math Competition (AMC 8). The club sponsors, Betty Lieu and Rosita Oey, selected the top competitors from AMC 8 and the Richardson Math Competition to compete in the recent Math Counts Competition. Sponsors and competitors are eagerly awaiting the results.

The Richardson Middle School Tall Flags Team took home third place at the recent West High Spirit Day competition. The team worked tirelessly after school, under the direction of their coach, Kerrie Willett, in preparation for this event.

Riviera *Elementary*

365 Paseo de Arena, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4460 • riviera.tusd.org



Christie Forshey
Principal

Extra Fun

Riviera students enjoy playing life-size chess during lunch recess. The students take turns moving pieces and teaching each other how to play. Their life-size chessboard was constructed by former Riviera student Sammy Cohen for his Eagle Scout project.

Another well-utilized spot is Riviera's Sand Volleyball Pit, constructed by past Riviera student David Sabosky as part of his own Eagle Scout project. The students use the volleyball court during PE, recess, and after school.

For the past three years our SHS volleyball players, and past Riviera student Hadley Clegg and her teammates, have been volunteering at Riviera in a program called "South Prodigies of the Future." The SHS students teach a volleyball clinic to Riviera's third- through fifth-grade boys and girls. Ready, set, go!

Every nook and cranny of our school can be utilized for enrichment. None of this would be possible without our students from the past, and their continued connection to Riviera Elementary School!



Seaside *Elementary*

4651 Sharynne Lane, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4532 • seaside.tusd.org



Michele Bauer
Principal

Gold Ribbon Award

Every year the California Department of Education (CDE) seeks to recognize outstanding educational programs and practices. In the past, the California Distinguished Schools Program was used to provide this recognition through the use of the older standardized tests and model practices.

Recently, California adopted the Common Core Standards, and it now implements a new accountability system called the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). We are transitioning to the use of new assessments (SBAC), and accountability systems, and so the California Gold Ribbon School Award was created to honor schools during this transition.

Seaside is proud to announce that the California Department of Education granted our school one of these Gold Ribbon Awards. Seaside was recognized for striving to implement a system that will meet the learning needs of all students through the use of its Professional Learning Community model, the Student Success Team, and instructional intervention in language arts and math. By examining student achievement data closely, the needs of all learners will be met at our school.

Shery High School

2600 Vine St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4440 • shery.tusd.org



Jamie Jimenez
Principal

Beautification Day

Our school recently added two new portables to the campus to house some new programs. Lucky for us, with these additions the school was also re-painted. A new coat of slurry was even done on the asphalt!

About 60 Shery High staff members, families, students, and parents all recently gathered together at our school. Through donations, we were able to re-pot about 15 planters with new succulents. We also planted beautiful flowers around the entrance. We were even able to redo all of our lunch benches that desperately needed to be sanded, primed, and re-painted to a bright Shery High purple!



This was such a great event. It was nice to have so many people volunteer to help beautify our school. All of this was done just in time too for our first full-scale WASC Self-Study Review. Our school is ready to show them how great we are, and how beautiful our campus is!

Torrance Elementary

2125 Lincoln Ave., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4500 • torranceel.tusd.org



Dr. Kelly Joseph
Principal

Hands-On History and Nature!

Taking a field trip is always a fun way to learn about any subject! Mrs. Evans' third-graders went on two in order to learn about their community. They are studying how communities work, and they have been learning about the Dominguez family, who sold a portion of their land to Jared Sidney Torrance, and how Mr. Torrance established the city of Torrance in 1912.

The children went on a downtown Torrance historical tour lead by Debbie Hayes, a past president of the Torrance Historical Society. She explained about the uniqueness of the bricks used in the house known as the Clinker Brick House. She then showed the children the original home owned by the Dominguez family on Post Avenue, which originally was called Guadalupe Avenue, named after one of the six Dominguez daughters.

Their tour continued at the Torrance Historical Museum, where Janet Payne, another former president of the historical society, showed the children all of the artifacts that helped make Torrance the city it is today.

A week later, the children traveled by Torrance Transit to Madrona Marsh. Their tour there was centered on the various plant, animal and insect communities found at the marsh. A few of the children were fortunate to be able to speak with a worker at the marsh, who is a native Tongva Indian.

The children are full of fun facts about Torrance!

South High School

4801 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4352 • shs.tusd.org



Dr. Scott McDowell
Principal

Athletic Champions

Jacob Sieder, a 182-pound South High School wrestler, just did what no South High athlete has done in over 30 years: win an individual CIF championship. Actually, Jacob did more than that. After winning the Pioneer League Championship, Jacob advanced to the CIF prelims and finals, going undefeated to win the 182-pound CIF Championship, qualifying him, among 32 other wrestlers, for the Master's Wrestling Championship. Jacob won the Master's meet, qualifying him for competition in the CIF State Championships in Bakersfield in March. At the state championship match, Jacob lost in the quarterfinals, placing him as a top eight wrestler for the entire state of California. Jacob will continue his wrestling career at California State University, Bakersfield in the fall. Congratulations, Jacob, on a historic season!

Special recognition also goes out to boys soccer for their near-championship season. After an early-season loss to Leuzinger High School, South High proceeded to win the Pioneer League Championship, defeating West High School twice in the process. After winning their first three rounds in the league championships, South took on third-seeded and 24-game winner Ventura High School. Falling down 0-1 early, South roared back, tied the game, and then took a 2-1 lead into the closing 20 minutes of the second half. South withstood a furious onslaught, holding off multiple attacks by Ventura, and advanced to their second CIF championship game in four years. In the championship game on March 5 at Warren High School, South fell 0-2 to top-seeded and highly talented Godinez High School in an intensely competitive game. Congratulations to the boys soccer head coach, Chad Lagerwey, and the entire South High team on a rare 19-win season and an incredible performance to reach the 2016 CIF finals.

Torrance Adult School

2606 W. 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4689 ext. 8400 • www.tastusd.org



Dr. Wayne Diulio
Director

Career Opportunities for Students

In January, over 150 Torrance Adult School (TAS) students attended a presentation by a local business and career center. Students learned about the center and the services it provides. Students were also treated to a motivational speech by 2015 TAS graduate Jose Garcia, who encouraged them to keep showing up every day and working toward their goals. After the presentation, students interacted with the center staff, asking questions and filling out paperwork needed to help find a new job or career.

In March, representatives from a local two-year community college presented information about the college's career advancement academy, part of its business training academy. Presenters provided information about training and employment opportunities to help



Dr. Wayne Diulio, Director of Torrance Adult School, with South Bay One-Stop Center staff.

students continue their college or career ambitions and dreams.

Both programs are provided free of charge. Special thanks to TAS counselor Paula Takamine and all staff who have planned and facilitated these events!

Torrance *High School*

2200 W. Carson St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4396 • ths.tusd.org



Karim Girgis
Principal

Honoring Dr. King

On January 15, Torrance High School celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday with its 26th annual "Hands Across Campus" event.

This event was originally started by Tony Ferrell, a now retired member of our campus security. It has grown to include speeches from local dignitaries and performances by our school choir and various cultural clubs.

Highlighting the event is a reading of Dr. King's iconic I Have a Dream speech. Members of our eight culture clubs each read a section of the speech, and then joined hands in the center of the gym to remind ourselves of Dr. King's message.

Assistant Principal Mrs. Cheryl Daugherty and Science Department Chair Mr. Robert Patterson now coordinate the event. According to Mr. Patterson, "Torrance High has such a diverse population today that it is very important that we continue to honor Dr. King and celebrate his message of tolerance and acceptance – not just today, but every day on our campus."



Towers *Elementary*

5600 Towers St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4535 • towers.tusd.org



Sandy Skora
Principal

Father/Daughter Dance

Every year, Towers' PTA provides a father/daughter dance in January. The cafeteria is transformed into a princess-like atmosphere for the dance, with the outside of the cafeteria full of different kinds of desserts, snacks and drinks.

Fathers come dressed up in suits or dress pants and a shirt, while the daughters attend in beautiful dresses and fancy shoes. It is quite a formal event! There is always an area where the fathers and daughters can get their picture taken in order to remember the evening.

The Father/Daughter Dance is one of the highlights of the school year, and our PTA goes above and beyond in preparing for this popular event at our school. Next up—our mother/son sports event that will occur later in the year.

South Bay
Driving School

**Proud Sponsor of
Your School for
Over 20 Years!**

\$20 off
One coupon per student

*Online and Classroom
Available*

(310) 791-1111

3614 Pacific Coast Hwy. • Torrance, CA 90505
Southbaydriving.com

Victor *Elementary*

4820 Spencer St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4542 • victor.tusd.org



Bill Baker
Principal

Great Sportsmanship Results!

To ensure that our students excel academically and socially, Victor Noon Leagues were created four years ago to allow fourth- and fifth-grade students to participate in organized sports leagues during their lunchtime. We have played dodgeball, soccer and basketball. Not only is it a

good outlet for students to learn a new sport but it also offers them lessons in leadership, sportsmanship and other life skills. Students have learned to become both good winners and losers.

At the end of each sport, the winning team gets a chance to take on their teachers in a championship game. The whole school comes out to watch, which strengthens school unity. It's also a great way for teachers to interact. Interestingly, we have seen a dramatic decrease in our fourth- and fifth-grade behavioral referrals during lunchtime as well!



Walteria *Elementary*

24456 Madison St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4487 • www.walteriaelementary.org



Bobbie Wynhoff
Principal

What Is PLC?

What happens on Wednesdays? As you know, we have early dismissal on Wednesdays for first through fifth grades due to Professional Learning Community (PLC) time for staff. Several years have elapsed since this practice began in our elementary schools, so it seems like a good time to revisit what PLC is and why we do it.

Public education is a collaborative endeavor. Long gone are the days when teachers worked individually to educate our students. However, for many years, teachers collaborated whenever they could—lunch breaks, recesses if they were not on duty, and any other time they could manage. While that still occurs, having this time weekly is a valued practice. We know that sharing ideas and collectively analyzing student achievement leads to enhanced learning. We teach, but monitoring what students are learning is key to a successful educational program.

This year, Walteria Elementary School is one of district schools that is participating in evaluating and enhancing our PLC process. The educational leaders who are instrumental in bringing this concept to life across the United States have monitored this practice and continue to renew it to ensure the purpose of student achievement stays at the forefront.

When early dismissal on Wednesday occurs, teachers meets with their grade-level teams, other grade levels, or all grade levels to collaborate on the best practices for student achievement.

Yukon *Elementary*

17815 Yukon Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4477 • yukon.tusd.org



Elaine Wassil
Principal

A "Can-Do" Spirit

Yukon Elementary School students learn in a flexible and responsive environment because we leverage whole-group instruction, small-group instruction, and targeted intervention to engage each student in personalized learning experiences. At Yukon, we continually narrow in on and deliver the most effective ways to increase student learning, whether we are individualizing through using our computer-based, adaptive, online learning programs, giving additional small-group instruction, providing targeted intervention, or providing excellent Common Core State Standards whole-group instruction. By working together, we have developed the structures needed to make all this happen.

Unique to Yukon is our Mileage Club, where students alternate aerobic exercise with additional learning provided by teachers in small groups. In Walk to Learn, intervention teachers help students fill in with skills that they have not yet mastered. Reading Club, a discussion group, motivates and excites our students to realize the real purpose of reading: broadening their world and understanding people and events.

Our students are caring citizens as well. Our students participate in charitable organizations that help the homeless, and they have also adopted a troop sent to Afghanistan. The children have sent Christmas gifts and valentines, and they are now preparing a special Yukon Easter basket for these brave men who are risking their lives to keep us safe.

Yukon is filled with a "can-do" spirit and a willing attitude. Yukon's students, parents, and faculty are working together to our students' futures rich and rewarding.

Thank you for reading *School News!*

West *High School*

20401 Victor, Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4299 • www.whs.tusd.org



Pam Metz
Principal

Academic Decathletes

West High School's Academic Decathlon team continued its winning ways, taking third place in Los Angeles County and moving on to state competition. West High finished with 51,979 points out of a possible 60,000. The top decathlete in the event was West High's own Molly Kim. Molly earned 9,520 points out of a possible 10,000 points.

The West High Academic Decathlon coach, Ann Cortina, was recognized with the Roberta Kordich Coach Award, which is given each year to the coach who best exemplifies commitment and dedication. Ms. Cortina has been coaching Academic Decathlon for 10 years, each time leading a winning team that has competed at the state level.



Wood *Elementary*

2250 W. 235th St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4484 • wood.tusd.org



Dr. Teresa Lanphere
Principal

ST Math and RazKids

By Shayla Smith-Taranto, Interim Principal

Howard Wood students and teachers are excited about using technology to build math skills and to increase reading fluency. We are having a schoolwide campaign to increase our ST Math and Raz-Kids usage.

With ST Math and JiJi the Penguin, students go on an adventure and get through obstacles to help solve math puzzles. Once a month, a student from each classroom is celebrated at our flag assembly for their ST Math progress. When you're on campus, be sure to check out our ST Math classroom-competition bulletin board.

Raz-Kids is an online resource that provides great practice in both fiction and nonfiction reading with animated leveled books and interactive quizzes. Wood students can be found using Raz-Kids in the computer lab or in their classrooms on Chromebooks.

One of the great things about both of these online resources is that they are accessible from home as well. Wood students can find links to Raz-Kids and ST Math on the school website.





Peaceland Music & Repair
GUITAR LESSONS

**Guitar, Piano, Voice,
Bass, Drums**

Also: Ukulele, Banjo, Mandolin

James Musser

Nominated Best LA Band '96
Best Guitar '97 LA Music Awards

**All Ages, Levels & Styles
Days, Evening & Weekends**



(310) 650-4021

www.peacelandmusic.com

peaceland@peacelandmusic.com

23706 Crenshaw #105 A&B, Torrance, CA
(across from Hof's Hut)

Visit us on: MySpace.com/PeacelandMusic • YouTube.com/PeacelandMusic

Note-ables

Owl Singalong



Kate Karp

Adult Beluga Grads whose younger lives were enriched by Raffi's music will be very happy, particularly if they're parents, teachers or involved in any way with children. The beloved artist and children's advocate emerged from a 12-year hiatus in 2014 with his collection *Love Bug*, and he's following up with another planet- and child-centered theme in *Owl Singalong*.

The album was inspired by Raffi's little grandniece, Lucie, and her owl stuffed toy and also by the chorus of live hooting critters in his backyard. Those birds open the title song, a jaunty little melody inviting us to sing along. Choruses of human children and one or two adults join in on standards such as "The More We Sing Together" and other beloved songs that he's monkeyed—or verb-formed other animal species—with: "The Lion Pokey" and "The Dog on the Bus" are rendered with Raffi's brand of gentle silliness that has always endeared him to children.

Raffi presents his versatile voice in so many different ways, whether it's imitating a gruff lion, crooning like Rudy Vallee on "See the Moon," or entertaining with Pete Seeger's celebrated retelling of the South African folktale "Abiyoyo."

And as always, Raffi will leave gentle lessons for little Belugas and Grads of any age: "Green Dream" is his wish for the future for all his young listeners. And from "I'm Not Small": "I carry the world on my back. When it turns, I'll turn, too."

So simple, so wise, and so very Raffi.



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

A Bit of History

Music to the Ears

By D.H. Coop

I do not know exactly when music became important to me. It may have been on the ride in the car back from Valley Forge in 1949 with my mother, uncle, aunt and grandparents singing "Home on the Range." Or it may have been the radio shows of the day, such as *The Lone Ranger*, whose theme was from the *William Tell Overture*, or *The Green Hornet* and the theme "Flight of the Bumblebee." It could have been the two blocks of wood with sandpaper on them that I made music with in the first grade.

I do know that music made life enjoyable and that it became markers for events in my life. Elvis takes me back to the mid-fifties, Hank Williams to the lonely mornings in the fields, and Jack Benny to radio and television when families sat listening together to the same shows. Jack Benny would always get a laugh with his poor violin playing when in reality he was an accomplished violinist.

The truth is, music is good for our soul. For many of us, our music studio is in our bathtub or shower. What would humanity be without music and the teachers that pass the knowledge on to others? It is difficult to imagine a world without music.

Just Some of Our Training

- ▶ Speed Training
- ▶ Agility Training
- ▶ Strength Training
- ▶ Skills Development
- ▶ One On One Training
- ▶ Group Elite Training
- ▶ Basketball Performance

Ranked #5 in the West Coast

ABOUT US

The Bobcats are back! We are pleased to announce that we are back and going back to our grass roots and rebuilding our Basketball Program.

We are rebuilding as once again one of the top programs in Southern California and since 2009 we have produced many of the top athletes in Southern California.

Our goal is to provide an environment where young athletes can focus on education and athletics and prepare them for whatever challenges they may face in the future. Sports teach discipline, hard work, responsibility and teamwork, which combined, are what we believe to be the foundation for better athletes and better men and women.

IT'S FREE TO TRY!

L.A.
BOBCATS
BASKETBALL CLUB

Skills & Conditioning Workouts
Every Tuesday & Thursday

Check Out Our Website
For Times and Locations!
www.labobcats.com

Ranked #25 in the Country!



CONTACT INFORMATION
310.261.8315
Info@LABOBCATS.COM



My Musical Garden

- ♪ Piano
- ♪ Voice
- ♪ Music Theory

Where Your Musical Talent Grows

310-503-4841 mymusicalgarden.com
pianowithelena@gmail.com



FUN

JUBILATE ACADEMY

After School Program (Mon - Fri 2:30 - 6:30 PM)

(For All Grade Levels)

- Small Study Group Setting
- Help from Experienced Tutors
- Help on Homework / Quizzes / Tests / AP Tests
- Computers Available for Student Use
- Weekly Grade Monitoring (Progress Reports)
- Elective Courses Offered (Robotics, Math Comp)

National Math & Science Camp
 April 9th
Critical Thinking Challenge
 May 7th
 (\$1000 Grand Prize)

Private Tutoring

- All School Subjects
- AP / ACT / SAT / SAT2 / Critical Writing

Music Lessons Offered For All Levels

- All Instruments



50 % OFF *1st Month's Fee

+ Free Registration

- Valid for New Students only
- One Coupon per Household

- MUST Bring Coupon to Redeem Offer
- Expires May 31st, 2016

www.jubilateacademy.com

3737 Torrance Blvd. #206 Torrance, CA 310-792-7702



Summer Camp 2016

Boys & Girls • 7 - 13 years

Monday - Friday • 9:00am - 3:00pm

Session 1: July 11 - 15 • Session 2: August 15 - 19

Camp features:

- State of the art facility
- Air conditioned
- Nationally accredited coaches
- 10 - 1 ratio (player - coach)
- Daily games / prizes
- Guest speakers
- Guaranteed to increase your basketball IQ

Location: Del Aire Park

12601 Isis Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90251
 (310) 643-4976

Contact: coach@schoolofskills.net

(800) 595-0838

To Register:

Download Registration at: www.schoolofskills.net (for daily schedule)

Cost: \$199 per session

\$350 for both
 \$40 per day

Discount: \$25 early registration (June 3)

\$25 second sibling
 \$25 current SOS students



Happy Days are Here Again!



Charlene Ashendorf

We were not driven to school two blocks away; we walked to and from school with our classmates. We didn't need computer games; we played pick up, tag or anything that included a ball.

Those were simpler times. My parents would say that they were safer times. Those were days when everyone knew their neighbors and folks looked out for each other; those were "happy days."

I promised my grandparents I would not only remember those good old days, but keep community alive. Our children are grown and out of the house. Older folks have moved out and younger families have moved into the neighborhood. So how could I keep that promise as an empty nester on our cul de sac?

Everyone loves food, so we began with a neighborhood bar-b-que. We delivered flyers, asked folks to bring a dish, a chair and a beverage. We'd provide the meat. Getting to know each other was an important first step. Kids and adults were now ready more...for the basketball hoop we placed in our front yard it became open play with a bring your own ball requirement. Next we built a little free library and placed it in on our entry wall. Filled with books for young and old alike, with a take one leave one policy, kids were found sprawled out under the shade of our liquid amber with books and snacks while dog walking adults would snap up a paperback or two.

Last year we began a question of the day experiment. What started out with two young neighbor kids knocking on the door for a homemade cookie or after school treat has become a 4:00 PM ritual with up to eight elementary schoolers who are given a science, math or history question and rewarded with a piece of candy. It's like Halloween with a purpose all year long.

We have made ours a neighborhood, a safe place for kids, where we look out for each other, just like the good old days. Happy days are here again.

Charlene remembers growing up in Chicago with hot and humid summers, leaves that turned colors in the fall and endless winters. Active in her community and church, she advocates for seniors, affordable housing, literacy and libraries. Her hobbies include reading, writing and visiting art galleries. <http://about.me/cmash>

My Sister-in-Law's Kids



Jodie Lynn

Q. My sister-in-law's kids, second and fourth graders, have to constantly be doing something. Their lives are very structured. I'm a stay at home mom and their mom works outside the home. If they come over on a Saturday, they're constantly asking what we are going to do next. We enjoy their company but was wondering if we should try to keep up with their schedule of busyness or try to form them to our laid back environment?

A: She may be very happy with her children's schedules. If she's okay with you trying to offer them a more laid back environment while they are visiting, then there's no harm in trying. I'm all for organization and schedules up to a point. But, I also feel quite strongly about letting kids be kids with free play or hanging out time. When I taught school, I saw many kids develop into being totally stressed out teenagers trying to make each minute count towards their academic livelihood or being super focused on working on their future jobs. They didn't understand that it's perfectly fine to sometimes just relax and do nothing. There's a happy medium in every life situation. Finding that balance is quite challenging. However, if your sister-in-law allows her kids to come over, and she very well knows how different you run your household, then perhaps she wants them to have that experience. Share your concerns with her, let her think about it for a while and go from there.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author. Her column Parent to Parent™ (www.ParentToParent.com) has been successful for more than 15 years. She is a regular contributor to several sites and has written four books and contributed to three others, one of which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. She has authored several books including *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having Doing*, and *Surviving it All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* Check www.ParentToParent.com for details on new radio talk show, Inside Parenting Success.

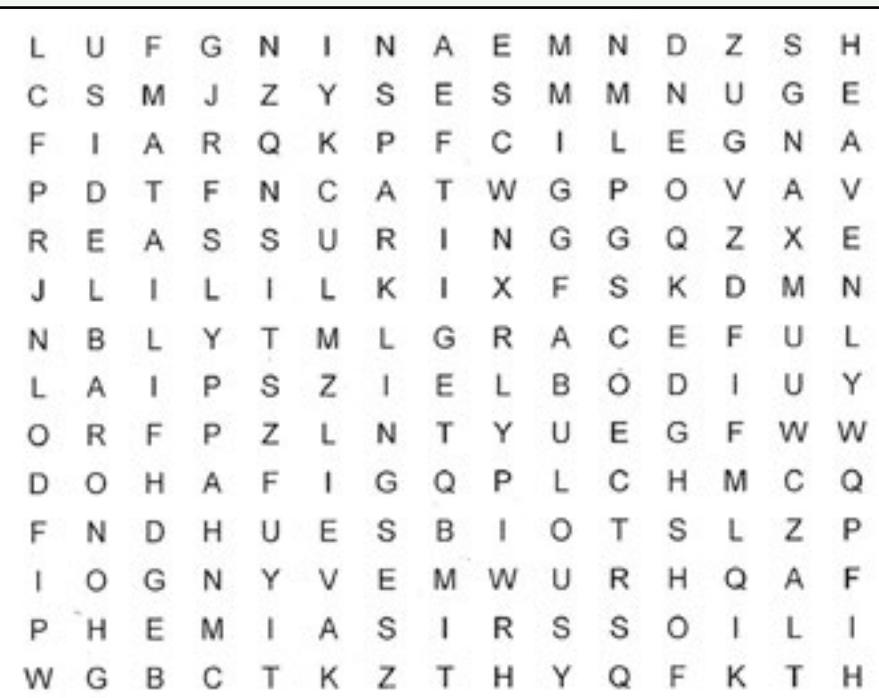
Positive Words – Word Search Contest

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

Entries must be received by April 15, 2016

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

ANGELIC	HEAVENLY	PHENOMENAL
DAZZLING	HONORABLE	REASSURING
FABULOUS	KIND	SMILE
GENUINE	LUCKY	SPARKLING
GRACEFUL	MEANINGFUL	TRUTHFUL
HAPPY	OPTIMISTIC	UPBEAT



**Congratulations to Kavya Singh
Winner of the February Word Search Contest!**

CRITICAL THINKING CHALLENGE

CRITICAL THINKING CHALLENGE is a team competition, open to all children in grades 3 through 6. It is designed to promote the practical application of mathematics, to encourage teamwork, and to build confidence
- All while having FUN!

Online registration: criticalthinkingchallenge.com
Registration period: Feb. 15, 2016 - Apr. 30, 2016
Registration fee: FREE
Workshop registration: eyeleveltorrance.com



For more info, visit eyeleveltorrance.com

Lucy's Book Review

Interesting!



Lucy Davis

Finally

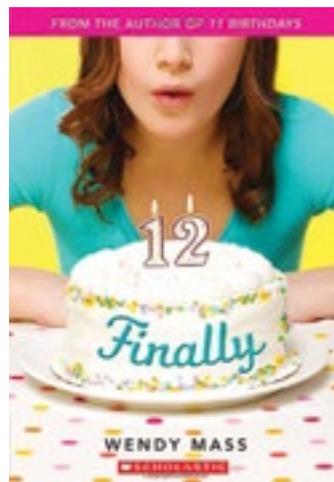
Author: Wendy Mass

Rory begins getting rid of the things that remind her of being a kid. She throws out her stuffed bear, Throckmorton, tears down Snoopy posters from her walls, and other things all because she can't wait until

she's twelve. She has a list of exactly what she wants to do when she is twelve. Ride an upside down roller coaster, wear makeup, get a cell phone, and the list goes on and on. But everything changes when she is saved from a drain pipe.

This is a story about a girl that wants to grow up too fast. Throughout the story she experiences things that help her realize that maybe being a kid a little longer isn't such a bad thing after all.

I give this book four bookworms out of five. It's a good book. However, I wasn't rushing home to read it every day.



Lucy Davis is a 4th grade student. Besides reading, she enjoys riding her bike, theatre, and playing guitar. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.

Keira's Book Nook

First Book of a Series

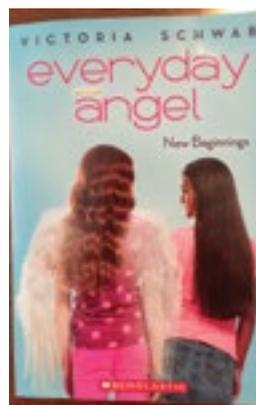


Keira

Everyday Angel: New Beginnings
By Victoria Schwab

This great emotion filled book is about two girls named Aria (a guardian angel) and Gabby Torres (whose brother is sick). Gabby is so worried about school, because she doesn't want anyone to discover her secret life. Then, Aria shows up! Aria knows exactly how to

help make Gabby feel better. Gabby is a normal girl except for the fact she keeps half her life a secret—even from her mom! This book talks about why sometimes it's good to reveal your secrets. It's an example of how difficult things in your life don't have to be negative. Gabby is so worried about her brother that she forgets who she is. The story is about problems and solutions that came for Gabby in seventh grade. I can't wait to read the second book! I rate this book 5 apples.



Keira Fukuwa is a fourth grader. Besides reading, she enjoys soccer, jazz dance, crafts and cooking. Keira rates books 1-5 apples with 5 the best.

PERFORMING ARTS WORKSHOPS

SPRING BREAK CAMP & SUMMER CAMPS
THEATER • GUITAR • FILMMAKING • MORE
(310) 827-8827

Ask About PAW Discounts



Teen Beach Musical

The Jungle Book

Sleeping Beauty

Charlie's Chocolate Factory

Alice In Wonderland

THE BEST
L.A. Parent Voted the **BEST CAMP** in LA!

www.PerformingArtsWorkshops.com
In: Manhattan Beach Redondo El Segundo West LA
Brentwood Studio City Northridge Pasadena

Isabella's Book Review

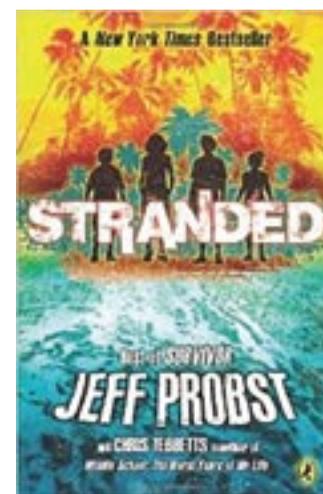
Get Lost in the pages of Stranded



Isabella A.

Stranded is the first book and the best in the series. When Carter and Jane's mother marries Vanessa and Buzz's father, uncle Dexter a boat captain takes the new four siblings on a bonding trip. However, it doesn't exactly turn out that way. A storm sinks the boat. They try to get in the life boat, but Dexter gets in first. The storm takes the life boat away from the young kids. Fortunately, they make it to a close by island that is rocky and full of jungle. They were starting get along and now they are in the middle of the South Pacific! This could be good or horrible. Will these kids survive each other?

I give this book three and half stars because it can be fun, exciting and adventurous, but also a bit long in some parts.



Isabella is a fourth 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.

**Be sure to include the library
in your summer activities.**



SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 1



Dr. George Mannon

The passage of Measures T and U enables us to be proactive and preventative in our emergency preparedness efforts.

Included in the bonds are: the new surveillance cameras, replacing dilapidated fencing, increased lighting, and new access gates with a buzzer system for visitors. The surveillance cameras help promote safety while discouraging vandalism and theft. The district and the TPD have entered into a memorandum of understanding, which gives TPD the capability to ensure an accurate and effective response to emergency situations. The value-added aspect of the new camera surveillance system is that it provides TUSD and TPD with real-time intelligence. The fencing project replaces decades-old fencing and will strengthen the perimeters of our campuses. The new gate access system will enable front office staff and school personnel to control who comes onto their campuses during school hours. The new buzzer feature adds an extra layer of security at all our sites.



New fencing



The best defense against natural disasters or major emergencies is being prepared and implementing preventative measures. Through planning, coordination, and communication and by practicing drills and protocols, we empower our school sites to act knowledgeably and swiftly in any crisis. Additionally, at the beginning of the school year, the district switched to a new notification platform, which now enables us to send text messages to parents in the case of an emergency. It is essential to have a quick method to get information to parents in a crisis. I request parents keep their contact information current in the student information system, so that they can continue to receive news and information from the district. Together we can make certain our schools are safe and our students protected.

BOARD OF EDUCATION • From Page 1



Martha Deutsch
President

Other organizations, such as the boosters and events committees, provide ample chances for parents to lend support to areas of particular interest to them.

Along with collaboration, communication with stakeholders is essential. TUSD is made up of 32 school sites and close to 1,000 classrooms, and there are amazing things going on in each corner of our district. Communicating district achievements and milestones, helps us make sure parents are well informed and engaged. Whether it is the weekly updates from your child's principal or press releases from the district, my colleagues on the Board want to ensure parents know how to get the information they need. Additionally, with support from the city of Torrance, Board meetings are available to watch online. We encourage parents and community members to come to meetings and share their input, however, we realize busy schedules do not always allow for this to occur. Please take advantage of our meetings being available online as a resource to keep you up to date on the latest TUSD news.

And lastly, each Board member has contact information available on www.tusd.org. We hope you will reach out to us on any topic of interest to you. We look forward to hearing from you.

THE CYBERPATRIOTS • From Page 1

connectivity, securities, viruses, and general cyber knowledge. After a few meetings, I agreed to host the afterschool club, with help and many thanks to Bob Busch, Chloe's father and a programmer at the sponsoring security firm. With 25 eager students, we were ready to immerse ourselves in the world of cyber security. Now our students have learned how to block viruses, clean hard drives, secure networks, set up passwords, delete files, and so many other things.

Our four teams have spent three afternoons in six-hour competitions, where they competed with schools across the state to discover vulnerabilities within a networked system and remove them. Three of our teams reached the gold level, and one reached the platinum level. This team moved on to the state round of competition, where they put up a very strong fight. Even though we did not move on to the national round in our rookie year, I am confident our team will be one of the 12 in next year's competition.

Though many of the CyberPatriot students are in or will be taking Advanced Placement computer science classes, this program is not at limited to those students. Any student with an interest in cyber technologies is welcome to join the CyberPatriots. Our students can achieve incredible milestones, given the opportunity. Becoming CyberPatriots has helped these students to recognize some of their future career goals.

School News



Education+Communication=A Better Nation

**To place your ad in our next issue
please call**

562-493-3193

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Grow up **strong** with us.

Choose Providence when your family needs care.

As parents, you want what's best for your kids: great schools, great experiences and especially great health. But we all know that children aren't invincible. When your kids need care, you can count on Providence Medical Institute. Our pediatricians have been helping South Bay kids and their families grow up healthy and strong for many years.

We're not just here when your children are doing fine. We're here to help make sure they stay that way. It's how we care.

Axminster Hawthorne

11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250

Maureen O'Neill, M.D.
Jessica Ramirez, M.D.
Louis Smolensky, M.D.

Madrona Pediatrics

21311 Madrona Ave., Torrance, CA 90503

Gary D. Anderson, M.D.
Emily Curran, M.D.
Carl N. Muchnick, M.D.

Manhattan Beach Primary Care

1010 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Pitchaya Pam Chitamitara, M.D.

San Pedro Pediatrics

1294 W. Sixth St., Suite 104, San Pedro, CA 90731

Pitchaya Pam Chitamitara, M.D.
Julie Chow Lin, M.D.
Genesa R. Wagoner, M.D.



Call 866-909-DOCS or visit
california.providence.org/pmi
to learn more about our pediatricians
and office locations.



Start small.

A little booty goes a long way.

With tax-deferred saving opportunity and compound interest potential, a ScholarShare 529 College Savings account can grow over time. Start early. You can do this.



SCHOLARSHARE

CALIFORNIA'S 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN SM

scholarshare.com | 800.544.5248



Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the ScholarShare College Savings Plan. Visit ScholarShare.com for a Plan Disclosure Booklet containing this and other information. Read it carefully. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed, and there is a risk of investment loss. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., plan manager. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, member FINRA, distributor and underwriter for ScholarShare. The tax information contained herein is not intended to be used, and cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties. Taxpayers should seek advice from an independent tax advisor based on their own particular circumstances. Non-qualified withdrawals may be subject to federal and state taxes and the additional federal 10% tax. Non-qualified withdrawals may also be subject to an additional 2.5% California tax on earnings. Before investing in a 529 plan, consider whether the state where you or your Beneficiary resides has a 529 plan that offers favorable state tax benefits that are available if you invest in that state's 529 plan. C28479