

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Westminster School District



Volume 18, Issue 108

November 2022

Leading the Pack for the Last 150 Years



Spanish Dual Language Immersion Program students from Willmore Elementary School, Sylvia Mendez and the Board of Trustees posed for a kodak moment at the 150th Anniversary Celebration on September 29, 2022.



Beautiful smiles...Bright Futures



HARNER

ORTHODONTICS

(714) 842-9933

18700 Main Street, Suite 112 | Huntington Beach



HarnerOrthodontics.com



Dr. Andrew Harner & Dr. Nicole Starkey

BOARD CERTIFIED ORTHODONTISTS



Board of Trustees



Tina Gustin-Gurney
President



David Johnson
Vice President



Frances Nguyen
Clerk



Jeremy Khalaf
Member



Khanh Nguyen
Member



Dr. Cyndi Paik
Superintendent

Racing towards a Successful Year!

Westminster School District is blessed to have some of the brightest students around. Willmore Elementary Students revved up their hydrogen cars this month, with the help from our friends at Hyundai USA. The students reinforced their Coding curriculum while building these gadgets. The experience was essential for our students; it encouraged them to work collaboratively, ask questions and get excited for the sciences.

WSD adopted the Code.org CS Fundamentals curriculum which combines online and unplugged activities to educate students in computational thinking, problem solving and programming concepts. Students at Willmore have an opportunity to develop their skills in computer programming and coding on a daily basis. The goal is to continue cultivating their critical thinking, creativity and confidence so they can someday be leaders in society.



Willmore Elementary students build their hydrogen cars during class.

150th Anniversary Celebration

By Tina Gustin-Gurney, President, Board of Trustees

Our district celebrated its 150th Anniversary Celebration last month and it was a hoot! The festivities included; Vietnamese and Spanish Dual Language Immersion performances, a travel through time tour, WSD swag, refreshments and food. Special guests Sylvia Mendez, Janice Munemitsu, Senator Tom Umberg and Mayor Tri Ta were just a few of the dignitaries that attended the occasion.

Over 150 people from the WSD community attended the event. Many people expressed a sense of nostalgia when they saw all the vintage photos from the early days of the district. One woman even noted she was in the Westminster Elementary band photo from 1960.

Our district is all about bringing families together and provide an inclusive environment for all. We are proud of the education we can provide to our students every day. We will continue to uphold our values of “building tomorrow’s leader today.” To another 150 years of success and prosperity for WSD!



Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion Program students from DeMille Elementary performed during the 150th Anniversary Celebration on September 29, 2022.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Neta Madison
Netragrednik

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Covering the
WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

ADVERTISING SALES: 562/493-3193

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny
GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION: Emily Ung

COPY EDITORS:

Kate Karp, Anna Zappia

SOCIAL MEDIA: Nancy Lueder

Netragrednik by Neta Madison



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 Westminster School District does not endorse the advertisers in this publication.

This year is quickly coming to a close with holidays and Winter Break on the calendar. The staff at *School News* wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. Our next issue is January 18, 2022.

Be sure to enter our word search contest on page 11. December 15 we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble just in time for you to have a new book to read on Winter Break!

Happy Holidays!



Start them early. They will read forever.

GLOBAL VISION OPTOMETRY Family Eye Care

We offer Myopia Management with OrthoK or soft contact lenses or eye drops.

Contact our office for more details.

*Mention this Ad for **\$200 off** Myopia Management package.

- Eye Exams - Glasses & Contact Lenses
- Full Optical - Name Brands & Fashion Eyewear
- Medical Eye Exams - Red/Dry/Pink Eye
- Minor Eye Injuries/ FB Removal
- Lasik/Cataract Consult
- Corneal Topography & Retinal Photos
- Myopia Management
- In House Lab Available Glasses Ready Same Day! (SV, Rx in stock only)

Insurances we accept:

VSP, EYEMED, SPECTERA, MES, SUPERIOR, DAVIS, VBA & more

STEPHANY VONG, O.D AND ASSOCIATES

18569 Main St.,
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
(Located in the 5 Points Plaza)
(714) 780-2008

www.globalvisionoptometry.com



BEACH CITIES DANCE

All Levels Welcome | FREE Trial Classes

Bailey | Heather | Jacob | Becca | Cat

18838 Brookhurst Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
(714) 963-2110
www.bcdsdance.com

[beachcitiesdancestudio](https://www.instagram.com/beachcitiesdancestudio)
 [Beach Cities Dance Studio](https://www.facebook.com/BeachCitiesDanceStudio)
 [beachcitiesdance](https://www.tiktok.com/@beachcitiesdance)

Acro - Ballet - Pointe - Jazz - Tap - Lyrical - Hip Hop
Contemporary - Competition Teams - "New" Adult Classes

Vaping in School Age Children



Inderpal S. Randhawa, M.D.
medical director,
Children's
Pulmonary
Institute,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

There has been a growing trend of vaping, or smoking e-cigarettes, among teenagers the past few years and more recently there has been a spike in school-age children starting to vape.

Vaping is only marginally regulated in the U.S., causing teenagers and children to regularly use vape products and oils incorrectly. The bright packaging and sweet flavors can tempt kids and teens, many of whom end up staying hooked due to the addictive nicotine inside the vape liquid. This combination can result in serious, life-threatening respiratory events.

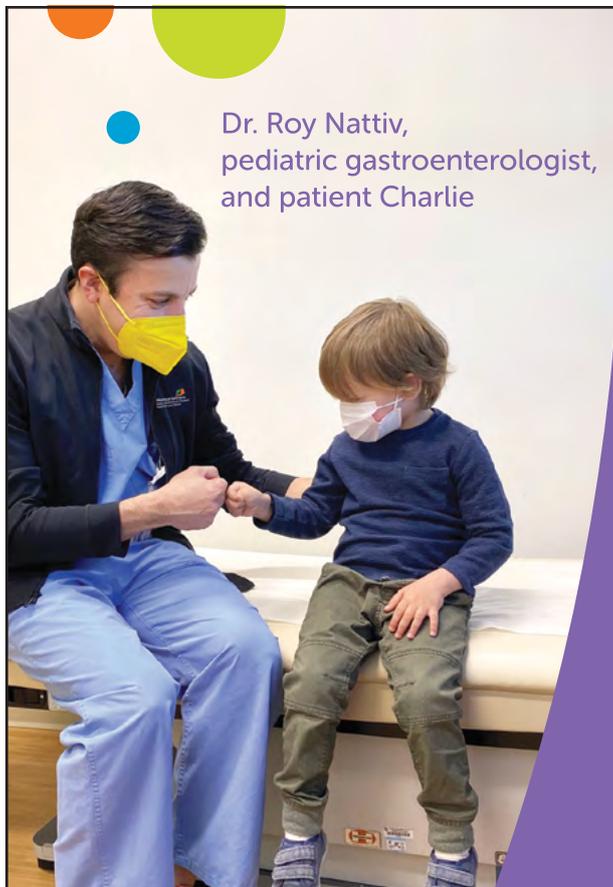
Nicotine is not the only harmful chemical that vape liquid may contain. Other harmful chemicals include:

- Ultrafine particles that can enter the lungs
- Flavorants such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to serious lung disease
- Volatile organic compounds
- Heavy metals, such as nickel, tin, and lead

While vaping is still relatively new, the long-term side-effects of these chemicals are still being researched and discussed throughout the healthcare community. These harmful chemicals can cause side effects like coughing, dry mouth or throat, nausea, and headaches, as well as affect the development of the brain and cause nicotine addiction.

It is important to talk to your child about the dangers it may cause in both short- and long-term use. By educating yourself first, it becomes easier to educate your children. Maintaining a dialogue about vaping, where both you and your child can ask questions, will help you be effective in preventing your kids from vaping now and in the future.

For more information call (714) 377-6993 or visit millerchildrens.org/pulmonary.



Dr. Roy Nattiv,
pediatric gastroenterologist,
and patient Charlie

Our physicians train longer so our patients recover quicker.

Pediatric physicians must go through additional schooling and more rigorous training. Our patients receive individualized treatment designed just for their growing bodies. Every child is unique, and so is their health, which is why we recruit and retain only the best pediatric specialists.

Access to elite care. When you need it.



MemorialCare™
Miller Children's & Women's
Hospital Long Beach

800-MEMORIAL (636-6742) | millerchildrens.org/Elite

Orange County Department of Education



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Our country has long likened its drug prevention efforts to a war, marshaling resources at the local, state and national levels to disrupt the production, distribution and consumption of illegal substances.

But the rise of fentanyl represents a dark and deadly new battlefield that is like nothing we've ever seen before, forcing us to rethink the rules of engagement.

Two factors make this synthetic opioid exceedingly dangerous. First, fentanyl is incredibly lethal at roughly 50 times stronger than heroin and about 100 times more powerful than morphine. Second, many of fentanyl's users don't even know they're taking the drug because it's often hidden in counterfeit pills made to look like common prescription opioids or other medications.

There is also little in the way of quality control in the manufacturing process, meaning doses can vary wildly. Fittingly, "One Pill Can Kill" is the name of the campaign launched by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration to reduce America's fentanyl supply.

"The DEA confiscated over 20 million counterfeit pills in 2021," says Stephan Lambert, OCDE's coordinator of prevention education. "If you buy a pill from anywhere other than a pharmacy, you should assume that it's fentanyl. It's virtually impossible to tell what is counterfeit, and

it's not worth the risk. When tested, 42 percent of those confiscated pills had a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl."

In Orange County alone, the number of fentanyl-related deaths skyrocketed to 717 in 2021 from 57 just four years earlier. That's an increase of over 1,100 percent, and fentanyl fatalities now account for more than three-quarters of all overdose deaths. At the same time, drug poisoning cases have emerged as the leading cause of accidental death in Orange County, mirroring national rates.

These sobering statistics should command the attention of our entire county. To that end, the Orange County Department of Education is working closely with the Orange County Sheriff's Department to make sure educators and families have the tools and resources needed to help combat this crisis. On Nov. 4, both agencies will be joined by Orange County Superior Court Judge Maria D. Hernandez for a special Fentanyl Forum set to cover a range of topics, including fentanyl's impacts, how to talk to young people, and how to respond to drug overdoses and poisonings.

It's easy to feel overwhelmed and distracted by the countless challenges we face at any given moment. And there's a narrative that young people tune out well-intentioned warnings about drugs and peer pressure from adults. But our kids are listening. As we continue to model vigilance, I urge all Orange County families to look for teachable moments to talk to their children about fentanyl and the dangers of taking drugs from anyone other than a licensed medical professional.

These conversations will vary by age, but even young children can benefit from regular check-ins to dialogue about the pressures they're experiencing at school or what they're hearing from their peers. Regular chats can also serve as a baseline to track changes in a child's state of mind.

The fentanyl-related trends we're seeing are disturbing and disheartening, but they are not irreversible. When unified, millions of Orange County voices are powerful enough to communicate that we won't tolerate this poison in our communities and that one life lost is too many.

RAISED ON ROCKVIEW

Rockview Family Farms proudly serves schools throughout Southern California. Choosing local means fresh, delicious, and nutritious milk for your family! Dairy and dairy-free options now at a store near you.



www.RockviewFarms.com

HOME - AUTO - BUSINESS - LIFE - HEALTH
DISABILITY/LONG TERM CARE

YOUR LOCAL EXPERT IN:

- LIVING TRUSTS
- IDENTITY THEFT PLANS
- LEGAL PLANS
- FAMILY INCOME PROTECTION
- TAX FREE RETIREMENT INCOME PLANS

PRATT
INSURANCE
BROKERS
ASSET PROTECTION SPECIALISTS

LONDIE PRATT, ADVISOR
877-695-6634
LONDIE4HBW@GMAIL.COM
P.O. BOX 5544,
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92615

Anderson *Elementary (K-6)*

8902 Hewitt Pl., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • anderson.wsdk8.us

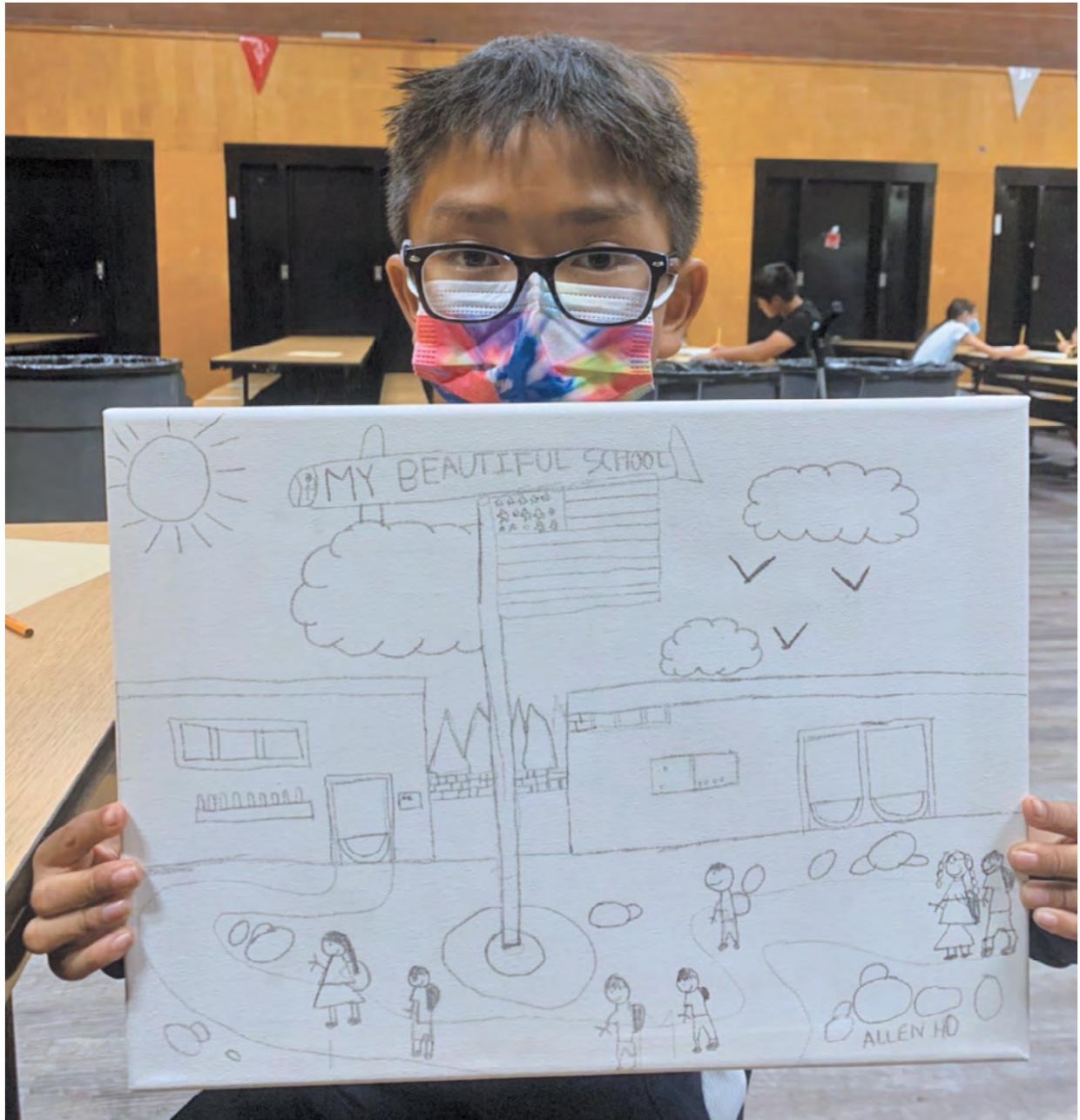


Kim Breckenridge
Principal

Family Art Night

Hosted by the Anderson Parent Teacher Association (PTA), families had the opportunity to attend two different art nights to create their own artistic masterpieces. With the purpose of participating in the PTA Reflections Program, students worked

with canvas, paint, markers and other medium to express their interpretation of the theme "Show Your Voice." From transitional kindergarten through sixth grade, students were thoughtful, creative and artistic. Some of the art projects will go on to represent Anderson School at the Westminster School District PTA Reflections Program. Thank you to our PTA volunteers and families for participating!



Student Allen Ho shares his planning for his masterpiece.

Clegg Elementary (TK-5)

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218 • clegg.wsdk8.us



John Staggs
Principal

PLTW Enhancements

Clegg Elementary School is excited to kick off this school year as a Project Lead the Way school. Our staff went through a number of trainings to close out the 2021-22 school year, and we are ready to have our students in kindergarten through fifth grade working on PLTW activities.

We have been a STEAM Magnet School for several years and feel that this program is going to greatly enhance our STEAM program here at Clegg Elementary School. Project Lead the Way creates an engaging classroom environment unlike any other. PLTW empowers students to develop and apply in-demand transportable skills by exploring real-world challenges. Through their pathways in computer science, engineering and biomedical science, students not only learn technical skills but also learn to solve problems, think critically and creatively, communicate, and collaborate. PLTW also provides teachers with the training, resources and support they need to engage students in real-world learning.

All of us at Clegg are very excited to begin this new chapter at our site.



DeMille *Elementary (K-6)*

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224 • demille.wsdk8.us



April Derr
Principal

Serving on Student Council

DeMille Elementary staff empowers our students to develop leadership characteristics through serving on our Student Council. Students in our Student Council learn vital skills like proper behavior and public speaking that will prepare them for advanced learning later in their education.

Any fourth- through sixth-grade student can create a campaign for themselves depending on the office they are interested in holding, such as president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and parliamentarian. They then work with their teachers to write and refine their speeches. Each student is able to give their speech to the student body at a special assembly. After the

assembly, students are able to vote for their choice of candidate for each position. This process helps all our students learn more about the election process of our country.

Since the student council is the body charged with representing the interests in the school, they work with the principal and teacher leaders to run special programs at our site. For example, they present the morning announcements, help with awards assemblies and fundraisers, and brainstorm about special events they would like to see at our school and how they could support our school better.

Serving on our elementary Student Council provides our students a unique opportunity to learn organization, leadership, and teamwork skills that will prepare them to be future leaders at school and in our communities.



Eastwood *Elementary (K-6)*

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • eastwood.wsdk8.us



Jonathan Edelman
Principal

Ready for Liftoff!

As Eastwood Elementary School takes one giant leap into career exploration, some of our students have begun to explore far beyond the four walls of their classroom.

In keeping with the latest advancements in education and technology, Mrs. Erickson's special education students have now begun a journey of discovery, a journey that will lead them to explore our galaxy, the planets, and the International Space Station!

Her students are being given the opportunity to use hands-on materials funded by both a Donors Choose Grant and the contributions of our Eastwood families. Here they can participate in mini-lessons that will expose them to the different aspects of space travel, and learn the appropriate language and terminology that they can apply when accessing their classroom's space center.

The students transition into a strategically designed center consisting of dozens of manipulatives. Opportunities range from using a telescope, access to a three-dimensional rocket ship, and dramatic play, where the students can dress as an astronaut to reenact the launching of a space rocket or a moon landing.

Mrs. Erickson teaches her students to dream big. She instills in them a curiosity for exploration that will follow them well beyond their time in her classroom. Like a footprint on the moon, Mrs. Erickson is leaving her mark on her students. She is preparing them for the kind of bright futures that will take them wherever they may want to land.



Finley *Computer Science Magnet School*

13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764 • finley.wsdk8.us



Pam LeMuix
Principal

Computer Science

Computer Science Instruction helps students develop social emotional skills

At Finley Computer Science Magnet, it is easy to observe the technical skills that students are developing in computer science and STEM. Learners practice computational thinking, look for patterns and troubleshoot problems in the code they write. They solve real-life problems, think critically and

collaborate with their peers in robotics competitions. This year, Finley teachers are also looking closely at how they can use computer science to develop the social-emotional skills students need for success in school, career and life. Social-emotional learning helps students develop skills and strategies in self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making.

This trimester, students at Finley are focused on building relationship skills, which includes being part of a community where listening to others, being open to solutions and seeking and offering help when needed is practiced. In Kindergarten, students are learning how to use the language of gratitude when working

with a partner. They demonstrated their understanding using the recording feature on the Dash Robot to record terms like “thank you” and “you are welcome.” In fourth grade, students practice communicating their perspective and listening reflectively to restate their partner’s idea for an idea for designing their Sphero Battle Bot. They learn strategies so that all members of their team feel valued. “When we were getting ready to test our program, our group decided that each team member would drive the sphero for one minute. Then we used the timer on the Ipad to make sure everyone had a fair turn. It was nice because we didn’t argue — we had a plan,” explained student Matthew S, fourth grader.

“This year, our entire staff worked together to write a computer science vision for our school. The social-emotional skills and mindset we develop in our students are just as important to our school community as the technical skills of computer science,” said Stephanie Perry, technology coordinator and 5th grade teacher. “The demands placed on students during computer science instruction has been a natural place for students to practice these skills in an authentic way.”

Toy Store Items–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 Westminster in the subject line.

| | |
|----------|------------|
| BIKE | MARBLES |
| DOLL | CRAYON |
| TRIKE | PENS |
| BOOK | COMPUTER |
| LEGOS | DOLLHOUSE |
| SOLDIERS | BUGGY |
| BALLS | KITCHEN |
| BUBBLES | TEA SET |
| CROQUET | BAT |
| BLOCKS | BALL GLOVE |
| KITES | |

Entries must be received by December 15, 2022.

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

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

Fryberger *Elementary School of Environmental Science*

6952 Hood Dr., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237 • fryberger.wsdk8.us



Michelle Scheiber
Principal

Noontime SuperHeroes

When you think of Noontime Supervisors, you think they come in around the lunch hour, watch the students eat and play, and then go home. However, here at Fryberger, they do so much more!

Our supervisors begin their day during morning recess for all of our students. They run and support our reading program that begins during morning recess. Oftentimes

our students do not feel motivated to read about their passions when they get home from school. That is why our supervisors, with the support of Mrs. Glennan, our librarian, provide a welcoming and calm environment for students to read for pleasure, work on their reading skills, and meet their personal reading goals.

Students who would like to read during recess can bring their book to a supervisor, receive a library card, and be sent to the library to enjoy their book. When the library is full of readers, the students can still take their book to the lunch tables where a supervisor is available for support.

In addition to supporting our reading program, our Noontime Supervisors support our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports system. Here at Fryberger, we SOAR! The most important component of SOAR during unstructured times is that all students are safe. Our supervisors monitor designated areas which include the lunch area, the play equipment, basketball courts, handball courts, the volleyball court, and the field.

On Soccer Wednesdays, the supervisors teach and monitor games to ensure that all students are being collaborative, supportive, and safe. Students who demonstrate SOAR behaviors (Safe, Accountable, Mindful, and Resilient) are awarded a Gold Slip by a supervisor. Gold Slips may be used at our student store each trimester. Our Noontime SuperHeroes are an integral part of Fryberger's daily support, and they make sure that our students are well cared for and safe.



Hayden *Elementary (K-5)*

14782 Eden St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7261 • hayden.wsdk8.us



Mark Murphy
Principal

Lunch Bunch

Hayden Elementary is very lucky to have such an amazing staff that continues to create and support all our students in a variety of ways. Thanks to two of our staff members, that tradition is continuing with the creation of Lunch Bunch.

Our RSP teacher and school counselor have worked together to create this new club for our Hayden students. Mrs. Goldbrunner and Mrs. Moore have put together a room

that students may go to during their lunch as an option to feel supported at Hayden. Students may sign up to attend the Lunch Bunch room to play games, make a new friend, talk to an adult, draw, read, or create something. At Hayden, we want to support the whole child: academically, socially and mentally, and this club helps us ensure that. We would like to thank our amazing Hayden PTA for purchasing the games and supplies for the room.

We are very excited to offer this to our students and a huge thank-you to Mrs. Goldbrunner and Mrs. Moore for supporting our students every way possible. Go Hawks!



Johnson *Middle School (6-8)*

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244 • johnson.wsdk8.us



Daniel Owens
Principal

Striving for Success

Johnson Middle School continues to look for new and innovative opportunities to allow its students to showcase their skills and talents in a variety of ways.

One such way that JMS allows innovation is through our Multimedia Department. The goal of the Multimedia Department is to allow all Johnson Middle School students access to the latest technology and allow them to communicate their ideas, goals, and dreams in the modern world. Students are encouraged to develop the skills needed for a 21st-century workforce. They have opportunities in the fields of videography, digital graphics, robotics, 3D printing, and design and coding.

In addition to the technological skills, Johnson prides itself on being able to encourage and promote the artistic skills and talents of its students. Through classes like art, woodshop, theater, and music, students are allowed to express themselves and explore the arts.

The skills needed for the future are ever-changing, and by giving our students the opportunity to explore and create, they are also obtaining the tools needed to tackle these changes. By providing students with a variety of elective opportunities, as well as after-school clubs and activities, Johnson Middle School hopes that its students will find those things in life that drive them and give them pride.

Johnson hopes that all of its students leave middle school with a new sense of excitement and wonderment about the many opportunities for success outside of the classroom walls.



Students in Johnson's Robotics Elective work on programming their machines.

Land School

15151 Temple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • land.wsdk8.us • 714/894-7311 Student Services • 714/898-8389 Child Development



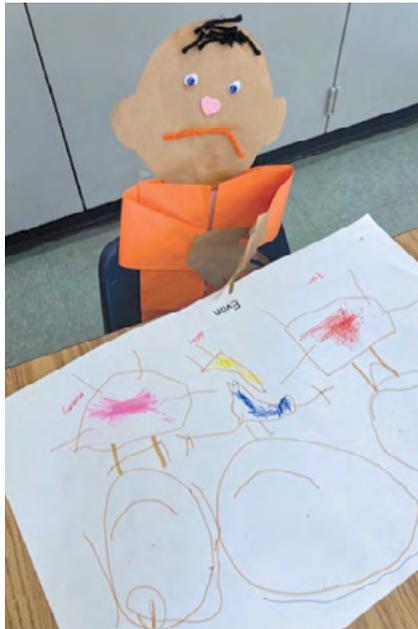
Nicole Baitx-Kennedy
*Executive Director,
Early Education &
Expanded Learning*

Parent Involvement

Here at Land, we recognize the importance of parent engagement in their children's academic journeys. When parents are involved in their children's school, the children tend to be more successful socially and academically.

Recently, we opened our doors for parents to join us for back-to-school night. Parents got the opportunity to meet with their children's teachers and learn more about what their children work on during school time. We were fortunate enough to have special guests Board of Trustees President Gurney, Superintendent Dr. Paik, and representatives from Westminster Family Resource Center.

We also held a really exciting opportunity when parents joined us at Land for a parent workshop to learn about building oral-language opportunities at home for their children! We had Cal State Long Beach early education master's degree candidates come to present. They worked with parents on different techniques they can use to help



Student work, self-portraits and drawings of their families.



Science area in a preschool classroom. All the children are little scientists.

build their children's oral-language development. During the workshop, parents sang, role-played, and collaborated with one another.

We will continue to offer opportunities to empower parents with tools to help support their children's emotional, social and academic development.



Teachers ready for back to school presentation.

Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • meairs.wsdk8.us



Dr. Kathy Kane
Principal

Red Ribbon Week

The month of October is full of celebrations. Red Ribbon Week is one of the yearly events that fall during this time.

Iva Meairs celebrated Red Ribbon Week from October 24th to October 31st. The focus of the week every year is to say no to drugs. In order to get the point across in a fun way everyday was given a theme. Monday was Team up Against Drugs and students and staff wore team jerseys. Tuesday was Friends Don't Let Friends Do Drugs and groups of friends dressed like twins, triplets and more. Wednesday was Sock It to Drugs and everyone wore crazy or mismatched socks. Thursday was Aren't You Plaid to Be Drug Free and everyone wore plaid. Friday was Be Proud to Be Drug Free and students and staff wore red, the proud color of the Meairs Eagles. We ended our week with crazy hair day on Halloween, Don't Let Drugs Make You Crazy! The message was serious but the week was filled



Twining at Meairs

with fun. Meairs students are aware of the dangers drugs and alcohol can bring. By participating in these events, along with classroom lessons and discussions our hope is that Meairs Eagles will always make good choices.



Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264 • schmitt.wsdk8.us



**Sarah
Nead-Rendon**
Principal

In-Person Book Fair

It was fantastic to be able to host an in-person book fair here at Schmitt Elementary. We have not had a book fair on our campus since 2019. Our students were enthusiastic and full of smiles as they came and picked out some new books.

We know that giving students an opportunity to choose their own books empowers them and inspires them to become stronger readers. Students have monthly reading goals, and new books help keep them motivated to meet these goals. Keeping students engaged in their reading will increase their comprehension and improve their reading skills. Through reading, students can move forward to achieve and have greater success in and out of school.

With our book fair, students are able to purchase books, and our classrooms and school site can also add to our selection of books so that we can maintain our student's interest in reading and help them continue to strive for their goals. It was wonderful to have our librarian, Mrs. Perzanowski, lead this book fair, and a huge thank-you

goes to our volunteers who helped to make this the most successful book fair we have had here at Schmitt!

We are excited to bring this opportunity to our Schmitt students and families and can't wait to do it again! We love being able to involve our families in events that help our students grow. Schmitt Lions love to read!



Students browsing for new books



Schroeder *College & Career Academy*

15151 Columbia Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7268 • schroeder.wsdk8.us



Dr. Shannon Villanueva
Principal

Focusing on Art and Careers

In 2022 Schroeder became the College and Career Academy. This year our art program will also focus on careers using modern art. Students will learn the Language of the Discipline for careers associated with various artists. Schroeder teacher, Ms. Kim Baer, provides presentations about selected artists for all students and then trains the teachers on how to do different art projects

with their students. Additional GATE icons are integrated into the presentations. Our first artist was Frank Lloyd Wright. Students learned a bit about his life and about the many houses and buildings he designed and built around the United States. Students will be architects designing buildings. Our first graders made houses out of paper bags. Second graders made urban, rural and suburban communities out of recycled materials. Future artists and careers will focus on Henri Rousseau as a zoologist and Georgia O'keeffe as a botanist.



Sequoia Academy *GATE Magnet Elementary*

5900 Iroquois Rd., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7271 • sequoia.wsdk8.us



Alisha Tardif
Principal

Soaring to Success!

Our Sequoia Academy Eagles were very busy during the month of October. The TK through sixth-graders have especially persevered to earn their Digital Citizenship badges by accessing and demonstrating how to responsibly use technology to learn, create, and participate.

Now our Eagles have moved on to STEA³M Academy adventures. In coding and robotics, the students define coding using Scratch Junior and Tykner, explain its real world significance, program and run different robots, and build a rover to transport an egg safely along a rocky surface. They create machines and build structures based upon the parameters they are presented, while identifying the purpose and surveying the needs and hazards as presented in the Engineering Academy.

In Media Arts, students familiarize themselves with different types of media, design video games and webpages, envision and create on the 3D printers, learn to advertise their inventions, present their viewpoints via podcasts, and demonstrate their learning through a variety of presentation options, such as TED Talks. They also research and create their own unique works of art and creative projects based on art masterpieces from around the world, while demonstrating their appreciation of cultural differences and the fundamental elements of visual art.

In the performing arts, students sing and perform songs from various cultures, memorize poems, explore and celebrate holidays from around the world through dance and song, and present short skits on their learning. Disney Theater also allows our students to demonstrate leadership and teamwork skills through public speaking, stage presence, choreography development, costume design, and backstage innovation.

In music, our students learn to identify musical notes, appreciate the genres of music, play a song on a keyboard, recorder, or ukelele, ring a tune on handbells, or create a musical instrument of their own. Sequoia Academy's STEA³M adventures provide our Eagles with rigorous opportunities to be disciplinarians and SOAR to success!



Stacey *Middle School*

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212 • stacey.wsdk8.us



Wendy Baird
Principal

After-School Fun

We are thrilled to offer our students fun after school-activities, clubs and sports. When students are involved in school, it strengthens their connection to school and they experience more success academically, socially and emotionally.

Additionally, we like to reward our students for their hard work at school by providing them with opportunities to gather with their peers. In October, our PTSA hosted our first dance of the school year, and it was wildly successful. The Aloha Dance was well attended, and our students had a great time dancing the afternoon away. Afterward, students said the dance was “awesome” and “so wonderful.”

The students also said, “It was fun” and “the DJ was cool.” We are so happy that our students had a great time and look forward to future after-school events.

Stacey Middle School has a variety of after-school sports such as football, basketball, soccer, volleyball, badminton, track and esports. Some of Stacey’s clubs include art club, gardening club, game club, and social club. Students can also create their own clubs if they are interested in something we currently do not offer. Recently, we had our first football game against Johnson Middle School. Stacey Middle School was victorious and beat Johnson 26-6. We are so proud of our football team!

We love seeing our students flourish both inside and outside the classroom!



Warner *Middle School (6–8)*

14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281 • warner.wsdk8.us



Dr. Kenneth Lopour
Principal

Wonderful Programs Help!

The Warner Wildcat family has had a great start to the year! Students are continuing to learn in the classrooms while we are all having some great fun, too! Our students have been enjoying the fall weather and are looking forward to the upcoming holiday season. We continue to operate many amazing programs that provide students with engaging learning opportunities and creating a positive and welcoming campus culture.

One such program is our Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL) program. There are over 50 students in this course who work to create a positive campus culture through activities, trainings, conflict mediations, and a variety of other actions and activities. One such program they operate is a lunchtime drop-in program open to all students. This program is intended to help those who may have difficulty making friends, fitting in, or socializing or that may spend much of their free time at school alone. PAL provides a welcoming space for all students to go at lunch to make new friends, have fun, and learn to enjoy their school

even more. They have operated this program for many years, and it has certainly made this campus a better place for everyone.

Another wonderful program at Warner is our school's Robotics Program, which includes an Introductory and an Advanced Robotics class. Our Advance Robotics team participates in First LEGO League (FLL) competition as well as doing microcontroller programming and 3D printing. These activities include the use of learning in science, technology, engineering and math through exciting hands-on learning. Participants gain real-world problem-solving experience through a guided, global robotics program, building a better future together. They apply skills in a competition while building habits like confidence and problem solving. This program has been operating since 2016, and many of these students have continued their STEAM education into high school and beyond.



Some Robotics fun!

Webber *Elementary (K-6)*

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • webber.wsdk8.us



Robert Murdock
Principal

Red Ribbon Week

This month, Webber Elementary School celebrated Red Ribbon Week. The Webber Student Council, and our newly reformed PTA collaborated to create several memorable events for our community. Our students participated in activities designed

to encourage a drug-free lifestyle. Many of our classrooms participated in the Red Ribbon Week Door Decorating contest. We had a tremendous turn out at our Spooky Skate Night, and our first annual Trunk or Treat with Book Fair was an overwhelming success. Seeing the Webber community come together to celebrate making good life choices was fantastic! We can't wait for next year!



Willmore *Elementary (K-5)*

7122 Maple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-3765 • willmore.wsdk8.us



Tiejumi "Domi" Ellis
Principal

Coding is Cool!

Willmore's Dual Language Program combines Spanish and coding to prepare students to be global citizens. Our team has been gearing up all summer, learning about our new robots. Our TK through first-graders will be coding Bee-Bot, a robot designed for young children.

The colorful, easy-to-operate and friendly robot is a perfect tool for teaching sequencing, estimation, problem-solving and just having fun! Students will learn to program Bee-Bots using sequences of simple commands, gaining fluency in planning, testing and debugging programs of increasing complexity.

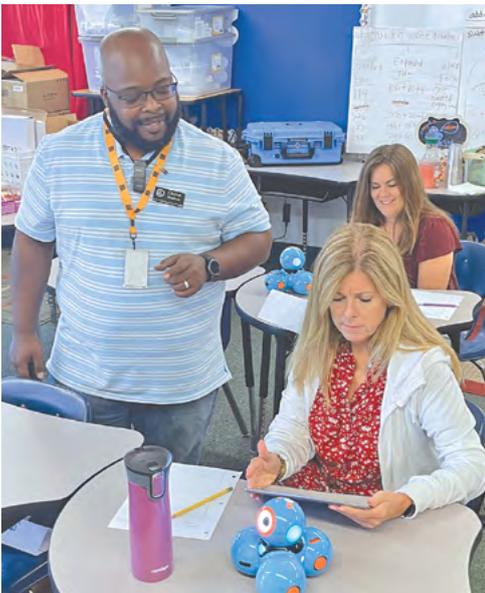
Second- through third-graders will be coding Dash, turning virtual coding into tangible learning experiences, utilizing multiple sensors and interacting with and responding to Dash's surroundings. Fourth- through



sixth-graders will be coding Spheros, the most advanced coding robotic ball to date, providing even more ways to innovate and apply unique programming. Even our teachers had fun learning and programming our new bots!

Additionally, a global vehicle corporation teamed up with our sixth-graders to build individual hydrogen-powered mini-cars. Each student worked with their team to problem-solve, debug, plan, test, and race their cars. The engagement was astounding! Our superintendent, Dr. Cyndi Paik joined in on the fun and worked with our students during the build.

We are so thankful for Dr. Paik and the corporation's team for bringing this exciting experience to Willmore to enhance our Coding Program! To quote Bill Gates, "Learning to program stretches your mind, and helps you think better, creates a way of thinking about things that is helpful in all domains."



GRANDMA, WHY DO YOU HAVE CRACKS IN YOUR FACE?



Now Available on
**AMAZON &
BARNES AND NOBLE**

Grandma, Why Do You Have Cracks In Your Face? Is a question many grandmothers have heard from their grandchildren. When a grandchild finds her beautiful lost doll, she understands beauty is more than skin deep.