

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Savanna School District



Volume 16, Issue 62

March 2023



Board Members Dr. Zambrano, Ms. Winkler, Mr. Shook, Reid Principal Ms. Garcia, Mrs. Karanick, and Mrs. Brown, join Dr. Johnson on a visit to Reid School classrooms where they enjoyed listening to students and teachers share what they've learned so far this school year.

A young boy with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a yellow sweater and a green backpack, is walking outdoors on a paved path. He is looking off to the side with a slight smile. The background shows shadows of trees on the ground.

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Superintendent

What an exciting, eventful school year this continues to be for students and staff in the Savanna School District as we continue to prepare Today's Learners to be Tomorrow's Leaders! We're proud of the wonderful things that are happening throughout the district that support and enhance learning for our students. A combination of a rich, well-rounded curriculum, highly qualified and caring staff and a long-standing commitment

to excellence is continuing to prepare our students to be successful 21st Century citizens. Our dedication to integrating STEM across the curriculum ensures we provide students with real-life applications to meet the demands of an ever-changing global society as we create the workforce of tomorrow.

We're excited to share the success of our students as they utilize a variety of technological tools on a daily basis. It's amazing to see how proficient even our youngest students are on electronic devices; these children are indeed digital natives using technological tools to support their learning! As we visit classrooms, it's very common to see students listening to audiobooks on handheld devices, identifying ending consonants using a variety of apps, accessing personal math trainers on classroom computers, demonstrating their comprehension of library books with online assessments, practicing keyboarding, creating finished projects using videos and green screen technologies, and accessing reading and math lessons to further their understanding of concepts and skills. It's a new world our children are growing up in with access to tools never imagined a few years ago; I'm so proud that they have risen to the challenge! The continued focus on infusing the use of technology into the curriculum will help ensure that we are indeed preparing Today's Learners to become Tomorrow's Leaders with digital literacy skills that will propel them into college and career readiness.

As our students engage in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) lessons, they are embracing concepts of engineering where they've built bridges and robots, programmed micro-computers and created electrical circuits, demonstrated energy absorption by creating protective capsules as part of an egg drop, built structures to withstand an earthquake of up to a magnitude 9.0, tested concepts of magnetism and gravity, developed a water pipeline, and built mechanical hands. They've learned basic computer science skills such as coding tiny pint-sized robots. These students are indeed the dreamers, designers, and architects of tomorrow; that we are indeed preparing Today's Learners to become Tomorrow's Leaders as they continue to excel in the

fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math!

It's imperative that we continue to partner with parents to support students both at school and at home in order to prepare Tomorrow's Leaders. This partnership was evidenced during our 29th annual 'Reach the Reader' family reading night. Throughout this fun-filled evening, parents and children were involved in activities

that focused on literacy. Parents participated in a keynote session led by children's author John Archambault and an expert in the field of reading, with National and International acclaim. Parents learned strategies they could use at home to help support their children in reading while children were involved in a variety of reading-related activities. With nearly 700 parents and children in attendance, it was apparent to us that our school community is eager to learn how they can help children become better readers, how to motivate children to read for fun, and how to instill a lifelong love of learning in children! This annual event would not have been possible without the tremendous support of the entire Savanna School District



Reach the Reader Presenter John Archambault, Board Members Chris Brown, Tina Karanick, Dr. Gay Zambrano and John Shook

See **DR. SUE JOHNSON** • Page 4

Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders

Full Day Programs • Newly Modernized Campuses
Excellent Neighborhood Schools • Strong Academic Programs
Building Skills for 21st Century Learners

★ Kindergarten ★

Children must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2023

★ Transitional Kindergarten ★

Children who turn 5 years old between
September 2, 2023 and April 2, 2024

★ Early Admission Transitional Kindergarten (Wait List) ★

Children who turn 5 years old between
April 3, 2024 and May 2, 2024

Documents needed to enroll

- ✓ Proof of Birth Date
- ✓ Immunization Records

Kindergarten and
Transitional Kindergarten
Register Now

for the 2023-2024 School Year!



Savanna School District

For more information
visit our website www.savsd.org
or call us at (714)236-3800

DR. SUE JOHNSON • From Page 3

staff, with over 100 volunteers who generously donated their time to present student sessions, provide infant care, assist with parking and serving dinner, and much, much more, demonstrating once again that we will do all we can to ensure Today's Learners become Tomorrow's Leaders.

We can't wait to showcase our students' learning at Open Houses at each of our schools. Students and teachers alike are excited about the opportunity to share the writing, reports, projects, and more that demonstrate the tremendous work students have completed throughout the year. We invite our community to come and see all that our students have learned this year, demonstrating indeed that the next generation is on track to become Tomorrow's Leaders.

When I reflect on what makes a good school district a GREAT school district, I recognize that it is "people;" people like our staff who are committed to what they do each day to ensure student success that we can be proud of; people like our parents who provide the home support for our students so that they can reach their potential; and people like all those in our community who have contributed to our successes in so many ways. I cannot tell you how proud I am of all that has been accomplished by students and staff throughout this year! I've witnessed our teachers, support staff and administrators welcome students to school daily; marveled at the support students received from teachers and support staff when they were having 'off' days; and witnessed an incredible team step up to ensure support was provided in ways we couldn't have imagined necessary a few short years ago.

I'm truly honored to serve alongside such a dedicated, committed team to ensure that each and every one of our students is provided the best—as they deserve nothing less. Because of all of the support from a wide variety of people in our community, the 2022-23 school year is continuing to be a successful one in which we take tremendous pride; it is through these successes that we believe today's learners will be amazing future leaders!

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Covering the
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Netragrednik

Dr. Sue Johnson begins this issue with her message on page 3 highlighting how the Savanna School District's students are Today's Learners preparing to be Tomorrow's Leaders. Technology is advancing at an alarming rate and it is wonderful students are being prepared for successful futures.

Of course, reading is the foundation for learning. On page 12 are two student book reviews. If your child would like to be a student columnist reviewing favorite books, please email me for information. It encourages children to read when they read how another student enjoyed a specific book.

Our next issue is May 10.

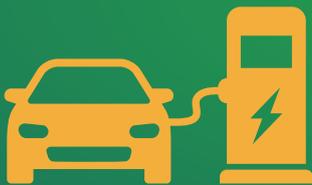


**Happy
Birthday
Dr. Seuss!**



BEACH BLVD

Community Resource Fair



MARCH 18
9AM-1PM

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How to get kids on a good sleep schedule when it's time to "Spring Forward"

By: Gary Feldman, M.D., developmental & behavioral pediatric and sleep medicine, Stramski Children's Developmental Center, MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

Spring is an exciting time when we receive an additional hour of sunlight. While the annual daylight savings time, "spring forward," offers more sunlight in the evening, it also means that we lose an hour of sleep. This time change can disrupt normal sleep patterns for children.

Some tips to help your child adjust to the time change:

- Gradually Shift Bedtime — Have your child move their bedtime up by 20-minute increments each night starting three days before the time change.
- Keep a Bedtime Routine — Bedtime routines help cultivate strong sleep cues to help your child fall asleep at bedtime. If your child is not falling asleep after bedtime, don't give in to excuses they may make to get out of bed. Keep them calm and preserve the bedtime routine.

- Turn Off the Light — Ensure your child's room is dark at bedtime and expose your child to light at wakeup time.
- Wake Your Child Up on Time — In the morning, don't compensate for the lost hour of sleep. Wake your child up based on current clock time.
- Patience is Key — Be patient if your child is sleepy for a few days. Try not to let them nap if it's not their usual practice.

Teenagers may take longer to adjust to the new time change.

This year's daylight-saving time begins at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 12, 2023. Don't forget to mark your calendar to set your clocks forward one hour. Here's wishing you and your family healthy sleep.



Athena, Age 2



It takes a village.

At just seven weeks old, Athena's heart stopped. MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital saved her life. Our cardiac specialists, nurses and therapists all worked together. Reassuring her family. Helping her grow strong. And forging a successful path forward. Because we knew, to help Athena, it would take a village. Dozens of highly trained pediatric specialists across our network. Giving families access to exceptional, specialized care. Now Athena can be a kid again...and her heart is full.

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Cerritos School

3731 Cerritos Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3830 • <https://www.savsd.org/school/cerritos>



Lauren Stuart
Principal

Cerritos Cheetahs Celebrate

Cerritos School celebrated their 4th annual Kindness Week from January 23th-27th. Each day students were asked to show different random acts of kindness. Cerritos Cheetahs were able to show various ways to be thoughtful, respectful, polite, and helpful to all. The students wrote thank you cards for different community members and those who have impacted their lives. It was great seeing our Cheetahs spreading kindness through the school and community.

In the spirit of celebrating, Cerritos students, staff and families Celebrated Valentine's Day with a fun Valentine's Day Dance. Students had the opportunity to play fun games, participate in a raffle to have lunch with a teacher, make Valentine's Day cards, and dance the night away. All of the students, staff, and families had a wonderful time.

Cerritos Cheetahs also celebrated Read Across America Week. Teachers and staff take the week to raise awareness about the importance of reading and literature. Many of the classes had members of the community come and read their favorite children's book to the class. Teachers used the time to introduce new authors and illustrators to their students. Students, teachers and staff also celebrated the week with special dress up days. Each day, the classes participated by dressing up in their coziest pajamas, their brightest clothes or their best mismatched outfits. Everyone spent the week reading, celebrating literacy and encouraging stronger reading practices.

These celebrations show that Cheetahs are kind, considerate and caring. They embrace the fun times and enjoy learning. They find creative ways to make learning an adventure each and every day. They are truly Respectful, Organized, Accountable and Resilient each day, showing their ROARing school pride! We are Cerritos Cheetahs!



Hansen School

1300 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3835 • <https://www.savsd.org/school/hansen>



Amy Slevcove
Principal

Hansen Teacher Named Savanna School District's Teacher of the Year

Hansen staff and students gathered together to celebrate Mrs. Julie Martin who was selected as the Savanna School District's 2024 Teacher of the Year. With the surprise announcement by Superintendent Dr. Johnson and the Savanna Board Members, Mrs. Martin was brought to tears as her Hansen family cheered and congratulated

her. Mrs. Martin has been teaching for 28 years, impacting the lives of hundreds of students and their families.

Currently teaching first grade at Hansen School, Mrs. Martin is passionate about helping young learners get off to a strong start. You can often find her using songs and rhymes to reinforce concepts she's taught. Her classroom is filled with pictorial input charts, sentence

frames and thinking maps; these tools help build students' comprehension, communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills across all areas of the curriculum.

Throughout her tenure, Mrs. Martin has served in many roles contributing to the success of her students and the Hansen community. She has been an integral part of Hansen's Fall Festival, an event that welcomes families for an evening of games, prizes, music, and fun. Additionally, Mrs. Martin has volunteered for Savanna's Reach the Reader event, Family STEM Day, the School Site Council, Student Study Team, and site leadership teams. Currently, Mrs. Martin is the secretary of the Hansen PTA and organizing this month's Dance-a-Thon. Her passion for her community and for helping students succeed is contagious. It's clear to see why we are excited that she will represent all of the outstanding teachers in Savanna. We are so excited to celebrate this amazing recognition with Mrs. Martin!



Board Members Mr. Shook and Mrs. Karanick, Teacher of the Year Mrs. Martin, Board Member Dr. Zambrano, Hansen Principal Mrs. Slevcove, and Superintendent Dr. Johnson.



Jason Blade
Principal

Celebrating Students

The Holder staff had the opportunity to honor and celebrate with our students during the second trimester awards assembly for the 2022-2023 school year. Teachers at all grade levels were able to recognize students for their hard work, dedication, athletic ability, outstanding citizenship, effort, improvement and academic achievement over the course of the second trimester.

The only thing better than seeing the pure joy on our students' faces as they were recognized for their outstanding effort and achievement was hearing the applause and cheers of support from their peers and family in the audience. It was an awesome day for the Holder staff to be able to celebrate our students' success with their family and friends. We're very proud of all our Holder Hawks and their dedication to always being Honorable, Accountable, Welcoming, Kind and Scholarly!

Social-Emotional Learning Helps Students Achieve

It's well documented that Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is an essential component in helping students thrive both academically and in life. Since the pandemic began, we've navigated uncharted territory, which is why the emphasis on SEL is more important than ever. Holder Hawks have learned a variety of coping skills through social emotional lessons aimed at supporting and providing them with tools necessary to navigate the myriad of challenges they may face. In addition to identifying and being able to regulate themselves, the lessons are designed to help students identify how their actions may impact others and strategies they can use to make good decisions and have a positive impact on those people around them. I couldn't be more proud of Holder Staff for their hard work and dedication to the academic success and emotional well-being of our students.



Twila Reid *School*

720 S. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3840 • <https://www.savsd.org/school/reid>



Maria Garcia
Principal

Hundredth Day of School

At Twila Reid success begins daily at 8:15 a.m. Reid staff strive and work hard to provide all our Reid Rams with the best opportunities and experiences. Our teachers and staff provide enrichment to all our students through academic, social-emotional learning, science, technology and STEM lessons. Students also learn outside the classroom through organized games, friendship groups, and daily school life adventures. Every day students are learning skills inside and outside the classroom preparing them for the next steps along their journey in life.

In addition, we are fortunate to have two counselors who provide counseling sessions for students and two Title

academic support. I have personally seen tremendous growth in all our Reid Rams, both academically and socially. I am very proud of each and every student!

On January 24, 2023 students and staff celebrated the hundredth day of school--100 days of students' learning and success for the 2022-23 school year. Teachers celebrated this milestone with balloons, certificates and lots of fun! From making posters with 100 items to designing images of what they believe they will look like when they are 100 years old, students found many ways to show their knowledge of how much one hundred is!

The only thing better than seeing and experiencing all the learning that is occurring at Reid is watching the support students continually receive from their family and friends as they master each day of this school year. Daily I am honored to see all Reid Rams learning today to lead tomorrow!



Kindergarten sitting in a 100 for the 100th day of school.

W.I.N.G.S. *After School Program*

1300 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/484-9026 • <https://www.savsd.k12.ca.us/info/school-district/after-school-program-new-for-2022-23>



Phoenix Pineda
Coordinator

Our Schools are Alive with the Sounds of Music

For over thirty years, Savanna School District has provided string instrument instruction for upper grade students. This year, we're excited to begin a new partnership as we create the Savanna Strings program! We can't contain our excitement at being able to provide students with bi-weekly hour-long group violin lessons free of

charge to our students. Savanna Strings is held after school at each of our four schools. Teams of instructors are available to assist students with adjusting grips, tuning violins and working with small groups of students to fine tune their skills. Students began the program with the basics of reading notes and learning how to hold the violin and bow. They've quickly progressed through the rhythm and tempo of playing the violin. They have demonstrated amazing progress in their ability to play the violin! The school year will culminate with a District-wide performance by Savanna Strings students from all of our schools in the Cypress College Theatre.

We are equally excited to introduce our Cerritos School Choir, held during WINGS, for children in first through sixth grade. The students meet weekly under the guidance of WINGS Group Leader Abigail Meza. Under her direction, the students have learned about keeping their

voices in tune and harmonious. The Cerritos Choir, a name the students gave themselves, performed at the Buena Park Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in December, serenading the audience with holiday tunes. Recently, they performed at the Buena Park City Council Meeting where their rendition of the National Anthem and You're a Grand Old Flag stole the hearts of all in attendance.

Our schools are indeed alive with the sounds of music, both instrumental and vocal, as students demonstrate their love of music.



Savanna Strings program.



Cerritos Choir at Buena Park City Council Meeting

Aubtin's Review



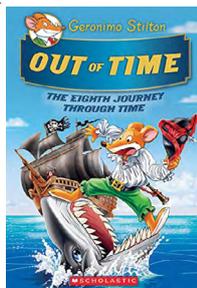
Aubtin M.

Fun Ride through History

Title: *Geronimo Stilton – Out Of Time*

Author: Elisabetta Dami

Geronimo Stilton is a best-selling author running a newspaper called The Rodent's Gazette. He lives in New Mouse City, Mouse Island. Geronimo and



his friends are at the museum for a very special event. Then three artifacts went missing and director of the museum asked Geronimo to help. Geronimo goes off on a journey through time by a time machine. He meets Alexander the Great, Cleopatra, Sir Francis Drake and Mozart. Can Geronimo find all the artifacts before time runs out?

This is an adventurous, historical, educational and a very funny book. I enjoyed learning about famous people in the history in such a fun book. I hope you will too.

Aubtin is a 1st Grader. When not playing, Aubtin does writing, reading, and drawing. He also likes sports, swimming, music, computers, and trains. He cares a lot about his family and friends.

Kailani's Review



Kailani T.

Perfect vs Excellence

"Strive for Excellence" is book 2 of 4 in the Perfect Balance Gymnastics Optional Series by Melissa



Torres. The story is about Marissa, a hard-working gymnast and a smart girl who has always done very well in school and in gymnastics. At the start of 6th grade, Marissa

expects herself to continue to be perfect in school and in gymnastics. Is training level 6 optional while starting middle school that difficult? Can Marissa still have a successful competition season while keeping up with 6th grade schoolwork? Can she still be perfect? Does she have to be perfect?

I am thankful to have finished reading this book before my rough weekend I just had. My last gymnastics meet was the worst ever, and it was on the weekend I had so much homework. While being disappointed from the meet, this book literally saved me from being too upset with myself. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars and would highly recommend it to anyone who thinks perfection is the only way to be.

Kailani is a 5th grader who loves to read. When not reading, Kailani likes to play with her brother, jump on the trampoline, listen to music, and ride horses.

Fun Things and Places–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 Savanna in the subject line.

Entries must be received by April 15, 2023

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

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BIKE RIDE

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REUNION

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VIDEOS

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