

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Ocean View School District



Volume 19, Issue 112

June 2023

The Annual OVSD Special Olympics



This was an incredibly heartwarming and inspirational event!



YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS

ADVANCED HEALTHCARE NEAR YOU

- Full-service acute care hospital with state-of-the-art robotics technology
- 24/7 Emergency Care for all ages
- Imaging, Lab and Radiology Services
- Intensive Care
- Pediatric Subacute Unit
- Respiratory and Rehabilitation Program
- Robotics-assisted Orthopedics, General Surgery and Surgical Weight-Loss
- Spine Pain and Surgery



**Foothill Regional
Medical Center**

14662 Newport Ave., Tustin 92780 | (714) 619-7700
FoothillRegionalMedicalCenter.com
FoothillRegionalCares@AltaHospitals.com

SUPERINTENDENT

Transitional Kindergarten Now Open to Children Who Are 4 yrs old by September 1, 2023



Dr. Michael Conroy
Superintendent

Transitional kindergarten (TK) is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program for children who do not yet meet the minimum age criterion for admittance into kindergarten. Transitional kindergarten focuses on the process of learning, which means helping children develop the skills required for effective learning. In order to accommodate more children and families, Ocean View School District has moved up the birth date requirement for TK.

Children are eligible for TK if they turn 4 on or before September 1, 2023.

Students who complete the TK program attend kindergarten the following school year. TK offers several benefits for children as they transition from preschool to formal schooling. Some key benefits of TK include:

School Readiness: TK helps children develop the necessary skills and knowledge to be better prepared for kindergarten and beyond. It focuses on social, emotional, and academic readiness, ensuring a smoother transition into elementary school.

Age-Appropriate Learning: TK provides a developmentally appropriate curriculum tailored to the needs of young learners. It allows children an additional year to grow and learn in an environment that emphasizes play, socialization, and hands-on activities.

Essential Skills Building: TK uses a curriculum based on the California Preschool Learning Foundations, designed to foster a love for learning. The program builds essential

skills in: language and literacy, mathematics, physical development, health, visual and performing arts, science, history-social science, English language development, and social emotional learning.

Social and Emotional Development: TK promotes social and emotional growth by offering opportunities for children to develop important skills like cooperation, sharing, communication, and self-regulation. They learn how to navigate a structured classroom setting, interact with peers, and build positive relationships with teachers.

Individualized Attention: With smaller class sizes and lower student-to-teacher ratios, TK teachers can provide more individualized attention to each child. This allows educators to address the specific needs and learning styles of students, fostering a supportive and nurturing learning environment.

Smooth Transition: TK bridges the gap between preschool and kindergarten, making the transition to formal schooling smoother for children. They become familiar with school routines, expectations, and academic demands, which reduces anxiety and increases their confidence as they progress to the next grade level.

Long-Term Benefits: Research suggests that children who attend TK programs demonstrate improved school readiness, higher academic achievement, and increased likelihood of high school graduation. The skills and foundations established in TK can have lasting positive effects on a child's educational journey.

For more information and to enroll, visit www.bit.ly/OVSD-rightfit.

 **Ocean View School District**

FREE

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

**For children that turn 4 yrs old
by September 1, 2023**

Board of Trustees



Patricia Singer
President



Gina Clayton-Tarvin
Vice-President



Jack C. Souders
Clerk



Morgan Westmoreland
Member



Norm Westwell
Member

We Love Our Volunteers!

By Patricia Singer, President, Board of Trustees

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead

When I read that famous quote, I think of our incredible Ocean View school volunteers. This group of dedicated community members positively impact the lives of our students, teachers and staff each and every day. My fellow Trustees and I had the pleasure of recognizing and thanking our outstanding school volunteers at our Board Meeting on May 23. We appreciate our volunteers more than I can say, and here are just a few of the ways they add value in OVSD:

Additional support: Volunteers provide additional support in the classroom which can help teachers manage their workload and enhance the learning experience for students.

Individualized attention: With volunteers in the

classroom, students can receive more individualized attention and support. This can lead to improved academic performance and increased confidence among students.

Diverse expertise: Volunteers often come from various backgrounds, bringing a diverse range of skills and knowledge to the school environment. This enriches the educational experience, exposes students to different perspectives, and broadens their horizons.

Positive role models: Volunteers can serve as positive role models for students. Their presence and engagement demonstrate the importance of community involvement, kindness, and a love for learning.

Community engagement: School volunteers promote community engagement and foster stronger connections between schools and the local community.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to thank our volunteers for supporting teachers and staff, enriching the educational experience, and building a strong sense of community within our schools!



Outstanding OVSD Volunteers:

Circle View: Tiffanie Genarro
College View: Carinn Mercer
Golden View: Jeff Nicholson
Harbour View: Jennifer Rank
Hope View: Jessica Labrenz

Lake View: Denise Cornelsene
Marine View: Tonia Castillo
Mesa View: Terri Kasravi
Oak View Preschool: Jocelyn Nelson
Oak View: Jesse Amezola

Spring View: Staci Sarkisian
Star View: Jenny Van
Village View: Melody Gekas
Vista View: Maribel Fernandez
Westmont: Tasha Nasserara

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Covering the
OCEAN VIEW 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 and Mie Kawamura

COPY EDITORS: Kate Karp, Anna Zappia

SOCIAL MEDIA: Nancy Lueder

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 Ocean View School District does not endorse the

advertisers in this publication.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik



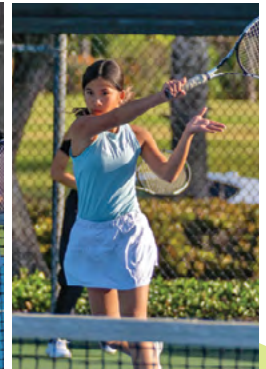
Start them early. They
will read forever.

Thank you for always including *School News* among your reading choices. Our scheduled issues for next school year are September, November, January, March, May and June.

Have a wonderful summer and remember to include the library among your activity choices.

Have a FUN Summer

Summer Programs for Ages 5-18



“Inspiring Junior Tennis Players to Achieve Their Goals”



THE HUNTINGTON CLUB
6501 Palm Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648
gnrjrtennishc@gmail.com

714.710.1508
www.GripNRipthc.com



Our Injury Prevention Team Encourages Proper Car Safety to Keep Kids Safe

By: Jennifer Rodriguez, coordinator, Injury Prevention Program, MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

Car accidents can be devastating but by taking the appropriate precautions, you can help prevent injury and death.

Using the appropriate car seat for your child's age, height, and weight is crucial. California law requires infants to be rear-facing until they are 2 years old or have reached the seat's maximum height and weight limit. At that point, children will transition to a forward-facing car seat. Next, children will transition to a booster seat. Children age 8 or older or 4'9 or taller, may use the vehicle seat belt as long as it fits properly.

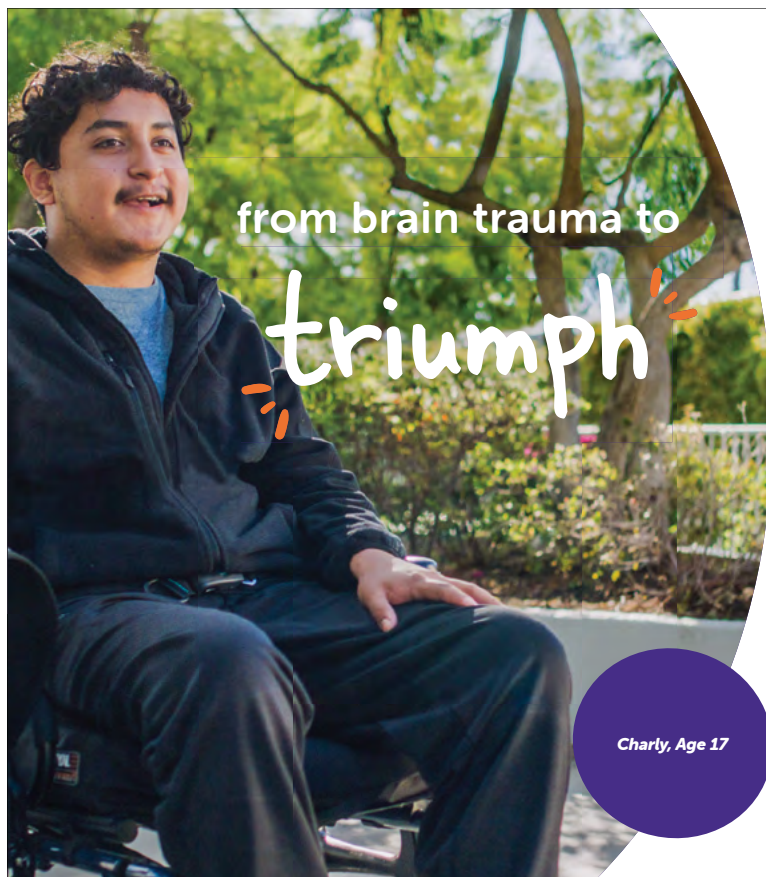
Having the car seat properly installed is also critical in maximizing safety. When installing the seat, make sure it is tightly secured and doesn't wobble or move more than an inch in any direction.

Emphasize the importance of seat belts to children as soon as they are old enough to understand. Make it a rule for everyone in the car to buckle up, every time — no exceptions.

Parents can lead by example by making sure you buckle up as well. Seat belts are the most effective way to protect against serious injuries in a car.

The Injury Prevention Program at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach focuses on providing safety education to prevent injury. Dedicated injury prevention coordinators offer bicycle, pedestrian and car seat safety, infant CPR classes, as well as certified bicycle and skateboard helmets for children in need. The Injury Prevention Program team attends community events throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties regularly, so that they can educate children and their families on how to stay safe and avoid hospitalization.

For more information on how to keep your child safe in the car, visit millerchildrens.org/injuryprevention.



from brain trauma to
triumph

Charly, Age 17



It takes a village.

Charly suffered a fall while biking — a severe brain trauma that threatened his life. Until Miller Children's & Women's Hospital helped his brain heal. Our therapists helped him walk and talk again and our highly specialized pediatric team dedicated themselves to his recovery. Because we knew, to lift Charly back up again, it would take a village. So when we watched Charly walk the stage at high school graduation — supported by his physical therapist — we knew he'd only keep going.

Learn more.
millerchildrens.org/care

Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach
Cherese Mari Lulhere Children's Village
Outpatient Specialty Centers from the
South Bay to Orange County

Ask Dr. Shari



Dr. Shari Sweetnam

Good for the Mind & Great for the Heart

The way we choose to spend our time and the activities in which we engage help form our value system. With a wide array of possibilities and opportunities, volunteering is a positive and vastly beneficial way of helping young people develop a strong sense of self.

Volunteering offers benefits spanning from the intellectual and spiritual to the educational and professional. As young people give of themselves and their time, they can learn about being selfless. In a busy world of “pursuit of personal happiness,” too often the intrinsic values of empathy and giving are the lessons that are overlooked. Helping others via a structured volunteer program is a positive and safe way to develop oneself in this regard.

Additional Benefits of Volunteerism:

- **Learning:** Acquiring a new trade or skill can help teens see the world in a bigger picture and be inspired to continue to expand intellectually.
- **Networking:** Volunteering brings people of like minds, interests and values together. This will inevitably lead to positive interaction and healthy relationships.
- **Building the Résumé:** Engaging in service to others and taking the initiative to learn new trades or skills is a brilliant way to expand your portfolio. This is especially beneficial for students and young professionals.
- **Personal Growth:** As Mahatma Gandhi said, “The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others.” Teens who experience growth at an early age are likely to continue cultivating positive behavior and friendships.

Motivational Speaker, Founder of *The Brainpower Programs for Schools*, Author, Consultant, Radio Host contact: info@doctorshari.com, twitter: DrShariS, Youtube: Dr. ShariS, LinkedIN: Dr. Shari Sweetnam

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



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.



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



TAX FREE RETIREMENT INCOME

If you are saving money for retirement in an IRA, SEP, 401k, 403b, or 457 account... scan this QR code to learn how tax free can be better than tax deductible.

PIP
PTD
PRATT INSURANCE
BROKERS
ASSET PROTECTION SPECIALISTS

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

Child Development Programs

17131 Emerald Ln., Huntington Beach • 16692 Landau Ln., Huntington Beach • 8251 Heil Ave., Westminster • 714/847-2551 X 1107 • www.ovsd.org/domain/1652



Sue Broderson
Coordinator

A Salute to Our Volunteers

Since it first opened over 20 years ago, Oak View Preschool has had a rich history of parent involvement and support. On May 9, 2023, one of our

dedicated parents was honored by the Ocean View School Board for her dedication to the children of Oak View Preschool.

Jocelyn Nelson was honored for her fundraising and volunteer work. Mrs. Nelson organized a restaurant night that was very successful for both the restaurant and preschool. In addition, Mrs. Nelson has also been involved in our Parent Advisory Committee working with the school to share a parent's perspective on activities and events. Thank you, Mrs. Nelson for your continued dedication to Oak View Preschool!



Our preschool families are the backbone of our organization. Without our dedicated volunteers we would not be able to offer a rich variety of activities. It's our volunteers who decorate for events and create backdrops for photo booths. They assist with our students and help with cutting and organizing supplies.

This year the parent volunteers also honored our staff members during Staff Appreciation Week with an over-the-top luncheon of home-made and catered food. The feast was absolutely delicious. Even though we

were not able to spotlight all of our wonderful volunteers on May 9th, we also appreciate our parents and grandparents who generously offer their time, skills, and resources to help support our children.



Circle View Elementary (K-5)

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5305 • www.ovsd.org/circle

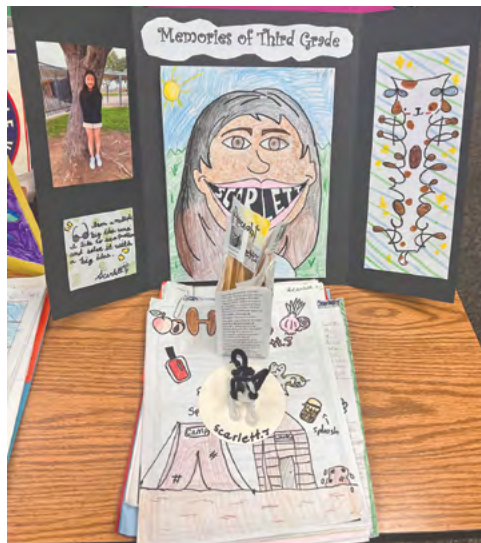
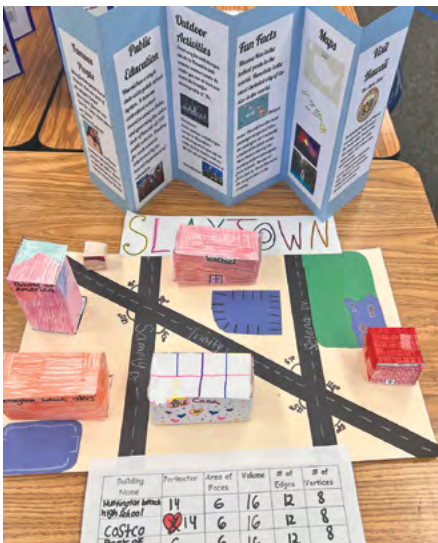
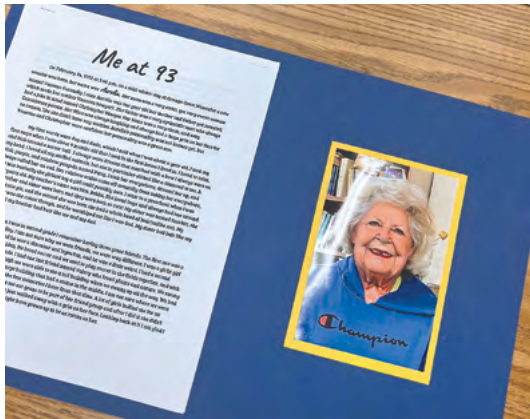


Jessica Haag
Principal

Circle View Community

Circle View recently had our annual Open House. Our classrooms were filled with families, students had amazing work displayed, and there was great evidence of progress and perseverance. There aren't enough pictures to truly capture all the phenomenal work, projects, thinking, drafts, creativity, and so much more in our classrooms. We loved having our Circle View

Families again on our campus and the opportunity to share the learning that goes on in our classrooms. We love having a productive partnership with our community to ensure our Eagles can achieve their highest potential. The support and involvement of families is greatly appreciated by the teachers and staff, and it's the number one thing parents can do for their children's education. And our Circle View PTO outdid themselves once again! We had a wonderful silent auction and incredible entertainment. Our luau-themed Open House had a photo booth, food trucks, tattoos, music, dancers, and more. It was an extraordinary night!



College View *Elementary* (K-5)

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • www.ovsd.org/college



Elaine Burney
Principal

Second Grade Scientists

Our second grade scientists have been hard at work learning about various habitats, and what kinds of plants and animals one would find in each one and why. The children created habitat dioramas, and they did an oral report to share information about it. They also used their chromebooks in class to research an animal, and they used Google Slides to create their report.

One of the highlights was learning about various birds and how the “design” of their beaks depends on what and how they eat. The children were asked to sketch a couple of ideas for a bird feeder that would be appropriate for their type of bird. Once they were happy with their ideas, they were given supplies to create a prototype of their bird feeder. The students went above and beyond to create the right bird feeder for their bird. We think we definitely have some future scientists!



Golden View *Environmental Science School*

17251 Golden View Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • www.ovsd.org/golden



Lori Florgan
Principal

Golden View Loves Reading!

Over the past two months the kindergarten, first, and second grade students in Mrs. Perrigo's class have been diving into reading and working towards reaching their goals. Mrs. Perrigo has shown her students the importance of sharing what they read by prompting students to write about their favorite book and share their writings with their friends. Together, her

students have read over 200 books and have tracked their reading progress on a class poster. For every book that is read, a square is colored in as a visual aid to help students see how much they have read. The students recently celebrated with a Reading Picnic and Lunch on the Lawn. Two students also earned a spot on the principal's wall of fame for reading 10 books in a book series and will join Principal Florgan for a celebratory lunch. Mrs Perrigo's class has set a new goal to read 50 more books before the last day of school!



Harbour View *Elementary (K-5)*

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-6602 • www.ovsd.org/harbour



Francesca Ligman
Principal

Third Grade Pioneer Days

The third-grade teachers plan an entire day where the students and many parent volunteers dress up and engage in activities as if they were attending school during the Pioneer Days. Students write with feather quills and ink, and individual chalkboards. The teachers create centers inside and outside where the students practice some of the typical chores and hygiene routines.

They make biscuits, practice shaving, hand wash clothes and churn butter. The students make crafts and play games. They bead bracelets, play jacks, marbles and make paper dolls. Even PE was included! The student did relay sack races, jump roping, and play kick the can. PTA helps fund the materials and parent volunteers were essential to making each station a success. The bonnets, hats and suspenders added the icing to an amazing hands-on learning experience for all third graders at Harbour View.



Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • www.ovsd.org/hope



Christina Luckey
Principal

Great Outdoors

Hope View's overnight fieldtrip was another successful experience for our 5th grade campers! Students enjoyed an opportunity to learn in the great outdoors while taking their learning to the mountains.

Pictured here is our 5th grade team of teachers, Mrs. Paulino, Mrs. Sjogren, Mrs. Serafin and Miss. Yamaguchi along with students from Mrs. Paulino's and Miss. Yamaguchi's classes. The smiles seen here were just as big upon their return

to school as they shared their stories. To sum it up, a few of the students from Miss. Yamaguchi's class shared that camp was amazing and super fun, according to Lily M., "Camp was really fun, the ropes course and archery were amazing", they even shared that the food was really good. Sophia S. shared, "the counselors were very nice and supportive" and Mia thought, "the Karaoke was very fun". All in all, the trip was a success and the students' energy from learning away from school was exciting to see! Looking to camp next year are our upcoming fifth graders who saw just how much fun our fifth-grade campers had outdoors.



Lake View Elementary (K-5)

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • www.ovsd.org/lake



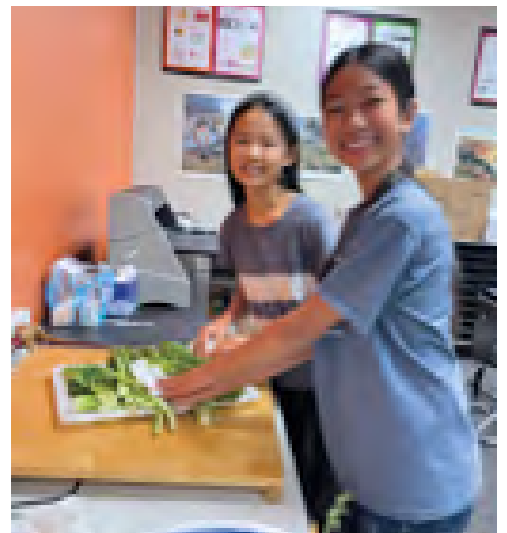
**Jill
Van Der Linden**
Principal

Garden Project

This year at Lake View we began an exciting Garden Project. While our students love planting, tending, and harvesting the garden

they have also learned so much more. They have been learning about the ecosystem, adaptations, biodiversity, and the food chain. This has been a school-wide project based learning experience. The project has been such a satisfying experience for our students. During our last harvest, students made a salad and then served it at lunch to students. Everyone enjoyed this and even the most finicky eater enjoyed the salad that came from our very own garden.

Lake View will continue this project throughout the years to come and I am sure some of our students will continue on in the horticulture field in the future.



Marine View *Middle School (6-8)*

7721 Juliette Low Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-0624 • www.ovsd.org/marine

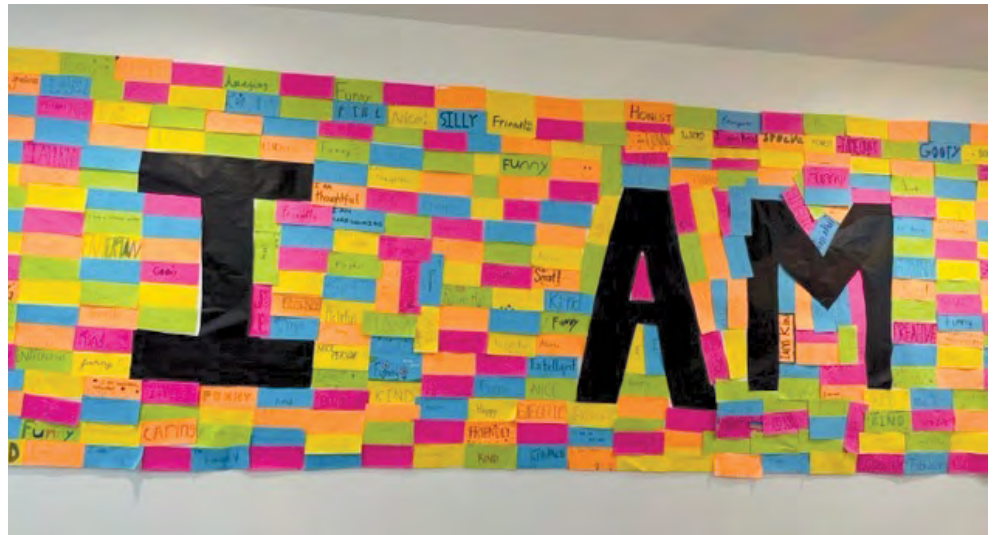


Sara Schaible
Principal

Kindness Week

The month of May brings our 7th annual celebration of Kindness Week for Marine View Middle School.

The week started with each student and staff member writing an “I AM” statement. Our leadership students collected all the statements and assembled a large poster to display each one. The week continued to spread kindness as students completed a Kindness Pledge, sent Smile Grams, and participated in “take what you need” where students were able to take notes filled with kindness quotes, sayings, and phrases. The campus was decorated by our leadership class with positive affirmations and kindness quotes. Throughout the week, students were given kindness challenges each day which included checking in on friends, spreading kindness in the community, sharing compliments and gratitude for others, helping at home, and practicing self-care. The campus radiated kindness!



Mesa View Middle School (6-8)

17601 Avila Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • www.ovsd.org/mesa



Jady Grunbaum
Principal

Archers, Ready Your Arrows!

This year, Mesa View was excited to once again offer an after-school archery program to its students. Teacher Grace

Sidell has really taken our team to new heights as we help introduce this Olympic sport to our students, many of whom had zero exposure to the class and its skills.

Our archery program was open to grades six to eight this year. We have practices twice a week where our excited students have learned how to handle, care for, set up, and tear down equipment, as well as how to patiently and purposefully aim and then take shots at bundle targets. Chances are that if you have driven past Mesa View after school you have seen our modern-day Robin Hoods and Rapunzels taking aim!

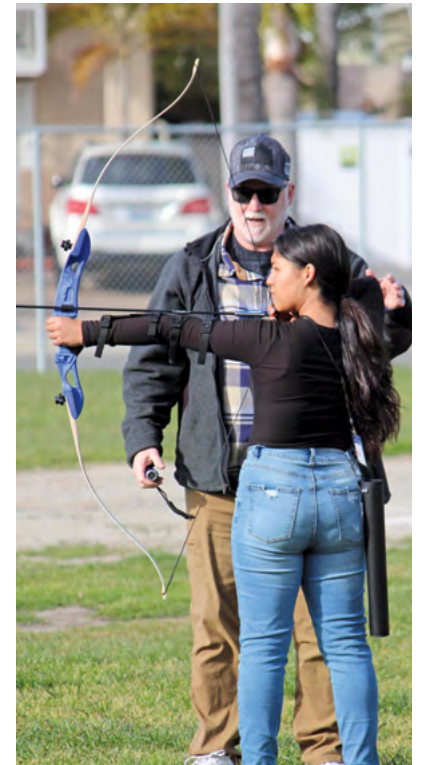
Archery is such a valuable and unique program too, as it teaches our students how to slow their breathing, how to focus their energy and attention, how to be cautious and responsible, and how to work as a team. Students help one another, encourage each other, and rejoice in each other's successes.



One of our students, eighth-grader Diego, has been in the program for two years. He feels that archery has been important to him because, "It has been a fun time hanging out with friends and learning a new skill. The most fun part was aim at and shooting at fruit like apples, lemons, and a banana. People who shot the apple got an apple pie! Overall, it has just been a great experience."

Another student who is new to the program, sixth-grader Parker, shares that, "I really enjoy the feeling of getting a good score. It was my first time shooting and learning archery, and I really feel that we were taught how to use a bow correctly and responsibly."

We are grateful to our volunteer coach, Mike Dunigan, and to a previous Mesa assistant principal, now principal at Spring View, for bringing this program to Mesa last year. We look forward to seeing it grow. Next year we have our eyes set on interdistrict and intradistrict competitions, with Spring View and some other schools in the Westminster and Garden Grove school districts also having teams!



Oak View Elementary (K-5)

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • www.ovsd.org/oak



Jenna Landero
Principal

Special Olympics

On Friday, May 26th, six schools from the Ocean View School District participated in the Special Olympics hosted by Oak View Elementary school for the third time. The Special Olympics is a long-standing tradition in the Ocean View School District—originally held at Village View, where they are in their 32nd year of hosting! This exciting event included over 120 Olympians from Star View, Hope View, Spring View, Vista View, Lake View and Oak View! Our Mighty Owls made posters and cheered for all of the athletes.

This heartwarming event holds meaning for even those who are on the sidelines cheering. It is a time where we celebrate our classmates with unique abilities, allowing them to experience events where they are the focus and most importantly, where we celebrate inclusion. At Oak View...everyone belongs. We are a family, and we celebrate all of our Mighty Owls, every day.



Star View *Elementary* (K-5)

8411 Worthy Ln., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • www.ovsd.org/star



Paul Kraft
Principal

A Busy Season

Recently, as the weather was warming up, our student engagement and learning has been on full display at Star View Elementary School.

Many of our classes have been involved in plays, musicals, and school-wide events including Skate Bight and a reading celebration that was in recognition of our students reading 1,000,000 minutes by May.

The festivities also included having our students, staff, and school board members dumping slime on the principal, Paul Kraft, followed by a pizza lunch with families.

In kindergarten, our students have learned all about insects. They demonstrated their learning through drawing, writing, and crafting insects. Our first-graders have been learning about the life cycles of butterflies. They were also actively involved in writing stories, reading, and working on displaying all that they have learned this year.

The second-graders have become paleontologists! Their research has included using informational text to study dinosaurs and to write a dinosaur report.

The third grade has worked diligently to create portfolios for Open House. Items such as multiple paragraph essays, poetry, and fun fraction projects were just a few of the outstanding pieces of work on display for all to see. The fourth-grade students prepared for the

upcoming state assessments through practice to instill confidence and understanding. They have also been busy preparing for the play Little Red Riding Hood that will be performed in June.

Along with preparing for the state assessments, the fifth grade has been working on their upcoming musical play called The American Revolution. Finally, several students who received special education services participated in the annual district-wide Special Olympics Festival. The students had fun participating in competitions and games as they were cheered on by friends, classmates, staff, and families.



Village View Elementary (K-5)

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • www.ovsd.org/village

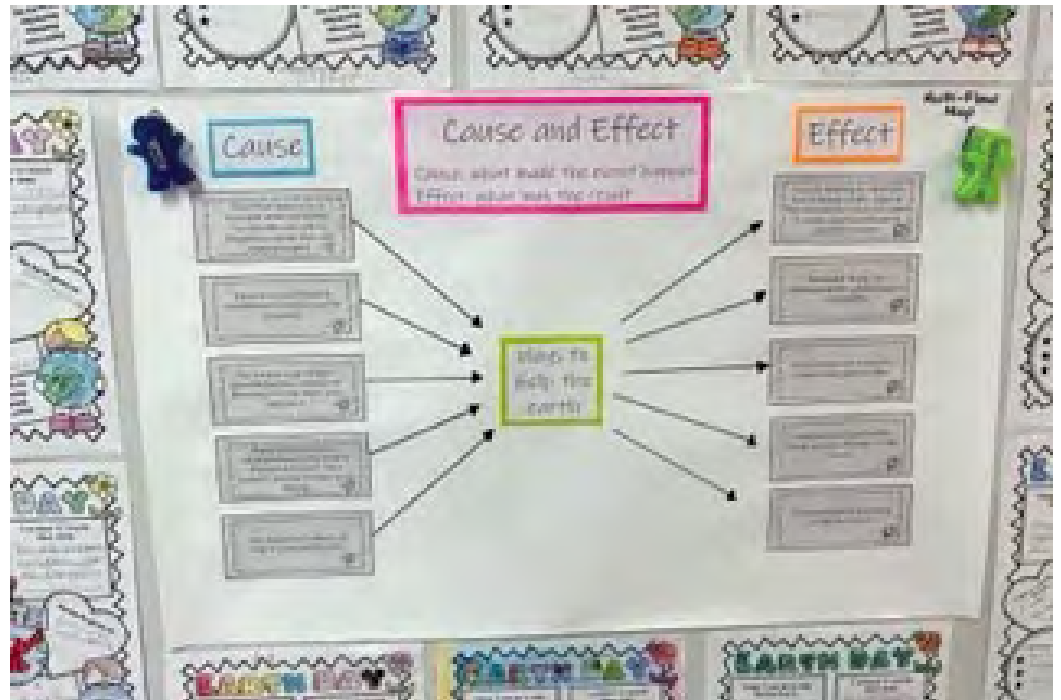


Thinking Map

Earth day was celebrated at Village View 2023. Our second grade students in Mrs. Walker's

Tami Benane
Principal

class prepared a Cause and Effect Thinking Map. Students learned how they can help the Earth. The students worked in small groups on various projects including recycling and reusable items. Student learned about resources the Earth gives us. Students wrote promises to "recycle, reuse and reduce waste."



Vista View Middle School (6–8)

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • www.ovsd.org/vista



Dr. Rasheedah Gates
Principal

A Remarkable Class

As we approach the end of the school year at Vista, we can't help but feel nostalgic about all of the amazing memories that we have shared with our outgoing eighth-graders.

These students hold a special place in our hearts. This group started their middle school journey with masks and a hybrid model of education. They demonstrated their commitment to safety by following numerous guidelines, and it was heartening to have witnessed their success the past two years as we returned to a traditional learning environment. This is a testament to their resilience and determination to continue their academic progress amid many challenging circumstances.

Our eighth-grade Falcons have risen above it all at Vista. They were the first group of students to move to a modernized site, spend a year on an interim campus, and come back to our modernized school. And, they will be the first class in four years to graduate from our home gym! We are so proud of everything that they have accomplished, and can't wait to see the many great things they will achieve in the future.

As principal, I am especially moved by this group of students. It brings us joy to encourage these remarkable students as they move forward in their education. The eighth-grade class is the first middle school class that I welcomed to Vista, and it will be the first that I see off from our new school.

Congratulations, Class of 2023, on a job well done! Your determination and spirit inspires us all. Vista Falcons soar!



Westmont Elementary (K-5)

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • www.ovsd.org/westmont



Sharon Ahlman
Principal

"The Aristocats" Disney Musical is a huge success!

"Everybody wants to be a cat!" Westmont's 4th and 5th grade students put on an extraordinary performance of "The Aristocats", a Disney musical, which left the audience in awe. The students and teachers worked tirelessly

for six months to prepare for the final show, which paid off in a big way. The students demonstrated impressive acting skills, beautiful singing voices, and a great stage presence that kept the audience engaged throughout the show. The dedication and hard work of the students and teachers were evident in the polished and professional production which was a testament to their commitment to excellence. The show was a huge success, and everyone involved should be proud of their outstanding efforts and accomplishments. We love our Westmont VAPA programs!



Note-ables



Kate Karp

Los Fabulosos

Los Fabulosos by the Grammy award-winning Lucky Diaz and the Family Jam Band is one of the wackiest collections of original children’s music I can remember hearing. The first song, “Ridiculous,” is just that — it’s like the Beatles at their silliest, except with a Latin beat. As background music for the [video that Lucky Diaz](#) patched together using public-domain video footage that are probably older than your grandparents, it’s wonderful, highlighting rapid-motion silent films of elaborate stunts, towering unicycles, a woman and a dog jumping rope, and a very old cartoon. “Elephant” and “Elevator” are energetic. Children can skip wildly to the elephants’ rhythm, remembering to periodically hydrate, just as elephants do. “Elevator” plays



on children’s glee about being a “glutton for buttons”—just remind them to not play with the elevator in the real world. Other people need to use it, you know.

“Me Gusta” is a bilingual two-parter, with the Spanish and English flowing into each other and out again and then merging into a cha-cha. The song celebrates body awareness and the great things bodies do: “Me gustan mis ojos, they help me see the world. Me gustan los manos, holding hands make me smile. Me gusta ti—you make me

hap-py!” This song may choke you up—it sounds like the best ending credits ever.

Me gusta Los Fabulosos. The collection was a worthy contender for a 2023 GRAMMY award for Best Children’s Album—their second GRAMMY nomination for this category. Stream it [here on Spotify](#).

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

Milestones and Firsts—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 Ocean View in the subject line.

Entries must be received by July 15, 2023

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

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| BIRTH | HOUSE |
| KISS | RECITAL |
| HIGH SCHOOL | CAR |
| GRADUATION | DISNEYLAND |
| COLLEGE | TRAVEL |
| DATE | AIRPLANE RIDE |
| LOVE | BALLOON RIDE |
| ENGAGEMENT | CRUISE |
| MARRIAGE | FIRST TOOTH |



Orange County Department of Education

OCDE's Continuous Commitment to Strengthening School Safety



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

Our children deserve to learn and grow in safe and secure environments, where they can thrive academically and emotionally. And parents should be confident that when they send their children to school, they will return home just as healthy and happy as when they left.

Yet in too many instances, we have seen this social contract ripped apart by the devastating reality of school violence, leading to the familiar cycle of shock, grief and anger.

I wish I could say I had answers sufficient to prevent this country's next mass shooting. I do not. I can only extend my most heartfelt condolences to anyone impacted by senseless violence, and I can reaffirm here the sustained commitment of the Orange County Department of Education and leaders throughout our region to proactively protect our students and staff.

To give you some background, California schools are required by law to update their Comprehensive Safe School Plans each year. These plans outline each campus's planned responses to various crises, and they are routinely reinforced through site-level drills, including evacuations and shelter-in-place exercises.

Of course the strategies for promoting safety will vary by campus and are ultimately up to each district's locally elected school board and leadership teams, in partnership with teachers, families, staff, students and communities. But our department eagerly supports this work with trainings and workshops throughout the year, covering such topics as safe school plans, behavioral threat assessments, earthquake preparedness, resilience strategies and active-shooter behavioral indicators.

Meanwhile, OCDE works closely with the Orange County Sheriff's Department and other local law enforcement agencies to study everything

from cyberbullying to how to best secure school facilities. One key partnership worth noting is with the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center, or OCIAC, which leverages the reach and resources of the Sheriff's Department, the FBI and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to detect, investigate and prevent criminal and terrorist activity.

OCDE and the Sheriff's Department also team up every summer to host the Safe Schools Conference with the California Department of Education. This three-day event brings together more than 500 educators and law enforcement personnel from throughout the state to discuss issues and trends related to campus violence, bullying, social media, human trafficking, gangs and substance abuse.

In the case of critical incidents impacting schools, OCDE's Crisis Response Network deploys psychologists, nurses, social workers and other personnel to support students and staff during and after emergencies. This team also conducts trainings for schools, youth service providers, parents and students.

Finally, OCDE champions positive school climates and anti-bullying through initiatives such as the Multi-Tiered System of Support framework, Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports, or PBIS, and our One Billion Acts of Kindness campaign, which kicked off in 2016 to promote character and amplify civility in our communities.

In Orange County, we view the pursuit of safer schools as a race with no finish line, and that means our commitment must be equally unwavering and enduring. New threats will continue to emerge, but so too will new technologies, strategies and best practices for protecting students and schools. Above all, we vow to stay vigilant and informed, work closely with our law enforcement partners, and adapt our approaches accordingly.

We owe our children and families nothing less.