

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Westminster School District



Volume 19, Issue 112

June 2023

WSD Provides Important Educational Resources for Families at Parent Leadership Conference



WSD hosts bi-annual Spring Parent Leadership Conference at Stacey Middle School.



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SUPERINTENDENT

Destination District



Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen
Superintendent

Westminster School District (WSD) continues to emphasize the “Destination District” theme during the bi-annual Spring Parent Leadership Conference. The district provides a platform where families can engage with staff one-on-one on trending topics and stay informed about educational essentials for their child. Some of the workshops included college readiness, teaching children positive relationships, dual language immersion, the dangers of vaping, use of technology, and Mental Health

101. A variety of vendors were also there to provide vital resources families may need.

Dr. Luis F. Cruz, Motivational Speaker and Leading Educator of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), was the keynote speaker during the event. He gave a different perspective to parents on how they should interact with their children and important ways they can be involved in their lives. Dr. Cruz highlighted current trends and provided parents a chance to chat with their child at the event and hear both sides of an issue.

WSD plans to continue hosting a fall and spring PLC in the coming years to continue these ongoing and important conversations. The Educational Services Division spearheads this event and will look to add more workshops next year as well. We hope that families, teachers, staff, and students will continue supporting our PLC’s.



Parents listen intently during the Spring PLC workshop at Stacey Middle School.

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Westminster School District Prioritizes Safety and Community Engagement

By David Johnson, President, Board of Trustees

At Westminster School District, physical and mental safety is a prerequisite for education. To prioritize the safety of everyone, WSD partnered with the Westminster Police Department for a Town Hall meeting on Active Shooter Training. The Board President and Assistant Superintendent of Business Services answered questions from WSD families regarding safety features such as; fencing, security cameras, locking mechanisms, and front office raptor system that performs background checks, all of which are provided at every school site in the district. It was an opportunity for families to be in a setting where they feel comfortable to discuss this issue. With safety committees at every school site, which feed into the district office, we continue to make safety our top priority.

Attached here is the [School Safety Flyer](#), which lists all the safety protocols WSD has in place. At the request of President Johnson, the Chief of Police gave a presentation and stated that our police department response times to all district sites is considered national gold level.

The Board of Trustees requested that WPD provide a full-time School Resource Officer for our district, which was approved last month. See information here: [WSD specific School Resource Officer](#). Officer Delgado will work very closely with every school site in the district. WSD continues to lead the way in Orange County on school safety.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

WSD School Safety & Security Systems in Place

- **NEW School Resource Officer Program** with Westminster PD
 - **Gold Standard Response Time**
- **Door Entry Audio/Video Buzzer System**
- **Comprehensive School Safety Plans** & regular safety drills
- **Emergency Food and Water**
- **Emergency Radios**
- **First Aid & Trauma Kits**
- **CPR Training** for Paraeducators, Extended School Program, Early Education, Office Managers, & Health Aides
- **Lock Blocks** at all schools
- **Mental Health Support** to students
- **Raptor Visitor Management System**
- **School Bus Lock Down Training**
- **Security Fencing** at all schools
- **Single Point of Entry** and/or **Supervised Gate/Door** at all schools
- **Threat Assessment Team**, comprised of Site Administrator, School Counselor, & School Resource Officer
- **Updated Security Cameras**
- **Employee Badges**

All WSD Families were also provided with information on firearm safety at the beginning of the school year. Scan the QR code for more information.

School Safety is our TOP priority!



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Founder/Publisher



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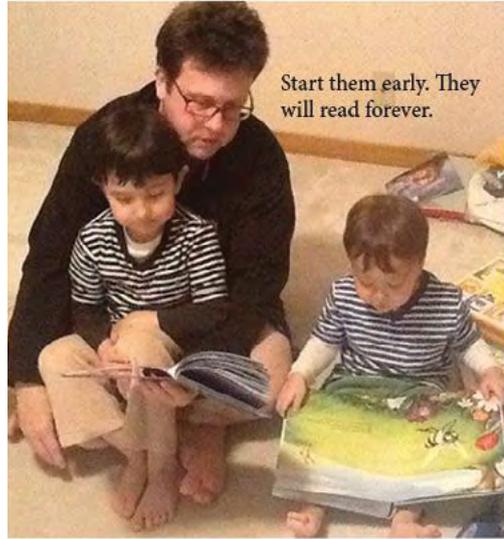
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Thank you for always including *School News* among your reading choices. Our scheduled issues for next school year are September, November, January, March, May and June.

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



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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.

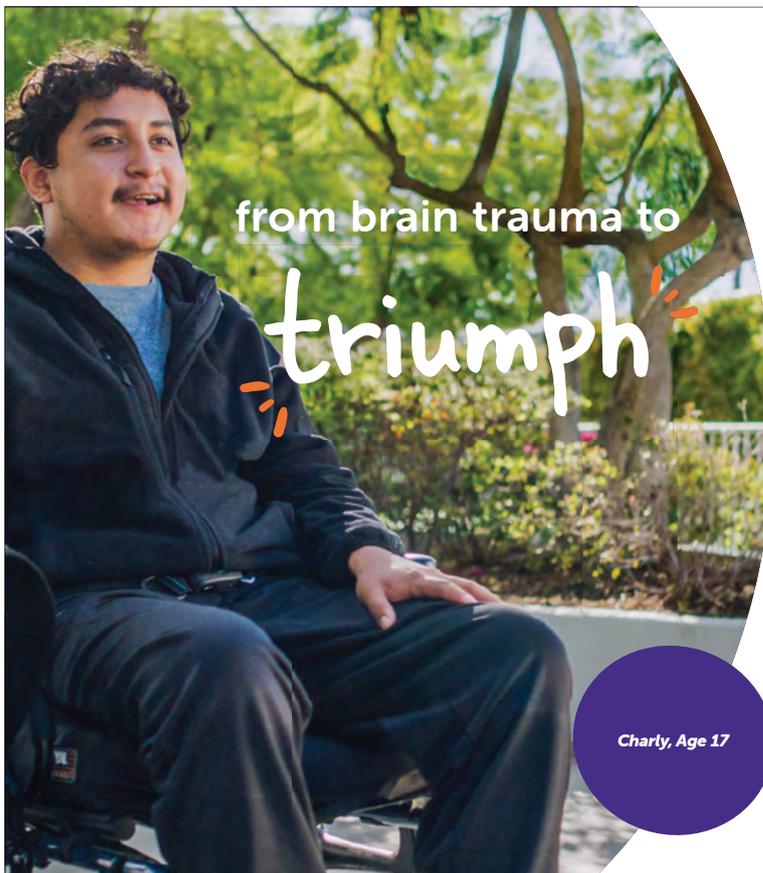
Having the car seat properly installed is also critical in maximizing safety. When installing the seat, make sure it is tightly secured and doesn't wobble or move more than an inch in any direction.

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.



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

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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

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Anderson Elementary (K-6)

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



Kim Breckenridge
Principal

Science Olympiads

Congratulations to the Anderson Science Olympiad Teams! The Anderson teams consisted of 4th, 5th and 6th grade students who worked together to compete against other Orange County elementary schools in a variety of science events. The event was in person this year at a school in Irvine.

The events included Crime Busters, Disease Detectives, Starry Starry Night, Aerodynamics and more. Working together after school, under the direction of coaches, Mrs. Bui, Ms. Dodosh and Mrs. Okura-Schooley, the teams prepared for each event through study, practice and hands-on activities. The goals of increasing science knowledge, creating of love of science, and having fun, the Anderson teams really worked hard and earned Bronze Medals. Great work Anderson Science Olympiads!



Clegg Elementary (TK-5)

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



John Staggs
Principal

Lab Mirrors Real World

In the ever-evolving world of science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM), hands-on experiences play a vital role in fostering young minds. At Clegg Elementary School, our STEAM lab serves as a playground where students explore innovation, problem-solving and creativity. Throughout the 2022-23 school year, the lab witnessed captivating activities that left a lasting impact on the students.

One such activity was the Lego Earthquake Building Stress Test. Students were tasked with designing and constructing Lego towers capable of withstanding simulated earthquake forces. Through trial and error, they learned the importance of structural integrity, load distribution and reinforcement. This activity instilled an appreciation for the challenges faced by architects and engineers in earthquake-prone regions.

Another engaging activity involved robotics and programming. Using Lego Spike and Sphero robots, students acquired coding fundamentals and engineered their own autonomous machines. They explored sensors, motors and algorithms, programming the robots to accomplish specific tasks. Collaborative work, computational thinking and problem-solving skills flourished as students tackled challenges together.

The Clegg STEAM lab acts as a catalyst for creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving. Through engaging hands-on activities, students develop a holistic understanding of STEAM principles. These experiences fuel curiosity, nurture innovation and lay the foundation for the scientists, engineers and designers of tomorrow. The activities in the lab at Clegg Elementary School ensure that students are well-prepared to tackle the challenges of the future and make significant contributions to the ever-evolving world of STEAM.



DeMille Elementary (K-6)

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



April Derr
Principal

Biliteracy Among Our Students

DeMille Elementary School has been recognized for its exceptional commitment to English language learning and biliteracy with the prestigious CABC (California Association for Bilingual Education) Seal of Excellence Award. This accolade celebrates the school's outstanding work in promoting language proficiency and biliteracy among its students.

The staff at DeMille Elementary have implemented innovative programs and strategies to support English language learners and foster their language development. Through a combination of engaging curriculum, dedicated teachers, and a supportive learning environment, students at DeMille have achieved remarkable success in English language acquisition.



Principal Derr expressed immense pride in the school's accomplishment, stating, "This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, teachers, and parents. We believe that bilingualism and biliteracy are essential skills in today's

interconnected world, and we are committed to providing our students with the tools they need to succeed."

The CABC Seal of Excellence Award serves as recognition of DeMille Elementary's commitment to educational excellence and its unwavering dedication to promoting language learning and biliteracy among its students.



Eastwood *Elementary* (K-6)

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



Jonathan Edelman
Principal

Eastwood Camp Adventure

During a recent science camp trip, the sixth-grade students from Eastwood Elementary School embarked on an unforgettable journey that left them with lasting memories. Despite being a new camp, the students had

an absolute blast during their three-night stay. Their time at science camp was undoubtedly a giant leap forward, transforming them into more confident and capable young individuals ready to conquer the world.

The students were thrilled to be staying in cozy cabins, which added an extra element of excitement to the adventure. The camp provided a perfect setting for these young learners to explore the wonders of nature native to Southern California. They were captivated by

encounters with tarantulas, snakes, and tortoises, gaining a deeper understanding and appreciation for the region's diverse wildlife.



But it wasn't just about observing wildlife; the students also actively participated in challenging physical activities that tested their balance and trust in their classmates. Activities such as axe-throwing, a challenging rope course, and nature hikes not only fostered team spirit but also helped them develop valuable life skills.

Overall, the science camp trip was a resounding success, offering a unique blend of education, adventure, and personal growth. The students returned to Eastwood with a new-found sense of confidence and an eagerness to embrace the challenges of their academic journey.





Pam LeMueix
Principal

Exciting STEM Adventure!

Finley Computer Science Magnet fifth-graders embarked on a remarkable educational journey at the Tiger Woods Learning Lab in Anaheim for four days of learning, where they were immersed in the world of biotechnology through engaging, project-based learning. Observing our students' boundless curiosity and enthusiasm for these disciplines was truly awe-inspiring.



“I witnessed an incredible level of engagement from our students,” one teacher said. “It was truly inspiring to see their enthusiasm and genuine excitement for learning. The project-based approach allowed them to apply their knowledge in real-world scenarios, fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills.”

While our students embraced their STEM adventure, our fifth-grade teachers engaged in their own professional development with teachers from across the county. They explored valuable tools and best practices to enhance their classroom instruction, ensuring an even more impactful and engaging educational environment for our students.

“The sessions provided me with a fresh perspective on classroom design and instructional strategies that promote collaboration and engagement,” Finley Teacher of the Year Amy Nguyen said, “I am excited to create an even more dynamic and interactive learning environment that will empower my students to thrive and excel.”

Fryberger *Elementary School of Environmental Science*

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



Michelle Scheiber
Principal

What a Year!

Wow! What a fantastic year we had here at Fryberger. The 2022-2023 school year proved to be full of educational and fun experiences. This year our students learned to demonstrate compassion and empathy for others, learned how to read and calculate math, demonstrated creativity, and became better scientists as they explored the world around them.

The month of September began with celebrating school spirit and making awareness of bully prevention. This was followed by a McTeacher Night at our favorite fast food establishment, a book fair, and Red Ribbon Week (say “No” to drugs). Our students also created masterpieces and learned about famous artists, enjoyed music classes with Mr. Flannery, and P.E. on Thursdays was always a favorite among our young Falcons.

Fryberger students also demonstrated how they SOAR, and were then awarded with Growth Mindset awards and gold slips which they happily spent at the student store!

Our Falcons had many celebrations that included Read Across America and recognizing third-grade teacher Mrs. Santos, our Fryberger Teacher of the Year. Over 40 students also logged 26.2 miles with active activities over a few months, and which ended with the final mile run at the local Fairgrounds.

Students also showcased their scientific knowledge with culminating projects that included roller coasters, habitats, organic farming, moon phases, and petitioning for environmental change. Many places were visited to support the science curriculum.

The students also visited local farms, the wetlands, the beach, the zoo, and an amusement park to learn about the science behind roller coasters. Our lucky fifth-grade students were even able to attend science camp for three days.

It was a full, exciting year, and our students are now ready for the summer break. Have a safe and fun summer!



Ziplining at 5th grade camp.

Hayden Elementary (K-5)

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



Mark Murphy
Principal

Remarkable Teachers

It is with both joy and a touch of sadness that we bid farewell to four remarkable teachers at Hayden Elementary School. After years of dedicated service, Melody Ho, Dave Hubbard, Joan Shoup, and Cathy Renaker are embarking on a new chapter in their lives, leaving behind a lasting legacy of impact and inspiration.

Melody Ho, with her infectious enthusiasm and talent for transforming ordinary moments into extraordinary ones, brought a vibrant energy to the classroom.

Dave Hubbard, the embodiment of the fun-loving educator, always was willing to give his time to his students and to Hayden throughout the years.

Joan Shoup, is known for her unwavering dedication and created a nurturing environment where her students thrived.

Cathy Renaker, a teacher with an adventurous spirit, fearlessly explored uncharted territories in her pursuit of engaging education.

Collectively, these four retiring teachers have touched the lives of countless students, leaving an indelible mark on the Hayden Elementary School community. Their dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to their craft have inspired generations of learners.

As they embark on this new chapter of their lives, we extend our heartfelt thanks and deepest appreciation to Melody Ho, Dave Hubbard, Joan Shoup, and Cathy Renaker. May their retirement be filled with laughter, joy, and endless adventures. You will be missed, but your impact will forever resonate within the halls of our school.

Farewell and best wishes, dear teachers. You have left an irreplaceable imprint on our hearts, and your legacy will continue to inspire future educators and students alike.



Cathy Renaker, Joan Shoup, Dave Hubbard and Melody Ho.

Johnson Middle School (6-8)

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



Daniel Owens
Principal

Alice and Wonderland

The Johnson Drama Department under the direction of our teacher Sara Humzeh debuted its production of *Alice in Wonderland*. The young actors brought Lewis Carroll's beloved characters to life, transporting the audience into a world of enchantment and adventure. The play took us through the beginning of the story with Alice falling down the rabbit hole, to the tea party with the Mad Hatter, painting the roses red with the Queen of Hearts and of

course Alice returning home to realize it was just a dream! The production not only provided a platform for the students to showcase their acting skills but also fostered teamwork, confidence, and a love for the performing arts. Johnson Middle School's production of *Alice in Wonderland* was a great success.

The students were able to put on two shows, one for our neighboring elementary school students and one for families and friends. We want to thank all of the amazing student performers, our wonderful drama Teacher Ms. Humzeh and the great family members who supported the entire program.



Land School

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



Dramatic and Creative Play is Learning!

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

The Westminster School District Early Education program partnered with an Orange Coast College student to implement creative learning lessons

in the classroom. Orange Coast College representative Ms. Aburto recently provided lesson plans that included learning objectives for a class based on a “Flower Shop” theme.

Ms. Aburto crafted a beautiful flower shop for our Land students to enjoy. Her flower shop included several different flowers of different colors as well as beautiful background scenery. Students expressed their preference in the flowers, colors, and quantities while putting their bouquets together.



Student is playing dress up and pretending to use the phone.

Ms. Aburto also shared her experience while working with the students: “The children were very happy, and it was interesting to see that some of them would arrange the flowers by color.” Mrs. Beverly also shared her thoughts that, “The students were very engaged and they enjoyed pretending to shop.”

Dramatic play allows children to explore the world around them in a structured or unstructured setting, and it ultimately strengthens their self-expression, language, and social skills. Here at Land School we understand the numerous benefits of dramatic play, and we are committed to incorporating it into our everyday activities. Students are given the opportunity to choose a work station each day where they can choose how they want to play and what scenarios they would like to create.

Here we can see one of our students playing dress up and pretending to make a phone call. The possibilities for dramatic play are endless, and the benefits that come with it are incredible!



Children are pretending to shop for flowers.

Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • meairs.wsdck8.us



Dr. Kathy Kane
Principal

Congratulations to our Retirees

Congratulations to our staff members who are retiring after many years of service to our students and families. Three of our wonderful teachers are retiring. Mrs. Jaskot has been here for 14 years, Mrs. Freleaux has been here for 22 years, and Mrs. Sarkhosh has been here for 17 years. Their dedication to the students at Meairs has helped many find success in the classroom and become

lifelong learners. Our school librarian, Mrs. Bailey, will be retiring too. Going to the library won't be the same without Mrs. Bailey reading stories and helping find that perfect book. We will also be saying goodbye to two of our early childhood assistants. Miss Martine and Miss Nancy have dedicated years to the youngest students in WSD. And of course, we can't forget Dr. Hill, our school counselor. Her wise words and advice have helped students and staff members get through some very difficult days. We wish them well as they start the next chapter in their lives.



Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Freleaux, Mrs. Jaskot, Dr. Hill, Mrs. Sarkhosh, Miss Nancy, Miss Martine.

Schmitt Elementary (K-5)

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



Sarah Nead-Rendon
Principal

Lunch on the Lawn

Schmitt was very excited to host lunch on the lawn this month. After two previous attempts that were canceled due to rain, we had a successful lunch on the lawn. Although overcast, our students and families had a great time eating lunch together. Families brought food and ate their picnic lunch on our grass field. We played music, talked, and spent time with one another. It was wonderful to see all of our students enjoying time with their siblings and families at our whole campus lunch on the lawn.



Students also brought with them their new book that they had received earlier in the day from our Reading is Fundamental event. Each trimester students receive a new book through the Reading is Fundamental program. After eating, students shared their new book and read with their families. It was fantastic to see our families interacting and reading to one another. It is important to spend quality time together in each other's company and we are glad we could provide this opportunity to our families. Bringing everyone together created a great sense of community and we look forward to doing this event again.



Schroeder College & Career Academy

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



Dr. Shannon Villanueva
Principal

Schroeder Shines at Academic Pentathlon!

Schroeder walked away with an impressive number of awards for the second year in a row at the Academic Pentathlon competition on Saturday, May 6th at University High School in Irvine. Twenty students committed to studying the extraordinary amount of

curriculum, which included math, science, literature, social science, and fine arts, along with a novel, starting in October. In addition to the hours they spent together as teams, students put in countless personal hours studying. Their dedication and hard work paid off. The individual competition resulted in 44 medals for students ranging from 1st – 4th place in all subject areas. During the Saturday Super Quiz contest, both teams took top awards, 1st and 4th, in their division. The overall scores, including a computer-based test on the wide range of curriculum, the Super Quiz outcomes, and an essay on the novel, resulted in Schroeder coming away with 2nd and 3rd in their division. Congratulations Mustangs on another stellar year!



Sequoia Academy *GATE Magnet Elementary*

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



Alisha Tardif
Principal

Exploring Creativity

Sequoia Academy's partnership with Disney Musicals in Schools is one of few in Orange County. Over the last six years it has allowed Sequoia Academy to create and maintain a vibrant, sustainable, and educational musical theater program that brings magic and appreciation for the arts to our community.

This year's 101 Dalmatians performance was an exciting event for all Eagle Families. With over 60 upper-grade students participating in total--from backstage production to lighting and sound, to on-stage performances and costumes--the Disney cast engaged in a wide range of 21st-century skills. These included critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, social skills like public speaking, problem-solving, and building confidence and empathy, along with encouraging the imperative academic skills of reading, speaking, and listening.

Eagle students shined as they explored their own creativity, gained confidence in themselves, and built strong relationships with peers and teachers. The Disney Musical allowed our students to artistically express themselves by singing, acting, choreographing, and dancing on stage, along with directing the production and working behind the scenes to make the magic happen.

Auditions began in the fall, with many students becoming nervous about simply reading the lines from the script in front of their peers! The students soon developed their self-confidence and flourished as they rehearsed daily, learned choreography, memorized their lines, practiced setting the many different scenes, and collaborated to produce an entire musical!

Backstage, the students learned how to manage all aspects of digital musical supervision, create and organize props, lead rehearsals, and perfectly time the opening and closing of the curtain. Everyone learned the importance of being a part of an amazing ensemble cast! The most rewarding aspect was seeing the beaming faces of the students and their families on the late May show days, and hearing from previous musical students that this experience changed their lives and gave them so much confidence!



Cruella de Vil



Perdita, Pongo, & Puppies



Nanny, Anita, & Roger



Disney Cast, WSD Board Members & District Officials

Stacey Middle School

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



Wendy Baird
Principal

Many Awards!

Here at Stacey Middle School, we enjoy honoring our students for their academic achievements, citizenship and other successes. In April, we hosted Foundation Awards Night, where each teacher selected a student who is a

role model to their peers and demonstrates perseverance. We also threw a rewards celebration party for over 500 students who had good citizenship and earned a grade point average of 3.0 or above on their second trimester report card. Additionally, we honored two more students, Diego Popoca Reyes and Phuong Nguyen, for earning the Public School Achievement Award. These students earned this award because they consistently put forth their best effort with a positive attitude.

In May, our AVID Stand-Out Scholar, Brayan Rebolledo Hernandez, was recognized and awarded a laptop at Angels stadium. Additionally, the honorary speaker at the AVID Stand-Out Scholar event was a former Stacey Middle School AVID student. This remarkable former student is on her way to UCLA in the fall. We are so proud of our students and alumni and all their accomplishments.

We look forward to honoring many more students at our upcoming awards ceremony in June, where we will be presenting presidential awards, English-language reclassification awards and subject awards. At our promotion ceremony, we have a few more awards to present along with the Pathways to Bilingual awards. These bilingual awards signify the outstanding accomplishment of demonstrating language proficiency in English and another language. In the years to come, we are expecting to significantly increase the number of the bilingual awards because we have our first incoming class of Spanish dual-immersion students coming from Willmore Elementary School.

We are thrilled to offer the Spanish Dual Language program next school year and are excited for the opportunities that it offers our students.



Masonic Award Recipients



Stacey AVID Stand-Out Scholar

Warner Middle School (6-8)

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



Dr. Kenneth Lopour
Principal

Wrapping Up a Great Year

This continues to be an amazing year for Warner Middle School. Here are just a few of the recent honors our students have earned:

Eighth-grader Kathy Duong was chosen to have multiple pieces of her artwork displayed at the 47th Annual Arts and Disability Festival that celebrated the artistic accomplishments of people with disabilities. We also had three eighth-grade students who were chosen for the National Junior Honors Society Award for Outstanding Achievement.

The National Junior Honor Society Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes middle-level students for their commitment to the five pillars of NJHS: scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. These students received a \$500 college savings plan to support their educational aspirations. Those three students are Esther Lee, Ivy Dinh, and Donna Huynh.

We also had three students perform at the annual Black April Commemorative event in the city of Westminster: Louis Dao, Angel Nguyen, and Santina Vu.

Additionally, every year the Warner Middle School videography class taught by Mr. Kurt Reising participates in an OCDE program called "Directing Change." This statewide contest, in partnership with the Orange County Health Care Agency's Office of Suicide Prevention, and the Chief of Mental Health and Recovery Services, encourages students to create 30- and 60-second films to raise awareness about mental health and promote suicide prevention in their school communities.

Two groups of Warner students' videos have received honorable mentions in the state-wide awards. They are Out of the Darkness, by filmmakers Dan Pham, Thu Huynh, Emily Martinez, and Aylin Atonal; and Walk in My Shoes (Do You Notice Me), by filmmakers Lynn Nguyen, Leo Luu, Elizabeth Lam, Thien Nguyen, Joanne Tran, and Van Pham.



NJHS Award for Outstanding Achievement Winners: Esther Lee, Ivy Dinh, and Donna Huynh.

Webber Elementary (K-6)

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



Robert Murdock
Principal

Keeping Busy!

The month of April has been a very exciting one here at Webber Elementary School. Our student council and PTA put on several school events which have enriched our days!

The PTA sponsored a shoe recycling event in which our families were able to clean out their closets of old sneakers to donate. We collected over 500 pairs of shoes. The student council also sponsored a “Bunny Hop” jog-a-thon fundraiser, and our students ran many laps to support the school. The PTA finished the month with our last “Skate Night” of the year!

Webber was also fortunate enough to be visited last month by the Westminster Police Department. We had two officers come by to talk to our kindergarten and first-grade students about safety. Some of the topics they covered included bicycle safety, seat belts, holding your parents’ hands in the parking lots, and being wary of strangers.

They also talked about how 911 is to be used as well. The students were allowed to climb into their vehicles and were given badge stickers and Westminster PD pencils.



Willmore *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Tieuemi "Domi" Ellis
Principal

First DLI Promotion

In 2016, Willmore Language Academy began our Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Spanish and Coding Program. Today, we promote the first sixth-grade Willmore DLI Class of 2023, led by our amazing sixth-grade team of Michelle Shook and Evelyn Gomez-Pulido. We are incredibly proud of the work that we've done and the accomplishments of our students.



Willmore sixth-grade student Alma Cardona-Perlman shares her perspective on her seven-years in DLI: "I really love being a part of the Willmore Spanish Dual Language Program. Learning Spanish along with English helps me connect to my mom's Puerto Rican roots. Now when I visit Puerto Rico, I feel confident talking to my family in Spanish and feel closer to them. I even get compliments on how great my language skills are in Spanish. I love being able to switch back and forth between Spanish and English."

William Rebolledo Hernandez talks about the impact that the DLI program has had on him: "It's awesome being at a dual-language school where we get to learn in both English and Spanish. I can connect to my culture and can have a better appreciation for the contributions that Latino people have made to our nation. Being able to speak in two languages allows me to communicate with even more people and communities. This is a huge benefit now, and it will serve me in the future."

These two students have been the face of our program at the district and school level throughout the years. They have grown with the program, and we are extremely proud of the impact that we have made in our community.



Since then, we have earned the Gold Ribbon, the Title 1 Achievement Award, the Golden Bell, the PBIS Gold Award, the Pivotal Practice Recognition and the CAFE Seal of Excellence. Our program begins in preschool and continues to sixth grade with a 50:50 model. Students

are provided 50% of their instruction in English and 50% of their instruction in Spanish.

Dual Language Immersion integrates native English and Spanish speakers with our English and Spanish language learners in the same classroom. This two-way learning environment facilitates collaboration and sociocultural competency. The benefits of Dual Language and Coding include an increased level of engagement, leadership, self-confidence, development of the 4 C's (creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication), knowledge of cross-curricular content, high academic achievement, multiliteracy, multilingualism and multiculturalism, increased opportunity in the growing computer science industry, advantages for college admission, and scholarship.





Aubtin's Review



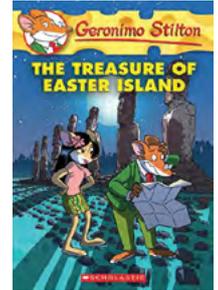
Aubtin M.

Be Brave

Title: *Geronimo Stilton – The Treasure Of Easter Island*

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's sister Thea went to Easter Island in hope of finding treasure there. But then she was captured by pirates! Geronimo went to Easter Island looking for the same treasure in hope of finding Thea. Can Geronimo find Thea? Will he also find the treasure that Thea had been looking for in the first place? I recommend you read this book to find out.

This book is very funny and makes me laugh. I hope it will make you laugh too. This book also has very nice graphics and pictures.

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.

Jenna's Review



Jenna C.

Have it all!

Title: *Almanac 2021*
Which language has the most first language speakers? You might want to hit up for an almanac. What's an almanac? It's basically a book that speaks facts. Maybe you



don't like that type of person, but you might like that type of book. Maybe you can also learn more things like, do you want to know where Alexander the Great was buried? How future homes may be built? Studying rocks? It has it all. From wanting to study stars to knowing about the coolest cats, you can imagine. It's as real as red being red and green being green but, as versatile as the library books.

Jenna is a 6th grader. She enjoys playing soccer and drawing. She likes to read fiction novels. Someday she wants to publish a book.

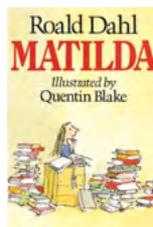
David's Review



David H.

Smart and Funny

Matilda by Roald Dahl is a book about an intelligent girl whose parents neglect her. When she starts going to school, she meets a nice and caring teacher, Miss Honey. Matilda later discovers that she has a special talent.



What is her special talent? You should read the book not just to find out but also if you want to laugh! The things that Matilda does throughout the book were funny and the author's writing is hilarious. This is one of my favorite books and I'm sure it will be yours too!

David is in fifth grade and he loves to read and play piano. He likes math and activities such as tennis, basketball, and bowling.

Kailani's Review



Kailani T.

Fat Girl Rules

Star Fish by Lisa Fipps is a novel in verse about a sweet preteen girl named Ellie who struggles with her self-image. Her family and friends bully made fun of her weigh ever since Ellie was 5 years old. Ellie comes up with the "Fat Girl Rules"



to live by. The rules include something like not making waves in the pool, avoid eating in public and no moving so fast your body jiggles. Is it fair for Ellie to be treated this way by her loved ones? Is there anybody on Ellie's side? Is there a healthy way for Ellie to deal with her weight? Will Ellie ever gain self-respect or self-acceptance? I know being overweight may lead to health problem, but does anyone with weight problem have to be bullied?

Read this book to see how Ellie handles the situation. I like this book because it is a novel-in-verse. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars.

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.

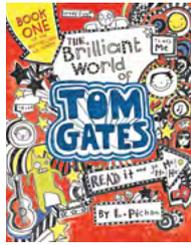
Daniel's Review



Daniel H.

Very Funny Book!

The Brilliant World of Tom Gates by Liz Pichon is about a boy named Tom. Tom and his best friend Derek are in a band called Dog Zombies and they both want to go to a Dude3 concert but Tom has many



silly problems to deal with. Read this book to see what happens and to laugh out loud! This book is very funny and has really funny pictures. I loved this book and can't wait to read the other books in this series!

Daniel is in third grade and he likes to spend time with his family playing board games, reading, and playing sports like tennis, basketball, and bowling.

Love to Read

Maple's Review



Maple

A Wish Gone Awry

Book Title: Best Wishes
Author: Sarah Mlynowski
Becca is having a terrible day. Her best friend Harper decided that she didn't want to be friends with her. But after her terrible day, a mysterious package arrives for Becca in the mail.



It turns out to be a bracelet with magic powers. Becca wishes that she could have a lot of friends, and the bracelet makes her wish come true. But then everybody wants to be her friend. The kids in her class, the teacher, even her mom! Everyone who reads this book will laugh at all the funny adventures and twists that this book has.

I give it a ten out of ten hearts.

Maple is in 5th grade. They love reading, petting their dog, and playing with their friends. They want to be a librarian when they grow up.

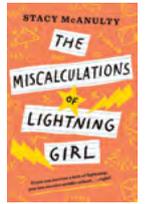
Yoona's Review



Yoona C.

The Math Girl

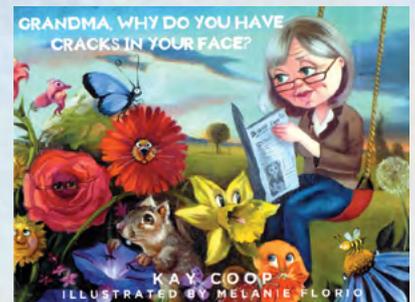
In *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* by Stacy McAnulty the main character's name is Lucy. Lucy was struck by lightning. She loves math, and is actually a genius with math! Lucy most of all loves pi. If she doesn't sit, stand 3 times pi appears and keeps going in her head. Lucy is homeschooled and lives with her Grandmother. She is ready to go to college, but her grandmother insists and forces her to go to middle school for at least 1 year. Her grandmother says to make 1 friend, join one activity, and read one book. Later on, the school has a project where you have to help places, or people in need. Lucy and her friends plan to help a dog shelter. She later finds a dog named Cutie Pi and instantly falls in love. Lucy's Grandmother soon finds a school that is good for her intelligence, but she's not sure if she wants to go... Does Lucy decide to leave the school and friends? I like this book because there are a lot of changes in this book, which makes it more interesting.



Yoona is a 4th grader. She likes to read books and create stories. She also enjoys playing soccer.



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.

By Kay Coop | Illustrated by Melanie Florio

Summer Fun 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)

Entries must be received by **July 15, 2023**
 From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
 a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Awesome | Lessons | Sunscreen |
| Barbeque | Lifeguard | Surfing |
| Beach | Picnics | Swimming |
| Fireworks | Pool | Vacation |
| Fun | Popsicles | Volleyball |
| Hot | Sand | Water |
| Ice Cream | Summer | Wave |
| Lemonade | Sunny | |

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

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 Westminster 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 |

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