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K – 12 Public Schools  
2023 — 2024

17th  
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# Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92626 • 714/966-4000 • <https://ocde.us>



**Dr. Al Mijares**  
Superintendent



**Dr. Ramon Miramontes**  
Deputy  
Superintendent  
of Instructional  
Programs

As we get ready to start another new academic year, schools in Orange County have much to celebrate.

Not only are our students consistently outperforming their state counterparts and all neighboring counties on assessments, they continue to earn national and state recognition for coming up with innovative solutions to real-world problems. Meanwhile, our countywide graduation rate now exceeds 92 percent.

These achievements don't happen by accident. They're the result of exceptional teaching, strong family engagement and effective leadership at the district level. Yet we know there's so much more

work to be done, and educational leaders throughout our county are committed to a model of continuous improvement. Every day, they're focused on how to produce better outcomes for students, which, in turn, is how we will fortify our regional workforce and our economy.

Like all aspects of our lives, education is advancing at an exponential pace, informed by data-driven strategies for teaching and learning. In recent years our schools and classrooms have expanded rich and meaningful learning opportunities with even more modes of engagement and representations of ideas, along with avenues for student action and expression.

Step into a modern classroom and you'll find engaging content taught by educators who demonstrate that they value the interests, experiences and knowledge of each learner. Schools are also establishing routines and procedures that create predictability and a sense of security. Above all, the goal is to continue building on what works best for students.

We are now in an era of artificial intelligence and automation that has the potential to vastly reshape our work. This brings to mind a quote generally attributed to Wayne Gretzky: "Skate to where the puck is going, not where it has been." The Orange County Department of Education, which provides support to 28 independent school districts, has been doing just that, with new trainings and resources designed to help educators and families navigate what comes next.

One OCDE-led initiative that continues to reap dividends is OC Pathways, which connects Orange County students with industry leaders for invaluable work-based learning experiences. With a growing network of education, business and community partners, OC Pathways is enabling young people to pursue industry certifications, earn early college credit, and participate in internships and apprenticeships while taking rigorous coursework.

And these days, career readiness extends beyond high school. The expansion of district preschool programs and the inclusion of workforce development at the community college level means we have an opportunity to serve students for 18 years with cohesive systems that align with their interests and aptitudes, as well as the needs of future employers. By keeping pace with emerging technologies — including the aforementioned AI — we can further prepare students for high-paying, high-demand jobs. I would add that Orange County is uniquely positioned to lead in this area, with its hub of tech companies and institutions like UC Irvine.

Meanwhile, our schools and districts also understand the importance of teaching traditional life skills that will help students succeed in school, work and life. These competencies include managing our own emotions, building healthy relationships and making responsible decisions. It should go without saying that working with parents as partners is essential to creating healthy and high-quality educational environments.

When families participate in their child's learning experiences, schools thrive. Whether we're talking about volunteering in classrooms, joining events or taking part in training programs, we want to encourage collaboration and show parents that their involvement is valued and it is significant.

The past few years have posed challenges like we've never seen, but I can't imagine a more inspiring time to be in the business of equipping the next generation of leaders. Welcome to the 2023-24 school year, Orange County. Let us embark on this journey of discovery and learning together.

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## School News

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Covering the  
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# AESD has More to Offer



**Christopher Downing**  
Superintendent

This past year saw our District continue to return to pre-pandemic activities and opportunities for our families and staff. We offer an unparalleled music program where students learn to play at least six different instruments by the end of sixth grade. This year our program was recognized by NAMM as a Best Community in Music for the fifth consecutive year. We also continue to offer award-winning support for multilingualism as we offer Dual Language Immersion (DLI) programs at our 23 in-person schools and also at our Anaheim Elementary Online Academy. In addition to our 23 Spanish DLI programs, we also offer a Korean DLI program; and for 2023-024 we are adding a new Transitional Kindergarten Mandarin program.

This year also saw an amazing expansion of our Expanded Learning Opportunities Program which offers a nine-hour school day at each of our schools. We are proud that over 75% of our students participated in expanded-day activities including Mariachi, Conga Kids, Speech and Debate, Soccer Clubs, Baile Folklorico and academic tutoring. Students receive daily snacks and supper which truly supports working parents and ensures their children participate in fun enrichment activities free of charge, every school day. All of these successes would not have been possible without our amazing AESD students, families, teachers, administrators and staff. AESD provides a safe and welcoming home away from home where our community's youngest students experience education and enrichment in a nurturing, multicultural environment to prepare them for high school and beyond. We invite you to learn more and enroll now at [www.AESD.org](http://www.AESD.org)

# Focus: Student Interest and Passion



**Michael B. Matsuda**  
Superintendent

In the Anaheim Union High School District, we have embraced a new focus on preparing students for meaningful careers, good jobs and active citizenship. We encourage our teachers to focus instruction around student interest and passion. Our students now demonstrate progress through learning and competencies that show growth in communication, critical thinking, collaboration and compassion. We also prioritize building community and business partnerships that help us drive educational goals. These partnerships require deep commitments, and include job shadowing, internships and apprenticeships in over 90 businesses and dual enrollment in our community and four-year colleges. For example, Anaheim Union became the first school district in the nation to partner with Google to offer five Google Career Certificates in the growing fields of automation with Python, data analytics, IT Support, project management, and UX Design. Designed by Google employees as integrated courses and embedded in the school day by teachers, each certificate is available on Coursera and includes practice and graded assessments and quizzes or writing assignments to ensure rigor and mastery. Certificate course graduates can submit their resumes to an employer consortium of over 130 companies, including California-based employers such as Coursera, Infosys and, of course, Google. In addition, our teachers have launched new career pathways for students in artificial intelligence, biotechnology and cybersecurity, and are developing a working farm at a school located in a food desert. Students learn about the dangers of these deserts, from childhood obesity to diabetes and heart disease, through data analytics and census data. Acting on the data they find, students help fill nutritional gaps by growing fruits and vegetables, which are given to district cafeterias, taken home by students or shared with the community.

Anaheim Elementary School District

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# Brea Olinda Unified School District

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## Engagement to Nurture Well-Rounded Students



**Brinda C. Leon**  
Superintendent

Brea Olinda Unified School District continues to set the standard for educational excellence with its commitment to innovation, career readiness and student success. Our well-rounded students excel academically and athletically as well as through extracurricular activities, which is evident with a remarkable list of 2022-23 accolades highlighting our dedication to delivering high-quality education.

- California Distinguished Schools - Country Hills Elementary, Olinda Elementary and Brea Online Academy
- Golden Bell Award - Career Technical Education Pathways
- California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) testing surpassed County and State averages
- Nine Positive Behavioral Intervention & Support (PBIS) recognitions
- International Technology and Engineering Educators Association's (ITEEA) Teacher Excellence Award
- CIF tournament appearances / Athletic league titles
- High School robotics regional titles and World Championship appearance
- PTA Reflections Art regional, state and national recognitions
- National History Day State Champions
- Second place at Science Olympiad Regional
- MathLeague State Competition Qualifiers
- Multiple tournament titles for band, orchestra & choir
- Academic Pentathlon & Decathlon achievements
- Community outreach opportunities
- Nationally Board Certified Teachers
- Expansion of K-12 robotics programs

BOUSD looks to continue the wave of success by fostering a positive school culture that values inclusivity with an emphasis on student academic success.

# Buena Park School District

6885 Orangethorpe Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/522-8412 • [www.bpsd.us](http://www.bpsd.us)

## Innovative Programs at its Best!



**Dr. Julianne Lee**  
Superintendent

As the newly appointed Superintendent of the Buena Park School District, I am honored to serve the Buena Park community and work alongside the exceptional individuals within our district who contribute to fostering a profound love for learning. We take pride in our comprehensive instructional programs, designed to cultivate academic excellence, promote social-emotional growth, and instill a strong sense of belonging, all while igniting a passion for learning.

An exceptional highlight is the expansion of our early learning program, now available at every elementary campus, featuring two full-day year-round classes. This program has garnered recognition for its remarkable ability to provide a solid foundation for our young learners, ensuring they enter elementary school well-prepared to thrive academically and socially.

One of our district's most successful initiatives is the after-school and summer Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP), known as SOARS. The program offers the students a variety of engaging activities, including academic support, enrichment activities, and mentorship opportunities.

We are proud to be at the forefront of innovative teaching methodologies, particularly in mathematics. Our district's implementation of research-based math approaches, endorsed by esteemed institutions like UCLA and UCI, empowers students with special needs to excel in this critical subject. This pioneering approach has truly transformed their learning experience, unlocking their full potential.

BPSD believes in building strong partnerships with families, local agencies, and universities. Through collaborative relationships, we create a rich learning ecosystem that extends beyond the confines of the classroom, benefiting students, families, and the broader community as a whole.



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- Visual and Performing Arts
- International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme Candidacy
- Multi-age Program
- Free Preschool/After School Programs



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# A Standout District



**Dr. Christopher Brown**  
Superintendent

I am thrilled to be starting my first year in CUSD in 2023-24. As I build relationships with District employees, I am continually impressed with the high-level of skill, knowledge and professionalism. Together, we will continue to improve on the high success rates of all students and celebrate achievements that make CUSD such a standout district. Those notable achievements in 2022-23 include:

- CUSD received a CSBA Golden Bell Award for its Spanish and Mandarin Language Immersion Program.
- Don Juan Avila Middle School was named a California School to Watch.
- Esencia third grade teacher Leslie Whitaker was named an Orange County Teacher of the Year.
- ATP paraprofessional Josephine Walberg was named an Orange County Classified Employee of the Year.
- CUSD was named a Best Community for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation for the seventh time.
- Selma Elbalalesy (Aliso Niguel) won the OC Artist of the Year in Theatre and Miguel Angel Tiscareno (Capistrano Valley) was a finalist in Instrumental Music.
- College and Career Centers were opened on all six comprehensive high school campuses, continuing the District's dedication to post-graduate success.

It is my esteemed honor to serve as the superintendent for Capistrano Unified School District, and am excited for a fantastic year in 2023-24!

# Together, We Can Do Anything!



**Norma E. Martinez**  
Superintendent

I've embraced this concept of togetherness or unity as our theme for the 2023-2024 school year. This coming year gives us an opportunity to continue to support our students. We are intent on knowing each of our students by name, need and strength and acting appropriately to encourage, motivate, and support them to continue their development as great human beings. We are intent on providing a high-quality program in which our students excel and are future-ready for success in their personal lives.

Through the passage of Measure N in 2016, each of our schools has an Innovation Lab. In this lab, our students have the opportunity to create and solve problems using the Design Thinking process. Students address problems by empathizing, defining, ideating, making prototypes and testing their solutions. These problems offer opportunities for collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking. We connect this with career awareness, resulting in students loving this program and being exposed to so many career options!

Now, we are delighted to launch a morecomprehensive visual and performing arts program, thanks to our California voters who approved Proposition 28. Each school has identified focus areas under the arts, staff have been hired and we look forward to showcasing the creativity of our students!

Centralia ESD takes great pride in being recognized for our achievements and excellent programming! We provide aspirational learning environment for our students where excellence is a routine descriptor of what we do. This past year, our schools received awards and recognitions from PBIS (all schools), CA Distinguished School (Los Coyotes) and NCUST award for Best Urban Schools in America!

We look forward to a great 2023/24. Together, we can do anything!

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# Cypress School District

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## Inspiring and Empowering!



**Anne Silavs**  
Superintendent

It is with great excitement that we prepare to usher in another amazing school year! Our success is grounded in our mission to inspire and empower every student, every moment, for every opportunity. We accomplish this by engaging students in robust learning experiences and providing them with a warm and supportive school environment. Our signature programs make our district an outstanding place for students to learn and grow!

**STEM** – Hands-on learning in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Students apply knowledge during project-based learning in dedicated STEM labs on each campus. The program is designed so that students question today for a better tomorrow.

**Music** – Weekly instruction taught by credentialed music teachers. Students learn fundamental concepts, including pitch, melody, rhythm, and tempo. They also learn how to play wind, string, and percussion instruments. Band, choir, and music composition classes are offered for upper-grade students.

**Smaller Class Sizes** – Smaller class sizes in transitional kindergarten through third grade. We value the importance of smaller classes in primary grades when students are first learning to read and develop number sense.

**Cutting-Edge, Evidence-Based Instruction** – Rich and meaningful learning experiences provided for all students. Our teachers and staff are committed to professional learning that ensures exceptional levels of student achievement.

**State Preschool** – Free classes for income-eligible families. In addition to the private preschools operated on each campus, our State Preschool program ensures all children have access to high-quality early learning programs.

In partnership with our families and community, we are proud to offer our students the very best in education!

# Fountain Valley School District

10055 Slater Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/843-3200 • [www.fvdsd.us](http://www.fvdsd.us)

## A Strong Foundational Education



**Dr. Katherine Stopp**  
Superintendent

As the 2022-2023 school year came to a close, and our team reflected upon all we experienced together as a learning community, we let out a sigh of relief and our hearts were full. We faced unimaginable challenges that required us to examine our personal, professional, and organizational priorities. Together, we proved that the spirit of learning, community, and perseverance can overcome any obstacle.

We are proud of the ways in which FVSD showed its commitment to student learning and continued improvement. In addition to Best, First Instruction (BFI), FVSD elementary students benefited from the addition of physical education classes taught by a team of certificated P.E. teachers, counselors, behavior Interventionists, and increased literacy intervention support.

Our FVSD middle schools students benefited from high-dose tutoring, the return of all sports tournaments, growing music and arts offerings, and expanded elective opportunities. It is our partnership in creating and maintaining a strong foundational education experience for our students that results in excellence.

Our organization continues to focus on improving all elements of Comprehensive School Safety and adding some additional practices/behaviors, and other layers of safety, that are critical to maintaining safe learning environments.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and admiration for our incredible staff and FVSD families for their unwavering support of our students' success.

Here is to a summer of rejuvenation, relaxation, and cherished memories. May the next academic year be filled with new beginnings and continued success for all members of our remarkable school district.



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Fullerton School District

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Great Schools, Successful Kids



Dr. Robert Pletka  
Superintendent

Fullerton School District's return to 'normal' continues to also be a time of growth and change, with a strong emphasis on community engagement. With the return to community events, FSD has thrived and continues to provide opportunities for students and their families. FSD offered two Community Block Parties this year as an opportunity for families to provide LCAP input, interact with community organizations, enjoy student performances, and interact with staff and other families.

In March, the Nicolas Community Center opened as a culmination of the implementation of community partnerships made possible by the California Community Schools Partnership Program. This program allows school districts to provide and facilitate wrap-around services to our most at promise communities and provide a whole child lens to help students thrive in the conditions that they need to be successful in academics, physical well-being, and social emotional development.

The Community Center provides services and support based on what students in the community need to succeed — whether that's free healthy meals, health care, tutoring, mental health counseling, or other tailored services before, during or after school, and on weekends. Some services offered at the Nicolas Community Center will be augmented by the opening of the Scout Hut at Orangethorpe School. This facility will be available for community use and will be utilized for events and as a food distribution center.

This year has been a time to reconnect with each other, students, families, and community partners. FSD has made a concentrated effort to re-engage staff, students, and families with opportunities and resources available in the community. FSD is committed to Great Schools, Successful Kids and further enhances educational opportunities through community engagement. Look out for more community outreach in the coming year!

Fullerton Joint Union High School District

1051 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/8702801 • [www.fjuhsd.org](http://www.fjuhsd.org)

FJUHSD the Place to Be!




Dr. Steve McLaughlin  
Superintendent

As we begin the 2023/24 school year, I am honored to begin my third year serving as superintendent of the Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHSD). Serving over 12,000 students, FJUHSD has a long history of providing the highest quality educational programs supported by a deeply committed and diverse community. This past school year, our dedicated staff of approximately 1,200 certificated, classified, and management employees came *Together* to make the year one of the best ever!

In the coming school year FJUHSD will continue to offer a broad spectrum of outstanding programs including: Advanced Placement; Agriculture, AVID, Adult Transition Program, Early College, Engineering, Computer Science, International Baccalaureate, JROTC, Marketing and Business Academy, Forensics Science, Performing Arts Academies, Cambridge Academy, and Troy Tech. The District also offers outstanding extracurricular programs include: Speech and Debate, Science Olympiad, Cyber Security, Visual and Performing Arts, Graphic Production, Coding, and Robotics just to name a few. Additionally, we also work very closely with North Orange County ROP to offer a variety of outstanding ROP programs.


We look forward to welcoming everyone back in mid-August for the 2023/24 school year. FJUHSD remains committed to reconnecting with our students and families, site and district staff members, and with all of our various community partners (which definitely makes *FJUHSD the Place to Be!*)




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# Helping ALL Students Succeed



**Dr. Gabriela Mafi**  
Superintendent

It was another exciting school year in GGUSD as our exemplary teachers and staff did an exceptional job equipping ALL students with the academic and personal skills for lifelong success. All of our campuses provided Extended Learning Opportunities with 10,000+ students attending before or after school programs to receive extra support. Our preliminary SBAC scores show that students made gains over last year in both ELA and Math and we're confident that GGUSD scores will continue to exceed the state and county average!

In June, we celebrated the graduation of more than 3,200 high school students who leave us prepared for a bright future.

We are proud that the Class of 2023 graduated with more than 6,800 college credits earned through dual enrollment opportunities. Of the Class of 2023, more than 1,100 report that they committed to attend a UC or CSU school.

In GGUSD, learning doesn't end when the school year is over. In fact, more than 9,400 students participated in our PK-12 Summer Learning programs offered at 22 campuses including a full inclusion program. As we look forward to the 2023-2024 school year, we will continue to expand academic and extracurricular opportunities, supporting the whole child with expanded mental health support programs. GGUSD will also continue its exceptional work in serving GGUSD families with monthly workshops through our Family Resource Centers, free classes through Fresno State University, a wonderful Parent Leadership Academy and more! Through all that we do, we will continue to care for students as if they are our own children. That's the Garden Grove Way!

# Celebrating Success. Embracing the Future.



**Dr. Leisa Winston**  
Superintendent

As we reach the end of a remarkable school year, we reflect on the successes achieved and the rewarding start to our five-year strategic plan implementation, filled with hard work, dedication, and a shared commitment to excellence.

We envisioned a future where our students would thrive academically and socially. We are on a trajectory to realizing that vision. We prioritized early literacy and reading instruction, with the support of new literacy coaches, and provided a common instructional framework that we can build on for future growth.

We have made progress in cultivating a safe and nurturing learning environment through support from our school counselors, teachers, and staff. In addition, we have worked on an updated review of school safety-related practices with law enforcement. Safety improvements, such as controlled entry, training, and updated emergency supplies, are approved for the next school year.

As we remain committed to effective communication, we will have a fully developed communications plan by the start of the school year. Furthermore, we have taken steps to enhance parent education opportunities and access to resources.

The district has undertaken several initiatives to maximize funding and strengthen reserves. Our multi-year budget plan sets aside funds for technology device replacement, long-term debt, and major facilities projects.

These achievements wouldn't have been possible without our team's extraordinary dedication and community support throughout this incredible journey. As we look forward to the exciting school year ahead, we remain committed to building upon the foundation we have laid this year. Our strategic plan will continue guiding our actions, ensuring we stay focused on our core values and objectives.



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# Huntington Beach Union High School District

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## Inclusion Makes Us Unstoppable



**Dr. Clint Harwick**  
Superintendent

As we reflect on the 2022-23 school year, we are proud to note it was one full of unity, accomplishments, and student success.

A priority within our district has always been inclusion on campus through Unified Sports, where students with and without disabilities join together to compete and play on a united team. This year, we had the pleasure of introducing Unified Arts, a new inclusive program where students of all abilities came together to experience different modes of learning through art. Because of the commitment to these Unified programs and overall inclusion on campus, one of our schools was named a Special Olympics National Banner Unified Champion School.

There was immense support and unity among students and staff as various national and state recognitions were awarded this year. In athletics, we had 85 CIF-SS playoff appearances, coach of the year recognitions, and the first-ever CIF State Wrestling Champion at one of our schools. Our arts programs thrived, with a student winning OC Artist of the Year and leadership winning OCMAA awards. STEM programs also showed off our students' abilities, with one winning a national award for women in technology and computing.

On top of successes in the classroom, we continued to prioritize student and staff well-being. Our Board of Trustees supported the decision to create more robust mental health teams, by adding a mental health specialist to each of our schools. This addition has created a more inclusive environment for everybody on campus.

As we navigate into the 2023-24 school year, there is one thing we know will remain constant: inclusion makes us unstoppable.

# Irvine Unified School District

5050 Barranca Pkwy., Irvine, CA 92604 • 949/936-5250 • [www.iusd.org](http://www.iusd.org)

## Student Centered for Success



**Terry L. Walker**  
Superintendent

The Irvine Unified School District is committed to providing the highest quality educational experience we can envision for our more than 36,000 students. To achieve this vital promise, it requires a visionary Board of Education and district leadership team, dedicated teachers and support staff, engaged students, committed families, and passionate community partners. This collective group is the "US" at the center of IUSD. Together, we have created one of the highest performing school districts in the nation that is student centered, committed to equity and driven by continuous improvement.

We remain committed to working with the IUSD community to continue to create positive educational environments in which students and families have a sense of belonging and feel connected to their schools, peers, teachers and our district. In our more than 50 years of service, we know that this is foundational to the academic success and overall social-emotional well-being of our students.

When students feel connected and confident, while seeing themselves reflected in their school communities, they are better able to cultivate the attitudes, skills and knowledge necessary to become resilient and resourceful learners, who are able to adapt and demonstrate hope, optimism and perseverance as they face academic and personal challenges. It is the optimal environment for learning and student success at the highest levels.

To this end, we continue to make investments in teaching and learning, academic supports for students, educational equity, mental health, family engagement, professional learning communities, student and parent engagement through district committees and surveys that include and elevate their voices, inclusive practices, along with many other student-centered priorities and initiatives. Through a greater sense of connectedness and belonging, we are setting the stage for students to be college, career and life ready.



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# Continuing to Motivate and Empower



**Dr. Mario A. Carlos**  
Superintendent

The La Habra City School District continues to motivate and empower our students both academically and socially. Each school in LHCSd has its own unique focus that provides opportunities to explore and pursue individual interests, while mastering grade level standards.

Arbolita Elementary -  
Visual and Performing Arts Academy  
El Cerrito Elementary -  
Code to the Future-Computer Science Magnet  
Ladera Palma Elementary -  
Dual Immersion - Spanish  
Las Lomas Elementary -  
Entrepreneur Exploration  
Las Positas Elementary and Imperial Middle School -  
International Baccalaureate  
Sierra Vista Elementary -  
No Excuses University  
Walnut Elementary and Washington Middle School -  
STEAM Academy  
Early Learning - program for families birth to 5.

LHCSd believes in a child-centered program that recognizes the unique abilities, needs and interests of each student. We strive to have staff, students, parents and community work together to ensure that all students master essential skills and become effective communicators, independent thinkers, and responsible, contributing members of society.

As we look forward to the new school year, we will continue to focus on building relationships, our strong Tier 1 instruction, and supporting equity, diversity and inclusion. We are excited to begin our 127th year of education in La Habra. Let's get ready to learn!

# Making Learning Relevant



**Dr. Jason Viloria**  
Superintendent

The persistent demand for an answer to the question, How to increase student engagement? is one of the driving forces of innovation in education. Fundamental to that innovation is relevance.

Today, we know that traditional classroom instruction is often not enough to meet the diverse needs and aspirations of students. Expanded learning opportunities offer additional avenues for students to explore their passions, expand their horizons, and develop critical skills beyond the confines of a regular curriculum.

In the Laguna Beach Unified School District (LBUSD), they include a wide range of activities that extend beyond the core subjects, such as extracurricular activities, project-based learning across all grade levels, internships, community service, dual enrollment and Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways. These opportunities increase relevancy for students and foster the development of the whole child by encouraging them to delve into their interests, engage in hands-on experiences, and cultivate essential life skills such as leadership, teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving. By supplementing the academic curriculum, expanded learning opportunities cater to diverse learning styles and tap into the unique talents and potential of each student.

Moreover, they contribute to the social-emotional development of our students. Through participation in extracurricular activities, they forge meaningful connections, develop empathy, and build resilience. These experiences enable students to discover their strengths, overcome challenges, and develop a sense of identity and purpose.

By embracing a more comprehensive approach to education focused on diverse and relevant learning experiences, LBUSD schools empower students to realize their full potential and prepare them for the challenges and opportunities they will encounter in the future.



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# Unlimited Possibilities



**Dr. Andrew Pulver**  
*Superintendent*

At Los Alamitos Unified, we firmly believe in the unlimited possibilities that lie within each and every student. Due to highly skilled and talented teachers and staff, visionary leadership from our Board of Education, and excellent family and community support, Los Al Unified students remain among the highest-achieving students in the county and state.

Academic excellence is at the heart of Los Alamitos USD, and we take great pride in our students' accomplishments. The graduating class of 2023 from Los Alamitos High School achieved an extraordinary feat—an impressive 100 percent graduation rate. This milestone is a testament to the unwavering dedication, resilience, and collaborative efforts of our students, families, and staff. Moreover, we are proud to be recognized as one of the top-performing districts in Orange County, ranking first in English Language Arts and second in Mathematics. Additionally, three of our elementary schools were honored as 2023 California Distinguished Schools.

We understand the importance of social-emotional support in fostering student well-being. In collaboration with the Board of Education, all sites are staffed with full-time school psychologists to ensure the social-emotional health and wellness of all our students. In addition, thanks to the generous support from the Los Alamitos Education Foundation (LAEF), we have extended the reach of our middle school WellSpaces, by opening a new WellSpace at Los Alamitos High School and at each of our six elementary schools.

We are fortunate to be part of an extraordinary community who are dedicated and passionate about creating a culture where students thrive and are prepared to accomplish unlimited possibilities.

# Destination District



**Jim Combs**  
*Superintendent*

The Lowell Joint School District strives to be among the leading districts throughout the State of California, holding true to our traditional American core values since 1906. Our outstanding teachers focus on our #1 priority, which is student success. This is evident in the fact that our students exceed the scores of Los Angeles and Orange County as well as the State of California. We are honored to serve our communities of La Habra, La Habra Heights, and Whittier. Each of our six schools are Gold Ribbon Schools, Distinguished Schools, and California Business Excellence Schools. Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate is also recognized as a three time "Schools to Watch", awarded six CSBA Golden Bell awards in the last six years, and Magna Awards from the National School Board Association in 2021 & 2022. The importance of education, family, and traditional American values are the bedrock to LJSD, as is our emphasis on higher education, personal integrity, and Character Education.

Specialized academic programs include coding & robotics, STEAM Innovation Labs, and ARTS FOR ALL: band, choir, dance, theater, fine art, and instrumental strings. Rancho-Starbuck is proud to provide students the Pre-AP/IB Honors Academy, Conservatory of the Arts, AP Computer Science, Robotics and Engineering, eSports, and Green Architecture, which transition into our local high schools and onto post-secondary education.

Together the people of Lowell Joint make Lowell a Destination District where we focus on ensuring that our students have the foundation to be globally competitive and grounded in traditional American values.



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# Music for All Program



Dr. Frank Donovan  
Superintendent

The Magnolia School District is proud of its long-standing practice of focusing on the Whole Child, which includes offering music instruction to all students. Four full-time, fully credentialed music teachers provide all students with music lessons throughout the school year. Students learn how to read music, play instruments and participate in musical performances. At Juliette Low School of the Arts, students can learn how to play the piano. Thanks to a generous donation, we have over 40 commercial grade Rowland keyboards in a state-of-the-art piano lab. Students can view the lesson on three wall-mounted monitors as they are practicing on their keyboards while receiving direct instruction from a highly qualified music teacher.

Upper grade students also have the opportunity to join our band program where they learn to play an instrument and perform in our year-end band performance. Students learn the importance of teamwork, collaboration, following directions and many other skills while also learning to play a musical instrument of their choice such as the trumpet, saxophone, flute, trombone, and many others. Sixth grade students have had the opportunity to perform with the Dale Jr. High School Band, which is a great experience for our students to get a glimpse of what they can expect when they participate in the music program in Junior High.

We know that teaching music improves learning while also helping students connect with school. Students are part of a team and clearly feel a stronger sense of belonging. Music is an integral part of school for our students and we are thankful to our Board of Trustees for supporting this exemplary program.

# We're Here to Inspire. Educate. Elevate.



Dr. Wesley Smith  
Superintendent

At [Newport-Mesa Unified School District](http://Newport-Mesa Unified School District), we are here to inspire, educate and elevate our students throughout their academic journeys, from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.

Inspire. We create a culture throughout our district that promotes deep engagement with learning. Our specialty programs, including [Career Technical Education](#) at each of our four comprehensive high schools, complement our core academic programs and offer students additional curriculum that allows them to explore new interests and ideas. Our [Academy of Global Studies](#), for example, examines other cultures, nations and societies as well as the issues facing us as global citizens.

Programs like these motivate our students to acquire the knowledge, skills and perspective that will help them enrich society and achieve significant career, educational, civic and personal goals.

Educate. We provide our students with many robust academic programs, including robotics and coding; Spanish and Mandarin dual immersion; hands-on science labs; expanded learning before and after school; and art, music, and theater programs. We are also proud to offer the [International Baccalaureate](#) program and 23 Advanced Placement courses – renowned educational opportunities with rigorous curricula that prepare students for success in college and life.

Elevate. We prioritize the whole student so that they are fully prepared to learn and achieve. Our district is home to a comprehensive team of trained professionals who focus on our students' social-emotional growth, foster positive learning environments, and provide wellness systems and resources. This personalized learning and support ensures students are fully prepared for any path they choose to take after graduating from our district.

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Ocean View School District

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Connections Before Content!



Dr. Michael Conroy  
Superintendent

I am proud to have served my first year as Superintendent of the Ocean View School District! My message this year has been “CONNECTIONS BEFORE CONTENT,” as we focused on our number one priority – student achievement.

Our teachers and staff spent valuable time building foundational relationships with students, getting to know them personally - their interests and likes, including their activities outside of school. We built strong connections with students - and those connections paid off! Student achievement increased throughout the District this past year, based on the State Smarter Balanced Assessments results! OVSD recognitions and highlights this past school year include:

- California Model SARB Recognition
- Vista View recognized in Washington, D.C.as a State and National School to Watch.
- PBIS recognition in 2022-2023: College View, Hope View, and Marine View earned their silver certification; Lake View, Oak View, Star View, Village View, Vista View, and Westmont earned their bronze certifications.
- Golden Bell Award for Oak View’s Owl’s Nest Program
- Inaugural District Science Expo
- Grand Opening of Park View as a Community Park
- Grand Re-Opening of the newly transformed, modernized Vista View Middle School, complete with Esports and Culinary Arts Programs
- Implementation of Equity & Inclusion Committee - Special Education
- Implementation of Superintendent’s Schools Task Force
- Transitional Kindergarten Birthdate Acceleration to 4 years old by September 1
- Opened wellness areas in all 4th & 5th grade classrooms to complement our Well Space rooms at all four middle schools

I thank our students, staff, parents, and community for a fabulous 2022-2023 school year, and look forward to welcoming everyone to the 2023-2024 school year in the fall!

Orange Unified School District

1401 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/628-4040 • [www.orangeusd.org](http://www.orangeusd.org)

Numerous Achievements



Ernie Gonzalez  
Interim Superintendent

As we approach the start of the 2023-2024 school year, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our graduating Class of 2023 and express my appreciation for the entire Orange Unified community. It has been a year filled with numerous achievements and reasons to celebrate.

I am delighted to announce that California iInspire Academy commemorated its third consecutive recognition as an Apple Distinguished School. This prestigious distinction reflects the commitment of our educators and students to innovative teaching and learning practices.

El Rancho Charter, Portola, and Yorba Middle Schools have been named 2023 California Schools to Watch by the California League of Educators. This recognition is a testament to the dedication and hard work of the staff and the positive learning environments they have created.

I am proud to share that the District has also been honored with the Verizon Innovative Learning Schools (VILS) Model of Sustainability Award. This recognition acknowledges our successful implementation of the VILS program at Portola and Yorba Middle Schools, which provides students with access to transformative digital learning opportunities.

Measure S Phase 2 is underway at our high schools, and we look forward to seeing the continuing campus improvements at our high schools.

We eagerly anticipate welcoming our students back to campus on August 16 for the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. Together, we will continue to shape the future of our students and provide them with the best educational experiences possible.



## Connections Before Content!



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# Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

1301 Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7000 • [www.pylusd.org](http://www.pylusd.org)

## Putting Kids First



**Dr. Alex Cherniss**  
Superintendent

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District is a dynamic learning community that prepares students for success now and in the future across 34 school sites.

We look forward to the 2023-2024 school year and engaging each child in the learning process through the implementation of core curriculum and effective instructional strategies. It is our goal to be a flagship district for student and family engagement while working to implement innovative programs that support and enhance the educational experience for our students.

Preparation for life beyond school is one of the hallmarks of PYLUSD through our career technical education pathways, our different diploma programs such as International Baccalaureate and Cambridge AICE, our Spanish Dual Language Academy, and our state-recognized transitional kindergarten program, just to name a few.

On the topic of transitional kindergarten, a focus next school year will be growing our early childhood education programs so we may better educate students while attracting families to our district. We will do this through the opening of several new preschool programs and other initiatives. It has been proven that young children who attend high-quality educational programs experience significant strides in language and cognitive development, and we are committed to offering such benefits to our families.

Aside from our traditional school campuses, rest assured that we will continue to have options available for students who wish to access their instruction through an alternative public school setting. This includes Buena Vista Virtual Academy, our K-12 online school, and Parkview School, our K-12 homeschool program.

As you can see, PYLUSD is a unique place to learn as a result of these future-ready initiatives and programs, which have sprung from the district's philosophy of *Putting Kids First*. Let's make it a great year!

# Saddleback Valley Unified School District

25632 Peter Hartman Wy., Mission Viejo, CA 92691 • 949/586-1234 • [www.svusd.org](http://www.svusd.org)

## Focusing on Each and Every Student



**Dr. Crystal Turner**  
Superintendent

Saddleback Valley Unified School District is proud of our excellent schools, extracurriculars, and new programs instituted this year: our Student Marketplace provides food and household supplies to SVUSD families, our inaugural Student Advisory Council provides input regarding topics important to SVUSD students, and summer modernization at our schools elevates safety, technology, and accessible learning spaces for all students.

I am inspired by the many accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff. Here are a few:

- Santiago STEAM Elementary named 2023 California Green Ribbon School Green Achiever and 2023 U.S. Dept. of Education Green Ribbon School
- 34 Dual Language Immersion Graduates, 81 Advanced Placement Capstone Diplomas, 63 International Baccalaureate Full Diploma Candidates
- 2024 Orange County Teacher of the Year, Laura Blackie
- 2023 Orange County Classified Employee of the Year, Amira Hana
- CIF Hall of Fame Induction for Mission Viejo HS Baseball Coach, Chris Ashbach
- CA Association of IB World Schools Exemplary International Educator of the Year, Kimberly Gerwatosky
- Laguna Hills HS California State Football Champions
- Trabuco Mesa Elementary named Special Olympics National Banner School
- Trabuco Hills HS Western Band Association Grand Champions
- El Toro HS Western Band Association Regional and State Class 2A Champions
- 99 Varsity athletic teams participated in the CIF-SS Academic Awards program 65 student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent
- 3 National Merit Scholarship Finalists

I look forward to the 2023-2024 school year and watching SVUSD continue to shine!



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# Santa Ana Unified School District

1601 E. Chestnut Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92701 • 714/558-5512 • [www.sausd.us](http://www.sausd.us)

## A Dynamic Learning Environment



**Jerry Almdarez**  
Superintendent

Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) is dedicated to equipping students with future-ready skills for global competitiveness. Through a dynamic learning environment, SAUSD fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration. Rigorous academic programs in core subjects like math, science, language arts, and technology provide students with a strong foundation for higher education and the global workforce.

Recognizing the importance of 21st-century skills, SAUSD integrates innovative technologies and digital resources, promoting digital literacy, communication, and adaptability.

State-of-the-art tools prepare students for the digital landscape of their future careers. Diverse extracurricular activities, including arts, sports, and community engagement, nurture creativity, leadership, and cultural competency. SAUSD ensures students are prepared to navigate diverse environments, collaborate across backgrounds, and contribute globally.

This spring, over 3,500 high school graduates celebrated their accomplishments. Nearly 900 received Seals of Biliteracy, and our graduates have been accepted into prestigious universities such as Harvard, Stanford, Georgetown, and UC/CSU campuses. To support college readiness, SAUSD offers dual enrollment, dual language immersion, International Baccalaureate (IB), expanded Advanced Placement (AP), and 55 career pathways. Additionally, an inclusive Ethnic Studies program is launching across all schools in the district, complementing our free Pre-K to high school offerings. Stay connected with our district and schools through social media updates. Follow us on social media using #WeAreSAUSD, #SAUSDGraduateProfile, and #SAUSDBetterTogether.

# Savanna School District

1330 S. Knott Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/236-3800 • [www.savsd.k12.ca.us](http://www.savsd.k12.ca.us)

## Today's Learners – Tomorrow's Leaders



**Dr. Sue Johnson**  
Superintendent

What a special place Savanna School District is! We're excited and eagerly anticipating the 2023-24 school year as we continue to prioritize academic excellence while empowering our students to unlock their true potential through a steadfast dedication to continuous learning and unwavering pursuit of excellence. We have much to celebrate this year and can't wait to get started!

We're eager to introduce our all-new Preschool Program that will begin August 7! The B.R.I.G.H.T. Learners Academy, which stands for Build • Realize • Imagine • Grow • Harvest • Thrive, will be structured for two, three, and four-year-old children

living within our boundaries.

We're excited to continue our very popular WINGS after school expanded learning program. During WINGS, an acronym for Wonder • Inspire • Nurture • Grow • Succeed, students have opportunities to participate in a variety of sports, music, art, and science activities in structured, engaging hands-on learning experiences.

Because student and staff safety are paramount, we're continually assessing the safety and security needs of our campuses and are proud of the systems we have in place. With the added focus to ensure healthy campuses, we're very proud we've been able to ensure student safety at every level.

The entire Savanna School District staff and Board of Trustees welcomes you to the 2023-24 school year and look forward to a wonderful opportunity to ensure that today's learners will indeed be tomorrow's leaders as we continue to prepare our students to be successful, contributing members of the community. Savanna School District truly is a special place to be!



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# Savanna School District

## Full Day Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Programs 2022-2023 School Year


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**Holder School**  
9550 Holder St.  
Buena Park, CA 90620

**Reid School**  
720 S. Western Ave.  
Anaheim, CA 92804

Register online at  
**[www.savsd.org](http://www.savsd.org)**





# Building A Brighter Future, Together



**Dr. Mark Johnson**  
Superintendent

The Tustin Unified School District is an extraordinary district of dedicated, caring, highly-skilled educators, passionate about the work we do together for our community. Our 29 campuses are fortunate to be a part of a community that embraces the success of our students as we serve the cities of Tustin, Irvine, North Tustin and Santa Ana. Our staff is committed to ensuring that all of our students have the best opportunity to achieve their social, emotional, academic and athletic goals. Evidence of this work has been highlighted by Fortune magazine, who named the city of Tustin one of the best places to live. Tustin was ranked 12th nationwide, largely due to the quality of our schools.

Our classrooms and facilities offer students a safe and nurturing environment to learn and grow. We are pleased to offer full-day kindergarten at all of our elementary campuses; robotics league and competitions in elementary, middle and high school; STEAM magnet program; 1:1 technology devices for students; Spanish Dual Language Immersion Program; award-winning performing and visual arts programs; 20 college/career pathways at the high school level; specialized high school programs like Early College, International Baccalaureate, and Model United Nations; and the Tustin Connect K-12 online and independent study school. We were proud to graduate 1,994 students this past year. Our graduates continue to pursue higher education at some of the most prestigious universities in our nation. This is a result of their hard work and our commitment to providing rigorous learning environments, engaging curriculum, and unique real-world experiences.

This year, we celebrate all that has been accomplished in TUSD with our theme of Built in TUSD. We have a rich history of success that we continue to build upon as we move into the future. We remain committed to providing each and every one of our students the resources they need for bright and successful futures, preparing them for college, career, and life.

# WSD Inspires!



**Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen**  
Superintendent

Westminster School District (WSD) continues to achieve high academic success for our students, staff and families. This summer we are finalizing the new **2023-2029 Strategic Plan – WSD INSPIRES!** — a coherent roadmap to guide the district in achieving its agreed upon goals and objectives. The plan will provide the framework for guiding our direction through 2029, and distinguishing Westminster School District as a world-class, first choice public school system that students and families select for academic success.

This year, WSD celebrated their award-winning schools with the elusive California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) Seal of Excellence Award. Hundreds of schools applied, but only five in the entire state of California were selected. DeMille and Willmore Elementary School's Vietnamese and Spanish Dual Language Immersion Programs were among the elite group that achieved these awards.

In an effort to continue prioritizing the safety and well-being of everyone in the district, WSD recently hired a dedicated School Resource Office (SRO) which along with our Westminster Police Department partnership promises a “gold standard response time” for all of our school sites throughout the year.

At WSD, we offer a multitude of programs, services and specialties from the first in the state Vietnamese Dual Language program, Spanish Dual Language Program to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math programs at all of our schools. The **Westminster School District INSPIRES!** — Leading the way as the premier Pre K-8th grade school district in Orange County by providing exceptional and innovative experiences where all learners thrive! Stay tuned for more updates on our exciting strategic plan which will be implement during the 2023-24 school year.

# Tustin Unified

- Award Winning Schools
- Multiple Magnet School Opportunities: GATE, Spanish Dual Immersion, STEAM, and Entrepreneurship
- Specialized High School Programs: Early College Program, International Baccalaureate, and Model United Nations
- Tustin Connect K-12: Independent Study Blended/Online School
- \$135 Million Dollar Bond: Modern Tech with 1:1 Student Devices
- Award-Winning Robotics: Elementary, Middle, and High School
- Unique Hands-On STEM Learning Opportunities
- 20 College and Career Pathways
- Preschool Full-Day TK and Kindergarten Programs

Learn more and enroll: [www.tustin.k12.ca.us](http://www.tustin.k12.ca.us)

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## WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Full-Day Kindergarten

(Children turning FIVE on or before September 1, 2023)

### Transitional Kindergarten

(Children turning FOUR on or before September 1, 2023)

### 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

For more information, please speak to our program's *Early Learning Specialist*

### Early Education & Expanded Learning

**714-898-8390**

**ENROLL NOW**

- Virtual Academy (K-8th Grade)
- FREE Summer School Programs

SCAN ME

### BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY

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Coastline ROP

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Educating Students for Tomorrow’s Careers



**Dr. Brian Dozer**  
*Superintendent*

At Coastline Regional Occupational Program, our mission is to provide high school students with valuable career technical education (CTE) experiences, enriching their overall high school journey. We are laser-focused on our goals of career exploration and awareness of and engagement in CTE and firmly believe that CTE benefits every student, regardless of their future paths: workforce, military, community college, four-year university, or a combination of these.

Considering predictions that 65% of children entering grade school today will work in future job roles that don’t currently exist, we work to build partnerships with industry, community, and educational organizations, to continually develop and launch courses and pathways in leading-edge fields such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, medical devices, supply chain management, and entrepreneurship. Every course includes work-based learning opportunities. And our educational efforts always align closely with the evolving demands of the labor market.

We also recognize the importance of offering work-based learning opportunities that increase the career awareness of younger students. We collaborate with the CTE nonprofit Vital Link to offer the career exploration exhibit day program to middle schools. This initiative, piloted in 2022-2023, introduced students from our partner districts to CTE pathways available in 9th grade. With this program, we successfully reached over 10,000 students, with 70% having limited or no prior awareness of CTE.

We take immense pride in our work of preparing students for both college and career readiness, firmly believing that Coastline ROP’s courses make a significant difference in the lives of students at our partner districts: Irvine Unified, Newport-Mesa Unified, Saddleback Valley Unified, and Tustin Unified school districts.

College and Career Advantage (ROP)

33122 Valle Rd., San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675 • 949/234-9464 • [www.ccadvantage.org](http://www.ccadvantage.org)

CTE – Now More Than Ever



**Dr. Paul Weir**  
*Executive Director*

As we prepare to enter the 2023-24 school year, California statistics indicate 47% of jobs in our state require less than a 4-year degree; however, some form of specialized training is necessary. College and Career Advantage (CCA) provides the necessary specialized training for the students and communities in the Capistrano Unified and Laguna Unified School Districts in south Orange County. For over 50 years, CCA has provided high quality career technical education (CTE) courses for our students. CCA currently serves approximately 17,000 students across our partner districts with programs covering grades K-12. As evolving technological innovation impacts industry landscapes, CCA provides students with the foundational skills

necessary to enter the workforce or continue their education in a variety of technical fields. CCA prides itself on the ability to prepare students to be College AND Career ready.

CCA offers high quality CTE coursework in 26 CTE pathways across 15 industry sectors. While learning valuable skills, CCA courses offer students the opportunity to earn college credit, meet UC a-g requirements and earn honors GPA weighting. Students taking CCA courses can also earn industry certifications and participate in industry internships at over 500 local businesses and industry partners. This added value helps prepare students for the world beyond their K-12 education.

It is an honor to serve as the Executive Director of College and Career Advantage and I look forward to another year filled with student success. On behalf of the CCA Board, teachers, and staff, I wish everyone a successful 2023-24 school year.

North Orange County ROP

385 N. Muller St., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/502-5800 • [www.nocrop.org](http://www.nocrop.org)

Craving Raving Moments?



**Dana Lynch**  
*Superintendent*

All students do! With the swipe of a finger, students find raving moments via the digital domain. Smart devices can become a distraction or an escape when students fall aimlessly into texting, social media, gaming, or binge-watching their favorite shows. As a result of such technology, teaching, and learning have had to change. Nevertheless, a student’s curiosity, creativity, and constant craving for authentic learning moments have not. Career Technical Education (CTE) equips students with the practical expertise needed for future careers and provides a powerful alternative to such distractors.

CTE is the optimal compass for navigating the modern world. The North Orange County Regional Occupational Program (NOCROP) offers high-quality CTE by creating intentional, raving moments of hands-on learning for over 13,000 students annually. Where else are instructors recruited from various career fields to share their relevant experience and skills? Where else can students participate in a continuum of work-based learning opportunities via structured internships, apprenticeships, work site visits, and guest speakers? Where else can students earn certifications, licensure, articulated college credit, and employment in various career fields? Where else can students pitch a product they developed to solve a clinical need and then receive feedback from a panel of experts including a venture capitalist, patent attorney, and bioengineer? NOCROP is the answer. Let us help to satiate your students’ cravings and turn them into raving fans!

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<sup>1</sup>. Supporting documentation required. Junior Varsity Club Memberships (age 12 and under) require a parent/legal guardian joint owner on all shares; Varsity Club Memberships (age 13–17) require a parent/legal guardian joint owner on certain products and services.

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