

# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

**Covering the Hawthorne School District**



Volume 13, Issue 73

September 2023



**BACK TO  
SCHOOL**  
2023-24

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**HAWTHORNE SCHOOL DISTRICT**



# Discover Our Preschool Program

**A high-quality program designed to provide a strong foundation for children's learning and development**

## PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Fun Play-Based Learning
- Stimulating Outdoor Activities
- Creative and Imaginative Play Areas
- Small Classes with Dedicated Staff
- Flexible Schedules

## ELIGIBILITY

- Children turning 3 or 4 years old on or before Sept. 1st
- Families must qualify based on state income requirements — we will help you check your eligibility!

## ENROLL NOW

**Contact Site Supervisor  
Helen Belloso:**

- ✉ [hbelloso@hawthorne.k12.ca.us](mailto:hbelloso@hawthorne.k12.ca.us)
- ☎ (310) 676-1934
- 🌐 [preschool.hawthornesd.org](http://preschool.hawthornesd.org)



# Descubre Nuestro Programa Preescolar

**Un programa de alta calidad diseñado para proporcionar una base sólida para el aprendizaje y el desarrollo de los niños.**

## BENEFICIOS DEL PROGRAMA

- Aprendizaje divertido basado en el juego
- Actividades al aire libre estimulantes
- Áreas de juego creativas e imaginativas
- Clases pequeñas con personal dedicado
- Horarios flexibles

## ELEGIBILIDAD

- Niños que cumplen 3 o 4 años el 1 de septiembre o antes
- Las familias deben calificar según los requisitos de ingresos del estado. ¡Le ayudaremos a verificar su elegibilidad!

## INSCRIBASE AHORA

**Comuníquese con la supervisora del sitio, Helen Belloso:**

- ✉ [hbelloso@hawthorne.k12.ca.us](mailto:hbelloso@hawthorne.k12.ca.us)
- ☎ (310) 676-1934
- 🌐 [preschool.hawthornesd.org](http://preschool.hawthornesd.org)





## Welcome to the New School Year!

The first day of school always brings with it a mixture of excitement and a bit of anxiety on the part of our students. There is the joy of returning to campus to see friends and familiar faces, as well as the sense of the unknown when transitioning to a new classroom and/or new school. Regardless of whether you and your child have been members of the HSD family for years or joining us now for the first time, we welcome you to the 2023-2024 school year!

In the HSD, we pride ourselves on offering the highest quality services and supports for our students and families. In this new year, we are maintaining those core elements, while also expanding upon them in a variety of areas. We are pleased to welcome a new after-school program partner, Right At School, at the elementary level. As always, our engaging and robust expanded learning programs are available for all students at no cost. In addition to supporting our students, we celebrate the kickoff of our HSD Community Schools initiative, which will provide families with access to a range of school-based services beyond those that have been available in the past. Stay tuned for more information as this initiative is implemented at all eligible schools.

Again, we welcome all of our students and families to the HSD for the start of the new school year! We look forward to collaborating with you in the months and years ahead, as we work to support your child's academic success and social and emotional well-being.

Let's make this year the best year yet in the HSD!



**Dr. Brian Markarian**  
Superintendent

## ¡Bienvenidos al Nuevo año Escolar!

El primer día de clase siempre trae consigo una mezcla de emoción y un poco de ansiedad por parte de nuestros estudiantes. Existe la alegría de volver a la escuela para ver amigos y caras conocidas, así como la sensación de lo desconocido cuando se hace la transición a un nuevo salón de clases y / o nueva escuela. Independientemente de que si usted y su hijo/a han sido miembros de la familia del HSD durante años o si se unen a nosotros ahora por primera vez, ¡le damos la bienvenida al año escolar 2023-2024!

En el HSD, nos enorgullecemos de ofrecer servicios y apoyos de la más alta calidad para nuestros estudiantes y familias. En este nuevo año, nos complace mantener esos elementos básicos, a la vez que los ampliamos en diversas áreas. Nos complace dar la bienvenida a un nuevo socio del programa extraescolar, Right At School, en el nivel de primaria. Como siempre, nuestros interesantes y sólidos programas de aprendizaje ampliado están disponibles para todos los estudiantes sin costo alguno. Además de apoyar a nuestros estudiantes, celebramos el inicio de nuestra iniciativa HSD Community Schools, que proporcionará a las familias acceso a una variedad de servicios basados en la escuela más allá de los que han estado disponibles en el pasado. Manténgase al tanto para obtener más información a medida que esta iniciativa se implementa en todas las escuelas elegibles.

Una vez más, ¡damos la bienvenida a todos nuestros estudiantes y familias al HSD para el comienzo del nuevo año escolar! Esperamos colaborar con ustedes en los meses y años venideros, mientras trabajamos para apoyar el éxito académico y el bienestar social y emocional de sus hijos.

Hagamos que este año sea el mejor del HSD.





**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



*Neta Madison*  
Netragrednik

# School News

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[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)

Covering the  
**HAWTHORNE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Welcome back to a new school year.

I think all of us can recall the excitement of a new school year. This issue begins with a welcome message from Superintendent Dr. Brian Markarian. This is our 13th year collaborating with the HSD to publish their *School News*. Year after

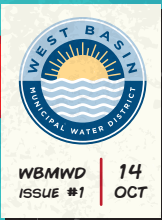
year the positive leadership is evident in the articles. Students and parents are supported with programs and services for academic success.

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is November 1.



Happy Halloween!



## WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 14TH**

# WATER HARVEST

WATER EDUCATION

TOURS

PRIZES

GAMES

KIDS COSTUME CONTEST

FREE FAMILY EVENT

**EL SEGUNDO, CA**

[WESTBASIN.ORG/WATERHARVEST](http://WESTBASIN.ORG/WATERHARVEST)

[f](#) [i](#) [in](#) [v](#) #WATERHARVEST2023



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HAWTHORNE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HawthorneSchoolMeals.com  
310-263-3990

**2023/2024 School Year**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are pleased to inform you that in the 2023-2024 school year, all schools in the Hawthorne School District will be operating the Community Eligibility Provision of the USDA's National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

Great news for you and your students! This means that all students are eligible to receive a nourishing breakfast and lunch, at their enrolled school, at **no charge** to your household each day that your child attends school in the 2023-2024 school year. No further action is required of you. Your student(s) will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit an application.

If we can be of any further assistance, please contact us at 310-263-3990.

Sincerely,

Your Nutrition Services Department

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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**Año Escolar 2023/2024**

Estimado Padre o Tutor:

Nos complace informarle que en el año escolar 2023-2024, todas las escuelas del Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne estarán operando la Provisión de Elegibilidad Comunitaria de los Programas Nacionales de Desayuno y Almuerzo Escolar del USDA.

¡Grandes noticias para usted y sus estudiantes! Esto significa que todos los estudiantes son elegibles para recibir un desayuno y almuerzo nutritivo, en su escuela inscrita, **sin cargo** para su hogar cada día que su hijo asista a la escuela en el año escolar 2023-2024. No se requiere ninguna otra acción de su parte. Su(s) estudiante(s) podrá(n) participar en estos programas de comidas sin tener que pagar una tarifa o presentar una solicitud.

Si podemos brindarle más ayuda, comuníquese con nosotros al 310-263-3990.

Sinceramente,

Departamento de Servicios de Nutrición

Esta institución es un proveedor de igualdad de oportunidades.



## Vaccination Benefits for Kids

Now that your children have headed back to school, this is an important time to remind parents how important it is to keep their children current on their vaccine schedule as the school year progresses. California law requires all children to keep up to date on their vaccinations to continue to attend public school, since timely immunizations not only protect your own kids, but also the community.

Immunizations are specifically timed for when children are at the highest risk of exposure and staying on schedule can prevent outbreaks and community spread among their peers. Even children who are homeschooled benefit from staying up to date on their immunizations because when overall vaccination rates drop among children, disease outbreaks can occur.

For example, newborns are immunized against Hepatitis B. At two months old, vaccinations include rotavirus and whooping cough. Later, toddlers are immunized against measles, mumps, rubella and chicken pox. Between ages 4 and 6, children are given boosters in preparation for the beginning of school. Important immunizations can also safeguard children's future including Meningococcal vaccinations to protect against meningitis and

the HPV vaccination to prevent cervical cancers from developing later in life. This will continue into their teenage years and even as adults.

Parents may have concerns about possible side effects, such as allergic reactions to vaccinations. However, these reactions are extremely rare and while allergic reactions to vaccines may be worrisome for parents, the diseases they aim to prevent may have far more serious and long-term complications.

Today, thanks to regular immunizations, some diseases once considered commonplace — such as measles and polio — are mostly eradicated. This is due to the development and distribution of vaccines and caregivers' commitment to following recommended vaccination schedules for their kids.

If you have questions about your child's immunization schedule or about possible side effects, seek medical advice from your child's pediatrician. Pediatricians have access to the latest scientific data and information to address concerns parents may have. Remember, prevention is key when it comes to stopping the spread of diseases and getting children vaccinated protects them from preventable disease.



Athena, Age 2



### It takes a village.

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

Learn more.  
[millerchildrens.org/care](http://millerchildrens.org/care)

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



# Bud Carson *Middle School*

13838 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-1908 • [bcms.hawthornesd.org](http://bcms.hawthornesd.org)

## Welcome Back, Huskies!

The Bud Carson Middle School community warmly welcomes back all its students for another year of learning, growth, and shared experiences. We are thrilled to have our students back in the classrooms, eager to explore new subjects, meet new friends, and reach their full potential.

The first day of school was marked by laughter and reunions as friends reconnected after the break. Teachers and staff greeted their students with high fives, talked about 'good things', and building a sense of belonging and support.

This year, Bud Carson Middle School is focusing on fostering a positive and inclusive environment, encouraging students to engage in extracurricular activities, and promoting academic excellence. We are excited to see our after school programs and clubs starting up again. Fall sports include volleyball, flag football, and cross country. After school classes and clubs such as Lego Engineering, MESA, Golf, and E-Sports will offer something for everyone. With a strong sense of community, the school looks forward to an incredible year filled with growth, achievements, and memorable moments. Welcome back, Bud Carson Middle School students!



**John Paterson**  
*Principal*

## ¡Bienvenidos de Nuevo Perros, Esquimales!

La comunidad de Bud Carson Middle School da una calurosa bienvenida a todos sus estudiantes para un año más de aprendizaje, crecimiento y experiencias compartidas. Estamos encantados de tener a nuestros estudiantes de regreso en las aulas, ansiosos por explorar nuevas materias, conocer nuevos amigos y alcanzar su máximo potencial.

El primer día de clases estuvo marcado por risas y reencuentros cuando los amigos se reconectaron después del receso. Los maestros y el personal saludaron a sus estudiantes chocando los cinco, hablaron sobre “cosas buenas” y desarrollaron un sentido de pertenencia y apoyo.

Este año, la Escuela Intermedia Bud Carson se enfoca en fomentar un ambiente positivo e inclusivo, alentar a los estudiantes a participar en actividades extracurriculares y promover la excelencia académica. Estamos emocionados de ver que nuestros programas y clubes extracurriculares comiencen nuevamente. Los deportes de otoño incluyen voleibol, fútbol de bandera y campo a través. Las clases extraescolares y clubes como Lego Engineering, MESA, Golf y E-Sports ofrecerán algo para todos. Con un fuerte sentido de comunidad, la escuela espera un año increíble lleno de crecimiento, logros y momentos memorables. ¡Bienvenidos de nuevo, estudiantes de la escuela secundaria Bud Carson



**First Day of School**



# Eucalyptus *Elementary*

12044 S. Eucalyptus Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-3369 • [euc.hawthornesd.org](http://euc.hawthornesd.org)

## Welcome Back!

On behalf of Koala Nation, I'm excited to welcome everyone back to Eucalyptus for the 2023-24 school year. I'm sure you're wondering what's new at school, and we have a lot to celebrate! If you've been on campus, you've seen our new, waterwise learning garden and the new Koala logo sign painted on the cafeteria. I'm also proud to announce that Eucalyptus earned the California PBIS Statewide Silver Award, announced this summer, in recognition of our team's dedication to supporting students behavioral, academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. Our former Dean and current District Behavior Support Coach, Ms. Angela Ortiz, led the way in accomplishing this award, along with our PBIS committee of teachers and staff. I'm also thrilled to announce that one of the PBIS team members, Ms. Kari Gallegos, has now taken over as our Dean of Students at Eucalyptus, and we are looking forward to continuing the important work in the area of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). This year, we are going for the Gold!



**Mike Goldstein**  
*Principal*

## ¡Bienvenido de nuevo!

En nombre de Koala Nation, me complace darles la bienvenida a todos a Eucalyptus para el año escolar 2023-24. Estoy seguro de que te estás preguntando qué hay de nuevo en la escuela y ¡tenemos mucho que celebrar! Si ha estado en el campus, habrá visto nuestro nuevo jardín de aprendizaje que ahorra agua y el nuevo letrero con el logotipo de Koala pintado en la cafetería. También me enorgullece anunciar que Eucalyptus obtuvo el Premio de Plata Estatal PBIS de California, anunciado este verano, en reconocimiento a la dedicación de nuestro equipo para apoyar las necesidades conductuales, académicas, sociales, emocionales y de salud mental de los estudiantes. Nuestra ex Decana y actual Entrenadora de Apoyo al Comportamiento del Distrito, La Sra. Ángela Ortiz, lideró el camino para lograr este premio, junto con nuestro comité de maestros y personal de PBIS. También estoy encantado de anunciar que uno de los miembros del equipo de PBIS, la Sra. Kari Gallegos, ha asumido el cargo de Decana de Estudiantes en Eucalyptus, y esperamos continuar el importante trabajo en el área de Intervenciones de Comportamiento Positivo y Apoyos (PBIS). ¡Este año vamos por el Oro!

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**District Behavior Support Coach, Ms. Ortiz (right) celebrates our Silver Award with her son Anthony Ortiz (center) and his former teacher and new Eucalyptus Dean of Students, Ms. Gallegos (left).**

**La Sra. Ortiz (derecha), entrenadora de comportamiento del distrito, celebra nuestro Premio de Plata con su hijo Anthony Ortiz (centro) y su ex maestra y nueva Decana de Estudiantes, la Sra. Gallegos (izquierda).**



# Hawthorne Math & Science Academy

4467 W. Broadway, Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/973-8184 • [hmsa.hawthornesd.org](http://hmsa.hawthornesd.org)

## New Faces and Programs at HMSA

by Dr. Anakonia Matsumoto

Our HMSA campus is bustling with excitement as we welcome over 155 9th graders and two new teachers to our community.

Mr. David Finzi is our new 9th grade Computer and AP Computer Science teacher. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts from the University of California San Diego and his teaching credential from Cal State Northridge.

Ms. Alejandra Moreno is our new 9th grade Math teacher. She is an HMSA alumni and happy to be back. She attended California State University, Dominguez Hills where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Math and received her Masters in Education in Curriculum and Instruction.

Dual Enrollment is now offered through our partnership with El Camino College on campus. We are offering Psychology this semester and students take the class twice a week after-school.

We are also partnering with Pepperdine and the National Science Foundation to offer the International Community for Collaborative Content Creation (IC4) course. Students collaborate with others across the globe including Kenya, Brazil, Mexico, Singapore to share their findings and learn more.

What an exciting year this will be!



**Esau Berumen**  
Principal

## Nuevas Caras y Programas en HMSA

Por la Dr. Anakonia Matsumoto

Nuestro campus de HMSA está lleno de emoción al darle la bienvenida a más de 155 estudiantes de noveno grado y a dos nuevos maestros en nuestra comunidad.

El Sr. David Finzi es nuestro nuevo maestro de Computación y Ciencias de noveno grado y la Computación AP. Obtuvo su Licenciatura en Artes de la Universidad de California en San Diego y su credencial de enseñanza de Cal State Northridge.

La Sra. Alejandra Moreno es nuestra nueva maestra de Matemáticas de noveno grado. Ella es ex alumna de HMSA y está feliz de estar de regreso. Asistió a la Universidad Estatal de California, Dominguez Hills, donde obtuvo su Licenciatura en Matemáticas y recibió su Maestría en Educación en Currículo e Instrucción.

La inscripción dual ahora se ofrece a través de nuestra asociación con El Camino College en el campus. Ofrecemos Psicología este semestre y los estudiantes toman la clase dos veces por semana después de la escuela.

También nos estamos asociando con Pepperdine y la Fundación Nacional de Ciencias para ofrecer el curso Comunidad Internacional para la Creación Colaborativa de Contenido (IC4). Los estudiantes colaboran con otros en todo el mundo, incluidos Kenia, Brasil, México y Singapur, para compartir sus conocimientos y aprender más.

¡Qué año tan emocionante será este!





## Where Everybody Belongs

By Shayla Hollins, HMS Counselor

Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) is a new program implemented by HMS Counselors to welcome incoming sixth graders and to help them have a smooth transition to middle school. Built on the belief that students can help students succeed, a group of 27 eighth-graders were trained over the summer to become WEB Leaders.

During orientation, each leader was assigned to a group of sixth graders to lead them through engaging activities and a tour of the HMS campus. Throughout the school year, WEB Leaders will meet with their groups and conduct academic and social check-ins with their students to help facilitate student success. We are excited to see how WEB positively impacts our students and our overall school culture!

“WEB Orientation was good! We met our WEB leaders and they told us how school was going to be, showed us our classrooms, and we got to meet our teachers. I was kinda nervous at first, but by the end of it, I felt good about coming to HMS!” said Serj Oropeza, sixth-grader.



**Martha Castellanos**  
Principal

## Where Everybody Belongs

Por la Shayla Hollins, HMS Counselor

Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) es un nuevo programa implementado por los consejeros de HMS para dar la bienvenida a los estudiantes entrantes de sexto grado y ayudarlos a tener una transición exitosa a la escuela intermedia. Basado en la creencia de que los estudiantes pueden ayudarlos a tener éxito, un grupo de 27 estudiantes del octavo grado recibieron capacitación durante el verano para convertirse en Líderes WEB.

Durante la orientación, cada líder fue asignado a un grupo de estudiantes de sexto grado para guiarlos a través de actividades interesantes y un recorrido por el campus de HMS. A lo largo del año escolar, los líderes WEB se reunirán con sus grupos y realizarán actividades académicas y sociales para ayudar a facilitar el éxito de los estudiantes. ¡Estamos emocionados de ver cómo WEB impactara positivamente a nuestros estudiantes y nuestra cultura escolar en general!

“¡La orientación WEB fue buena! Conocimos a nuestros líderes WEB y nos dijeron cómo iba a ser la escuela, nos mostraron nuestras aulas y conocimos a nuestros maestros. Al principio estaba un poco nervioso, pero al final, ¡me sentí bien por haber venido a HMS!”. dijo Serj Oropeza, estudiante de sexto grado.





# Jefferson *Elementary*

4091 W. 139th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-9423 • [jefferson.hawthornesd.org](http://jefferson.hawthornesd.org)

## Welcome Back, Jefferson Eagles!

Our new school year is off to a terrific start, marked by exciting changes on our campus. The playground has received a major facelift, boasting fresh swings, an enticing play structure, and fun additions like spinning seats and a rock climbing structure – all of which have quickly become student favorites. Even our blacktop has received a makeover, with a brand-new coating and crisp, colorful lines, giving it a vibrant look. The office has a new look as well.

We're also thrilled to introduce two outstanding additions to our teaching staff. Please join us in welcoming Ms. Nguyen, a dedicated kindergarten teacher, and Mr. Anderson, an experienced 5th-grade teacher, both with a strong track record in the Hawthorne School District. Their knowledge and positive energy are a fantastic addition to our Jefferson family.

Here's to a fantastic year of learning and growth at Jefferson School!



**Josh Godin**  
*Principal*

## ¡Bienvenidos de Nuevo, Águilas de Jefferson!

Nuestro nuevo año escolar ha tenido un excelente comienzo, marcado por cambios emocionantes en nuestro campus. El patio de juegos ha recibido un importante lavado de cara, con nuevos columpios, una estructura de juego atractiva y adiciones divertidas como asientos giratorios y una estructura para escalar rocas, todo lo cual se ha convertido rápidamente en el favorito de los estudiantes.

Incluso nuestro asfalto ha sido renovado, con un revestimiento completamente nuevo y líneas nítidas y coloridas, que le dan un aspecto vibrante. La oficina también tiene una nueva apariencia.

También estamos encantados de presentar dos incorporaciones destacadas a nuestro personal docente. Únase a nosotros para dar la bienvenida a la Sra. Nguyen, una dedicada maestra de jardín de infantes, y al Sr. Anderson, un experimentado maestro de quinto grado, ambos con una sólida trayectoria en el distrito escolar de Hawthorne. Su conocimiento y energía positiva son una fantástica incorporación a nuestra familia Jefferson.

¡Por un año fantástico de aprendizaje y crecimiento en la Escuela Jefferson!





# Kornblum *Elementary*

3620 W. El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/970-4294 • [kornblum.hawthornesd.org](http://kornblum.hawthornesd.org)

## Embarking on this Adventure

We're thrilled to see those excited faces back on campus, ready to embrace a new chapter of learning and growth. Rain or shine, our spirits remain unbreakable, and this year, we're not letting a little rain dampen our excitement. With colorful umbrellas in hand and an unwavering eagerness, we'll navigate through any showers that come our way, turning them into moments of shared laughter and camaraderie. Together, we'll create a sunny atmosphere inside these walls that outshines even the sunniest of days. Let's embark on this adventure, cherishing every droplet that falls and every ray that breaks through the clouds. Welcome back, dear students!



**Mytress  
Middleton**  
*Principal*

## Embarcándose en esta Aventura

Estamos encantados de ver esas caras emocionadas de regreso en el campus, listas para abrazar un nuevo capítulo de aprendizaje y crecimiento. Llueva o haga sol, nuestro espíritu sigue siendo inquebrantable y este año no dejaremos que un poco de lluvia apague nuestra emoción. Con coloridos paraguas en mano y un afán inquebrantable, navegaremos entre los chaparrones que se nos presenten, convirtiéndolos en momentos de risas y camaradería compartidas. Juntos, crearemos una atmósfera soleada dentro de estos muros que eclipsará incluso los días más soleados. Embárcate en esta aventura, valorando cada gota que cae y cada rayo que atraviesa las nubes. ¡Bienvenidos de nuevo, queridos estudiantes!





# Prairie Vista *Middle School*

13600 Prairie Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/679-1003 • [pvms.hawthornesd.org](http://pvms.hawthornesd.org)

## Welcome, Panthers!

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! This year we have five new Panther staff members.

Ms. Alicia Eddy is our new special projects teacher. She attended Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and she has been teaching in HSD for 16 years. She is excited to be back at PVMS!

Ms. Paola Coria, a cat lover, is excited to join Prairie Vista Panthers as a counselor. She thanks everyone for being so welcoming.

Ms. Ariana Gandy is our new school psychologist. She loves learning and she is excited to be supporting PVMS!

Ms. Brianne Ball, (Ms. Bri) is our new site coordinator for the after-school program. Her goal in life is to make a change that impacts our future through the lives of the children she sees daily.

Ms. Rose Macfoy is a 6th grade math/science teacher. She taught Learning Loss Mitigation at PVMS in 22/23 and she is thrilled to be on the 6th grade team.

Let's have a great year!



**Wendy Ostensen**  
*Principal*

## ¡Bienvenidos, Panteras!

¡Bienvenidos al año escolar 2023-2024! Este año tenemos cinco nuevos miembros del personal Panther.

La Sra. Alicia Eddy es nuestra nueva maestra de proyectos especiales. Asistió a Cal Poly San Luis Obispo y ha estado enseñando en HSD durante 16 años. ¡Está emocionada de regresar a PVMS!

La Sra. Paola Coria, amante de los gatos, está emocionada de unirse a Prairie Vista Panthers como consejera. Ella agradece a todos por darle la bienvenida.

La Sra. Ariana Gandy es nuestra nueva psicóloga escolar. ¡Le encanta aprender y está emocionada de apoyar a PVMS!

La Sra. Brianne Ball (Sra. Bri) es nuestra nueva coordinadora del sitio para el programa extracurricular. Su objetivo en la vida es hacer un cambio que impacte nuestro futuro a través de las vidas de los niños que ve diario.

La Sra. Rose Macfoy es maestra de matemáticas y ciencias de sexto grado. Ella fue maestra de Mitigación de la Pérdida de Aprendizaje en PVMS en 22/23 y está encantada de estar en el equipo de sexto grado.

¡Tengamos un gran año!



**Alicia Eddy, Paola Coria, Brianne Ball, Rose Macfoy. Not pictured, Ariana Gandy.**



# Ramona Elementary

4617 W. 136th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-7189 • [ramona.hawthornesd.org](http://ramona.hawthornesd.org)

## It's Going to be a RAMazing Year!!

As the vibrant colors of summer start to fade into the warm hues of autumn, it is with immense joy and excitement that we welcome each and every one of you back to Ramona School. The beginning of a new school year is always a special moment – a time to embrace fresh opportunities, rekindle old friendships, and embark on new adventures.

We understand that the past year has presented unique challenges for us all, but it is our collective resilience and determination that have brought us to this exciting juncture. It fills our hearts with gratitude to see familiar faces returning to our campus and to extend a warm welcome to all the new families joining our Ramona School community. Together, we are ready to create an incredible school year filled with learning, growth, and unforgettable memories.



**Marisa Stewart**  
Principal

## Este año va ser RAMazing

A medida que los colores vibrantes del verano comienzan a desvanecerse en los tonos cálidos del otoño, es con inmensa alegría y emoción que les damos la bienvenida a todos y cada uno de ustedes a la Escuela Ramona. El comienzo de un nuevo año escolar es siempre un momento especial: un momento para aprovechar nuevas oportunidades, reavivar viejas amistades y embarcarse en nuevas aventuras.

Entendemos que el año pasado presentó desafíos únicos para todos nosotros, pero es nuestra resiliencia y determinación colectivas las que nos han llevado a esta coyuntura emocionante. Nos llena el corazón de gratitud ver caras conocidas regresar a nuestro campus y extender una cálida bienvenida a todas las nuevas familias que se unen a nuestra comunidad de la Escuela Ramona. Juntos, estamos listos para crear un año escolar increíble lleno de aprendizaje, crecimiento y recuerdos inolvidables.

En la Escuela Ramona, nuestra misión siempre ha sido brindar un ambiente enriquecedor donde cada niño pueda prosperar académica, social y emocionalmente. Nuestro dedicado equipo de educadores y miembros del personal está comprometido a fomentar una cultura de curiosidad y creatividad, alentando a los estudiantes a explorar sus pasiones y alcanzar las estrellas. Con su apoyo y participación, estamos seguros de que este año será nada menos que extraordinario.



At Ramona School, our mission has always been to provide a nurturing environment where every child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Our dedicated team of educators and staff members is committed to fostering a culture of curiosity and creativity, encouraging students to explore their passions and reach for the stars. With your support and involvement, we are confident that this year will be nothing short of extraordinary.

As we embark on this incredible journey together, we encourage you to stay connected with us, participate in school activities, and engage with your child's educational journey. Our doors are always open, and we value your feedback and contributions.

Once again, welcome to the new school year at Ramona School. Let's embrace the challenges, celebrate the victories, and make every moment count. Together, we can make this an incredible year of growth, learning, and boundless possibilities.

Here's to an extraordinary year ahead!



A medida que nos embarcamos juntos en este increíble viaje, lo alentamos a mantenerse conectado con nosotros, participar en actividades escolares y participar en el viaje educativo de su hijo. Nuestras puertas siempre están abiertas y valoramos sus comentarios y contribuciones.

Una vez más, bienvenidos al nuevo año escolar en Ramona School. Abracemos los desafíos, celebremos las victorias y hagamos que cada momento cuente. Juntos podemos hacer de este un año increíble de crecimiento, aprendizaje y posibilidades ilimitadas.

¡Por un año extraordinario por delante!



# Washington *Elementary*

4339 W. 129th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-3422 • [washington.hawthornesd.org](http://washington.hawthornesd.org)

## Welcome, Wildcats!

Washington School is proud to welcome our students back to school. With the start of a new school year, students experience many emotions: excitement, nervousness, curiosity, anxiety, anticipation, hesitation, eagerness, hope, and sometimes sadness. Teachers and staff try to calm anxiety and reduce student stress by being as welcoming as possible. It is important for parents, teachers, and school staff to be aware of the emotions and provide support and encouragement to help students navigate the transition into the school year. Creating a positive and welcoming environment can go a long way in helping students feel more comfortable and excited about the school year ahead.



**Akila Jones**  
*Principal*

## Bienvenida, Wildcats!

La Escuela Washington se enorgullece de darles la bienvenida a nuestros estudiantes de regreso a la escuela. Con el inicio de un nuevo año escolar, los estudiantes experimentan muchas emociones: excitación, nerviosismo, curiosidad, ansiedad, anticipación, vacilación, afán, esperanza y, a veces, tristeza. Los maestros y el personal intentan calmar la ansiedad y reducir el estrés de los estudiantes siendo lo más acogedores posible. Es importante que los padres, maestros y personal escolar sean conscientes de las emociones y brinden apoyo y aliento para ayudar a los estudiantes a navegar la transición al año escolar. Crear un ambiente positivo y acogedor puede ser de gran ayuda para ayudar a los estudiantes a sentirse más cómodos y entusiasmados con el año escolar que se avecina.

¡Este año, los Washington Wildcats vinieron a la escuela y fueron recibidos por un patio de juegos completamente nuevo! El patio de juegos es brillante y atrevido y muestra mucho color. El patio de recreo tiene dos aparatos nuevos” y el asfalto ha sido mejorado con nuevas líneas que designan cuatro cuadrados, canchas de tetherball, baloncesto y rayuela. Incluso nuestros estudiantes de Kindergarten de Transición (TK), los más jóvenes del campus, se adaptan bien a su nuevo entorno. Los estudiantes que se sienten cómodos en la escuela tienden a tener un mejor desempeño en el aula. Tenemos muchas esperanzas de que nuestros estudiantes prosperen académicamente mientras disfrutan de los beneficios de las nuevas instalaciones. El valor fundamental es trabajar duro y jugar duro también.



**TK students take their first class picture.**  
**Los estudiantes de TK se toman su primera fotografía de clase.**

This year, Washington Wildcats came to school and were greeted by a whole new playground! The playground is bright and bold and displays lots of color. The playground has two new apparatus, and the blacktop has been improved with new lines designating four squares, tetherball, basketball courts, and hopscotch. Even our Transitional Kindergarten (TK) students, the youngest on campus, adapt well to their new environment. Students who are comfortable at school tend to perform better in the classroom. We are very hopeful that our students will thrive academically while enjoying the benefits of the new facilities. The core value is to work hard and play hard, too.



**Washington Wildcats are enjoying the new playground.**  
**Los Washington Wildcats están disfrutando del nuevo patio de recreo.**

## York Elementary

11838 S. York Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-1189 • [york.hawthornesd.org](http://york.hawthornesd.org)

### Welcome Back, SuperStars!

As we embark on another exciting year at York School, we eagerly welcome our students and families back to our vibrant community. The halls are abuzz with enthusiasm and anticipation of a great year!

York School is thrilled to welcome some exceptional additions to our dedicated teaching team. These individuals bring a unique blend of experience and passion which will surely enrich our school community. York welcomes back Jenny Tanaka as Special Projects Teacher and Third-grade Teacher Jo Ann Brower-Ledesma. Additionally, we extend a warm welcome to Amy Escobedo, Anees Haque, and Morgan Angle who join our Special Education team.

Together, we're committed to ensuring an inspiring and successful year for all! York staff is poised for another year of academic and social advancement, learning, and inspiration, and we can't wait to see the amazing achievements that lie ahead. Welcome back, York SuperStars! Here's to a fantastic school year!



**Gina Cardillo**  
*Principal*

### ¡Bienvenidos de Nuevo, Superestrellas!

Mientras nos embarcamos en otro año emocionante en York School, damos la bienvenida con entusiasmo a nuestros estudiantes y familias a nuestra vibrante comunidad. ¡Los pasillos están llenos de entusiasmo y anticipación de un gran año!

York School se complace en dar la bienvenida a algunas incorporaciones excepcionales a nuestro dedicado equipo docente. Estas personas aportan una combinación única de experiencia y pasión que seguramente enriquecerá nuestra comunidad escolar. York le da la bienvenida nuevamente a Jenny Tanaka como maestra de proyectos especiales y maestra de tercer grado Jo Ann Brower-Ledesma. Además, damos una cálida bienvenida a Amy Escobedo, Anees Haque y Morgan Angle quienes se unen a nuestro equipo de Educación Especial.

¡Juntos, estamos comprometidos a garantizar un año inspirador y exitoso para todos! El personal de York está preparado para otro año de avance académico y social, aprendizaje e inspiración, y estamos ansiosos por ver los increíbles logros que tenemos por delante. ¡Bienvenidos de nuevo, Superestrellas de York! ¡Por un año escolar fantástico!





# Zela Davis Elementary

13435 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/679-1771 • [zd.hawthornesd.org](http://zd.hawthornesd.org)

## Welcome Back!

By A. Morales, Assistant Principal

Welcome back to another fabulous school year at Zela Davis School! We hope everyone had an amazing summer!

We are implementing our new social contracts! A social contract is an agreement of behavior.

Our school staff had the opportunity to attend professional development from Capturing Kids' Hearts where we learned many valuable skills and strategies to use in the classroom, and outside of the class alike. The focus was to make connections with students and other staff members to genuinely make our experience at school the best that it can possibly be each and every day.

Creating a social contract with our staff and all classrooms with input from everyone was at the heart of the training. We then revamped our school-wide expectations using keywords from our social contracts.

ZD ROCKS!



Miguelina Lopez  
Principal

## ¡Bienvenidos de nuevo!

Por A. Morales, subdirectora

¡Bienvenidos a otro año escolar en la Escuela Zela Davis! ¡Esperamos que hayan tenido un verano increíble!

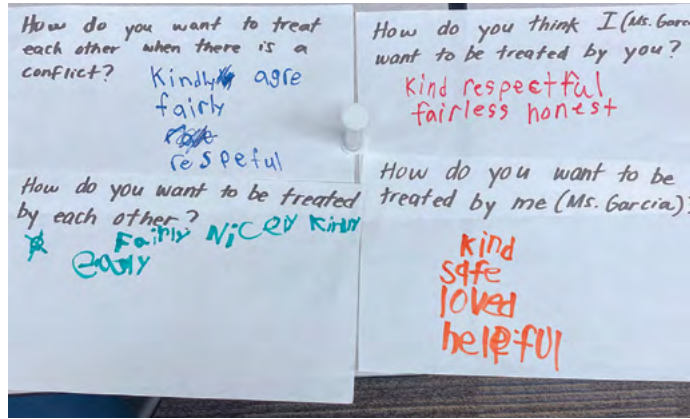
¡Estamos implementando nuestros nuevos contratos sociales! El contrato social es un acuerdo de conducta.

El personal de nuestra escuela tuvo oportunidad de asistir al desarrollo profesional de Capturing Kids' Hearts, donde aprendimos habilidades y estrategias valiosas para usar en el aula y fuera de ella por igual.

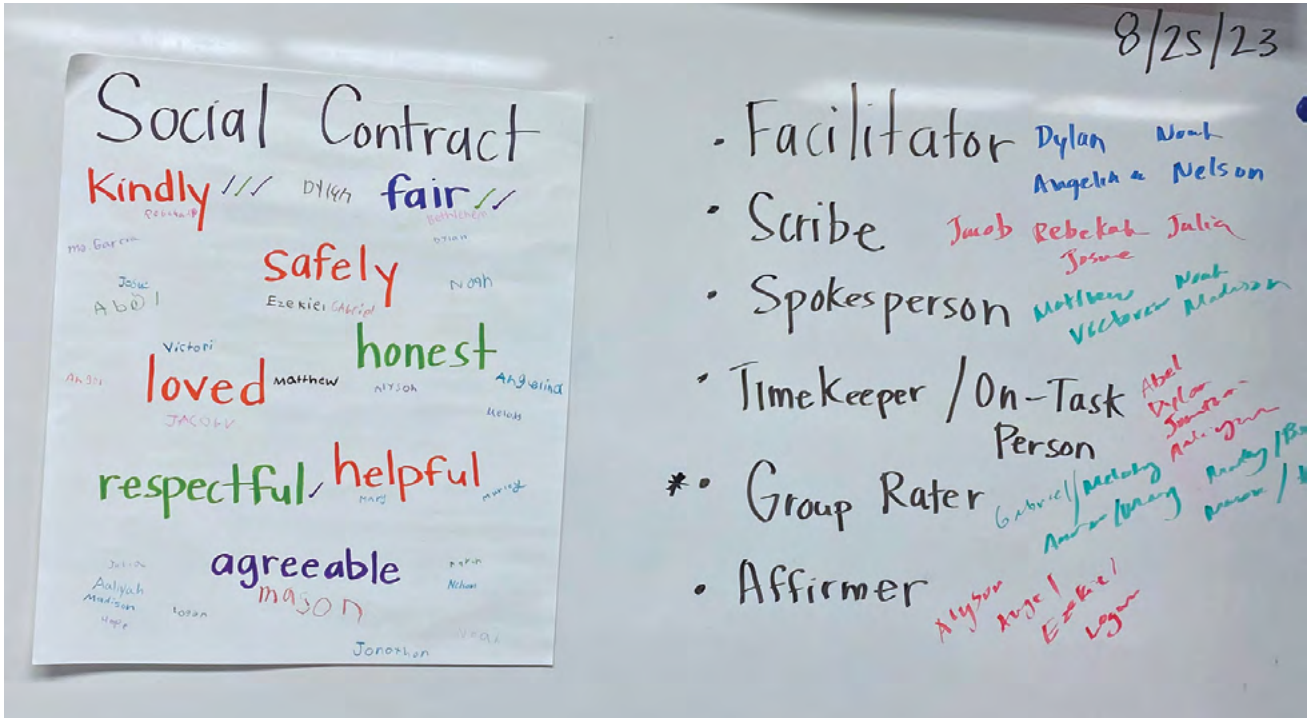
El objetivo fue establecer conexiones con estudiantes y otros miembros del personal para hacer que nuestra experiencia en la escuela sea la mejor posible cada día.

La creación del contrato social con nuestro personal y las aulas con el aporte de todos fue el núcleo de la capacitación. Luego renovamos nuestras expectativas a nivel escolar utilizando palabras clave de nuestros contratos sociales.

¡ZD ROCKS!



Student Created Social Contract  
Contrato Social Creado por Estudiantes



New School-wide Expectations  
Nuevas Expectativas de la Escuela

## Parent To Parent



**Jodie Lynn**

**Q.** Our daughter started kindergarten in the fall. What are some things we can work on with her?

**A.** Reading to, talking to, asking questions of and involving a child in their own education will provide a healthy boost to readiness for kindergarten and life in general. See if your school has a recommended list of books to read with your child. There are many that can stoke a young imagination and encourage children to learn even more. I'm also still a firm believer in magnetized alphabet letters placed on the refrigerator. Kids can see them several times a day and play with them. The magnets can also teach colors and enhance fine motor skills the more they are played with. This helps build hand-eye coordination, which is essential for using a pencil and many other things in life. Solving puzzles can also help their strength and steadiness in using tools like scissors, which can be very frustrating at first. Please remember that stressed out parents often lead to stressed out kids. My final piece of advice is to do your absolute best to take it all in stride. Be prepared to be unprepared...that's ok. There'll be bigger potholes in the future.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author.  
[www.ParentToParent.com](http://www.ParentToParent.com)

**Q.** I have been a helicopter parent for so long that my children, ages seven and nine, are extremely apprehensive of taking any risks in various activities or doing anything where they may get even slightly hurt or disappointed. What have I done and how do I correct it?

**A.** There have been overbearing and overprotective parents for years; don't beat yourself up too badly. It's easy for parents to go overboard when it comes to their kids. However, this can continue into college years and beyond, but it doesn't have to. Your parenting style and the way you view your children will need to change. You'll need to allow them to get used to the idea that they can actually try things on their own. Go ahead and sign them up for things that they are truly interested in and will most likely do well at. A few successes will build their self-confidence and they will perhaps want to do more things that are new and different. It's the mistakes and bumps in life that we all learn from that make us stronger individuals, better able to handle future situations. We have to be allowed to fail.



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# Los Angeles County Office of Education

9300 Imperial Hwy., Downey, CA 90242 • 562/922-6360 • www.lacoe.edu

## Empowering the Future: Integrating Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Education to Prepare Students for Tomorrow

*By Jose R. Gonzalez, LACOE's Chief Technology Officer*



**Debra Duardo,**  
**M.S.W., Ed.D.**  
*Superintendent*

As we gear up for the upcoming school year, LACOE is leading the way to explore the fascinating world of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its potential impact on education. This technological wave has the potential to reshape the way educators teach and students learn, and I'm eager to delve into the insights it offers.

AI introduces the possibility of enhancing education by providing educators with new insights and tools to create more efficient and personalized learning experiences. While there may be concerns surrounding AI, integrating it into the educational landscape could be a transformative step in preparing students for a future deeply intertwined with technology.

The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) has taken a commendable initiative to empower educators with the knowledge and skills needed to harness the capabilities of AI. Our comprehensive training program, which includes workshops, webinars, and professional development sessions, and presenting at conferences demonstrates a commitment to demystifying AI and providing educators with a balanced perspective on its potential benefits and challenges. The ongoing training sessions offered by LACOE's Instructional Technology Outreach (ITO) team are particularly noteworthy, as they address crucial aspects like ethical considerations and strategies for leveraging AI to enhance student engagement.

LACOE's active participation in influential conferences like the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), National Association for Media Literacy Education (NAMLE), and Learning, Innovation and Technology in Education (LITE) further solidifies our dedication

to staying at the forefront of educational innovation. LACOE has made a mark by organizing an in-person inaugural AI Symposium, a testament to our commitment to fostering a deeper understanding of AI's role in education. The diverse panel discussions, featuring educators, government officials, administrators, and industry experts, underscore the collaborative effort required to navigate the integration of AI into education successfully.

It's clear that AI should not be viewed as a replacement for educators but as a powerful tool that can amplify its impact. AI's ability to provide insights, identify learning gaps, and personalize instruction has the potential to revolutionize the classroom experience. The emphasis on AI's capacity to enhance student engagement, creativity, and critical thinking aligns with the core values of education.

LACOE's approach of involving all stakeholders – parents, students, teachers, and administrators – in discussions about AI integration is praiseworthy. It reflects an understanding that responsible integration requires a collective effort. Furthermore, the focus on continuous professional development and the development of guidelines for AI usage underscores the importance of a well-informed and cautious approach.

This is an exciting journey to discover all aspects of AI and its benefits and challenges are vital. It will take collaboration between educators, institutions, and technology to shape the future of education. The responsible and thoughtful integration of AI has the potential to create a more dynamic and personalized learning environment for students, and LACOE is eager to provide many perspectives through the journey as educators navigate this transformative landscape.