

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Magnolia School District**



Volume 17, Issue 64

September 2023

## Welcome Back to School!



**Students in LEGO Robotics Program**



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## Before and After School Programs



**Dr. Frank Donovan**  
*Superintendent*

At Magnolia School District we believe in providing a higher standard of education for our students. One way that we achieve this is by increasing the number of programs and opportunities we offer our students with our before and after school programs.

In addition to our Expanded Learning Programs that take place after school and are free to all Magnolia School District students, we also have before and after school programs that are designed and taught by our teachers. By the end of the year last year we had over 50 of these unique programs. This year we already have over 20 before and after school programs and we anticipate many more opening soon.



At Esther L. Walter we have Fiber Arts and Crafts, and Reading clubs.

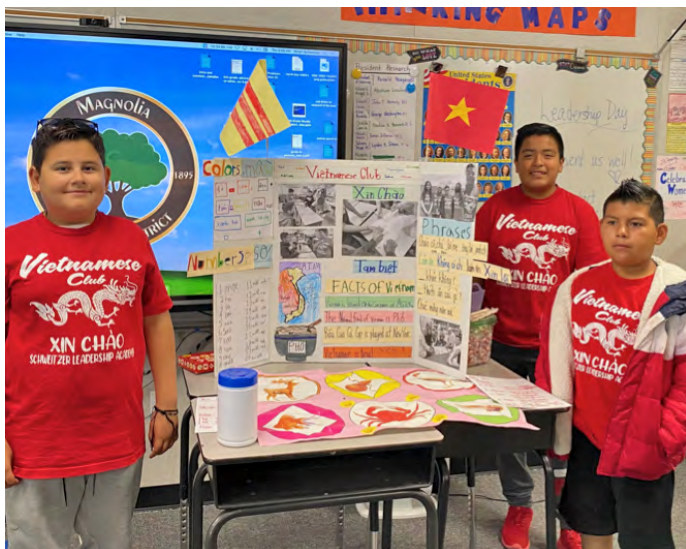
Our before and after school programs that are created and taught by our teachers cover a wide range of subjects. At Lord Baden-Powell we have Morning Intervention/STEM, Primary Cooking, and Journalism/ Morning Intervention clubs. At Robert M. Pyles STEM Academy we have Morning Homework Help, Rosetta Stone, E-Sports, Robotics, and Exercise by Line Dancing clubs. At Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy we have Cooking, Compost, Robotics, Yoga and Track clubs.

*See SUPERINTENDENT • Page 3*





Again, we will have many more programs and clubs opening soon. They typically begin during the month of October and run through May. All of our teachers and staff do a phenomenal job providing these before and after school opportunities. Our students are very fortunate to have our highly qualified, certificated teachers running these programs. Not only are our students learning, but they are having fun in the process.



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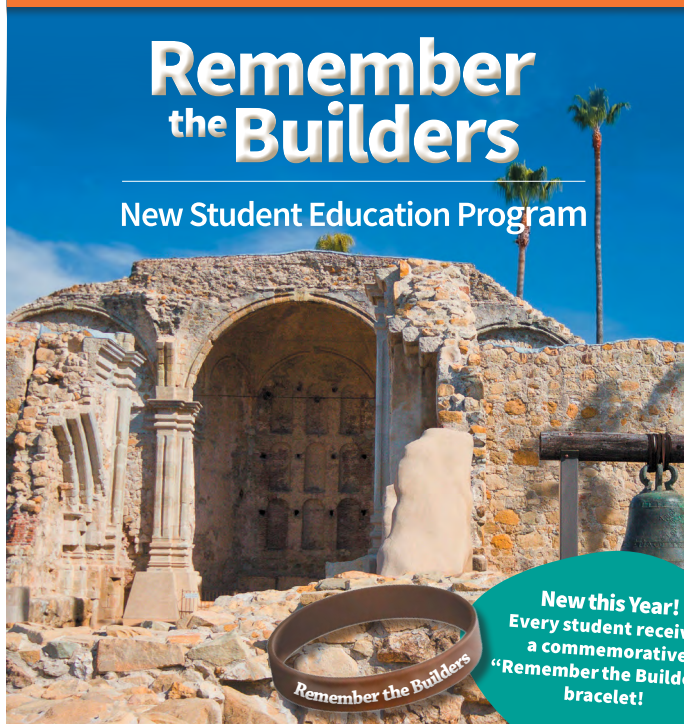
[pacificmmc.org/distance-learning](http://pacificmmc.org/distance-learning)



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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



*Neta Madison*  
Netragrednik

Welcome back to another new school year. This is always an exciting time for students to reconnect with old friends, make new friends, meet their teachers and settle into a routine. We look forward to publishing the news from the

classrooms. Thank you for continuing to include School News among your reading choices. Your interest in and support of public education is important.

Our next issue is November 8.



# School News

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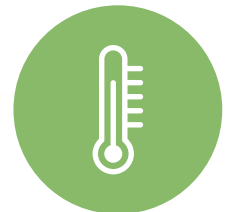
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# Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy

229 S. Dale Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-7761 • [schweitzer.magnoliasd.org](http://schweitzer.magnoliasd.org)



**Marcy Chant**  
Principal

## Successful Back-to-School!

As the summer sun sets and the school bells ring once again, students and staff at the Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy are gearing up for an exciting new academic year. With enthusiasm and optimism in the air, the Back to School Night event for 2023 was nothing short of a resounding success!

Parents and guardians gathered at the academy, creating a vibrant and supportive community atmosphere that sets the tone for a fantastic year ahead. The turnout was remarkable, with families demonstrating their commitment to their children's education.

At the heart of Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy's approach is the emphasis on fostering



leadership skills in our students. The academy's dedication to instilling the seven habits of effective leadership in our students is evident in every aspect of their curriculum. These habits include setting goals, planning ahead, prioritizing tasks, and working collaboratively. The academy recognizes that these skills are not only essential for academic success but also for personal growth and development. By instilling these values early on, they are preparing their students to be future leaders in their communities.

The academy's commitment to excellence is reflected in its experienced and dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to create a nurturing and engaging learning environment for all students. Through innovative teaching methods and a curriculum designed to challenge and inspire, students can look forward to a year filled with exciting educational opportunities.

As we embark on this new academic year, Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy is off to a great start. With engaged parents, dedicated educators and a focus on leadership development, it promises to be a year of growth, achievement and inspiration for all.

Here's to a successful and fulfilling school year at Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy in 2023!





# Dr. Jonas E. Salk School

1411 S. Gilbert St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-5143 • [salk.magnoliasd.org](http://salk.magnoliasd.org)



**Katie Brown**  
Principal

## Exciting Start!

Salk Elementary School is off to an incredible start! We've had some fantastic events and activities that have set a positive tone for the entire academic year.

We kicked off the year with a bang by hosting our Hoop It Up assembly. During this action-packed assembly, students learned over 30 hoop tricks using dance, music and the F.U.N. approach (Fitness made fun, Uplifting and inspirational, and Nutrition). Students were also given positive messages of self-esteem and anti-bullying.

Our HAWKS Day was a tremendous success, filled with activities and opportunities for our students to connect and engage with one another. The focus was on positive behaviors throughout the school, being a kind kid, and reviewing the HAWKS rules: Have respect, Act responsibly, Work together, Keep safe, Soar to success.



**The HAWKS Spirit Team: Jayden Avila, Jazzelle Franco, Matthew Moran, Noor Kanan, Cristina Aguilar Gomez.**

To further promote school pride and unity, we are delighted to announce that every student and staff member received a brand-new red "It's a Great Day to Be a Seahawk" shirt. We hope that wearing these shirts will serve as a daily reminder of the fantastic community we have here at Salk School!

We believe that fostering a strong sense of school spirit and togetherness is essential for the success and well-being of our students. We are committed to providing a supportive and enriching environment where Salk students can thrive academically and personally.



**Students enjoying the first spirit rally of the year.**



**Check out these Salk Seahawks enjoying the awesome Hoop it Up assembly!**



# Dr. Peter Marshall School

2627 Crescent Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/527-8821 • [marshall.magnoliasd.org](http://marshall.magnoliasd.org)



**Alma Guzmán**  
Principal

## 'Embracing Superhero Potential'

As we embark on another exciting academic year, I am thrilled to introduce our inspiring school theme for 2023–24: “Believe in the Power of You!” This year, we are embracing the superhero within each student and staff member, reminding ourselves of our incredible potential and the profound impact we can make when we believe in ourselves and one another.

The superhero theme is a powerful metaphor for the remarkable qualities and abilities that reside within each of us. Like the superheroes we admire in movies and comics, our students possess unique talents, strengths and potential waiting to be unleashed. By fostering a belief in their capabilities, we empower our students to rise to the occasion and achieve greatness.

But it's not just about the students; it's also a call to action for our dedicated staff members. Teachers and support staff are the real-life superheroes in our students' lives. Their unwavering belief in our students' potential, encouragement and commitment to their growth make a lasting difference. Therefore, this year, we get to emphasize the profound impact that can be had on our students when we let them know we believe in them. Throughout the year, we will explore this theme in various ways and encourage our students to identify their superpowers whether academic, artistic, athletic or interpersonal skills. We look forward to celebrating their achievements and providing opportunities for them to shine.

We also encourage parents and families to join us on this empowering journey and reinforce the message of self-belief at home. We look forward to instilling in our students the unshakable belief that they have the power to achieve their dreams!



**Bilingual Inspiration: 'Believe in the Power of You!'**  
Welcomes all to our campus.



**Leading by Example: Principals Embodying the 2023-2024**  
school theme at the school entrance.



**United in Belief: Our incredible school staff, committed to empowering every student!**



# Esther L. Walter School

10802 Rustic Ln., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/761-5997 • [walter.magnoliasd.org](http://walter.magnoliasd.org)



**Rudy Aguila**  
Principal

## Exciting Times Ahead!

As the summer sun slowly sets and the air becomes crisper, the halls of Walter Elementary School are once again abuzz with excitement and energy! The beginning of classes marks the start of an eventful academic year filled with activities that promise to create unforgettable memories for students, families and staff alike.

This year, students and families are in for a treat with a lineup of engaging events that aim to foster a sense of camaraderie and fun. Lunchtime will introduce Student Lunchtime Tournaments. From board games to basketball, students will have the chance to showcase their skills and compete with friends.

Donuts with Dear Ones is another fun event on the horizon. Students will have the chance to share breakfast treats with the special people in their lives, whether it's

parents, grandparents or guardians. It's a wonderful opportunity to strengthen those bonds and start the day off with a smile!

For the movie buffs, Movie Nights will bring the joy of cinema to the school grounds. With cozy blankets and popcorn, students can unwind and enjoy family-friendly films with their friends and families, creating lasting memories that go beyond the screen.

And who could forget the anticipated Family Picnic Day? A sun-soaked event filled with delicious food and laughter will provide the perfect setting for families to connect, creating a sense of community that extends beyond the school walls.

The beginning of classes at Walter Elementary School marks the start of an enriching journey. These exciting events, from tournaments to movie nights, are designed to nurture relationships, create fond memories, and make this academic year truly special. Get ready for a year of learning, laughter and unforgettable experiences!





# Juliette Low School of the Arts

215 N. Ventura St., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/533-2673 • [low.magnoliasd.org](http://low.magnoliasd.org)



**Dr. Roger Nguyen**  
*Principal*

## Raise the Curtain!

Audition Day is a thrilling opportunity for students at the Juliette Low School of the Arts to vie for coveted roles in this year's upcoming production of *Wonka!* At Juliette Low, this involves more than just a selection process; it's a celebration of artistry, determination, and the magic of musical theater.

There is a lot of work that goes into this production even before the school year starts. Sherrie Todorovic is the executive and creative producer of the Musical Theater Club, and she incorporates relevant and popular music into all of the productions that will engage every audience member. Her personally developed scripts are also modified to bring out the best from every cast member.

Every year the audition panel meticulously evaluates each candidate's singing, acting, and dancing abilities. For the hopefuls, it is a nerve-wracking but exhilarating experience. Dance auditions showcase the magic of choreography. Vocal auditions display the power of song, and the drama auditions reveal the art of character



**Audition Team**

portrayal. Students push their boundaries and showcase their talents with flair.

The school has become a hub of creativity now as our students and the production team work tirelessly to bring *Wonka!* to life. The Musical Theater Club is excited to be raising the curtains on December 13 through 15 to reveal the enchanting world of this production. This is where the community, staff, and parents will see the hard work, dedication, and passion of our students shine through in every performance. This production will not only showcase their incredible talents, but will also create lasting memories and bonds within the school community.



**Striking a Pose**



**Memorizing Steps for Choreography**



**Preparing to Read Script Lines**



# Lord Baden-Powell School

2911 W. Stonybrook Dr., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/761-5442 • [bp.magnoliasd.org](http://bp.magnoliasd.org)



**Kathleen Chamings**  
Principal

## Cultivating Kindness: Lord Baden-Powell School's First Lesson

In a world filled with challenges and uncertainties, the importance of teaching kindness to students cannot be overstated. Lord Baden-Powell recognizes this fundamental value and sets the tone right from the first week of school. Here's how this exceptional institution instills the virtue of kindness in its students right from the start.

1. Welcoming Atmosphere: The first week at Lord Baden-Powell School is all about creating a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere. Teachers and staff go out of their way to make students feel at home, ensuring they know they are part of a caring community. This sense of belonging is a crucial foundation for fostering kindness.

2. Kindness Pledges: Each student is encouraged to think of and commit to acts of kindness at school. This simple yet powerful commitment sets the tone for the school year, reminding students to be empathetic, considerate, and compassionate towards one another.

3. Classroom Discussions: Teachers incorporate discussions about kindness into their lessons. They encourage students to share their thoughts and experiences related to kindness, fostering open and empathetic communication within the classroom.

4. Kindness Awards: Lord Baden-Powell School introduces kindness tickets during the first week. These tickets recognize students who consistently demonstrate acts of kindness and compassion. It's a way to acknowledge and celebrate the students' efforts in promoting a culture of kindness.

By prioritizing kindness during the first week of school, Lord Baden-Powell is working to instill a lifelong appreciation for empathy, compassion, and understanding in its students. These foundational values not only benefit the school community but also prepare students to be compassionate, responsible citizens of the world. Lord Baden-Powell School understands that teaching kindness is not just an educational goal; it's a commitment to creating a better, more harmonious society for all.





# Mattie Lou Maxwell School

2613 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-2217 • [maxwell.magnoliasd.org](http://maxwell.magnoliasd.org)



**Alicia Jackson  
Weston**  
*Principal*

## Two Exciting Kickoffs!

The air was buzzing with excitement as students returned to school for the start of a new school year! At Mattie Lou Maxwell, teachers and staff were determined to make this year's return to campus a memorable and engaging experience for students.

To achieve this, we organized a series of activities that had students eagerly anticipating the return to school.

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) stations: One of the standout features of the back-to-school experience was the continuation of PBIS rotations. The PBIS stations selected and provided students with an opportunity to review expectations in a positive way. These stations set clear expectations for student behavior while also helping create a sense of community and unity among the students.

First Spirit Rally of the year: Another highlight to start the year was our Friday Spirit Rally. Each Friday, students and staff are told to wear a specific color to showcase each letter of our PBIS slogan, which is "Maxwell Roadrunners are F.A.S.T.: fair and kind, act respectfully, safe and take responsibility." We also have a raffle with prizes for students.

The start of the school year at Mattie Lou Maxwell was nothing short of spectacular, thanks to the thoughtful planning and dedication of our amazing teachers. The PBIS stations and Spirit Rally successfully engaged students, promoted positive behavior, and instilled a sense of pride and community that will be with them throughout the year.

As students settle into their classrooms with smiles on their faces, it is clear that the effort and enthusiasm put into these activities have made the beginning of the school year truly exceptional!







**Dawn Bakker**  
Principal

## We Show Our PAWS!

The first week back to school is filled with fun and exciting days in seeing old friends and making new ones, meeting your new teachers, maybe wearing your new shoes or a special outfit, and becoming a part of a school community once again.

At the Pyles STEM Academy, we understand how pivotal these days are to forming the positive school culture that builds the foundation for the entire school year.

Creating a positive school climate in elementary education is essential for building that strong base, and for fostering a lifelong love for learning. A positive school climate encompasses a sense of safety, inclusivity, and support that encourages students, teachers, and staff to thrive collectively.



**Mrs. Woodard gives out PAWS tickets during her presentation.**



**Mrs. Christ reviews behavior expectations with students.**

At Pyles, we focus that first week of school on teachable moments that revisit rules and expectations. And we encourage positive behavior and relationships through our acronym PAWS, which stands for Positive Mindset, Always Kind, Wise Choices, and STEM Scholars.

Building a positive school climate in elementary education is an investment in the well-being and future success of our students. By cultivating respect and positive emotional well-being, we can lay the groundwork for an awesome learning experience. As students develop in an environment that values their growth and contributions, they are more likely to embrace learning, develop healthy relationships, and carry the lessons of positivity into their futures.



**Andres in 3rd grade earned a ticket!**



# Walt Disney School

2323 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804, CA 92804 • 714/535-1183 • [disney.magnoliasd.org](http://disney.magnoliasd.org)



**Regina End**  
Principal

## Friday VIP Assemblies at Disney!

Students at Walt Disney Elementary kicked off the 2023-2024 school year at our first Friday morning V.I.P. assembly. Every Friday, when the bell rings, the children gather on the blacktop to eagerly anticipate which students and classes will be recognized. Here each class selects a student who has exhibited the qualities of being safe, honest, respectful, and responsible during the week.

These special students are then brought to the “stage” and celebrated for their actions. The winners receive a V.I.P. sticker, a pencil, and a postcard. Their names are entered into a drawing for a prize, and they also get to be listed on the school marquis.



**Manners Mickey, Diligent Daisy, and Disney Dragons celebrating success!**

During lunchtime, our activity supervisors carefully watch the children to see which class shows great manners in the cafeteria. Students are recognized for listening, following directions, cleaning up after themselves and others, and using quiet voices, but mostly by being kind to themselves, their school, and others! The Diligent Ducks are awarded to the classes that have the best attendance. The students also encourage each other to come to school so that their class can have Daisy and Donald Duck for the week.



**Manners Mickey celebrates Disney Dragons!**

Our Disney Dragons also wear a designated color each week to support their Transitional Kindergarten (TK) friends. The TK classes learn about a new color each week, and the whole school then shows up on Fridays wearing that color to show our youngest Dragons that we care about them. Other successes such as Accelerated Reader earners, math contest winners, and art contest winners are honored there as well.

Disney V.I.P. assemblies are a wonderful way to celebrate students, staff, and the many student successes at our amazing school!



**Disney Dragon VIP students!**





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## Curious George Goes to the Zoo—Word Search Contest

**Rules!** One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put Magnolia in the subject line)

Entries must be received by **October 15, 2023**

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

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## Halloween Word Search Contest

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CANDY	JACK O LANTERN
CARVE	MUMMY
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COSTUME	SPIDER
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GHOUL	WEREWOLF
GRAVE	WITCH
HAUNTED HOUSE	ZOMBIE

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## Orange County Department of Education



**Dr. Al Mijares**  
*Superintendent*



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

In the Star Wars universe, whenever a spacecraft makes the jump to light speed, the stars outside the cockpit stretch out into luminous streaks. It's a mesmerizing visual of acceleration that brings to mind the dizzying

advancement of technology here on planet Earth — and the urgent need for educational systems to keep pace.

With artificial intelligence poised to reshape workplaces and society at large, the Orange County Department of Education is moving ahead with an ambitious initiative that will evaluate and determine the best approaches for integrating AI into teaching and learning. This could include more personalized learning, real-time feedback for students and teachers, or the automation of routine tasks, allowing educators to focus more on matters that demand human insight, judgment and creative thinking.

While the outcomes have yet to be determined, we do know this won't be a solitary endeavor. Led by our Educational Services division, OCDE is taking the first steps of a collaborative journey that will involve school district leaders, industry partners, educators, parents and students. And we envision it taking place in three distinct phases.

The first phase will seek to elevate AI literacy and leadership, establishing a common understanding and terminology in Orange County. The second phase will develop strategies and an implementation plan in collaboration with leaders of the county's 28 independent school districts. Finally, a third phase will evaluate our efforts, gather data and plan for the future. OCDE's

commitment to continuous improvement and community engagement ensures that the feedback loop will remain open, fostering a culture of learning and adaptability.

OCDE has long sought to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to emerging technologies, but AI represents something we haven't quite seen before. These newer tools simulate human intelligence, enabling computers to perform tasks that typically require human cognitive abilities. As such, they have the potential to impact just about every aspect of our work and lives, from teaching and learning to health care, transportation, media, energy, finance and customer service.

While ChatGPT and other publicly available services aren't perfect, remember that they are programmed to learn from us, which means they can and will evolve exponentially. In other words, the examples we see today are the worst versions we're going to encounter moving forward.

Preparing students for an AI-driven future isn't just about passing along technical skills. It's about teaching adaptability, critical thinking and ethical decision-making. By integrating AI literacy across educational settings, OCDE and our partners will be able to equip students with the capacity to navigate an increasingly complex world without losing those traits that make us uniquely human, like kindness, character and artistic expression. And through community engagement, we can pursue a shared vision for AI that aligns with our local values and needs.

The need for education to remain in stride with technology is undeniable, and the Orange County Department of Education has long been a leader in this arena. But collaboration is the key to what lies ahead. That's how we'll ensure that the next generation isn't just ready to embrace the challenges of an AI-driven world, but that they're poised to drive innovation, forge new paths and contribute meaningfully to a future that's constantly in motion.