

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Centralia Elementary School District



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Centralia Elementary School District Celebrates Success



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Centralia Elementary School District: A Hub of Excellence and Innovation



Norma E. Martinez
Superintendent

The Centralia Elementary School District is making waves in education with a host of remarkable accomplishments and initiatives that are shaping the future of our students. From innovative curriculum

enhancements to exemplary community engagement, the district has positioned itself as a hub of excellence and progress.

Innovative Curriculum and Teaching Methods:

Centralia Elementary School District has embraced innovative teaching methods that cater to the unique learning styles of its diverse student population. The introduction of project-based learning, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programs, and inclusive education strategies has led to a more engaging and effective learning environment. The addition of instructional programming like the Sonday System for lesson delivery addressing phonics and phonemic awareness reinforces the importance of strong reading supports, helping students learn to read so they can read to learn (content). These innovative approaches are equipping students with valuable skills and fostering a love for learning.

Top-notch Educators: The heart of any educational institution lies in its educators, and Centralia Elementary School District is fortunate to have a dedicated and skilled team. The district has invested in professional development opportunities to keep its teachers and staff updated with the latest teaching techniques and resources, ensuring that they provide the best education to their students. This year, CESD continues its year-long school leadership training with the Marzano High Reliability Schools system, designed to focus school leadership teams on creating site systems that develop excellence.

High Academic Achievements: Centralia Elementary School District's commitment to academic excellence is evident in its impressive test scores and recognition. The district consistently outperforms state and county averages, positioning its students for success as they advance to higher levels of education. We celebrate:

- Danbrook School designated one of America's BEST urban schools by the National Center for Urban School Transformation
- Los Coyotes School, a 2021 National Exemplary High Performing Blue Ribbon School
- Buena Terra School, a 2023 National Exemplary High Performing Blue Ribbon School
- 100% of our schools are Platinum or Gold level awardees in California's PBIS system.



Kindness-Driven

Community: The district's emphasis on Kindness and wellness, through our investment in a mental health professional, along with support staff at each school is paying off, creating harmonious community where students from various backgrounds learn together and develop a greater appreciation for one another. The Centralia Education Foundation's "Kindness Begins with Me"

initiative is kicking off once again to focus the school experience on kindness, wellness and good citizenship.

Cutting-edge Technology: Centralia Elementary School District has invested in technology to prepare its students for the digital age. Not only do students have use of a personal device, each school also has an Innovation Center staffed by an Information Access Coordinator who support our teachers in implementing Design thinking lessons, along with coding and other project-based learning lessons, designed to help students empathize, plan and solve problems. The district's two INIT Coaches take great care to design and support this incredible program across our district!

Strong Parent-Teacher Collaboration: The district acknowledges the importance of parental involvement in a child's education. Robust parent-teacher associations and open lines of communication have resulted in strong collaboration, ultimately benefiting our students. These incredible parent groups are central to many fun activities at our schools such as the recent Trunk or Treat events and Red Ribbon Week celebrations.

Exceptional Well-Rounded Education: Centralia Elementary School District has a well-rounded approach to education. This year, the district has launched a revamped Visual and Performing Arts program that is allowing students to explore their artistic passions and talents.

Awards and Recognitions: The Centralia Elementary School District's accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. It has received numerous awards and accolades for its outstanding educational initiatives and contributions to the community.

The Centralia Elementary School District is thriving, thanks to our Board of Education's unwavering commitment to excellence in education, innovative teaching methods, a kind and inclusive environment, and strong community support. With these initiatives, the district is not just shaping the lives of its students but also setting a shining example for other educational institutions. The future indeed looks bright for Centralia Elementary School District and the promising individuals it is nurturing.

Ask Dr. Shari



Dr. Shari Sweetnam

Good for the Mind & Great for the Heart

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

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

As Mahatma Gandhi said, "The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others." Teens who experience growth at an early age are likely to continue cultivating positive behavior and friendships.

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



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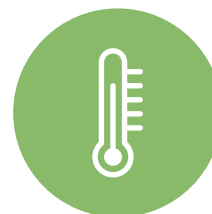
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Netragrednik

This school year is well-underway and the Superintendent's message on page 2 highlights the District's commitment to excellence and innovation.

As we prepare to enjoy celebrating Thanksgiving, it is a time for reflection and thankfulness. We are

thankful for educators, involved parents and the community collaborating for the common goal of student's success. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is March 6.



**Happy
Thanksgiving
from the
School News
Staff!**

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Buena Terra *Elementary School*

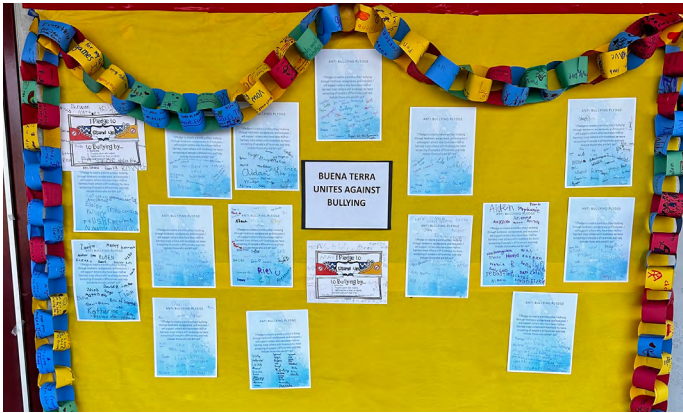
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Bianca Marchese
Principal

Unity and Kindness

Buena Terra has been bustling with activity recently. In October, our school's social worker organized a week filled with engaging events to raise awareness about anti-bullying. Students in classrooms watched videos explaining how to take a stand against bullies and even had a special "Twin Day" where they dressed in matching outfits as a show of friendship and togetherness. The highlight of the week was a unity strand adorned with anti-bullying messages and a signed anti-bullying pledge by each class, proudly displayed for all to see.



Following that, we dedicated the next week to Red Ribbon Week, where we pledged to take a stand against drugs and to live healthy, drug-free lives. The week kicked off with an exciting BMX bike assembly hosted by our dedicated PTA. Professional athletes delivered an inspiring message, emphasizing the importance of setting goals and working hard to achieve them. Students had a blast interacting with these athletes and enthusiastically cheered them on as they performed incredible stunts, including jumping over a group of teachers and executing daring upside-down jumps off ramps.

Buena Terra takes immense pride in its students, who consistently demonstrate kindness, stand up against bullies, and pledge to live healthy, drug-free lives.



Centralia Elementary School

195 N. Western Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/228-3210 • ct.cesd.k12.ca.us



Enrique Romero
Principal

We are Leaders at Centralia Elementary!

Centralia Elementary is leading the way as a Leader in Me School – an evidence-based, social-emotional learning approach embedded throughout our school system to build integral life skills for our leaders! Every stakeholder – student, staff, community member – is a leader! Our leaders work to intentionally reframe their mindset and approaches to who they are as individuals to embrace their role as leaders at school, at

home, and in the community.

Each month, our leaders deeply engage in their understanding of one of the focus habits:

- Habit 1: Be Proactive.
- Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind.
- Habit 3: Put First Things First.
- Habit 4: Think Win-Win.
- Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood.
- Habit 6: Synergize.
- Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw.
- Habit 8: Find Your Voice.



They recognize other leaders around them who are exemplifying a habit and are always looking to celebrate one another. Our leaders engage in daily goal setting through their leadership binders and data collection embracing what it means to always improving to be the best leader! Centralia Leaders are transforming to pave the way for their own future and the betterment of our world!



Danbrook *Elementary School*

320 Danbrook St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/228-3230 • db.cesd.k12.ca.us



Hugo Rios
Principal

Patriotism and Commitment

Danbrook Elementary School proudly recognizes remarkable individuals within our community:

Larissa Hughes, a dedicated educator, has made a mark on our school. She secured a \$20,000 grant in collaboration with Sprouts Farmers Market to create a nurturing campus garden, benefiting both vegetation and students' well-being. Larissa's impact extends to a Learning Lab, offering

crucial support to students in need of intervention. Her unwavering support and compassion have been invaluable to our school community.

We also acknowledge Marleny Loera, our office manager and an unsung hero, ensuring the smooth operation of our school behind the scenes. Her tireless efforts create a positive and friendly environment, making Danbrook a special place. Marleny's welcoming care and meticulous customer service, regardless of her workload, are a testament to her character.

We take immense pride in recognizing six exceptional young Dolphins, who consistently raise our flag, embodying patriotism and commitment. We honor Ashley Ramirez Patino, Rhea Bagga, Willard Luzadas, Elisa Zuniga, Maria Vega, and Isabelle Rivera Gutierrez, not only for their flag-raising duties but also for their responsibility, dedication, and love for our school community. In addition, our mascot, Dani the Dolphin, is brought to life by Ashton Macwan, a true leader on our campus, spreading joy and enthusiasm. Ashton's unwavering positivity and leadership enrich our community.

Finally, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Anaheim Public Library's Bookmobile team, comprising Darius Connor, Wendy Pasillas, and Luis Dircio. This partnership fosters a love for learning and changes lives, emphasizing the transformative power of literacy. The Bookmobile nurtures a passion for reading, enhances literacy skills, and broadens horizons. Thank you for your dedication to our community.



Dysinger *Elementary School*

7770 Camellia Dr., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3240 • dy.cesd.k12.ca.us



Susan Ungaro
Principal

Celebrating Partnerships and Giving Back

In a heartwarming display of community spirit, Dysinger Elementary School is celebrating its cherished partnership with Neighborhood Resource Center and Olive Crest, two organizations that have been instrumental in providing essential resources to our students. Through their generous support, barriers have been lifted, allowing these young minds to flourish in an environment of joy and learning.

Our 4th-6th grade Peer Assistance and Leadership program (PAL) allows students to take on leadership roles to make positive impacts with our students and our community. PAL students and Kindergarteners meet twice a month, engaging in games, activities, and forming bonds, akin to a big brother or sister relationship. Their shared journey will extend into the holiday season, where they will lend a helping hand with the Kindergarten feast in November and various festive activities in December.

In the spirit of giving, the PAL students are spearheading a sock drive throughout November. These

warm, essential items will find their way to “Giving Children Hope,” an organization dedicated to supporting families in need within the Buena Park/Anaheim neighborhoods.

But the giving doesn’t stop there. The PAL students are actively involved in planning lively dress-up Spirit days, which promotes community building opportunities. Their efforts extend to fundraising through gram sales, generating funds for the PBIS store, where students can redeem their hard-earned rewards. We are thankful for all of our partnerships.

Each week, the PAL students embark on a transformative journey, delving into leadership lessons drawn from the PAL program’s mission statement: “To develop youth leaders who connect with their peers to create a caring, safe, and supportive school environment for all.” This empowering endeavor is shaping a generation of compassionate leaders who are dedicated to fostering an inclusive and nurturing school environment.

As the school year unfolds, Dysinger Elementary School stands as a beacon of gratitude, celebrating the collaboration and collective effort that enrich the lives of its students, making it a place where every child can thrive.



Los Coyotes *Elementary School*

8122 Moody St., La Palma, CA 90623 • 714/228-3260 • lc.cesd.k12.ca.us



Dr. Tammy Keces
Principal

Los Coyotes Empowers 6th Graders with Computer Education

At Los Coyotes Elementary School, excitement filled the room as teams of enthusiastic sixth graders embarked on a thrilling computer science journey. With support from the Broadcom Foundation and the Tiger Woods Foundation, our young learners delved into the realm of technology and learned how to build a microcomputer. This hands-on curriculum was a unique opportunity for our students.



Students also explored block-based programming software, a vital skill used in today's tech-driven world. They harnessed this programming knowledge to make their microcomputers function, which gave them a practical understanding of how software and hardware collaborate to run digital devices.

The collaboration between the Broadcom Foundation, the Tiger Woods Foundation, and Los Coyotes shows the impact of education and community support. This initiative not only imparts valuable skills but also sparks a passion for computer science that may lead to promising careers in technology. By providing these 6th graders with the opportunity to build and program microcomputers, we are nurturing the next generation of tech-savvy individuals who will shape our increasingly digital world.



Under the guidance of a dedicated computer science trainer, our sixth graders were introduced to the inner workings of computers. The curriculum began with the basics, as students learned to label different parts and components of a computer. This foundational knowledge was crucial for understanding how computers function and provided a solid starting point for their educational journey.

This hands-on experience extended to more intricate tasks, such as deconstructing and reassembling a computer. This exercise demystified the computer's anatomy and instilled confidence in the students as they realized that they could assemble a functional computer on their own.



San Marino *Elementary School*

6215 San Rolando Way, Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3280 • sm.cesd.k12.ca.us



Dr. Alejandro Cisneros
Principal

Engaging with Our Families

A parent is a child's first, and most important, teacher. San Marino's Community Liaison, Jessica Rico, is the bridge between the school and parents, ensuring a strong and positive connection. Teaching the whole child cannot happen if we do not engage the whole team that supports that child and engaging with the family is one of the most important aspects of Jessica's role at our school. She regularly connects with caregivers to teach them how to maximize parent-teacher conferences, how to manage stress and anxiety and how to track students' schoolwork, among other key lessons. Like all of us, parents are busy and not always able to attend meetings, so Mrs. Rico brings the teaching to them via virtual platforms, flyers, phone calls and even home visits. She is committed to supporting school-family bonds.

Most recently, she organized parenting classes with community partner, Olive Crest, which was met with enthusiastic participation. Topics discussed included active parenting, communication and discipline. Parents who may struggle with technology trust our Community Liaison to walk them through the navigation of often complex applications. At every step of the educational journey, Jessica is a source of knowledge and support whether it is logging on to our parent portal to access progress reports, assignments, and attendance records or connecting families to crucial community support organizations that provide much-needed help in emergency and crisis situations to families facing challenges. Providing technical help, advice, or resources is key, but a kind word or a listening ear can make all the difference for our San Marino Ram family. We could not do the deep work or education, healing, and growth without engaging our families, and that is the work that Community Liaison Jessica Rico does daily. San Marino Rams are better because our Community Liaison is with us.





Andy Long
Principal

A Respectful Community

No one can whistle a symphony, it takes an orchestra to play it. — H.E. Luccock

Miller Elementary School is thrilled to highlight our Moderate/Severe Special Day Classes. This program is designed to serve the needs of students with Autism. Students benefit from an academic, social emotional and daily living curriculum based on their individualized needs and goals.

These services are provided for our students by the dedication of their teachers and supporting staff. These loving and caring professionals always consider the importance of treating each and every student with the respect and kindness we all deserve, as well as reflecting their student's needs and how the work we do today will help them continue to flourish. We couldn't be more proud of these students and the staff that works to support them each and every day.

A particular highlight for these students, as well as all of our students at Miller, is the work they will be doing with our music teacher, Mr. Robin Davis. Mr. Davis is the newest staff member at Miller Elementary, but has already taken upon himself and his colleagues to put together a fun and engaging program for all of our students, including those in the Autism Program. The music program has been brought to us, and all students in Centralia Elementary School District, through the Curriculum and Innovations department and it has been a hit. Every week students come to school ready to learn about music and hone their skills. We can't wait to show you all they have accomplished at our upcoming performances.

At Miller we understand that through our respectful, responsible and safe actions we can create a community where all students and adults will continue to respect the rights of others, achieve their best, be considerate in their actions and words, and excel in all we do.



Raymond Temple *Elementary School*

7800 Holder St., Buena Park, CA 90620 • 714/228-3290 • rt.cesd.k12.ca.us



Shawn Stuhrt
Principal

Engaging Community with Meaningful Partnerships

At Raymond Temple, community engagement is not just a buzzword – it's a way of life. As a community school, we strive to go above and beyond to involve our families in the education and well-being of their children. Here are some of the exciting events that make Raymond Temple stand out:

- Raymond Temple encourages students and their families to embrace a healthy lifestyle. On Walk to School Day, families were encouraged to leave their cars at home and walk or bike to school together. The annual event creates a sense of unity among students, parents, and teachers.
- We embrace that open communication is vital in the educational setting. Our monthly Coffee Chat with the Principal event is an informal gathering where parents discuss school-related matters over a cup of coffee. It's an excellent platform for parents to share ideas, voice their concerns, and build a stronger partnership with the school administration.
- In October, we transformed our parking lot into a spooktacular event. The annual Trunk-or-Treat brought students, parents, and community members together for a fun-filled evening. It was a fantastic opportunity for families to bond, show off their creativity, and enjoy a safe and communal Halloween celebration.

- Reading is a fundamental skill and at Raymond Temple we believe it's a joint effort between school and home. Our upcoming Family Literacy Workshop will showcase the importance of reading, teach the essentials of phonemic awareness and phonics, and strengthen the connection between home and school for our TK/K families.

These events not only make education more enjoyable for our students but also create a sense of togetherness within the community. Our "whole-child" approach, where every child's physical, emotional, and academic needs are addressed, is nurtured by the active involvement of families, making Raymond Temple a shining example of a true community school!

