

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Magnolia School District



Volume 17, Issue 65

November 2023



Safe and Secure School Entrance
(Please see Superintendent Dr. Donovan's message on page 3.)

www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com



When You Imagine Their Future...
Imagine a Beautiful Smile!



We always treat your children like they are our own!

DAMON SMILE
More than straight teeth™

INBRACE

 invisalign®

invisalign | teen

BarkateNehiSmiles.com

Newport Beach • Ladera Ranch • San Clemente

Board of Trustees



Nathan Zug
President



Connie Martin
Clerk



Barbara J. Clendineng
Trustee



Patricia Soave
Trustee



Annie Warne
Trustee

Knowledge Saves Lives – School Safety Training



Dr. Frank Donovan
Superintendent

The Magnolia School District has implemented comprehensive security measures at all schools and facilities. All sites have security fencing and all entrances and exits are locked. All schools have a single point of entry and visitors must be buzzed in through the use of an intercom system. All visitors are given a background check through the Raptor system. Security cameras are located along the perimeter of all sites as well as exterior security lighting. With preventative measures in place, we have now begun addressing reactive measures in the case of an intruder. Magnolia School District recently provided the opportunity for all staff members to participate in a school safety training by “Knowledge Saves Lives.” The training was offered on four different Saturdays and was open to



teachers, office staff, and support staff. The training covers how to respond to campus intruders and school shootings and includes situational awareness, emergency step-by-step safety actions, and a heightened awareness to make better safety decisions. During the training participants go through a live drill and lockdown and then discuss what they learned. The training instructors also demonstrate how local law enforcement responds following the report of an active threat. The feedback

from our staff was overwhelmingly positive. One of our Board members said that we all want our employees and students to be safe and this training is not only thought-provoking but also prepares you should an emergency arise. We will be offering one more day of training in the spring.





Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



562/493-3193
kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com



Neta Madison
Netragrednik

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com
Covering the
MAGNOLIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

ADVERTISING SALES: 562/493-3193

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION:

Emily Ung and Mie Kawamura

COPY EDITORS: Kate Karp, Anna Zappia

SOCIAL MEDIA: Nancy Lueder

Netragrednik by Neta Madison



@SchoolNewsRC



SchoolNewsRollCall



SchoolNewsRollCall



SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740

562/493-3193 • www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Copyright © 2006, School News Roll Call, LLC

Reproduction in whole or in part without written

permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated.

Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest

columnists are their views and not necessarily those of

School News Roll Call. This publication is privately

owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content.

The Magnolia School District does not endorse the

advertisers in this publication.

Superintendent Dr. Donovan begins this issue with his message highlighting the school security measures and the *Knowledge Saves Lives* training.

In this issue you will read articles on many topics including Character Education Assemblies, Red Ribbon

Week, Clubs and Programs, Parent Greeter Program, Rhythm and Creativity, New Science Curriculum and much more... find a comfy chair and enjoy!

Be sure to enter our two word search contests on page 15.

Our next issue is March 6.



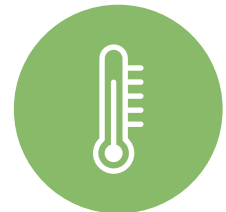
FREE HOME ENERGY & WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

Have your home checked for energy and water saving recommendations and receive **FREE PRODUCTS** to help you save!

HOME UTILITY CHECK-UP

DUSK TO DAWN LIGHTING

WEATHERIZATION



VISIT ANAHEIM.NET/WAYSTOSAVE
CALL 714-831-0025



ANAHEIM
PUBLIC UTILITIES

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



**Learn about
World History • US History
Videos • Art • Music
Study Habits**

History is about learning and understanding the past. The past does not change, but interpretations do. One cannot erase history and expect to remember the past.

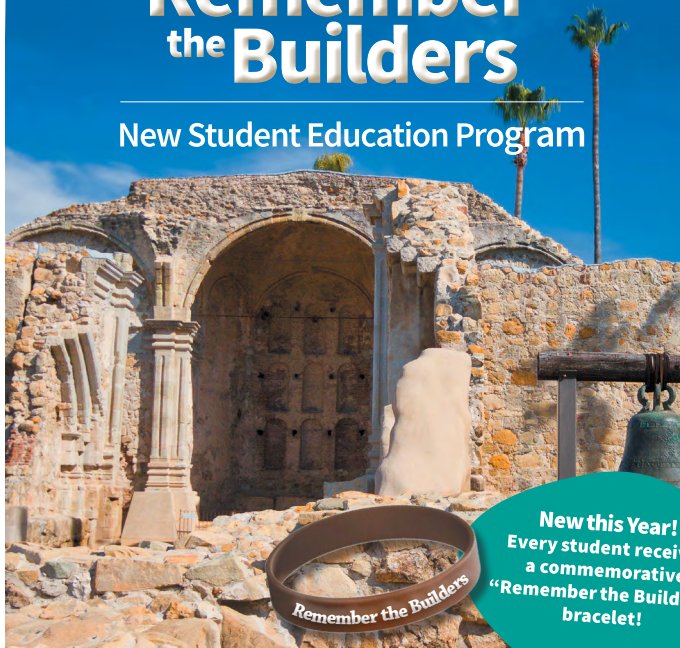
**FREE
Enjoy!
History Buffs
Teachers
Students**

HistoryDepot.com

PLAN YOUR FIELD TRIP NOW at Historic Mission San Juan Capistrano

Remember the Builders

New Student Education Program



New this Year!
Every student receives
a commemorative
“Remember the Builders”
bracelet!

**NOW BOOKING FOR
2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR!**

**Experience the Mission’s New
Youth and Student Audio Tour
“If These Walls Could Talk”**

**FREE Funding for up to 150 Students
Per Day and Mission Matters**
(Schools must apply)

**FREE Bonus Video Library with
EVERY Booked Field Trip (\$150 Value).**

**Book Online Today
MissionSJC.com/book**



Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy

229 S. Dale Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-7761 • schweitzer.magnoliasd.org



Marcy Chant
Principal

La Ofrenda

While students were looking forward to Halloween, Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy was gearing up for a different cultural-education event that promises to be both educational and heartfelt. This November, our school is hosting a Day of the Dead altar, or ofrenda, organized by our dedicated parent liaison, Nancy Bogdanoff, in collaboration with several parents.

The ofrenda is a symbolic centerpiece that represents a time-honored tradition in Mexican culture. Families of our students are invited to submit photographs of their deceased relatives, which will be displayed on the altar. This special gesture allows students to connect with their heritage and pay tribute to their ancestors.

On Nov. 1, the children visited the beautifully crafted ofrenda. During their visit, they received an explanation of the altar's significance, its historical roots, and the traditions associated with the Day of the Dead. This educational component ensures that our students understand the cultural context and importance of this event.

Additionally, parents had the opportunity to see the altar during our ELAC (English Learner Advisory Committee) meeting. It was a chance for our community to come together, learn, and celebrate the rich traditions that make our school such a diverse and vibrant place.

This cultural-education event not only promotes understanding and respect for different traditions but also strengthens the sense of community at our school. On Nov. 1 we honored our loved ones and celebrated the beauty of cultural diversity.



**Parents of current and former students helped our Parent Liaison to set up the altar.
Photos from families were added to complete the display.**

Dr. Jonas E. Salk School

1411 S. Gilbert St., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-5143 • salk.magnoliasd.org



Katie Brown
Principal

Soaring to Scientific Success!

Salk School is having an amazing time diving into our new science curriculum, TWIG.

First grade is working on their first module, Museum of Leafology. They are spending time understanding, demonstrating, and applying knowledge of plant life and leaf dispersion. As part of the exploration process, students worked together in small learning committees to create a way to design a seed and identify the dispersal method. In addition to amazing learning opportunities in the classroom, they also get to experience and enjoy what it is like to plant seeds and help foster and monitor their growth.

Additionally, sixth grade gets to start things off by immersing themselves in the body systems and functions. Their first module combines human body systems and technology. These students created diagrams of major organs and identified the importance of them. That is merely a springboard to delve into how technology can replace or enhance bodily functions. As the module progresses, they will even get to help design how a prosthetic hand can grip and pick up a water bottle.

This program provides a framework for students' learning and exploration. We're bound to encourage more than a few students to find the spark for science and lifelong learning. Salk Seahawks are doing great things!



1st Grade Seed Garden



1st grade students are excited to watch their garden grow.



6th grade students are happily presenting their science diagrams.



6th Grade Diagram Projects

Dr. Peter Marshall School

2627 Crescent Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/527-8821 • marshall.magnoliasd.org



Alma Guzmán
Principal

Celebrating Our Parent Greeters!

This school year, we are excited to collaborate with the Orange County District Attorney's office to implement a Parent Greeter program. A dedicated group of parent volunteers forms an integral part of our school community, making mornings brighter for all involved.

The OC GRIP Greeter Program, short for Gang Reduction and Intervention Partnership, seeks to create a safer and more inclusive environment for our students by building positive relationships among law enforcement, school staff, and parents. Parent volunteers play a crucial role in this mission during our students' morning arrivals.

Our parent greeters are the welcoming faces our students and their families see at the school gates in the mornings. Their commitment to ensuring a smooth, friendly, and safe start to the school day is remarkable. They offer warm smiles, cheerful greetings, and a reassuring presence that eases our students' transition from home to school. This simple act can set a positive tone for the entire day, creating an atmosphere of trust and comfort.



The Parent Greeter program is a shining example of the strong sense of community we have at our school. These parents have selflessly committed their time and effort to ensure that each student experiences a nurturing and secure start to their school day. Their presence not only enhances the safety and well-being of our students but also fosters a sense of unity and trust among all members of our school community.



We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the parent greeters for their outstanding dedication. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a wonderful group of volunteers who embody the spirit of unity, care, and support within our school.

Thank you, OC GRIP Parent Greeters, for making our mornings brighter and safer for everyone!





Rudy Aguila
Principal

An Exciting New Science Curriculum

Thanks to the introduction of a brand-new science curriculum at Walter Elementary, a wave of excitement has been sweeping through the classrooms as our students have now embarked on a thrilling scientific journey. Designed to captivate young minds, the new curriculum includes engaging experiments on electrical circuits, plant growth, and the states of matter. Its aim is to

offer our students a hands-on approach to learning, and to spark in them a new-found love for science.

One of the most popular experiments in the curriculum involves constructing electrical circuits. Under the guidance of their enthusiastic teachers, the students have learned to connect wires, batteries, and bulbs to create circuits that light up with a mesmerizing glow. This hands-on experience not only teaches them the basics of electricity, it also ignites a curiosity for the inner workings of technology.

Another fascinating experiment involves planting seeds and observing the growth of plants. Students eagerly watch their seeds sprout, recording their observations and gaining an appreciation for the natural world. The nurturing of these tiny plants helps to instill a sense of responsibility and environmental awareness in the students.



States of matter come to life in the classroom as students explore solids, liquids, and gases. Through interactive experiments our students learn about the different properties of each state, all while having a blast. The messy fun of liquids, the orderly structure of solids, and the unpredictable behavior of gases provide valuable lessons in both science and critical thinking.

The success of the new science curriculum at Walter Elementary can be seen in the beaming faces of our students. This curriculum not only imparts scientific knowledge, it also cultivates an enthusiasm for learning that will serve our students well in their future academic endeavors. With these exciting new experiments, our students are well on their way towards becoming the next generation of brilliant scientists.

Juliette Low School of the Arts

215 N. Ventura St., Anaheim, CA 92801 • 714/533-2673 • low.magnoliasd.org



Dr. Roger Nguyen
Principal

Unleashing Rhythm and Creativity

At the Juliette Low School of the Arts, creativity knows no bounds. Our school is proud of its commitment to nurturing young talents, and our newest after-school program, led by Krista Abramson, is called Dance Crew. It is a testament to our school's dedication to the arts.

Dance Crew is more than just a recreational activity; it is a transformative experience that offers a variety of benefits to its participants. Dance Crew provides students with an avenue to express themselves through movement and music. That's because dance is an art form that transcends language barriers and allows students to convey their emotions, stories, and ideas in a captivating and unique manner. It fosters self-expression and self-confidence, enabling students to step out of their comfort zones and embrace their individuality.



Beyond its physical and emotional benefits, this club also enhances our students' teamwork and social skills. Dance routines often involve collaboration, where students work together to choreograph and perform intricate moves. This not only strengthens their ability to cooperate, it also forges lasting friendships. The camaraderie formed within the club extends beyond the dance floor and into everyday life.

What sets this club apart too is its commitment to inclusivity. Dance Club welcomes students of all skill levels, from beginners to experienced dancers, thus ensuring that everyone has a chance to shine. The club provides a supportive environment where students can learn at their own pace, which inspires a sense of belonging and a culture of encouragement.

Dance Crew has proven to be a truly engaging and enriching program. It instills valuable life skills, promotes artistic expression, and encourages a sense of unity among its members. This vibrant dance community not only enhances our school's artistic reputation, it also provides students with the opportunity to discover the beauty of dance while also building the foundation for a lifelong love of the arts.



Lord Baden-Powell School

2911 W. Stonybrook Dr., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/761-5442 • bp.magnoliasd.org



Kathleen Chammings
Principal

Enrichment through Clubs and Programs

Lord Baden-Powell School is not just a place for academic excellence, it also fosters many diverse talents and passions. With a wide array of student clubs and enrichment programs, Baden-Powell actively caters to the multifaceted interests of all its students. Lord Baden-Powell has something for everyone.

In the STEM Club, students focus on exploring the fascinating world of science and engineering through hands-on experiments. It is a space where budding scientists and engineers can come together to nurture their scientific passions. The Art Club is a canvas of creativity where students can unleash their artistic talents. From painting and drawing to sculpture, this club offers a platform for students to express themselves and explore their artistic potential.



Will it work? The STEM Club hopes so!



Future journalists interview Mrs. Frias, a wonderful SDC teacher.

In Cooking Club, students not only learn essential life skills, they also get the chance to experiment with flavors, ingredients, and cuisines from around the world. It's a delicious way to foster teamwork and creativity.

Yearbook and Journalism Clubs are all about documenting the school's journey. The Yearbook Club creates a time capsule of memories, while the Journalism Club hones the skills of budding writers and reporters. They both contribute to keeping the school community well informed while also preserving the history of Lord Baden-Powell.

The Dance and Cheer Clubs add rhythm and energy to the school atmosphere. These groups offer students the opportunity to express themselves through dance and cheerleading routines, while also boosting school spirit and enhancing physical fitness.

The PAL program empowers students to become leaders, mentors, and positive role models for their peers. It encourages empathy, communication, and personal growth, making Lord Baden-Powell a place where students help one another succeed.

Student Council is the heart of student governance, ensuring that student voices are heard. It provides for leadership development and the opportunity to actively participate in effective decision-making processes within the school community.



A team meeting with PAL and Student Council leadership.

Mattie Lou Maxwell School

2613 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804 • 714/527-2217 • maxwell.magnoliasd.org



Alicia Jackson Weston
Principal

Celebrating Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week is a time of year for us to come together as a school community to make a stand against drugs. Mattie Lou Maxwell students celebrated by dedicating themselves to making healthy choices and saying no to drugs. Our goal is to empower our students with the knowledge and skills to make positive life choices.

Wear Red Day is an opportunity to show our commitment to a drug-free future. Wearing red not only stands as a symbol of our resolve but also serves as a reminder of the importance of staying away from harmful substances.



Neon colors are a symbol of how bright our futures are. Students and staff were encouraged to wear neon colors, which highlights the potential and opportunities ahead. Together, students were ready to shine as brightly as the future we envision for them.

Being a “jean-ius” isn’t easy. So, Maxwell students showed how unique and talented they are by wearing jeans and making pledges to use their brains to move forward with their talents. This day reminded students that they are jean-iuses in their own unique way and should be proud of their abilities.

In addition to the daily themes, students created posters, decorated “brains,” and entered class raffles. Together, we stand strong against drugs, ensuring that the path to a healthier, brighter future remains clear and unwavering.





Dawn Bakker
Principal

After-School Opportunities

At the Pyles STEM Academy, there are many opportunities for students to enrich their learning after the regular school day ends. The after-school programs for elementary students play a crucial role in providing additional learning opportunities, along with social engagement and a safe environment once the school day is over.

The programs aim to complement our academic curriculum and STEM focus with enrichment activities, physical exercise, and creative pursuits. At Pyles, we offer programs such as student council, CyberPatriots, esports/robotics, line dancing, homework clubs, and Rosetta Stone.

These after-school opportunities will vary based upon the school's resources, community needs, and the interests of the students. Our effective programs not only offer diverse activities, they also create a supportive and inclusive environment that promotes the development of the whole child.

It is our vision that the after-school programs will align with the needs and interests of the students, and can provide a safe and supportive environment. Additionally, communication between the school, parents, and program facilitators is key to ensure that these after-school activities will complement and support the students' overall educational experience.



Students Enjoying After School Line Dancing with Mrs. McGown



3rd Grade Esports Club with Ms. Fontyn

Walt Disney School

2323 W. Orange Ave., Anaheim, CA 92804, CA 92804 • 714/535-1183 • disney.magnoliasd.org



Regina End
Principal

Disney Dragons have Full Buckets!

Walt Disney Elementary School kicked off October with school-wide character education assemblies. The assemblies were related to an easily

understood metaphor that can serve as a choice-making tool. The metaphor implies that we all have an invisible bucket of feelings. When our buckets are full, we are happy, and when our buckets are empty or low, we are sad.

Our Walt Disney students learned that they can make a choice in every action that they do and every word that they speak, to either fill someone's bucket, or dip into someone's bucket. The assembly was engaging and fun, as our students had the opportunity to sing songs, dance, and play instruments as they learned this very important message.

Our sixth- grade students took the message to heart and created buckets in their classroom. Each week a different student is selected, and all the students in the class then write their classmate a positive note to put into their bucket, which sits on their desk.



When the students are feeling down and they need their personal bucket filled, they can open up a positive note from their bucket and make their day a little easier. Our fourth-grade students also created a writing and art activity by using Thinking Maps to organize their information on how they can be bucket-fillers at school, at home, and in the community.

At Disney School, we strive to be kind all the time. This assembly and the associated activities provided another way in which our Disney students show that "Everyone can make a difference every day."



We Love Our Dogs Word Search Contest

Rules! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
 When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put Magnolia in the subject line)

Entries must be received December 15, 2023

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a School News card/dice game, GAZUMP.

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| Akita | Pinscher |
| Basenji | Poodle |
| Beagle | Pug |
| Bloodhound | Puli |
| Boxer | Retriever |
| Bulldog | Rottweiler |
| Chihuahua | Saint Bernard |
| Chow Chow | Samoyed |
| Collie | Shiba Inu |
| Dalmatian | Shih Tzu |
| Doberman | Siberian Husky |
| Great Dane | Weimaraner |
| Malamute | Xoloitzcuintli |
| Mastiff | |



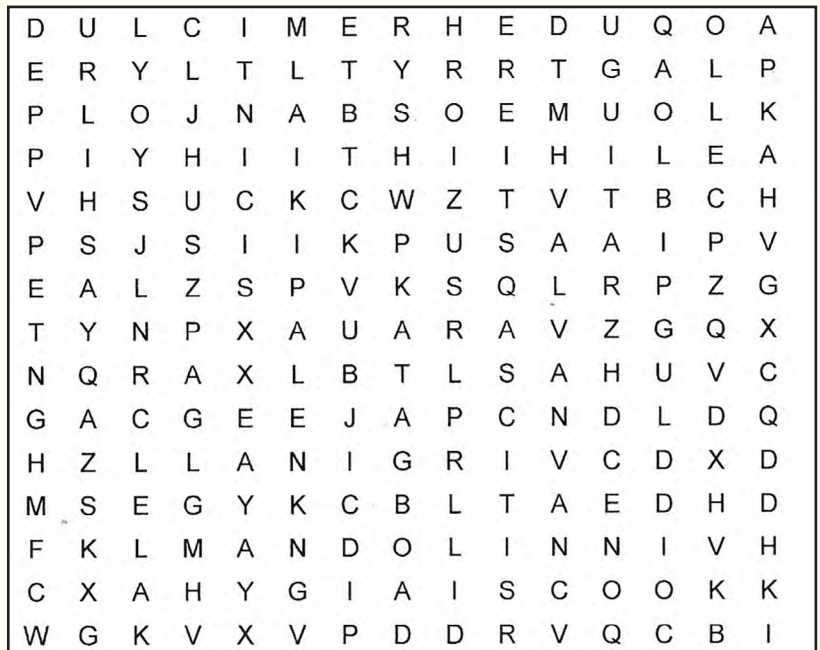
Musical String Instruments Word Search Contest

Rules! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
 When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put Centralia in the subject line)

Entries must be received by December 15, 2023

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

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| BALALAIKA | LYRE |
| BANJO | MANDOLIN |
| BASS VIOL | ORGAN |
| CELLO | PIANO |
| CLAVICHORD | SITAR |
| CONTRABASS | UKULELE |
| DULCIMER | VIOLA |
| GUITAR | VIOLIN |
| HARPSICHORD | ZITHER |
| LUTE | |



Orange County Department of Education



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent



Dr. Ramon Miramontes
Deputy Superintendent of Instructional Programs

Times and technologies may change, but ensuring students feel a sense of connection at school is just as crucial as ever. Arguably, it's never been more important.

I'm talking specifically about being involved with

clubs, sports, music and other activities that not only enhance personal growth but have also been shown to improve students' academic performance and their well-being.

Research from the National Institutes of Health tells us that when students feel connected to their school, they are less likely to feel anxious, sad or have thoughts of harming themselves. The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests these benefits are long term, leading to improved health outcomes into adulthood.

Now, let me introduce you to two OCDE programs that have a history of engaging students across Orange County: the Academic Decathlon and Pentathlon.

The Academic Decathlon was established in 1968 as the brainchild of former Orange County Superintendent Dr. Robert Peterson. Students take on 10 challenges, giving speeches, doing interviews, writing essays and answering questions in such subjects as art, economics, literature, math, music and social science. Think of this as a mental Olympics, culminating with the Super Quiz Relay, an exciting live competition.

For middle school students in grades six, seven and eight, OCDE offers the Academic Pentathlon. This is a five-event competition that focuses on fine arts, literature, math, science and social science, building up to its own Super Quiz Relay.

Both events bring students from different achievement levels together to compete, but it's not just about winning and losing. These are months-long endeavors that are equally about learning, growing and making the kinds of lasting friendships that emerge when students tackle challenges together. This year's decathlon theme is "Technology and Humanity," reflecting one of the most important issues of our time.

Scholarly competitions like the decathlon and pentathlon aren't the only options available. Public school students in Orange County can also connect through campus clubs, sports teams, career exploration programs, student government, community service projects, the performing arts, cultural clubs, peer mentoring, service learning projects and much more. Ultimately, it's about understanding the aptitudes and interests of each student and finding the activities that will most engage and inspire them.

So here's my call to action: As parents and educators, let's envision education beyond the classroom walls. Let's introduce each learner to activities that will help them truly belong to their school. Let's consistently inspire the next generation of leaders, thinkers and achievers to engage in transformative experiences that will enrich their lives and potentially impact their communities.

The connections they forge today will not only shape their current academic achievements but will also lay the foundation for more resilient, fulfilled and empowered individuals in the future.

For more information about the Orange County Academic Decathlon and Academic Pentathlon, or if your middle or high school is interested in starting a program, contact OCDE Coordinator Kristin Rigby at 714-966-4435 or krigby@ocde.us