

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Fullerton School District



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Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee



Dr. Bob Pletka
Superintendent

In Spring 2023, Fullerton School District's Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee was established, comprising 7th and 8th grade student representatives from junior high and K-8 schools, along with Dr. Bob Pletka and district staff. The primary objective of the committee is to provide students with a platform to identify positive aspects within their respective schools and address challenges they perceive on their campuses. During the first year, the

Committee participated in an anti-bullying campaign or a poster contest aimed at promoting kindness across each campus.

For the 2023-2024 school year, the committee of 22 students chose the theme of "Kindness, Laughter, and Joy," modeled after the FSD Management Retreat. The focus this year is for students to collaborate with District Office staff to enhance student participation and engagement within Fullerton School District. Together, they brainstorm, plan, and execute school-based and community service projects across K-8 and junior high school campuses.

In Fall 2023, committee projects included partnering with Team Kids to organize a student-led carnival, raising funds for a local animal shelter. Additionally, they conducted a jacket and sweatshirt drive for The Hub at Valencia Park Elementary and hosted a bake sale during after-school sports events to support a local non-profit organization.

Spring 2024 projects currently underway include creating and delivering cards to local assisted living facilities, launching "Buddy Day" where kindergarten students pair up with 8th-grade students to explore traditions and activities at Fisler School, organizing baked goods sales to support a local mental health non-profit, and planning a Cultural Fair during lunchtime at Parks Junior High. Students are actively engaged in these projects, demonstrating their commitment to serving their community. The Committee will present an overview of their projects and outcomes for the year at the May Fullerton School District Board of Trustees Meeting.



Fisler School



Nicolas Jr. HS



Beechwood School



Parks Jr. HS



Ladera Vista Jr. HS of the Arts

Innovation and Instructional Services

1401 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7400 • www.fullertonsd.org



Jeremy Davis
Assistant
Superintendent

At the Innovation and Instructional Support department within the Fullerton School District, we are championing an initiative that showcases our commitment to innovative education and community engagement. The construction of a Tiny Home by Nicolas Junior High students aligns with our goals of real-world educational applications. 8th graders in Mucio Vidales' Woodshop II class are building the Tiny Home, while ASB students in Shannon

Glasby's class are documenting the process, and students at Parks Junior High (mentored by former city councilman Jesus Silva) will be presenting on the Tiny Home project to the Fullerton City Council to ask the city to consider allowing tiny homes as one possible solution for our unhoused population.

This project would not be possible without the collaboration of the Facilities and Maintenance and Operations departments who helped establish a relationship with New Dimensions Construction to help

oversee and mentor our students. Securing funding has been crucial, with the Phelps Foundation and the Fullerton Education Foundation have led the way in funding for this project.

This two-year project has included community partnerships with OC United and Pathways of Hope, and we are receiving interest in donations from many local organizations and businesses. IIS has utilized project management to oversee the progression along with Mr. Vidales to ensure funding was provided, materials were purchased, and students remained engaged through creative scheduling to allow building on Saturdays and after school.

As the structure takes shape, we see its implications: fostering empathy, responsibility, and practical skills. Some of the students are now considering construction trades as a career as they see that this can be a viable path for a career and how it can help their community. This Tiny Home will stand as a testament to education's positive impact, reflecting our dedication to meaningful learning experiences.



Personnel Services

1401 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7400 • www.fullertonsd.org



Dr. Chad Hammitt
Deputy
Superintendent

Nicolas Junior High School Teacher Awarded California League of Educators Middle School Teacher of the Year

Mucio Vidales, teacher at Nicolas Junior High School, was awarded the California League of Educators 2024 Middle School Teacher of the Year. Mr. Vidales was nominated for his educational excellence and his transformational moment as an educator.

This award is granted to a teacher who exemplifies educational excellence and has made significant efforts to implement elements of educational reform. The California League of Educators Educator of the Year award is given annually to California elementary, middle, and high school educators who exemplify educational excellence. As the nominee selected to represent Region 11, which includes Los Angeles and Orange Counties, Mr. Vidales was honored at the California League of Educators Conference held in Monterey, California earlier this month.

To nab the top spot, Mr. Vidales shared his past teaching experience, including elementary to middle school, and in subjects ranging from ELA, Social Studies, Spanish, and Theater, to Woodworking. It was the woodworking class that gave Mr. Vidales his 'aha' moment in teaching. He spoke about the transformational moment when he witnessed a student with destructive behavior become sparked and engaged during a field trip to the Carpenters Union Training Facility.

This moment was such a transformation for Mr. Vidales, that he now teaches five Wood I classes and one Wood II class. The Wood II students are learning carpentry skills to build a tiny house. As part of this Tiny House Project, the students are learning construction trades and becoming agents of change as the tiny home will be shelter for a family in need. This tiny house will provide a Fullerton School District elementary school student and family a safe place to sleep and do homework. Mr. Vidales spoke with passion about the immense pride he has in his students, the amazing growth in their confidence, and the students' ability to thrive in new experiences such as news agency interviews.



"Knight Nation is proud of Mr. Vidales on his being named California League of Schools Middle School Teacher of the Year. Thank you for all the great work you do with our students," shared Jose Varela, Principal, Nicolas Junior High School.

School News

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FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
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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



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562/493-3193

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2024

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Acacia Elementary School

1200 N. Acacia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831 • 714/447-7700 • www.fullertonsd.org/acacia



Rachel McCormick
Principal

Celebrating Reading

Our Acacia Pandas love to read! Together as a school, we celebrated reading and all the ways it enriches our lives. Throughout the week-long celebration, our Acacia Pandas immersed themselves in the magical worlds of books, discovering new adventures and expanding their imaginations.

One highlight of our celebration was the joyous reading sessions with our big/little buddies! Students relished the opportunity to

share their favorite stories, creating bonds and fostering a sense of camaraderie through the love of literature.

We also experienced the heartwarming sight of parents coming to school to read with their children. Together, families bonded over stories, creating cherished memories, and reinforcing the importance of reading at home.

Together, we witnessed the power of reading to transport us to far-off lands, spark creativity, and cultivate empathy. From thrilling adventures to heartwarming tales, each book opened doors to new possibilities for our students.



Beechwood School

780 Beechwood Ave., Fullerton, CA 92835 • 714/447-2850 • www.fullertonsd.org/beechwood



Hannah Lim
Principal

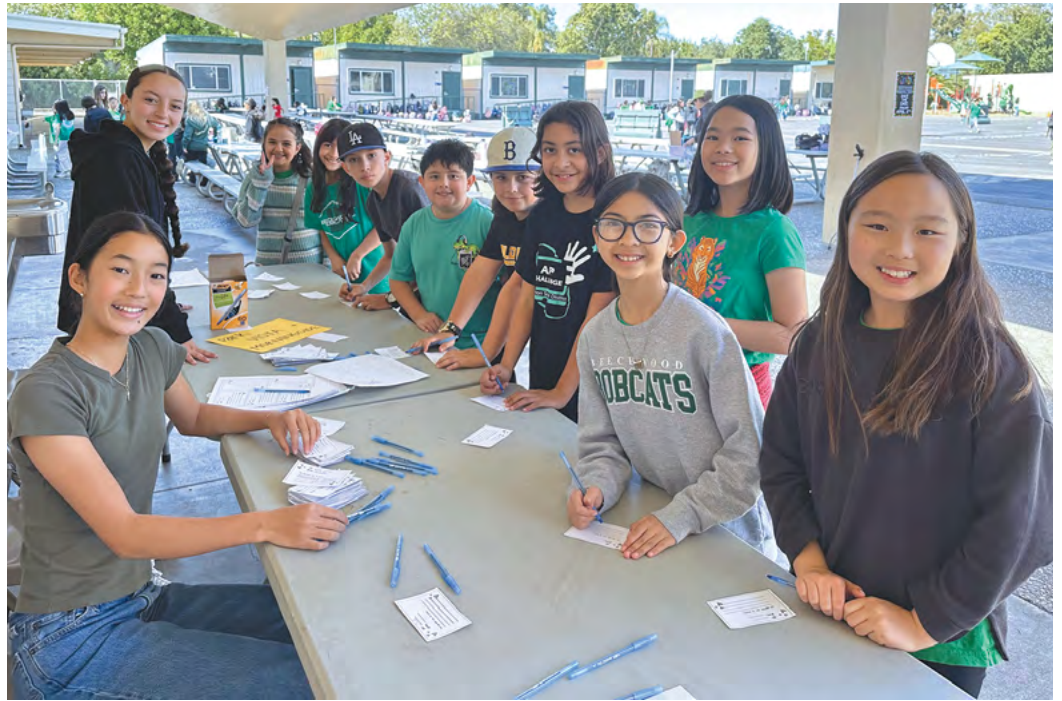
Community Love

Our Beechwood students are always focused on their impact, not only to themselves and the school, but also society as a whole. Our middle school students commit to service projects that will benefit different causes and communities. One such group is the

Superintendent Student Advisory Committee, which is comprised of 8th grade students, August White, Seth Rosas, Sophia Roman, and 7th grade students, Harper Black and Grace Kim. Most recently, the students created a school-wide project to create grams and well-wishes for Morningside and Park Vista, two assisted living and retirement communities located near Beechwood. All students, grades TK-8, wrote and decorated grams and decorations, which

included positive affirmations and a large uplifting banner. Students decorated and delivered the grams with baskets of snacks and treats to each site for all residents to feel cared for and enjoy.

We are so proud of our Bobcats for thinking locally and devoting their time to philanthropic acts.



Commonwealth *Elementary School*

2200 E. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831 • 714/447-7705 • www.fullertonsd.org/commonwealth



Jean Summy
Principal

Lights! Staging! Action!

Commonwealth Elementary School is thrilled to announce that our Jungle Book Kids Cast performed at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Henry, and Renée Segerstrom Music Hall on March 26, 2024, as part of our Disney Musicals in Schools program. Our incredible Tiger Theater Kids performed Jungle Book Kids seven times, three of these

open to the public, over a week and it was a spectacular success! This program has allowed us to build a sustainable theater arts program here at Commonwealth with the support of Disney Theatrical artists and the Segerstrom Foundation. The first year offers the most support, gradually releasing more responsibilities to the school staff. We have learned about not only the acting and singing craft of theater but also the backstage and technical areas that support a show and make it a great production.



Fern Drive *Elementary School*

1400 W. Fern Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7710 • www.fullertonsd.org/fern



Julie Lucas
Principal

Mrs. Taylor: 2023-2024 Fern Drive Teacher of the Year

At Fern Drive Elementary, excellence is not just a goal; it's a standard set by educators like Mrs. Taylor, our esteemed Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Taylor embodies the qualities of kindness, nurturing, creativity, collaboration, commitment, and a dedication to lifelong learning that make her an exceptional educator.

Kindness is the cornerstone of Mrs. Taylor's approach to teaching. She fosters a classroom environment where every student feels valued and supported. Her nurturing nature extends not only to her students but also to her colleagues. Mrs. Taylor goes above and beyond to mentor and uplift her fellow staff members, creating a culture of positivity and support within the school community.

Commitment is evident in Mrs. Taylor's unwavering dedication to her students' success. She tirelessly goes above and beyond to meet the individual needs of each child, providing extra support and encouragement whenever necessary. Mrs. Taylor's commitment to her students extends beyond the classroom, as she actively participates in school events and extracurricular activities to ensure that every child feels included and supported.

As a lifelong learner herself, Mrs. Taylor leads by example, demonstrating the importance of continuous growth and development. She regularly seeks out professional development opportunities and stays up-to-date on the latest research and best practices in education. Mrs. Taylor's passion for learning inspires her students to become lifelong learners themselves, instilling in them a love of knowledge that will serve them well in the years to come.

We are honored to celebrate Mrs. Taylor as our 2023-2024 Fern Drive Teacher of the Year!



Robert C. Fisler School

1350 Starbuck St., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-2890 • www.fullertonsd.org/fisler



Dr. Kimberly Benaraw
Principal

Science Fun

As a computer science focused school, Robert C. Fisler School students have a passion and love of science. Fisler's Annual Family Science Night event was an amazing opportunity for families to come out and enjoy a night of science exploration.

Families were able to visit 25 classrooms with captivating science experiments, engaging displays, and activities with teachers facilitating an enriching experience rooted in both education and entertainment. The event fostered a deeper understanding of scientific concepts while promoting meaningful family engagement. Our students were able to actively participate in hands-on experiments and demonstrations alongside their loved ones. At Fisler, our students gained a greater appreciation for the wonders of science while honing their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students left feeling empowered to approach the world with a newfound appreciation for the wonders of science. This was a great evening and we can't wait to do it next year!



Golden Hill School for Creative & Performing Arts

732 Barris Dr., Fullerton, CA 92832 • 714/447-7715 • www.fullertonsd.org/golden



Dr. Neil Anderson
Principal

Anticipated Event – Goldenchella

Golden Hill is gearing up for its most anticipated event of the spring season - Goldenchella, the ultimate fusion of music, food, and fun! On Friday, April 12, 2024, from 4:00 to 8:00 pm, the Golden Hill School for Creative and Performing Arts will transform into a vibrant carnival ground and concert venue.

At Goldenchella, attendees can indulge in a variety of delectable delights from food booths offering a diverse array of cuisines, ensuring there's something to satisfy every craving. From savory delights to sweet treats, the culinary offerings will tantalize taste buds and fuel the festivities.

But the excitement doesn't stop there! Live performances by talented musicians and performers will grace the stage throughout the evening, providing an electrifying soundtrack to the carnival atmosphere. From local bands to student showcases, there will be music to suit every musical taste.

In between enjoying the food and live entertainment, attendees can partake in classic carnival-style games and activities, adding an extra layer of amusement to the event. Whether it's testing your skills at ring toss or taking a whirl on the Ferris wheel, there's no shortage of entertainment for all ages.

Mark your calendars and join us for Goldenchella - an unforgettable evening of community celebration and entertainment right here in Golden Hill!

Hermosa Drive *Elementary School*

400 E. Hermosa Dr., Fullerton, CA 92835 • 714/447-7720 • www.fullertonsd.org/hermosa



Dr. Caroline Llewellyn
Principal

Mastering Math Facts

This year at Hermosa Drive, we are celebrating our students' success in mastering math facts using the Reflex app. We recognize students who have solved over 2,000 facts each week by giving them a shout-out during our morning announcements. Additionally, once a week, we honor one exceptional class for their outstanding effort in mastering math facts by awarding them with Mr. Crabby, our

Reflex mascot. Students eagerly anticipate winning this class prize and having Mr. Crabby in their classroom for

the week. At the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, our Hermosa Drive students were challenged to collectively solve 1,000,000 facts. We're thrilled to announce that on February 28th, students achieved this goal and were rewarded with a special Reflex Recess. During this time, they enjoyed extra outdoor playtime accompanied by music, treats, and engaging math-themed crafts. We are so thankful to our teachers and parents for providing students with the resources and support necessary to achieve this remarkable milestone. It's with great pride that we share our students' ongoing success as they continue to surpass expectations, with no signs of slowing down their incredible progress in solving math facts.



Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts

1700 E. Wilshire Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831 • 714/447-7765 • www.fullertonsd.org/ladera



Dr. Bill Lynch
Principal

Ladera Vista Redesignated as a School To Watch

Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts has once again affirmed its commitment to excellence as it proudly redesignated as a prestigious National School to Watch. The school's unwavering dedication to academic achievement, artistic expression, and holistic student development has earned it this esteemed recognition.

Amidst cheers and applause, the Ladera Vista team received this accolade at the California League of Schools conference held in Monterey this March. This remarkable

achievement underscores the tireless efforts of the entire school community, from dedicated educators to talented students and supportive parents.

Principal Lynch expressed immense pride in the school's accomplishment, emphasizing the significance of fostering a nurturing environment where students can thrive academically and artistically. Ladera Vista's commitment to innovation and inclusivity continues to set a benchmark for educational institutions nationwide.

As Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts celebrates this momentous occasion, it reaffirms its mission to empower students, inspire creativity, and cultivate lifelong learners who are poised to make meaningful contributions to society.



Laguna Road *Elementary School*

300 Laguna Rd., Fullerton, CA 92835 • 714/447-7725 • www.fullertonsd.org/laguna



Stephanie Guppy
Principal

Monthly Celebrations

As part of the Laguna Road Project Impact vision, our school community focuses on a character trait and scholarly attribute each month. We also learn about different holidays and cultures. Our goal is to have a community where students with unique backgrounds, individual and collective strengths, and a variety of interests can come together in friendship and appreciation. In the month of February,

students learned about the character trait humility and the scholarly attribute saving ideas. Teachers taught lessons, held classroom discussions, and recognized examples of humility from students. We also spent time learning about Black History Month and Lunar New Year. Students were able to share their personal ideas and experiences, and they benefited from seeing and experiencing from different perspectives. At the end of the month, we had a school-wide celebration where students from each class were recognized for exhibiting the monthly character trait. We had a great month of learning and celebrating.



Maple *Elementary School*

244 E. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92832 • 714/447-7590 • www.fullertonsd.org/maple



Anthony Abney
Principal

Celebrating Excellence: Katie Bezayiff Named Elementary Educator of the Year for Region 11

Katie Bezayiff, a Transitional Kindergarten (TK) teacher at Maple, has been honored as the Elementary Educator of the Year for Region 11, showcasing Maple's tradition of educational excellence. This achievement marked the third consecutive year a Maple teacher competed at the state level, with Ms. Bezayiff

representing both Maple and the Fullerton School District in March at the annual California League of Educators Conference.

Ms. Bezayiff excels in academic knowledge and teaching methods, ensuring her students receive a comprehensive education tailored to their needs. Her relationships with students and families stand out, creating a supportive community environment for our youngest learners. Additionally, her mentorship has significantly contributed to the entire school's culture and climate by leading the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) team to Platinum level implementation over the past three years.

As we reflect on Ms. Bezayiff's contributions to education, her dedication and innovative approaches highlight her significant impact on her students and the broader educational community. The Maple community celebrates her achievements and her role in fostering an environment of excellence and respect.



Nicolas Junior High School

1100 W. Olive Ave., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7775 • www.fullertonsd.org/nicolas



Jose Varela
Principal

1st Annual Robotics Competition

Hey, have you heard. Nicolas' Robotics team was victorious at the 1st Annual Robotics Competition at Buena Park High School. Several middle schools from Buena Park School District competed along with Nicolas. In all, 32 teams entered the competition.

There were many tough teams, but in the end, the team of Rennix Lakin, Jacob Hoffman, and Isaiah Romero were crowned as the champions of the competition. Although they had a few close calls in the early rounds, they annihilated the competition in the championship round with a score of 9-0. The objective of the competition was to pop your opponents' balloons before they popped yours. There is a lot of teamwork and strategy that must take place in order to come out victorious. And the Nicolas' team did just that.

Once again, we want to congratulate the entire Robotics team. You all represented Nicolas in a positive fashion and a special congratulations to the winning team.



Orangethorpe Elementary School

1400 S. Brookhurst Rd., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7730 • www.fullertonsd.org/orangethorpe



Deborah Bennett
Principal

Wyland Science on Wheels Experience

On Thursday February 22, 2024, Orangethorpe's front parking lot was transformed into a hands-on learning classroom, in the form of the Wyland Science Lab on Wheels. Students in 4th through 6th grade and all of multiage had the opportunity to participate in this very unique experience.

During the 45 minutes the students were in the truck, students first entered

the movie theater and watched a video about their mission. Upon moving to the station side of the truck, they learned all about the processes for obtaining clean water and how this helps the biomes, food webs, communities and how they could be change agents to help the earth. Students had the opportunity to rotate through the six stations and work as teams to answer questions, build aqueducts and see how if one thing was taken out of the food web, the devastation it could have on the population and animals.



Pacific Drive *Elementary School*

1501 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7735 • www.fullertonsd.org/pacific



Laurel Estrada
Principal

Congressional App Challenge

Two of our sixth-grade students, Dominic and Gilberto, showcased their exceptional talent and brought immense pride to our school community by securing first place in the Congressional App Challenge.

Their innovative creation, “Cooking to the Max,” stands out for creativity and practicality. Designed to make cooking fun and accessible, the app categorizes recipes by difficulty levels. Coins are earned for recipe

completion and used to purchase ingredients. Part of what sets it apart is the use of music, images, and step-by-step directions, ensuring an engaging and gamified culinary experience for users. The boys even researched ingredient prices to enhance the app’s authenticity.

We are so proud of Dominic and Gilberto for their outstanding achievement. They exemplify the spirit of creativity, teamwork, and dedication that we strive to instill in all our students. Their friendship, which blossomed in kindergarten, undoubtedly contributed to their collaborative success. Here’s to their bright future ahead!





Robin Mundschau
Principal

Career Exploration through Sports

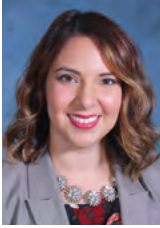
On Thursday, February 29th, 36 of our journalism students attended the Ontario Clippers Education Day at the Toyota Arena. When they first arrived, the students were given an education packet and listened to a career panel that consisted of members who work for the franchise. The panelists discussed their different job titles and responsibilities and their journey to getting to where they are now. Afterward, the panel did a Q&A session where the students asked about the panelists' backgrounds, educational experiences, and more. When the career panel ended, students were dismissed to grab lunch and head to their assigned section for the basketball game. The students were able to enjoy a pre-set

meal provided by the arena or buy food and beverages from the various concession stands. Once the students took their seats, they watched the Ontario Clippers face off against the Sioux Falls Skyforce in an exciting game. Furthermore, during breaks and half-time, the students were able to witness a mascot dance party, a slam dunk contest, and a performance from the Ontario Clippers cheerleaders. Some of our students even walked away with free merchandise such as Clippers t-shirts and toy basketballs! When the students returned to school, they took notes on the event and will eventually use these notes when they cover the field trip for our newspaper, *The Parks Panther Press*. Overall, it was a wonderful experience that allowed the students to learn about different careers and build relationships with their peers and teachers outside of the classroom.



Raymond *Elementary School*

517 N. Raymond Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831 • 714/447-7740 • www.fullertonsd.org/raymond



Cristina Centeno
Principal

Yoga Time!

Raymond Elementary School is excited to announce a rejuvenating initiative for student well-being with the introduction of a new yoga program during lunch recess. This innovative program aims to nurture a holistic approach to health and mindfulness among our students. Certified yoga instructor Jennifer Crawley leads the sessions, integrating age-appropriate poses, breathing exercises, and relaxation

techniques customized for elementary school children. The program provides a valuable opportunity for students to unwind and center themselves, promoting physical fitness, mental focus, emotional resilience, and a positive sense of self-awareness. By incorporating yoga into the school day, Raymond is committed to creating a supportive environment that contributes to the overall well-being of our students. We believe that fostering these practices early in life will empower students with lifelong skills for managing stress and promoting a healthy, balanced lifestyle.



Richman Elementary School

700 S. Richman Ave., Fullerton, CA 92832 • 714/447-7745 • www.fullertonsd.org/richman



Kristen Holm
Principal

Richman's Positive Impact

Richman Elementary's Student Council, in collaboration with the OC Health Care Agency, recently undertook a significant endeavor that reflects the positive impact our school strives to make within our community. Through a comprehensive walkability audit in the Richman neighborhood, they assessed the safety and accessibility of routes to school, crucial for our students' daily lives. They took pictures and made notes of crosswalks, safe routes to school and areas that need improvement.

After a thorough examination, our students presented their findings to City Officials, FSD School Board members, and district staff. Their presentation not only demonstrated dedication but also emphasized their strong desire for a safe environment to live and learn.

At Richman Elementary, we prioritize student voice. This initiative exemplifies our dedication to empowering students to actively shape their community, instilling values of civic responsibility and advocacy.



Student council president, Emmeline Ninofranco, presents her findings during the walkability audit.

The leadership displayed by our Student Council and their genuine desire to effect positive change in our community serve as a testament to the power of collaboration and the profound impact of student-driven initiatives.



Richman Student Council leaders, present their findings during the walkability audit.

Rolling Hills *Elementary School*

1460 E. Rolling Hills Dr., Fullerton, CA 92835 • 714/447-7795 • www.fullertonsd.org/rolling



Lindy McNutt
Principal

The Jungle Book Kids

Rolling Hills Elementary school recently had the opportunity to present the STAGE production of *The Jungle Book Kids*. This fun-loving musical showcased the remarkable talents of students in grades 3 through 6, who seized the opportunity to enchant audiences with three captivating shows in a single day. This production fostered an environment of inclusion and support amongst peers, where every

participant felt valued and empowered. Regardless of their role, each student contributed to the magic of the performance, reinforcing the importance of teamwork and camaraderie. Through their dedication and collaborative spirit, the young performers not only brought the beloved tale of *The Jungle Book* to life but also exemplified the transformative power of theater in nurturing confidence, empathy, and a sense of belonging. We are grateful to Mrs. Sapien and Mrs. Hogerhuis for being the dedicated directors who brought this show to life. We can't wait until the next show!



School News



Planning your fun for the summer?

Be sure to see the options on pages 6-8...

Tennis, Martial Arts, Science, Academics...have fun!

Sunset Lane *Elementary School*

2030 Sunset Ln., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7750 • www.fullertonsd.org/sunset



Dr. Tracy Gyurina
Principal

Buddy Reading Sessions

Sunset Lane Elementary School transformed into a literary wonderland during its vibrant Read Across America Week celebration, igniting a passion for reading among its students. Throughout the week, students of all ages immersed themselves in the magic of storytelling through various engaging activities. From captivating readers' theater performances spanning grade levels to fostering meaningful connections through buddy reading sessions, the school embraced the joy of literacy.

Excitement soared with the anticipation of the PTA Reading Safari event, offering a sneak peek into the treasure trove of new library books generously donated by the PTA. Guest readers from the community enriched the experience, sharing their love for literature and inspiring young minds. Even in the digital realm, the celebration thrived with Zoom read-aloud sessions, bringing stories to life virtually.

Sunset Lane Elementary's Read Across America Week epitomized its dedication to nurturing a lifelong love for reading, fostering creativity, and building a strong sense of community through the power of literature.



Big and little buddies dive into the magic of storytelling during buddy reading for our Read Across America Week celebration!

Valencia Park *Elementary School*

3441 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833 • 714/447-7755 • www.fullertonsd.org/valencia



Dr. Guillermo Muñoz
Principal

WoW Reading Challenge and VP

Students at Valencia Park enjoyed the World of Wisdom Reading Challenge for 3rd to 6th graders. The challenge, which aimed to foster literacy and personal growth, used AI technology to create an immersive game that introduced participants to seven Guardians of Wisdom. Each Guardian had

different reading tasks to complete that helped students explore library resources, learn about online databases, discover their family history, and make an impact in their local community. Participants collected trading cards that gave them a piece of the secret code. As they unlocked the seven realms, they put the secret code together to earn a final prize. Students had a lot of fun reading to save the World of Wisdom!



Woodcrest Elementary School

455 W. Baker Ave., Fullerton, CA 92832 • 714/447-7760 • www.fullertonsd.org/woodcrest



Christopher Wilkins
Principal

Read Across America

At Woodcrest Elementary School, Read Across America is more than just a day marked on the calendar. It's an opportunity to cultivate a love for reading that will last a lifetime. It aims to promote literacy and encourage young minds to explore the wonderful world of books.

One of the most special aspects of Read Across America at Woodcrest is the involvement of families and community members. Parents, grandparents, community members are invited to participate by reading aloud to the students. This unique opportunity fosters a sense of connection

between the school and community while reinforcing the importance of literacy in the lives of young learners.

As our young students eagerly gather around to listen to stories, they not only expand their vocabulary and comprehension skills but also develop a deeper appreciation for the power of storytelling. Through engaging narratives and colorful illustrations, they embark on adventures to far-off lands, meet fascinating characters, and explore new ideas.

Read Across America is not just about reading—it's about fostering a lifelong love of books. By exposing children to the joy of reading from an early age, Woodcrest Elementary School is laying the foundation for academic success and a lifelong love of learning.



MyConnectAcademy

1460 E. Rolling Hills, Fullerton, CA 92835 • 714/447-2862 • www.fullertonsd.org/Academies



Lindy McNutt
Principal

Museum Field Trip

MyFSD homeschool took a field trip to a Science Museum in Orange. Students had the exciting opportunity to share in a fun interactive learning experience. The field trip included impressive STEM workshops, exhibits and presentations. Students were able to try the “Nail of Beds”, where they each lay on a nail of beds and they learned how the weight is distributed

among them so that the pressure exerted by each nail is not enough to puncture the person’s skin. They also visited an exhibit called: Space Out! This was an Indoor planetarium exhibit for kids to learn essential facts about our planet, space, astronomy, and science. They were able to investigate the weather here on earth, the migration patterns of turtles, or take a far off journey to a distant moon in the Planetary Research Station! Overall, the students had a fun day of learning and exploring at the Museum.

