

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Redondo Beach Unified School District



Volume 18, Issue 135

May 2024

Empowering Minds and Hearts: RBUSD Prioritizes the Whole Child



Promoting passion and purpose: Academic excellence, social-emotional support, and wellness are the pillars of RBUSD's approach, shaping students for success beyond graduation.

Board of Education



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- High School



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For information about out-of-district attendance permits, go to www.rbusd.org.
If you have questions, please contact Student Services at
rceragioli@rbusd.org or 310-379-5449, Ext. 1223.

Superintendent



Dr. Nicole Wesley
Superintendent

Redondo Beach's Path of History – Fun and Free

If you ask me, summer equals being outside as much as possible. And Redondo Beach is arguably the best place to be outside during our sunny summer days. From bike rides along the esplanade, catching waves on or off a board, to beach volleyball, or soccer at a park, there are many ways to stay active for free in our own backyard.

Ever heard of the [Redondo Beach Path of History](#)? Thanks to the Redondo Beach Leadership Class of 2002, you can journey around town and learn about its 100+ years of history by seeking out historical markers from the “original town.” Redondo Beach, incorporated in 1892, is rich in heritage and first written about in 1542 when the picturesque Santa Monica Bay was discovered by Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo (read more history [HERE](#) or visit the RB Chamber website and download the historical brochure).

Ever wonder about the origin of Redondo street names? Who was Anita, Lucia, Guadalupe, Helberta, Juanita and Francisca? Did you know gambling was once legal in RB, the pier had a roller coaster, and Railway Red Cars served as mass transit through the town?



The RUHS Alumni House, established in 2017, houses original artifacts that represent the rich history of RUHS and the RB community.

Our very own Redondo Union High School has an Alumni Museum on its campus. It is curated by a RUHS alumni and legend, Ms. Terry Martinez, class of 1971. The house was gifted to RBUSD in 1947 for \$10. The deed is displayed in the Alumni House, along with historical artifacts such as old cheerleading uniforms, original pictures, and old High Tide newspapers and yearbooks. Now tradition, the graduating class walks through the house to ring the alumni bell.

With so much history, summertime is a great time to have fun for free in RB!

REDONDO BEACH PATH OF HISTORY
Part I, Original Town Site

PATH OF HISTORY SITES ■ Completed ■ Proposed

1 Salt Lake	13 The Piers of Redondo
2 Power Plant	14 El Paseo Amusements
3 Red Car	15 Monstad Pier
4 Salvation Army	16 Old Main Library
5 The Plunge and Lightning Racer	17 Red Car and Santa Fe Depots
6 Chautauqua Society and Hall	18 Hotel Redondo
7 Vincent Park/Lamp of Learning	19 Beach Scenes
8 Fox Theater	20 Wharfs and Railroads
9 Downtown (Czuleger Park)	21 William H. Hall-City Designer
10 Pacific Avenue and Red Car	22 Dominguez Park Ranchos
11 Marina/Harbor Construction	23 Gambling Barge
12 Old City Hall and Fire Station	24 Surfing, Sport, Music & Culture

Fomore information, please visit www.redondo.org/pathofhistory or call the City of Redondo Beach at (310) 318-0610 ext. 3466.

Follow the Redondo Beach Path of History to learn about Redondo's historical sites.

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Board of Education



Rolf Strutzenberg
Member

Variety is the Spice of Education

One of the great advantages of a larger school district is that it creates prodigious opportunity for program variety and offerings. As a Board member, and parent, I am constantly amazed at the courses, clubs and activities that are part of the RBUSD environment.

A key element of keeping students engaged is finding what we call their “hook”, that special thing that creates excitement and desire for each individual. Sports, robotics, band, theatre, cheer, automotive, Associated Student Body (ASB), languages, media, entrepreneurship, the list goes on and on. We hear from our kids how special their particular thing is to them, that it gets them out of bed in the morning and looking forward to the day.

Recently, the Esports Championships were a great example of how activities can work together with coursework to build a foundation of knowledge and experience along with competitive spirit. It's an exciting and fun event, with real world ties to a massive industry that has great paying careers. A perfect example of how education must continue to evolve to prepare our students for whatever path they choose after graduation.

With education pathways spanning a full spectrum from academic to Career Technical Education (CTE), RBUSD has choices for every student to find their “hook”, that spice that they love and look forward to each day. We encourage all of our students to never stop trying different things, to always be willing to find that new thing that makes them say, “Wow, I love that!”

Our thanks to all of our teachers and staff that go the extra step to help our kids find their spice, to our parents that support them, and especially our Redondo Beach Education Foundation (RBEF) that works endlessly to raise the money that it takes to provide so many of these unique and cherished offerings.

Board of Education Meeting Dates

2024

May 14	July 16*	October 8
May 28	August 13*	October 22
June 11	September 10	November 12**
June 25	September 24	December 10*

*Summer recess, only one Regular Board meeting in July and August.

2025

January 14**	March 25	June 10
February 11	April 29**	June 24
February 25	May 13	
March 11	May 27	

**Holiday/local holiday schedule, one Regular Board meeting in November, December, January and April 29 Organizational Meeting




HELP IMPROVE REDONDO SCHOOLS


Please participate in our upcoming community meetings and share your questions and ideas on:

- School Safety
- Classroom Modernization
- Technology
- Energy Efficiency Improvements

**All community input is valued.
Come to ask, learn and share!**

 **Community Meeting #1**
5/8/24, 9-10:30 AM
Lincoln Elem. Cafeteria

REGISTER NOW

 **Community Meeting #2**
5/9/24, 5:30-7 PM
Redondo Union HS Library

REGISTER NOW

allcove Beach Cities

now open!

allcove is a place for young people (ages 12-25) to take a moment of pause and access a range of services that include:

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- Physical health.
- Substance use.
- Peer support.
- Family support.
- Supported education and employment.



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Visit allcove.org/beach-cities for more information.

Tuesday - Friday
1 - 7 p.m.

Saturday
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

(except during certain holidays)



Save the date for



SUMMER CAMP

June 17 - August 23



A Beach Cities Health District Program

AdventurePlex offerings:

- Drop-in Play
- Birthday Parties
- Special Events & Parties
- Rockwall and Ropes Course
- Weekend AdventureCamp
- Kids Club Membership



REGISTER
ONLINE!

AdventurePlex.org





Emory Chen, MSW, MA Ed
Director
Youth Services

Substance Use Awareness from the Beach Cities Partnership for Youth Coalition

More than 65 people attended the viewing of the documentary, “Screenagers: Under the Influence,” hosted by Beach Cities Health District in partnership with South Bay Families Connected and Redondo Beach Unified School District (RBUSD) at Parras Middle School. The documentary delved into how the tech revolution has reshaped adolescence and its effects on substance use, debunked myths and depicted strategies parents and schools can use to encourage healthy decision-making and supportive home environments. Students and families in attendance received information on practical solutions for keeping teens safe in a changing world.

The Beach Cities Partnership for Youth Coalition also hosted a parent-targeted community education forum “What I Wish My Parents Knew: Dangers of Youth

Substance Use and Fentanyl” at Adams Middle School. The in-person event included a film screening of “Dead on Arrival,” a fentanyl documentary by Dominic Tierno and Christine Wood, followed by a panel discussion featuring young people in recovery from New Life House and Clarity Sober Living. A youth-targeted version of the same film/panel presentation occurred at the Parras Middle School 8th grade assembly on April 18. Adams Middle School 8th grade students will also receive the same programming later this spring.

As part of our continued commitment to intervention efforts addressing the opioid epidemic, BCHD has provided professional development to more than 400 RBUSD leadership and employees at the district office and school campuses that features training on the administration of naloxone and distribution of free kits that include two doses of the opioid antagonist medication. BCHD’s supply of naloxone is from the California Department of Health Care Services’ Naloxone Distribution Project. For more information, visit bchd.org/opioids.

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Redondo Beach Council PTA

1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • www.rbusd.org



Sondi Kroeger-Foley
President

100 Years of PTA

This year, Redondo Beach Council of PTAs was honored by California State PTA with a Legacy Award for 100 years of service. California State PTA just celebrated its 126th year as an organization; Redondo Beach has been a meaningful part of the legacy since the beginning. In the early days, PTA helped bring Kindergarten, school lunch programs, child labor

protections, the juvenile justice system, and media content ratings to our communities. In later years, PTA supported health education programs, class size reductions, disaster preparedness planning, and whole child curriculum, including arts and physical education in schools. More recently, our advocacy efforts have expanded to promote inclusion, fight discrimination, remedy the effects of the pandemic, safeguard students' social/emotional health, and secure adequate funding for education.

The dedication and hard work of the PTA leaders in Redondo Beach are what make PTA such a powerful force for good in our schools and community. In addition to sponsoring fun events and activities, PTA also recognizes



the importance of family engagement. It's about taking time to listen to the concerns and needs of our members. It's about making sure that every voice is heard and that everyone feels valued and included in the work of PTA. As the proud President of RB Council PTA, it is my hope that the work of PTA will go on in Redondo Beach for another hundred years!



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Doris Donlou-Richmond
President

The Impact of RBEF

Music and PE are some of our students favorite RBEF funded programs, but did you know that music also supports math and language development? It allows kids to develop spatial intelligence allowing students to visualize how elements fit together which is required to solve math problems. It also stimulates the left side of the brain which is the language center. Learning music is in fact learning another language.

How about that physical activity increases self-discipline, judgment and goal-setting skills? The inclusion of Physical Education in the school day helps students strengthen relationships with their peers, reduces stress and improves self-confidence and self-esteem. Learning to work together as a team to achieve common goals is an essential life skill that starts on the field.

Did you also know music and PE are the first programs to be eliminated at schools across the country due to budget cuts? This is where the Redondo Beach Educational



PE

Foundation steps in. RBEF recognizes how critical Music and PE are for our students to receive a well-rounded education. We are PROUD to fund these valuable programs in our schools and we couldn't do it without your support.

As we head into summer, we here at the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your investment in Our Kids, Our Community, Our Legacy.



Vocal Music 2024



Ioana Pal, Psy.D.,
*clinical psychologist,
 Stramski Children's Developmental
 Center, MemorialCare
 Miller Children's & Women's
 Hospital Long Beach*

The Health Impact of Bullying in Kids

In today's world, 1 in 5 children experience bullying online or in person. As a frequently reported disciplinary problem in schools, it encompasses behaviors such as being the subject of rumors or lies, being made fun of, being called names, insulted, threatened with harm, experiencing physical harm, and social exclusion.

Bullying is characterized by deliberate and persistent behavior aimed at asserting power over others. Categorized as an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE), it represents potentially traumatic events that can have negative, lasting effects on a person's development.

Bullying can impair cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development, and increase the risk of various health problems such as depression, anxiety, sleep disturbances, and substance abuse.

Often, bullying is dismissed as a childhood rite of passage. Children may feel reluctant to tell adults due to feelings of embarrassment, which is why recognizing the early signs of bullying is instrumental in preventing the potential long-term effects on a child's development. Research shows that early and consistent parental involvement and support is a protective factor against bullying and long term consequences.

Signs of bullying parents can look for in children include:

- Declining grades, loss of interest in schoolwork, or not wanting to go to school
- Sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situations
- Difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares
- Self-destructive behaviors such as running away from home, harming themselves, or talking about suicide
- Planning to "get back" at those who've wronged them

Caregivers recognizing the impact of bullying is often the first step. Open communication and creating an environment where children's feelings are acknowledged and expressed freely help build resilience and emotional well-being. Further, caregivers should initiate conversations with teachers to discuss concerns regarding a child's well-being.

Addressing bullying requires collaborative efforts between caregivers, educators, and health care professionals. Child psychologists and school counselors can provide interventions suited to a child's well-being.

Want to learn more? Please call (714) 377-6993 or visit millerchildrens.org/stramski.



Pablo, Age 6

At 11 months, Pablo was fighting for his life.

Today, he's got six candles on his cake.

Failing organs. Eight months in a coma. Fighting for every breath. At 11 months old, this is what Leukemia brought Pablo. The one bright spot, he was at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital where a team of top doctors, nurses, and specialists helped save his life. For over a year in the PICU, our highly-trained staff never stopped caring for Pablo and his family. **Caring is our calling.**

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Jens Brandt
Principal

Summer Opportunities for Teenagers

While summer is certainly the time for some well-deserved fun, traveling, and relaxation, it is also the chance to seek out opportunities like our El Camino and SoCal ROC, as well as finding jobs throughout the South Bay.

At PDHS, we promote these awesome programs and work experiences during the school year. However, we also know that the summer months can provide much more time and flexibility for educational and employment pathways. It is for this reason that we invite all of our RBUSD high



High school students are exploring programs and pathways at El Camino.



Welding student is learning new skills at SoCal ROC.

school students and their families to explore everything that is offered at elcamino.edu and socalroc.com. Additionally, the website sbwib.com also has a wealth of information on part- and full-time jobs, internships, mentorships, and apprenticeships.

These unique opportunities can provide our students with high school and college credits, resume building, job and career skills and

pathways, and, of course, a paycheck! Quite often our PDHS students will have discovered a new sense of purpose and direction after participating in a course, program, or job. In addition, our young people are also learning some valuable life skills that can benefit them for many years to come!

Finally, we also want to remind our students to take advantage of the opportunities to recover and accelerate their academic credits, either through RUHS summer school or via RBEF summer sessions. More information can be found at rbef.org.

We are thankful to all of our district partners and community members for the beneficial experiences that are offered in and beyond the RBUSD. Our students are better students and people as a result!



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Dr. Susan Wildes
Assistant
Superintendent

Summer Learning Experiences

As the school year winds down, students are looking forward to a break from busy schedules and the chance to spend quality time with families. One way to make the most of this time is by encouraging students to disconnect from technology and explore the world beyond screens.

With lives increasingly entwined with digital devices, taking a step back during the summer can offer much-needed relief and improve mental health. Constant engagement with technology and specifically social media, can contribute to stress, anxiety, and unhealthy outlooks. In contrast, spending time outdoors, participating in physical activities, or simply enjoying a peaceful moment without a screen can refresh the mind and spirit.

Summer is also an excellent time for families to visit their local public library. Libraries offer a wealth of resources and opportunities for children and adults alike. From a diverse selection of books to audiobooks, and interactive programs, libraries provide something for everyone and can enhance your child's love of learning and spark imagination.

Libraries host summer reading programs and challenges that motivate children to continue reading. They not only help maintain literacy skills but also promote a sense of achievement and curiosity. The library can also serve as a quiet, comfortable space for children to read, explore new subjects, and escape into the world of literature. Without the distractions of screens, students can fully immerse themselves in their chosen book or activity, which can have a calming effect and support mental well-being.

As you plan your summer activities, consider setting boundaries for screen time and prioritizing experiences that promote connection, creativity, and relaxation. Whether it's a family outing to the library, a hike in the woods, or an afternoon spent playing board games, these moments can create cherished memories and strengthen your family bonds.

By encouraging your children to explore public libraries and disconnect from technology, you can help them discover new interests, build critical thinking skills, and enjoy a well-rounded summer break. Here's to a summer full of adventures, learning, and unforgettable experiences!

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RBUSD Child Development

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Theresa Van Dusen
Director

Sunshine, STEM, and Silly Shenanigans

*By Socorro Stephens-Wallace,
Site Supervisor*

As the summer break approaches, it's an opportune time to prepare our students for their new goals, as well as giving them various summer fun CDC experiences.

Our summer CDC program's enrichment activities are designed to engage and inspire your child. Our goal is to create a stimulating

and nurturing environment where children can learn, grow, and have fun during the summer break. Here's a sneak peek at some of the activities we have planned:

- **STEM activities:** Sparking your child's curiosity and creativity with hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) activities with MadScience and Professor Egghead. From building robots to conducting science experiments, these interactive sessions will encourage critical thinking and problem-solving skills in a fun and engaging way.
- **Daily Arts and Crafts:** allowing your child's creativity to come through from painting and sculpting to lanyard keychains, jewelry making and DIY projects, these activities provide opportunities for self-expression and artistic exploration.
- **Outdoor adventures:** while embracing the summer sunshine with nature walks, scavenger hunts, Seaside Lagoon, parks, and outdoor games that will encourage physical activity, teamwork, coordination, and a deeper appreciation for the natural world.
- **Music and Dance:** Whether playing an instrument, choreographing dance routines, Hoop it Up or singing karaoke, these activities foster self-confidence and self-expression through the joy of music and movement.
- **Cooking projects:** getting the students excited about cooking with fun and interactive cooking projects.
- **Literacy:** cultivating a love for reading, creative writing exercises and storytelling activities and public library visits, will inspire imagination and writing skill development.

We're committed to providing a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for your child to thrive this summer. Our CDC team is excited to embark on this journey of learning and discovery, we're excited to create unforgettable memories and experiences with your child this summer!



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South Bay Adult School

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www.southbayadult.org



Dr. Suzanne Webb
Director

California Adult Education Week – South Bay Adult School

From April 7 to April 13, 2024, South Bay Adult School (SBAS) was proud to join the state of California in celebrating Adult Education Week, a time to recognize the incredible achievements and contributions of adult learners and educators. At SBAS, we're privileged to witness the dedication, resilience, and exceptional performance of our teachers, classified staff, counselors, and most importantly, our students.

Our teachers' passion for teaching and commitment to student success inspire us every day. Our classified staff's behind-the-scenes work ensures that SBAS operates smoothly and efficiently. Our counselor's guidance and support play an important role in helping our students navigate their educational journeys and overcome obstacles along the way.

To our students – your persistence, determination, and outstanding performance are truly commendable. You inspire us with your willingness to learn, grow, and achieve your goals, no matter the challenges you face.

We at SBAS would like to take this opportunity to celebrate each other and the remarkable community we have built. Together, we are shaping futures, transforming lives, and making a positive impact on our community.

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Adams Middle School (6–8)

2600 Ripley Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8636 • www.adamsmiddle.org



Andrew Estrada
Principal

We Are Eagles!

Every spring, Adams Middle School hosts an event called We Are Eagles, which is an opportunity for incoming sixth-grade students and families to learn about all the amazing opportunities that are available to Adams students.

The focus of the evening is to showcase our student groups: ASB, WEB (Where Everyone Belongs), intramural sports, FC Sports, Band, and many more! This year's event included a parent/guardian chat with a representative from South Bay Families Connected to share resources and tools to help

their children successfully navigate middle school. The parents were so grateful to walk away from the chat with practical ways to support their children.

After the parent chat, all students and families filled the gym for a rally that included performances from the Adams Cheer team and Adams' award-winning band. The attendees listened to student speakers from various student groups. One of the biggest highlights was revealing the class color for next year's sixth-grade students, which will be their color throughout their time at Adams and RUHS. Orange is the color of the class of 2031!

See you in August, Eagles!



Adams students reveal the incoming 6th grade color for next year at We Are Eagles...Orange!

Alta Vista *Elementary School (K-5)*

815 Knob Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8650 • altavista.rbusd.org



Karin Sato
Principal

Summer Means Taking Learning Outside

By Caroline Alvarado, Assistant Principal

Don't let it stop! With the school year officially ending soon, our students can keep their learning going by taking the learning outside!

Alta Vista recently hosted its annual Science Night filled

with glass blowing, rocket launches, robotic demos, and a touch tank, just to highlight a few. The night was filled with curiosity and amazement as our students took part in learning about how rockets work, the energy of a Blender Bike, and the power of astrology. Summer brings a great opportunity to continue their learning with our summer STEM activities for children. The outdoors always seem to make learning more fun, and what better place is there to learn outside than in the South Bay?

STEM activities can help foster our children's love of learning regardless of background or history. Research indicates that students who participate in STEM-related activities, on a regular basis, can have a greater understanding and ability to define a problem and design a solution. Students are also able to test their solutions and designs, and collect and analyze data. STEM includes science, tech, and math. Through these subjects our students will have a better understanding of geometry and measurement, as well as the process of collecting and organizing data.

One way to be intentional with summer learning is by creating a bucket list. Why not make it a STEM bucket list? Try to complete at least one project a week throughout the summer, or whatever fits your schedule. Try making a lemon volcano (acid and base reaction), a marble run (gravity), or a Popsicle catapult (potential energy). These are a few projects that can create a perfect balance of learning and fun

Whatever is on your bucket list, I hope it includes the kind of things that will inspire your children to come back refreshed, relaxed, and ready to learn. Have a wonderful summer break, and we will see you next school year!



Science Night - High Powered Telescope



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47th Annual Peninsula Baseball Camp
July 22-26 - Boys & Girls age 5-12

47th Annual Peninsula Soccer Camp
July 15-19, July 22-26 - Boys & Girls age 5-14

Fees: Full Day \$300 • Half Day \$170

Time: 9:00am-4:00pm or 9:00am-12:00pm • Monday-Friday

Location: Palos Verdes High School
600 Cloydon Rd., Palos Verdes Estates

**27th Annual Half Day
Peninsula Soccer Camp**

August 5-9, August 12-16
Boys & Girls age 5-12

**20th Annual Half Day
Peninsula Baseball Camp**

July 29-August 2
Boys & Girls age 5-10

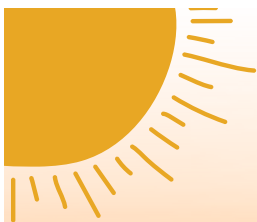
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Location: Ryan Park, Rancho Palos Verdes

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Beryl Heights *Elementary School (K-5)*

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Dr. Maribel Galan
Interim Principal

A Tribute to Our PTA Partnership!

The Beryl Heights Bulldogs would like to highlight the wonderful partnership that we have with our Parent Teacher Association (PTA). We have been amazed with their contributions to our school community throughout this school year. They have supported our community in a number of ways that include the celebration of our educators, support staff, students, and implementation of behavior expectations.

The PTA has also supported those Students of the Month who have been recognized for being PAWs-itive students at Beryl. We are honored to have such an amazing PTA board. They have been such great partners in communicating and messaging important information as we try to keep the momentum on academic performance and positive behavior going strong at Beryl.

Our Beryl community has been through many stages of school life during this past year, and just as the life cycle of a butterfly is unique, the love we have for our Beryl Bulldogs has also allowed us to move forward as partners in the education of our students. As such, the PTA has been raising funds to allow for student opportunities for both in-school and out-of-school experiences as well as teacher opportunities to plan for instruction.

With the continued support of our PTA, Beryl Heights will be able to accomplish extraordinary tasks as long as we continue to place student academic and social emotional well-being at the forefront of all of our decisions. Great appreciation goes out to our wonderful Beryl Heights PTA!

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Eileen Leckenby
Principal

Power of Morning Meetings

At Birney, our philosophy prioritizes not just academic success but the social and emotional wellness of students as well. At the heart of our social-emotional learning (SEL) lies the humble Morning Meeting.

Morning Meetings foster connection, empathy, and a sense of belonging among students. These brief, structured gatherings at the start of each school day provide a space for students and teachers to come

together, share experiences, and build relationships.

Morning Meetings typically involve four key components: greeting, sharing, group activity, and a morning message. During the greeting phase, students and teachers exchange warm hellos, setting a positive tone for the day ahead. This simple act of acknowledgment lays the foundation for a supportive classroom community.

The sharing segment allows students to express themselves authentically, sharing stories, thoughts, and emotions with their peers. Whether it's discussing weekend adventures or sharing personal challenges, this practice cultivates empathy and understanding among classmates. Through active listening and respectful responses,

students learn to validate one another's experiences and perspectives.

Following sharing, a group activity fosters collaboration and teamwork, reinforcing essential social skills. These cooperative games and activities promote inclusivity and cooperation, breaking down social barriers, and fostering a sense of unity among students.

Finally, the morning message—a brief reflection or agenda for the day—provides closure to the meeting, grounding students and setting expectations for the day's learning journey. This ritual offers a moment of mindfulness, encouraging students to center themselves and focus on the tasks ahead.

Birney teachers have implemented Morning Meetings in their classrooms for years, and it's a signature practice on our campus. Bri Rivello, a fifth-grade teacher, said, "I like to do Morning Meetings because it gives every kid the opportunity to speak and be heard. It makes students feel like they belong here. It gives them the opportunity to talk to students that they don't always get to talk to."

Growing up is hard! At Birney, we are proud of our efforts to support students as they navigate complex emotions, develop resilience, and build healthy relationships through Morning Meetings.



Fifth-grade students in Ms. Rivello's greet each other and play a game as a class in their daily Morning Meeting.

Jefferson Elementary School (K-5)

600 Harkness Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8631 • jefferson.rbusd.org



Jeff Winckler
Principal

Planning for Summer

Planning summer activities for children that blend academics with recreation is a fantastic idea to keep them engaged and learning while still having fun! Here's a mix of academic and recreational activities you can consider:

- **Outdoor science camps:** Look for local science camps that take advantage of the outdoors. These can include activities that demonstrate scientific principles.
- **Reading challenges:** Create a summer reading challenge where children can earn rewards for reading a certain number of books.
- **STEM workshops:** Enroll children in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) workshops or classes where they can learn about robotics, coding, or engineering concepts through hands-on activities and projects.
- **Arts and crafts:** Set up a designated arts and crafts area where children can unleash their creativity. Provide them with various materials like paints, clay, beads, and recyclables.

- **Outdoor sports:** Organize outdoor sports activities to keep children active and healthy during the summer months. You can also introduce them to new sports they haven't tried before.
- **Nature exploration:** Plan nature outings such as hiking trips, camping adventures, or visits to botanical gardens or wildlife sanctuaries.
- **Cooking classes:** Teach children basic cooking skills by involving them in meal preparation. Choose simple recipes that they can help with and use them as an opportunity to teach the children about nutrition, measurements, and following instructions.
- **Drama, music, and dance:** Encourage children to explore their musical talents by offering theater, music lessons, or dance classes. Whether it's learning lines in a production, playing an instrument, or practicing dance routines, these activities can be both educational and enjoyable.

Remember to tailor the activities to the interests and age group of the children involved, and don't forget to have fun yourself!



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Lincoln Elementary School (K-5)

2223 Plant Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8631 • lincoln.rbusd.org



Marvin Brown
Principal

Graduation and Celebration

Dear Lincoln Lions: We are here--the final full month of school! After the state testing ends we will have just these last few weeks of late May and early June before the 2023-2024 school year finally comes to a close.

This is always a time of mixed feelings, especially for our fifth-grade students, who have been anticipating their promotion day for years even though it may now suddenly feel like it's arriving too soon! Our Lincoln

staff members eagerly look forward to their next class, and we somberly say goodbye to the fifth-grade students whom we have gotten to know so well over the past six years.

Of all the powerful sentiments that our school community feels during the critical month of May, we would like to promote appreciation, gratitude, and

celebration as an important triad of ideas to focus upon. As you feel anxious because a friend of yours may be going to a different middle school, or is perhaps moving away entirely, you can also feel appreciation for the incredible times that you spent together and the friendship you built during your years at Lincoln.

If you are thinking about how much you'll miss your favorite teachers, you can also thank them for the great experiences that you had, and show your gratitude for their hard work!

And finally, as you may just feel tired and ready for your classes to end and for the summer to begin, you can also celebrate your amazing accomplishments in getting to where you are now. So hang in there, do your best on the state assessments, and finish the third trimester strong. We're in the home stretch now, and summer will be here before you know it!



Lincoln 5th Grade teacher and one of her students enjoy RBUSD Fitness Day for 5th Grade.

Madison Elementary School (K-5)

2200 MacKay Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8623 • madison.rbusd.org



Denine Hollow
Principal

STEM, Robotics, and Summer STEAM

Madison Elementary School stands as a beacon of innovation and educational excellence, where the seeds of post-secondary success are sown early through dynamic initiatives like Lego Robotics and STEM Night. These programs not only ignite a passion for science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM), they also equip our students with

the skills and mindset they need to pursue their post-secondary goals.

At Madison Elementary, Lego Robotics is a hands-on exploration where students can delve into the realms of engineering, coding, and problem-solving, thus laying a solid foundation for future success. This immersive experience not only hones their technical skills, it also fosters crucial attributes like teamwork, resilience, and creativity – qualities that are indispensable for post-secondary endeavors. By participating in Lego Robotics competitions, our students will not only showcase their ingenuity but also gain invaluable exposure to the world of STEAM.

STEM Night at Madison Elementary is an extravaganza that brings together students, parents, and educators to explore the wonders of STEM through engaging activities, demonstrations, and interactive exhibits. By immersing themselves in a diverse array of STEM experiences, students gain valuable insights into potential post-secondary pathways. Through meaningful interactions they will gain a deeper understanding of the opportunities that await them beyond elementary school.

Madison Elementary's commitment to excellence extends far beyond the classroom because of programs like Lego Robotics and STEM Night. By fostering a love for learning, collaboration, and innovation, we are nurturing the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and problem-solvers. As these young innovators embark on their post-secondary journeys they will carry with them the seeds of greatness that were planted in the halls of Madison Elementary.

So get pumped for a STEAM-tastic summer! Explore DIY robotics, build a solar oven, pursue nature scavenger hunts, perform garden experiments, experiment with kitchen chemistry or stargazing and astronomy, visit museums, or even launch a water rocket. Let's spark curiosity, ignite innovation, and make this summer a blast of learning and excitement!



The Chiguluri Brothers work together to build a paper scraper.



First Lego League students learned to imagine and innovate new ways to create and communicate art across the globe for this year's FLL Masterpiece Challenge.

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Parras Middle School (6-8)

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Kathleen Shaw
Principal

Focus on College and Career

When you ask a child what they want to be when they grow up, answers commonly fall within a narrow range of careers that, though noble and essential, are far from representative of the many opportunities available to them. Our annual Career Day serves as a vital opportunity to broaden students' ideas of career options and deepen their understanding of options that interest them.

We had a wide variety of industries represented, and students were able to review the various options and design their day based on their interests. Presenters were passionate about what they do, and they did a tremendous job of explaining their careers and connecting the valuable role that their educational experiences had on their career paths.

There is value in students considering a variety of careers and understanding the steps along the way that prepare them for those careers. It is inspiring to witness our community's generosity

as professionals from various fields share their insights and experiences, helping our students envision exciting possibilities for their futures. We are thankful to counselor Ms. MacMillan, who plans the event, and to our entire staff that comes together to make for a smooth and meaningful day for students.

As we approach the summer break, I encourage our students to continue exploring career paths. Researching different professions and the steps required to achieve them can be an enriching summer experience. By doing so, students not only discover new interests but also gain valuable insights into the educational pathways available to them, including the variety offered at Redondo Union High School (RUHS) that align with their aspirations.

At Parras Middle School, we take great pride in our community's commitment to nurturing and empowering our students for future success. Together, we continue to cultivate an environment where curiosity thrives and students are inspired to dream of their future while understanding the practical steps it will take to get there.



Chief Crowley inspires and educates students about careers in firefighting.



Students are all smiles as they show off their Career Day swag.

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Anthony Bridi
Principal

On Our Way to Wellness

By Molly Lower, Assistant Principal

Each year we ask our students to focus on the RUHS' Top Three: Take care of yourself, Take care of each other, and Take care of our beautiful campus. Under the direction of Rachel Andrews, the RUHS Wellness Center counselors and student-peer counselors provide our Sea Hawks with skills and a safe space to nurture their own social-emotional well-being and look out for each other, thus helping to make our campus a more beautiful and welcoming place to be.

The staff in the Wellness Center is small but mighty. Supporting at least 50 students each day, the Wellness Center provides a range of offerings to all Sea Hawks, including social-emotional health videos viewed during SSH, mental health first-aid from trained peer counselors, individual counseling, weekly group counseling, and student and parent workshops created with community partners. RUHS believes in a proactive and holistic approach to wellness, and the Wellness Center is integral to enacting this vision.

While individual counseling is tailored to the needs of each student, group sessions are also formed in response to student needs. Current groups include the Connections Group to help students overcome barriers to attending school and make positive connections with one another. There is also the Stress Management Group, where students work together on coping strategies for current stressors, and the Coping with Change Group, where

students focus on grief and loss as a result of major life changes such as death, divorce, or other major transitions.

The Wellness Center regularly hosts workshops to support students in a variety of ways, including how to utilize relaxation strategies, process world events, manage trauma, and even discuss the mental health themes of the Barbie movie. Our community partners, the South Bay Children's Health Center and Clear Behavioral Health, collaborate with the Wellness Center to provide restorative opportunities and targeted interventions for substance abuse prevention as well as social-emotional wellness.

Families, staff, and the students themselves can sign up for an appointment at the Wellness Center on the RUHS website. If students prefer a more casual visit, they can always drop by during snack, lunch, or passing periods to relax on the rainbow bench outside or on a comfy couch inside, grab a cup of hot chocolate, or participate in a meeting of the RUHS National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Club.

Being a teenager in 2024 comes with many challenges that those of us in education did not experience in our high school years. We know that we need to adapt to better serve our youth, and so the RUHS Wellness Center is committed to providing real-time support to students, parents, and staff to ensure the overall well-being of everyone involved in the education of our young people.

Our goal is to foster motivation and increase the resilience of our Sea Hawks so that they can learn the skills they need to authentically navigate their own path in an increasingly complex world. The RUHS Wellness Center is fundamental to making this goal possible for all Sea Hawks.



Students meet in the RUHS Wellness Center for NAMI Club.

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Alexandra Glunt
Principal

Morning March Madness

The RBUSD's morning exercise program has become a cornerstone of our effort to help promote holistic well-being in our students by combining physical activity with mindfulness practices that can nurture healthy bodies and focused minds. This not only benefits our students' physical health, it can also enhance their cognitive abilities and emotional regulation.

The Tulita morning exercise program incorporates a variety of physical activities that range from simple stretches to more dynamic movements like jumping jacks and yoga poses. These exercises not only energize our students and get their blood flowing, they also improve flexibility, coordination, and overall physical fitness. Regular physical activity has been shown to offer a number of benefits for children, including better concentration, improved mood, and reduced stress levels.



Mrs. Hammerschmitt's class practices mindfulness during the final round where they represented the Montana State Bobcats, and were ultimately crowned champions of Tulita's March Madness

In addition to the physical component, Tulita Elementary's program also integrates mindfulness practices into our daily routine. Mindfulness exercises such as deep breathing, meditation, and guided relaxation help our students develop self-awareness, emotional resilience, and the ability to focus attention. These practices have been linked to improved academic performance, better social interactions, and increased overall well-being.

One of the highlights of the year is the NCAA March Madness style bracket, where each class participates in a friendly competition. This year each of the classrooms selected a college or university team and competed to be crowned our "Morning Exercises March Madness Champions"! This competition not only added an element of excitement and motivation to our campus, it also helped foster a college-going culture at the elementary grade level. By introducing students to different colleges and universities through fun activities and discussions at an early age, Tulita is instilling the importance of higher education.

Overall, our morning exercise program stands out for its holistic approach to student well-being by combining physical activity with good mindfulness practices. By nurturing healthy bodies, focused minds, and a positive outlook, this program is helping to shape well-rounded individuals who are prepared for success both inside and outside the classroom.



3rd grade students show their spirit and represent their team, the Auburn Tigers

Washington Elementary School (K-5)

1100 Lilienthal Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8641 • washington.rbusd.org



Dr. Alyssa O'Grady
Principal

Shaping Future Leaders

Washington Elementary School offers its students the opportunity to participate in a variety of organizations that cater to their interests and talents. Three organizations in particular that stand out on campus are Battle of the Books, Leadership, and Robotics.

Battle of the Books is a popular program that encourages students to read a selection of books and compete in a quiz-style competition against other schools. The program not only promotes a love for reading, it also fosters good teamwork and critical-thinking skills. Students work together to prepare for competitions that help them develop strong communication skills and build confidence in their abilities. This year, Washington Elementary also received first place in our district-wide Battle of the Books competition.

Leadership is another organization at Washington Elementary that provides our students with the opportunity to take on roles of responsibility within the

school community. Students are able to learn valuable skills such as decision-making, communication, and organization. These experiences help children develop a sense of ownership and pride in their school while also building their leadership skills for the future.

Lastly, the Robotics Club at Washington Elementary allows students to explore their interests in technology and engineering through hands-on projects and competitions. Students work together to design, build, and program robots to complete specific tasks and challenges. Through this organization, students develop problem-solving skills, teamwork, and an understanding of STEM concepts that will be valuable in their future academic and career paths.

Overall, these three organizations offer Washington Elementary students the opportunity to engage in extracurricular activities that not only enhance their academic abilities but also promote personal growth and development. By participating in Battle of the Books, Leadership, and Robotics, our students are able to explore their interests, build relationships with their peers, and develop the kind of skills that will benefit them in the various facets of their lives.



Washington students received 1st place in the district wide Battle of the Books Competition and the Regional Robotics Competition.

Starting Kindergarten



Jodie Lynn

Q. Our daughter will be starting kindergarten in the fall. What are some things we can work on with her?

A. Reading to, talking to, asking questions of and involving a child in their own education will provide a healthy boost to readiness for kindergarten and life in general. See if your school has a recommended list of books to read with your child. There are many that can stoke a young

imagination and encourage children to learn even more. I'm also still a firm believer in magnetized alphabet letters

placed on the refrigerator. Kids can see them several times a day and play with them. The magnets can also teach colors and enhance fine motor skills the more they are played with. This helps build hand-eye coordination, which is essential for using a pencil and many other things in life. Solving puzzles can also help their strength and steadiness in using tools like scissors, which can be very frustrating at first. Please remember that stressed out parents often lead to stressed out kids. My final piece of advice is to do your absolute best to take it all in stride. Be prepared to be unprepared...that's ok. There'll be bigger potholes in the future.

A Helicopter Parent

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

A. There have been overbearing and overprotective parents for years; don't beat yourself up too badly. It's easy for parents to go overboard when it comes to their kids. However, this can continue into college years and beyond, but it doesn't have to. Let go of this habit, even if it takes a lot of time; it's necessary. Your parenting style and the way you view your children will need to change. You'll need to

allow them to get used to the idea that they can actually try things on their own and whatever the outcome, it's all going to be okay in the end. Go ahead and sign them up for things that they are truly interested in and will most likely do well at. A few successes will build their self-confidence and they will perhaps want to do more things that are new and different. Just be sure that you stop yourself if you think about interfering unnecessarily, even if you know that they're heading for something rough. It's the mistakes and bumps in life that we all learn from that make us stronger individuals, better able to handle future situations. We have to be allowed to fail.

Brothers Constantly Fighting

Q. I have two boys, ages 12 and 14, and they are constantly fighting. It's getting to the point that they're actually punching each other. It's scary to me. Any tips on what to do to help them get along better?

A. Be thoughtful in how you handle this. It can be easy to take a side based on what has happened in previous years with one or both of the kids. If one child is consistently in trouble, either at home or school, you may have a tendency to take the other's side in a random argument. Given the ages of your children, fighting and verbal abuse can seem to be especially intense. This may be due to one of them already being a teenager and the other being nearly there. Some of the common areas of

conflict between siblings this age are friends, possessions, personal space and respect. Try to defuse any argument that you feel has a potentially explosive ending by making sure that they're both heard and acknowledged; let them know that it's good to have different opinions and those opinions should be respected. Set up family rules about hurtful name-calling and hitting. Never hesitate to tell them when they both need to go to their rooms to cool off before things escalate. Otherwise, try to let them work out their own situation as long as they're not throwing punches. Always remember to follow through with any consequences that you set for rules being broken.

Jodie Lynn is an award winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best selling author.
www.ParentToParent.com

Aubtin's Review



Aubtin M.

Survive the Fire!

Title: *I Survived – The Great Chicago Fire, 1871*

Author: Lauren Tarshis

I Survived book series is a #1 New York Times bestselling series. The series is about different children who survive famous (and deadly) historical disasters.

In this book, Oscar Starling is forced to move to Chicago with his mother and live with a man named Mr. Morrow after his father died in a storm. But shortly after he arrives, Oscar encounters a huge and deadly fire. In addition to that, Oscar needs to help two orphans named Jennie and Bruno. Will Oscar survive the fire and save Jennie and Bruno? I recommend you read this book to find out.



This book is historical, educational, and also hilarious. I hope that you will like it and learn about The Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which killed hundreds of people.

Aubtin is a 2nd Grader. When not playing, Aubtin does writing, reading, and drawing. He also likes sports, trains, cars and computers. He cares a lot about his family and friends.

Kailani's Review



Kailani T.

Is Growing Apart Part of Growing Up?

Title: *Jake and Lily* by Jerry Spinelli

Jake and Lily by Jerry Spinelli is a novel about twins. Jake and Lily have always been close and have always done everything together. When they turn 11 and in middle school, their parents tell them it's time to separate bedrooms.



Jake starts spending more time with the boys while Lily is devastated and feels abandoned. Why can't twins keep being a shadow of one another forever? Is it expected for twins to do separate things and hang out with different friends when they get older? Will Jake and Lily get to spend a lot of time together ever again?

There is a lot of heartfelt and funny moments in this novel. I can relate since I am in middle school and I personally know a few pairs of boy/girl twins. Reading this book makes me think of those friends with their twins. Some struggle to separate from their twins while others still want to have them around and still want to do everything with their twins. I give this book 5 stars.

Kailani is a 6th grader who loves to read. When not reading, Kailani likes to play with her brother, jump on the trampoline, listen to music, and choreograph fun dances with her friends.

Madeleine's Review



Madeleine J.

Carly's Halloween Mask

Title: *The Haunted Mask*

Author: R.L. Stine

The Haunted Mask is book #18 of the scary series *Goosebumps* by R.L. Stine. The characters from this book are Carly Beth, Sabrina, Carly Beth's mom, Sabrina's mom, Chuck, Steve, and a party store owner.



Carly Beth bought a mask at the party store, because it is approaching Halloween and the mask is her costume. The mask is "haunted" because whoever wears it, it becomes their face! The author's writing style is horror, because he makes the book sound horrific and scary to readers, by twisting the story and adding lots of cliffhangers. In fact, at the end of every chapter, there is always a cliffhanger! You should read this book because it's scary but fun to read.

Madeleine is in 4th grade, and she likes to do martial arts, and she has a passion for drawing, swimming, making stories, and reading books.

Taegyung's Book Review



Taegyung K.

Gifted or Not

Title: *Counting by 7s*

Author: Holly Goldberg Sloan

Willow Chance is adopted, but her parents love her intensely for who she is. In Kindergarten, tests confirm she is gifted. But when a teacher gives



her class a standardized test the first week of middle school and Willow scores 100 percent, she is sent to the principal's office for cheating. In turn, the principal assigns Willow to attend sessions with a behavioral counselor, Dell Duke, who hates children. When Willow meets Mai Nguyen, who soon becomes her friend. Since Willow has no known relatives, she's forced to reside with Dell Duke until she can find a foster home. As Mai takes matters into her own hands, the story takes a charming turn. "Counting by 7s" is a thoughtful story about dealing with losses and coping with being different than others. It's both heart-wrenching yet beautifully crafted at the same time.

Taegyung K. is a 8th grader. She loves reading books and writing her own stories. Also, she likes to draw and play video games.

Los Angeles County Office of Education

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Fostering Environmental Stewardship at LACOE



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

As we celebrate Earth Month this April, the Los Angeles County Office of Education is proud to champion a range of innovative initiatives that empower students, educators and communities to become leaders in environmental stewardship.

Learning by Doing: Immersing Students in Nature's Classroom

Nature serves as our greatest classroom, and Our Outdoor and Marine Science Field Study unit provides unparalleled opportunities for students to connect with the natural world. The cornerstone programs, the Outdoor Science School and the Marine Science Floating Lab, offer immersive, hands-on learning experiences.

Fifth and sixth graders can embark on a transformative journey at the Outdoor Science School, a residential program nestled in the San Gabriel Mountains. This five-day adventure fosters a deep appreciation for nature through exploration, experimentation and connection with the local ecosystem.

Meanwhile, the Marine Science Floating Lab takes students on a thrilling exploration of the vibrant marine life in San Pedro Bay. Through a combination of scientific instruments and close observation, students uncover the wonders of the ocean and its crucial role in our planet's health. Both programs are testaments to the power of learning through direct experience in nature.

Building a Greener Future: Empowering Educators and Schools

The History-Social Science unit supports districts and schools who wish to submit and apply for the Green Ribbon school designation. The unit also provides opportunities to learn about civics engagement, combining History-Social Science content with science for students to earn the State Seal of Civic Engagement.

The STEM Science unit complements these efforts through a range of customized workshops for schools and districts. These interactive sessions delve into Environmental Literacy, Climate Change solutions and Sustainable Materials use. By equipping educators with knowledge and resources, we empower them to integrate environmental principles into the curriculum, fostering a generation of environmentally conscious citizens.

Collaboration for a Sustainable Future: The Green Schools Symposium

Our annual Green Schools Symposium serves as a vibrant hub for educators, administrators, and sustainability enthusiasts. This event offers a platform for sharing best practices, learning from sustainability experts and discovering innovative approaches to creating eco-friendly schools. Workshops on sustainable facilities management and advancements in green technology showcase the dynamic possibilities of a greener future for our schools.

These initiatives are just a glimpse into our unwavering commitment to environmental sustainability. By fostering a culture of environmental awareness and action within our schools, we empower students and educators to become stewards of our planet, building a brighter and more sustainable future for generations to come.