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Covering the Fountain Valley, Ocean View, and Westminster School Districts

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MAY 2021

Ocean View Students Back in School 5 Days a Week!

*By Patricia Singer, President,
Ocean View School District
Board of Trustees*

I am proud to say that Ocean View School District was one of the first school districts in California to welcome students back to school for in-person learning in September 2020. Ocean View continues to be a leader in the state and has now transitioned from an in-person hybrid schedule to bringing back students in all grade levels for in-person instruction five days a week. The phased transition began with elementary students in March and recently concluded with our middle school students.

Once the California Department of Public Health reduced social distancing requirements in schools, we were able to determine how to safely configure our classrooms and hire additional staff so that we could bring our students back to school every day.

Since September, we have been very successful in creating a safe environment in our schools, and we are elated to be able to increase the valuable time that students spend with their teachers! This is what we have continuously strived for, as we know what an important role being in school plays in a child's educational achievement, health, and wellbeing.

Dr. Carol Hansen, our Superintendent, says "Being in school provides students with a vital mix of academic and social interactions. We are thrilled to provide more opportunities for our students to make those important connections."

Bringing students back to school five days a week is another big step towards normalcy for our students and staff. We are currently preparing to open our 2021-22 school year with students being back at school full-time and resuming pre-Covid schedules and activities.



OVSD Board President Patricia Singer with Lake View Elementary first graders in Mrs. Veal's class.



OVSD Board President Patricia Singer with Lake View Elementary third graders in Mr. Basaez's class.

The District is also committed to providing parents instructional options and offers a K-8 Virtual Academy for those families that found that their child thrived in an on-line learning format, or for those that just do not feel ready to return to school.

I would like to thank our teachers, classified staff,

administration, our Superintendent and my fellow Board of Trustees, for their unwavering commitment to the children in our District. There is no question that this has been a year like no other, but we have weathered the storm well and we are looking forward to a bright future!

For more information, please visit www.ovsd.org

School Districts Inside: Fountain Valley pages 5-8, Ocean View pages 9-13, Westminster pages 14-18



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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



It is wonderful to see a bit of normalcy returning to our lives and that begins with students back in the classrooms.

This is the time of year when districts honor teachers and classified employees of the year. I would like to thank all of the district employees for their dedication to educating our youth in a clean, safe environment.

Be sure to enter our word search contest on page 19 (all ages may enter).

Our next issue is June 2.

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*By Chantel Rothenburger and Danny Luna, coordinators
 Injury Prevention Program,
 MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach*



Safety is Key to a Fun-Filled Summer!

Temperatures are rising and summer is around the corner! As COVID-19 restrictions lift and friends and family begin to gather outside, make sure to keep safety top of mind. Follow our tips to have a safe and fun summer:

Sun Safety: Sunburns are caused by overexposure to UV rays and can increase the risk of skin cancer.

- Seek shade. UV rays are strongest and most harmful during midday.
- Wear hats that shade the face, scalp, ears and neck.
- Apply sunscreen with at least SPF 15 and UVA and UVB (broad spectrum protection) 30 minutes before going outside and reapply as needed!

Water Safety: Every day, about 10 people die from unintentional drowning.

- Never leave your child in the water without adult supervision, no matter how shallow.
- We recommend using US Coast Guard-approved floatation devices.
- Enroll your child in swimming lessons.
- Install barriers, such as fencing around a swimming pool.

Bug Safety: Protect your family by preventing bites and diseases, like West Nile virus and Lyme disease, which can be transmitted by insects.

- Avoid areas where insects congregate, such as stagnant pools of water.
- Use insect repellents containing DEET.
 - The CDC recommendation for children older than 2-months-of-age is to use 10% to 30% DEET.
 - DEET should not be used on children younger than 2-months-old.
 - Avoid applying DEET on hands, around eyes or mouth.
 - Do not allow children under 10 years of age to apply repellent by themselves.
- When outside in the evenings, cover up with long-sleeved shirts, pants and socks



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Fountain Valley School District

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SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Mark Johnson

FVSD Proudly Names Amy Jara District Teacher of the Year!

Amy Jara, English Language Arts teacher at Masuda Middle School, is simply remarkable. She embodies everything good in our profession and in our District. It should come as no surprise then that she is our Teacher of the Year 2021!

Ms. Jara has been a part of the FVSD Family for the last sixteen years. Since joining Masuda, she quickly established herself as a highly skilled and gifted educator. She has continued to grow as a teacher and has made numerous contributions to various committees and leadership teams throughout the district. Moreover, Ms. Jara has always been a team player. She takes any duty in stride and gives it her all, making a difference for both students and staff members.



Masuda's Amy Jara, joined by her husband, Paul, honored as FVSD's Teacher of the Year 2021.

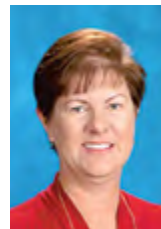
Ms. Jara sets high expectations, works tirelessly to grow as an educator, is extremely collaborative and is driven to ensure all students learn at high levels. She has proven herself time and time again as someone we can count on. It is truly a privilege to honor Ms. Amy Jara as FVSD's Teacher of the Year!

Principal Jay Adams noted, "As an administrator, I am blessed by Amy's team player, "will-do" work ethic. She has a motivated, giving mindset, which I know I can always count on to benefit the entire Masuda Family. Not only the kids, but her teaching peers as well, benefit immensely from all that Amy has to offer! It is absolutely my privilege to work with such a fine teacher as Amy..." And colleagues agree, stating, "Amy is an excellent teacher and always gives her students new and exciting ways to engage in the learning process, virtually and in-person...She is an indispensable member of the Masuda community."

Board of Trustees



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Member

Welcome Back!

By Lisa Schultz, President Pro-Tem, Board of Trustees

It is with great excitement that all of our campuses welcomed hybrid students back to campus to finish the school year in a modified traditional format! On April 26th, our elementary students returned for full day instruction and on May 3rd, our middle school students came back to campus full time, both five days a week.

Increased on campus time for our hybrid students has been a goal for the Board of Trustees, further emphasized by our directive to staff at the special meeting on March 31st and we are all thrilled to see the return to a more normal school day for our students. We join the District in expressing our heartfelt appreciation to our teachers, support staff and administrators for their ongoing passion, effort, dedication and commitment to our students, families and one another. Without their efforts, this would not be possible. In addition, we thank our families and students for their patience and understanding as we adjust to the newest health and safety guidelines that allow us to bring students back to school for more in-person instruction.

While there have been challenges this year, seeing so many work together to get our students back into class for daily instruction has been wonderful. We join the many smiling faces we saw on these first full days back in celebrating our fantastic students' return!

FVSD Connected *(Virtual TK 5/6—8)*

www.fvds.us



Erik Miller
Principal

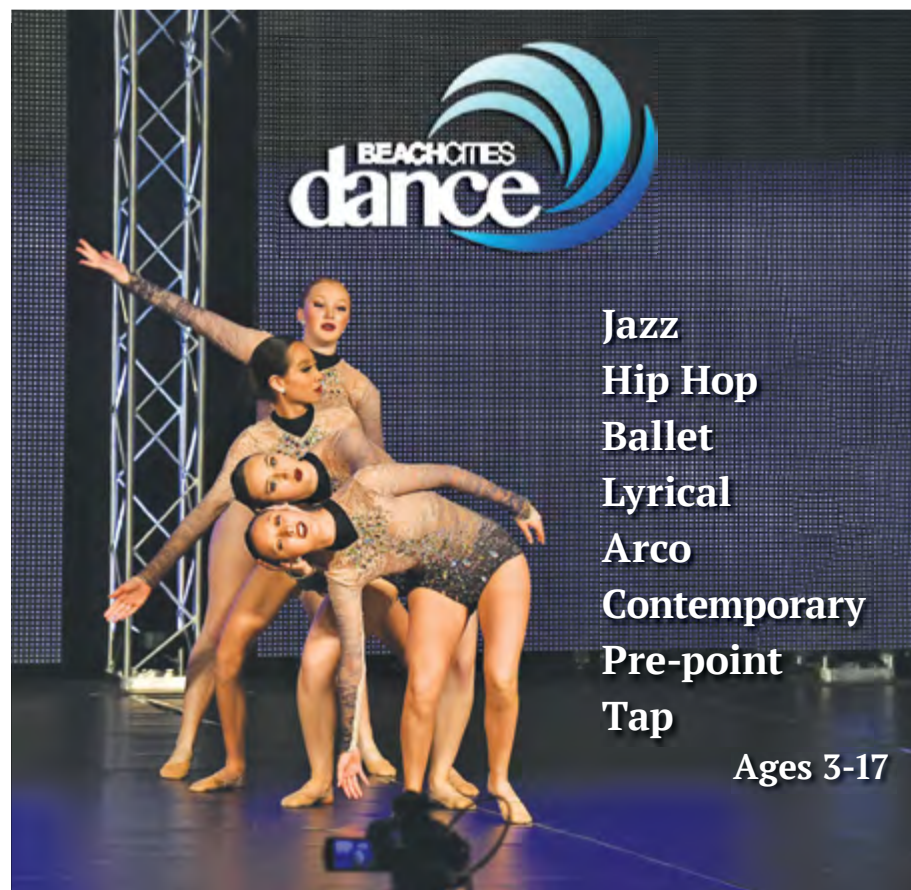
Congratulations to Mrs. Angie Sanderson FVSDConnected Teacher of the Year

This is a unique year, which has pushed each of us to be flexible, patient, and dedicated, often to levels previously thought unattainable. Our FVSDConnected Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Angie Sanderson, has been a leader in all these areas! With so many exceptional teachers in our virtual program, this makes her recognition even more well-deserved. Mrs. Sanderson has 15 students in her program, ranging from grades kindergarten through eight, and she has worked tirelessly to connect with each



Mrs. Angie Sanderson

individual student, and their family. She recognizes the importance of partnering with parents to provide instructional leadership and support online. Every educator, regardless of their role, can learn from this incredible teacher. Her willingness to always help others, her positive attitude, and personable approach building relationships, make Mrs. Sanderson stand out as incredible and amazing! We feel blessed and fortunate to call Mrs. Sanderson a colleague, and an amazing educator who puts kids first in all she does, always with humility and confidence to find the best in everyone.



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Roch Courreges *Elementary (K-5)*

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Chris Christensen
Principal

New Reading Teachers at Courreges

Courreges Elementary welcomes two new staff members, Colette Kasowski and Shelley Augustus, who are currently teaching reading to students in grades 1st-3rd grade. The Courreges reading intervention program (a.k.a. “Cougar Reading Den”) is an intensive reading program that uses the Fountas & Pinnell (F & P) Leveled Literacy Intervention program to target each student’s reading fluency and comprehension; with the goal of increasing each of their reading levels (ranging A-Z) by one F & P level for every 2-3 weeks of instruction. Courreges is thrilled and so appreciative to have Mrs. Kasowski and Mrs. Augustus supporting our students’ reading growth during this unique and unprecedented school year.



James H. Cox *Elementary (K-5)*

17615 Los Jardines E., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4240 • www.cox.fvdsd.us



Cara Robinson
Principal

Reading Intervention

Reading intervention is in full swing at Cox Elementary. In March, we welcomed two new teachers to our family: Kerry Langley-Doan and Maryann Chen to run reading intervention groups for struggling readers throughout the day. These two teachers have done an amazing job setting up their program, collaborating with colleagues, and providing much-needed reading instruction to our students in kindergarten through third grade. The work these two do every day is so important for our students and we look forward to seeing more and more growth in our students’ reading abilities as we finish out the school year.



Harry C. Fulton *Middle School (6-8)*

8778 El Lago St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-2816 • www.fulton.fvdsd.us



Erin Bains
Principal



Julie Gonzales
Assistant Principal

Congratulations, Ms. Haro!

Fulton is proud to nominate Jessica Haro as our 2020–21 Teacher of the Year! Ms. Haro has been teaching for 12 years in the Fountain Valley School District. She has dedicated herself to her students and to the classroom. Ms. Haro is an amazing teacher!

According to a nominating peer, “Jessica is an amazing speech and language teacher. She works well with the kiddos and has done great work with our SPED population. Jessica not only works well with our students, she is a team player. She is always so accommodating with staff and parents. Students love her and look forward to going to speech.”

Another peer stated, “Jessica works tirelessly to help her students. She goes out of her way to assist them every way she can. Jessica’s students love her! I know all the students that Jessica and I share love it when it’s time to go see her. She makes them feel confident and respected, and she creates a safe and caring environment for them so they can be successful.”

Through this nomination process, it is obvious how respected Ms. Haro is by her peers. Numerous teachers said that students love going to speech. Ms. Haro works closely with families, and even when students graduate from speech, she is always there for them. Congratulations, Ms. Haro!



Robert Gisler *Elementary (K-5)*

18720 Las Flores, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4211 • www.gisler.fvdsd.us



Teri Malpass
Principal

Thank You Measure O!

Thanks to Measure O, Gisler Elementary is in its final stages of modernization with our last move taking place in just a few days! Teachers and students are excited to get back into their classrooms after being in portable buildings for approximately 9 weeks! Gisler has four core buildings with each core being a phase of construction. Construction began back in July, and here we are in late April and all of Gisler’s classrooms and office have new carpet, roofing, flooring, windows, air conditioning, paint and a new fire and alarm system. The speed of the construction was amazing! Each core took approximately 9 weeks which allowed students and teachers to only be displaced in portables for a very short period of time. Teachers and students are very proud of their new classrooms and all of the upgrades. Thank you, Measure O for making Gisler beautiful!



Kazuo Masuda *Middle School (6-8)*

17415 Las Jardines W., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4250 • www.masuda.fvdsd.us



Jay Adams
Principal



Matt Ploski
Assistant Principal

Masuda's Future Stars!

During the month of February, Masuda School recognized some of our outstanding students: Masuda's Students of the Year for the 2020-2021 school year. At the school board meeting held on February 11th, we had a virtual celebration to honor these fabulous students for their accomplishments and for their exceptional contributions to our school.



Katelyn Smith celebrates her special honor!

We are proud to applaud: Katelyn Smith and Alan Do, Sixth Grade; Amanda Orliczky and Brandon Lam, Seventh Grade; and Karen Mekhaiel and Brandon Clausi, Eighth Grade. The entire school staff is extremely proud of their accomplishments—not to mention incredibly thankful for the opportunity to work with such stellar students.

William T. Newland *Elementary (K-5)*

8787 Dolphin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4200 • www.newland.fvdsd.us



Christopher Mullin
Principal

Newland Honors Mrs. Marczinko

Newland is proud to announce our Teacher of the Year, Jenna Marczinko. Mrs. Marczinko exemplifies the virtues of a wonderful teacher. She truly loves her students and has a deep respect for the profession. She is a fierce defender of students, and is a tremendous resource to the entire Newland staff as well as staff throughout the district.

Jenna Marczinko is obsessive about educating her students and always seems to have the highest amount of energy when she is with them. She goes far beyond the classroom to make sure everyone of her students learn! Mrs. Marczinko has worked with other teachers to transform the way her classroom works in terms of small grouping and differentiated instruction. She just has this way with students that is infectious. You can tell she loves teaching. She is truly a pillar of the school. In other words, Jenna Marczinko is an exemplary teacher and one Newland is proud to call our own.



Isojiro Oka *Elementary (K-5)*

9800 Yorktown Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4260 • www.oka.fvdsd.us



Julie Ballesteros
Principal

Oka Wolfpack Read -a-Thon!

Oka Elementary School has developed many opportunities for students to become inspired to read every day! This year we hosted our first Wolfpack Read-a-Thon fundraiser. The Oka staff and PTO dedicated a whole month to reading fun that encouraged students to read, through a variety of literature-based activities.

Each week students participated in engaging reading challenges and interactive activities inspired by a famous book from author Dr. Seuss. Students from Kindergarten through fifth grade received pledges from families and friends for every minute they read. Their efforts resulted in raising over \$15,000 to support our school! Students earned prizes and fun opportunities with their teachers while developing a true love of reading. We are very proud of all our students' dedication and we are extremely thankful for the generous support of our community.



Oka 5th graders displayed their creativity on our Crazy Hat and Sock Spirit Day

Urbain H. Plavan *Elementary (K-5)*

9675 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/378-4230 • www.plavan.fvdsd.us



Dr. Patrick Ham
Principal

Celebrating Excellence: Stephanie Reza

Plavan School is proud to announce our 2021 Teacher of the Year: Stephanie Reza. Ms. Reza is simply an excellent instructor who continues to work and develop her craft. She is funny, thoughtful and kind, and she knows her students and uses their individual interests to maximize their engagement and learning in the classroom. Ms. Reza is part of our dynamic fifth-grade team.

"I love having Stephanie as my partner teacher," Kelly Rutter said. "We have worked together for the past three years, and it is truly the best. She is a thoughtful, intentional teacher who truly addresses the individual needs of all her students. She makes learning fun and gives the students ownership in their learning. I can't tell you how many students have



Ms. Stephanie Reza (middle) with partner Mrs. Rutter

shared with me that they have grown to love math after being in Miss Reza's class. Her passion and enthusiasm are contagious, and her students come to school excited for what's to come."

Prior to teaching, Ms. Reza earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from UCLA (Go Bruins!) and her master's degree in teaching from UCI. We are extremely lucky to have such a gifted teacher be part of the Plavan family!

Congratulations, Ms. Reza! We feel truly blessed to have you here at Plavan!

Samuel E. Talbert *Middle School (6-8)*

9101 Brabham Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646 • 714/378-4220 • www.talbert.fvds.us



Jennifer Morgan
Principal



Molly Kuykendall
Assistant Principal

Teacher of the Year

This year at Talbert we celebrate Ashly Robinson as 2021 Teacher of the Year. She is in her 5th year of teaching Language Arts and History at Talbert. Mrs. Robinson is the epitome of what a Teacher of the Year should be. She goes over and beyond in every capacity of her job and the focus of all of her work is always the students. In her role as Tech Coordinator, she shoots “how-to” videos on various digital

tools for teachers as well as sends her weekly email, “Tech Tip Tuesday.” Ashly owns the responsibility of empowering all students with lifelong learning skills and intrinsic motivation to affect them the rest of their lives. Most importantly she makes learning fun for her students. Ashly Robinson has the passion of a T-Bird, the heart to help any kid, and the talent to be Talbert’s 2021 Teacher of the Year!



Hisamatsu Tamura *Elementary (K-5)*

17340 Santa Suzanne St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/375-6226 • www.tamura.fvds.us



Kathy Davis
Principal

Techno Tigers - Team # 46117

By Gavin Soni, Student - 6Th Grade

Due to our commitment and hard work and the dedication of our coaches, Mrs. Dao, Coach David, and Mrs. Lieu, we were able to collect two awards from the 2021 Orange Qualifiers Competition. The first award was the Coach/Mentor Award, dedicated to Mrs. Dao, our lead coach who puts in hard work and teaches us the core values to help us in life. The second award was the ultimate Orange County Champions Award. This award goes to the team that is the strongest in all categories. It goes to the children who unite to form a team and inspires people about the excitement of technology and engineering, while showing respect and encouragement. This award meant a lot to all of us and coaches.



Our team includes four 6th graders (Gavin Soni, Ayden Luu, Namon Nguyen, Tyler Lieu) from Fulton and two 5th graders (Emily Nguyen, Alex Lieu) from Tamura.



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by D. H. Coop

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The Morning Dove is a madcap satire set in a small beach town. When an early morning small fire breaks out in a vacant theater, Mabel, the town gossip, starts a chain of events that has local, state, and federal governments in a state of panic. The fire is a catalyst for Mabel’s colorful imagination. As the hysteria spreads, some of the politicians use the news reporters to promote their personal agendas. Not one to shy from the spotlight, Mabel seems to be everywhere the cameras are.

The fire inspector, C. E. Hall, arrives upon the chaotic scene to investigate and separate fact from fiction. During his investigation, C. E. learns more about the residents’ characteristics and often odd behaviors that make for a hilarious story.

Ocean View School District

17200 Pinehurst Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2551 • www.ovsd.org

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Carol Hansen

Extraordinary Employees!

It's that time of year when we recognize those employees that rise to the top and really go the extra mile. Throughout the past year, I have to say that ALL of our staff members went above and beyond, and I am proud of the way our team pulled together to navigate through uncharted waters. That being said, we still have team members that are deserving of special recognition.

Two exceptional teachers were selected as OVSD's Teachers of the Year:

Anne Brasie, Teacher of the Year - Elementary School
Noel Clancy, Teacher of the Year - Middle School

Mrs. Brasie, a Virtual Academy/Circle View Elementary teacher, is considered an expert on all things GATE, and she led a large letter writing campaign this year to show appreciation for our local essential workers. Mrs. Clancy, a Vista View Middle School math and science teacher, is a product of OVSD and is known as the resident technology whiz that never hesitates to lend her expertise to colleagues, students, and parents. Mrs. Brasie is serving as OVSD's nominee for Orange County Teacher of the Year, to be announced in May.



Five outstanding individuals were selected by their peers to represent the "best of the best" among Ocean View's more than 500 classified employees. Classified employees play an integral role in the success of OVSD. Their jobs support the education of our students and the operations of the District.

Talin Atachian, Classified Employee of the Year - Child Nutrition Category.

Sergio Laris, Classified Employee of the Year - Maintenance and Operations Category

Tung Ngo, Classified Employee of the Year - Para Educator and Instructional Assistance Category

Tawn O'Connell, Classified Employee of the Year - Support Services and Security Category

Cindy Pulfer, Classified Employee of the Year - Office and Technical Category

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express our deep appreciation and gratitude for OVSD's exemplary Teachers of the Year and Classified Employees of the Year!

Board of Trustees



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Nicole Baitx-Kennedy
Director of Child Development Programs

OVSD Preschool programs have an inclusive preschool model. The inclusive preschool program has a continuum including; intensive, strategic, and universal classes. The staff include Certificated Special Education Teachers, Classified Educators, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) instructional Assistants, Associate Educators, and Instructional Assistants. This is a team of trained support for your youngest learners. I am thrilled to highlight Westmont Preschool in this edition. The teachers at Westmont work on group dynamics as well as individual student goals. Teachers were asked, "What is it you look forward to everyday?" and here are a few of their responses:



"Seeing the kids' faces when they are excited to talk about the topics in our class" -Mrs. Shelia

"It is so amazing that every day the kids learn and grow!"- Mrs. Kate

"Working with my kids is new every day and we learn together every day"- Mrs. Angela

"Seeing the children grow and making friends"- Mrs. Yezmin

Pictured below: students from Mrs. Yezmin's class, collaborative play outside. Making friends!

Circle View *Elementary (K-5)*

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5305 • www.ovsd.org/circle



Jessica Haag
Principal

And We're Back!

Circle View Elementary, along with all elementary schools in the Ocean View School District, is filled with excitement that we have brought all our elementary students back to school for five days a week! This was done in phases by grade-level to switch from a hybrid schedule to five days a week, in-person instruction. In order to follow new school reopening guidelines, class sizes were reduced. Our classes were reconfigured to accommodate the new smaller sizes and we had the great opportunity to hire nine new wonderful teachers. We have introductions for all of



Third grade students proudly showing three fingers representing their grade and in their new classroom

them on our school Instagram account. We are so happy to have new members of our Circle View family and be able to see our Eagles every day. Switching from the previous 2 days a week in-person instruction with three days a week Zooms/asynchronous work was a team effort and we are so proud of our resilient students, teachers, staff, families, and community.

College View *Elementary (K-5)*

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • www.ovsd.org/college



Elaine Burney
Principal

College View Preschool

Ocean View School District Early Learning Preschool Programs has a phenomenal preschool program hosted at the newly remodeled College View campus. College View Preschool proudly offers a part day program free of charge for qualified families. The program develops the whole child addressing the academic needs as well as the social emotional needs of each child. All of our classrooms utilize the World of Wonders curriculum as well as Handwriting Without Tears lessons, to



support academic learning. Self-care, problem solving as well as building positive social relationships with others are embedded in daily activities. The outside space on campus was built specifically for our youngest learners. We explore this amazing outside space with directed and self-directed exploration. We look forward to having even more preschool friends join our College View family whether this year or next. Ocean View Early Learning Preschools, "Where Achievement and Relationships Begin!"

Golden View *Environmental Science School*

17251 Golden View Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • www.ovsd.org/golden



Elaine Burney
Principal

Practicing Composting at Golden View

As part of our Environmental Science Program, students enjoy learning about composting and have a great time taking part in the process. Students first learn about the reciprocity between humans and plants. The plants give us the nutrients we need, and we can help give plants the nutrients they need by composting and giving back to the soil. Then each day, a primary student is assigned to bring the composting buckets to the lunch benches where students add their fruits and vegetable scraps. Upper grade students are assigned to take the buckets to the farm and dump the materials into our composting bin. On a weekly basis, our upper grade students practice being responsible by tending to the composting bin in the garden. Students add dead leaves, sticks, etc., to turn the compost as well. Finally, the compost is used in our garden to provide nutrients to our soil to help the fruits and vegetables grow.



Harbour View *Elementary (K-5)*

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-6602 • www.ovsd.org/harbour



Dr. Joy Harris
Principal

Read Across America Outdoor Reading Picnic

As we welcome back our young Pelicans to live in-person instruction 5 days a week, Harbour View students are gearing up for a strong finish. Socially distanced in-person activities have given new life to our quiet campus. Our Read Across America outdoor reading picnic, school pictures and our first ever on-campus drive-in movie, our first virtual news broadcast (and more!) have brought back together our learning community in an exciting revived campus. While we create new and fun events, we have not forgotten about our traditions. Our students are celebrated monthly at Pelican Pride, where several awards are



presented, including our coveted character pillar award. Wrapping up the month of Citizenship in April, Harbour students will finish out the year focusing on Cooperation in April and Perseverance in May, where one student from each class is honored for his/her demonstration of the character pillar. It's great to be back together!

Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • www.ovsd.org/hope



Christina Luckey
Principal

Daily Spirit Days

Hope View Hawks' school spirit soared through campus throughout the month of March as the students and staff participated in daily spirit days, during their in-person hybrid instruction. From crazy hair day, where one student wore leaves from a bush in her hair as she said she got caught in the trees, and mismatched day, to Fancy Friday, the days were something to talk about as so many students joined in the fun each day. The student's pictured here, in Ms. Yamaguchi's 5th grade class, came dressed in style for Fancy Friday. Keeping the fun of school happening, while the learning continues, is helping our Hawks keep the memories happening and the smiles continuing. We look forward to the remainder of the school year with all our Hawks back on campus and seeing just how amazing our school spirit will be with everyone participating at the same time. Go Hawks!



Lake View *Elementary (K-5)*

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • www.ovsd.org/lake



Jill Van Der Linden
Interim Principal

Atrium Makeover

Staff, students, and families demonstrate kindness daily at Lake View but it becomes a big focus for us in the month of April. Our Girl Scouts and Student Council partnered together to organize an entire month celebrating Kindness. Girl Scouts gave our atrium, home to pet turtles Tex and Texie, a makeover. They worked hard giving the atrium some much needed TLC.



Students created a graphic representation of their eye along with a written statement of how they will demonstrate kindness. Each drawing and statement were placed on the "I" in "Kind" of a large poster hanging in the school hallway.

Students also put kindness into action collecting items for the OC Shelter making a difference in the lives of others.

The month of kindness concludes with a dance party celebrating all the many ways students experienced kindness during the month of April.



Marine View *Middle School (6-8)*

7721 Juliette Low Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-0624 • www.ovsd.org/marine



Sara Schaible
Principal

Literally and Virtually Creative!

This year has presented our students and teachers with many opportunities to be creative and think of new ways of doing things. These opportunities sparked the creativity of our performing-arts teachers and students to rise to the challenge and think of new ways to continue the program.

This creative thinking provided the opportunity to take our programs outside and create our own stage. Our Jazz Ensemble, Chorus, Band and Dance students have kept their smiles bright behind the masks as we have navigated the crazy choreography of twists, turns and fancy footwork of transitioning to distance-learning schedules, hybrid schedules, singing on Zoom, shifting of instruments and restructuring our shows that once packed a gym and arrived at virtual in style!

With the hard work and dedication of our VAPA teachers, this year we were able to continue our traditions of a winter concert and a spring concert and shift both events to virtual performances. Although our students were not able to pack a gym this year, they were able to highlight the hard work, and by providing a virtual event, we were still able to share and celebrate our students with family, friends and the community.

The students are continuing to work hard as we prepare for the next show of our Virtual District Arts Festival later this month.

Mesa View *Middle School (6-8)*

17601 Avila Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • www.ovsd.org/mesa



Jadyn Grunbaum
Principal

Postcards and Positivity

This has been a trying and challenging year. And among all of this change, our students have shown such resilience. At Mesa, we have realized the raw power of positive words. Multiple times during the year we have sent handwritten postcards to every single student and staff member, sharing our appreciation for their grit, their hard-work, and their ability to overcome challenges.

This also extended to our ASB and WEB Leadership students, who have sent postcards to our staff and created kindness challenges throughout Kindness Week to encourage more human interaction.

As teachers and staff members, sending postcards home has become a part of our common practice. Was a student having a bad day in class? Send a postcard saying that we know their heart and care about them. Did a student miss class? Send a postcard explaining how they were missed and that we cannot wait to see them.

Did a student show kindness? Send a postcard expressing how impressed we are with their character. Is a student struggling to turn in work? Send a postcard sharing that we are proud of all that they are doing.

During this global pandemic our students have persevered, and that deserves applause. Grades are important, academic achievement is important, attendance is important, but being a good human is vital. We are so proud of all our humans at Mesa, and these little rectangular pieces of paper are simply reminders to focus on all that we have accomplished. "Life is tough, but so are you."

Oak View *Elementary (K-5)*

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • www.ovsd.org/oak



Jenna Landero
Principal

The Best Team!

We are back in school five days a week! We want to shout it from the rooftops, our excitement to all be back together!

The past year has given us many opportunities to look at school and the education of our little ones in a new and creative light. We have had over 100 students back in school four days a week since November, but this past month we transitioned all of our students to be back on campus for five days a week.

In order to pull this off, we hired six new teachers! We are so

excited to welcome these new teachers to our Oak View teams. With all of this change, some of our Owls were selected to move classrooms and become part of a new class for the remainder of the year.

Every single student, teacher, staff member, and parent worked together to make this a reality. I want to thank all of you for your hard work and perseverance. Together we make the best team!



Spring View *Middle School (6-8)*

16662 Trudy Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-2891 • www.ovsd.org/spring



Randy Lempert
Principal

Bringing In 'Normal'

In a "normal" year, we'd pride ourselves on making connections with our students. Spring View Middle School's driving force is the relationships that our teachers and staff cultivate with everyone in our extended family.

However, this is not a normal year. We are experiencing one of the most profound societal disruptions in recent history, and that has seriously challenged our ability to build and cultivate relationships. The Spartan family has fought hard to encourage, enrich, and remediate in countless ways, but the satisfaction of feeling we have been able to maintain personal connections amid the COVID-19 pandemic has tested every one of us.

Enhancing our student-family connections was essential, and Spring View came across a multifaceted curriculum that could not only provide a vehicle for the reestablishment of school-community connections but could also ultimately enhance it. Healthy Learning Cultures, developed by Core Purpose Consulting in Phoenix, Arizona, uses physical activity, nutrition, mindfulness and emotional intelligence as a few of the platforms for greater introspection and a reinforcement of our LEAD motto. Social-emotional lessons are delivered in interactive ways, with a call to action. The call to action includes a video of a student doing a particular activity, addressing the challenge and incorporating the SEL focus, explaining how it relates to the SEL lesson, and then calling out a challenge to a friend, a teacher or a parent to then do the same. Then, this video is posted on our social media feeds and Google Classrooms for everyone to see.

Creating a buzz over appreciating our similarities, differences, struggles and successes by making connections with all stakeholders within the Ocean View School District community has put some smiles back on faces. It has also encouraged participants to recognize even the smallest victories, enabled vulnerability in a safe way, and brought to light the humanity that exists and the individualism that so profoundly needed to be recognized.

Star View *Elementary (K-5)*

8411 Worthy Ln., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • www.ovsd.org/star



Paul Kraft
Principal

A Busy Back to Campus

Star View Elementary School bolted into spring by welcoming back its students for in-person instruction five days a week. Bringing our students back safely has been a priority for the entire Ocean View School District, and the many smiles and laughter have brought even more sunshine to our campus. The staff and students were thrilled to increase their time on campus, allowing for valuable learning to occur.

Star View students have participated in many engaging activities during the spring, including kindergarten and TK students participating in a unit on plants. Our youngest students studied various plants and learned about their nutritional aspects. In preparation for Earth Day, our first-graders have learned about the Earth and its weather and water cycles. Along with studying the Earth, the second-graders participated in dance routines and completed a book study on biographies.

Our third-graders got into the act by learning about how animals and their behaviors have influenced many human-made inventions. The fourth-graders participated in science experiments involving forces and motion. This included the creation of balloon cars to demonstrate that the force of air can propel a vehicle!

Our fourth-and fifth-grade GATE students studied chain reactions and participated in STEM demonstrations involving stored energy, motion, and force. Fifth-graders recently completed a study of the novel *The Wild Robot*. The students were also engaged in STEM projects that related to the novel, which included the creation of a working robot arm. Finally, the students even created habitats where animals can survive the winter!

Star View anticipates an incredible final three months of the school year.

Village View *Elementary (K-5)*

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • www.ovsd.org/village



Francesca Ligman
Principal

Reaching our GATE Clusters through Zoom!

4th Grade Teacher, Ms. Julianna, provided GATE identified students specific activities to ensure that their creativity and critical thinking were abandoned during the pandemic. While the students at Village View spent the in-person days hitting the priority standards to prevent learning loss, our teachers spent the afternoons zooming with students in small group to meet individual needs. First and foremost, this comprised of intervention and filling gaps due to school closure. This also



Bowling with robots over Zoom

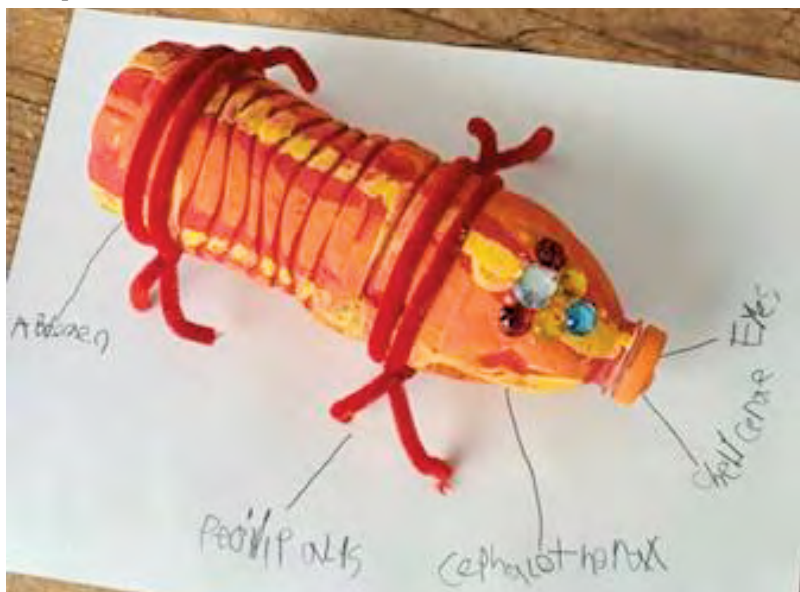
meant serving our GATE students. Ms. Julianna engaged the small group with coding using robots all through Zoom. The teacher sent home a paper bag with the materials and instructed the students not to open until their meeting. The excitement triggered the part of the GATE student's mind that needs to be developed and stimulated. Our GATE Cluster Teachers have infused Mystery Science, Number Talks and more to activate these innovative minds throughout this unusual school year.



Learning at Home With the Virtual Academy!

By Lori Florgan (TK-2), Jamie Goodwyn (3-5), Isis Ortiz (6-8)

Bees in Uganda are too big to pollinate vanilla flowers. Well, our 2nd graders found a solution! The students used the engineering design process to identify the problem, look at materials and their characteristics, and build a super insect to solve the problem. Learning at home gives students access to many materials and allows them to get creative with items they have around the house! To investigate which materials can pick up and transport pollen more easily, students used baking powder, straws, popsicle sticks, tin foil, plastic bottles, round glass objects, tape, paper towel rolls, crayons and pieces of paper. They observed the materials together in their virtual class and tested them to see which could easily carry pollen. They used their observations to design a super insect that can get access to the pollen and can transport it from place to place.



Dr. Rasheedah Gates
Principal

Safe, Socially Distant Science!

This spring, our sciences classes have been in full swing here at Vista! We have been learning about water cycles, ocean currents and weather, the properties of waves, sound, light, electromagnetic waves, seismic waves and more!

All of our teachers are strong, committed educators that strive to bring out the best in students. One in particular is our science and marine-biology teacher, Daryth Morrissey. She is enthusiastic about keeping her students engaged in learning and keeping the fun in science.



Students in Ms. Morrissey's classroom using a claim, evidence and reason to explore properties of surface tension using a surfactant, such as detergent, with milk, food coloring and a cotton swab.

Ms. Morrissey has been at Vista for 27 years and is relevant and current in her approach to teaching. She has adapted to the recent changes to the educational landscape by continuing to provide opportunities for her students to have hands-on learning experiences through experimentation. She looks for ways to ensure safe and socially distanced science experiments. The students in her classes learn science standards and have tons of enjoyment in the process. Hearing our Falcons' explanation about what they learned was as enjoyable as watching their engagement!



Sue Broderon
Principal

Back to Class!

It was like September all over again! The excitement and anticipation felt like it was a brand new year, except it happened in March. Our students returned to classes five days a week!

Most schools phased in grade levels, but Westmont was allowed to have all of its students return at once. The excitement and positive energy from both our students and staff was felt all around. Even our parents were thrilled to have their children back in school five days a week.

To continue to follow the health and safety guidelines, we needed to hire additional teachers to allow for smaller classes sizes. We were fortunate that we had hired intervention teachers earlier in the year, and were able to place Kerry Zolg in first grade, Ashley Moser in fourth grade, and Patricia Thompson in fifth grade. Having great teachers ready to go made the full-time transition very smooth.

As soon as we started back five days a week we began our enrichment/intervention program. The program is offered to all general education students on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 45 to 90 minutes to support additional learning.

The students have lunch and then return to their classrooms, where they work on language arts or math skills. When the program was first offered we



had no idea about how many students would attend, but we quickly found it to be a hugely successful one, with over 65 percent of the students staying.

We are so thankful to have all of our students back on campus!

Westminster School District

14121 Cedarwood Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7311 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Cyndi Paik

WSD 2022 Teacher of the Year

Dr. David Hubbard, a Kindergarten and 1st-grade teacher at Hayden Elementary, has been named WSD's Teacher of the Year. Dr. Hubbard has impacted the lives of thousands of students, families, and colleagues

through a variety of teaching and administrative roles in the last 20 years. In his class, Dr. Hubbard utilizes research-based strategies to promote critical early learning literacy skills. Outside of his class, Dr. Hubbard promotes collaboration with his peers, in order to seek solutions and to solve problems that could assist in the growth of students and staff. Dr. Hubbard is not only committed to student learning, he is also an active teacher leader who serves on many district committees as well as a member of the negotiations team for our teacher's association. Dr. Hubbard has been selected as a semi-finalist for the 2022 Orange County Teacher of the Year competition. Let's congratulate Dr. Hubbard on his well-deserved recognition.



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California Distinguished School for Stacey Middle School

By Jeremy Khalaf, President, Board of Trustees

The State Superintendent Tony Thurmond and the California Department of Education have awarded WSD's Helen Stacey Middle School with the 2021 California Distinguished School award. This coveted recognition identifies and honors some of our state's most exemplary and inspiring public schools. This year, Stacey was one of only 100 middle schools and high schools designated with this honor. Furthermore, Stacey is one of only ten schools in Orange County to receive this special recognition. Stacey is known for excellence in teaching, learning, and collaborating. It is also known for the enrichment and passion for diverse electives such as robotics, AVID, woodshop, art, speech and debate, STEM, technology, and music. We are very proud of the teachers, administrators, classified employees and together with the students and their families who, through teamwork, all accomplished this impressive achievement together.



Anderson Elementary (K-6)

8902 Hewitt Pl., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/894-7201 • anderson.wsd.k8.us



Kim Breckenridge
Principal

Anderson's Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Christie Rogers, Anderson Elementary School's Teacher of the Year. As a moderate/severed special education teacher, Ms. Rogers provides individualized learning experiences

for each of her students. Each year, she leads a district-wide Special Olympics event. Special athletes from across the district gather to engage in several events with the support of the Garden Grove Police Department. This year she will hold the event virtually. Throughout the pandemic, Ms. Rogers has taken on the challenge of virtual, hybrid and in person teaching with love and support for both students and families. Congratulations to Anderson's Teacher of the Year, Christie Rogers!



Clegg School

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7218 • clegg.wsdk8.us



John Staggs
Principal

Full Day Phased In!

We are excited for our students and families that we were given approval for a phased-in return to school schedule starting mid-April! During the week of April 19–23, our students in TK through second grade came to school five days a week from 8 a.m.–12:15 p.m. This was an increase of three days from what in-person students had been attending in past months. Our students in third through fifth grade continued the hybrid two-day-a-week model during this week.

Starting Monday, April 26, students in TK through second grade returned for a full day five days a week, while students in third through fifth grade returned five days a week from 8 a.m.–12:15 p.m. during the week of April 26–30. Then, starting May 3, all students schoolwide attended full-day instruction five days a week.

It was very thrilling news for our staff and families that students returned to full-day instruction five days a week! Families that have chosen to remain virtual for the remainder of the year will remain with their current teacher virtually to close out the 2020–21 school year. We are all excited to see all of the students and families that have chosen to return to full-time instruction over the next two weeks after over a year of virtual and hybrid learning!

Eastwood Elementary (K-6)

13552 University St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7227 • eastwood.wsdk8.us



Jonathan Edelman
Principal

A School of Media Artists

In Ms. Delany's class at Eastwood Elementary School, fourth-grade students are back in the classroom and getting creative with a novel by exploring digital media and design. The students are discovering new ways to share their interpretation of *By the Great Horn Spoon*, by author Sid Fleischman, which is set during the California Gold Rush.

Students were given the opportunity to create videos using a green-screen that depicted themselves going to California during the Gold Rush. They answered the questions, "Who am I," "Where am I traveling from," and, "Why am I in search of gold?" They then edited their videos with WeVideo software, and learned how to insert images, background videos, and creative sounds. The students also created QR codes to link their videos to a shared space so that others could view their amazing products!

Ms. Delany has done an exceptional job of creating an environment where students can learn about history and expand on their love for literature, all while sharing their newly acquired knowledge with a 21st-century, real-life application.



DeMille Elementary (K-6)

15400 Van Buren St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7224 • demille.wsdk8.us



Dr. Shannon Villanueva
Principal

Staying Connected with Virtual Family Nights

During this unusual school year, DeMille PTA has found a fun way to bring our school community together through virtual family nights. In October we took our annual PTA Fall Festival to the virtual world of Zoom. With jack-o-lanterns, storytelling, a directed drawing, and a virtual costume parade, we had so much of fun. Next came our first ever WinterFest. We played games, made a snow person out of a sock, and had a surprise visit from Santa Claus to spread some holiday cheer. In February we celebrated the Year of the Ox with a virtual Lunar New Year festival. Parents and teachers came together to learn about and celebrate Tet. Many guests even wore ao dai, traditional Vietnamese dress. It was a great night of fun, food, friends, and culture. We have truly enjoyed finding creative ways to be together and celebrate our community during these challenging times.



Mrs. Peters demonstrates making a sock snow person.

Finley Computer Science Magnet School

13521 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-7764 • finley.wsdk8.us



Pam LeMueix
Principal

Robots Make Coding Visible

At Finley Computer Science Elementary, when students returned to in-person learning, it wasn't a surprise that one of the subject areas they looked forward to most was coding and robotics. After a year of working on their coding skills with Scratch and through lessons within Code.org, getting their hands on a robot for a coding challenge was a chance to collaborate, create and have fun learning with their peers.

At Finley, computer-science education begins with our earliest learners. In kindergarten and first grade, students learn about what a computer is and how it solves problems. They learn how to "drive" a robot that looks like a bee and then end their year using block coding in Scratch Jr. to create simple lines of code. The introduction of concepts such as sequencing, looping and algorithms through play sets the foundation in computer science that culminates in fifth grade, when students use their coding skills to solve complex math problems, design and build robots to accomplish a specific task, and begin experimenting with Java, a more advanced programming language. All along the way, students develop the behaviors and mindset that allows them to persevere through challenges and learn how they can use technology as a learning tool to help them master grade-level content.

In Ms. Perry's fifth-grade classroom, students are wrapping up the year with a programmable robot that can be easily incorporated into math, science and even art lessons.

"The [robot] is cool because you can see if you wrote your code correctly when you run it," said Dylan Rosado. "I really like trying to figure things out when it doesn't work the first time."

For Metzi Martinez, coding her robot to write her name was not only fun but she learned how important precision was as well.

"With the [robot], you can dip it in paint," she said. "When I ran the code to test it, it took a lot of space to write all the letters. I had to go back and adjust it so it would fit on a smaller piece of paper."

Fryberger *Elementary (K-5)*

6952 Hood Dr., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7237 • fryberger.wsdk8.us



Michelle Scheiber
Principal

Focus on Environmental Science

Fryberger Elementary is proud to announce we have been recognized by the California Green Ribbon Schools (CA-GRS) as a Green Achiever. In addition to this high honor, the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS) is also recognizing our school for environmental excellence and demonstrated achievement of the three Pillars of ED-GRS. The three pillars include reducing environmental impact and costs, improving the health and wellness of schools, students, and staff, and providing effective environmental and sustainable education.



Kindergarteners preparing the garden for Spring planting.

Fryberger students have a strong focus on Environmental Science. Students in each grade level complete two project based learning units yearly with an emphasis on Next Generation Science Standards and California's Environmental Principles and Concepts. Reading, writing, and listening and speaking standards are heavily embedded in each lesson. Our vision is to inspire and develop successful, productive citizens who are environmentally responsible in a changing world.

Johnson *Middle School (6-8)*

13603 Edwards St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7244 • johnson.wsdk8.us



Daniel Owens
Principal

In-Person Instruction

The 2020-2021 school year has continued to be a year of change and flexibility and we at Johnson Middle School are very encouraged by the positive changes happening with our students. Bringing students back on campus for in person instruction has been both refreshing and energizing. Being able to see students outside of their Zoom box has allowed teachers to connect easier with students and give them the engaging lessons they need and deserve. As we get closer to the end of the year, the staff and Johnson Middle school is committed to providing the best quality instruction to bridge the learning gap that has widened during the pandemic. There is no doubt that students, working in conjunction with staff and families, will show there resilience and be successful and ready to tackle the 2021-2022 school year with grit and dedication.

Hayden *Elementary (K-5)*

14782 Eden St., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/894-7261 • hayden.wsdk8.us



Mark Murphy
Principal

Teacher of the Year

It is with great pleasure to announce that Hayden School is recognizing Dave Hubbard as our Teacher of the Year. Dr. Hubbard works extremely hard to make those important connections with his students, which in turn creates a great learning environment. Dr. Hubbard is the consummate professional, who perfectly blends rich engagement activities into his warm and inviting classroom. Dave is always willing to put in many extra hours of his own time to help support the students and the Hayden community. Dr. Hubbard was also named the Westminster Teacher of the Year and is great representative of our district. Dr. Hubbard not only makes a major impact with his students but with our entire school. Dr. Hubbard has earned the respect of all his students, parents and colleagues. Congratulations to Dave Hubbard for being Hayden's Teacher of the Year!



Land School

15151 Temple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • www.wsd.k12.ca.us
714/894-7311 Student Services • 714/898-8389 Child Development



Darek Jaronczyk
*Executive Director,
Student Services*

Technology Updates for Land Special Education Students

Touchscreen 2-in-1 Chromebooks were ordered and provided for all Special Education Preschool students at Land. The devices arrived in their cases along with student name tags. These Chromebooks were ready for student use and will provide more accessibility with the touchscreen capabilities. ViewSonic Touchscreen Displays were also ordered and being installed in Special Education Preschool classrooms. These will enhance classroom collaboration, student engagement experiences as well as support teaching and learning. Preschool and Early Start staff will utilize these new ViewSonic Touchscreen Displays for circle time and music as well as interactive programs like Starfall, which students enjoy. Additionally, Document Cameras were provided to Land Special Education Preschool teachers. Document cameras in the preschool classroom can be used to show students pictures of various objects and as visual aids in a lesson. Even mathematics can be made fun when demonstrated under the camera. Some special education preschool students at Land were still participating in virtual learning with their teachers through the Zoom and Seesaw platforms and were preparing to return to regular in-person based on CA health and safety guidelines. These technology updates provided enhanced educational accessibility to all of our Land Special Education Students.



Meairs *Elementary (K-5)*

8441 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92844 • 714/372-8800 • meairs.wsdk8.us



Dr. Kathy Kane
Principal

We Are Back!

Monday, April 19th marked the beginning of the Meairs Eagles return to five days a week, in-person instruction. TK/Kindergarten, first and second grade were the first to return, followed by grades three through five the following week. The students were so happy to see their classmates that up until then had been a face on a screen during virtual instruction. Things may look a little different but we are all so excited to be back together. Safety protocols are still in place. Temperatures are taken as students enter the campus. Masks continue to be worn by all students and

staff. Social distancing is still adhered to inside the classrooms and outside on the playground. Air hugs are the norm. Even with all the changes were are so excited to be back and we look forward to the day that all of our virtual staff and students will be able to join us on campus too!



Schroeder *Elementary (K-6)*

15151 Columbia Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7268 • schroeder.wsdk8.us



Carrie Hernandez
Principal

Family Night Fun, Virtually

Our awesome PTA has continued to support Family Nights this year so that we can come together as a Schroeder community.

In November, the PTA sponsored a Family Art Night. Mrs. Owen, a teacher at Schroeder and our family night coordinator, and Mrs. Hernandez, each taught a drawing lesson that focused on a fun Thanksgiving theme. The students used materials they had at home, like paper, crayons, markers, and pencils. They did an outstanding job and had a great time.

In February, the PTA sponsored an exciting evening of virtual bingo. Mrs. Owen called out the numbers and the students marked their virtual cards. The winners were able to come to school the next day to choose a fun prize.

This month the PTA is sponsoring a virtual magic show. Our families will be able to see Mrs. Hernandez and Ms. Vicki help the magician with a few magic tricks. They will also be able to see one of the Schroeder teachers get sawed in half! Who will it be?

Thank you, Schroeder PTA and our families for joining us at these fun events.



Schmitt *Elementary (K-5)*

7200 Trask Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7264 • schmitt.wsdk8.us



Orchid Rocha
Principal

Schmitt's 2021 Teacher of the Year

I am proud to share that our 4th Grade teacher, Ms. Roh was nominated and selected by the Schmitt Team as this year's teacher of the year. Ms. Roh has been teaching since 1996. She is kind and patient in her delivery of instruction and behavior expectations. She enjoys putting together annual mini-musicals with her students that we have all enjoyed throughout the year.

Her love of art is evident

in the work she has displayed in her classroom. She has also shared this love of art, through the family and staff art workshops she has provided in the past. These art workshops have proved to be very fun and relaxing for staff. We cannot wait for things to return to normal so we can continue to enjoy all that Ms. Roh has to offer to the Schmitt staff and families. We are proud to have Ms. Roh represent Schmitt as this year's teacher of the year.



Sequoia *Academy*

5900 Iroquois Rd., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7271 • sequoia.wsdk8.us



April Derr
Principal

Teacher of the Year

We are very pleased to announce that Mrs. Alice Reed is Sequoia Academy's Teacher of the Year for the 2021 – 2022 school year. Mrs. Reed is always willing to go above and beyond to support and advocate for all her students. She is a collaborative team member who is willing to share ideas and create engaging project based lessons for her students. She exudes the motto of a "life-long" learner as she continues to discover new strategies and implement them in her classroom. This past year, Mrs. Reed took on each new type of teaching during the pandemic with a "can do" attitude. Mrs. Reed exudes a positive attitude and can always be seen with a welcoming smile and doing acts of kindness. Thank you for all you do, Mrs. Reed!



Stacey *Middle School*

6311 Larchwood Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/894-7212 • stacey.wsdk8.us



Heidi DeBritton
Principal

2021 California Distinguished School

By Wendy Baird, Assistant Principal

March was an exciting month full of honors and distinctions for our Stacey community. Tony Thurmond, the State Superintendent, recognized our school as being a 2021 California Distinguished School for having made exceptional gains in student achievement. This was no



easy feat, with only 11 middle schools in all of Orange County to earn this distinction. In addition to earning this recognition, Stacey was named an Honor Roll School for the third year in a row. These awards show that our Stacey community works together to build a strong and cohesive learning community under the leadership of Heidi DeBritton, who was recently named Principal of the Year for ACSA Region 17. Stacey Middle School strives for more than building an exemplary academic program. We encourage our students to participate in extracurricular activities, community service, and enrichment opportunities such as robotics, woodshop, STEM, technology, band, and much more.

Willmore *Elementary (K-5)*

7122 Maple St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/895-3765 • willmore.wsdk8.us



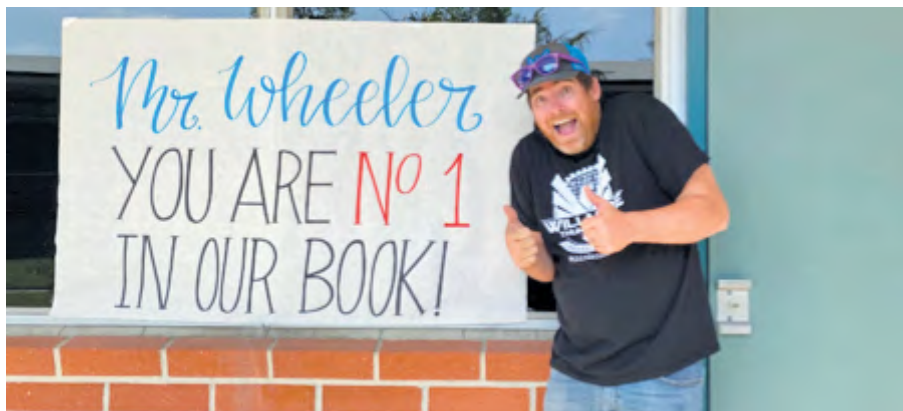
Eva Matthews
Principal

National Librarian Day

National Librarian Day was Friday, April 16th and Willmore took this opportunity to celebrate our very own, the talented Mr. Andrew Wheeler. Mr. Wheeler is not only an amazing second-generation librarian; that took over after his mother Mrs. Cory Wheeler retired, but he is an outstanding magician, videographer, and team player. Andrew is always positive and outgoing.

He goes above and beyond in everything he does and you can always catch him guiding our future authors in the Authors Club or creating unique content for our social media account.

Mr. Wheeler is a beloved member of our Willmore Family. We thank Mr. Andrew Wheeler for everything he does.



Monday, April 19th the Westminster School District began Phase 1 of our 5-Day in Person schedule. Students, parents, and staff alike were excited to return to a full week of in-person learning. We cannot wait to have all of our students back.

Warner *Middle School (6-8)*

14171 Newland St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7281 • warner.wsdk8.us



Tiffany Harville
Principal

All Heroes!

At Warner, heroes come in all different shapes and sizes! This year has been full of challenges, and our Wildcat staff and students have worked incredibly hard to overcome them with a growth mindset and a positive attitude.

We were so excited to be able to invite our students back to campus four days a week starting on April 26th. Having our students back on campus has been extremely beneficial for everyone. As our students adjust to being back in the classroom, our teachers have done an incredible job of helping them all reach their maximum potential.

Student engagement continues to be one of our teachers' top priorities. Warner teachers have developed creative ways to allow their students to continue to work in small groups while still maintaining social distancing guidelines.

At Warner, we have embraced our new way of learning, and choose to look at our challenges as opportunities. Last trimester we had over 500 students make Honor Roll and achieve a GPA of 3.0 and higher. None of this would have been possible without all of our heroes working together.

A sign of a true hero is someone who can endure and persevere in challenging situations. The parents, students, and staff at Warner all deserve this title. Great job, Wildcats!



Webber *Elementary (K-6)*

14142 Hoover St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/894-7288 • webber.wsdk8.us



Robert Murdock
Principal

Teacher of The Year

We are very excited to announce that the 2021 Webber Teacher Of The Year is Tieumi Ellis. Mrs. Ellis has been at Webber Elementary School for twenty fantastic years. She is a dedicated, tremendous educator, who sets an example of great teaching for anyone who sees her in action. Her students are very lucky to have her. Some quotes from her former students really bring to life the experience in her class: "Mrs. Ellis is the nicest

teacher I've ever had.", "She make learning and school fun!", "All of my brothers and sisters have had Mrs. Ellis, she is the best!", "Our projects were always interesting and fun". She is always striving to improve herself and her teaching strategies. Building on the solid foundation of a master's degree in clinical psychology, another in education, she absorbs new information quickly and uses it to inform her lessons planning.



Westminster Library

8180 13th St., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/893-5057 • www.ocpl.org

Westminster Library Update

By Tim Scott, Librarian IV/ Branch Manger Garden Grove Chapman Library

The Westminster Library is currently closed for tenant improvements. There is no set date for opening yet; stay tuned to www.ocpl.org for updates! While the Westminster Library is undergoing tenant improvements, please check out OC Public Libraries' virtual programs (<https://ocpl.org/elibrary/virtual-programs>) including our weekly Zoom storytimes (<https://ocpl.org/zoomstorytimes>). Sign up for the storytimes by sending an email to ocplstorytimes@occr.ocgov.com and let them know which storytimes you wish to sign up for.

Don't miss Comic Orange going on virtually in the month of May! Check out all the virtual events at <https://ocpl.org/comicorange>.

This year OC Public Libraries is celebrating its 100th Anniversary! Check out all the fun and history at <https://www.ocpl.org/centennial>. If you need a new or replacement library card, there are special centennial cards in all open branches while supplies last.

If you are missing the Library while it is closed, check out our WiFi on Wheels initiative (<https://ocpl.org/news/wifi-wheels>). Library staff will set up a booth at five locations in Westminster and Midway City each day. You can get free WiFi, check out a Chromebook, get a library card, talk to library staff, and even check out a selection of library materials. Make sure you click on the link for the upcoming WiFi on Wheels stops to see where we will be that day! Weather may affect the schedule.

Tyson's Book Review

A Legend Remembered



Tyson

By: Los Angeles Daily News

Kobe Forever is a book with many articles about Kobe Bryant from the Los Angeles Daily News. This book is more of a tribute to his sad death in January 2020. If you want to know more about his history to appreciate what he has done, this is the book for you. You can learn cool things about

him such as how he won 5 NBA championships or how he dropped 60 points on his last game against the Utah Jazz. I felt like I really knew how he became such a good player over the years and how he had to climb over big obstacles to achieve his goal as an NBA legend. *Kobe Forever* is a book I truly recommend for basketball or non-basketball players to appreciate what he has done and how much he meant to the world. I hope you find how great Kobe was.



Tyson is a 7th grader who enjoys playing basketball, skateboarding, and video games. His favorite subjects at school are math and PE. The best thing about quarantine was having extra time to play with his dog and meeting new neighborhood friends!

Novelist Word Search Contest

Rules! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: schoolnewsKay@gmail.com (Please put FV/OV/WEST in the subject line)

Entries must be received by May 30, 2021
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

Contest Sponsored by Barkate Orthodontics
BarkateSmiles.com

COMPUTER	READERS	BING
EDITOR	PENCIL	ASPIRIN
IPAD	IDEAS	KEYBOARD
SPELLCHECK	PEN	TELEPHONE
PRINTER	BROWSER	WIFI
PUBLISHER	GOOGLE	IMAGINATION
NOTEPAD	INTERNET	



Congratulations to **Margarita Martinez** Winner of the March Word Search Contest!

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