

**FREE**

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Orange Unified School District**



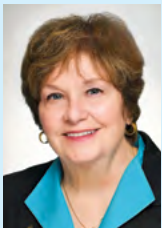
Volume 17, Issue 76

December 2021–March 2022

## Measure S STEM Complexes Coming to Fruition



### Board of Education



**Kathryn A. Moffat**  
*President*



**Andrea Yamasaki**  
*Vice President*



**Kristin Erickson**  
*Clerk*



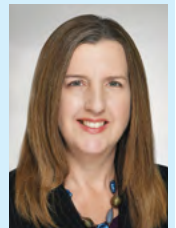
**Rick Ledesma**  
*Member*



**John Ortega**  
*Member*



**Ana Page**  
*Member*



**Angie Rumsey**  
*Member*



# Winter Wonderland

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH US! @ **STC GARDENWALK**

## Fun

AMC GardenWalk 6  
Billy Beez  
Bowlero  
Flightdeck Flight Simulation Center  
Haunted Museum/Horror of Orient  
Heat Ultra Lounge  
House of Blues Anaheim  
Foundation Room  
Kip Barry's Cabaret  
Mission Escape Games  
NeoFuns  
Rumba Room Live  
STC Center  
UFC FIT

## Shop

Anaheim House of Jerky  
Argo Pet Gifts and Supplies  
CaseMac Wireless  
Dara Beauty  
Pandora at Dara Beauty  
Factory Xtreme  
Meeples Family  
Mystical Gifts & Souvenirs  
Red Apparel  
RideMakerz  
S. Preston Art + Design  
Soccer Wearhouse  
Yiya Formosa

## Eatery

9 Lives 4 Mew  
AllMyTea Cafe  
Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.  
Beer Garden  
Boiling Point  
Cafe Bulba  
California Pizza Kitchen  
Casa de Pancho Mexican Grill & Cantina  
ChaPlus Modern Tea Room  
The Cheesecake Factory  
FIRE + ICE Interactive Grill & Bar  
Gozen Edo Fusion Japanese Grill  
House of Blues Restaurant & Bar  
Huckleberry's Breakfast & Lunch  
Johnny Rockets  
Jin Tea  
King Coffee  
Kip Barry's Magic Cafe  
La Michoacana 1st Ice Cream  
McCormick & Schmick's Grille  
P.F. Chang's  
OneZo Boba  
PokeGarden  
Roy's Restaurant  
World of Asia

**SCARY CREEPMAS POP UP**

(FRI) 12/3, 12/10, 12/17, 2021, 5pm - 9pm  
(SAT) 12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 2021 3pm - 9pm  
DEC 20-23 (TBD)

Food trucks, fun holiday shopping activities, live music and entertainment

**TROMBONE CHRISTMAS**

(SAT) 12/11/2021, 8 AM - 2 PM

Over 200 trombone performers celebrating the holidays.

**TOY DRIVE**  
DEC 1 - DEC 31

'Tis The Seasons  
**HOLIDAY MUSIC FANTASIA**

Fridays & Saturdays & Sundays  
DEC 3 - DEC 5  
DEC 10 - DEC 12  
DEC 17 - DEC 19

Snow at GardenWalk  
**LET IT SNOW**

Fridays & Saturdays  
DEC 3 - JAN 01  
5 PM

Let's have fun at  
**SANTA'S PARTY**

DEC 21  
DEC 22  
DEC 23  
6 PM to 9 PM

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

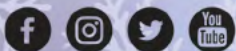
Fridays & Saturdays  
DEC 10 - DEC 11  
DEC 17 - DEC 18

**HOLIDAY BLOCK PARTY**

DEC 28 - DEC 30  
6 PM to 8 PM

**COUNTDOWN AT GARDENWALK**

12/31/2021 5 PM to 1 AM  
Welcome the New Year with us!



@thegardenwalk  
#EATERTAINMENT  
#STCGARDENWALK

STC ANAHEIM GARDENWALK  
400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim, CA 92802



# SUPERINTENDENT

## Thank You and Happy Holidays!



**Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen**

It is hard to believe that we are almost halfway through this school year and almost into 2022.

We have made it through these challenging times by working together, and I thank you for your continued partnership, grace, and adaptability. On behalf of our Board of Education and District leadership, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to our students, staff, families, and community for your diligent efforts to help keep our schools safe. School attendance has a significant impact on a student's academic success. It takes a team effort as we continue to follow public health guidelines and protocols, which have allowed us to offer in-person instruction since September of 2020. Providing a safe and healthy school environment for our students and employees continues to be our top priority, and we appreciate your ongoing support.

Our Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Plan, approved by the Board of Education at their meeting on October 21, will provide much-needed educational opportunities to mitigate learning loss and provide facilities improvements for our students districtwide. These will be funded by leveraging COVID funds and internal revenue sources, with no impact on taxpayers, and will have a lasting benefit to students and the community for years to come.

We eagerly anticipate the grand openings of our Measure S STEM Complexes at Villa Park, Canyon, and El Modena High Schools in December and January, and are thankful to our community for voting to approve the Measure S bond in 2016. We are very excited to see these Measure S Phase 1 projects come to fruition and look forward to welcoming our community to these beautiful new facilities at our upcoming school showcase events in January and February.

I wish you and your family a happy holiday season!

**Orange Unified School District**  
1401 North Handy Street • Orange, CA 92867  
(714) 628-4000 • [www.orangeusd.org](http://www.orangeusd.org)

**VILLA PARK**  
Jan. 26, 2022  
4:30-7:00 PM

**CANYON HIGH SCHOOL**  
Feb. 2, 2022  
4:30-7:30 PM

**ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL**  
Feb. 9, 2022  
4:30-7:30 PM

**EL MODENA HIGH SCHOOL VANGUARDS**  
Feb. 16, 2022  
4:30-7:30 PM



# 2022 ORANGE UNIFIED HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY TK-12 SHOWCASES

**You are invited to celebrate our elementary, middle & high school program highlights!**



Visit Each Site's Brand New STEM Complex

Learn About Our Signature TK-12 Academic Programs

See Student Performances and Activities

**Check out what our schools have to offer!**  
**For details about each event,**  
**visit [www.orangeusd.org/showcases](http://www.orangeusd.org/showcases)**





**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



*Netragrednik*

# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)

Covering the  
**ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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**Netragrednik** by Neta Madison



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This is our 17th year publishing the OUSD *School News*. There have been many changes over the years. Through all of the changes, the one constant has been focus on academic success. If you have an interest in reviewing past issues, you will find 2011 to the current issue posted on [www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com). Prior to that digital issues are not available.

In this issue on pages 26 & 27 we have included student book reviews. If your child would like to be a columnist reviewing favorite books, please email me for specifics. Also, our Word Search contest is on page 26 and a fun Seek 'n Find Contest on page 24.

Our next issue is April 13, 2022.

## Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas!



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# OUSD Alternative Education

Parkside Education Center: 250 S. Yorba St., Orange, CA 92869 • [www.orangeusd.org/parkside](http://www.orangeusd.org/parkside)



**Justin Stanfield**  
Coordinator

## Greetings from Parkside Education Center!

The 2021-2022 school year begins with great excitement among our programs at Parkside Education Center. Our teachers, staff and instructional assistants have all been preparing for what proves to be an exciting school year.

Parkside Education Center is comprised of six programs: Aspire Academy, Independent Study, Home School, Home/Hospital, Adult Transition and the EDGE Virtual Academy. Each program is highly specialized and is unique to the individual needs of the students.

**Aspire Academy** — serves students in grades seven through twelve. The Aspire Academy is built on the belief that all students can learn when given the appropriate environment, educational expertise, and opportunity.

**Independent Study** — is an independent study high school program serving students grades 9-12. It has the benefits of a home school and a virtual curriculum blended with face to face instruction with highly qualified Orange Unified School District teachers. Students with special education needs may also participate in this program.

**Home School** — our Home School program is a traditional Home School option for students grades K-8. Students and families work together with two site teachers who provide curriculum and teaching strategies to families who wish for a Home School setting.

**Home/Hospital** — The purpose of Home/Hospital instruction is to help students maintain continuity of instruction during a period of temporary disability. Any student with a temporary disability that makes attendance in regular classes or another education program impossible or inadvisable may be considered for this program.

**Adult Transition** — serves adult students with IEPs to meet the needs of 18-22 year old young adults with developmental disabilities. Our key focus is to help young adults build independence and quality of life linking adult students to appropriate community and adult services.

**EDGE Virtual Academy** — our newest program at Parkside. The EDGE Virtual Academy serves students grades K-12. Students K-6 have daily, live instruction from a classroom teacher. For students 7-12 our staff uses APEX Learning for all curriculum. Students in both areas receive support from Orange Unified School District teachers.



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# Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92628 • 714/966-4000 • www.ocde.us



**Dr. Al Mijares**  
Superintendent

The U.S. Department of Education recently announced that 325 schools across the country earned the highest level of distinction as National Blue Ribbon Schools.

That number includes 28 Blue Ribbon Schools from California, and seven of those are in ZIP codes right here in Orange County.

To put it another way, Orange County accounts for a quarter of the state's newly minted Blue Ribbon winners.

Earning the designation in 2021 are Anaheim Hills Elementary School in the Orange Unified School District, Davis Magnet School in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District, de Portola Elementary School in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District, Los Coyotes Elementary School in the Centralia Elementary School District, Oka Elementary School in the Fountain Valley School District, and Lee and Los Alamitos elementary schools in the Los Alamitos Unified School District.

Now in its 39th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools program was established to shine a spotlight on positive learning environments where students are mastering challenging and engaging content. Over the years, about 10,000 awards have been presented to more than 9,000 top-ranked campuses, amplifying best practices that can be replicated elsewhere.

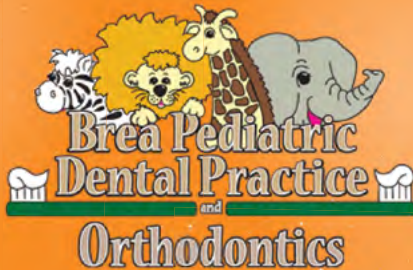
Schools are recognized in two performance categories—those that post the highest scores overall based on national assessments and those that have successfully closed achievement gaps.

We are fortunate to have plentiful examples of both here in Orange County, which is setting a new standard for excellence by making a commitment to the academic, behavioral and social-emotional needs of all students.

Much of this work is aligned with California's Multi-Tiered System of Support framework, which provides a baseline of support for all students, additional assistance for some and targeted interventions for those with the greatest needs. Since 2016, OCDE has been the agency tapped to lead statewide trainings on MTSS, which encourages schools to know the name, face and story of every student on campus.

Far more important than any accolade, Orange County is producing a generation of scholars and problem-solvers while meeting the needs of a future workforce. But let's not overlook this accomplishment.

To represent a quarter of California's Blue Ribbon award-winners is nothing short of astonishing, and we couldn't be prouder of the educators, students, families and local stakeholders who made it possible.



David M. Kang, D.D.S.  
Carol K. Yeung, D.D.S.  
Christopher M. Chau, D.D.S., MS

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## Anaheim Hills *Elementary School*

6450 E. Serrano Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6169 • [www.orangeusd.org/anaheim-hills-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/anaheim-hills-elementary-school)



**Nicole Van Wilgen-Moore**  
*Principal*

### Exceptional Educational Experiences

On September 21, 2021, Anaheim Hills Elementary School (AHES) was named as one of 325 schools across the U.S. as 2021 National Blue Ribbon School. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. Anaheim Hills was recognized as an Exemplary Achievement Gap-Closing School for being amongst California's highest

performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school's student groups and all students.

Anaheim Hills Elementary has a closely connected school community of teachers, parents, and staff who collaborate to provide a supportive and personalized educational program for students. Throughout each AHES classroom, teachers utilize small group instruction to support the diverse learning needs of their students. Along with their strategic approach to academic success, Anaheim Hills Elementary School values and prioritizes students' social and emotional well-being and individual

development. As a school, they focus on kindness, inclusivity, and building strong character traits that last a lifetime. Teachers utilize a school-wide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum supported by the school's Mental Health Counselor.

"I am proud to serve as principal of Anaheim Hills Elementary School, where each day I witness our teachers and staff providing exceptional educational experiences to our Panther students," said Principal Nicole Van Wilgen Moore. "As a tight-knit AHES community, we rallied together to continue this important work for our students during the recent unprecedented times. It is an honor that AHES is now recognized as a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School."

AHES, along with other National Blue Ribbon Schools, will be celebrated at a ceremony on November 4-5 by the US Department of Education. Anaheim Hills Elementary is committed to continuing long-standing practices that have led to success while supporting the various needs of their students. More information is available on their website at <https://www.orangeusd.org/anaheim-hills-elementary-school>

## California *Elementary School*

1080 N. California St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6104 • [www.orangeusd.org/california-elementary-school-k-5](http://www.orangeusd.org/california-elementary-school-k-5)



**Dr. Misty Brunasso**  
*Principal*

### Feeling Groovy

California Elementary home of iInspire Academy was thrilled to begin school all together here on campus. Our staff, students and community have been busy already. First, we hosted our annual "Feeling Groovy" Book fair. Students

were able to purchase books and classroom supplies. In addition, we dressed up in different themes each day. September 15, 2021 began our celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. This month recognizes the achievements and contributions of Hispanic American champions who have inspired others to achieve success. Finally, October is bullying prevention month and we wear and share Orange to come together in one giant message

uniting our nation for kindness, acceptance and inclusion, and even the world, to visibly show that we believe no child should ever experience bullying. Our California Bears will show their P.A.W.S. and together we will succeed!



## Cambridge Elementary School

425 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6103 • [www.orangeusd.org/cambridge-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/cambridge-elementary-school)



**Dana Encheff**  
Principal

### Cubs ROCK Values

At Cambridge Elementary, we pride ourselves on promoting and demonstrating the values of our Cubs ROCK motto--We are Responsible, We are Organized, We are College and Career Ready, and We are Kind. To promote our Cubs ROCK values, our teachers have been working hard on integrating lessons into the school day

to teach and model these values. We have also been recognizing these values across campus in all settings by giving students Cubs Cash. This Cubs Cash allows students the opportunity to redeem incentives through our Cubs Cash Student Store. This store has become quite a hit with our students and has really helped them work towards developing our ROCK values across campus. Keep up the great work Cubs!



## Canyon High School

220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/532-8000 • [www.canyonhighschool.org](http://www.canyonhighschool.org)



**Craig Abercrombie**  
Principal

### National Merit Semifinalists

Canyon High School students Jayson Hall, Jeremy Letrac, Ethan Nguyen, and Ohm Patel were recently announced as semifinalists in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented seniors will continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$30 million that will be awarded by the

National Merit Corporation (NMSC) to students across the nation in the spring of 2022.

To become a Finalist, Jayson, Jeremy, Ethan and Ohm must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about their academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received.

Ove 1.5 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools entered the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/

NMSQT®). National Merit Scholarship winners for 2022 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July.





# Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6171 • [www.orangeusd.org/canyon-hills](http://www.orangeusd.org/canyon-hills)



**Dr. John Erratt**  
*Coordinator*

## Good to be Back in Person

It has been an exciting start to the school year at Canyon Hills School. Teachers and staff started the year anxious to be back teaching and working with our students. Students and staff arrive each day with a positive and optimistic attitude, ready to teach and learn while continuing to observe all the safety precautions that have allowed us to be in person at school. It is good to

have so many of our students back in person and learning in the program. Our teachers, service providers, and staff continue to integrate technology and instruction, learning new skills, programs, and platforms to make their lessons even better. During the past year, staff members have become familiar with and adept at using a variety of online programs and platforms to develop new materials for learning in the classroom in both hands-on and digital

formats. Our students thrive when we can offer a variety of learning modalities to meet each of their unique needs in a safe and nurturing environment.

The time of year for many celebrations is upon us. Red Ribbon Week, Pumpkin Patch, and Thanksgiving celebrations are on the horizon. The students always look forward to decorating pumpkins provided by the school's Parent Association as well as the annual Costume Parade. We are looking forward to celebrating our country's history and traditions with our annual Thanksgiving celebration.

Our students continue to use and enjoy the Canyon Hills Life Skills Lab, learning vocational and life skills. Combined with the classroom functional curriculum and the Unique Learning Systems' standards-based curriculum, students receive a well-rounded education preparing them for life beyond Canyon Hills. We focus each day on improving the lives of our students at Canyon Hills.

## Canyon Rim *Elementary School*

1090 S. The Highlands Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/532-7027 • [www.orangeusd.org/canyon-rim-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/canyon-rim-elementary-school)



**Bree Tippets**  
*Principal*

## STEAM Lab

Welcome to the Canyon Rim STEAM Lab where we are innovators, collaborators, thinkers and creators. STEAM is an approach to learning that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and

critical thinking. STEAM allows our students to take risks, engage in experimental learning, persist in problem solving, embrace collaboration, and work through the creative process. STEAM learning encourages independent thinkers, project based learning, development of creative problem solving skills, engagement with real world applications, and well-being and mental health. Mrs. Chanin delivered a series of science lessons involving a virtual guest speaker, hands on experiments, and simulations that allowed students opportunities to actively engage and navigate their learning by thinking critically and

creatively, collaborating with one another, and problem solving. Students will participate in a culminating activity that will encompass all lessons in the unit and will allow students the opportunity to connect their learning and demonstrate their knowledge. Way to go 6th graders!



## Cerro Villa *Middle School*

17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6251 • [www.cerrovilla.org](http://www.cerrovilla.org)



**Madeline Morrison**  
*Principal*

### Club Rush

This fall, Vikings participated in Club Rush put on by our new activities director, Ms. Geminiani, and her leadership students. This year's Club Rush was highly-attended since students are back on campus full-time. During lunch, students got to learn about each club and sign up for the ones that interested them. We currently have fifteen clubs to offer! Leadership students have

been putting on fun lunchtime games to boost school spirit and heading up activities for Hispanic Heritage Month in September and Bullying Prevention Month and Red Ribbon Week in October. Our Vikings also just finished a successful soccer season with the Lady Vikings "A-Team" playing El Rancho for the district championship! Next up is volleyball and flag-football beginning in November. Students are thrilled that they have the opportunity to participate with their peers and neighboring schools again! We invite you to tour CV and get in on the fun!



## Chapman Hills *Elementary School*

170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/532-8043 • [www.orangeusd.org/chapman-hills-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/chapman-hills-elementary-school)



**Lana Merha**  
*Principal*

### New Principal

Mrs. Lana Merha is thrilled to return to OUSD and join the Bobcat family! This year marks Mrs. Merha's 24th year in education and she looks forward to continuing the collaborative culture and academic excellence that has been established at Chapman Hills.

Born and raised in Villa Park, California, Mrs. Merha attended OUSD schools as a child and graduated from Villa Park High School. After completing her Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences from California State University, Fullerton,

she chose to pursue a career in education. Mrs. Merha has served as an elementary school teacher, Response to Intervention Coach, and a Reading Specialist. Her administrative journey began six years ago as an Assistant Principal at McPherson Magnet School in Orange. For the past two years, Mrs. Merha has been an Elementary Principal in Brea and is excited to return "home" to OUSD!

Raised in a family of educators, Mrs. Merha is a lifelong learner and strives to use her enthusiasm for learning to ignite the same "spark" in each student. Her goal is to work alongside the students, staff, and community to cultivate a learning environment where students feel inspired, encouraged, supported, and ready to R.O.A.R!



## Crescent Elementary School

5001 E. Gerda Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6371 • [www.orangeusd.org/crescent-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/crescent-elementary-school)



**Antoinette Coe**  
Principal

### STEM is Growing at Crescent Elementary

We are excited to launch our TK-6th grade STEM program with an emphasis on Biomedical Science. This focus serves to introduce our students to the Biomedical Science field

and develop problem solving skills in an ever-changing world. By introducing Biomedical Science in the early grades, we create endless opportunities for the future.

To support the implementation of our program, we have adopted Project Lead the Way (PLTW) as the instructional curriculum. PLTW is an innovative project-based learning program that empowers students to develop and apply in-demand, transportable skills by exploring real-world challenges in an exciting and engaging way. However, the most important part of a



strong program is the teacher. We are fortunate to have Mr. Ireland serving as our new STEM teacher and building the foundation for a strong STEM program. We are excited to see this program grow!

## El Modena High School

3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6331 • [www.elmodenahs.org](http://www.elmodenahs.org)



**Jill Katevas**  
Principal

### Coach of the Week

El Modena's varsity football coach, Matt Mitchell, was named Los Angeles Chargers Orange County High School Coach of the Week! Annually, this program recognizes high school football coaches who have made the difference in the lives of their players through leadership, hard work, and a

special dedication to their young scholar athletes. Charger linebacker Kenneth Murray came to one of our games to congratulate Coach Mitchell for this honor. According to El Modena quarterback Jackson Keays, Coach Mitchell deserves this award "because of the uniqueness of the program and the level of discipline instilled in each athlete. There's an emphasis on playing the right way which sets us apart from other teams in Orange County. Coach Mitchell's leadership emphasizes helping boys grow into young men. He teaches the skills that will be useful as we players evolve into adulthood." Congratulations, Coach Matt Mitchell!





# El Rancho Charter *Middle School*

181 S. Del Giorgio Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/997-6238 • [elranchocharter.org](http://elranchocharter.org)



**Michele Walker**  
Principal

## Teen Read Week

From October 11-15, El Rancho Charter School participated in Teen Read Week; a national celebration in libraries across our country. Mrs. McGuire, our school librarian, worked tirelessly

to ensure that the event would be a success. The week was full of exciting events for both students and staff. From daily raffles, to hosting an awesome Book Fair; students across campus were talking about all things related to books and reading. Each day, the students had the opportunity to peruse the wonderful items for sale, ask questions, and share facts about their favorite authors, books, and genres. Read Week has definitely been a highlight of the school year!



# Esplanade *Elementary School*

381 N. Esplanade St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6157 • [www.orangeusd.org/esplanade](http://www.orangeusd.org/esplanade)



**Christina Yokoyama**  
Principal

## Rock Painting

During Red Ribbon Week in October, Esplanade students and staff participated in a rock garden project based on Linda Kranz's book, *Only One You*. This project was spearheaded by Esplanade teacher, Mrs. Canto, and funded through community donations. Each teacher received a copy of the book

for their classroom and read the book to their students. The book is about a little fish getting ready to go out into the big deep ocean on his own, getting advice from his parents about being himself and making the world a better place. After reading and discussing the book, each student and staff member painted a rock in their own unique way, showing how different we all are, and these are beautiful. The rocks were collected and now form a colorful rock garden on campus for everyone to enjoy.

During this project, the students and staff of Esplanade were reminded that they each bring their unique gifts and talents to the community, which then brightens the whole world.





## Fairhaven *Elementary School*

1415 Fairhaven Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6178 • [www.orangeusd.org/fairhaven-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/fairhaven-elementary-school)



**Christina Hiraes**  
*Principal*

### **AVID Ambassadors**

We have had our AVID Ambassadors meet, discuss issues important to them and plan for the school. WE have spirit day for the remainder of the school year, dedicated their lunch times to create red ribbon posters. Students at Fairhaven are ambassadors of

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports school-wide. Students earn blue tickets that are “You’ve been Spotted” being a good citizen. This Friday they will be managing our Student Store where students can redeem good behavior tickets for prizes. Our AVID Ambassadors are also making weekly announcements in the morning to get our Falcons off to a great start! We are so proud of our AVID Ambassadors and the Leadership characteristics they demonstrate on a daily basis for all who enter our campus. We are AVID strong! GO FALCONS!



## Fletcher *Elementary School*

515 W. Fletcher St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6181 • [www.orangeusd.org/fletcher-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/fletcher-elementary-school)



**Sara Pelly**  
*Principal*

### **Families Reunite at Walk to School Day!**

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 was a special day for Fletcher Falcons and their families. Not only was it National Walk to School Day, but it was the first time families were able to come together for a school-wide event since the COVID pandemic started! Because it was an outdoor activity, families were able to safely participate (masks were optional)

and continue this Fletcher tradition. Fletcher students and their families met at Olive Park and after pictures with “Fletch” the Falcon mascot, and a quick word from Principal Pelly, they began their walk to school with an escort from the Orange Police Department! Walk to School Day promotes and supports safe walking and biking routes and encourages healthy students and families. It can bring awareness to needs in the community to make necessary changes to student walking and biking routes to school.





## Handy Elementary School

860 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6183 • [www.orangeusd.org/handy-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/handy-elementary-school)



**Erika Krohn**  
Principal

### What is AVID?

AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. AVID Elementary is a foundational component of the AVID College Readiness System, and supports AVID's mission to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society by teaching:

Organization; Agendas, organizational tools, note-taking strategies; WICOR; Writing to Learn; Inquiry; Collaboration; Organization; Reading to Learn; Student Success Skills: Communication skills, study skills, time management, goal setting; Partnerships; A Day in the AVID Classroom: Students use agenda/planner throughout the day; Organizational tools are expected to be used throughout the day; Note-taking strategies are used by all students; Lessons with an emphasis on WICOR are represented in a variety of subjects; AVID 6th Grade Ambassadors are student leaders on campus.

Each classroom proudly displays a college flag each day. Additionally, every Wednesday, students and staff may wear AVID or college t-shirts to further promote that college is the plan for Handy scholars!



## Imperial Elementary School

400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6282 • [www.orangeusd.org/imperial-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/imperial-elementary-school)



**Diane Lew**  
Principal

### The Great ShakeOut

Imperial students and staff participated in The Great ShakeOut on October 21, 2021. In the days leading up to the large-scale earthquake drill, Imperial Eagles discussed how they could stay safe in an emergency. During the drill, students practiced how to “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” to ensure that

they know what to do in an earthquake when objects may be falling around them. Classes then safely moved out to the Supervision and Assembly area on the playground while the Emergency Response Teams assembled. The Search and Rescue Team searched throughout the campus to ensure that all students and staff had safely exited the building. At the same time, other teams rehearsed setting up a command center, site security, first aid, and a student release gate. Imperial Elementary regularly practices various emergency drills throughout each school year and our Imperial Eagles are ready for anything! We are Eagles, watch us soar!





## Jordan Academy of Language and Computer Science

4319 E. Jordan Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6187 • [www.orangeusd.org/jordan-academy](http://www.orangeusd.org/jordan-academy)



**Lorena Rubio**  
Principal

### Golden Bell Award!

Jordan Academy was recognized as a program that's innovative and sustainable, makes a demonstrated difference for students and focuses on meeting the needs of all students.

Jordan Academy is now entering its third year of offering this specialized Spanish Dual Immersion with Computer Science Integration program. The

school provides a unique educational experience that fosters a culture empowering students to be biliterate problem solvers, critical thinkers while providing a nurturing, culturally responsive learning environment that promotes equity and empathy

Students in Jordan Academy's program spend 50% of their day immersed in Spanish: Language Arts, Social Studies and Math. Immersion students are learning Spanish through content, not merely the teaching of the language in isolation. The Computer Science Integration aspect of our program is a unique blend of coding, robotics, computational

and algorithmic thinking/reasoning skills. Teachers utilize Apple's Everyone Can Code curriculum for direct instruction of computer science skills. Students practice coding, computational, and algorithmic thinking/reasoning skills with CodeSpark Academy and Tynker. Hands-on robotics and program design are implemented with LEGO Coding Express and WeDo.

Jordan Scholars Can and Will Succeed!



## La Veta Elementary School

2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6155 • [www.orangeusd.org/la-veta-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/la-veta-elementary-school)



**Sheryl Anderson-Glass**  
Principal

### Student Council

Our Vikings have been sailing through the year with a new Student Council team to lead the way. Our Viking leadership group began in October with representatives from each 4th through 6th grade class along with a new President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer/Historian. Every other week our team meets to incorporate kindness and respect around campus, along with share ways for students in every grade level to get involved in school activities. A partnership

has been created with primary classrooms to share details and develop a mentorship program.

Red Ribbon Week was a great success with students pledging to make healthy choices for a bright future. Each day brought about a new creative way for our students to show their school spirit and commitment to be kind.

Our school community has been a tremendous support during these first few months. All La Veta staff members have contributed to the successful implementation of iReady for the new school year. We look forward to accomplishing our academic goals and setting the bar higher as we develop positive relationships in the classroom. GO VIKINGS!

## Lampson Elementary School

13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/997-6153  
[www.orangeusd.org/lampson-elementary-school-k-5](http://www.orangeusd.org/lampson-elementary-school-k-5)



**Alejandra Pantoja**  
Principal

### Fall Virtual Literacy Night

Lampson Elementary held its first Fall Family Virtual Literacy Night on Monday, October 18th and we had an educational and fun night. Lampson teacher teams read a story/selection and an activity. It was great to see parents, students and teachers in their 'jammies' and drinking hot cocoa!

Every grade level had a special book and an activity to go along with it:

- TK/K shared *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and had caterpillar craft.
- 1st grade shared *The Very Busy Spider* and had a spider craft
- 2nd grade shared *The Dot* and families designed their own 'dot'.
- 3rd grade shared *The Magic Yet* and families created their own 'Magic Yet pennant'.
- 4th grade shared "The Napping House" and families join in on a 'Listen & Sketch'
- 5th grade shared an excerpt from *Harry Potter* and families took part in a recipe
- Our Resource and IS teachers shared *The Legend of Spookely the Square Pumpkin* and families created their own Pumpkin Sun Catcher Activity.



## Linda Vista Elementary School

1200 N. Cannon St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6201  
[www.lindavistaelementary.com](http://www.lindavistaelementary.com)



**Renee Ybarra**  
Principal

### Civic Learning

Happy Fall! We have had a wonderful start to the 21-22 school year at Linda Vista! One of the unique elements of Linda Vista is our schoolwide focus on Civic Learning. In fact, Linda Vista was awarded an Award of Merit for Civic Learning in 2020 and 2021. This fall we continued this beautiful tradition of learning through student participation in our 9/11 Memorial flag ceremony. Students

who participate in scouting of any kind dressed in uniform raised the flag to half-staff, led the entire school in the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem, and a poem honoring those who lost their lives on 9/11. Shortly after that ceremony, our 5th grade students led an assembly honoring Constitution Day. They led the whole school in learning about important people who participated in the development of the US Constitution and the circumstances in history surrounding this important document.

Our next civic learning event will be a special honoring of veterans. Students will be offered the opportunity to put a flag on our fence with the name of a veteran they want to honor on it. A portion of the proceeds for this event will go to the Wounded Warrior Project charity. Additionally, our 5th grade students will be doing a Veterans Day project in which they research a veteran in their family (or a friend) and write about him or her, then present this report to students at a schoolwide assembly. Linda Vista loves learning about United States history & honoring our military!

Psst...

Are you  
looking for  
me for the  
contest  
on page 24?





## McPherson Magnet *High School*

333 S. Prospect St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6384 • [mcpersonhome.meteormail.net](http://mcpersonhome.meteormail.net)



**Brenna Godsey**  
*Principal*

### Project Lead the Way

McPherson's Project Lead the Way program earned Distinguished School status for both the Gateway and Launch programs! Project Lead the Way is a STEM based program that engages students in hands-on, problem based learning opportunities.

All McPherson students, kindergarten

through 8th grade, participate in the program.

Recently, McPherson sixth grade students, learned about the design process by designing and building furniture for their pretend clients, an IKEA customer. The design had to be modern, comfortable, and functional. Pictured, sixth grade students use a decision tree matrix as they worked collaboratively to decide on which design to build.



Elementary students also participate in PLTW and enjoy their time in the STEM lab. Recently, McPherson third graders learning about how an airplane flies. They experimented with the concepts they learned about by making their own paper airplanes. McPherson fourth graders, were investigating potential and kinetic energy by building a pendulum with a VEX robotics kit.

## Nohl Canyon *High School*

4100 E. Nohl Ranch Rd., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6203 • [www.orangeusd.org/nohl-canyon-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/nohl-canyon-elementary-school)



**Jeff Jones**  
*Principal*

### Sports for Learning

The 2021-2022 school year has brought positive changes to Nohl Canyon. With all students returning to in-person instruction, we have the return of programs that benefit all students. VAPA, robotics and now for this school year, the introduction of Sports for Learning. Sports for Learning is a Physical Education program that incorporates

social emotional learning along with cooperative physical education activities. Our Sports for Learning instructors come to Nohl Canyon every Monday and each class is provided 50 minutes of Physical Education. Our instructors are positive, energetic, and knowledgeable in kinesthetic movement and social skills. Thank you to Sports for Learning and OUSD for providing this positive program to Nohl Canyon.





## Olive Elementary School

3038 Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/637-8218 • [www.orangeusd.org/olive-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/olive-elementary-school)



**Heather Darrow**  
Principal

### Art Masters

At Olive Elementary, we believe that students who are immersed in positive and enriching experiences will enjoy coming to school and will be successful because of their attendance.

For this reason, we are always looking for ways to provide new and engaging experiences for students each year. For example, Olive students participate in Art Masters each year, with a rotation of artists through the years. Each year, Olive goes above and beyond by hiring an art teacher to come in to work directly with the students. Having an artist on site to teach the lessons has proven to be both inspiring and engaging for students and staff. The best part of Art Masters is watching the students surprise themselves with their finished products. Every child is an artist, and this program



proves it. Art Masters lessons are always a favorite memory of Olive students. Go Ocelots!

## Orange High School

525 N. Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6211 • [www.orangehighschool.org](http://www.orangehighschool.org)



**Dennis McCuiston**  
Principal

### Vital Link

Orange High Welcomes Vital Link President, Dr. Brian Dozer for the Pedal-Ed Scholarship Ride

Pedal-Ed is a \$20,000 scholarship drive for Career Technical Education (CTE) students who are enrolling in Orange County

community colleges. Dr. Dozer and Vital Link

chose Orange High School as one of the stops during his fundraising ride. Vital Link's goal is to provide scholarships to help reduce student obstacles that prevent them from completing CTE programs. Pedal-Ed aims to highlight the value of programs like those at Orange High School to help address the labor market shortage.

Orange High School features eight different career pathways that support students in preparation for their career or college degree. One highlighted pathway at Orange High is Agriculture in which students get to experience hands-on projects in Animal Care, Livestock, and sustainable Agriculture. In true Panther Pride fashion, student leaders gave Dr. Dozer a warm welcome.





## Palmyra Elementary School

1325 E. Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6207 • [www.orangeusd.org/palmyra-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/palmyra-elementary-school)



**Christina Bletterman**  
Interim Principal

### Character Education Program

Palmyra has partnered with Harper for Kids by implementing their Character Education program schoolwide, which is based on Coach John Wooden's Pyramid of Success. The main characters, Inch the inchworm and Miles the mouse, set out to discover the meaning of success. In their quest, they discover the blocks (character traits) in the Pyramid of Success and meet a variety of animals who give clues to the meaning of success.

In October, Palmyra enjoyed a virtual assembly with Harper for Kids for grades TK to 6th. They highlighted part of the journey Inch and Miles are on using the Pyramid of Success including Hard Work, Enthusiasm, Friendship and Loyalty. Followed by another virtual assembly with a special guest Houston's Dash pro soccer player Megan Oyster! She's an awesome role model, played soccer at UCLA and loves Coach Wooden's Pyramid of Success. We have a monthly Awards Assembly honoring students' application of the

building blocks for success. Our focus is to teach our students to always do their best by offering good examples and strategies that lead students to being a "Successful Student".



## Panorama Elementary School

10512 Crawford Canyon Rd., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6265 • [www.orangeusd.org/panorama-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/panorama-elementary-school)



**Erin Rosselli**  
Principal

### Social-Emotional Learning

We are working as a school community to embody our new vision and mission. Our vision – Preparing, valuing, and empowering our scholars to learn, lead and succeed – is at the center of all our planning, as we work to implement our mission. Panorama supports our scholars in developing a resilient growth mindset to confidently learn, purposefully adapt, and empathetically lead in our evolving community and world.

We have focused on mindset through social-emotional learning. Each month we read a book as a school to dive deeply into one social-emotional core competency. For example, we began our year focusing on self-awareness with the *Bad Egg* and *Only One You*. After reading *Only One You*, teachers and students painted rocks for our Zen Garden that symbolize themselves. The teachers enjoyed painting their rocks and sharing their creations with their students. Our students enjoyed identifying words and symbols that uniquely represented them, and many of our classes worked together with their buddies.



## Portola *Middle School*

270 N. Palm Dr., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6361 • [www.orangeusd.org/portola-middle-school-6-7-8](http://www.orangeusd.org/portola-middle-school-6-7-8)



**Jeff Morgan**  
*Principal*

### It's So Good To Be Back!!!

It is so refreshing to have all of our students back on campus. Not only are we able to check in on them and make sure that they are doing well, but they have a great opportunity to get involved in ways that weren't possible due to the pandemic. Our

ASB, AVID, and yearbook leaders have done a great job setting the tone for this year. We have seen yearbook sales higher than in recent years. Our AVID program fundraiser for Halloween grams sold out in a matter of days. Our ASB started to sell new spirit shirts and have been a huge hit on campus. Our art students did a wonderful project on Hispanic heritage month, and as a student body, we had a large amount of participation in red ribbon spirit week. Although our students missed being a physical part of many aspects of school last year, they are now finding so many ways to immerse themselves in our school culture. It's just exciting to see them thriving in so many ways.



## Prospect *Elementary School*

379 N. Virage St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6271 • [www.orangeusd.org/prospect-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/prospect-elementary-school)



**Mary Hinton**  
*Principal*

### AVID Leadership Team

Prospect's AVID Leadership Team is made up of 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students who exemplify and build leadership skills by volunteering their time to help with special events and activities on campus. Read what two of our leadership members had to say about our AVID Leadership Team.

AVID Leadership in Prospect Elementary consists of many different jobs for the AVID Leadership Team. This year we will be focusing on many different things; we started with our annual Walk to School Day. Red Ribbon week is a "Say No to Drugs" week. Students will make a poster based on what the theme of that day is. Red Ribbon Week is a one week event starting on October 25th to the 29th. Book Fair is an exciting time, because kids will be able to buy books. The money will be

used for the school's needs. Eureka store is a little shop in which students get to use their Eureka's (tickets students receive for being either; ready, respectful, or responsible) for goodies. A daily morning flag salute is what two students do for two whole weeks. Then our teacher (Mrs. Aguirre) will pick two other students for the following two weeks, and so on. There are many other things we do, but here are some of the most exciting ones.

— Emmanuel Ramirez

AVID Leadership is a leadership group where a bunch of people have a meeting a couple times a month and discuss different issues, fundraisers, spirit days, or what is going to happen next. A few examples are we get to say the morning flag salute, run the book fair, make posters, and it helps building leaders for tomorrow. I love AVID Leadership because it gives people including myself a chance to have different opportunities.

— Aleah Lewis



## Richland *High School*

615 N. Lemon St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6167 • [www.orangeusd.org/richland-continuation-high-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/richland-continuation-high-school)



**Lisa Ogan**  
*Principal*

### **S.O.A.R.**

As the first quarter ends, Richland students continue to S.O.A.R. (Skilled Organized Accountable Respectful) taking advantage of their opportunity to work towards graduation. Richland proudly celebrated five graduates in first quarter and we look forward to even more students graduating or returning to their home school in second quarter! These Richland students overcome obstacles and persevere daily as they approach graduation. Pictured is our first quarter celebration

recognizing recent graduates, Students of the Quarter, and Condors of Character.

As a school that promotes diversity in teaching and personalized learning, we are excited to offer a Personal Finance Class with the collaboration of Santiago Community College. From this class, students can earn 10 credits towards high school graduation along with 3 college credits. It's a dual success! This is one of the many opportunities showcasing how Richland continues to excel in providing a learning environment that is personalized and aligned to meet all the needs of our 21st –century learners. Go Condors!



## Running Springs *Elementary School*

8670 E. Running Springs Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/281-4512 • [www.orangeusd.org/running-springs-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/running-springs-elementary-school)



**Mark McLaughlin**  
*Principal*

### **IB Education**

An IB education aims to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. One example of fostering intercultural understanding is in a lesson taught by our Spanish teacher about the exceptional daily routines of primary school children and teachers as they prepare to go to school in Bolivia. Students explored unique routes and risky conditions leading to learning sites, and questioned the reasons long walks and even homemade ziplines are the only ways to school. The lesson objective was for students to understand how fortunate we are to have established and rather safe roads in our community. Sometimes simple routines are taken for granted, such as our crossing guards at the stop sign helping our community to be safe or even the privilege to wake up at seven instead of four in the

morning. Many children in Bolivia are citizens of the jungle and concurrently of a nation that is characterized by 60% living in extreme poverty, meaning that basic needs are not easily met. As students inquire about their peers' situation, some wondered if children residing in Bolivia should leave their home-country and seek a safer place that supports their dreams. By recognizing differences and being receptive to diversity, we are developing awareness and responsibility which are certain to bring future changes and student action that will be implemented by bright and inquisitive minds.

**\*\*Running Springs is a candidate school\* for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme and pursuing authorization as an IB World School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy—a commitment to improve the teaching and learning of a diverse and inclusive community of students by delivering challenging, high quality programmes of international education that share a powerful vision.\*\***

# Santiago Charter *Middle School*

515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6366 • [www.santiagocharterms.org](http://www.santiagocharterms.org)



**Dr. James D'Agostino**  
Co-Principal



**Ashley Pedroza**  
Co-Principal

## Giving Back

Santiago Charter Middle School is a part of an exceptional community in East Orange and the students and staff of Santiago consistently look for ways to give back to the community. Above and beyond finding success in the classroom, we feel it is our role and

responsibility to provide students the opportunities to positively impact others. In partnership with a variety of city and county programs, we focus on local needs and providing for our local community. Here are two of the organizations we partner with and the impact our Santanas create:

Santiago Charter Middle School partners annually with the Community Foundation of Orange (CFO) to promote and support the Field of Valor. Our Santanas write letters

to Veterans, raise money for Veterans' Foundations and help to promote the event which impacts so many. In addition to the Field of Valor, Santiago helps with a variety of other events held by the CFO and is proud to work in conjunction with their efforts to support our community.

As a new partnership, Santiago will serve as a distribution site for the Power of One Foundation. This foundation has worked tirelessly through the pandemic to provide food for those who are food insecure and in our community. As a distribution site, Santiago students and families will help package over a thousand boxes of food and distribute it to anyone and everyone who needs it and lives locally. We are honored to be chosen to work with this foundation to further support our families and local area.

In 2017, 2018 and 2020, Santiago was recognized as a Civic Learning School by the State of California. We take this honor very seriously as this honor is a result of our giving culture and our focus on providing to others. We consistently work to teach our students to be community contributors and find great responsibility and pride in supporting our local East Orange families.

# Serrano *Elementary School*

17741 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6275 • [www.orangeusd.org/serrano-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/serrano-elementary-school)



**Laura Kresl**  
Principal

## Eagles SOAR

This month at Serrano we kicked off our Schoolwide Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports (PBIS) Initiative.

We had the whole school outside for an assembly where our Eagle mascot made an appearance accompanied by the Cerro Villa Jazz Band.

Prior to the assembly, our PBIS Committee developed a program that will identify and support desired behaviors here at Serrano. PBIS seeks to reduce or eliminate poor behavior schoolwide through the encouragement of positive behaviors.



Students will be rewarded for displaying positive behaviors on campus. They receive tickets that are entered into a raffle prize drawing on Friday afternoon. Earning tickets also helps their class work together! Once the class earns 20 tickets, they display a letter on their classroom window. Once the class spells out "Eagles SOAR", they win a class party.

At Serrano Elementary, Eagles SOAR!

- S- I showed self-control
- O- I owned my actions
- A- I displayed a positive attitude
- R- I showed respect & responsibility

We are looking forward to seeing the positive impact this initiative will make on our Serrano campus!



## Sycamore *Elementary School*

340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6277 • [www.orangeusd.org/sycamore-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/sycamore-elementary-school)



**Dr. Lucia Perales**  
*Principal*

### Leveraging PTA to Support our Sycamore Elementary School

Our Sycamore Elementary Parent Teacher Association, a nationally recognized association, is excited to commence the 2021-2022 school year by engaging the Sycamore community through various fundraising events and school events. Our PTA board and members, in partnership with our Community Liaison, Marisol

Lagunas, and Sycamore teachers join with our new Principal, Dr. Perales, to bring incredible events for students and community.

Dr. Perales met with the PTA cabinet at the beginning of the school year to develop an events calendar. Joined by Mrs. Abrica, our fifth and six grade teacher, the PTA and community began to gather funds for the 6th grade student activities. Our Island's Snacks Fundraiser was a great success! We raised almost \$12,000 towards our programs

via this fundraiser, with about \$6,000 going directly to our school programs. The fundraiser had 111 participants and 56 students sold 15+ items earning their attendance at an upcoming magic show to be held following OUSD COVID protocols. For a school of 360 students, the participation in our first fundraiser is a testament of the strong community involvement and support of our students, faculty, and parents. We are super hopeful that this year we will be able to fundraise a net profit of \$20,000 via our events and fundraisers to support our school programs.

Our new principal and Sycamore PTA mission is to be influenced by our students' success through the alignment of our school goals with our PTA's commitment to academic success. Furthermore, to keep our community engaged this year, Sycamore established social media accounts. Besides the typical phone messages, parent meetings, and flyers, parents now have another way to receive information from the school. Please follow us at Twitter @OUSDSycamore, Instagram Sycamore\_OUSD.

## Taft *Elementary School*

1829 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6254 • [www.orangeusd.org/taft-elementary-school](http://www.orangeusd.org/taft-elementary-school)



**Amy Alvarado**  
*Principal*

### Great Time at Taft

Learning is in full swing at Taft Elementary! Our amazing teachers have been working hard creating engaging lessons, providing relevant feedback and encouraging academic growth for our students. We have been collaborating, analyzing data and attending trainings

to enhance our instruction. Beyond the academic program, we have been fortunate to participate in Art Masters school wide, Sports for Learning, GRIP Meet Ups and Mentors Lunch, Parent - Teacher Conferences, Weekly Taft Ticket Drawings, Monthly Student of the Month Awards and Positive Behavior Assemblies. We also held our first Parent and Family Engagement Bingo Night, which was a great time.



## Villa Park *Elementary School*

10551 Center Dr., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6281 • [www.orangeusd.org/villa-park-elementary](http://www.orangeusd.org/villa-park-elementary)



**Dr. Sara Beggs**  
*Principal*

### VPE Staff Implements

Villa Park Elementary School is beyond happy to have all our bobcats back in person. The year is off to a great start. Now more than ever, we need to implement small group instruction to meet the needs of all learners. Our VPE staff implements small group instruction in a variety of engaging ways. If you were to walk on our campus on any given day you would see small groups meeting

in our quad, small groups sitting on towels just outside their classroom, and small groups within the classroom. With support of COVID funding we have additional staff on campus to work with small groups of students in order to provide intervention and enrichment. We have also started our afterschool tutoring sessions for students in kindergarten through sixth grade. We are so proud of our bobcats for always doing their personal best. We are grateful to all our highly qualified and dedicated VPE staff for going above and beyond every day for our students. GO BOBCATS!

## Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/532-8020 • [www.villaparkhigh.org](http://www.villaparkhigh.org)



**Dr. Ken Miller**  
*Principal*

### 2021 Cheerleader's Choice

Villa Park High School Cheer Program has been selected as a 2021 Cheerleader's Choice: School Spirit Spotlight Winner!

Varsity TV will spotlight and highlight our cheer programs across the nation with exclusive in-depth features. Over 800 high school and college cheer programs were nominated and the Spartans were hand selected to be in the TOP 20 for voting. Over

70,000 votes were cast and Villa Park was one of six cheer programs in the US announced to be featured on Varsity TV this upcoming season.

Our Villa Park Cheerleaders and Coach Izzy are extremely honored and excited with this big announcement. We cannot wait to share our story of continuing a tradition of excellence at VPHS, being ambassadors in our community, our hard work year round and sharing our love of the sport of cheer!

### Choir Triumphant Returns

The award-winning Villa Park High School Vocal Music Department hosted our 7th annual Villa Cafe Showcase on October 6 in the VPHS Amphitheater. The community showed incredible support for our amazing students and were able to observe all their hard work come to fruition!

The program from musical theater consisted of an eclectic variety ranging from jazz numbers, to singer songwriter, to movie music and finally, to pop. We had quite a whimsical version of "All Star" by the band Smashmouth as well as feature tunes from Disney Pixar films like Cars and Coco. Finally, we effectively got the large crowd into the Halloween spirit with the tune "I Put a Spell on You" from Hocus Pocus.

Award winning Choir Director Mrs. Stacy Oh stated, "It was thrilling to be able to perform for a live audience once again!"

The arts rock at VPHS! Thank you for reading and have a great month of November and December!

## Contest!

Santa is somewhere in this issue.

When you find him, email the **page number** to:

[Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com)

Please put OUSD in the subject line.

Your entry must be received by January 15, 2022.

From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.





## West Orange *Elementary School*

243 S. Bush St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6283 • [www.orangeusd.org/west-orange-elementary-school-k-5](http://www.orangeusd.org/west-orange-elementary-school-k-5)



**Dr. Monica Murray**  
*Principal*

### CSTEM Program

West Orange Elementary is excited to launch the UC Davis CSTEM program! The C-STEM program provides students with an exceptional opportunity for hands-on integrated math and computer science learning with robotics. Computer programming and robotics are just the beginning. Students take the concepts they learn and apply them to real-life problems where they think critically and come up

with creative solutions. During 2021-2022 our Warriors will begin their journey of learning new coding skills while increasing their mathematics understanding with CSTEM and their core curriculum. Our Warriors across grade levels start their day learning math, talking about math, and engaging with hands-on learning. During our weekly math lunch challenges, students answer mathematics riddles for a chance to win Warrior bucks. In addition, the number talk's strategy is used across classrooms for students to develop academic mathematics vocabulary with collaborative peer-to-peer conversations. Join us via social media to follow our journey as we become a mathematics academy.



## Yorba *Academy of the Arts Middle School*

935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6161 • [www.orangeusd.org/yorba](http://www.orangeusd.org/yorba)



**Sandra Preciado-Martin**  
*Principal*

### Free Technology for Kids

Yorba Middle School is excited to announce that we were selected as a Verizon Innovative Learning School for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years! The Verizon Innovative Learning initiative, brings free technology, free access, and immersive hands-on learning opportunities to kids inspiring tomorrow's creators to use technology

to build brighter futures. Verizon, through its partnership with Digital Promise, equips every child and teacher at Yorba Middle School with a Chromebook with 5G internet access including a free data plan. In addition to free technology and access, Verizon Innovative Learning schools (VILs) also receive extensive teacher training and support to leverage technology in their classrooms. Through Verizon Innovative Learning, students and teachers are taught to use powerful tools innovatively, and teachers receive comprehensive, ongoing professional development on how to effectively leverage mobile technology to improve learning



Yorba Middle School students are now equipped with a device that can access technology and STEM learning opportunities anywhere as they explore all the possibilities for building bright futures for themselves and the world.

## Daniel's Review



**Daniel H.**

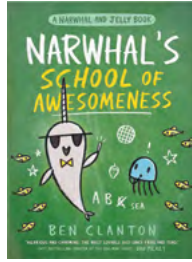
### Waffleomatics

Title: *Narwhal's School of Awesomeness*  
(A Narwhal and Jelly Book #6)

Author: Ben Clanton

Narwhal the narwhal and Jelly the jellyfish see a school of fish and decide to join them on their way to school. When they all get to school, they find out that school is cancelled because Mr. Blowfish the teacher has a cold. Narwhal and Jelly come to the rescue and become substitute teachers for the day. Narwhal uses his favorite food of all time, waffles, to teach the fish Waffleomatics, which is waffles + math! I loved this book because it is silly, cute, and doesn't have anything scary in it, just like all of the other books in this series.

Read this book and you will love Narwhal and Jelly like I do!



Daniel is in second grade and he likes to spend time with his family playing board games, reading, and playing sports like tennis, soccer, and basketball.

## Yoona's Review



**Yoona C.**

### Countless Wishes

Book Title: *Wish*

Author: Barbara O'Connor

Have you ever been sent somewhere without your parents? Have you had so many wishes you would just wish would come true? I read a book called *Wish*. The main character is named Charlemange Reese, Charlie for short.

Charlie and her family lived in Raleigh. Her mom and dad fought a lot. Charlie's dad fought so much, it led to him going to jail. Her mom just lay in bed all the time in the darkness. Charlie also had a sister named Jackie. Her family wasn't working out, so Charlie had to go to her mom's sister, Bertha and Bertha's husband, Gus. Charlie made wishes lots of times--making a wish at 11:11, when she finds a four-leaf clover, etc. At the end she gets letters from her mom and dad, who never did so before. What do you think the letter says? Will it make Charlie feel something?



Yoona is a 4th grader. She likes to read books and create stories. She also enjoys playing soccer.

## Football Word Search Contest

**Rules!** One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put OUSD in the subject line.)

Entries must be received by **January 15, 2022**

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



Clipping	Linebacker	Scrimmage
Coach	Loss of	Special
Conversion	Down	Teams
Cornerback	Offsides	Super Bowl
Defense	Personal	Tackle
Field Goal	Foul	Tailback
Flanker	Possession	Touchdown
Goal Post	Quarterback	Yardage
Interference	Roughing	
Kicker	Safety	

**Congratulations to**

**Samina Ahmed and Laura Garza**  
**Winners of the September Contests!**

Y	N	F	L	N	O	I	S	S	E	S	S	O	P	E
P	W	Q	I	R	W	B	G	R	P	P	Z	S	K	Y
L	O	U	N	E	C	O	R	N	E	R	B	A	C	K
E	D	A	E	K	L	D	D	C	R	E	D	F	A	S
G	H	R	B	C	G	D	I	F	S	Y	O	E	B	E
A	C	T	A	I	N	A	G	N	O	Y	W	T	L	D
M	U	E	C	K	L	E	E	O	N	S	N	Y	I	I
M	O	R	K	T	V	F	R	F	A	M	S	W	A	S
I	T	B	E	X	E	A	H	E	L	L	R	O	T	F
R	Y	A	R	D	A	G	E	H	F	A	P	Z	L	F
C	M	C	G	N	I	H	G	U	O	R	N	O	B	O
S	G	K	T	A	C	K	L	E	U	M	E	K	S	R
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I	J	E	V	C	O	N	V	E	R	S	I	O	N	R
C	L	I	P	P	I	N	G	E	F	J	P	T	R	I



## Kailani's Review



**Kailani T.**

### Do You Have An Imaginary Friend?

*Crenshaw* by Katherine Applegate is about a family with very little money for rent and even less money for food and toys. When Jackson's dad lost his job, his sister, mother, and the family dog have to move from place to place. When there was no more money for rent, the family has to live in their minivan. Jackson has an imaginary friend named Crenshaw. Crenshaw is a huge fluffy cat. Crenshaw always comes into Jackson's life whenever Jackson needs help.



The story is full of excitement and sadness. I learn more about homelessness and friendship from this story. Reading this book makes me understand why my parents always tell me to appreciate everything we have, to share when we can, and not to take anything for granted. This book also shows how important it is to have a good friend, even if they're imaginary. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars.

Kailani is a 4th grader who loves to read. When not playing with her brother, Kailani likes to listen to music, ride horses, and play board games. Hope everyone stays well and healthy.

## Jenna's Review



**Jenna C.**

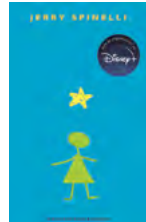
### Carry Us Away

Book Title: *Stargirl*

Author: Jerry Spinelli

Change is a big word and is something a lot of people do so that others will like them. Stargirl is a character that differs from everybody else. Leo the narrator always tells himself that Stargirl is weird but, do you think that? Your opinion may change throughout the book because of Stargirl's choices. Stargirl is new to the school and catches attention quickly for being unique such as singing with her ukulele in the cafeteria. She becomes the good luck charm at the football game because she starts singing which motivates the players to try harder. She becomes the Queen of the school, but does she maintain her popularity with her quirkiness? Read to find out!

Jenna is a 6th grader. She enjoys playing soccer and drawing. She likes to read fiction novels. Someday she wants to publish a book.



## David's Review



**David H.**

### One Big Puzzle

Title: *Holes*

Author: Louis Sachar

Holes is about a kid named Stanley who gets sent to a camp as punishment where he and other kids have to dig holes in the ground each day, looking for something for the camp warden. What I liked about this book is that it's really 3 stories in 1. There are a bunch of "holes" in each story and the stories are like puzzle pieces that, when combined, make up one big fun story with bits of humor splashed throughout it. This is a "Mom, I know it's bedtime but can I please read the next chapter?" type of book. I absolutely loved this book and you will too!



David is in fourth grade and he loves to read and play piano. He likes math and outdoor activities such as rock climbing, tennis, and basketball.

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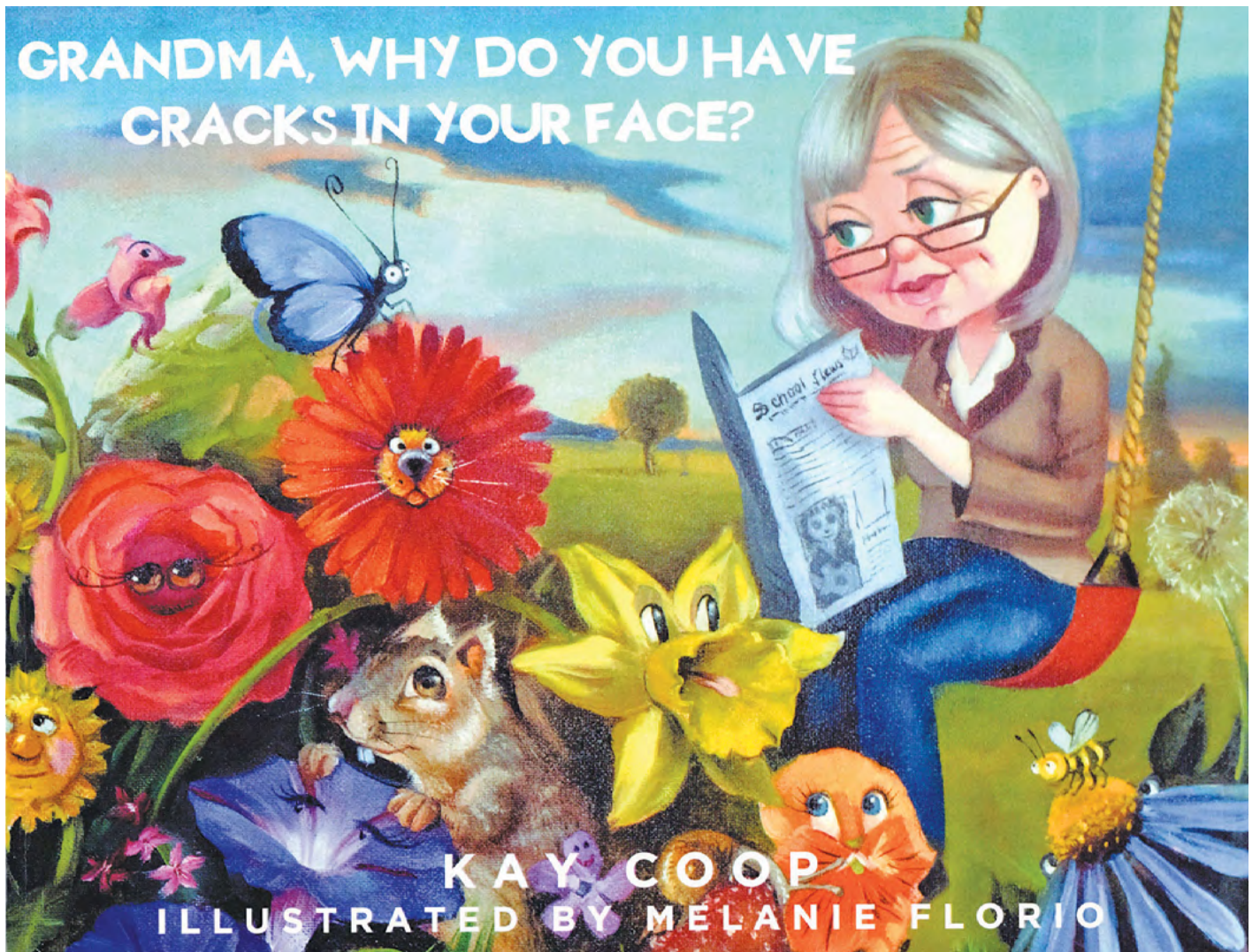
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