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School News

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Covering the Orange Unified School District

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JUNE / JULY 2010

SUPERINTENDENT



Renae Dreier, Ed.D.

During these challenging economic times, news of budget cuts can be overwhelming. The District has made a number of reductions in order to balance the budget. We have asked our employees for input on what programs and positions are "mission critical" to the students of the Orange Unified School District. We have placed budget presentations on the District website the day after Board meetings in order to provide information about our District's progress in balancing the budget. We will continue to listen to our employees and communicate our progress throughout this process.

The following list illustrates how this budget crisis has impacted our District during the current 2009-10 school year. The District has:

- Increased class sizes in first and second grades from 20:1 to 25:1
- Eliminated two separate student calendars
- Reduced total salary compensation by 2%
- Closed Silverado Elementary School
- Eliminated elementary vocal music program
- Eliminated school-based technology instructional assistants
- Increased caseloads for high school counselors
- Eliminated middle school athletics
- Reduced school site discretionary budgets
- Reduced department budgets
- Reduced administrative and support staff by \$1.8 million

Additional reductions approved for the upcoming 2010-11 school year include:

- Eliminating District funding for sports transportation
- Increasing bus pass fees
- Eliminating GATE busing
- Eliminating the elementary instrumental music program
- Eliminating elementary summer school
- Restructuring secondary summer school
- Reducing and restructuring of custodial staffing
- Closing Riverdale Elementary School
- Increasing class sizes in first and second grades from 25:1 to 30:1
- Reducing administrative and support staff by an additional \$900,000

Unfortunately, even with these reductions, we continue to grapple with a difficult budget situation. More reductions are likely to come with the latest budget proposed by the Governor.

As we move toward the end of the school year, my goal is to keep the lines of communication open. Please consider our website as a resource of current information. In times of crisis, knowledge is important and powerful. We want you to be informed and your voice heard. Your input is welcomed and encouraged. Please feel free to email me or call my office anytime.

*By John H. Ortega,
President Board of Education*

We are full of high hopes, aspirations and dreams for the future

As the academic year comes to a close, I want to thank our staff, parents, students and community for a great year in spite of economic challenges. As a district, we must make some difficult decisions with regard to our budget for the upcoming school year.

We will be carefully reviewing all aspects of the budget to ensure that our students will be provided with the best possible education and our staff will be provided with full support to enable them to do their jobs. All school districts in the state of California are in this same position. These have been unprecedented tough times but our district continues to be focused on the positives. We are full of high hopes, aspirations and dreams for the future. Finally, I would like to wish everyone a restful and peaceful Summer.

Orange Unified School District Board of Education



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**Congratulations
to the Class of 2010**



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As the school year comes to a close the district has much to be proud of and many of the articles in this issue are about the year in review. The graduates are saying goodbye to friends they may not see again and anticipating what the future has in store as they venture into the world of higher learner or employment. We wish all of them well. No doubt in a few short years we'll be publishing articles from alumni who have come back to their alma mater to teach.

Congratulations to the graduates and their families.

Have a wonderful summer. Our next issue is August 18.

School News

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Covering the
ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Academic Decathlon & Pentathlon



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent

Looking around the auditorium, there are students with faces painted in their school colors who are waving signs and cheering wildly. This isn't a basketball game; it is the Academic Pentathlon and Decathlon SuperQuiz event. The SuperQuiz is a Jeopardy-style relay that often looks more like an athletic event than an academic competition. It is truly exciting to see students screaming and chanting for a scholastic event!

In 1968, the Orange County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Robert Peterson, created something new and exciting – a competition for high school students which focused on stimulating academic achievement and honoring “athletes of the mind.” He called it the Academic Decathlon.

Today, the Academic Decathlon is the premiere scholastic competition in America. The most notable aspect of the program is that it is open to any high school student, regardless of their grade point average. The competition includes tests in art, music, math, language/literature, economics, science, and social science. In addition, decathletes must write an essay, participate in an interview, and deliver both a prepared and impromptu speech. The program develops academically well-rounded students who can speak well, write competently, and present themselves professionally.

In the mid-1980's, the Academic Pentathlon was launched to encourage intellectual curiosity and academic accomplishment in middle schools. The competition operates in the same basic fashion as the decathlon, but serves students from sixth to eighth grade and offers five competitive events. The Academic Pentathlon is aligned with California Content Standards so participants benefit greatly from reinforcement of their school-based learning.

After each competition, the students' hard work and outstanding achievement

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Anaheim Hills *Elementary*

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Sandra Miller
Principal

Sixth Graders Busy Until the End

It has been an exciting year for Anaheim Hills sixth graders! We are nearing the end of our journey to all the ancient cultures of the world, have recently returned from Outdoor Science School, and have been applying our newly acquired knowledge of plate tectonics to the recent volcanic activity in Iceland.

Students are busy planning their sixth grade video production of *The Phantom Tollbooth*, a play from our literature book that we recently completed. Each student is participating by taking on the role of a set designer, cameraman, director, actor, soundman, or editor. Parents will be invited to view the finished product in June.

In preparation for the STAR Testing, we have been extensively reviewing core subjects while reminding students of test taking strategies such as estimation, justification of answers, and the importance of understanding exactly what is being asked in the question.

We are also looking forward to playing in the annual sixth grade vs. staff softball game, going to Disneyland, and sixth grade promotion!

Students continue to work hard and are committed to their goal of being well prepared for the rigors and challenges of middle school.

Cambridge *Elementary*

425 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92866 • 714/997-6103



Karen Merkow
Principal

Cambridge Elementary Year in Review

What an incredible year full of learning in an exciting and supportive environment! We began the year by identifying reading comprehension and basic math facts as our main focus. Our students were amazed when we had Commander Chuck Street land his helicopter here at Cambridge to deliver his message about how important reading is and how to keep on trying until success is reached! All classrooms received new Smart Boards to increase student motivation and engagement during daily lessons using technology. Students participated in our Rocket Math Program and the Reading Counts Program to increase skills. We hope to see our STAR test scores soar! We enjoyed being part of the CLASS Act program which brought musicians from the Pacific Symphony Orchestra to Cambridge to teach about the music of Tchaikovsky. We held family training nights teaching Reading Strategies and Science Activities. It was an amazing year!



Students enjoyed meeting Commander Chuck, seeing his helicopter and learning how he overcame reading challenges.

California *Elementary*

1080 N. California St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6104



Cyndi Paik
Principal

Highlights of the Year – June 2010

It's hard to believe the end of the school year is upon us already. After months of perseverance and diligence by teachers, staff, students, and parents, it is finally time to take a deep breath and reflect on the highlights of the year. California Elementary has continued its traditional Spirit Days of Crazy Sock Day, Sports Day, Pajama Day, and Hat day. In addition, we had a character assembly featuring Ronald McDonald and a newly added event of Jump Rope for Heart. Of especially exciting interest this year was the return of Family Science Night put on by teachers Tracy Maple and Charlene Lear. The turnout was phenomenal with over 450 guests in attendance. Students and their families had the opportunity to visit and enjoy 11 stations including snail races, birds of prey, reptiles, a planetarium, and the human bubble. The evening was a huge success. We are very proud of all that we've achieved this year to ensure a successful year.

Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/998-5000



William Gee, Ed.D.
Principal

Getting Mobile

This was another very successful year at Canyon Hills, where we are always committed to helping our students become independent.

This year, our students began using the Orange County ACCESS buses for their local transportation needs. Now they can ride the bus to bowling alleys, restaurants, public parks, shopping malls and movie theaters.

The amount of time that severely disabled students spend in "community based instruction" is the best predictor for adult adjustment. So we are very thankful for the opportunities that the OCTA provides them.

Additionally, many of our Adult Transition Program students also work at businesses which are located within walking distance to the school.

As a testimony to our success, our students' test scores again rose dramatically this year! These are not the basic California Standards Tests, but our staff and families are proud of the dramatic increase for the second straight year.

More importantly, the individualized goals continue to be the gold standard for our success, and they guide the instructional program.

Our students are definitely meeting their goals, which we can confirm with systematic and detailed assessments. This is a unique evaluation, because each student's progress is measured every day by one specific goal. The collected data is then used to influence future teaching plans. This work is time consuming but it is well worth the effort.

We are proud of our school and its dedicated educators, all of whom work diligently and honorably with some of the most needy students in the county. Every member of our team knows that they make a difference in the lives of their students.

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is recognized at a special award ceremony. Medals and plaques are presented to the top scoring students in each event as well as the highest scoring teams. Each year, hundreds of medals are distributed to students who compete against their peers at the same grade point average (GPA) level.

The Academic Decathlon and Pentathlon are wonderful programs that provide students with positive educational experiences outside the classroom. Decathlon and Pentathlon participants improve their study skills, become better writers, while enhancing team work, time management, critical thinking, and social skills. High School students who participate in the decathlon also develop public speaking, research, and interview skills, which strengthens their resumes and college applications. Participation in the Pentathlon and Decathlon helps students feel connected to school and helps them develop a network of close friends.

More than forty years after inception, these programs continue to encourage students to achieve new levels of excellence. Participation requires dedication, perseverance, and hard work. Programs like the decathlon and pentathlon that celebrate and acknowledge academic excellence create a rich learning environment and support a world class education where every student succeeds.

Canyon *High School*

220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/532-8000 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/canyon



End of Year Highlights

Despite all the budgetary stress of this year, we at Canyon High School have many achievements to be proud of:

Canyon High School again has more than 1000 members in the PTSA. Canyon PTSA sponsored an after school tutoring program with our teachers in the Library.

The new Canyon Education Foundation donated \$28,000 to support our academic programs this year.

Canyon has 2009-2010 Century League Champions in Girls Golf, Girls Cross Country, Girls Soccer, Boys Cross Country, and Boys Basketball.

Four Canyon seniors were accepted by Stanford University, one senior will attend Yale and one will attend Cornell in the fall.

The enrollment in the International Baccalaureate program has doubled.

The Canyon Science Olympiad Team placed 6th in the region.

A team of Canyon students won the CSULA Robotics Competition (see picture).

Canyon received a six year accreditation term from WASC.

Greg Bowden,
Ed. D.
Principal



2010 Robotics Competition.

Cerro Villa *Middle School*

17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6251 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/cv



Greatness Every Day in the Year

This year, it seems that every day was a bonus day, giving us many highlights and wonderful things to remember. Throughout the year, our students distinguished themselves in many ways. Our Science Olympiad Team competed in the State Finals, two of our Destination Imagination students are competing in the Global Finals, three students were honored by the Villa Park City Council for Academic Achievement and our Veteran's Wall of Honor was displayed at the Nixon Library. We exceeded our goal in redesignating students to fluent English proficient, we earned the prestigious Energy Star Award, and our families viewed the stars at Cerro Villa's first Night with the Stars Astronomy Night.

We're equally proud of our teachers. Lisa Hedspeth was awarded the OCDE Outstanding Contribution to Education Award, Andrew Castro was chosen as OUSD Teacher of the Year and Dee Monson earned the OUSD Customer Service Award. New clubs abounded on our campus, with the Future Business Leaders of America, Reading Club, Science Club and foreign language clubs, and students built robots in our new Math Robotix Club. We bought dinners for needy families at Christmas and Thanksgiving, and our students contributed time and money to charities and good causes.

We have been blessed with a year of teamwork, positive energy and a sense of importance in giving our students the quality educational experience that has been the hallmark of Cerro Villa-Land of the Vikings! It has been a great year!

Sue Baden
Acting Principal

Canyon Rim *Elementary*

1090 S. The Highlands, Anaheim, Ca 92808 • 714/532-7027 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/cr



End of the Year Thank you!

Canyon Rim staff and parents have done an outstanding job in doing whatever it takes to help all of our students have academic success this year! Success is the peace of mind which is a direct result of the self-satisfaction in knowing that you have made the effort to become the best of which you are capable.

Using words from *Inch and Miles* to describe the SUCCESS of the school.....

Hard Work: the staff moved a mountain, bit by bit. It takes HARD WORK – they never sit. Staff worked and worked throughout the year. Their work came first before they played.

Enthusiasm: In your SUCCESS, joy played a part. ENTHUSIASM in your smile, combined with work, you found worthwhile. The energy and pep you showed rubbed off on those (our students) you know. You did not make excuses, complain, or whine. You enjoyed your work and SUCCESS you did find!

Fitness: You were fit to run the race, the other horses you did outpace. Your FITNESS level must be great. SUCCESS requires a healthy state.

Team Spirit: Your TEAM is part of who you are. But don't forget, the TEAM'S the star. You helped, supported, and then you cheered it. To find SUCCESS, you showed strong TEAM SPIRIT.

You made every effort to become the best you can be, so that the students can be the best they can be!

I personally and publicly want to thank the Canyon Rim staff, parents, and students for an outstanding year and for being your personal best!

David Appling
Principal

Chapman Hills *Elementary*

170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/532-8043 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/chapman



Smart Testing Tips

Chapman Hills students are high achievers in the statewide STAR testing and have worked hard in class again this year. During a recent school assembly, students and teachers celebrated last year's outstanding STAR testing results and focused on the resolve to do even better during testing, which began in early May. Students in second through sixth grades were assessed in language arts and mathematics, and fifth-graders also took assessments in science. During the assembly, Student Council members reviewed smart test-taking tips from the stage. Using a "man on the street" interview format, the following tips were reviewed:

Basic: Get plenty of rest, eat a good breakfast, and arrive on time.

Keep your eyes on your own paper.

Don't rush through the test. Read the whole question before looking at the answers, read all choices before choosing your answer, and eliminate answers you know are not right. Usually, your first choice is the right one.

Do the easiest problems first. Don't stay on one problem too long. If you don't know an answer, skip it. Go on with the rest of the test and come back to it later. Make an educated guess, if necessary.

Keep a positive attitude through the whole test. Stay relaxed.

Of course, these and other tips are emphasized all year by the teachers as the students take regular quizzes and chapter tests to demonstrate mastery of the subject. Chapman Hills students, parents and teachers are all proud of the school's achievement and look forward to a great outcome this year.



Crescent *Elementary*

5001 E. Gerda Drive, Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6371 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/ci



Randi Leach
Principal

United We Stand!

In our first official year as Crescent Elementary School with one CDS code, our “United We Stand” slogan brought many exciting changes to our school. The former Crescent Primary Pandas and the Crescent Intermediate

Bulldogs were retired to make room for our new Crescent Elementary mascot, the Crescent Cougars. Every Friday for Spirit Day, students, staff and parents on both campuses can be seen wearing black and gold with our new Crescent Cougar logo.

Throughout the 2009-2010 school year, there were so many positive programs and activities which helped to unite our community. Held on the upper campus, our quarterly Family Picnics provided an opportunity for our entire community to eat together. Incorporating themes such as Pajama Day and Hawaiian Day, our Student Council sponsored games in which all students could participate during the picnics. Sponsored by our PTA, Crescent’s first schoolwide Fun Run enabled all K—6th grade students to run together for the first time as a school, instead of as a grade level.

With great pride, united we stand as Crescent Cougars!



El Modena *High School*

3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6331 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/emhs



John Briquet
Principal

Crossing the Threshold

The Advanced Placement and state testing has concluded for the year, and I am tremendously proud of our students and staff members for the way they dug in and really did their best to show the strength of our academic programs.

I am certain that we will continue to score at least a 75 percent overall passing rate on the A.P. exams. It will be no surprise to any of us when we finally cross the 800 API threshold, and prove beyond any shadow of a doubt that El Modena is a high-performing school.

Our Farewell Assembly, which is scheduled for June 4th, will undoubtedly bring tears from students and staff alike as we say goodbye to the seniors and our retiring coaching legend Tom Weber.

Tom has taught both social studies and physical education since arriving at El Mo in 1973, and he has coached track and cross country for over 30 years. You will find his incredible coaching accomplishments listed at www.elmodenasports.org. We will miss you, Coach!

Speaking of athletics, our track, swimming, softball, boys volleyball and tennis teams are doing very well right now. I am hopeful that by the time you read this we will be deep in CIF competition in at least three of those sports. It never ceases to amaze me just how dedicated are our coaches and athletes. They truly are terrific.

I wish the entire El Modena community an enjoyable summer, and hope that you are looking forward to the next school year as much as I am!

El Rancho Charter

181 S. Del Giorgio Road, Anaheim, CA 92808
714/997-6238 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/rancho

Middle School

John Besta, Principal

Esplanade *Elementary*

381 N. Esplanade St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6157



Amy Hitt
Principal

Moving Forward

It is hard to believe that another school year has come to an end. As I write this, students are in the middle of Standardized Testing And Reporting (STAR) testing and working their very hardest. I can honestly say that Esplanade School students, parents, and teachers have more heart than I have ever witnessed at a school. This is displayed every day by attitudes, motivation, and a true willingness to learn.

This year has brought many challenges, and we have faced them all as a school community. Our intervention program has been revamped to be data-focused, needs-driven, and tiered. We are following a Response to Intervention (RTI) approach and find ourselves continuing to grow in the process. In response to parent request and our district’s strategic plan, we have also focused on providing more family events for our students, parents, and the community. PTA sponsored several fund-raisers, field trips, and family fun nights. Our instructional coach, Mrs. Petersen, led a math family/academics night, and parents were invited to field trips and evening meetings on different topics. Mrs. Avalos taught classes for parents in Spanish. Many other teachers made evening presentations to parents as well. Students were offered tutoring through Program Improvement funds, as well as school funds. Recently, our math pentathlon won awards at the district level.

Great things are happening at Esplanade School! It is our never-ending mission to always base decisions and practices around what’s best for our students, and we are constantly moving forward in this spirit.

Fairhaven *Elementary*

1415 E. Fairhaven Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6178



Andrew Fisher
Principal

Students of Santiago Canyon College vs Fairhaven’s 5th Graders

Santiago Canyon College students had their world shaken, while they were staring into their iphones, six fifth graders from Fairhaven, including Mylena Fonseca, Cristobal Barragon, Jorge Mendoza, Brianne Freeman, Kylee Gomez, and Carlos Diaz were preparing for May 7th when they took on the students of SCC in a competition inspired by the show “Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader.” The students were shocked by the news that they had been chosen by their teachers, inciting an “OMG” from Brianne.

Most of the students claim that Math is their area of expertise, but

Mylena and Jorge threw a little science/geography their way. Fairhaven contestants were excited for the competition, although Carlos, Kylee, and Cristobal expressed disappointment in the fact that they would not be on TV. Who knows maybe a couple TV executives were lurking in the shadows.

Imperial *Elementary*

400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6282 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/imperial

Tim Biland, Principal

Jordan *Elementary*

4319 E. Jordan Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6187

Elizabeth Gosnell, Principal

Fletcher *Elementary*

515 W. Fletcher Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6181



Helen Chung
Principal

Another School Year Closes

By *Marta Landry, Office Manager*

The longer days of spring bring more sunshine, children out playing later, family barbecues, baseball games, and the last days of school. As the school year finishes at Fletcher Elementary School, students, faculty and families participate in a variety of activities here at our campus.

Teachers work hard to prepare our students for academic success. For two weeks in May, students completed their Standardized Testing And Reporting (STAR) tests to prove what they have learned and how they measure up against their peers across the state and the nation. All students in second through sixth grades, including general education, Special Day Class and Full Inclusion program students, participated in this standardized testing program. Our caring PTA provided snacks and water for students to keep them energized during the testing times.

The end of the school year is also the time we bid farewell to our sixth-graders as they promote to seventh grade and move on to Cerro Villa Middle School. While these students have already chosen their elective classes for seventh grade and have visited Cerro Villa to view a band concert, they will not say goodbye to Fletcher until their official Promotion Ceremony. The Promotion Ceremony will include the awarding of academic and citizenship awards, as well as reading awards.

While the end of school brings a sigh of relief from students and parents alike, we know that the first day of school is right around the corner and we will welcome students and teachers back in August.

La Veta *Elementary*

2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6155



Jaymi Abusham
Principal

Another Enjoyable Year

It has been another fantastic year at La Veta School! As the school year comes to a close, we fondly remember the many exciting activities which enhanced our learning throughout the school year.

In the fall, we were treated to fantastic visual arts from our students who participated in the Reflections contest, sponsored by PTA. Many of us raised money for the American Lung Association, and the La Veta team had a great time at the Healthy Air Walk. Our family dinner night attracted many people, as always, and Red Ribbon Week found us beautifully decorated and focused on healthy choices.

In the winter months, we were thrilled to experience another fantastic Family Science Night, where we were treated to lessons from teachers at all grade levels that inspired our observation and investigation skills. The annual Holiday Store was a big success, as always. As the cold months turned warm, we all enjoyed the Fitness-a-Thon. This year's fund-raising rewards, student-teacher wacketball games, were a hit with everyone.

Things have heated up with the weather this spring. Our Imagination Machine assembly was a huge success, with student stories enacted for all of us to see.

The excitement of the school year continues, as we look forward to end of the year activities, including our Carnival, Variety Show, Casino Night, and Viking Week activities. We also enjoyed two Parent Wednesdays, where parents came into our classrooms and observed current lessons.

Throughout the year, we have enjoyed Art Masters, skate parties, barbecue lunches, and smoothies. I hope you have enjoyed this year as much as I have!

Handy *Elementary*

860 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6183



Sandra Schaffer
Principal

A Brighter Tomorrow

This has been an exciting year for Handy Elementary School. Beginning with an API score of 733, we have met both of our API and AYP testing goals. This puts us in contention to exit Program Improvement in 2010.

With this in mind, the teachers have been working diligently to help every student achieve proficiency at grade-level standards. Our students and parents have increased their awareness of these scores and they are actively taking part in the whole accountability process.

Our English Language Advisory Committee has continued to grow in numbers, too. It is comprised of parents who are interested in discovering how they can support their child's learning at home and in school.

Through the support of the Orange Police Department and the Orange County District Attorney's office, we now have the GRIP program on campus. Its focus is student safety through parent and community involvement.

Our parents have already embraced it. They recently started a morning greeter program to help open car doors and say hello to every child before school starts. What a great way to begin the day!

Overall, this has been an invigorating year for Handy. Everyone is excited about the testing because we are confident that all of our hard work is going to pay off. The Handy Hornets are proud of this year's accomplishments and we all look forward to 2010-2011.

Lampson *Elementary*

13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840 • 714/997-6153 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/lampson



Laurie Dieppa
Principal

Lampson Leopards, Believe and Achieve!

This school year has passed so quickly. Promotion ceremonies and field day are right around the corner. Beginning with Back to School Night and the academic campaign, teachers, students, and parents have been discussing standards, assessment data, and goals all year. Lampson families experienced our annual science night, soccer nights, English classes, awards ceremonies, movie night, Open House and potluck dinner, Math Pentathlon, Foundation Day Games, and Saturday School. Parents have also had many opportunities to learn how they can help their children

be successful. Hundreds of parents have taken advantage of the monthly Bring Your Parents to School Days. They have learned strategies in reading and math, goal setting, homework monitoring, and more. Next year, we look forward to deepening our relationships and communication with parents and the community for the purpose of raising the academic achievement of all our students. Thank you for a great year!



Marian Arellano with her mother Reyna Garces at student-led conference.2010

Camps & Fun Activities

KAMPS FOR KIDZ

BY SUSAN PETERSON

Noted author of the comprehensive guidebook:

"Fun & Educational Places to go with Kids & Adults in Southern California."

THE WORD "SUMMER" brings to mind a myriad of images from my childhood — *going to the beach, reading a good book, eating popsicles, building a treehouse, and hanging out with my friends.*

Those are great memories. I also remember getting bored. And I remember sharing this information, persistently, with my mom — *I think she referred to it as WHINING.*



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On The Run

Summer Sandals

As summer approaches, foot doctors in California will begin seeing a surge of patients suffering from ailments attributed to wearing flip flop sandals. The classic inexpensive rubber flip flop is a flat sole design with no heel elevation and no arch support. This flimsy shoe will pre-dispose people to Achilles tendon injuries and strain on the plantar fascia, which is the primary arch supporting ligament of the human foot. Achilles tendinitis and plantar fasciitis are two of the most difficult overuse injuries to treat in the foot and are easily prevented by wearing proper shoes, particularly during the summer months.

Properly designed sandals are almost as supportive and equally healthy as good athletic shoes. If sandals have adequate wedging or elevation under the heel, strain on the Achilles tendon is significantly reduced. Many sandals now incorporate arch support in the foot bed which can reduce strain in the plantar fascia. Whether the sandal has a "flip-flop design" or has other strap closure systems, the foot bed will dictate the overall support and comfort. The ideal sandal will have multiple straps which cross over the top of the foot and around the heel to prevent slippage from side to side.

One benefit of sandals is the prevention of moisture build up on the foot. Athletes foot, fungus toenails and other conditions improve with the use of sandals. At the same time, the skin of the feet may dry out excessively with continuous use of sandals, so the use of moisturizing creams at night time is recommended to prevent callusing and cracking of the heels.

Dr. Doug Richie is a sports podiatrist who has practiced in Seal Beach for 23 years. He is president-elect of the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine and serves as a medical advisor to U.S.A. Track and Field. 562/493-2451



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Magic Book Garden Reading and Writing All Summer Long



Rozanne Lanczak Williams

Keep your beginning reader's hard-earned literacy skills from slipping and sliding this summer with some simple and fun activities. Along with signing up for summer reading programs at the library or bookstores, make sure you keep reading aloud to your child every day. Stressed for time? Check out books on tape, and play these in the car when running errands or on road trips. By listening along, too, you can discuss the story with your child, make predictions about what will happen next, think up new endings, and so on. These kinds of activities build and extend reading comprehension as well as promote the enjoyment of reading.

It's sometimes hard to find books for beginning readers on their levels. So, be sure to encourage your child to read and reread the little books he or she made at school during the year. Even reluctant readers will enjoy these short easy-to-read books, and they will get lots of practice reading sight words, reviewing vocabulary, and building fluency. Also, before school is out, ask your child's teacher for a book list that includes titles that would be appropriate for your child—not too hard, not too easy, but just right, to keep reading going!

If you are supermotivated, get together a group of children reading approximately on the same level, and form a book club. Get together once a week and have a book exchange. Have each child recommend a book to the group. Start each meeting off with one parent reading a favorite book aloud. Make it fun and engaging! Don't ask children to do workbook pages!

Reading Travels Well

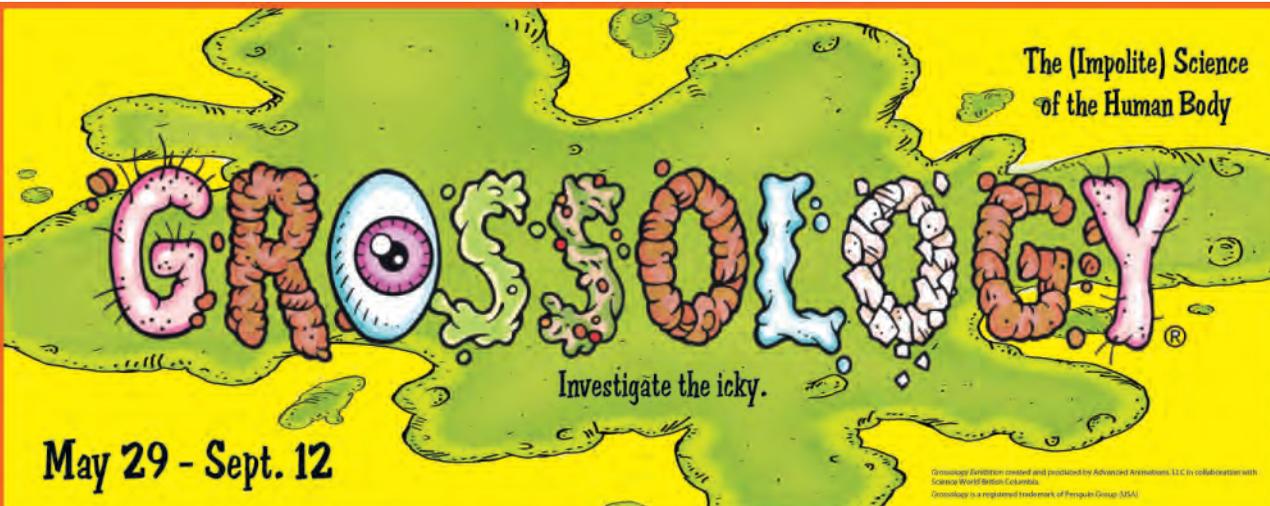
Keep a Magna Doodle in the car. Write little messages to your child at stoplights so that he or she can read and write an answer back. Encourage your child to write postcards to friends and family while on vacation. Even if you don't go anywhere far, send them from your area.

If your child is begging you to go on a special outing, have him or her write you a persuasive letter explaining why this is such a good idea. Write back to your child explaining your decision.

Start your child on a summer scrapbook or journal. It doesn't have to be fancy—even a simple notebook will do. Attach photos and invite your child to write captions and descriptions. Cut and paste pictures and paragraphs from brochures of museums, theme parks and other destinations. Encourage your little one to add illustrations. Your child can ask a friend to write and illustrate a page in this scrapbook.

For more information and great ideas to promote summer reading, go to read-ingrockets.org/calendar/summer and readwritethink.org, and click on "Summer Activities."

Rozanne Lanczak Williams, a former teacher, is the author of more than 200 books for beginning readers, parents and teachers. Visit her Web site: www.magicbookgarden.com



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6/12/10	The Village	11am - 2 pm

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AGES 4 TO 18 CAN PLAY	
8/01/1991 - 7/31/1994	U19 (19 yrs and under)
8/01/1994 - 7/31/1996	U16 (16 yrs and under)
8/01/1996 - 7/31/1998	U14 (14 yrs and under)
8/01/1998 - 7/31/2000	U12 (12 yrs and under)
8/01/2000 - 7/31/2002	U10 (10 yrs and under)
8/01/2002 - 7/31/2004	U8 (8 yrs and under)
8/01/2004 - 7/31/2005	U6 (6 yrs and under)
8/01/2005 - 7/31/2006	U5 (5 yrs and under)

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 \$85.00 for the 1st and 2nd child.
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ALL PLAYERS
 Parents are asked to bring Identification.
 All new and returning players must have a parent or guardian present to register.
All players must have the following to register:
 1. Proof of birth/age. (New Players Only)
 2. Emergency contact info.
 3. Medical information/Doctor information.
 4. A copy of a utility bill, mailed to your home, that we keep. (Orange Residents Only Need this)
 5. Registration Fee
Players will not be registered without the above information. No exceptions!!

PARENT
 It is recommended to bring the child to registration. AYSO Region 1335 is a non profit organization run 100% by volunteers. These volunteers are parents of players just like you. Your assistance will be needed throughout the season. Please be ready to volunteer at registration. Coaches, referees, and field marshals, and more will be needed.
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| Calypso | Etude | March | |
| Canon | Fandango | Mazurka | |

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Congratulations to

Kimberly Vega and Lizzy Balcazar

Winners of the April Word Search Contest

We drew two winners this time since we won't have another contest until our next issue August 18.



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www.fullerton.edu/kidscamp

Note-ables

Opera for Kids



Kate Karp

When my brother was 10, he turned on the radio one day and wondered at what he was hearing. His interest in this new discovery wasn't nurtured until he was much older and began repairing music boxes. His memory was jogged by the music on the cylinders.

"The finest music on the boxes is opera," my brother said. He and my sister-in-law now attend the opera whenever they can.

Producer Michelle Henderson has put together a fine introduction to opera so that children don't waste decades thinking that it's an incorporation of singing to words with a few soprano riffs and "la-la"s. *The World's Very Best Opera...* is a well-conceived effort

to make the lyrics and stories accessible to children. Recognizable arias accurately translated in English and sung by professional opera singers include "La donna é mobile" (*Rigoletto*), "The Toreador Song" (*Carmen*)) and, of course, "Largo al factotum" (*The Barber of Seville*), which anyone who regularly watches Warner Brothers cartoons will recognize as the "Figaro, Figaro" song.

The instructional manual, available separately, offers guidelines and suggestions to teach opera to primary, intermediate and middle school students. Parents will also find it useful. Included are sheet music, historical worksheets, detailed synopses, historical background, and ideas for activities and discussions, including a direction to have younger children watch those cartoons and identify the arias. Of course, why limit that to the primary grade contingent?

It should be stressed that children should hear the operas in their entirety, in the original languages; that active listening is as important as dramatization and curricular activities; and, as stated in the liner notes, that parents should carefully select which operas are appropriate for each age group, although I must say that I first heard *Madame Butterfly* when my grandmother slipped me a copy. Certain plot elements simply floated over my eight-year-old head, but I also felt for the first time that crying can sometimes make you feel good.

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor



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- Swim like a FISH
- Write from A to Z
- Present a SPEECH
- Tumble through TUNNELS
- Groove to the HIP HOP beat
- Heighten SELF-ESTEEM
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- Get READY FOR KINDERGARTEN
- Mix DIGITAL MUSIC

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in Orange!

Parent to Parent

Summer is Fast Approaching...



Jodie Lynn

Do You Know Where Your Teen Is?

With the majority of parents working, summer time is an easy time for our kids to simply get away with more, especially our tweens and teens.

For example, check out the question I recently received from a concerned mom and the answers sent her way:

Q. How far should we go in monitoring our 13-year-old daughter when she meets a group of her friends at the local skating rink? They go more often during the summer and I would like to see at least one parent there the whole time but some of the other moms think I'm being too overprotective. Am I?

A. Even though you may trust your daughter to make good, solid decisions in pretty much any circumstances, there are always going to be potential temptations when a group of friends get together, like the parent above shared. Peer pressure is something that leads to poor decisions for even us "all-wise" adults, whether we'd like to admit it or not. At your daughter's age, it can be much harder to resist and much more foolish in nature. In today's hurry-and-let-your-kids-grow-up society, it is a must to expect at least one parent to be present at extra-curricular activities, especially with younger teens going out as a group. The days are gone when we could feel comfortable dropping off our tweens and younger teens at a facility or social event unsupervised. Just remember that you don't need to stare at your daughter the entire time, breathing down her neck. Bring a book or magazine, talk with other parents, whatever you need to pass the time; it will at least allow you to be there and glance her way every so often. It is always better to be safe than sorry.

Jodie Lynn is an award-winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best-selling author. Her column Parent to Parent™ (www.ParentToParent.com) has been successful for more than 14 years. She is a regular contributor to several sites and has written four books and contributed to three others, one of which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. Her latest books are *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having, Doing, and Surviving It All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* Check www.ParentToParent.com for details on new radio talk show, Inside Parenting Success.

SUMMER KIDS CAMPS & CLINICS

Mike Nelson's Orange Co. Tennis Academy at The Anaheim Tennis Center

This is the Academy's 23rd year of running summer tennis camps/clinics for kids in Orange County. We have outstanding professional staff, safe and secure full-service club, and unbelievable customer service.

DON'T MISS OUT ON SUMMER FUN FOR YOUR KIDS!

CALL: 714 991 9090

for additional information or to sign-up for summer clinics.

**SIGN-UP
EARLY!**

All camps
are limited
to just the first
24 kids
each week

DATES:

Session 1: 6/21
Session 2: 6/28
Session 3: 7/5
Session 4: 7/12
Session 5: 7/19
Session 6: 7/26
Session 7: 8/2
Session 8: 8/9
Session 9: 8/16

BEGINNING CAMP

WHO: Ages 7-14

WHEN: Mon-Fri | 10:30am - 12:30pm

CAMP FORMAT: All students will learn to hit all of the basic shots in tennis, and they will hit hundreds of balls each day; we use ball machines. Fun tournament on Friday - every student will receive a camp t-shirt and an award.

COST: \$115 per week
(ask about discounts for multiple weeks)

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCE CAMP

WHO: Satellite/Novice tournament players, High School team players, Intermediate level players.

WHEN: Mon-Fri | 11:00am - 3:00pm

CAMP FORMAT: 2 hours of instruction/drills. Lunch, 1.5 hours of match play (singles & doubles). Tournament every week. Students bring a lunch everyday except Friday (Pizza Day). Everyone receives a camp t-shirt.

COST: \$260 per week
(ask about discounts for multiple weeks)

*The Academy and the Anaheim Tennis Center are located at 975 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim, CA. Just north of Ball Road at Wagner. 5 minutes from Ball Street exit 57 Fwy. We are conveniently located in the cities of Orange, Yorba Linda, Fullerton, Brea, Anaheim Hills, Tustin, Santa Ana, and Garden Grove.

*Call us about our ELITE CLINIC starting 6/21/2010 & our BEGINNING/INTERMEDIATE CLINICS starting 6/22/2010.

www.anaheimtenniscenter.com

Linda Vista *Elementary*

1200 N. Cannon, Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6201



Sally Hughson
Principal

Little Buddies, Big Buddies

Our Little Buddies, Big Buddies program for the 2009-2010 school year will soon be coming to an end. Sixth grade students are paired with a kindergarten students and the meet monthly for a variety of activities. The year began with the buddies interviewing each other to find common interests. In the fall they danced Hokey Pokey and ran the Turkey Trot together. In December they wrote letters and exchanged gifts. January the buddies retold the story of The Mitten using animals they cut out and colored. Buddy quilts were created in March when the buddies drew portraits of each other and wove the portraits together with yarn. The May project was devoted to making Mother's Day cards. The sixth grade students work one to one with their buddy as they wrote, read and draw beautiful cards. The buddies will end the year with a picnic. The kindergarten buddies sing at the sixth grade promotion and the sixth graders sing at the kindergarten promotion.

Here a few quotes from kindergarten students:

I like when we danced. The Mother's Day Project was my favorite.

We made pattern chains and that was fun.

Here a few quotes from Sixth grade students:

I was a Little Buddy when I was in kindergarten and couldn't wait to be a Big Buddy, they are all so cute and we have so much fun together.

I liked the outdoor games like playing Frisbee and races.

It is amazing how much the two grades benefit from this experience.

McPherson Magnet

333 S. Prospect, Orange, CA 92869 • 714/977-6384 www.oranged.k12.ca.us/mcpherson



Jeanne Bentley
Principal

Celebrating Triumphs

McPherson teachers, support staff, parents, and students; all have worked tirelessly to not only teach standards and objectives, but to establish relationships and build capacity within our children. Our primary focus is always student learning...not in teaching and not in what we don't know, but how each of us has grown in the social, emotional, and academic endeavors of a personal journey. This is the time of year we must look back and celebrate our triumphs.

Teamwork and Collaboration enable us to obtain resources beyond our regular budget, for a new computer lab, landscape our campus, and build a welcoming wall, though our relationships with educational partners.

Application and Student Engagement is exhibited on a regular basis when our students compete and win in local competitions-OCDE Youth Expo, Physics Fun Day, Math Pentathlon, Doodle for Google, or Young Author's Faire

Leadership and Citizenship can be found in classrooms as they work with an Art Foundation to provide lessons for needy families, wash cars to provide funds for a child fighting cancer, or in a Support Haiti effort for those less fortunate

A Magnet Focus of Math, Science, and Technology surround us as we work in a wireless campus, exercise our spatial-temporal reasoning with MIND Math, and have fun "growing together" in our Earth Lab as we maneuver through the 21st Century

McPherson, first and foremost, is a dedicated community of learners who are engaged in the world around them, on a daily basis.

Nohl Canyon *Elementary*

4100 E. Nohl Ranch Road, Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6203



Dominique Polchow
Principal

Enriching and Eventful

The 2009-2010 school year at Nohl Canyon Elementary School was filled with many new and memorable events. Here's a snapshot.

A picnic in the park kicked off the year for new and returning families. Soon thereafter, the staff lined either side of the front gates to greet students and parents on the first day of school. The school community gathered together for our first 9/11 ceremony and family night carnival.

In October, the sixth-graders enjoyed bunking up at Outdoor Science Camp, creating long-lasting memories. Beep, beep! *The Roadrunner Times* student newspaper club formed to cover all the late-breaking Nohl Canyon news. Red Ribbon Week kicked off as students rocked out during a Project Character concert assembly.

Students ran with enthusiasm, as the entire school community cheered students on for our first annual Jog-a-thon. Our campus beautification got underway thanks the donation of 19 trees for our family tree planting day.

The New Year began as students and staff shined in our annual variety show. Our fifth annual auction was a huge success, thanks to our entire school community, raising over \$40,000. Families celebrated music appreciation, by attending a concert presented by the Pacific Symphony Class Act program. Over 100 road-runners ran their hearts out as they competed in the Foundation Games and came home with multiple medals.

Throughout the year, students were enriched with many other wonderful learning opportunities. It was an eventful year at Nohl Canyon!

Olive *Elementary*

3038 N Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/637-8218 www.oranged.k12.ca.us/olive



Kathryn Martin
Principal

Olive's Time to Shine: 2009!

School spirit is alive and well at Olive Elementary School. This spring, our ocelots have shined brighter than ever. This April, every student participated in our annual Walk a Thon. Our fabulous parent volunteers came out early in the morning and set up a track; complete with a wonderful balloon arch, sound system and snack station. Parents sliced more than 100 oranges for our athletic ocelots! Half way through the Walk a Thon, Olive students gathered for a pep rally, where they cheered for the over 100 members of our Olive track team! More than 25% of our student body participated in the Foundation Games at El Modena High School on April 18th.

All of our OUSD students took the STAR test at the beginning of May, and things were exciting at Olive. Teachers and the principal held "test chats" with students to help them set goals for testing. Our student council created posters, students had "encouraging words of the day" and there were raffle tickets for students that took time and care with their tests. 2009 is surely Olive's time to shine!



Olive Ocelots have school spirit.

Orange *High School*

525 N Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6211 www.oranged.k12.ca.us/ohs

SK Johnson, Principal

Palmyra *Elementary*

1325 E Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6207



Connie Smith
Principal

Ending Well!

This school year has been filled with great accomplishments. Our scholars are doing great things in and out of the classroom, and our Palmyra Pintos continue to show their pride!

Student Council led the way in promoting service opportunities. They raised over \$2,500 for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society through Pennies for Patients. Seven of the 68 students participating in the Orange Community Foundation Games received one or more medals. Finally, at the OUSD Math Pentathlon, our fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade teams brought home a total of seven awards.

In the classroom, this year's hallmark was the use of technology to support the instructional program. Each of our first- through sixth-grade classes utilizes Promethean Interactive Whiteboards to enhance instruction and increase student engagement. Our students love this innovative technology.

As school year winds down, we are busy making big plans for 2010–11. Without a doubt, it will be another memorable year!



Palmyra Math Pentathlon Team.

Panorama *Elementary*

10512 Crawford Canyon Road, Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714/997-6265

Michelle Moore, Principal

Parkside *Pre-K*

2345 E, Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6202



Kristi Franco
Principal

What a Year it Was!

What an amazing year! Our annual Thanksgiving Feast featured a schoolwide potluck and music, song and tradition shared by Sherman Indian School students. During the winter holidays, we learned about celebrations in many countries around the world and created a book featuring customs and art projects of other cultures.

The Very Special Arts Festival exhibited some of our students' talents through various art mediums. Our students also participated in Sole4Souls, a fund-raiser to collect shoes for the people of Haiti affected by the devastating earthquake. We collected nearly

500 pairs of shoes!

We're excited about our upcoming Open House evening. We'll spend time with our families in the classrooms and celebrate those students who will be graduating Parkside and going on to further their educational careers. Our students participate in a graduation ceremony while parents and staff reflect on their accomplishments at Parkside and look toward future successes.

We are thankful to our parents, staff and especially our students who made the school year another *great* one!

Portola *Middle School*

270 N. Palm St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6361

It Was a Great Year!



Deborah Backstrom
Principal

We have had a great year and as we say goodbye to our eighth grade students, we wish them much success in High School and future years. We are looking forward to our new sixth and seventh grade students that will be starting in the fall. Portola will continue to be participating in the Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) grant, which provides funding to reduce class size. This year we implemented our English, Reading, ELD, Reading Intervention, Mathematics and Social Studies class to an average of 24 students. Next school year 2010/2011 we will be adding our Science classes.

We are so proud of all our students at Portola Middle School. Our writing students have done an outstanding job. This year Michelle Dinh won the short story contest held by kidswritingcontests.org and NJ Yazon placed third in the short story contest held by Fat Fiction. This year our Art students really have shown their outstanding talents. The Imagination Celebration 2010—1,000 Pieces of Art and the All District Art exhibit has selected nine Portola artists to participate. All District Show participants are Shannon Higi, Jose Robles, and Mimi Phan. The 1,000 pieces Art Exhibit participants are Michelle Dinh, Mai Vy Tran, Karen Valencia, Manuel Wibowo, Jade Fleer, and Raelyn Aragon. Congratulations to all of our students for a great school year.

We wish everyone a safe, fun summer and remember Portola students, "You are the BEST."

Riverdale *Elementary*

4540 E. Riverdale Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/997-6273

Sheila Thompson, Principal

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Prospect *Elementary*

379 N. Virage St., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6271



Elena Stoces
Principal

Year in Review

Since the beginning of the year, Prospect Elementary School staff and students have been focused on working hard for one sole purpose: to increase overall student achievement. With a commitment to providing all of our students with a standards-based education, we also have worked tirelessly in building our students' confidence in taking tests by teaching successful test-taking strategies and by having them set goals for their individual testing achievement. We have offered after-school tutoring through Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and ASES, and this spring we offered Saturday school for English learners and their parents. In addition we provided opportunities for parent and community involvement with school-wide activities, such as 100 Day and I Love to Read Day. This year we also increased student recognition for both behavioral and academic successes throughout the year at our quarterly awards assemblies and weekly drawings.

As a staff, we know that the level of accountability for student achievement is at an all-time high, with resources dropping to an all-time low level. Collectively, we are doing more with less, because we know that our students deserve the best. We are dedicated to ensuring that we will meet the challenging expectations placed upon all schools. We look forward to continuing the momentum established as we prepare for the new school year and hopefully will continue to expand upon what we started.

As a school community we look forward to being able to see measurable results on this year's Standardized Testing And Reporting (STAR) data as a testament that hard work does pay off. Go, Prospectors!

Richland *High School*

615 N. Lemon St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6167



Ed Madrid
Continuation
School Principal

Looking Back

The students at Richland have had a very productive year. We measure our success by the number of graduates that leave Richland and either return to their home campuses or graduate from here.

Over the last three quarters we were able to graduate 59 seniors. Fifty students were returned to their home schools to continue on with their program and graduate from there.

But more than just numbers, besides the students who were able to graduate or return to their home schools were also those who gained the self-confidence they needed to accomplish their academic goals.

Under the guidance of a caring and nurturing staff, our students were able to complete their work and earn more credits. Once they focused their time and energy on graduation they found themselves reaching their goals.

With the support of home and school, the students realized that they could indeed achieve what they needed. Whenever I would question them they'd attribute their success to the care and attention they had received from the Richland staff. All of our staff members take pride in what we are able to accomplish.

Orange Unified has provided a learning environment which allows students who have temporarily lost their way at their first campus to find a way back to graduation. Combined with the efforts from home and family we were able to accomplish great deeds this year.

Running Springs *Elementary*

8670 E. Running Springs Drive, Anaheim, CA 92808 • 714/281-45120

Lydia Roach, Principal

Santiago Charter *Middle School*

515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869 • 714/997-6366 www.oranged.usd.k12.ca.us/santiago



Mary Henry
Principal

Santiago Celebration

As the school year comes to a close, we are celebrating the accomplishments of our students, staff and parents. We have provided a positive student-centered environment in which all our students could develop academic skills, practical skills, and attitudes to enable them to be successful learners and productive citizens. We are excited about proud of their accomplishments this year!

Students have taken the opportunity to participate and earn high awards for Art competitions, the Geography Bee, Science Olympiad, Academic Pentathlon, the Reflections Contest, the "Letters about Literature" Essay Contest, The Jog-A-Thon, the Foundation Games, the School Musical, and the Decathlon. We are especially proud of all the students who were part of our STRIVE Program this year. Our Awards Night celebrating the year is Monday, June 14. Recognition of the eighth grade students who excelled at the highest levels will be recognized at the Promotion Ceremony.



Serrano *Elementary*

17741 E. Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6275



Bobie Lansman EdD
Principal

Year-End News

This year Serrano Elementary School went Hollywood with our theme: "Lights, Camera, Learning." Along with the learning, Serrano saw a lot of action.

For the first time, Serrano became a Class Act School with a grant from the Pacific Symphony Orchestra (PSO). The focus was the composer Tchaikovsky and our own musician, Ian, who is a primary cellist with the PSO. Our musical adventure concluded on June 3 with a school-wide field trip to Segerstrom Hall to hear the entire orchestra perform.

Sixth time is the charm, as Serrano once again received the first-place trophy at the city-wide Orange Foundation Games. In addition, Serrano's sixth grade was awarded a Project Zero Waste Orange County Initiative "upcycling" grant. This grant gave \$30 per sixth-grade student toward Outdoor Science Education, along with science lessons and \$500 towards the Serrano recycling program. Every Wednesday, students feed "BOB" (Big, Recycling Symbol, Bin) plastic bottles and aluminum cans as we work together to make a difference in our world, in our community, in our school, in our family, and for ourselves.

The highlight of our year was being recognized by the California State Superintendent of Schools as a 2010 California Distinguished School. Just as we thought the school year could not get any better, Serrano was proudly awarded a three-year Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) grant from the Orange County Department of Education.

This definitely has been a wonderful and memorable year!

Sycamore *Elementary*

340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6277 www.oranged.usd.k12.ca.us/sycamore



A Great Year!

Sycamore has had a great year! We began the year by moving into our new modernized school. Classrooms all had upgrades with teaching walls, SMARTBoards, ELMO's and LCD projectors. Throughout the year teachers had trainings how to incorporate the new technology into their lessons.

Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) has also been successful this year. We have weekly drawings for students to be recognized for being: Ready, Problem Solver, Respectful and Good Decision Makers. Students are recognized in their classrooms, in the hallways and during recess and lunch times.

We have a new garden at our school! Mrs. Welches and Mrs. Bryson's PreK-Kinder SDC classrooms as well as Mrs. Wegrocki's class have planted flowers and vegetables for the school to enjoy.



Sycamore's School Garden.

Villa Park *Elementary*

10551 Center Drive, Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/997-6281



Sixth Graders Reflect on a Great year!

By Lynnsey Lindenmuth, Michelle Aiken, Jackie Hoffer, Kaelie Marquez and Lauren Jones

Outdoor Ed: Outdoor Ed was a great time for all of us. We have wonderful remembrances of the food, the hikes, the cabins and our roommates, our skits, and our counselors. Most of the people loved the French toast at breakfast and the desserts after dinner. On the trails we got to see where animals live and eat. We loved our skits and the fun dances. Outdoor Ed was so much fun. Most of us want to go back for another week.

6th Grade Laptops: Our experiences with the new laptops were phenomenal! My classmates and I did so many important projects on the laptops. We did PowerPoint's, wrote our papers, and even played a fun game called Dimension. What was even better about the new laptops were that they were faster and had more advanced technology.

VPE News: V.P.E. TV is a fun way the sixth graders let students know what's happening around school. We write our script, use microphones, record, and then have fun. The show switches off between four anchors and two meteorologists. Every time we record, we want to make it fun, and we always have a great time. Sometimes there are funny or weird lines in the script, but that makes it exciting for everyone watching. We love being on V.P.E. TV, it is always exciting!

Taft *Elementary*

1829 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92865 • 714/997-6254



Bringing Parents Into the Mix

By Robert Rosselli, 5/6 GATE Teacher

New leadership has gotten the ball rolling at Taft! Mrs. Coe started off this school year by placing an emphasis on parent, community and student involvement, and by showcasing our students' many achievements.

Parents have been encouraged to take the driver's seat in their children's education, and they solidified their partnership with the school by attending such events as Family Literacy Night, Parent Education Night and language arts lessons. This has given them the opportunity to learn about our academic standards, teaching strategies and other different ways to help support the children.

The student council also became an integral part of our school community, too, and initiated many service projects to help benefit various causes. They collected holiday food donations for families in need, and even made and sold Valentine's candy-grams to raise \$171 for school library books.

During the recent Pennies for Patients event our students exceeded their fund raising goal of \$850. This led to Mrs. Coe kissing a pig and then giving about 30 students the opportunity to throw a pie at her!

At our quarterly assemblies the students' classroom efforts are always recognized, and perfect attendance is rewarded each month. And to help our students feel excited about displaying their achievement on this year's CST, all of them received a special wristband.

Finally, at the recent OUSD mathematics competition, the school's fourth-through sixth-grade students earned a total of seven awards!

As this year comes to an end our school community is looking forward to the future. Preparations are already being made to build upon this year's achievements.

Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714/628-4300



School Year in Review

From the VPHS Staff

The 2009-2010 school year at Villa Park High School was quite a ride, we experienced the highest of highs and the lowest of lows, but like true Spartans we came, we saw and we conquered. Academically we set the bar high this year and our students met it. Our school placed first at the Orange County Science and Engineering Fair. Mock Trial and FBLA represented us well in many competitions. Several Spartans qualified as National Merit Semi Finalists and Finalists. VPHS administered over 1100 Advanced Placement tests.

Athletically most all of our boys and girls programs qualified for CIF Playoffs, highlighted by Girls Basketball playing in the CIF Championship game and another great run by our Boys Golf team. .

As a community, we gave back led by our wonderful service clubs. We gave blood for those in need, we gave money to those in Haiti, Chili, and Mexico and we gave back to many local families throughout the year.

The 2009-2010 school year at Villa Park High School was a great one and we are very proud to be Spartans.

See who won our last issue
Word Search Contest
on page 12.



West Orange *Elementary*

243 S. Bush St., Orange, CA 92868 • 714/997-6283 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/wo



The Learning Needs of Students

The teachers and staff at West Orange Elementary School are as dedicated, hardworking, and talented as you will find at any school in the country. They are committed to meeting the needs of the students and consistently implement innovative methods to reach each student. The staff has worked hard to implement a variety of new programs, which have greatly enhanced the learning of the students.

Michael Olander
Principal

The instructional leadership team helped to spearhead the implementation of Strategic Schooling principles and trained the entire staff. The staff developed a highly focused approach to target essential standards and to help students who need additional support to be successful. They developed and implemented systems to celebrate successes and achievements. A culture of accountability and data transparency was created, as the principal, teachers, and students analyze assessment data and establish learning goals.

West Orange also began the implementation of new programs to increase the learning of students who are struggling. Scholastic Read 180 and System 44 intervention groups have been extremely successful in increasing the learning and achievement of the students they serve. West Orange also began the implementation of Rosetta Stone tutoring groups for English language learners. The program allows students to work at their exact proficiency level.

West Orange has also begun understand the concepts of the Response to Intervention model, which marries perfectly with Strategic Schooling and the new intervention programs. Targeting the needs of individual students and learning objectives has made a tremendous impact on the lives of our students.

Yorba *Middle School*

935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867 • 714/997-6161 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/yorba



Yorba Celebrates Students

This year our Yorba focus has been on citizenship and academics. At the beginning of the year all of our staff members were trained in the Positive Behavior and Intervention for Success program (PBIS). Its expectations were explained to each student during a special assembly and in the classrooms.

To encourage positive behaviors, the staff members passed out "Toro Tokens" that the students could redeem for prizes each week. Those students who needed reminders were given referrals to review our Yorba behavioral standards.

Yorba uses a special database to compile student behavioral information, and utilizes it to make decisions about how to best help and support the students. This has created a healthier and safer environment in the classroom and around the campus. The county has even chosen Yorba as a PBIS demonstration site for the other schools to visit.

Another Yorba goal is for each student to meet the California state standards. To help ensure this we promote good grades and study habits. The school celebrates its academic successes with "Top Toro" rallies and student-of-the-month assemblies.

The children are recognized for high grades, academic progress, their improvement in English language skills and the following of school rules. At the end of the school year the students and their families attend a special awards night to recognize the top performers in each area.

Yorba students also show their success by entering their work in competitions. This year the students competed in the county's History Day event, as well as AVID night, Chapman University's Holocaust essay contest and the county's "Laws of Life" essay contest.

Yorba is preparing students for their future by pursuing education and modeling citizenship. As the students say, "We are proud, we are committed, we are Toros!"



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City of Orange

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Hart Park Pool
701 S. Glassell Street
Orange, 92866
(714) 744-7266

The City of Orange offers a variety of aquatic activities for patrons of all ages to enjoy! Certified Lifeguards and Water Safety Instructors are always on deck to ensure high-quality programming that is fun and safe.

Recreational Swim

Begins: Monday, June 14 – Sunday, August 22

Hart Park will be closed on July 3 & 4.

Weekday Hours (Mon – Fri): 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. and 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

Wednesday Nights Only: 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.

Weekend Hours (Sat & Sun): 1:00 – 2:15 p.m., 2:30 – 3:45 p.m., 4:00 – 5:15 p.m.

Cost: \$2.50 per swimmer, per session. Payment will be taken at the beginning of each recreational swim session.

Important Information: A swimsuit is required to enter the pool.

Swimmers under the age of 7 or under 4 ft. tall and are not proficient swimmers must be accompanied in the water by an adult. The pool capacity of 190 people, including non-swimmers, is strictly enforced. No refunds are given for unexpected pool closures. Please call our Hart Park Pool Hotline at (714) 744-5518 for pool closure updates and pool rules.

Swim and Save! Purchase a prepaid "Swim Card" for Recreational Swim at Hart Park Pool for \$28! That's 15 swims for the price of 10!

Swim cards are available for purchase at the Community Services Department, located at 230 E. Chapman Ave., Orange, 92866. Swim cards may also be purchased at Hart Park Pool beginning June 14, 2010 during pool hours.



Kids Rule the Pool

An evening especially for kids! Bring friends, a swimsuit, towel, great attitude and get ready to have a blast at Hart Park Pool. This event – for kids only – allows them to enjoy an evening of music, swimming and group games. Parents are welcome to watch from outside the facility.

Ages: 7 – 15

When: Friday, July 16 and Friday, August 13, Hart Park Pool

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Fee: \$7 per person, per night, refreshments included.

Important Information: A swimsuit is required to enter the pool.

Completed liability forms are required in order to participate. Parents/Guardians may pick-up liability forms from Hart Park Pool ahead of time to send with their child the night of the event. The pool capacity of 190 people, including non-swimmers, is strictly enforced. No refunds are given for unexpected pool closures.

Hart Park Pool Swimming Lessons

Monday, June 21

The City of Orange offers group, semi-private and private swim lessons, as well as parent & me classes. Class size is limited. A swimsuit is required to enter the pool. Completed liability forms are required in order to participate. The pool capacity of 190 people, including non-swimmers, is strictly enforced. No refunds are given for unexpected pool closures.

For more information and availability, please call the Community Services Department at (714) 744-7274, Hart Park Pool (714) 744-7266, or visit www.cityoforange.org. The Community Services Department office hours are: Monday – Thursday and every other Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

El Modena High School Pool Swimming Lessons

The City has partnered with Orange Regional Competitive Aquatics (ORCA) to offer aquatic programming at El Modena High School. Group, semi-private and private swim lessons and recreational swim team and water polo activities are offered beginning Monday, June 21. Prices, program processes and class offerings differ from Hart Park Pool's aquatic program. Sponsorships are available for qualifying families. Applications are available on the ORCA website. Please contact ORCA at (714) 648-2111 or log on to www.orca-aquatics.com for detailed program and registration information.

More summer fun for the entire family to enjoy...

3rd of July Celebration

Saturday, July 3, 2010, 4–9 p.m.

El Modena High School, 3920 Spring St., Orange, 92869

Spend a fun-filled day with the City of Orange in celebrating America! Activities include interactive games, entertainment, delicious food from our local non-profit groups, a patriotic musical performance by the Orange Community Master Chorale, and a glorious fireworks display. Ticket price is \$7, kids two and under are free. Tickets are available now and may be purchased from the Community Services Department, located at 230 E. Chapman Ave. May 11–July 2, 2010, or at the gate at El Modena High School on July 3, 2010.

Fred Kelly Stadium has synthetic turf & your help is needed to help maintain its beauty! Therefore, only blanket seating is allowed. Wheeled items (such as strollers, wagons, wheel chairs, & motorized movers, etc.) are permitted in the field seating; however they must remain in designated areas only. The following is not permitted on the field: lawn chairs, food, drinks, seeds of any kind, gum, popcorn, hard-soled and high heeled shoes, and any other items staff deems harmful to the turf.

Free Concerts in the Park

Wednesday Evenings, July 7—August 25, 2010, 7:00 — 8:30 p.m.

Hart Park Band Shell, located off the 22 Freeway & Glassell St., Orange, 92866

Pack your picnic baskets, relax, and enjoy fantastic free entertainment for all ages under the summer starry sky! Bring your blankets or low lawn chairs and get ready for a great time! Reminder: food will be available for purchase courtesy of a local non-profit group and for the safety of your pets, please leave them at home. *Listed performers are subject to change.*

July 7 Chico

Oldies, Latin, Dance Favorites

July 14 Gold Rush Country

Contemporary Country

July 21 The Skinny Little Twits

Classic Rock

July 28 Cold Duck

Oldies, Dance Favorites, Top 40 s

August 4 The Fenians

Traditional & Contemporary Irish Music

August 11 Upstream

Reggae & Steel Drum

August 18 Swing Cats Big Band

Big Band Swing Music

August 25 Stone Soul

Motown, Soul, R & B Classics

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As a Community Partner you can expect to receive various marketing opportunities for your business at several City of Orange special events! It is through the generous contributions of our Community Partners that the City of Orange is able to continue to offer quality family events to its residents. Let us help you position your company with the right local connection necessary to become more successful! For more information about our Community Partners program, contact Nichole Valdez at (714) 744-7267 or Nvaldez@cityoforange.org for more information.