

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Placentia - Yorba Linda Unified School District

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 7

NOVEMBER 2010–FEBRUARY 2011

Measure A Projects Become Realities



New entry to Kraemer Middle School

*By Rosemary Gladden,
Public Information Officer*

\$95.3 million in Additional School Facility Improvements Began This Summer

While students enjoyed summer vacation, 22 major school facility improvement projects were underway thanks to the community's support of the Measure A school bond measure.

Portable buildings were removed to pave the way for permanent classrooms and construction began on school media centers, multipurpose room expansions and more.

The 22 improvements are only a portion of the already-completed and future projects. These summer projects are another \$95.3 million investment in district schools.

Projects are possible thanks to the community's support of the Measure A bond approved by voters in 2008. The district is modernizing classrooms, offices and restrooms; constructing new classrooms to replace aging portables; building and improving performing arts and athletic facilities; and upgrading classroom technology.

To see a complete list of projects scheduled for the next 15 months, visit the bond page of the school district's website at www.pylusd.org.

SEE MEASURE A • PAGE 15

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Dennis Smith

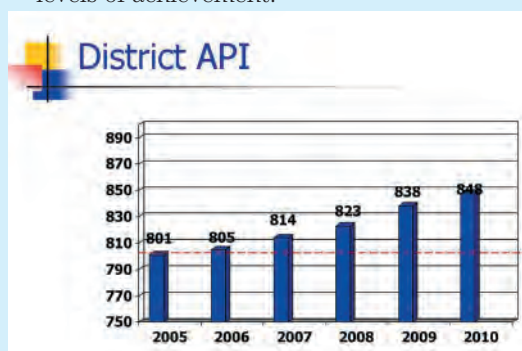
Dear PYLUSD Families:

Welcome back families! I am pleased to start the year by sharing that State and federal accountability measures were released in mid-September and our district once again posted record gains.

The PYLUSD's Academic Performance Index jumped from 836 to 848, a 12-point one-year gain and another all-time high for the school district. The district already surpasses the State's goal of 800 for all California schools. Individual school scores tell the same story with 25 schools above 800 and nine of those above 900. An additional eight PYLUSD schools have APIs above 700. The PYLUSD is also higher than the Orange County API average of 826 and California's average of 767.

It is rewarding to see that our students continue to excel and this is a direct result of the outstanding team effort of our teachers, staff, leadership and families—who regardless of outside challenges continually rise to the occasion for the benefit of students.

Statistically, the posted gains are even more impressive when you consider that it becomes an even greater challenge to move up the scale as students reach these higher levels of achievement.



SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 15

Nathan Shapell Memorial Stadium

By Rosemary Gladden, Public Information Officer



Nathan Shapell

The Board of Education officially named the district stadium at Yorba Linda High School as the Nathan Shapell Memorial Stadium. School Board members recounted the support of the community as well as the generosity of Mr. Shapell for their contributions in making Yorba Linda High School a reality.

Mr. Shapell was a man of great compassion and integrity and cared deeply about our community. He met many times with school district officials and was well aware of the school district's

limited budget and the fact that this land would be used to help students build a better future. His generosity in the final years of his life was instrumental in the school district's acquisition of the

SEE NATHAN SHAPPELL MEMORIAL STADIUM • PAGE 15

No HOAs or Mello Roos*

DISTINGUISHED HOMES

to enhance your lifestyle.

CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS

to enhance their future.

Vista Del Verde Homes Surrounded By Outstanding Yorba Linda Schools

Moving up to an elegant Vista Del Verde home is more than a lifestyle choice. It's an opportunity to enroll your child in a California Distinguished School, an award given to the top 5% of schools in the state. Lakeview Elementary, Mabel Paine Elementary and Yorba Linda Middle School have all been awarded this honor.** So Vista Del Verde is a smart choice for your child's future, and for you. Because even with all the master plan community amenities, there are no HOA or Mello Roos fees.*



From North 57 Freeway (Orange Freeway), exit Imperial Highway and drive east. Proceed 3 miles to Bastanchury Road and turn left. Turn left onto Valley View Avenue. Turn right onto Lakeview Avenue and proceed to the desired community. From West 91 Freeway (Riverside Freeway), exit Imperial Highway and drive north. Continue 3.6 miles to Valley View Avenue and turn right. Turn right onto Lakeview Avenue and proceed to the desired community.

* Vista Del Verde masterplan is not governed by an HOA. Individual neighborhoods may be subject to community-specific HOAs. **Enrollment in a specific school is not guaranteed. Consult the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District for placement information. ***Builder incentive has been used to lower the purchase price and is based on buyer closing with MBK Homes preferred lender. Please see a sales consultant for further information. This is not an offering where prohibited by law. Prices subject to change. Vista Del Verde is being developed jointly by Aera Energy & Toll Brothers.

The Preserve

New Solar Powered Models
By Toll Brothers
Luxury Single-Family Homes
From the upper \$600,000s
(714) 695-9940

Heritage

By Toll Brothers
Luxury Townhomes
From the upper \$700,000s
(714) 777-6622

Greenbrier

View Home Sites Now Selling
By MBK Homes
Luxury Single-Family Homes
From the low \$800,000s***
(714) 223-7625



School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Covering the
**PLACENTIA - YORBA LINDA
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Recipient of the
**2008 ACSA
Region XVII Award**
For Outstanding
Media Coverage
of Public Education

FOUNDER/CEO/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

ADVERTISING SALES:
562/493-3193

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

COPY EDITORS:
Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST: Neta Madison

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Laura Brune

SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740

562/493-3193

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

COPYRIGHT © 2006, SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL LLC

Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest columnists are their views and not necessarily those of *School News Roll Call*. This publication is privately owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content.



Kay Coop
Founder / Publisher



We published the first issue for Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District in November 2008. Two years went by very fast. It is a privilege to publish the excellence from this district and they have much to be proud of beginning with the Superintendent's message on page one.

The holiday season is upon us and as we celebrate we are mindful of the men and women in our armed services who will not be home with their loved ones.

To receive each issue emailed directly to you, please sign up on our website www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

Our next issue is February 16, 2011.
Happy New Year!



Netragrednik
Neta Madison



UCIRVINE | EXTENSION

Add a level of prestige to your professional portfolio.

University of California, Irvine Extension offers innovative education programs to keep your skills current and open the door to new career opportunities.

Program topics include:

- Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)*
 - Independent Educational Consultant*
 - Reading *
 - Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL)
 - Preliminary/Professional Administrative Services Credential
- *Offered completely online

www.extension.uci.edu/schoolnews

On-site and Online Training Available!
Call (949) 824-9304 to learn more.



Yoga Body & Soul

Move Your **Body** • Breathe in **Life** • Soothe Your **Soul**

Special Offer

90 Days for \$90

Available for a Limited Time



(714) 223-7114 • www.yogabodysoul.com

3486 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Anaheim/Placentia (In the Lakeside Plaza)

HU-LA-LA!

CUSTOM - 1 OF A KIND - CORE TRIMMER
HULA HOOPS



Melodye Wintemute
Certified in Personal Training
and Group Fitness
Certified Hoopnotica Dance Instructor

Great for abdominal workout,
trimming inches & core workout.
Or Just Plain Fun!

Great Entertainment for Birthday Parties of All Ages & Office Parties

Private or Group Lessons Available
Classes offered at Yorba Linda Community Center,
East Anaheim Community Center, Downtown Anaheim Community Center
and coming soon to the Orange Area!
Go to website for more information

714 803-5650
www.Hulala4you.com

Secure Your Employment Future

Prepare for a Career in Early Childhood Education!

Earn credit transferable to a bachelor's degree at UC and CSU campuses. Courses lead to 2 certificates of completion and meet the requirements for Title 22 & California Child Development Permits for teachers and administrators of young children ages 0-5.

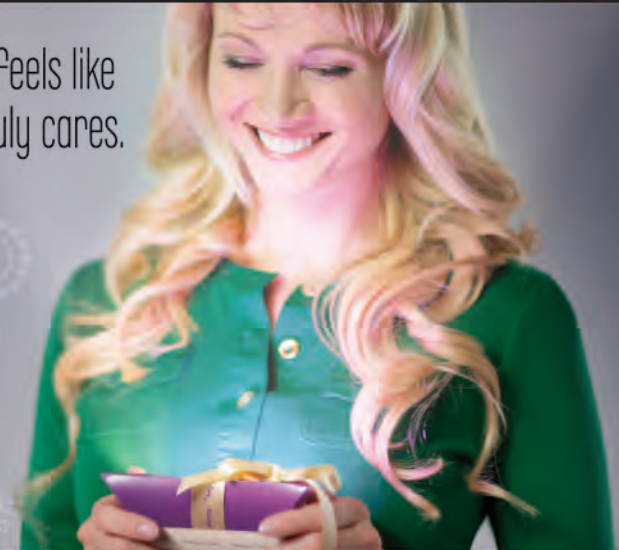
Take advantage of what UCLA Extension has to offer:

- Quality curriculum
- Knowledgeable instructors
- Innovative elective courses
- Small class size
- Convenient scheduling
- Quick and easy enrollment

For more information visit us online at
uclaextension.edu/teachers or call (310) 825-2960.

UCLA Extension
Explore. Experience. Expand.

For *me*, it feels like
someone truly cares.



Massage Envy

The gift of wellness lets me enjoy stress and pain relief today,
tomorrow...even into the New Year with Massage Envy.



**GIVE THE GIFT OF
WELLNESS.**

PLACENTIA
122 E. Yorba Linda Blvd.
Next to Ross and Office Max
(714) 528-3689

BREA DOWNTOWN
375 W. Birch St.
Above The Melting Pot
(714) 990-3033

ANAHEIM HILLS - SPA
5769 Santa Ana Canyon Rd.
Near LA Fitness
(714) 637-2300

OPEN 7 DAYS: M-F 8AM-10PM, SAT 8AM-8PM, SUN 10AM-6PM

MASSAGEENVY.COM | FRANCHISES AVAILABLE

Rates and services may vary by location. ©2010 Massage Envy Franchising, LLC.

Bernardo Yorba *Middle School*

5350 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7400 • www.byms.org



Cameron Malotte
Principal

Starting Off with a Bang

The students and staff at Bernardo Yorba Middle School are excited about the new school year.

We began by celebrating another outstanding API score. While the state's goal is an API of 800, Bernardo Yorba received a score of 872. Although this is only a single indicator of the quality of a school, it is one in which we are proud. High standards for academic excellence are driving these gains.

Another "quality indicator" in which we take pride is our elective program. Students have the opportunity to participate in many outstanding subject areas, such as Spanish, drama, discovery lab, art, and vocal and instrumental music. All of these programs have enjoyed tremendous growth and success. Of these, the most easily-quantified success would be that of our music program.

The Bernardo Yorba Entertainment Unit, which consists of a marching band, color guard, banners and drum major, has been one of the most highly-regarded middle school programs in Southern California. This year they picked up where they left off, by winning their first two parade competitions. Additionally, the jazz band has won all of its competitions during the past several years.

The choir program also continues to flourish, both in size and quality. Last year's choirs all earned "superior" ratings in festivals, and indications are that this trend will continue. They were also selected as a featured choir for the purpose of training judges for the Southern California Vocal Association.

While I have highlighted just a few of our outstanding programs, we are proud of all our young Matadors.

Bryant Ranch *Elementary*

24695 Paseo de Toronto, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7120 • www.bryantranchschool.com



Debra Silverman
Principal

Using More Technology

The 2010-2011 school year has started off well. Our teachers are expanding their use of technology in the classrooms and the newly-created mini-labs.

Fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Voge is training our staff to download, edit and create "flip charts," which are unique standards-based lessons. During the "Techie Tuesday" time our teachers can learn together, which allows each grade level to share the workload and create more technology opportunities.

The students love their new lessons, too. They have been able to use new computers in their mini-labs for things like research, math practice, Ticket to Read and taking Accelerated Reader quizzes. Our goal is to have them use technology every day.

At this time, our teachers are assessing the students on their reading readiness, fluency and comprehension. They are using the district-adopted DIBELS text, which provides us with reliable and valuable data that can measure literacy skills. Once their scores are analyzed then each grade level will implement a Response to Intervention program.

We are constantly challenging the students in our Gifted and Talented Education program. This month they are taking a field trip to the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History, where they will analyze their experiences from the point of view of a specific discipline.

We are taking the perspective of several disciplines, including historian, anthropologist, archaeologist, paleontologist, geologist and botanist. The students will follow up with research on their chosen discipline and create a product that demonstrates their knowledge. This is so exciting, and we are looking forward to hearing from these future professionals!

Brookhaven *Elementary*

1851 N. Brookhaven Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7110 • www.brookhavenelementary.com



Shirley Fargo
Principal

The launch is a GO!

September 16th Brookhaven's new website was launched. <http://brookhavenelementary.com/>

Three parents have been working very hard to create a wonderful, comprehensive, website that keeps our community informed. Communication is important to ongoing collaboration between school and home. The team of Brookhaven parents; Michelle Kurland, Valerie Lu, and John Teal, used their technological and communication skills to create the beautiful new website. It provides weekly updates of opportunities to help support our school, places to serve on the PTA, and easy ways to fundraise and contribute resources. The creators of the website spent time during the summer developing the website and continue updating information on a daily basis to make it "sparkle." Brookhaven is very proud of these dedicated individuals and their service to our community. We encourage our families to go to www.brookhavenelementary.com regularly to keep apprised of programs, educational websites, Accelerated Reading program and Ticket to Read, plus a plethora of other information from Lunch Menus to testing schedules. Be a part of the Brookhaven family and keep in touch.

El Camino Real *High School*

1351 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7060 • <http://www.elcaino.pylusd.org/>



Gordon Chamberlin
Principal

Book Club

Thanks to Oprah there is a Book Club at El Camino Real High School! The Yorba Linda Library has formed a partnership with El Camino Real High School to support students reading outside of the classroom.

Julie Zeoli, the Teen Librarian from the Yorba Linda Library, has applied for a grant through the Oprah's Angel Network which will provide free copies of selected books to the students who apply. Currently there are seventeen students in the club and we are reading *Shattering Glass* by Gail Giles. Students are required to read the book, take notes, turn in a written assignment and participate in a discussion group. The Friends of the Library are also supporting the group by donating additional books as well. There will be six books distributed this year and discussed among the members of the Book Club.



Are you looking for me?



**I am part of the
Puzzle Contest
on page 15.
Find the other three
pieces hidden in
this publication.
Then follow the
instructions to enter
the Contest.
Good luck!!**

Esperanza *High School*

1830 N. Kellogg Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7540 • www.esperanzahs.com



Ken Fox
Principal

Why We're Tops

Esperanza is one of the nation's top high schools, as named by *U.S. News and World Report* in 2009. Out of 450 students who took the Advance Placement exams, we had a pass rate of 87 percent. This excellent score and reflects upon the hard work and dedication of our school community.

We are proud of the many construction projects that have been completed, including the football turf and track, the new gym floor and the Focus/West campus. The second gym construction started in August and will take about a year to complete. Construction for the choir-band room and the main office began in October.



Football field turf completed July 7.

It is my firm belief that students that are active in their school and participate in extracurricular activities are more likely to excel in the classroom. I hope that all of our students will utilize as many of the opportunities offered here as they can. With our programs in performing arts, athletics, academics, clubs and organizations, there is something for everyone!

El Dorado *High School*

1651 N. Valencia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7580 • www.edhs.org



Cary Johnson
Principal

Going for Gold

The staff of El Dorado High School (EDHS) continues to go for the gold, but is also working to close the achievement gap for struggling students. Though El Dorado is the only high school in the district to garner both California Distinguished School status and National Blue Ribbon honors, the EDHS teachers are not content to rest on their laurels.

The innovative faculty continues to implement creative programs such as Evaluation of Learning through Data and Outcomes (ELDO). Mondays are the designated ELDO days and provide collaboration time for teachers to plan curriculum, review instructional strategies, and improve student learning. Results of this type of innovation are manifest in the 13-point jump in the school's Academic Performance Index (API) from 818 to 831, as well as the increased Advanced Placement (AP) passage rate of 84 percent and the doubling of the number of students taking AP tests to 402.

The El Dorado High School Drum Line and Color Guard have been invited to participate in the 122nd Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1, 2011. Hawk Talk and the Digital and Media Arts Academy continue to impress students and staff. For more information, visit <http://www.edtv3.org>. Golden Hawk athletics continue to achieve victory, and the implementation of school-wide interactive classrooms continues to progress.

El Dorado High School's students, staff and parents look forward to another successful year.

Glenknoll *Elementary*

6361 Glenknoll Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7140 • www.glenknoll.org



Douglas Slonkosky
Principal

What's Growing In Our Yard

Glenknoll continues to grow, both academically and through community involvement. Glenknoll students scored extremely well on their most recent California Standards Tests, with an Academic Performance Indicator (API) of 904. Students scored well in all areas, meeting schoolwide goals in writing, mathematics and language arts.

The school theme for the year is "Cougar Pride!" and the PTA is sponsoring a variety of activities to promote learning and school pride. Special programs include the Move-a-thon, Reading Challenge and, for the first time this year, a pumpkin raffle. The

Move-a-thon is our major school fund-raiser, and on October 22, students were challenged to do their personal best in a variety of physical activities. For this year's Reading Challenge, students are trying to beat last year's reading record of 53,000 minutes on their reading logs. To help our students find fun and interesting

things to read, our PTA helped us purchase over 150 new books this fall.

Our fall activities also included our first-ever Pumpkin Raffle. Students collected over 30 pumpkins that they raised themselves in the school garden and raffled them off to raise money for much-needed garden supplies and seeds. As always, community members who wish to help with the garden project are encouraged to contact the school principal for more information.



Macy Warner, Haley La Barber, and Rebecca Schuler raffled pumpkins from the school garden.

Fairmont *Elementary*

5241 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7130 • www.fairmontelementary.com



Shawn Knutson
Principal

Journey to Success

With only a few weeks into the 2010-2011 school year, I am amazed to see how much our students have accomplished already! Congratulations! Fairmont's Academic Performance Index (API) results are excellent! Our school wide API is 933, a 14 point increase from last year. It is wonderful to see all of our students working hard in the classrooms, PE, library and computer labs. Their outstanding achievement is beautifully displayed in classrooms and throughout the school.

On October 21st the students were treated to a fantastic assembly called "Go the Distance!" The assembly was the kick-off for our "Red Ribbon Week" with a message of building strong, confident, caring and accepting individuals who know that they are loved and have support from their families, friends school and teachers. Building positive character and strong resilient students continues to be our focus on our "Journey to Success!"



George Key School

710 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7170 • www.pylusd.org/schools/georgekey



Debbie Six
Principal

Wood, Wonderful Wood

The elementary classes at George Key School started the year studying "Wood and Paper." Mrs. Howe's and Mrs. Linza's classes are using the general education science materials and modifying and adapting the lessons to meet the needs of their students. The kits have great hands-on activities that encourage learning in a multi-sensory environment. The students have been sanding, touching, smelling, sorting, and stacking various types of wood including redwood, pine, plywood, and particle board. As they completed the unit, they made their own plywood by gluing small

thin pieces of wood together and their own particle board using wood chips and corn starch. They observed how wood shavings look and feel in and out of water, explored what common items sink and which ones float, and learned how many paper-clips need to be stacked onto a piece of wood to get it to sink.



Jake Kadletz mixing and compressing wood shavings and cornstarch to make his own particle board.

Golden Elementary

740 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7160 • www.golden.pylusd.org



Kathy Chakan
Principal

Where Every Student Shines

The 2010–2011 school year is off to a brilliant beginning. The entire community is extremely proud of the fact that the students at Golden Elementary School did superb job on the Standardized Testing And Reporting (STAR) testing last spring. The accomplished instructional team guided the students in surpassing their previous levels of achievement by reaching an Academic Performance Index (API) score of 944. This is an awesome result, and everyone is to be congratulated on their hard work!

Fall fun and festivities are well underway. Back-to-School Night drew large crowds as teachers skillfully outlined their instructional plan for parents. PTA-sponsored events, such as a family night under the stars, a highly successful Jog-a-thon, and Red Ribbon Week, offer parents and students ways to be involved in the Golden community. Throughout the year, a marvelous team of volunteers, under the leadership of the PTA Board, plans many enriching activities for our school family. Our room parents host celebrations during the holidays, and art docents help our students gain an appreciation of composition and color. Finally, PTA funds support many field trips and assemblies, which students eagerly look forward to during the year.

The Golden Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL) program is flourishing this fall. The number of students participating in PAL is almost double last year's number. Additionally, the El Dorado High School PAL program is partnering with Golden to enhance the opportunities for all our students. We look forward to many enriching endeavors as the students plan leadership and service activities for our school this year.

The campus glows in anticipation of the new learning experiences that await the students this year.

Glenview Elementary

1775 Glenview Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7150 • www.glenviewbulldogs.org



Charles Hunter
Principal

A Strong Supportive Cast!

Welcome to Glenview, home of the Bulldogs! We have a K–6 enrollment of 495 students, 13 percent of which are English-language learners, 7 percent of which receive special education assistance, and all of which receive a comprehensive education in all subjects. In the computer lab, students learn word processing, Excel, multimedia, Internet usage, PowerPoint and keyboarding. Students in grades 5 and 6 may participate in our instrumental music program. All students participate in a weekly reading intervention program called Response to Intervention: students reading at or above grade level receive extended activities and students reading below grade level receive extra instruction to attain proficiency.

Our staff includes a principal, 15 classroom teachers, a resource specialist, a speech therapist, a school psychologist, two music teachers, a library media clerk, a school secretary, an office clerk, 10 noon duty supervisors, two custodians and a health clerk two days per week. Before- and after-school child care is available.

Glenview parent and community members support our students through classroom volunteering, participating in PTA-sponsored activities, and membership in the School Site Council and English Learners Advisory Committee. Our active PTA sponsors our field trips, annual carnival, jog-a-thon, assemblies, school Web page and other activities.

Glenview's staff meets weekly in grade-level teams to plan curriculum and review student needs. Cross-grade-level planning ensures that students are ready for the next grade level. We have a strong Student Study Team that monitors all students identified as needing additional support. The result of this hard work is high student success as shown on our annual state API, district assessments and annual writing results.

Kraemer Middle School

645 N. Angelina Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1551 • www.kraemerms.org



Richard McAlindin
Principal

Top in the County

Kraemer Middle School students and teachers returned to school this year to hear some exciting news from their principal. Their hard work paid off, as they were rewarded with the largest test score gain of any middle or high school in Orange County! Their 61-point gain easily surpassed the state's target Academic Performance Index (API) score of 800 and set an all-time high score of 851. This score caps off nine consecutive years of API growth for our school. Students celebrated this accomplishment by watching their principal, Mr. McAlindin, and their assistant

principal, Mr. Marshall, have their heads shaved during the third week of school. The administration made good on a bet they had with students to increase their API score by 35 points or more.

Thanks to the support of our community in passing bond Measure A, the band room and physical education locker rooms were completely modernized. The front parking lot of the school and administration building are in the process of a redesign that will give the school a new look. The marquis project in the modernization plan is a new 3,200-square-foot library/media center in the center of campus. All projects are scheduled for completion by the summer of 2011.

We anticipate great accomplishments from our students this year and look forward to even higher levels of achievement in and out of the classroom.



Are you looking for me?

I am part of the Puzzle Contest on page 15. Find the other three pieces hidden in this publication. Then follow the instructions to enter the Contest.

Good luck!!

Lakeview *Elementary*

17510 Lakeview Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7190 • www.pylusd.org/schools/lakeview/index.asp



Katherine Dailey
Principal

Roaring Into the New School Year

Lakeview's Pride is demonstrated everyday throughout our school! With a current API score of 944, teachers, staff, students, and parents continue to strive for excellence in academic achievement and a well-rounded experience for all. We are very grateful for everything everyone does at our school to help our students learn and perform to their full potential.

This year we look forward to expanding our student leadership opportunities. GATE students will be part of our Lion Pride enrichment group while other students will have the opportunity

of being involved in student announcements, leadership, and peer assistance activities.

Finally, thank you to our fabulous PTA for installing beautiful backpack hooks for every classroom. Your support and contributions are appreciated!

Go Lions!



Linda Vista *Elementary*

5600 S. Ohio, Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-72001 • www.lindavista.pylusd.org



Jackie Howland
Principal

Book Fair

Twice each year, Linda Vista School's PTA sponsors a book fair. Students of all ages crowd the multipurpose room throughout the week, browsing through and purchasing high-interest books. In fact, because Linda Vista students and parents buy so many books Linda Vista's long-time librarian, Mrs. Barbara Mathlin, receives between more than 300 new donated books from PTA each year to add to her well stocked shelves.

Students visit the book fair on their breaks and before and after school. Hunter Behrendt, a fourth-grade student in Mrs. Zack's class, said the books are "very good and interesting" and there are a lot of them to choose from.

Parents are the key to the book fair's success. Misti Hildebrand has been organizing the event for more years than she can remember. Because of Misti and parents like her, students at the school can choose from over 12,000 library books each week.



Kim Hutchinson, Natalie Odeunmi, Misti Hildebrand, Lisa Helleland, Stacey Temper.



Misti Hildebrand, Librarian Barbara Mathlin, Laurie Hoffman.

Mabel Paine *Elementary*

4444 Plumosa Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7210 • www.pylusd.org/schools/mabelpaine/index.asp



Tamie Beeuwaert
Principal

Who's Got the P.O.W.E.R.?

Over the summer, our the Mabel Paine staff worked diligently to begin creating a Positive Behavior Intervention Support plan (PBIS) designed to promote positive behaviors. PBIS is a system-wide approach to behavior management where the behavior standards are infused into every part of the school atmosphere.

The acronym P.O.W.E.R. was created by the staff to help the students remember the standards expected of them in all aspects of their school day: Pride, Own Your Actions, Well-Prepared, Engaged, and Respect. The idea is to explicitly teach the expected

behaviors and pre-correct student behavior before it becomes a problem. The students have the opportunity to earn a P.O.W.E.R. band each month for exhibiting their Mabel Paine Horse P.O.W.E.R. and are allowed entrance into the P.O.W.E.R. activity of the month. The students are crazy about the bands and wear them with great pride. At the end of the year, the students who have earned a band every month will gain entry into the end-of-the-year P.O.W.E.R. extravaganza!



Excited students showing of their P.O.W.E.R. bands.



Melrose *Elementary*

974 Melrose St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7220 • www.melrose.pylusd.org



Vivian Cuesta
Principal

Healthy for Life

Fifty 4th and 5th grade students at Melrose Elementary School are fortunate to be part of the Healthy For Life program that will improve their physical fitness and overall health. Through nutrition education, participating students will enhance their academic performance, self esteem, and promote an overall healthier lifestyle that can carry them into adulthood. As stated in the Healthy for Life Logo, students will learn to 'live healthy, play healthy and be healthy'.

Students will receive three screening assessments during the academic school year, along with two interactive nutrition presentations provided by a Registered Dietitian. Students will use equipment and educational materials provided by the Healthy for Life program. Teachers, parents and students will also receive current nutrition, physical fitness and health information in the form of a Tip of the Week to encourage life long habits.

Thank you St. Joseph Health System and the Orange County Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics for this innovative health and fitness program!



Magnificent Marlins collecting health data.

Morse *Elementary*

431 E. Morse Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/524-6300 • www.morse.pylusd.org



Kathie DiRocco
Principal

Celebrating Success

The Morse Elementary Community enjoys opportunities to celebrate success. Just recently we celebrated Mrs. Ricotta, a member of our outstanding faculty. For their “A Day Made Better” program, a local merchant chose Mrs. Ricotta and her class, out of many entries, to be surprised with flowers, balloons, and more than \$1000 in school supplies!

Mrs. Ricotta is a good example of how the Morse faculty does more than teach. She has coordinated the Morse student council and helped them lead the student body and grow in community service. They organize food drives, support for research in areas of childhood diseases, and generate and promote Morse school spirit and fun through many spirit days. Mrs. Ricotta teaches these student representatives to lead the school in the weekly all school flag salute and singing of the school song. These activities



Celebrating Mrs. Ricotta.

support community spirit in the whole school. This is all outside the regular teaching time too.

All the faculty and staff at Morse care deeply about their roles in the lives of their students. Making a difference through their academic teaching and supporting the development of the whole child within each student is truly a gift today and for all their tomorrows.

Rio Vista *Elementary*

310 N. Rio Vista St., Anaheim, CA 92806 • 714/986-7240 • http://www.riovistaschool.org



Caryn Lewis
Principal

New Developments

It was an exhilarating new beginning for students at Rio Vista Elementary as they arrived at school to find they would be working side-by-side with campus construction crews. With school improvement projects in full swing and recent accountability scores showing a ten point gain, there is much to celebrate in the new school year!

As students continue to grow academically, Rio Vista also celebrates the growth of site projects that will bring improved facilities to the campus. In the past six weeks, students have watched in amazement as the multi-purpose room and new kitchen facility begin

to take shape. By mid-December these buildings will be ready for student use.

In addition, a new permanent building is under way that will provide eight additional classrooms for upper grade students. The classroom project is scheduled for completion during spring, 2011.

Each day brings new excitement as the students at Rio Vista continue to learn and grow. As construction crews are busy shaping buildings, teachers are busy shaping lives.



Fifth grade students Mayron Caringal and Joellen Jacinto model the appropriate spirit wear for the 2010-2011 school year.

Rose Drive *Elementary*

4700 Rose Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7250 • www.rosedrive.pylusd.org



Liana Neuland
Principal

Way to Go Rose Drive!

Rose Drive is proud of the success our students have experienced. This year's Academic Performance Index (API) is 923, a 21 point increase from the previous year.

Way to go, Rose Drive community of students, staff and parents! We strongly believe the partnership between home and school is the foundation for our students' success.

Our theme this year is “Wild About Learning” which emphasizes the importance of keeping every student energized and engaged in learning, as well as providing the opportunity for each student to excel.

The students and staff at Rose Drive are supported by our generous community of parents. Volunteers in our classrooms donate countless hours of their time, and our remarkable PTA donates thousands of dollars annually to support our school with programs such as MIND Institute ST Math and ST Music, Meet the Masters assemblies and grade level field trips.

We look forward to another great year where we are all “Wild About Learning”!



Ruby Drive *Elementary*

601 Ruby Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1921 • www.rubydrive.pylusd.org



Monica Barrera
Principal

Eating and Playing for Health

Greetings from Ruby Drive Elementary! We are very excited about the 2010–11 school year. As we begin this new school year, we are ecstatic to be able to continue providing the best education possible for all of our students.

The week before school started, we received notice from a local market representative that the chain was donating \$5,000 to our school. This grocery concern developed a wellness program in 2009, called “Viva la Salud,” to partner with the community to create wellness awareness. One of the initiatives of the program is

to find ways to address childhood obesity by partnering with local schools in the community.



Ruby Drive Elementary School was chosen as one of the beneficiaries to assist in the purchasing of sports equipment or help with any current or new wellness programs. Ruby Drive is honored to be the recipient of these funds. The monetary benefit will be wisely used for the health benefit of all our students.

Aha!™ FOR KIDS

This section features enrichment opportunities for children to find their passion!

Magic Book Garden

Are We there Yet?



Rozanne Lanczak Williams

Tips for Traveling with Tots

While I acknowledge that all the fun electronic stuff can be life-savers at times, please remember that there are many great ways to engage young children during those special times you share en route that will also boost their learning and thinking skills as well as nurture closer bonds.

Planes, Trains, . . .

Air travel can be challenging for anyone these days and more so with the little ones along. Cramped spaces, long delays, and lack of access to food and drink can present all kinds of problems.

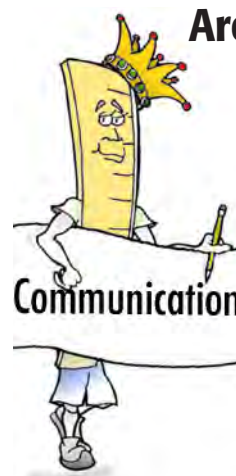
Be prepared! Pack a bag for your child with lots of goodies. Include snacks—healthy treats as well as a few of your child’s very favorite ones to pull out when needed as a diversion. Bring sippy cups instead of drinks and continually fill them with water or juice. Bring books—and lots of them. Bring books that your child can read on his/her own as well as some new surefire read-alouds. Bring a few activity books with crosswords and other puzzles geared to your child’s age, as well as self-contained craft kits, cards games, and paper and crayons. Bringing a travel journal is also a lovely idea. Along with a few toys your child can’t live without, including a favorite “huggable,” bring several small new toys. My friend Beth, who has traveled numerous times to England with her three boys, at times all under 5, says to wrap every item you bring like a little present. What child doesn’t like opening gifts? And the act of opening will take time and keep your child engaged. Beth also says to bring along a box of band-aids. 3 and 4 year olds love them, and will enjoy opening them (this takes forever!) and placing them on real and perceived boo-boos. Also, what better way to enhance your child’s fine motor skills? Once again, my best advice: please do not get on an airplane with your young child with only an electronic game to amuse him/her.

. . . and Automobiles

Car trips can be a little easier on little ones, since you can stop frequently and let them run around a bit. Along with the items listed above, books on tape are a wonderful activity for kids in the car. Plug them into the car system so that you can comment or discuss the story or encourage your child to make predictions on what will happen next. When a child listens to the story, they have to create a picture in their mind of what is going on and this is a powerful way to build comprehension skills. That’s why you should intersperse movie watching with books on tape when you’re on the road. I also highly recommend music videos and CD’s. Music accesses and stimulates different parts of the brain.

For lots and lots of more great ideas, car tips, and travel games, go to www.MomsMinivan.com.

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.rozannewilliams.com



Are you looking for me?

I am part of the Puzzle Contest on page 15. Find the other three pieces hidden in this publication. Then follow the instructions to enter the Contest. Good luck!!



Orange County Premier

Club Soccer

A Proud Program of Orange Junior Soccer Club!

Teams for All Ages

All players welcome • 7 – 19 years old

Experience youth sports at its finest!

Come see a POSITIVE competitive environment
See players realize their fullest athletic ability and personal potential.

We strive to be the most exciting, developmental and competitive soccer experience in the entire country. If you're thinking about the “next level” then contact Premier today!

We want your child to be a part of our special heritage.



www.ocpremier.org • 714.771.6572

Children Who Have Everything



**Sandy Spurgeon
McDaniel**

A popular talk show host aired a program devoted to what happens when children are given everything they want—or just have too much given to them with no sense of earning what they have.

The obvious outcome is extreme selfishness and a child who has a “the world owes me” attitude. Perhaps a less obvious result is not valuing anything because there is no energy involved in earning it.

Every day, I see parents giving into children’s wishes, wants and desires. A parent says, “No you can’t have a toy. We are buying what is on the list and nothing else.” Sounds good, but the child who is skilled in emotionally whittling down a parent continues fussing until his or her parent caves in and buys the chosen item.

Children are learning how to be adults. They will be successful adults or unsuccessful adults based upon the lessons learned in childhood. A tangible danger in buying excessively for a child is that he or she is not likely to have the same type of resources following college when all the life expenses fall on him or her.

Earning What You Spend

Compulsive spending has turned the credit card industry into a major business. A huge percentage of young married couples are deeply in debt. The lesson that was not learned in childhood was that you can’t buy everything that you desire.

I gave my children chores for the right to live in our home—and to teach them the skills they need to know to live decently, especially when they are parents. A child who “forgot” one chore automatically got two chores at an inconvenient time. A child who did a chore poorly received the benefit of a long, boring lesson during his or her television time.

Allowance was given to teach a child how to manage money. Therefore, when a child embraced a toy in the store, eyes sparkling, desire raging, I calmly said, “That is a terrific toy. If you save your allowance for X number of weeks, you can own that toy. No, I won’t buy it for you with the plan that you will pay me back. You need to spend money you have in your hand.”

Before you go into a store, set the boundaries: “We are going to this store to buy the items that are on this list. It will be hard for all of us not to want to buy something that is not on this list. And that’s the rule—if it isn’t already on the list, we don’t buy it!”

Learning to Spend Wisely

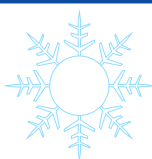
In terms of buy name brand products and the “popular” items for your children, it is rational to do some of that and not irrational to tax your home finances so your children can compete with other children. If you went into most children’s closets and drawers you would find an excessive amount of clothes. The number of toys might rival a toy store! What are these children learning in terms of spending—and in valuing anything they have?

We are raising a society of “gimme, gimme, gimme” youngsters who basically have no regard for the value of anything because it never cost them anything to have everything. Do you want your child to have a better life than you did? The difficulty is in realizing that the hard lessons learned are the life-changing lessons.

Nobody taught you to spend money wisely? Here’s your chance to stop that dysfunctional family cycle and teach your children what they need to know. By the way, it is advisable that you frequently use the word “No!” to accomplish this task.

FREE parenting seminars available to schools. Contact Sandy direct sandy@sandymcdaniel.com

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel has written several books. She has taught school, raised two children, worked as a consultant to schools and has taught parenting for the past 20 years. www.ParentingSOS.com



WINTER WORD SEARCH CONTEST

**NEW
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 is the word you
email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put “Contest PYLUSD in the subject line)**

Entries must be received by December 15 2010
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Blizzard | Chocolate | Sled |
| Bells | Ice | Snowboarding |
| Boots | Ice Skates | Snowflake |
| Chilly | Icicle | Snowman |
| Fireplace | Marshmallow | Solstice |
| Freezing | Mittens | Soup |
| Frost | Mountains | Toboggan |
| Gingerbread | Olympics | Umbrella |
| Holidays | Rain Coat | Vacation |
| Hot | Scarf | |

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

Note-ables

Merry Kidsmas



Kate Karp

Merry Kidsmas was produced by a group of Nashville songwriters and artists who wanted to put together a holiday collection that would, as they said, use a child's perspective of the season and "be sung by real everyday kids."

Indeed, this CD is not dripping with sugarplums. The opening cut, "Box of Rocks," is "I'm Gettin' Nuttin' for Christmas" stood on its ear. The singer, a girl of about 9 or 10, writes Santa about all the rotten things her brother has done—pulled her hair, stuck out his tongue at her, exploded her doll on his toy rocket—and asks him to bring her bratty sibling what he deserves—which

happens in the closing song, "What's in the Box?" Dad gets a lot of good-natured love in "Even My Daddy Sings"—Daddy's voice curdles the soap in the shower, but he's a standup act with Christmas carols. "A Picture of Santa Claus" is about two mercenary little paparazzi trying to cadge a photo of the Man in the Red Suit. The songs aren't all on Santa's Naughty List—anyone whose child has struggled with the question of "Is Santa Claus real?" will welcome "I Still Believe in You." There are one or two standards that are cute, but they pale next to the cleverness of the compositions written by various members of the Song Trust, including Nashville artist Rory Feek.

I've saved the centerpiece for last. "Bring Him Home, Santa" was first released in 2007 and reached #29 on the Billboard Country Chart. Sung clearly and beautifully by an anonymous 6-year old girl, it's a heartrending plea for her father's return from Iraq. It will catch you on its first minor note: "Dear Santa, I need to change my Christmas list. . . . You see, my daddy's working far away from here" . . . if you use this song in a pageant or program, rehearse it a few weeks early to get all the tears out of the way. Of course, they'll be running copiously during the actual performance.

It is the hope of the CD's producers that a song will be the star that leads the way. May you and your families have your deepest wishes granted this holiday.

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

THE SCIENCE OF GINGERBREAD

Nov. 26 thru Jan. 2

- Over 100 Gingerbread Displays
- Southern California's "Largest Gingerbread Competition"
- Make and Take a Mini Gingerbread House (select weekends)
- Come see our NEW Model Train Exhibit
- Gingerbread Men decorating (select weekends)
- Experience SNOW at the NEW "Science of Snow" Show

CM SCHOOL SUPPLY

Largest Selection of Educational Materials in Southern California

- Parent, student and teacher educational books and resources (infant–eighth-grade)
- California state testing practice books
- Science boards and project materials
- Educational games, puzzles, toys, music and videos
- Children's bookstore
- Unique gifts
- Gift Certificates in any amount



Visit one of our 5 stores
Come in and check out all of our new products!

Shop Where the Teachers Shop!

STORE HOURS

M–F 9–6 • Sat. 10–5 • Sun. 11–3

www.cmschoolsupply.com



ANAHEIM

1025 E. Orangefhorpe
714-680-6681

LONG BEACH

5440 E. Del Arno
562-429-2425

RIVERSIDE

4103 Tyler
909-689-6400

TEMECULA

28860 Old Town Front St.
951-294-9921

UPLAND

940 N. Central
909-982-9695

SAVE \$5

Redeem this coupon at Discovery Science Center's ticket counter and receive \$5.00 off a SUPER TICKET (includes general admission, movie, and Dino Quest). Limit 4 people per coupon. Not valid with any other offer or group rate. No cash value. Not valid on holidays. Offer Expires 1/2/11



TACO BELL
DISCOVERY
SCIENCE CENTER



2500 N. Main St., Santa Ana, CA 92705 • 714-542-2823 or www.discoverycube.org

Sierra Vista *Elementary*

1811 N. Placentia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7270 • www.pylusd.org/sierravista/index.asp



Cindy Rex
Principal

Wild About Reading

One of the first programs initiated every fall sends students and parents searching for books. “Wild About Reading” adds delight and lively discussions to every day both at home and at school. This PTA-sponsored literacy program brings parents, teachers and students together by recording daily reading time. The district encourages student reading with an online program, “Ticket to Read,” where successful comprehension earns immediate rewards. Children discuss the “cool clubhouses” they are building as they simultaneously construct new reading skills.

Accelerated Reader, familiar to many elementary schools, involves our students in leveled progression as they demonstrate their reading proficiency. Mrs. Schall, our school librarian and Mrs. Ladd, our computer instructor, work very closely with students to match books to readers and monitor their comprehension. Mrs. Schall keeps the library open during morning recess and lunch recess for hungry readers and anxious test takers.

Every day, Sierra Vista teachers focus on reading skills, targeting instruction for success. Students are reading aloud, silently, in groups or with a buddy – seeing the world through text, and wild about it!



Topaz *Elementary*

3232 Topaz Ln., Fullerton, CA 92831 • 714/993-9977 • www.topaz.pylusd.org



Rafael Plascencia
Principal

High Expectations

By Annabella Chang, ELD Instructional Aide

The last four years have found me working at Topaz Elementary as an ELD aide. It has been a wonderful and exciting experience. It's a joy for me to work with children, especially to watch them grow into amazing, responsible, motivated students. I go to work every day knowing that I can make a difference in a child's life. One of the benefits is working with dedicated and professional staff members. Even though class sizes have increased, the teachers still find time to communicate with and give attention



to all of their students. On a daily basis I see teachers go the extra mile for their students' success. Those extra miles, the professional atmosphere of high expectations, the student pride and ownership of their own learning and all of the other great things I see at Topaz make me proud to be a part of this California Distinguished School.

Travis Ranch School

5200 Via de la Escuela, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7460 • www.travisranchschool.org



Larry Mauzey
Principal

An Outstanding Community

Welcome to the start of another school year at Travis Ranch School! We are proud to share that we started this school year with an all-time high Academic Performance Index (API) score of 905 and as a third-time California Distinguished School winner.

We attribute these accomplishments, in large part, to our strong Professional Learning Communities, in which staff collaborates on a weekly basis to share best practices. An additional program of note is our Response to Intervention (RtI) program. RtI represents collaboration between general education and Special Education teachers to provide appropriate instruction for students in the area of reading based upon the results of multiple assessments.

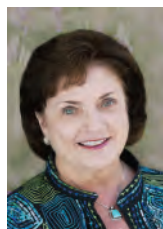
If you have visited campus, you probably noticed that almost all of our classrooms now have interactive technology, including whiteboards, document cameras, sound systems and student-response systems. This technology engages students and increases learning in all subject areas. This past summer, many of our teachers were involved in trainings on how to infuse technology into lessons and maximize technology as an instructional and learning tool. Throughout this year, staff development in this area will be a major focus.

The support of our Travis Ranch parents and community is invaluable, whether through events the PTA has planned on campus, time spent by parents volunteering in classrooms, or fund-raising efforts that bring top-quality assemblies and programs to our students.

We look forward to working with you this year to continue the success of our students.

Tuffree *Middle School*

2151 N. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7480 • www.tuffree.org



Rosie Baldwin-Shirley
Principal

Generosity in Spirit and Action

Some believe that middle school students are selfish, but our students prove that to be false! Each year, in response to devastating needs in communities and nation, Tuffree students engage in a humanitarian outreach project. This year, Tuffree Knitting Club students meet Friday afternoons with our art teacher, Mrs. Halliday, to design and knit caps. These are donated to Knots of Love to provide warmth and comfort to chemotherapy patients. Students enrich learning, demonstrate compassion, develop good citizenship and learn an art form that is at risk of disappearing.

At Tuffree, our continued belief that all students can achieve at high levels drives our teachers to collaborate weekly to provide top-quality, data-driven instruction that engages our students. These high expectations are reflected in our Academic Performance Index scores. With our score of 864,



Tuffree “Knots of Love” hats made by students
Annie Spinney and Amy Truong.

students again demonstrated a significant gain, exceeding growth targets schoolwide and in subgroups.

We are proud of our students. As we move forward in challenging times, we recognize the importance of focusing on achievement. We have great expectations, and we feel that the best is yet to come!

Tynes *Elementary*

735 Stanford Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-5550 • www.tynes.pylusd.org



Cristina McCall
Principal

Thank You Parents!

Tynes has had a wonderful start to the 2010-2011 school year! Students at Tynes are fortunate to have state of the art classroom technologies available for their use on a daily basis. They also have highly qualified teachers that truly care about all of their students academic needs.

The school knows we cannot do it alone. We recognize the important contributions that parents make toward a child's school success. One of the most important components of a good school is the partnership between the school and the parents who work together for the best interest of children.

Tynes School has a strong tradition of supportive, hard-working parents. Our PTA has provided innumerable activities. In fact, we held the best Book Fair to date in September and hope to do the same with Jog-A-Thon in October. PTA supports all field trips, assemblies and Fun Family Nights. Tynes staff and students give a big thank you to our parent community and our PTA for all of your help and support!

Valencia *High School*

500 N. Bradford, Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-4970 • www.vhstigers.org



Jim Bell
Principal

Tigers Excel Once Again

Valencia High School is proud to announce that five Valencia seniors—Berniece Chen, Rasika Deshpande, Felicia Hsu, Erandi Ratnayake and Madison Tang—have been named semifinalists in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program. Representing less than one percent of each state's high school seniors, National Merit Semifinalists are the highest scoring program entrants in each state, and they are the only participants who have the opportunity to advance to the actual cash awards given as Merit Scholarships.

Four additional Valencia Seniors—Bianca Aguirre, Daniel Cepeda, Troy Czegledy, and Dominique Schorn—were selected for the 2011 National Merit Hispanic Recognition Program. This program recognizes the top 5,000 Hispanic students in the United States based on their PSAT scores and outstanding academic achievement.

Eighteen Valencia seniors—Brianna Borden, Dante Cantal, Jeremy Chung, Nima Hosseini, Isabel Hsu, George Jing, Jason Khoe, Jasmine Kyi, Melinda Ma, Vincent Nguyen, Shane Patel, Sonali Patel, Michael Pope, Dominique Schorn, Prayerna Uppal, Angel Weber, Amelia Yates, and Jason Yee—were named as National Merit Commended Students. Commended Students placed in the top five percent of the 1.6 million entrants in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Valencia High School increased its Academic Performance Index (API) another 14 points. Valencia has experienced nine consecutive years of API growth of 171 points for an average gain of 19 points per year.

Last year, Valencia students took a combined 1,318 International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement Exams and experienced an 85-percent pass rate. These are both all time highs for the school.

Are you looking for me?



**I am part of the
Puzzle Contest on page 15.
Find the other
three pieces hidden in
this publication.
Then follow the instructions
to enter the Contest.
Good luck!!**

Valadez *Middle School Academy*

161 E. La Jolla St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7440 • www.pylusd.org/schools/valadez/index.asp



**Minerva
Gandara-Boggs**
Principal

The Snowy Day

On October 7, it snowed at Valadez MS Academy as over 900 students read the book *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats in an attempt to help

set a world record of 2.5 million children reading the same book on the same day. The Jumpstart Read for the Record event brought 1st graders from Melrose and Rio Vista Schools together with 8th grade buddies from Valadez in a

celebration of reading. Maria Toth, a local children's book author who graduated from McFadden Elementary (currently Melrose), gave an inspiring keynote address which emphasized the importance of reading to success. Each first grader received their very own copy of *The Snowy Day* provided by Pearson Educational Foundation and inscribed by their Valadez buddy. Students munched on snowball treats as snow fell from the rooftops. Valadez students were also treated to a toboggan ride down a snowy slope. It was indeed a magical snowy day!



Van Buren *Elementary*

1245 N. Van Buren St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7100 • www.vanburenelementary.org



Ken Valburg
Principal

Math is Fun!

Over 500 Van Buren first through sixth graders took timed, basic math facts tests the Friday of the first week of school. The students were challenged to study over the summer to pass the math tests to earn the privilege of having their name displayed on the Van Buren Math Facts Wall of Fame, and to have their name entered into a drawing to win some fabulous prizes. The students will continue to work on mastery of these facts and will be tested monthly with the chance of winning smaller prizes. Each test that is passed earn another start on their name plate on the Math Wall of Fame. In April, the students will take their last test for the year with the opportunity to win some more fabulous prizes as reward for working so hard on their math facts this year. At Van Buren Elementary, math is important and fun!

Wagner *Elementary*

717 E. Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7180 • www.pylusd.org/schools/wagner/index.asp



Patrick Brown
Principal

Making New School-Year Resolutions

The August release of API scores brought good news to the Wagner school community. An API score of 880 reflected a 10 point increase from the previous year. Congratulations Wagner!

Beginning a new school year is like starting a new calendar year. In the school setting that means remembering what worked for our students and what areas need improvement. Please spend some family time establishing some New School Year Resolutions.

Is there an established homework time?

Is the binder reminder being used daily?

Is homework a priority?

Is there an established homework location?

Is time set aside to share and discuss homework, activities and situations that happen at school?

Is "reading for pleasure" instituted?

Building a strong foundation is a critical step for future success and life long learning!

Yorba Linda *Middle School*

4777 Casa Loma Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7080 • www.ylms.org



James Hardin
Principal

Innovative Programs Can Lead to Success

I am pleased to start the new school year by sharing some good news. The state and federal accountability measures were released in mid-September, and our school has once again posted some record gains.

Yorba Linda Middle School's API jumped from 851 to 871, which is a 20-point gain, and another all-time high for our school. Yorba Linda already surpasses the state's goal of 800 for all California schools.

It is rewarding to see our students continue to excel. This is a direct result of the outstanding team effort between students, teachers, staff and families, who all continually rise to the occasion regardless of outside challenges.

Statistically, these posted gains are even more impressive when you consider that it becomes a greater challenge for students to move up the scale as they reach these higher levels of achievement.

Yorba Linda Middle School continues to make good progress in student achievement. In math, we are proud of our implementation of the Mind Research Institute's algebra readiness program. It will help support our students by building a solid foundation that is informed by over 30 years of original neuroscience and education research.

MIND uses an innovative visual approach to engage students, and its carefully engineered learning sequence explains and interconnects all of the major math concepts. It exploits and engages spatial temporal reasoning abilities to help explain, understand and solve multi-step math problems.

The program also teaches the essential math concepts and skills that form the foundation for success in Algebra 1. Research-proven courseware differentiates instruction to each student's individual level, and online, on-demand teacher reports help assist with student interventions.

It is our students, staff and community that have made Yorba Linda Middle School an exceptional place to learn.

Woodsboro *Elementary*

7575 Woodsboro Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7040 • www.woodsboro.pylusd.org



Phil Hergenreder
Principal

Packaged for Success

The beginning of the school year is always an exciting time for the students and staff. Friendships are renewed, and new ones are made. Over 170 GATE students and their families attended our annual get-to-know-you pizza dinner. This was a great opportunity to connect with other students and families who joined our GATE magnet program from a number of different schools in the surrounding area. We also welcomed six outstanding new members to the Woodsboro staff: Jodie Hawkins, teaching fifth grade; Jennifer Johns, teaching second grade; Nancy Lanzi, teaching upper-grade Special Day Class; Lisa Lee, school psychologist; Veronica Luna, teaching second grade; and Elizabeth Riley, speech therapist.

Woodsboro strives to provide a high-quality educational program that encompasses challenging state content standards, encourages the mastery of basic skills, facilitates the use of technology, and fosters the development of critical thinking and effective communication in all students. The PTA supports these efforts by providing funds for assemblies, field trips, classroom supplies and the K-4 vocal music program. In addition, parent involvement is an integral part of the school program; parents participate in many different ways, including serving on School Site Council, PTA, English Language Advisory Committee and Sixth-Grade Boosters, and as classroom volunteers.

We are fortunate to have such strong support from the parent community. We're off to a great start and looking forward to a fabulous year!

Yorba Linda *High School*

19900 Bastanchury, Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7500 • www.ylhs.org



Dave Flynn
Principal

Traditions of Excellence

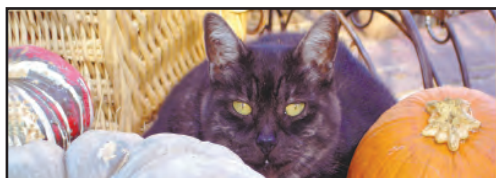
Welcome to Yorba Linda High School (YLHS), Home of the Mustangs. We are heading into our second year and welcome another class of students who will help establish the YLHS traditions.

We have added all of the courses our junior class will need to prepare them for their senior year, graduation and college and career applications, including Advanced Placement coursework in US history, language arts, Spanish, French, Japanese, biology, chemistry, and calculus. Our fine and performing arts program is growing, and this year Yorba Linda High School will compete in the Empire League at the varsity level for all sports. Our academic and co-curricular programs will take Yorba Linda High School to the top.

We are very proud of last year's freshmen and sophomore classes for all of their academic efforts, as well as participating in over 30 clubs, athletic teams and performance groups. YLHS students scored 874 on the California Standards Test (CST) last spring, and we look forward to continuing this tradition of outstanding performance.

Getting connected to one of our many programs at YLHS is key to student success. We hope students, staff and parents will run with the "STAMPEDE" in establishing Yorba Linda High School programs that provide community Service, develop Teamwork, demonstrate Achievement, show Mastery for the task at hand, let our Passion shine every day, use our Ethics and values to guide our daily decisions, Dedicate ourselves to be the best, and always strive for Excellence.

Please take a moment to check our Web site for information regarding staff, activities and the 2010-2011 calendar of events.



Happy Thanksgiving!

SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1



On federal measures, called Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the PYLUSD surpassed the steeply escalating federal targets. In English language arts, 69.4 percent of PYLUSD students scored proficient or advanced surpassing the federal target of 56 percent. In math, 71.7 percent of PYLUSD students scored above the 56.4 percent federal target.

Dr. Dennis Smith

The federal government also requires districts and schools to demonstrate proficiency for up to 50 statistically significant subgroups such as students with disabilities, English learners and economically disadvantaged. The PYLUSD has 42 statistically significant subgroups and individual schools can have more or less depending on school populations, raising the level of requirements for schools when more subgroups are identified. The PYLUSD met 32 of 42 criteria for statistically significant subgroups. The good news is that all subgroups demonstrated growth over last year.

By the year 2014, the federal government requires that 100 percent of students in all schools in the nation, including all subgroups, demonstrate 100 percent proficiency in all areas.

This is a great time to be part of the PYLUSD. Everyone's contributions make a huge, positive difference.

Sincerely,
Dennis Smith
Superintendent

NATHAN SHAPELL MEMORIAL STADIUM • FROM PAGE 1

land for Yorba Linda High School and included the gifting of \$13.5 million which made possible the construction of a fully-complete high school facility.

Born in Poland, Nathan Shapell spent World War II as a prisoner in the infamous Buchenwald and Auschwitz concentration camps where most of his family members were executed. As a survivor of the Holocaust, he was determined to not only rebuild his own life but to help others rebuild theirs.

After the war, he devoted himself to building housing complexes for displaced war survivors in Germany. In 1952, he immigrated to the United States and, as Chairman of Shapell Industries, earned recognition as an industry leader. His philosophy was based upon the high priority he placed on family, community and home, and he dedicated a major portion of his life to public service. His contributions included: Co-founding Building a Better Los Angeles, which raised over \$1 million to help homeless children and families; Serving as President of D.A.R.E., an anti-drug education program for schoolchildren; Participation for 29 years on California's Little Hoover Commission where he helped improve the lives of nursing home elderly and disadvantaged; and Appointment by President Ronald Reagan to the Grace Commission, a private sector survey on cost control, which saved taxpayers billions of dollars.

The stadium is now under construction and completion is scheduled for April 2011. This will be the school district's second stadium and, as with Bradford Stadium, will feature: home and visitor seating, concession stands, restrooms, team rooms, artificial turf and synthetic track.



El Camino Modernization

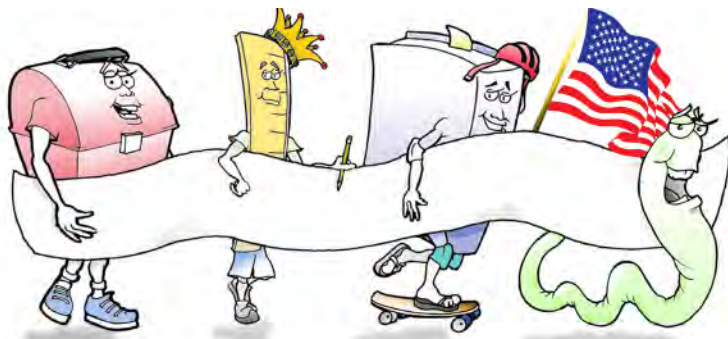
MEASURE A • FROM PAGE 1

2010 Summer Projects

- Seventeen classroom building and other major improvements began this summer at Valencia High
- Football and track field, new gymnasium, administration and music classroom improvements begin at Esperanza High School
- Gymnasium breaks ground at El Dorado
- Stadium and aquatics facility construction began at Yorba Linda High School
- New look for Kraemer Middle School includes re-designed entry, administration, new locker rooms and new media library center
- El Camino's modernization starts
- Eight classroom building and library/media center are coming to Van Buren Elementary
- Rio Vista also gets new classroom building and expanded food services building
- Mabel Paine Elementary has new air conditioning throughout campus
- George Key School also gets new air conditioning
- Tuffree Middle School new locker rooms are now open



Bradford Stadium Modernization



“

”

Contest!!

To find out what is written on this banner you'll have to find the pieces hidden throughout this publication. When you have the words, email the answer to:

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

(Please put "PYLUSD Contest" in the subject line)

Your entry must be received by December 15, 2010. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

The Antique Gallery



A Haven for:

- ∞ Finest China
- ∞ Rare Jewelry
- ∞ Sterling Silver
- ∞ Pottery
- ∞ Souvenir Collectibles
- ∞ Treasures of All Categories!

(562) 598-4900 ∞ 223¹/₂ Main Street, Seal Beach
(nestled inside Brita's Old Town Gardens and behind Nick's Deli)
11:00a.m. – 5:00p.m. ∞ Wednesday thru Sunday

Meet the Artist

November 20 & 21
December 4 & 5
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Marlaine Kubski

Purchase from a special selection of
Nature's Porcelain
Hand Carved Natural Ostrich and Emu Eggs

Using natural Ostrich and Emu eggs Marlaine creates a one-of-a-kind heirloom.

Each egg is an original design and signed by the artist.

Any color used other than the natural color of the egg
is of a pure source found in nature, such as berry stain or flower pollen.

