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Covering the Orange Unified School District

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AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2008

SUPERINTENDENT



Renae Dreier, Ed.D

Dr. Renae Dreier will be coming to Orange Unified School District with extensive leadership experience. She has been Superintendent of

Schools in Greeley, Colorado and Redding, California. The Greeley-Evans School District has a student enrollment of 18,000 students. While at the Redding School District, she also concurrently served as Superintendent for three neighboring school districts in the New Millennium Partnership which included Redding, Shasta, Igo-Ono, and French Gulch School Districts. Prior to becoming a superintendent, Dr. Dreier served as Principal of Project City Elementary School and Sequoia Middle School in Redding, CA. Before beginning her administrative career, she was a high school and middle school teacher.

Dr. Dreier is a graduate of North Salinas High School in Salinas, CA. She received her BA and MA in History from California State University, San Francisco. She earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California in 2000. Her doctoral dissertation focused on the effects of technology-rich instruction on student achievement.

Dr. Dreier is an advocate for community involvement. She is a Rotarian and has served on the Board of Directors for United Way of Weld County, Shasta Family YMCA, and the Greeley Chamber of Commerce.

SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 19

Unified Education



Orange Grammar School 1907.

*By Victoria Webber
Executive Secretary to the
Superintendent*

People often ask why is the District called Orange Unified School District?

In reality, it encompasses all or part of five cities: Anaheim, Garden Grove, Orange, Santa Ana, Villa Park and a large unincorporated area. Also, why do we have seven trustees when most districts have five? The answers are found in the history of the schools in the area. As this portion of Orange County began to develop in the late 1800's, schools or school districts were established by the citizens to provide education for their children. Originally, there were five separate elementary (K-8) schools, and correspondingly, five separate school

SEE UNIFIED • PAGE 19

The Power of Hydration



William M. Habermehl
*Superintendent
Orange County
Department of
Education*

One of the most critical components of an athlete's regimen is proper hydration.

There is no doubt that young athletes have to be mindful of maintaining a balanced diet and adequate rest for optimal performance. However, one of the most critical components of an athlete's regimen is proper hydration. This is especially significant for our active children and young teens because they tend to use up more energy doing the same activity as older adolescents and adults, while producing up to twice as much heat.

During exercise, muscles generate heat that raises body temperature. As a result, the body produces sweat that cools its systems through evaporation. The fluid lost through sweat includes water, as well as important electrolytes such as sodium and potassium, which must be replaced to avoid disturbing the body's balance and the risk of overheating. Excessive dehydration can impair performance and increase risk of heat-related illnesses such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Ensuring fluids are available during practices or at games is not enough,

SEE POWER OF HYDRATION • PAGE 18

Special Issue! Principal Bio's

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**Our next issue
is October 15**

**School Maps
& Calendar
Insert**

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Kay Coop

Founder / Publisher



562/493-3193

kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

Welcome back to another school year. While some students have enjoyed a relaxing vacation, others have attended summer school or had the responsibility of a job. Now everyone is focused on the same goal—a successful school year.

Even though we do not have space to print your comments, we welcome your emails and calls.

This is one of our favorite issues when we print the principal bio's.

School Calendar/Map Insert

Be sure and keep the inserted map/calendar for a reference throughout the year.

School News Roll Call

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COVERING THE
 ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



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- **Yoga (Ages 16-Adult)**



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New Electives

By Marsha Brown, Administrative Director, Alternative Schools / ROP

Brand new on-campus career electives, planned to launch this fall, will provide high school students with even more opportunities to earn high school credit, explore future career opportunities, discover and foster talents they never knew they had, and even get a head start on earning college credit.

Leading the exciting list of new career elective course offerings is Fashion Design and Merchandising, a class that covers all aspects of the fashion industry from the creative and artistic elements to business and retail. This course will be offered at Canyon, Villa Park and Richland High Schools.

For students interested in a possible business career, the all-new Business Economics and Finance class at El Modena and Villa Park High Schools will give them a fundamental understanding of how businesses and the local, national, and international economy interact to produce a profit or loss.

New Career Electives

The all-new Construction Trades class provides an introduction to the construction trades industry and will give students a head-start in developing practical skills in the mechanical and residential construction areas. This course will be offered on-campus at Canyon and Richland High Schools.

Law & Order I, another brand-new course offering, is for students who have an interest in the legal system and/or are thinking about studying law in college. Classes will be held on-campus after school at Canyon and Villa Park.

All career elective classes are tuition-free and are taught by credentialed teachers who have at least five years of experience in their field. Students should see their counselor or visit the Career Center on their high school campus as soon as school begins to check for class availability and to enroll.



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Blue Green, Green Blue



Eric Wahlberg

The world is embroiled (pun intended) in a debate whether the melting of some of the Earth's glaciers, permafrost, and arctic ice is the result of increasing atmospheric temperatures and, if so, whether the activities of humans are the cause of those increases. This controversy has sparked, in vast numbers of individuals, a veritable quest to minimize the environmental impact of their lives. As reflected in the title of this column, "Green!" eclipsing the sentiment around the original Earth Day in 1972, America today is fast gaining a profound environmental consciousness, embracing "Green" as an absolute way of life.

Beginning this premier column on Christmas Eve 2007, I reflect on the approach taken to sell environmental engineering, my chosen profession, to students at career fairs in which I have participated. Remembering watching Neil Armstrong be the first to footprint the moon, I ask the brave who are intrigued enough to enter my assigned classroom to envision themselves in the Apollo command module as its trajectory into space is bent by gravity, sweeping it into orbit around the back side of the moon. Not surprisingly, the back side of the moon is very un-Earthly: very cold, dark, and, because radio contact with Mission Control is cutoff, extremely quiet. But then as dark flashes to light, as you come from around the moon, the radio crackling to life, there before you, suspended in the vast, black universe, isolated and small, is Earth, spectacularly blue, punctuated with white wisps and patches of green/brown relief. This view of our home was described by William Anders from the first human mission to leave our orbit and make that return from the dark side of the moon on Christmas Eve 1968 as "a fragile Christmas tree ball."



A fragile, blue Christmas tree ball, not unlike a cherished family heirloom passed down from every generation that has ever lived; and so it will be passed along to every future generation that will ever live. Indeed, it is because of the perspective from this unique scenic overlook in space that the majority of the Apollo astronauts returned to Earth with an environmental dedication the rest of us can only hope to emulate. And so we shall.

Plants are green and, because plants produce the oxygen allowing us to live, it is logical that green be associated with life and living. But I have made the case above that we could just as rationally equate blue to the life of Mother Earth on which we all depend. Instead, we tend to associate blue with sad and, yes, we will be more than sad if Mother Earth ever becomes sick.

Future columns here will cover such varied topics as composting, carbon dioxide, nutrient cycling, water treatment, recycling; I even plan to walk you through a solar patio cover project we will be doing at our house. If you have green or blue topics you would like to see covered here, or if you have other comments, feel free to contact me at ejfarmerdude@msn.com.

Eric is a full-time process engineer for Brown and Caldwell, part-time enologist, and a farmer want-to-be. He lives in Fountain Valley with his wife, Patti, and two step-daughters, Kylie and Robyn Couch. Contact him at ejfarmerdude@msn.com.



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Anaheim Hills

Elementary School
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714/997-6169

Debra Larson
Principal

Principal Debra Larson is a longtime Orange County Native, educated in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District and living for 30 years in the Anaheim Hills area. She has taught for 21 years in Orange Unified School District (OUSD). Throughout her career, she taught kindergarten through sixth grade and spent three years as an assistant principal, two at La Veta Elementary School and one at Running Springs Elementary School. She was chosen as the California Teacher of the Year among the state's first year teachers in 1987-1988. She currently serves as the principal of Anaheim Hills Elementary School, where she has been for the past five years.

Larson earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Southern California. She did not choose a career in teaching until her youngest daughter was nearing school age. After serving as a parent volunteer in her daughter's classroom, she decided to pursue her teaching credential at California State University, Fullerton and began teaching when her youngest daughter was in first grade. She later received her administrative credential from Azusa Pacific University.

"It is a privilege to be the principal of Anaheim Hills Elementary," Larson said. "I know I have chosen the perfect profession, and I gain energy from the students, teachers and parents I work with every day. What else do I need, knowing that I can make a difference in the life of one child?"



California

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

Cyndi Paik
Principal

We all know that the office staff is an integral part of a school team. They are in the front lines providing information to our parents and new families. Furthermore, they assist teachers, custodians, principals and keep the school running.

At California, we are fortunate to have four experienced and cohesive team of office staff members: Rocio Soler; Community Liaison (5 yrs), Rosa Montes; Attendance/Health Clerk (10 yrs), Candi Nieves; Office Manager (21 yrs), and RoseAnne Paton; Office Clerk (26 yrs). The combined total number of years of service is over 60 years! These ladies go beyond the call of duty as they are willing to organize fundraisers, plan events at the school led by our willing and eager Office Manager, Candi Nieves. We are lucky to have these ladies at our school!



Rocio Soler, Rosa Montes, Candi Nieves, and Rose Anne Paton



Karen Merkow
Principal

Cambridge

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

A native Californian, Karen Merkow has spent her entire academic career as a life-long learner, right along with the hundreds of students she has taught and the many teachers she has supervised.

With a career that has already lasted 32 years, Karen earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from UCLA, and she holds elementary teaching, reading specialist, and administrative credentials.

She began her career in Los Angeles, where she taught grades K-6 and served as a track coordinator and training and mentor teacher, all before moving to Orange County. She spent 10 years teaching at Chapman Hills Elementary. Later, she was an assistant principal at California Elementary, and principal at Anaheim Hills and Chapman Hills Elementary Schools.

Karen has served as a member of the "Focus on Results" writing, planning and presentation team. She has been awarded both the California

Distinguished School recognition at Anaheim Hills Elementary as well as the California Businesses for Educational Excellence Award at Chapman Hills. She also attends many training sessions to refine and develop innovative programs for her school.

Her children are both graduates of OUSD. Daughter Deanna teaches in Nevada, and son Phil is working in the entertainment industry. Her husband of 32 years, Jeff, owns an advertising agency in Tustin and Glendale.

Merkow is excited to begin her position as principal of Cambridge Elementary School. She looks forward to a wonderful year working with her new staff to provide an outstanding educational program.



William Gee, Ed.D.
Principal

Canyon Hills

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

William Gee, Ed.D., Canyon Hills's principal, has been fortunate to have a wide variety of experiences in education. He began his career in 1981 teaching ninth-grade social studies in Wisconsin. After returning to graduate school, he became a school psychologist and worked in that capacity for six years. During that time, he worked as a consultant to Head Start programs in southern Wisconsin and worked as a school psychologist at public elementary schools, middle schools and high schools. During this time, he also worked as a private therapist with children who were extremely intellectually gifted but who also demonstrated social problems or severe underachievement.

Several years later, Gee moved to Phoenix, where he continued employment as a school psychologist at elementary and middle schools. After meeting his future wife, he moved to Southern California to be nearer to her. In California, he began employment with the Anaheim City School District as a special day class teacher and later moved to a resource specialist program teaching position.

In 1993, Gee moved to Orange Unified School District where he has held various administrative positions, including program specialist for special education, elementary assistant principal, elementary principal and administrative director of pupil services. This is his second year as the administrator at Canyon Hills School working with an exceptional staff of teachers and instructional assistants.

During Gee's first year at Canyon Hills, he says that he was often struck by two exceptional qualities of the staff. One is that the level of commitment to students who have disabilities is often heightened by the staff's own personal experiences with family members who are moderately to severely disabled. These personal experiences have informed the practice of the teachers and aides in ways that greatly enrich the teaching quality of our staff's efforts.

Second, Gee said that the level of teamwork of the staff at Canyon Hills is higher than at most schools. The teachers and aides must rely on and trust one another to operate smoothly and effectively. The issues and problems that our school must address each day are quite different from those at other schools. The level of mutual dependence is necessary for the staff, and this trust contributes to an environment of safety and caring that is remarkable.

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Canyon

High School
220 S. Imperial Hwy.
Anaheim, CA 92807
714/532-8000

**Greg Bowden,
Ed. D.**
Principal

Greg Bowden, the principal of Canyon High School, has had a varied background in his 30 years in education. He has served in the elementary, middle school, high school, community college, and university levels in a variety of roles. He began teaching middle school music classes and moved to the high school level, where he spent 15 years teaching band, orchestra, English, math and computer applications. His first administrative position was at El Rancho Middle School as a management team member. He then spent four years as principal of Crescent Intermediate School before becoming the principal of Running Springs Elementary School. After serving five years there, he was promoted in 2007 to the role of principal of Canyon High School.

Bowden graduated from San Diego State University with his music teaching credential. He received his master's degree in educational technology and administration at Pepperdine University. He completed his doctoral work at the University of San Diego, where he studied principal leadership and teacher job satisfaction. In addition to his experience in public schools, he has taught at Rancho Santiago College, Azusa Pacific University, and Concordia University. He was honored as the Orange Unified School District Elementary Principal of the Year in 2004–2005.

Bowden thoroughly enjoys his work at Canyon High School. "I see my role as a supporter and facilitator of teachers—and I relish the job of helping them to be successful," Bowden said. "The philosophy I learned through years of teaching music guides my attitude and strategy at work. The role of a conductor is to ensure that each player can be the best he or she can be—and to do whatever it takes to ensure the success of those around him."

**Thirst for
Knowledge**



Canyon

Rim
Elementary School
1090 S. The Highlands
Anaheim, Ca 92808
714/532-7027

Randi Leach
Principal

Randi Leach, the principal of Canyon

Rim Elementary School, earned her undergraduate degree from University of California, Los Angeles. She then attended the University of Southern California, where she earned her master's degree in special education, her elementary teaching credential, and her learning handicapped credential. She began her teaching career as a third- through eighth-grade Special Day Class teacher in the Castaic Union School District.

Leach was actively involved in the Westminster School District for almost 20 years, first as a parent and then for 12 years as an educator. During those years in Westminster, she became an instructional leader with a strong background in curriculum and staff development. As the creator of their district Math Mania competition and a math mentor for many years, she was once viewed as "the math person" in the district.

Over the years, she also provided staff development for teachers in Orange County, presented annually at county and state math conferences, and presented workshops throughout the state on such topics as "Teaching Thematic Units," "Reciprocal Teaching," and "Bringing History Alive." In 1996 she received the Orange County Department of Education Excellence Award for Outstanding Contributions to Education and was named the 1995–1996 Westminster School District Teacher of the Year.

After going back to school to obtain her administrative credential, Leach was hired as the assistant principal of Handy Elementary School in the Orange Unified School District. The following year she was promoted to Canyon Rim Elementary School, where she has served as principal for the past six years.

Leach's passion for curriculum and instruction continues as she currently serves as a district writer for Focus on Results. Her ability to lead and inspire others through a sense of heartfelt spirit has helped her to be an effective principal. She has been recognized as a 2008 Administrator of the Year for Orange Unified School District.



Cerro Villa

Middle School
17852 Serrano Ave.
Villa Park, CA 92861
714/997-6251

Aileen Sterling
Principal

Aileen Sterling, the principal of Cerro Villa Middle School, has been a dedicated Orange

Unified School District employee for 32 years. She began her education career in 1975 at the newly opened El Rancho Middle School, where she taught all levels of Spanish. She also served on the El Rancho management team for four years.

Sterling continued teaching Spanish at Canyon High School before becoming the assistant principal of Cerro Villa in 1995. This year will mark her 11th as principal of Cerro Villa, a 2005 California Distinguished School.

Sterling was named Orange Unified School District Administrator of the Year in 2001 and Association of California School Administrators, Region 17, Middle School Principal for 2007–2008.

Additionally, Sterling is a part-time consultant for the Orange County Department of Education, Institute for Character Education. Her dedication to teaching the heart and the mind has earned Cerro Villa the recognition as the Orange County Middle School of Character by the Passkeys Foundation for Character Education. "Make it a great day...or not. The choice is yours!"

A summa cum laude graduate of the University of California at Riverside, Sterling also attended the Universidad de Guadalajara in Mexico, U.S. International University, and California State University, Long Beach, where she earned her master's degree and her professional administrative credential. She is a life member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Sterling and husband, Mike, a retired Orange mathematics teacher, are very proud of their five children. Heather teaches at Jordan Elementary School, Hillary is a full-time mother, Aaron is controller for a local manufacturing company, Valerie is a civil engineer, and Stephanie, a recent graduate of University of California, Los Angeles, will pursue a career as a nurse practitioner. Sterling is also proud of her two wonderful grandsons and two beautiful granddaughters!



Chapman

Hills
Elementary School
170 N. Aspen St.
Orange, CA 92869
714/532-8043

Julie Lucas
Principal

Julie Lucas will step in as the new principal of Chapman Hills

Elementary School in the fall. She comes to Orange Unified School District (OUSD) after spending the past two years as an assistant principal at Cielo Vista, Robinson and Melinda Heights Elementary Schools in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District.

Prior to becoming an administrator, Lucas was a teacher in the Tustin Unified School District for eight years. She taught kindergarten and third, fourth and fifth grades. She has also served as an elementary teaching assistant principal, a summer school assistant principal, and a master teacher. She was awarded Teacher of the Year during her tenure in Tustin Unified.

Lucas earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Akron in Ohio and her master's degree in administration from Concordia University in Irvine.

Lucas moved to California from Ohio 10 years ago and loves everything about California. She and her husband, Matt, welcomed their first child, Abbey, last November. Her husband is a teacher and baseball coach at El Dorado High School in Placentia.

Teaching and leadership have always been a passion for Lucas. From her early days as an athlete and student, then as a coach and teacher, to her current role as an administrator, she has always pursued excellence in all that she does.

"I am very much looking forward to joining the OUSD team, and I am very excited to be leading Chapman Hills in the fall," Lucas stated. "I am really looking forward to meeting and getting to know the students, staff, and parents and continuing the tradition of excellence already in place!"

**Higher
Learning**



Crescent

Elementary
5001 E. Gerda Dr.
Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6371

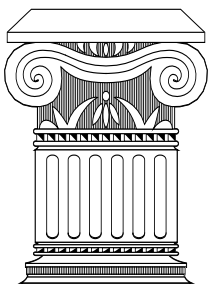
Sheila Thompson
Principal

In 1972, college graduation brought Shelia Thompson to OUSD. She was hired as a PE and English teacher at what was then McPherson Junior High. In 1979, a change brought her to what was then Vista del Rio Junior High, now the site of Crescent Elementary's grades 4-6.

There, she served as a guidance counselor. Although the change was a challenge, she was far too busy tending to her two little guys who came along to her and her husband, Ron, while at VDR. By 1985, another move lined her up with Orange High for the next 10 years. As a Panther, she served as the administrator in charge of pupil personnel services.

However, as her children became older, demands for family commitments grew, so the busy schedule of a high school administrator had to go. She took a position as assistant principal at Cerro Villa, but ultimately, more family time was needed. A leave of absence was the answer. From 1995 to 2004, she was out of OUSD, except for one fun year at Panorama teaching fourth grade. Overall, this time was spent working to become an active parent devoted to the children and their school activities. It was a full-time job paid for with hugs and kisses.

However, when the boys went off to USC, it was back to OUSD for her. It started with substituting as the principal for Linda Vista Elementary, and in time, she became permanent. Then, as luck would have it, the next move was to Crescent Elementary where the unique assignment of joining the primary and intermediate schools awaited. Looking back, it proved to be a year that everyone can be proud of, including the children, the parents and the staff who all remained open to new ideas, sharing, compromising and a positive attitude right to the end.



El Modena

High School
3920 Spring St.
Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6333

John Briquetet
Principal

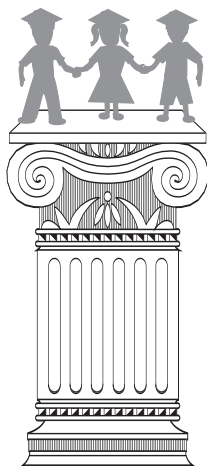
John Briquetet began his career in education as a district intern and language arts teacher at Foshay Junior High School in South Central Los Angeles. He then spent two years at Washington Middle School in La Habra City School District before joining the Sunny Hills High School staff as an English teacher and football/wrestling coach.

After five years as a Lancer, Briquetet and his wife anticipated buying a home in central Orange County, so he headed to Tustin High School, where he served as a teacher and English Department chair. Although he truly enjoyed being a Tiller, he began to find himself drawn toward a career in school administration. Therefore, after four years at Tustin High, he accepted the position of assistant principal at Loara High School in Anaheim, where he served in virtually every administrative capacity.

Briquetet eventually rejoined old friends in La Habra City School District in 2006, when he took on the role of assistant principal at Imperial Middle School, a change that permitted him to finally experience the "full spectrum" of secondary education as an administrator. However, before the school year ended, the opportunity to become a principal brought him to El Modena High School in early May of 2007.

Briquetet has just completed his first full year as a Vanguard. "I remain thoroughly convinced there is no better place to be," he said. "El Modena truly is a special place."

Briquetet lives with his wife, Jill, and their three children—Bruce, Grace, and Griffin—in Huntington Beach.



El Rancho Charter

Middle School
181 S. Del Giorgio Rd.
Anaheim, CA 92808
714/997-6238

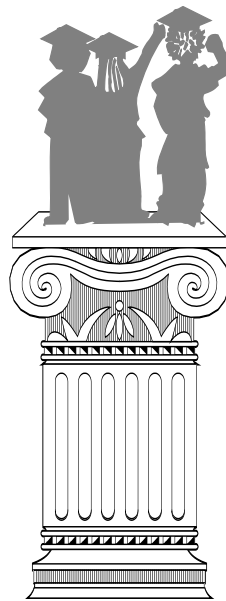
John Besta
Principal

Since attending junior high school, John Besta always wanted to work in education. As a young man growing up in Colorado, he held various positions with the local school district. In addition to painting football fields and parking lots, he also sprayed for bees and did other odd jobs with the grounds crew. He also worked for several years in the district's film library.

While earning his bachelor's degree in English from Chapman University, Besta worked as a classroom aide at Orange High School and eventually completed his student teaching at the same location. He secured his first teaching position at his present home, El Rancho Junior High School, in 1979. Little did he know at that time that he would become the principal of El Rancho 17 years later.

After teaching positions at El Rancho and Portola Middle School and administrative assignments in the Saddleback Unified School District and at El Rancho and Canyon High School, Besta realized his dream of becoming the principal of the school where his career began.

"In 2002, it was my honor to lead our staff and community in their quest to convert El Rancho to a charter school," Besta said. "I am now in my 19th year as a teacher, assistant principal and principal at El Rancho. I guess I will always call it home."



Esplanade

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

Amy Hitt
Principal

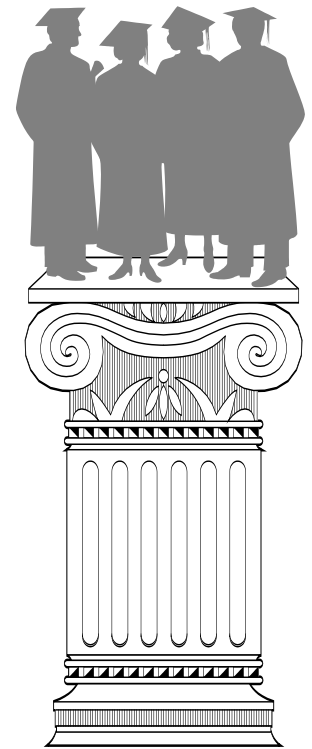
Amy Hitt, the new principal at Esplanade, began her career in education as a sixth-grade teacher. Since that beginning she has taught in the third-through sixth-grades, and has served as a master teacher, a coordinator for a Technology Literacy Challenge (TLC) grant, and has been a curriculum specialist for the programs and evaluations department.

Hitt was previously a vice principal for four years, and has worked at the Edison, Ross, Barton and Sunkist campuses of the Anaheim City School District. A graduate of Baylor University, she received her master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Azusa Pacific University and her administrative credential from CSU Fullerton.

An alumna of the OUSD, Hitt attended Imperial Elementary, El Rancho Junior High and Canyon High School. Many current OUSD administrators were her teachers at that time!

Amy also has two children, Stephanie, who is in the third-grade, and Ryan, who is in the sixth-grade at Nohl Canyon School. Education runs in her family, as both her mother and sister are also teachers.

In her spare time, Hitt enjoys traveling, reading, painting, fixing up her home, spending time outdoors and relaxing with her family.



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Andrew Fisher
Principal

Fairhaven

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

Andrew Fisher has been a principal in the Orange Unified School District for the past 25 years. He is currently the principal of Fairhaven Elementary School.

Throughout his career his experiences have ranged from teaching at the K-12 levels and at the university level as part of the teacher education department, as well as being an administrator at elementary, middle, and high schools.

His administrative experiences include development, coordination and supervision of a K-12 continuum and supported instructional strategies, and coordination of district's Consolidated Programs, which include SIP, Title I, Chapter II, EIA, and School Base programs. He has coordinated Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Program Quality, and Coordinated Compliance Reviews committees and has served as a member of state compliance review teams. He has also assisted with state textbook adoption programs, participated in Student Attendance Review Boards (SARB), and worked with student discipline programs, counseling services, Special Education programs, and music, athletic, and academic booster clubs. He has served on bilingual advisory committees, Chapter I advisory committees, the American Indian Education Advisory Committee. He has been involved at low and high performing schools and has participated in the Program Improvement process.

Fisher has guided schools to become California Distinguished Schools and led one of the few schools to exit Program Improvement in the state. He is a consortium trainer for Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment Program (BTSA), a state reviewer for the California Distinguished Schools program, a trainer for the 40 Developmental Assets program, and a field colleague for state CCR teams. He often serves as a guest lecturer for California State University, Fullerton, Concordia University, and Santiago Canyon College. Most recently, he has been involved with the implementation of the new state academic standards and No Child Left Behind legislation,

and he has worked for county and private educational agencies to support underperforming schools in the Program Improvement and School Assistance and Intervention Team processes, as well as districts in the District Assistance and Intervention Team process.



Christina Varela
Principal

Fletcher

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

As you may have noticed, we have some new faces at the front office of Fletcher Elementary School.

We are happy to welcome Anita Gama, our new office manager, and Michelle Vanderhoff, our new attendance/health clerk.

Gama is new to the Orange Unified School District and comes to us from Yucca Elementary School in the Palmdale School District. She has her real estate license and enjoys spending lots of time with her three grandchildren. When asked about working at Fletcher School, Gama replied, "I love all of the positive programs we have for the children here. We give lots of incentives for excellent behavior and academic achievement!"

Vanderhoff has been with the district for one and a half years and most recently worked at Chapman Hills Elementary School. She graduated from Orange High School and has two daughters attending Orange Unified School District schools. She enjoys watching her children play softball and develop teamwork skills through sports. After working at Fletcher for a couple months, she is getting to know all of the students. "I love working with the students at Fletcher. They make me smile!" Vanderhoff noted.





Sandra Schaffer
Principal

Handy

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

"I am excited about the opportunity to once again work with such a wonderful staff and gracious community,"

said Sandra Schaffer, the principal of Handy Elementary School. This will be her fourth year at Handy. Previously she spent five years as the principal of Fletcher Elementary School and two years as the assistant principal at Fletcher and West Orange Elementary Schools.

Schaffer's career began in 1992 as a teacher at 49th Street Elementary School in the Los Angeles Unified School District. From there, she moved to Washington Elementary School in the Pomona Unified School District and remained there until coming to Orange in 1998. She received her bachelor's degree in business administration from Loyola Marymount University, after which she decided to pursue a career in education. She then earned her teaching credential from Chapman University and her master's degree in education administration from California State University, Fullerton.

"I am proud of the accomplishments of the students and teachers of Handy," Schaffer said. "We are focused on student achievement and creating an environment that recognizes the needs of each individual student. Our goal is continue to raise our Academic Performance Index score and meet proficiency standards on the Annual Yearly Progress. We know that by working together, we can achieve success.

Our school motto, 'Learning Today Makes a Brighter Tomorrow,' sums it all up!

Go, Handy Hornets!"

Imperial

Elementary School
400 S. Imperial Hwy.
Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6282

Tim Biland, Principal

After completing his first year at McPherson Magnet School in Orange Unified School District, it is with great enthusiasm that Tim Biland transitions into the role of principal at Imperial Elementary, which he says that he is "quickly discovering [that it] is well known as the best kept secret in the canyon."

During his four years as an administrator in Orange Unified School District, the first three as assistant principal at Portola Middle School, Biland says that he has been fortunate to benefit from the experience of many wonderful and talented educators, students and families. During this time, his own children have grown into successful elementary school students, and he has relished this journey along with the teachers, students and families he serves. Working together to enhance everyone's potential to be successful is the joy of his career.

"Through my experience in working with teachers to refine instructional practices, supporting the development of professional learning communities where teachers harness the power of collaboration to achieve academic improvements, and working with families to support the positive growth of the entire student, the school and the community, I have come to appreciate the products of the challenges and the work we all share," Biland said.

During the summer break, Biland spent his time with his wife and three children going to the beach and the Colorado River, and finishing some of the home-improvement projects on his family's list. As we return for the 2008-09 school year, Biland looks forward to working with the staff, students and families of Imperial Elementary School to find new ways of working with one another to make our school the best it can be.

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Bertie Anderson
Principal

Jordan

Elementary School
4319 E. Jordan Ave.
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714/997-6187

During Bertie Anderson's career as an educator, she has been a classroom teacher, resource teacher, mentor teacher, assistant principal and full principal. She began her career in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District.

While there, she worked with another teacher to help develop a parent-funded summer musical theater program for elementary school students. Anderson later moved to the Orange Unified School District and taught at Lampson and Fairhaven Elementary Schools, before becoming a resource teacher at West Orange Elementary.

Since coming to Orange, she has provided evening parenting classes at Fairhaven, Lampson, West Orange, Sycamore and Prospect. She was an assistant principal in the Anaheim City School District and at Fairhaven Elementary. She also served as principal of Esplanade Elementary, and is currently the principal here at Jordan Elementary School.

While under her guidance, Jordan has continued to show great academic progress. All of our subgroups have met the annual state progress requirements. And Jordan School achieved a "10" on the California API similar-school ranking.

Anderson loves her profession, and will continue her commitment to provide an optimal educational environment for every student.



Jaymi Abusham
Principal

La Veta

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

Jaymi Abusham will be joining us as the principal of La Veta Elementary. She has taught

students in first through 12th grades in a variety of settings, including bilingual and alternative education. Most recently, she has been a vice principal in the Anaheim City School District.

Abusham earned her teaching credential at Chapman University and her master's degree and administrative credential from California State University, Fullerton. In addition, she is a member of the first doctoral cohort in education leadership at CSUF. She is actively involved with the CSUF Education Leadership Department, serving on the Carr Advisory Board and the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate. She hopes to complete her doctoral studies in 2010.

Abusham resides in Fullerton with her husband, John. She has two adult stepchildren; her son resides in Springfield, Missouri and her daughter is a U.S. Marine currently stationed in Miramar.

When asked about her new assignment, Abusham said, "I am extremely excited about coming to Orange Unified. The staff, students and families have extended such a warm welcome. I look forward to building upon the tradition of success at La Veta Elementary."

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Laurie Dieppa
Principal

Lampson

Elementary School
13321 Lampson Ave.
Garden Grove, CA 92840
714/997-6153

Lampson School welcomes a new principal for the 2008–2009 school year, Laurie Dieppa. She was

the assistant principal at Lampson last year, and was promoted to her new job by the Orange Unified Board of Education on May 8, 2008.

Dieppa came to us from Taft Elementary, where she was a fourth- and third-grade teacher for four years. Before that, she was a reading resource teacher for five years. She holds multiple subjects, reading specialist, and administrative credentials, as well as CLAD certification with the state.

In her life before Orange Unified, Dieppa worked as a private school director and kindergarten/first-grade teacher in Arizona. She and her family have lived in the city of Orange for 22 years. Her husband and three sons are all products of the Orange Unified School District.

Dieppa looks forward to continuing to work with the Lampson staff, students and parent community. They have all been so warm and welcoming towards her. Her plans for the new school year include deepening the focus on differentiated instruction and developing a closer working relationship with the different parent groups on campus.



Sally Hughson
Principal

Linda Vista

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

Sally Hughson has been a part of the Orange Unified School District since 1964, when she entered

kindergarten at La Veta Elementary School. She also attended McPherson Middle School and graduated from El Modena High School. Her two children also attended and graduated from Orange Unified School District.

Hughson is a third generation educator. Her mother and grandmother were teachers. Both of her brother married teachers, and her youngest sister is working toward her teaching credential. Education has always been an important part of her life.

Hughson earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from California State

University, Fullerton. She completed her teaching credential at Chapman University. Her career in education includes experience in: deaf education in the Covina Unified School District; early childhood intervention through the Orange County Regional Center; classroom teaching; serving as a reading resource teacher, an English-Language Development teacher, and a mentor instructional coach for the Orange Unified School District; and leading as an assistant principal at Running Springs Elementary School.

Hughson has had the opportunity to meet Linda Vista's staff, School Site Council and many parents and PTA members. She looks forward to working closely with the teachers, students and parents for a successful 2008–2009 school year.

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Jeanne Bentley
Principal

Jeanne Bentley's last three years at McPherson Magnet School have been rewarding and enjoyable as she has worked together with its great staff, parents and students. She looks forward to another exciting year as principal.

Jeanne has been an educator for the past 16 years, the last three in the administration of the Orange Unified School District. After assuming the role of elementary teaching-assistant principal in Tustin, as well as being the GATE site coordinator, a peer assistant review instructional and assessment specialist, and a mentor teacher and curriculum trainer, she felt ready to move on to the Orange Unified School District as an assistant principal.

Jeanne received her Bachelor of Arts degree in education and a multiple-subjects teaching credential from CSU Stanislaus. She also earned her Master of Science in educational leadership and an administrative credential at CSU Fullerton.

Moving McPherson towards 21st Century learning techniques is of great importance to Jeanne. She feels that we must inspire our students to excel in the magnet areas of math, science and technology.

One of her goals is to encourage learning through digital knowledge and enhanced, modern communication skills. She is firm in her belief that we must try to give our students the tools they need to become the next generation of innovators and leaders.

In her spare time, Jeanne enjoys spending moments with her family, by hiking, swimming, camping, and living in the moment, as she puts it, through the eyes of her young daughter.



Nohl Canyon

Elementary School
4100 E. Nohl Ranch Rd.
Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6203

Dominique Polchow
Principal

William Shakespeare once said, "The wheel is come full circle." As a former Roadrunner,

Dominique Polchow is thrilled to be back at Nohl Canyon as the principal. Polchow attributes part of her success as an educator to the wonderful foundation that was built for her by her elementary school teachers at Nohl Canyon. She looks forward to coming back as an administrator and anticipates a wonderful future with Nohl Canyon.

As an educator, Polchow has had many rich experiences working with all ages from preschool to adults. Her educational background includes a bachelor's degree in child development with a minor in sociology, a master's in cross-cultural education, a multiple-subject teaching credential with Cross-Cultural, Language and Academic Development (CLAD) certification and an administrative credential. Her passion as an educator is to offer the very best to each child so he or she can reach the highest potential as a learner.

On a personal note, Polchow is a wife and mother. She has been married for seven years to a terrific and supportive husband. They enjoy their 3-year-old son who is full of energy and zest. Polchow says that he is constantly challenging them as parents!

Polchow looks forward to an exciting year filled with many events that will be the impetus for continuous and outstanding student learning. "It will be a true pleasure and a privilege to work with such a tremendous group of dedicated partners in providing the best for our children," she says.



Olive

Elementary School
3038 N Magnolia Ave.
Orange, CA 92865
714/637-8218

Deborah Smith
Principal

Deborah Smith has been an educator for most of her adult life. After obtaining her

bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley in Italian and French, she went on to receive an M.A.T. in reading from Harvard University.

Deborah began her teaching career in Brookline, Massachusetts, where she taught developmental reading in several elementary schools. After moving back to California, she taught in the elementary grades until she had the first of her three children.

With child-rearing as her daytime preoccupation, Deborah spent the next 10 years teaching English as a Second Language to adults in the evenings. She taught at Saddleback, Rancho Santiago and Coastline Colleges.

After a stint at UC Irvine in the University Extension's ESL program, Deborah formed an educational consulting company of her own. She placed ESL specialists in industry, offering classes that refined the oral and written English skills of engineers and other foreign-born technical staff.

When her children were older, Deborah returned to the public schools as Orange High School's Title I resource teacher. It was through her participation in the OUSD's Title I meetings and her exposure to district administrators that Deborah developed an interest in becoming an administrator herself.

After obtaining an administrative credential at Cal State Fullerton, Deborah became an assistant principal at Taft Elementary in Orange. The next year, she became the school's principal, and remained at Taft for five more years.

Deborah's current assignment is at Olive Elementary School, where she is enjoying the benefits of an energetic, cohesive staff and a diverse student community. She is married to Weldon Smith, a retired software engineer. They live in Santa Ana and have five grown children and four grandchildren.



Orange High School

525 N Shaffer St.
Orange, CA 92867
714/997-6211

SK Johnson
Principal

SK Johnson began his career in education as a school custodian while he was attending college

in pursuit of his teaching credential. He began his college education as Compton Junior College, transferring to California State University, Fullerton to earn his bachelor's degree in physical education and a minor in humanities and English. He earned his teaching credential through Chapman University and took his first teaching job at Lynwood High School- his alma mater- as an English teacher and head football coach in 1974.

Following seven years at Lynwood, Johnson found his new home at Orange High School in 1981. His first assignment was teaching English and coaching the football team, but he later resigned his coaching duties and pursued a new avenue of teaching - English as a Second Language. After finding this new passion, he became involved in the California Association of Secondary Bilingual Educators and served as California's president for two terms. As new technology began to find its way into schools, Johnson earned his master's degree in educational technology from International University and became the "techie" of Orange High.

A few years later, Johnson was ready for yet another change in career paths and became a special programs coordinator for Orange High. After serving in educational leadership positions, he decided to explore administrative avenues and returned to college for a second master's degree in educational administration. I wasn't long before he was offered an assistant principal position, which he accepted without hesitation. After a four year tenure as an assistant, Johnson was selected to replace his retiring principal, becoming Orange High's 16th man as the helm.

In his more than 30 years in education, Johnson has been honored with coach of the Year, Teacher of the Year, Administrator of the Year acknowledgements. According to Johnson, though he appreciates all the professional accolades, nothing has ever made him prouder that having his wife agree to marry him 23 years ago.



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Palmyra

Elementary School
1325 E Palmyra Ave.
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714/997-6207

Connie Smith
Principal

With 27 years in education, Palmyra principal Connie Smith has a diverse range of skills. She has been a

classroom teacher, mentor teacher, IBM education consultant, site administrator and a district curriculum coordinator.

Through her many professional ventures, such as a former Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Region 17 representative, an adjunct professor at Concordia University, and membership on the Tustin Public Schools Foundation's board of directors, Connie has supported Palmyra's efforts to expand partnerships with community members both inside and outside of the City of Orange.

Connie shares her administrative expertise by serving as an assessor for the Orange County Department of Education in their "Developing the 21st Century" principal program. Her innovative, collaborative and compassionate style of leadership has led the Palmyra team to be honored as a 2008 California Distinguished School.

Connie celebrates the beginning of her sixth year at Palmyra Elementary, and she looks forward to an exciting and academically rigorous session in the fall.



Panorama

Elementary School
10512 Crawford Canyon Rd.
Santa Ana, CA 92705
714/997-6265

Michelle Moore
M.Ed
Principal

By Dr. Rock D. Moore
Michelle A. Moore, M.Ed is in her fourth year as principal of Panorama Elementary

School in the Orange Unified School District. She comes from a diverse background that has suited her perfectly for her chosen profession. Her organizational skills were evident early in her work career. First, in a family-owned business, she was in charge of various tasks that were vital to the company's existence. Today the same company is a leader and one of the larger employers in the Inland Empire. Moore owned and created a successful swim school, running all aspects of the business, before

spending several years in the classroom as both a private and public school teacher. She is a successful author, with several publications centered on high student expectations and data-driven instruction. Moore has asked me to include that she has been happily married for eight years to a fellow educator, Dr. Rock Moore, and has a beautiful five year old daughter named Faith. Today, she continues to embrace an educational philosophy which focuses in on student achievement, shared vision, school spirit, and building a professional learning community. She works diligently in her efforts to encourage educational partnerships with the community.

If you ask her what makes Panorama so special, Moore's response is always the same: "It is undoubtedly my internal and external community. I could not imagine a better family of staff, students, and families; it is truly a unique environment." Committed to being a lifelong learner Moore not only expects her staff to attend professional development, she holds herself to the same expectation. In addition to working with her staff, Moore has enjoyed speaking on both the national and international levels on contemporary educational themes. Her commitment is that she and her staff will reach beyond expectations for each student. Through continual reflection, and using data as their guide, Moore and her staff have set the goal of truly personalizing each student's educational experience at Panorama Elementary School. Thanks to the efforts of the entire community, Panorama was named a 2008 California Distinguished School and a California Ranked 10-10 school. Congratulations Panorama we are all very proud.



Allison Smith
Principal

Parkside

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

Allison Smith's career with the Orange Unified School District has allowed her to pursue opportunities in various settings. While she was attending Purdue University, she returned home to California for summer vacations and worked as an assistant teacher in the Orange

Unified School District (OUSD) School-Age Care Program, thus putting into practice all the skills acquired in Purdue's Special Education Program.

When Smith graduated from Purdue, she began teaching at Esplanade Elementary School, first as a Special Day Class teacher and then as in the Resource Specialist Program. While teaching, she obtained her administrative credential and completed her internship under Nancy Shipcott, who was, at that time, the principal at Anaheim Hills Elementary School. Smith then transferred to the district office to serve as a program specialist at the elementary, middle, and high school levels throughout OUSD. In July 2000, she opened Parkside Preschool and Kindergarten for students with special needs.

Smith resides in the Orange Unified School District with her husband, Steve, and her two children, Davis and Clara. Her son attends Villa Park Elementary School and will be going into the first grade, and her daughter will be starting kindergarten in fall at Villa Park. "I am proud to both live and work in the Orange community," Smith noted.

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Debra Thompson
Principal

Portola

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

"As I sat in the hallway at Victor School in Torrance as a middle school student aide helping first-

graders practice their reading, I was hooked into making a difference with children," Debra Thompson, the principal of Portola Middle School said. Moving ahead in time about 10 years, Thompson graduated from Point Loma College in San Diego with a bachelor's degree in liberal studies with a concentration in math and business. She also earned a multiple-subject teaching credential with a supplemental authorization in math.

Thompson's first teaching job involved instructing all levels of eighth-grade math at Chaparral Middle School in Alpine, CA. A few years later, she moved to Orange County and continued teaching math and English at Stephens Junior High in Long Beach for one year. Hoping to teach middle school math all day, she moved to Rogers Middle School in Long Beach for four years. While teaching math at Rogers, she also served as the student government/Associated Student Body advisor.

After participating in California math projects at San Diego State University, and the Universities of California at Irvine and Los Angeles, she expanded her influence to assist teachers with teaching math. As a mentor teacher for five years, she wrote district math curriculum, provided district math trainings, and worked with new teachers. In her last teaching assignment, she served as a math specialist, instructing underachieving math students in the Math Lab at Marshall Middle School in Long Beach.

During this time, she served as the summer school assistant principal at Wilson High School in Long Beach for two summers. Shortly thereafter, she was promoted to an assistant principal at Marshall, a California Title 1 Achieving School. "Our administrative team restructured after the first year to serve as learning directors, overseeing every component of the grade level, whether it was scheduling students, counseling, discipline, teacher teams, promotion, transitions to high school and more," Thompson

said. She worked with eighth grade for two years and sixth grade for one year.

After almost four years, Thompson was ready to broaden her experiences and transferred to Cubberley School, a K-8 National Blue Ribbon school, as the vice principal for five years. During that time, she served as summer school principal at Henry Elementary School. The following year, she joined the Orange Unified School District team as the principal at Portola Middle School, where she just completed her sixth year.



Elena Stoces
Principal

Prospect

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

Prospect Elementary School's new principal, Elena Stoces, is an alumnus of Orange Unified

School District. After graduating from Canyon High School, Stoces pursued a degree in child development at California State University, Fullerton. She realized that she loved working with children, but she was unsure of what career path to take. Both her mother and grandmother were educators; her mother currently serves as the director of special projects in La Habra City School District, so she quickly learned that a career in education was her destiny.

Stoces earned her teaching credential at Chapman University and began her career in Orange Unified School District as a bilingual first-grade teacher at Sycamore Elementary School in 1993. A few years later, she became the assistant principal at Sycamore, while it was still a multi-track school. She served for three years in that role while earning her master's degree from Azusa Pacific University.

Stoces served as the principal at Imperial Elementary School for five years. The time at Imperial honed her skills and helped to prepare her for her next position at Fairhaven Elementary School, a Title I school. "The years at Fairhaven have been a learning experience that has allowed me to evolve a better understanding the diversity of our community as it varies from school to school in the Orange Unified School District," Stoces said.

Stoces has two sons, who are also

products of Orange Unified School District. Having her own children attend the same schools she did gives her great pride. She is pleased to say that she is an alumnus, a parent and an employee of Orange Unified School District.



Deborah Backstrom
Continuation School Principal

Richland

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

It is with pleasure that we introduce Deborah E. Backstrom, the newly appointed principal at Richland High School.

Born and raised in Southern California, Backstrom began her education in Downey, where she attended elementary, middle and high school. She continued her education, receiving an associate of arts degree in sociology from Cerritos College in Cerritos, and then attended California State University at Long Beach, where she received her bachelor of arts in sociology and a designated subjects teaching credential. She received her administrative credential and master of science degree in education from California State University, Fullerton.

Backstrom's career in education began in 1984 when she was employed as a teacher in Orange Unified School District. Her passion has always been alternative education, and she has worked with many programs within Orange Unified. Since 2000, she has served in an administrative capacity that involved working with the community day school program, home schooling/independent studies, the ROP program and career technical education in Orange Unified.

Backstrom has been married to her high school sweetheart for 36 years, and he also teaches in Orange Unified. They have one daughter who taught for five years in Irvine Unified School District and is currently raising the Backstroms' two beautiful grandchildren.

"I am so excited to be a part of such a wonderful district and to be at Richland High School," Backstrom said. "My door is always open to all parents, students and staff. I am looking forward to a great school year."



Pamela McFadden
Principal

Riverdale

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

The Riverdale students and staff are excited about the 2008-2009 school year. It is another opportunity to learn and grow.

As a small school, our learning community can quickly get to know one another. Although we are located in Anaheim, a relatively large city, our families often comment about the small town feeling they get just from being a part of the Riverdale community.

Riverdale begins each day with a dedicated staff of teachers who have a variety of teaching experiences and areas of expertise. They arrive with enthusiasm and commitment. They have a caring attitude, and a determination to help each child succeed. They truly believe that the power of education lasts a lifetime.

In addition to our outstanding teaching staff, there is also a dedicated support staff, too. They are indeed valued members of our team. The newest staff member is our office manager, Debbie Hanson. She has been a part of the school community for over seven years, and is excited about the opportunity to serve.

Riverdale School is dedicated to its mission, and is proud to be a valued member of the larger community.



Lydia Roach
Principal

Running Springs

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

Lydia Roach became the principal of Running Springs

Elementary School in May 2007. She has been an educator for 23 years and has worked in various elementary schools in the Orange Unified School District, including Handy, Riverdale, Canyon Rim, Lampson, and Running Springs Elementary Schools. She has taught both primary and upper grades, was a bilingual resource teacher, and served as a reading resource teacher. In addition, she was the assistant principal at both Running Springs and Lampson for four years.

Roach grew up in the city of

Principals are Dedicated, Enthusiastic, Committed.

Orange and is a product of the Orange Unified School District. As a student, she attended Esplanade and Fairhaven Elementary Schools, Santiago Jr. High School and El Modena High School. She continued her education at San Diego State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree and an elementary teaching credential. She then graduated from California State University, Fullerton, with a master's degree in educational administration and an administrative credential.

Roach currently resides in the Anaheim Hills area with her husband, Russ, of 24 years and her two children, Kyle, age 19, and Lara, age 14. She enjoys watching her children's sporting events and golfing with her family.

Roach is excited to be a Redhawk once again and looks forward to working with the wonderful families in the Running Springs community!



Mary Henry
Principal

Santiago Charter

Middle School
515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd.
Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6366

Mary Henry has been principal at Santiago for four years.

She takes great pride in being a member of the Santiago team – working with the students, the staff, and the community. She has the unique distinction of having had many roles at Santiago, having been a parent, a teacher, the curriculum manager, and an assistant principal before becoming principal. Besides Santiago, high on her priority list are love of family and the appreciation of her roots.

Students and parents are usually surprised when they first hear Henry speak Spanish. Henry was raised in Calexico, California, a very small town that borders Mexicali, Baja California. She learned and spoke both languages as she was growing up. A close family friend and neighbor could only speak German and so Henry learned German too.

Henry attended UCLA where she met and married her husband Frank. The three Henry children, Sean, Rory, and Tara are all UCLA graduates. The family enjoys going to Bruin sporting events, especially the Softball College World Series where they were able to see Tara play.

It should be no surprise that her office is decorated in blue and gold. Also present in her office are several John Wooden books. One of her favorite John Wooden quotes is:

Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.

Henry considers this valuable advice. Working at a charter school keeps everyone busy and thinking out of the box. There really is no time to think about why something cannot happen. Instead the thought is how we can make it happen. With a busy schedule, a challenge for Henry is to make time for two of her favorite hobbies, reading and tennis.



Bobbie Lansman
Ed.D.
Principal

Serrano

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

Bobbie Lansman has been appointed as the new principal at Serrano Elementary School. Her tenure in

the OUSD began in 1994, and over the years she has been given many unique and memorable opportunities.

Lansman earned her doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Southern California. She received her master's degree in reading and language arts and a reading specialist credential from CSULB in 1985.

Her Bachelor of Arts degree (summa cum laude) in social studies and history was from Northern Michigan University in 1975. And her administrative credentials were earned at CSU Fullerton and Chapman University.

Lansman's first OUSD position as principal was at Handy Elementary. She was then selected to open the brand new Running Springs Elementary School, where she served until 2002, and for six years she was also the principal at West Orange Elementary.

Lansman says that each experience was wonderful and fulfilling. She was also very proud to have been recognized as the 2006 OUSD Administrator of the Year.

Although Bobbie has lived in a number of states across the country, she is a native Californian. She graduated from Westchester High School in Los Angeles during the hippie, Rolling Stones and Beatles era.

She currently lives in the city of Fullerton with her husband, Bob. She

says that she's truly blessed to have two wonderful and beautiful daughters. Melissa and her husband work and live in Los Angeles, and Hillary attends graduate school in Boston.

Bobbie Lansman feels fortunate to have had such diverse, challenging and wonderful administrative opportunities. She is looking forward to meeting and collaborating with the Serrano community.



David Reynolds
Principal

Silverado

Elementary School
7531 Santiago Canyon Rd.
Silverado, CA 92676
714/997-6000

David Reynolds, Silverado Canyon's new principal, graduated from Central Missouri State

University in 1981 with a B.S.Ed. degree. He graduated with a double major, French and English, and a minor in social studies. He then took several graduate classes from speech communication to English before finishing his master's several years later. He even spent some time hanging out at the University of Dijon in France. Finally, he finished his M.A. in school administration in 2000 from California State University Dominguez Hills.

Five years later, Reynolds decided to pursue an Ed.D. in educational leadership from the University of Southern California. After three years of paper writing, dissertation revisions and a dissertation defense, he graduated in May with his doctorate. Fight on, Dr. Reynolds!

This is Reynolds' 24th year in education. He's taught French, English and social studies from rural communities in farmland Missouri, where a tractor plowing a field across the road could be heard, to the urban environment of Long Beach. Each one of Reynolds' teaching experiences was a learning experience in itself that taught him to greatly appreciate the idea that all children can learn. He entered administration seven years ago, beginning as a Title I facilitator in Long Beach, and continued as elementary principal in Orange. Again, his administrative experiences have been varied and have taught him the importance of community involvement and teacher collaboration.

Next year, Reynolds' experience will again change as he heads out to Silverado Canyon to be their new

principal. Reynolds says that he looks forward to bringing his experience and to growing professionally as an educator in this new setting.



Kathy Bruce
Principal

Sycamore

Elementary School
340 N. Main St.
Orange, CA 92868
714/997-6277

I would like to welcome everyone to the 2008–2009 school year. My name is Kathy Bruce, and I have been

selected to be Sycamore Elementary School's new administrator.

I have been in education for 23 years; I began as an elementary school teacher and taught in grades three to six. I received my bachelor's degree from Purdue University in the field of elementary education, and my master's from California State University, San Bernardino. Most recently, I received my doctorate in education from the University of Southern California.

It will be an exciting year for Sycamore, as construction for our modernization project has begun. The school will be located in temporary classrooms while the older buildings are being renovated. The classrooms will be updated with new ceilings, floors, lighting, modern technology, etc. The scheduled re-opening is slated for spring, 2009.

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Taft

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

Vicki James
Principal

Born in Palm Springs, Vicki James considers herself a California native, regardless of the fact

that her parents, a doctor and nurse, relocated to Philadelphia when she was two years old. She was raised on the East Coast, graduated the University of Pennsylvania with a major in sociology and French, and moved north to New York City to figure out what she wanted to do with the rest of her life

James went into teaching after serving as an assistant social worker on the female psychiatric prison ward for one year. Teaching meant serving children and having summers for travel! After a summer in Mexico to learn Spanish, James returned home engaged and planning a year-long trip around the world to meet people from many cultures and to continue learning languages.

After traveling and living for three years in Europe, North Africa and Israel, James relocated to Mexico, where she spent 10 years working in both the public middle- vocational schools and a private high school-university. She received a master's degree in education from University of Alabama in Mexico City.

In 1983, James returned to California to begin working as a bilingual resource teacher at California Elementary School. After eight years, she became the district drug, alcohol and tobacco coordinator. She continued serving as an educator in an administrative capacity and became a middle school assistant principal in Riverside for two years. She applied as an elementary principal in Orange Unified School District. She has been with the district for 25 years, serving as principal for 13 years, continuing to utilize her language abilities to serve the community.

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Villa Park

High School
18042 Taft Ave.
Villa Park, CA 92861
714/532-8020

Ed Howard
Principal

How do you say goodbye to over 60 years of quality service to the children of this community?

This is exactly what we at Villa Park had to do at the end of this school year. Sherri Smith and Andy Haas have decided to retire after long and distinguished careers as teachers in the Orange Unified School District. Sherri taught PE and coached tennis for the majority of her time at Villa Park. Andy taught social studies and coached football and track at Villa Park. Both were quality educators and impacted so many lives in a positive way. Thank you to both of you and have a wonderful and well earned retirement.



Villa Park

Elementary School
10551 Center Dr.
Villa Park, CA 92861
714/997-6281

Larry Hausner
Principal

Larry Hausner is currently beginning his third year as principal at Villa Park

Elementary School. Prior to this assignment, he served as principal, assistant principal and teacher at Cambridge Elementary School. "Villa Park is a terrific community, and I am looking forward to continue working with the parents and staff to maintain the excellent educational experience VPES offers," Hausner said.

Education was second career for Hausner after 10 years as a sportscaster. He hosted and produced a weekly television show for SportsChannel. In addition, he was a segment host for both the Angels and Dodgers pre-game shows. Also, he was the play-by-play voice of the Honolulu Sharks and Hilo Stars of the Hawaii Winter Baseball League, along with the San Bernardino Spirit, Rancho Cucamonga Quakes and the Palm Springs Suns.

Hausner began his teaching career as a substitute teacher in both Tustin and Saddleback Valley Unified School Districts. He said, "I taught everything from kindergarten through 12th grade, including many different special education settings. My goal was to teach anything and everything so I could find where my true love was."

He quickly realized that elementary students were his true calling.

He grew up in Tustin and graduated from Tustin High in 1986. Hausner earned a bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis in radio, television and film in 1991 from California State University, Fullerton. He later earned his multiple subjects credential from Chapman University and his master's degree in school administration from Azusa Pacific University.

Currently, Hausner resides in Rancho Santa Margarita with his wife, Nicci, a homemaker, and his three children— Amanda (21), Riley (10) and Jacob (8). earned retirement.



West Orange

Elementary School
243 S. Bush St.
Orange, CA 92868
714/997-6283

Michael Olander
Principal

Recently appointed as the principal of West Orange Elementary School, Michael

Olander was born and raised in San Diego. He attended San Diego State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in counseling psychology.

Originally, Olander began his career providing counseling and therapy services to children and families while pursuing a state license for marriage and family therapy. During this period, he was contracted to work with the Special Education Department of Cajon Union School District as a behavior specialist and therapist, while also working in a private clinic for individual and families.

Olander soon realized that his true passion was in the education and development of children in the school setting. He decided to change career objectives and earned a teaching credential from Christian Heritage College and later an administrative credential from Chapman University.

Olander's first teaching assignment was in Special Education as a Special Day Class teacher for Cajon Valley Unified School District. He later moved to Temecula and taught regular education for the Temecula Valley Unified School District and served as the assistant principal of Temecula Elementary School.

Recently Olander became engaged to be married to his fiancée, Blythe. He spends most of his free time going on adventures, including snow-

boarding, dirt-bike riding in the desert, and camping.

"I am honored to be a part of the Orange Unified team," Olander said. "I look forward to meeting the needs of students, parents, and staff, while encouraging and fostering growth in all areas of student achievement and development."



Yorba

Middle School
935 N. Cambridge St.
Orange, CA 92867
714/997-6161

Tara Saraye
Principal

Tara Saraye has been an educator for the past 20 years in the OUSD. She was principal at McPherson Magnet

school for eight years and is currently principal of Yorba Middle School.

Tara brings to the middle school a vision of inquiry-based, hands-on teaching. She supports the integration of all aspects of learning so that students can make multiple connections that facilitate understanding and application.

At the Academy of the Arts, Tara's artistic journey started when she discovered this educational "hook" that attracts students to meaningful learning. The arts provide opportunities for vocabulary development, reading, problem solving and real-life applications, along with added enrichments.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in social science and a teaching credential from CSULB, she began working as an elementary teacher. She received her master's degree in educational leadership, and an administrative credential from Azusa Pacific University and UCI.

Tara was recognized for her outstanding contributions to education by Assemblyman Bill Campbell and Senator Martha Escutia. She has been on the board of directors for Project Tomorrow, an organization that promotes inquiry-based teaching in education.

She was also instrumental in guiding McPherson Magnet School towards the honor of becoming a California Distinguished School, and is now working to modernize Yorba and increase student achievement.

Tara's commitment to education is a high priority. Her efforts at finding resources, grants, and opportunities will help to support and ensure the success of our students and staff. Because of her continued devotion to education, Tara was a Vision of Excellence nominee, and received the award of merit from Project Tomorrow in 2003.

Protect Your Child's Brain Development



Sandy Spurgeon
McDaniel

Recently I spoke at the Parent Participation Preschool Convention and was able to attend a workshop presented by the author of *Parenting Well in a Media Age*, Gloria DeGaetano.

Bottom line: a child should not participate in watching TV, using a computer or playing video games for more than one hour a day until the age of twenty two! How can that be true?

The brain is the only organ in the body that is not fully developed at birth. It takes 22 years for the brain to fully develop. What allows the brain to grow properly is three-dimensional learning. That means playing or working in any three dimensional arena.

The television, computer and video games are on a screen and are therefore two-dimensional.

It doesn't get much more complicated than this—the brain requires three dimensional learning and those mediums do not provide that. Therefore, it is imperative that children do not spend hours a day on any of the three mediums mentioned.

Proper brain growth allows feelings of kindness, generosity, creativity and intuition to develop and flourish. If that part of the brain is not encouraged to grow through three-dimensional learning, the child will regress to living in the reptilian part of the brain. Such children MAY suffer from hyperactivity, an inability to focus and more aggressive behavior.

In my parent coaching work, I ask a parent who thinks their child has ADD or ADHD to cut daily TV down to one hour, and the majority of parents see an immediate decline of those traits.

When a parent says to me, "We only watch Baby Einstein" or some other "safe" program, I remind them that any program on the television is two dimensional, therefore a problem.

When a child watches television, it is important that no show may be watched until viewed by a parent. Today's cartoons have a lot of violence in them. The sitcoms are not modeling basic morals and values. Have a list of acceptable shows and keep televisions out of children's rooms so that programs may be monitored.

Talk to children about what they saw, what they learned and what they remember from the media they do watch each day. Doing so develops memory, thinking skills and exercises the brain to help it develop properly.

Parents need to pay attention to how much video watching their children are subjected to each day. Does your child watch a video in the car? Are you aware that they are experimenting with creating shopping carts with videos in them to distract active children?

The American Pediatric Society recently stated that NO child under the age of two should be allowed to watch television.

Let me be clear about the outcome of not providing children with three-dimensional learning on a daily basis. I already mentioned possible hyper-activity and an inability to focus; more frightening to me is that children who live in the reptilian part of their brain are less feelings oriented and more aggressive. Isn't our world in trouble now for lack of feelings oriented adults who are aggressive rather than responsive?

Finally, I am deeply concerned about the impact on children who watch violence on a daily basis. Although this is a whole column in itself, I'm not sure it will be safe to live in a world where children grow into adults who have become numb to the idea of people or property being harmed.

My darling grandson, Nicholas, turned into an angry unkind child when he started playing with Star Wars guns and outfits. His parents took all those toys/outfits/videos and put them away. Within two days, our loving little almost three year old was back. Children should not be raised watching violence.

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel has written four books, and writes a parenting column for the *Orange County Register* in the Health and Family section on Sundays. 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

Kellie Kawaguchi is a guest columnist, Ocean View Middle School Graduate - High School Sophomore.

Mr. Peter Ueberroth



Kellie Kawaguchi

As students, we are always asked the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" What would people say if a child said, "I want to be An Owner of the largest travel business in North America, A President of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, A Major League Baseball Commissioner, A Managing Director of Contrarian Group, an investment/management company, The Director of Coca-Cola and the Irvine Company, Chairman of the Rebuild Los Angeles Commission after the 1992 riots, The Chairman of the United States Olympic Committee and...Owner and Co-Chairman of Pebble Beach."

Some may say that it is impossible to achieve even one of these goals, yet these are just some of the accomplishments of Mr. Peter Ueberroth. At a recent event, Mr. Ueberroth was introduced as an, "American icon, an entrepreneur, a sportsman, a leader, and a philanthropist." Time Magazine's Man of the Year, Mr. Ueberroth continues to give to others. Mrs. Vicki Booth, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ueberroth, stated that her father is also, "a promoter of fairness with a natural curiosity of the world. He balances life, family and work and continues to give back to communities." In 1984, Mr. Ueberroth is known to have "saved the Olympics." He started without any volunteers or employees and a \$300,000 debt, yet under his leadership, the Los Angeles Olympic Games resulted in a surplus of \$238 million dollars, which is used to support youth and sports programs throughout the United States.

During my interview with Mr. Ueberroth, I asked for his advice to students. He stated:

To have a diversity of studies, don't get too narrow too early. In your teenage years and in your twenties, one should explore.

Do the right thing, because it is the right thing to do...be respectful.

Be a good citizen and do something that helps the next generation.

Mr. Ueberroth said that many people ask, "What is the most important thing that you have done?" He said that he always replies by saying, "I haven't done it yet." Mr. Ueberroth stated that "There are so many things you can do. There are so many opportunities...take a look at your ability, take a chance, and with a little extra work you can do a lot of things. Do something that makes the town and the world better for the next generation."

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Raising a Reader



Rozanne Lanczak Williams

Hi, parents! Now that school is in full swing, here are some suggestions that will help you create an environment that encourages reading and writing at home.

Talk it up! Involve your child in conversations and encourage questions.

Tell stories, discuss happenings big and small, talk about the books you're reading, ask question like, "Why do you think...?" or "What would happen if...?"

Surround your child with books and read aloud every day. It's important to own books as well as borrow them from the library or classroom.

Children love hearing favorite books over and over again.

And, rereading gives them the chance to experience the book in different ways.

FVRead road sign, cereal boxes, recipes, menus or mail together. Have your child help you write grocery lists, cards and letters. Leave notes for each other around the house. Use magnetic letters on the fridge for messages.

Put together a personalized writing box for your child. Fill it with a fun assortment of writing and art supplies. Now that you're at it, make a book box as well, and fill it with books your child can read. Take both boxes on trips and outing.

Turn off the TV, computer, gizmos and widgets. Nothing takes the place of one-on-one interaction with your child. Your child will learn better, and you will be fostering a warm and loving relationship as your child gains confidence as a reader and writer.

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

Ask Dr. Shari

Volunteerism: Good for the Mind & Great for the Heart



Dr. Shari Sweetnam

The way we choose to spend our time and the activities in which we engage help form our value system. With a wide array of possibilities and opportunities, volunteering is a positive and vastly beneficial way of helping young people develop a strong sense of self.

Volunteering offers benefits spanning from the intellectual and spiritual to the educational and professional. As young people give of themselves and their time, they can learn about trades, people and being selfless. In a busy world of "pursuit of personal happiness," too often the intrinsic values of empathy and giving are the lessons that are overlooked. Helping others via a structured volunteer program is a positive and safe way to develop oneself in this regard.

Additional Benefits of Volunteerism:

- **Learning:** Acquiring a new trade or skill can help teens see the world in a bigger picture and be inspired to continue to expand intellectually.
- **Networking:** Volunteering brings people of like minds, interests and values together. This will inevitably lead to positive interaction and healthy relationships.
- **Building the Résumé:** Engaging in service to others and taking the initiative to learn new trades or skills is a brilliant way to expand your portfolio. This is especially beneficial for students and young professionals.
- **Personal Growth:** As Mahatma Gandhi said, "The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others." Teens who experience growth at an early age are likely to continue cultivating positive behavior and friendships.

Dr. Shari is a Nationally Syndicated columnist, Professor of Psychology and Author of "Inspiring the Love of Learning" and "Memory Techniques for Everyone" She is the host of "The Dr. Shari Show" a Public Education program out of Hollywood, CA. for speaking engagements or to send a letter write: drshari@loveoflearning.us Listen to Dr. Shari Monday mornings at 9:00am on WMFG/ 5:00pm on WNMT.

Nick the Music Man



Kate Karp

In her article "The Benefits of Early Childhood Music," elementary music teacher Karen Stafford states that children are naturally receptive to rhythm, and that early introduction of music to children develops them physically, emotionally and intellectually. Local musician Nick Young—Nick the Music Man, as he is known to many SoCal teachers, librarians and children—lives this philosophy and takes it into the schools, libraries and various venues where families bring their children to learn.

Young's hands- and ears-on music lessons capture children's attention. His sessions focus on rhythm, following directions and

body movement. Lessons are centered on guidelines for adults that emphasize planning, purpose and fun; and children learn cooperation, care of instruments, and attentiveness. And fun, too, of course. Rhythm instruments are highlights for the children; Young's are imported and handmade, but the thrifty parent or teacher can purchase inexpensive instruments at toy stores or make their own as art projects.

In order for teachers and parents to pass forward the Music Man lessons, Young has produced four original CDs, with others in the works. The CDs include original compositions and songs from various world cultures; each collection is theme-based and centered on topics such as ocean life, healthy living and community. Young has also written a well-conceived handbook that includes sample lessons, cards, tips, skill levels, rules and standards, and song sheets. Check Young's Web site at youngmusiccompany.com for descriptions of these items and others.

Whether or not you're a firm believer in the Mozart Effect, early interactive participation in music benefits children's development. Anyone will agree, if he or she has seen a child become conscious of rhythm while slapping a pot or observed how easily concepts enter a young mind through lyrics to a song. Nick the Music Man makes it evident. If he makes an appearance at your child's school or library, make sure you're in the audience.

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

POWER OF HYDRATION • FROM PAGE 1



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent
Orange County
Department of
Education

especially since most young athletes don't instinctively drink fluid to replace water losses and most are already dehydrated before sensing thirst. It is vital that young athletes drink cool fluids **before, during, and after** exercise. Parents and coaches should take precautions to prevent heat-related illnesses in active children and youth by creating a **hydration plan**.

A schedule of hydrating before, during, and after exercise is essential for the young athlete's health and safety during bouts of exertion that exceed 60 minutes. Again, thirst is not a reliable indicator of fluid replacement needs, so adults need to make a plan, set a schedule, and supervise young athletes.

The key is to hydrate 1 to 2 hours before exercise, drink 5 to 9 ounces every 20 minutes during exercise, and continue to hydrate within 2 hours after exercise to adequately replace

fluids losses. In addition, be sure to look for symptoms of dehydration, which include dry mouth, fatigue, headache, confusion, lack of coordination, nausea, weakness, or faintness, and be ready to seek medical help if symptoms persist after hydration. A significant number of student athletes are hospitalized each year due to heat-related illnesses, and dehydration can cause death. If you think someone is at risk, dial 911 immediately!

An effective hydration plan is a valuable tool in ensuring the health and safety of our students. The Orange County Department of Education is proud to collaborate with the Orange County Fire Authority, the Orange County Health Care Agency, Children's Hospital of Orange County, California Interscholastic Federation, Parent Teacher Association, and Orange County School Districts to launch the *Hydrated & Healthy* awareness campaign to make certain that coaches, parents, and athletes have the information and the resources necessary for adequate hydration.

For more information, visit <http://hydration.ocde.us>.



School bus.

Districts which were established as follows: Olive—1877; Orange—1879; Villa Park—1880; Silverado—1882; and El Modena—1888. Children of high school age attended school in Santa Ana. In 1903, a separate high school district was formed by the vote of the citizens, and a high school was

opened in Orange. Because it served only high school aged children and encompassed the area of five elementary school districts, it was named the Orange Union (Union denotes high school only) High School District.

In 1953, the citizens of the area voted to form a “unified” school district, combining the five elementary districts with the high school district into one “unified” district – the Orange Unified School District. The citizens also voted to have seven trustees to govern the operations – one representing each elementary school district and two representing the high school district. The current seven trustee areas roughly follow the lines of the original elementary school districts.

For many years in California, there were over 3,000 separate school districts—mostly created in a manner similar to the six school districts in the greater Orange area. “Unification” became a theme in the 1950’s and 1960’s. In fact, there was a state law passed which required a “vote” to unify or not. In Orange County the voting results brought about the unification of several previously existing “union high school districts” and their corresponding “elementary school districts,” Orange, Los Alamitos, Laguna Beach, Saddleback, Tustin, Newport-Mesa, Brea Olinda, Placentia-Yorba Linda, Capistrano, Garden Grove, Irvine and Santa Ana. Today in Orange County, there are twelve unified school districts, three union high school districts (Anaheim, Fullerton and Huntington Beach), and twelve elementary school districts. The “unification” process was designed to provide a more “unified” educational program K-12, create more cost effective organizations, and bring about a greater sense of community. The unification movement reduced the over 3,000 school districts that existed in 1950 to less than 1,000 today.

Today, Orange Unified School District is the thirty-second largest school district in California, comprised of forty two schools and serving nearly 32,000 students. With the recent recognition of Palmyra and Panorama Elementary Schools as California Distinguished Schools, considered the “Blue Ribbon” status among schools, 20 of our schools now claim this mark of distinction. The District’s schools are considered an integral part of and a major factor in making the cities involved highly desirable places to live and work.



Olive Grammar School, 1915.



Renae Dreier, Ed.D

The new superintendent for Orange Unified School District is a strong proponent for public schools and she believes that all students deserve a world-class education. In order to create systems that support all students, the entire community must be involved in creating and supporting strategic goals. Student achievement improves when students, teachers, administrators, staff, parents, businesses, and community members collaborate around a shared vision for quality education that prepares all students for success in the 21st century.

Orange Unified School District

1401 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867 • www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us

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ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT - STUDENT CALENDAR 2008/2009

Serving the Communities of the Orange Unified School District for more than fifty years

JULY 2008		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH
S-Track (45/15)		V	V	V	H			V	V	V	V	V			V	V	SD	SD	T			FD										
T-Track (10 Month)		V	V	V	H			V	V	V	V	V			V	V	V	V	V			V	V	V	V	V			V	V	V	V

AUGUST 2008		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S
S-Track (45/15)																																
T-Track (10 Month)		V			V	V	V	V	V			V	V	V	V	V			V	V	V	V	V			SD	SD	T	FD			

SEPTEMBER 2008		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
		M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	
S-Track (45/15)		H								M1						PC	PC	PC*	PC	PC+				V	V	V	V	V			V	V
T-Track (10 Month)		H																														

*M2 ♦ No Min/PC Day - California, Cambridge, Fairhaven, Handy, Lampson, Sycamore, Taft

OCTOBER 2008		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F
S-Track (45/15)		V	V	V			V	V	V	V	V																					
T-Track (10 Month)																																M3

NOVEMBER 2008		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S
S-Track (45/15)					SD							H														V	H	H			
T-Track (10 Month)				PC	SD	PC	PC	PC			PC*	H															V	H	H		

*No Min/PC Day - Esplanade, Jordan, Prospect, West Orange

DECEMBER 2008		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
		M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	
S-Track (45/15)										M1						PC*	M2						V	V	H	H	V			V	V	H	
T-Track (10 Month)																								V	V	H	H	V			V	V	H

*Minimum Day - California, Cambridge, Fairhaven, Handy, Lampson, Sycamore, Taft

JANUARY 2009		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
S-Track (45/15)		H	V			V	V	V	V	V										H												
T-Track (10 Month)		H	V			V														H				M5	M3							

FEBRUARY 2009		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
		S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S		
S-Track (45/15)													H			H															
T-Track (10 Month)				PC*									H			H															

*Minimum Day for Esplanade, Jordan, Prospect, West Orange

MARCH 2009		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
		S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	
S-Track (45/15)											M1									M2					V	V	V	V	V			V	V
T-Track (10 Month)													M4																				

APRIL 2009		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
		W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	
S-Track (45/15)		V	V	V			V	V	V	V	V																					
T-Track (10 Month)				M3			V	V	V	V	V																					

MAY 2009		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S
S-Track (45/15)																										H						
T-Track (10 Month)																										H						

JUNE 2009		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T
S-Track (45/15)											M1	LD			T	V	V	V	V	V			V	V	V	V	V			V	V
T-Track (10 Month)											M3	LD	T			V	V	V	V	V			V	V	V	V	V			V	V

LEGEND

- V Vacation - School not in session
- H Holiday
- T Teacher Prep Day/Non-Student Day
- FD First Day of School
- SD Staff Development/Non-Student Day
- PC Parent Conference - Elementary Minimum Day
- LD Last Day - Minimum Day
- M1 Min Day - Elementary S-Track
- M2 Min Day - El Rancho
- M3 Min Day - High School/Elementary T-Track
- M4 Min Day - End of Trimester Cerro Villa, Portola, Santiago & Yorba MS
- M5 Min Day - High School

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Labor Day.....(Mon.) Sept. 1, 2008
- Veterans Day.....(Tue.) Nov. 11, 2008
- Thanksgiving Break.....Nov. 26 - 28, 2008
- Winter Break (S).....Dec. 22, 2008 - Jan. 9, 2009
- Winter Break (T).....Dec. 22, 2008 - Jan. 5, 2009
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day.....(Mon.) Jan. 19, 2009
- Lincoln Day Observed.....(Fri.) Feb. 13, 2009
- Washington Day.....(Mon.) Feb. 16, 2009
- Spring Break.....April 6 - 10, 2009
- Memorial Day.....(Mon.) May 25, 2009

GRADING CALENDAR

- S Track**
- End of Quarter 1.....Sept. 19, 2008
- End of Quarter 2.....Dec. 19, 2008
- End of Quarter 3.....Mar. 20, 2009
- T Track**
- End of Quarter 1.....Oct. 31, 2008
- End of Semester 1...Jan. 23, 2009
- End of Quarter 3.....Apr. 3, 2009
- End of Trimester 1...Nov. 21, 2008
- End of Trimester 2...Mar. 13, 2009

Approved as of 09/13/2007