

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*



**Covering the Los Alamitos Unified School District**

**VOLUME 13, ISSUE 68**

**OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2016**

## LAUSD Continues Emphasis On College and Career Readiness



**Dr. Sherry Kropp**  
Superintendent

Every summer, the Los Alamitos Unified School District Board of Education and Executive Cabinet meet to review protocols, analyze student results, and establish District Priority Goals.

It is a privilege to work in Los Al with outstanding staff and for a Board of Education that is committed to providing the very best opportunities for students. This year, the District has written five priority goals that focus on key areas necessary for excellence: academic success, student safety, communication, fiscal responsibility, and facilities/technology (please see page 2). These goals focus our work and provide a vision for all staff when making decisions. We come to work each and every day prepared to provide unlimited opportunities for our students.

Assessment results were analyzed and clearly demonstrate that Los Al is exemplary. While there is always improvements to be made, our students have excelled on a variety of local and national measures. The District's strong performance on standardized tests, their



**Board of Education**  
**President Karen Russell, Member Dr. Jeffrey Barke, Member Diana D. Hill, Member David Boyer, and Clerk Meg Cutuli.**

post-secondary education enrollment rate of 91%, and their vision of Advanced Placement (AP) for all is setting graduates up for college and career success.

Last spring, students in grades 3 through 8 and 11, took the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). Eighty-one percent of students met or exceeded state standards in English and 72% in math, far surpassing the county average of 53% in English and 45% in Math. Not only did the District show some of the greatest gains in achievement in the county, students in third and fourth grades ranked first on both English and math assessments.

With a focus on graduating students that are capable of achieving in higher education or a career path of their choosing, the District focuses on multiple sets of data that are correlated with positive student outcomes. The Class of 2016 graduated with 76% of students completing A-G college entrance requirements, 261 students receiving the State Seal of Biliteracy, and 65% of students taking at least one AP course. We have consistently promoted AP access for all students, and teachers have worked diligently to continually increase our AP passage rate while simultaneously administering more AP exams each school year. The District

administered over 1,900 AP exams last year, with 83.3% of total scores being a three or higher. The District boasts a passage rate that is 21% higher than the California average and is the only district in Orange County that has remained on the College Board's Honor Roll for six straight years.

In addition, the District is proud to celebrate the following accomplishments:

- All Schools California Distinguished Schools
- All Schools Gold Ribbon Schools
- 93 National Merit Scholars in the last five years
- LAHS in the top 3% of high schools in the Country
- Six-time National Champion Show Choir
- 60+ Division 1 Scholar Athletes in the last five years
- 277+ Sunset League and 19+ CIF Championships
- World Champion Cheer Team
- National Champion Song Team
- Band, Drama, Improv, Robotics, and MUN Excelled in Local and State Competitions

Strong schools build a strong community. The Board of Education is honored to be joined by the communities of Los Alamitos, Rossmoor, and Seal Beach in placing the highest value on developing young people into capable, caring, and confident adults.

## Family Engagement

*By Kelly Rowe*

*LAUSD Child Development Coordinator / Early Learning Specialist*

With our busy, on-the-go lives, we need to find time to relax with our children to strengthen family relationships and support siblings in learning to get along. These ideas can help everyone to enjoy each other's company!

**Play games.** Choose a game that all ages will like. Pop some popcorn and gather around the coffee table to play. Encourage your children to play fairly and to focus on having fun rather than just winning. Use language that gives direct feedback, such as "You two make a great team!" and "I like how your taking turns!"

**Enjoy the memories.** Work together to create or update a photo album or memory book. Gather loose photos or print pictures that you have taken

recently. As you organize them together, you can discuss what was going on in the photos. You can remind your children how much fun they had together and bring back great memories for your children to share again and again.

**Cook together.** Have your children help with making a dish for the family. It can be as easy as putting grapes, strawberries, and blueberries into a fruit salad. A younger child can help by washing and tearing lettuce for a salad while older children carefully slice cucumbers and or tomatoes. On the next shopping trip, they can work together to choose the foods for the meal, one choosing main dish and the others choosing side dishes. When they work together, be sure to compliment them for their great effort!



# Los Alamitos Unified School District

## 2016-17 District Priority Goals

1. **Passionately pursue academic excellence from all students.**
  - 1.1 Focus on exemplary instruction by enhancing collaboration, rigor, multiple perspectives, professional development, and implementation of signature practices.
  - 1.2 Use assessment results to improve instruction, interventions, and enrichments.
  - 1.3 Ensure every student is connected to school through academics, athletics, activities, and the arts.
  - 1.4 Ensure all students have unparalleled preparation for College and Career Success:
    - Every student meets or exceeds grade-level/content standards on state assessments.
    - Maximize the successful completion of Algebra I in 8th grade.
    - Every student completes CSU/UC a-g college entrance requirements.
    - Every student completes at least one Advanced Placement course in high school.
  - 1.5 Leverage educational technology to create transformational learning experiences for all students.
2. **Ensure a healthy, safe, and drug-free environment.**
  - 2.1 Engage stakeholders in order to build robust student safety programs that focus on:
    - Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports
    - Social, Emotional, and Mental Health
    - Digital Citizenship
    - Violence, Bullying, and Substance Abuse Prevention and Response
  - 2.2 Increase physical safety measures through facility improvements.
  - 2.3 Improve safety through emergency preparedness and crisis response training and drills.
3. **Enhance communication processes to engage, inform, and educate all stakeholders.**
  - 3.1 Effectively use various communication processes and technology tools to engage all stakeholders:
    - Utilize various technology tools, such as Aeries, Illuminate, and Naviance, to provide timely feedback and information regarding student performance.
    - Provide updates to the community about school and District news.
    - Provide two-way communication opportunities to exchange ideas and information with District staff, families, and communities.
    - Increase our social media expertise and presence to engage the community and all stakeholders.
  - 3.2 Serve and support all stakeholders by providing exceptional customer service at all times.
  - 3.3 Attend, participate in, and be visible at school, District, and community events and activities.
4. **Responsibly manage and allocate financial resources to maximize students' educational experiences.**
  - 4.1 Strengthen our partnerships with LAEF, PTAs, School non-profit Groups, Booster Groups, businesses, and other community partners on grants and donations.
  - 4.2 Engage in Interest-Based Bargaining as a practice and a philosophy with Associations and employees to ensure fiscal solvency, strengthen relationships, and protect our assets.
  - 4.3 Engage in strong fiscal practices to ensure long-term financial stability.
5. **Improve maintenance, planning, and agreements to optimize the use of District facilities.**
  - 5.1 Continue facility and technology improvements to meet current educational demands.
  - 5.2 Develop a 10-year Master Facility Plan to address future students' needs in academics, athletics, activities, and the arts, improve energy efficiency, and accommodate increasing uses of technology.
  - 5.3 Engage our communities to enhance and improve partnerships, agreements, and communication.

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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



By now students are settled into their school routine, making new friends, reuniting with old friends and focused on the new school year.

Superintendent Dr. Kropp begins this issue with her positive message outlining the District Priority Goals. As she says, strong schools build a strong community.

In this issue, the schools bring you up to date on their activities and we welcome Marissa as our newest columnist, who will be reviewing age appropriate movies.

Our next issue is December 7. Until then have a fun Halloween and Happy Thanksgiving!

## Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 800-MEMORIAL • MillerChildrens.org/Diabetes

## This Halloween, Don't Be Afraid of Diabetes



**Mario Brakin, M.D.**  
Medical Director,  
Endocrine &  
Diabetes Center  
Miller Children's &  
Women's Hospital  
Long Beach

Halloween can be a thrilling holiday for children of all ages, but the wide availability of candies with high levels of sugar can prevent children living with diabetes from joining in on the fun.

Diabetes is a condition in which blood sugar levels are unusually high. Inside the body, food is changed into glucose (sugar) that is carried throughout the entire body. Insulin is a hormone that helps the body use glucose for energy.

With diabetes, the body makes little to no insulin. Without insulin, the body's cells are unable to use glucose, and the glucose instead builds in the body's blood stream.

Children with diabetes should be able to actively participate in special occasions and holidays like Halloween. Planning ahead is the key to celebrating these occasions without compromising diabetes control.

This Halloween, you can help your child by:

- Giving your kids money or toys in exchange for their candy (example: a quarter for each piece of candy)
- Participating in the Halloween Candy Buy Back event – local dental offices and other businesses will trade a child's candy for money, prizes or other treats. The candy gets sent to troops overseas and helps kids avoid cavities. Find participating locations at HalloweenCandyBuyBack.com
- Planning a party instead of "trick-or-treating" door-to-door
- Visiting a haunted house or renting a scary movie

Enjoying Halloween may be difficult for your little witch or wizard living with diabetes, but it's manageable.

For more information on how to help manage your child's diabetes visit MillerChildrens.org/Diabetes.



# Diabetes Family Festival & Classic Car Show

November is Diabetes Awareness Month



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## Welcome to the 2016-17 School Year!

*By Carrie Logue, Executive Director*

The Los Alamitos Education Foundation (LAEF) is the official non-profit partner of Los Alamitos Unified School District. We work to keep our district strong and make sure that all students achieve educational excellence at a higher level than any other district or private school.

LAEF continues to offer after-school and summer enrichment programs on campus that keep students engaged and learning outside of regular classroom hours. Last year, over 240 classes were provided by LAEF!

Through the fundraising success of the King & Queen of Hearts campaign, LAEF has just donated \$30,000 to the elementary schools of Los Alamitos Unified to support Media Center and STEAM teachers. LAEF continues to provide free STEAM instruction and fairs at all schools, plus the district-wide STEAM Showcase in the spring.

Since 2010, over \$3,000,000 has been granted to the district and invested in educational programs due to the support of thousands of community members. Please visit [www.LAEF4Kids.org/donate](http://www.LAEF4Kids.org/donate) today! Thank you for supporting LAEF!



**LAEF presents a check to Friends of Weaver to support the Media Center teacher.  
FOW President Natalie Gould-Chang, Media Center Teacher Dr. Darielle Tom, LAEF Executive Director Carrie Logue, Weaver Elementary's Principal Dr. Robert Briggerman and LAEF Programs Manager Michael Kahn.**

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**Evelyn Garcia**  
*Principal*

**Making a Difference**

Hopkinson’s fifth-grade Huskies have the opportunity of applying for the Husky Leadership Council during the first two weeks of school.

Implementing the skills they have gained in the areas of communication, critical thinking, collaboration, and creation, the

students first complete a rigorous application that represents why they are Husky Leaders. For the 2016–2017 school year, we have 63 fifth-grade students who have applied for this privilege.

The students who are selected willingly give up some of their recess and lunch time to make a difference on campus and beyond. Meetings focus on collaboration, leadership, and philanthropy. Students serve on various committees that positively impact the school culture, and they learn skills that will last them a lifetime.

Giving back to the local community and understanding the meaning of philanthropy and hard work are keys to becoming a successful member of our society.



**2016-2017 Husky Leadership Council Students**

Lee *Elementary*

11481 Foster Rd., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 562/799-4540 • [www.losal.org](http://www.losal.org)



**Amy Laughlin**  
*Principal*

**Depth, Complexity and Grit!**

Welcome to the 2016–17 school year! The team at Lee has an “in it to win it” attitude for every single student, and we are going for gold!

We strive to provide our students with experiences that require them to think hard, persevere, and show grit! We have expanded

the Makerspace—our innovative STEAM lab—and plan to incorporate coding programs into weekly technology lessons. The fifth-graders at Lee are participating in the Starbase program located at the Joint Forces Training Base, where they engage in inquiry-based experimental activities to increase their knowledge and skills in STEM. Students in all grade levels are deepening their understanding of concepts and enhancing their ability to think critically by using Depth and Complexity Icons. The icons are visual prompts used to aid students in understanding concepts with greater complexity.

The staff at Lee is looking forward to a rewarding and academically challenging year!



**Molecular building in chemistry lab**



**Electrical engineering and circuit building**



# Los Alamitos *Elementary*

10862 Bloomfield St., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 714/816-3300 • www.losal.org



**Dr. Sunghie Okino**  
Principal

## School-Wide Impact Studies

This year, the LAE community is examining the impact one person can make. “Know thy Impact: What is the impact of my choices in the world that I live?” is the school-wide theme for the year. Students, staff, and families have been asked to:

- Know the impact of their choices on themselves and others.
- Know the impact of their choices on their physical surroundings.
- Know that even if they are a “kid”, they have the power to make a difference because all it takes is one person.

In LAE’s exploration of “impact”, teachers have been weaving in the engineering design process to help students approach problem solving. Since day one of school, students have engaged in design challenges at every grade level. LAE is also engaging in school-wide studies on the plastics pollution problem and the electoral process as it relates to the environment.



Students have been asked to think about solutions to the plastics pollution problem. LAE hopes the community joins the school in examining the impact we can make together. Please take a look at the following video (scan the QR code) which illustrates what happens to the plastic we throw away (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xlNyWPpB8>). You are an essential partner and we invite you to join us in examining the impact of our choices.

# Los Alamitos *High School*

3591 Cerritos Ave., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 562/799-4780 • www.losal.org



**Dr. Brandon Martinez**  
Principal

## Golden Opportunities

Los Alamitos High School started the school year at full speed. Teachers have developed a connected learning approach and are creating ways to support cross-disciplinary learning experiences for students.

Students are engaging in cognitively challenging curricula and exploring a variety of ways to apply their learning. The school is continuing to leverage technology to provide students with access to academic support and learning through Griffin Virtual Lab and our newly launched online pre-calculus.



Alumna and Olympic water polo gold medalist Rachel Fattal was honored during a lunchtime pep rally. Fattal shared how important her Los Al teachers, coaches, and counselors were in shaping who she is as an athlete, a college student, and a member of the US National Women’s Water Polo Team.

Griffins remain connected to school through academics, athletics, activities, and the arts. This year will be extra special as Los Alamitos High School celebrates its 50th anniversary.

# McAuliffe *Middle School*

4112 Cerritos Ave., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 714/816-3320 • www.losal.org



**Ann Allen**  
Principal

## WEB Day

Katie, a new sixth-grader at McAuliffe, was anxious and unsure about beginning middle school. But after attending Welcome Every Body (WEB) Day, she felt excited, comfortable and eager to begin middle school.

Katie is one of 384 new sixth-graders who attended McAuliffe’s annual WEB Day. This is a middle school transition program that’s designed to ease the way for new students in grades six, seven and eight. Staff and administration, PTA parents and returning seventh- and eighth-grade students all volunteered to make this day a special one.



For many students and their parents, some major concerns include “Where is my locker?” or “Where are my classes?” New students receive their class schedules on WEB Day and also receive their book lockers and combination locks. They then have time to review their schedules and mingle with McAuliffe’s mascot, Ed the Eagle. Along with their friends, they can walk about the campus to see where their classrooms are so that the first day of school will bring no surprises and they are comfortable with their surroundings.

An additional concern is the combination lock. By receiving it on WEB Day, the students have plenty of time to practice the combination. Many students will even spend extra time getting their locker ready for Day One. Last, students and their families enjoy a cold, refreshing treat before leaving campus, all excited to be McAuliffe Eagles when school officially begins!



# McGaugh *Elementary*

1698 Bolsa Ave., Seal Beach, CA 90740 • 562/799-4560 • www.losal.org



**Roni Ellis**  
*Principal*

## Off to a Great Start!

The 2016-17 school year got off to a great start last week! McGaugh Elementary is 851 students strong and we welcomed 11 fabulous new staff members: Andrea Hess (Gr.K), Michelle Swanson (Gr.K-2), Sara Pinkston (Gr.3), Sara White (Gr.4), Daniel Cory (Gr.3-5), Hannah Pool (Gr.5), Penny Watson (Music), Janet Dodd, Katie Kolstad (Speech Therapists), Valerie McCorkle and Suzanne Robinson (Psychologists). We also welcomed a new and wonderful Assistant Principal, Mrs. Teri Malpass! McGaugh students are in great hands!

The McGaugh staff and students honored the lives that were lost on September 11, 2001, as well as those now serving to keep our communities and country safe. We stood as a proud and grateful community as we began this school year together.

# Oak *Middle School*

10821 Oak St., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 562/799-4740 • www.losal.org



**Erin Kominsky**  
*Principal*

## Oak Lions Roar!

We are off to a great start of our new school year. Over 1,100 students have settled into their classes, and the teaching and learning have begun.

Technology at Oak is booming, with 1:1 devices in all English core and social science classrooms. Many science and math rooms have access to portable devices as well. It is exciting to see our students utilize multiple platforms in technology. At Back to School Night, our parents were also encouraged to sign up on Remind so that they can help their students stay on track with assignments.

In addition, we have added new Project Lead the Way classes for grades six to eight that focus on coding, engineering projects, and digital design. In addition to a large format printer, robotics computers, and 3D printers, we have also added a laser cutter to give students extraordinary experiences with etching (rastering) and cutting (vectoring).

At Oak, we celebrate innovation and creativity.



**Students in the Project Lead the Way class.**



**A wireless communication device built by students.**

# Rossmoor *Elementary*

3272 Shakespeare Dr., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 562/799-4520 • www.losal.org



**Amy Belsha**  
*Principal*

## Honored to Join Our Team of Educators

Welcome Rossmoor Knights to the 2016-2017 school year! I am honored to start my first year as principal at Rossmoor Elementary. Our team of educators could not wait for our students and families to return this year.

Here at Rossmoor we are “Going for the Gold” every day as we motivate our students to work hard, set goals, and reach their full potential. Thanks to our exemplary parents and staff, our students love to learn at Rossmoor.

The staff at Rossmoor is thrilled to be launching our STEM lab this year. During the first week of school our students could not have been more excited to explore Maker’s Space after being introduced to the world of engineering.

Our Rossmoor Knights also experienced what it takes to be a computer engineer as they took apart and dissected different components of computers. They explored the world of structural engineering by building strong structures using only toothpicks and marshmallows. They also learned about electrical engineering by building with snap circuits. The staff at Rossmoor is looking forward to further inspiring our students in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

I am honored to be joining the Rossmoor community and our excellent team of educators as we start the 2016-2017 school year. Teaching and learning is off to an incredible start here at Rossmoor Elementary!

# Weaver *Elementary*

11872 Wembley Rd., Los Alamitos, CA 90720 • 562/799-4580 • www.losal.org



**Robert Briggerman**  
*Principal*

## One CLASS ACT!

*By Dr. E. Joseph Arias, Teacher*

For over a decade, the CLASS ACT Program, sponsored by a resident symphony orchestra at a local music center, has been a vital part of our Weaver School Arts experience. Each year, a selected composer and a musician from the orchestra unite with teachers, students and parents to envelop the community with classical music. Students learn about the composer of the year, the musician and the instruments of the orchestra.

This year, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(1756-1791) is the composer of the year. Our CLASS ACT musician is violinist Dana Freeman. Mozart is quite familiar to Weaver, as our MIND Institute program was initiated at Weaver by the late Gordon Shaw, author of *The Mozart Effect*. In music class, students have continued to listen to the one researched Mozart piece that was noted to have an effect on brainwaves, the richly patterned “Sonata for Two Pianos in D Major.”

This year’s theme is “Magical Journeys.” Learning about classical music is the purpose of our partnership with the orchestra. Early in the year, teachers will participate in a workshop on this year’s composer, and students will attend a Mozart Prelude Assembly to kick things off. In the middle of the year, students will participate in a student workshop taught by Mrs. Freeman herself. Weaver will cap off such immersion into music and Mozart with an invitation to attend student concerts at the music center.

For Weaver families, this year’s CLASS ACT events are exciting! Check our online calendar, and please join us for our Family Night in March and our Bravo Assembly in June!



**Mrs. Dana Freeman, violinist**



Seal Beach Animal Care Center

1700 Aldofo Lopez Dr., Seal Beach, CA 90740 • 562/430-4993 • www.sbacc.org

Ear Tipping in Cats

By Murlyn E. Burkes, Cat Committee Liaison

So what exactly is ear-tipping in cats? Ear-tipping in cats is a universal sign for an altered feral cat. A quarter inch of the cat's left ear is cut in a straight line while the cat is under anesthesia for spay or neuter. This is all done quickly and without pain. Healing is rapid. This process is done in order to manage feral cat colonies and it helps to identify cats who are already fixed. This method works better than previous methods of ear tattooing or ear tags. The main problem with feral cats is population control. The population can only be controlled through spaying and neutering. When a feral cat is altered, it also helps to eliminate the mating behaviors that bother humans in the community.



Safety in the Car

Keeping Kids Safe in the Car

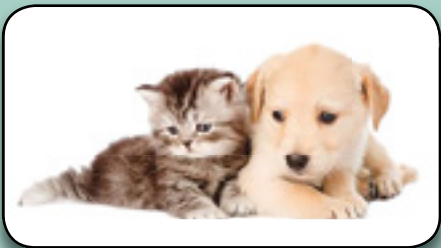
By Heidi Heflin, MN, RN, CNS, CPSTI

Many parents look to the law to 'guide buckling up their children safely in the car'. From 1/1/17, all children under 2 years old (unless 40 lbs. or 40" tall or more) must ride in a rear-facing safety seat. Pediatricians and safety professionals recommend children ride rear facing for as long as possible, until the maximum height or weight on the seat. Rear facing is 5 times safer! After age 2, California law requires children ride CORRECTLY in a safety seat or booster until age 8 and then, until the safety belt fits properly. But today, children often fit in a forward-facing seat until starting elementary school or longer. Use a booster until the belt fits properly, usually between 10 and 12 years old. By law, ride in back until age 8; however, the back is almost twice as safe, and labels in cars read stay in back to age 13.

Try this test in your car

- . Are you sitting all the way back against the auto seat?
- . Do your knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?
- . Does the belt cross your shoulder between your neck and arm?
- . Is the lap belt as low as possible to you, touching your thighs?
- . Can you stay seated like this for the whole trip?

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. is the national non-profit organization dedicated solely to protecting children from death or injury in vehicle crashes through the correct, consistent use of safety seats and belts. For more information, visit [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org) or call the Safe Ride Helpline 800/745-SAFE, 800/747-SANO. Heidi Heflin, MN, RN, CNS, CPSTI is a Program Consultant with SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. She can be reached at [CarSeatRN@gmail.com](mailto:CarSeatRN@gmail.com).



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# Pokémon Go – Have Fun, Be Careful



**Dave Barr**  
Corporal

The virtual reality game Pokémon Go has taken the country, and the world for that matter, by storm. It is important to remember that this popular activity should be played responsibly. This means that while you are out and about hunting for Pokémon you need to also be looking out for your safety and the safety of those around you. Unfortunately there have been too many Pokémon Go players finding themselves in unintended trouble while hunting the allusive pocket monsters.

- The Seal Beach Police Department has produced a pamphlet outlining several important Safety Tips and Precautions recommended for all Pokémon Go players. Here are a few key pointers;
- Always hunt for Pokémon with a friend.
  - Remain alert and stay aware of your surroundings at all times.
  - Watch where you are going, especially when crossing streets and navigating through crowds.
  - Do not drive a car, ride your bike, or skateboard while looking at your phone playing Pokémon Go.
  - “Pokéstops” or “Gyms” can be used by criminals to anticipate your arrival. Be aware of your surrounds and safeguard your property.
  - Avoid trespassing on private property, or entering restricted areas. For example...

- Be mindful of closing times for certain areas such as beaches and parks.
- Pay special attention to the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station. This is a restricted federal naval base. Do NOT attempt to visit “Pokéstops” or “Gyms” at this location under any circumstances.

Playing Pokémon Go can get you moving, get you exploring, and be a healthy and fun activity. Just remember that you still have a responsibility to take care of yourself, your friends, your family, and your community while you try to catch them all!



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## Program or Be Programmed?



Sean Whittle  
Branch Manager

Oftentimes young folks are referred to as “digital natives” because they have grown up with digital devices and generally seem to be pretty skilled at them, but not everyone is confident about the situation. One of those people is Douglas Rushkoff. I recently read his book “Program or Be Programmed” in which he outlines 10 important commands for navigating the digital age for success. His argument is that widespread digital fluency will be the basis of civilization’s next leap forward. The key, he says, is not just to be a user of programs, but write them yourself, or at least be fluent. If not, then you risk being manipulated (“programmed”), since most people currently have no real understanding of how programs operate. We are vulnerable to interests which may be at odds with our long-term success.

Now you can read his works and conclude for yourself the validity of his arguments and observations. The interesting idea I take from this is being a producer and not just a consumer. The Library is filled with a vast amount of literary production. An incredible thing if you think about it. Looking at literacy 500 years ago and now we see increases in opportunities to engage with information and a widespread ability to write including record breaking production of books. It went from extremely rare to extremely common. Digital production is still the domain of an educated few, but it is encouraging to see the Library as one nexus point in which the digital era becomes an era of digital production and fluency. The Library has a place to assist in educating people and deciphering this new code used to communicate and spread information, and open the digital era as one of widespread production and fluency throughout the society.

# Halloween Word Search Contest

**Rules!** One word in the list is NOT in the word search.  
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put LAUSD in subject line)

Entries must be received by November 15, 2016  
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win  
a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

BLACK CAT	GHOST	SPIDER
CANDY	GHOUL	SWAMP CREATURE
CARVE	GRAVE	TRICK OR TREAT
CEMETERY	HAUNTED HOUSE	VAMPIRE
COSTUME	HALLOWEEN	WEB
DECORATIONS	JACK O LANTERN	WEREWOLF
FRANKENSTEIN	MUMMY	WITCH
FRIGHTFUL	SKELETON	ZOMBIE

**Congratulations to Christopher LaVallee**  
**Winner of the June Word Search Contest!**

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



Kubo and the Two Strings



Marissa Aldegarie

Kubo and the Two Strings, rated PG, is a fantasy action adventure film directed by Travis Knight, written by Marc Haimes and Chris Butler, and produced by Laika. The film features the voices of Art Parkinson, Charlize Theron, Matthew McConaughey, Ralph Fiennes, George Takei and Rooney Mara.



I have recently seen this movie which is very action packed and good for the family with kids over 10. This movie stars Kubo, a young boy who lives with his ill mother, in a cave on top of the mountain. Every day he goes to a nearby village to tell stories by magically using origami that moves by listening to music played from Kubo’s instrument. He lives a fairly peaceful life until he accidentally summons a vengeful spirit from the past. As he runs from the evil, he is accompanied by a monkey and a beetle while they battle the Moon King and his mother’s sisters.

What I liked about the movie is it was very mysterious and full of action. What I did not like was it left the viewer confused due to a lot of different stories that made up this movie. Therefore, it would be hard for a younger viewer to follow this movie. Overall it was a movie about heroism, love and forgiveness. I would give this movie a 3 out of a 5.


Marissa is a 7th grader who loves to watch movies, especially action films. She would love to be an actress in the future. She rates movies on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest.

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- Progressives
- The Gilded Age
- The Great War
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- The 1930’s
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- Present



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\$30,001 - \$40,000	\$300		



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