

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Volume 19, Issue 102

April 2023

Attendance Matters – Finish Strong



Every day counts. Daily attendance is a strong predictor of success.

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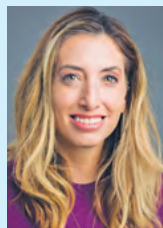
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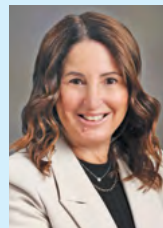
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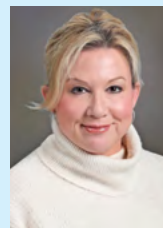
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Attendance Matters – Finish the Year Strong



Dr. Wesley Smith
Superintendent

As we enter the final few months of the school year I want to take a moment to emphasize the importance of students attending school all day, every day. Regular attendance and punctuality are key factors in student success, both academically and socially.

Every day of school is important, and missing even a single day can have a significant impact on your child's education and overall well-being. When students attend school regularly, they have the opportunity

to build strong relationships with their peers and teachers, participate in engaging and meaningful learning experiences, and develop the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in their future endeavors.

Success Starts When You Show Up!

In addition to the academic benefits, regular attendance also plays a crucial role in promoting positive social skills and overall well-being. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to feel connected to their peers and school community, have a greater sense of belonging, and develop important life skills such as time management, responsibility, and resilience.

5 Tips to Promote Good Attendance

1. Ensure that children get enough rest
2. Eat healthy meals (free meals provided at school, if needed)
3. Encourage your child to maintain daily routines such as finishing homework, sleeping and waking at consistent times
4. Stay informed about your child's social contacts and the online interactions
5. Ask for help - School staff, after-school program providers, and other parents or community agencies are available to help families access resources and address other experiences that make it difficult to attend and participate in school on a regular basis, obtain food or housing, and address other experiences that make it difficult to attend and participate in school on a regular basis.

I encourage all families to work with their children to prioritize attendance and punctuality for the remainder of the school year. Let's work together to ensure good attendance so that every student can finish the year strong.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in promoting student success.



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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Superintendent Dr. Smith begins this issue with his message on page 3 about the importance of attendance. As the end of the school year is in sight it is easy for students to think attendance doesn't matter; however, it is very important to show up and continue to do your best.

As you read in the articles in this issue you will see students are engaged and having fun at the same time.

On the next page Nutrition Services has an interesting article on

the importance of being hydrated. Water affects everything! We need water on the inside and the outside.

As you begin thinking about programs for your children to participate in this summer, don't forget to include the library (please see pages 8 & 9 for library information).

Be sure to enter our word search contest on page 27. Congratulations to Racheal Corell our February winner!

Our next issue is May 24.

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Covering the
NEWPORT-MESA

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Nutrition Services

2985 Bear St., Building B Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-5000
nmusd-ca.schoolloop.com/nutrition



Todd Hatfield
Director

Hydrate

*By Pam Williams, MPH, RD
Nutritionist*

Water is everywhere and recently, we saw a lot of it in the form of rain but did you know that our bodies contain a lot of water? Our bodies contain about 50 – 70% water by weight. The amount varies because of age, health, activity, weather, and even where we live can impact water levels.

Now that we know that we are at least half water, what else makes water important? Every cell in our bodies contain water. We use water to get rid of waste through urine, sweating and more. Water helps regulate body temperature. We have watery fluids in between joints and around our organs. Water also helps us express emotions when we cry.

But did you know that water affects the brain? Water helps brain cells exchange messages. It gets rid of waste and carries nutrients to the brain and helps with blood flow. These functions help our brain to stay healthy and can help students perform better in school or during physical activity. Some studies show that when students hydrate, they perform better when multi-tasking, and working memory improves when compared to dehydrated students.

Water impacts our immune system. It helps get rid of toxins and transports white blood cells throughout the body. These cells are important in the war of fighting against unwanted substances that can make us sick.

These are some of the functions of water. How much do we need? There are several answers but a minimum of 64 ounces for students eight years and older is recommended. Those less than eight years old, drink one eight-ounce cup for every year. For example, a child five years old drinks five cups of water.

In our schools, cafeterias provide water so that every student has access.

So, drink up; it makes a difference!

63rd ANNUAL

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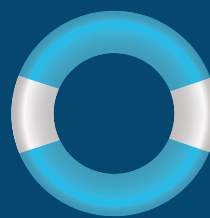
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City of Costa Mesa



John Stephens
Mayor

Earth Day

With all the rainy weather we've had, April promises to be a beautiful month with fresh air, green spaces and spring flower blooms.

So it is fitting that this is Keep America Beautiful and National Garden Month. April 19-23 is National Environmental Education Week, and of course April 22 is Earth Day.

Last year, Costa Mesa held the first-ever Earth Day Festival at City Hall and it was a huge success. We had a picnic area with food trucks and tables, a yoga area, kids activities like games, gifts and a composting demo, art displays and documentaries and a bike that powered a smoothie maker.

It was so successful, that we are busy making plans for the second one to take place Saturday April 22 at City Hall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with many of the same activities.



I encourage you all to come and celebrate Earth Day with us at Costa Mesa City Hall.

77 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/754-5107
www.costamesaca.gov

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue



Dan Stefano
Fire Chief

Fire Cadet Program

The Costa Mesa Fire Cadet Program is back and is accepting interest emails for young men and women (ages 16 to 21) who want to discover and explore a future in firefighting and emergency services!

By participating in the Fire Cadet Program, an individual will gain personal confidence, learn about personal responsibility, become a member of a team, learn how to use various tools, develop mechanical aptitude and skills, and acquire a greater awareness of life and fire safety; truly an incredible life experience and opportunity!

If you know someone between the ages of 16-21 who may be interested in the Costa Mesa Fire Cadet Program, please send an email of interest to lora.ross@costamesaca.gov or call us at (714) 754-5106.



P.O. Box 1200, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 • 714/754-5106



Kevin Muldoon
Mayor

College Scholarship

College-bound seniors and transfer students in Newport Beach are encouraged to apply for up to \$700 in scholarships by Monday, May 1 at 5 p.m.

The City of Newport Beach Ackerman Scholarship Program assists qualified students in obtaining higher education. Funds for the program are provided through an endowment from the Ackerman Trust.

Scholarships may be used for tuition, books, laboratory and/or academic fees.

This year seven \$700 scholarships will be awarded. To be eligible, students must:

1. Must reside in Newport Beach, and
2. Graduate from a high school in 2023, and
3. Are accepted to an accredited two-year community college or four-year college/university, OR
4. Are transferring from a two-year community college to an accredited four-year college or university in Fall 2023 with cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher.

The criteria used for selection includes financial need, scholastic standing, school or community leadership, school and/or extracurricular activities, and career and life plans.

The deadline to submit an application is Monday, May 1, 2023, by 5 p.m. Apply at www.newportbeachca.gov/scholarship.

100 Civic Center Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/644-3004
www.newportbeachca.gov



Jeff Boyles
Fire Chief

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms


Carbon Monoxide, commonly referred to as "CO", is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that is poisonous to humans. It can be produced from heaters, fireplaces, furnaces and various other appliances and cooking devices, in addition to idling vehicles. In 2011, California passed Senate Bill 183, which sets minimum CO alarm requirements in various dwelling types. CO alarms detect


the poisonous gas and provide early warning, allowing you to get to fresh air. For maximum protection against CO, it is recommended that alarms are installed on every level and in every sleeping room. It is important to become familiar with the beep patterns for your particular CO alarm or device, but typically they are:

- 4 beeps and a pause – EMERGENCY: leak detected.
- 1 beep every minute – Batteries need replacing.
- 5 beeps every minute – Unit has reached the end of its life / must be replaced.

Only purchase CO alarms, detectors or devices approved and listed by the State Fire Marshal. Lastly, always be sure to replace batteries or the alarms themselves per the manufacturer's recommendations.


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Newport Beach Public Libraries



Christine Chapel
*Librarian,
Mariners Branch,
Newport Beach
Public Library*

National Library Week April 23-29

Newport Beach Public Library is celebrating National Library Week April 23-29. This year's theme is "There's More to the Story." Newport Beach officials will be honoring the library by reading stories at this week's story-times. We are so happy they are taking the time out of their busy schedules to show their support of the library. In addition, we have the following special programs:

Mariners Library

Gratitude Wall — April 23 – 29, 2023

Mariners Library wants to know what you love about the library! Make sure to add to our Gratitude Wall when you visit during National Library Week.

Corona del Mar Library

Ranger Jack's Music & Puppet Show – Tuesday, April 25, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Celebrate National Library Week at the CdM Branch Library with an interactive music and puppet show.

Central Library 1000 Avocado Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660
949/717-3800 • www.newportbeachlibrary.org/kids
Mariners Branch 1300 Irvine Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660
949/717-3838

Central Library

Creative Writing for Kids — Tuesday April 25, 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Celebrate National Poetry Month and National Library Week with some fun creative writing activities! For ages 5 and up.

Balboa Library

Magician Dave Skale—Wednesday, April 26, 3:00-4:00 p.m. It's National Library Week! The Balboa Branch presents magic, loads of laughs, and lots of audience participation with magician Dave Skale.

We hope you can join us! All children's programming is generously funded by the Friends of the Library.

Save the date – Summer Reading Program

Join the Summer Reading Challenge June 10 – July 29. All ages are welcome. Get rewarded for reading with a free book, prizes, fun crafts and activities! Also, back by popular demand, we have exciting, live performers coming to every branch!

Balboa Branch 100 East Balboa Blvd., Balboa, CA 92661
949/644-3076
Corona Del Mar Branch 410 Marigold Ave., Corona Del Mar, CA 92625
949/644-3075

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Costa Mesa Public Libraries



Vivian Strabala
Branch Manager,
Costa Mesa
Mesa Verde
Library

A Library for Everyone

Costa Mesa Libraries, part of OCPL, are community hubs, connecting people to essential services and resources and building communities of lifelong learners.

OCPL helps our communities learn, explore, connect and have fun! Our programs explore arts, culture, health, civics, science, history and technology. Career and business resources assist job seekers and small businesses. Online, library patrons access databases, research materials, stream videos, listen to ebooks and receive reference services and homework help via chat.

Systemwide Programs:

Read & Grow Cultivate your imagination while you read 100 books, 100 days, or 100 hours.

Discover & Go Explore Orange County museums and attractions through this exciting partnership between OC Public Libraries and local cultural institutions.

Park Passes OC Public Libraries is partnering with California State Parks and the California State Library to offer free State Parks vehicle-day use passes, available for circulation at all branches of public libraries in California.

Why Buy When You Can Borrow?

Please visit your branch in person or online at www.ocpl.org/events for current programming information, including storytimes, author events, bookclubs, and fun events for children, teens, and adults!

Costa Mesa Donald Dungan Library Costa Mesa-Mesa Verde Library



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Dr. Sara Jocham
*Assistant
Superintendent*

Special Olympics/ Unified Sports

A Special Olympics/Unified Sports basketball game was held at Estancia High School on Wed., March 8, 2023 called Fans in the Stands - and it was a great success! More than 200 students and many staff members attended the basketball game held during lunch. Members of the Estancia

basketball team played alongside students in our special education programs. Lowered basketball hoops supported some students in wheelchairs to actively participate. The cheerleaders and "fans in the stands" cheered on all the players. It was a heartwarming activity and a great example of inclusion in our schools. Special thanks to Lydia Ghobrial, adapted P.E. teacher, who spearheaded the event, along with help from Estancia P.E. teachers, the ASB, and several special education teachers and instructional assistants. Everyone left the event with smiles and good feelings.



Early Childhood Education

2985 Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-5000



Michelle O'Neill
Coordinator

Math Centers

Our preschoolers at Harbor View Elementary are enjoying math centers. During centers we encourage our students to interact with one another helping them make abstract concepts more concrete. Our goal is to build fine motor skills which allows for students to be creative. Not only are they be able to develop math skills, they are

having fun. Our Teacher Claudia Monroy and Instructional Assistant Gina de la Torre incorporate BRIDGES math curriculum daily at centers.



Adams *Elementary (K-6)*

2850 Club House Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7935 • adams.nmusd.us



**Stacy
deBoom - Howard**
Principal

Outdoor School

Our 6th Grade students had the opportunity to go to Outdoor school in February. Students went up to Three Oaks Outdoor Science School near Lake Arrowhead for two nights and enjoyed each moment. Each All Star had a different favorite experience from hiking to science assemblies, astronomy lessons, staying with friends in cabins, riding the bus up the mountain and eating in the mess hall with their friends to name a few!! We look forward to sending students next year!!

Project Lead the Way

Our All-Stars LOVE Project Lead the Way!!! Our sixth graders have been working with the Robotics and Automation module of the engineering portions of PLTW this year. PLTW is established pathway at Estancia High School and TeWinkle Middle School, and our hope is by introducing it in elementary our students will continue with PLTW as their elective in Middle and High School.



Roy O. Andersen *Elementary (K-6)*

1900 Port Seabourne Way, Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6935 • andersen.nmusd.us



**Dr. Tiffany
Lewis**
Principal

KidDay

Andersen Elementary celebrated Absolutely Incredible Kid Day on Thursday, March 16th. Students were greeted at the front of the school by the Corona Del Mar Drumline and Cheerleaders! Parent volunteers came on campus during

recess to play with students who were then treated to a fantastic lunch provided by our amazing PTA. Absolutely Incredible KidDay is a national holiday celebrated every third



Thursday in March. Every year, millions of people celebrate young people in their life and share why they matter and what makes them amazing. We think Andersen students are amazing every day!!

Back Bay/Monte Vista *High School*

390 Monte Vista Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6900 • backbay.nmusd.us



Kirk Bauermeister
Principal

A Fun, Multifaceted Program

Back Bay High School in Newport Beach, California is proud to announce its sailing program in partnership with the Orange Coast College School of Sailing & Seamanship. This program is funded in part by a grant from the California State Park Division of Boating and Waterways, and the OCC Foundation.

Designed for students who have never sailed before, or have just limited sailing experience, this class provides an exciting opportunity for our students to learn some basic sailing skills. They can also experience our local waterways, enjoy the great outdoors, and take a break from traditional academics, electronic devices, and social media.

Sailing is a great teacher of life skills, and while learning to sail, the students will also learn teamwork, gain leadership and problem-solving skills, and develop

an appreciation for the natural world and the marine environment.

The course is taught by experienced sailing instructors at OCC who use a combination of dockside lectures and hands-on experience in Lido 14 dinghies to teach students the fundamentals of sailing. This includes sailing theory, points of sail, basic terminology, tacking, gybing, safety, knots, and docking.

Dinghy sailing requires agility, skill, teamwork, and concentration. At least 80 percent of class time is spent on the boat, which allows the students to put their newly acquired knowledge into practice while sailing on Newport Bay.

This elective course is also a valuable first step for those students who are interested in pursuing a maritime career. Upon completion, students earn five elective credits.

The Back Bay sailing program serves as a great motivator and reward for students who can improve in their attendance, citizenship, and academic performance.

California *Elementary (K-6)*

3232 California St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7940 • california.nmusd.us



Dr. Linda Kim
Principal

Science Camp

The rain and bleak weather did not stop our 6th graders from making the most of science camp from March 20-22. Forty-nine of our 6th grade students attended a 2-night, 3-day stay at Irvine Ranch Outdoor

Education Center, enjoying activities like hiking, ziplining, rock climbing, archery, ranch immersion, camp skits, science experiments with dry ice, campfires and



**Who's afraid of heights?
Our kids tackled the
rock-climbing wall like champs!**

more! For many of our students, it was the first time they were away from home. Thanks to the presence of our 6th grade teachers and staff, our students felt comforted knowing that there were always trusted adults present. According to the kids, they enjoyed the hikes, ziplining and rock climbing the most. The food also did not disappoint. I mean, how can you go wrong with pizza, salad, pasta, orange chicken and burgers? We want to thank our parents, CSEF and PTA for their massive efforts in fundraising for science camp, helping create opportunities for experiences and memories that will last a lifetime.



Fortunately for us, the rain took a pause for our kids to experience the thrills of ziplining.



Our students give their stamp of approval for their satisfying meals at science camp.

Cloud Campus (TK—12)

www.nmusd.us/cloudcampus



Dr. Racquel Stephens
Principal

In Full Swing

Cloud Campus is in full swing with the start of the fourth quarter. Our secondary students just finished the third quarter, and our elementary students completed their parent-teacher conferences for trimester 2. Our school is looking forward to our next virtual assemblies to celebrate both academic and character SOAR awards.

Our PTO recently sponsored a bowling night for our students! Students met one another in person at a bowling alley for a great afternoon! Cloud Campus will soon hold Prom for our juniors and seniors in cooperation with Early College High School at an events venue in Costa Mesa.

As part of their senior project, our 12th-graders are planning a mental-health-awareness day in April, called Self-Care Fair, to promote wellness. Seniors will be

putting on a fair filled with fun activities, booths and prizes related to mental-health awareness. We look forward to supporting their efforts around this important topic.

Our students at Cloud have so many accomplishments to be proud of! They have exemplified our SOAR values of Self-Respect, Ownership, Acceptance and Resilience this year. Many of our seniors are receiving their acceptance letters for community college, universities and trade schools. We are proud of them and their accomplishments. Congratulations to all our students!

Cloud Campus students will also be celebrating three in-person promotions and graduations in June. Our sixth- and eighth-graders will be celebrating their promotions, and our 12th-graders will be celebrating their graduation. This will be the second in-person promotion/graduation at Cloud Campus, and for many students, it will be the first time meeting their classmates in person!

College Park Elementary (K-6)

2380 Notre Dame Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7960 • collegepark.nmusd.us



Jake Topete
Principal

All School Read

College Park just completed its second year of our All School Read. This year, our PTA purchased one copy of *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown for each and every student at College Park.

Students were invited to follow along with a monthlong reading

schedule to complete the book in four weeks. Depending on each student's reading ability, students were able to read the book independently, at home with an adult, or through a video of the chapters being read aloud to them by a College Park staff member from a posted link on our website. Teachers, custodians, office staff and student-supervision assistants were some staff who recorded videos for our students to view to follow along in the book. The month was filled with trivia questions, a project featuring building a robot from scraps, and a final culminating family event in our MPR.

Once again, the whole month was a smashing success, and we give our PTA a huge thank-you for making the event happen. Together, we are building a community of strong readers at College Park.



Corona del Mar High School (7-12)

2101 Eastbluff Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6000 • cdm.nmusd.us



Dr. Rebecca Gogel
Principal
7-8 Grade



Jake Haley
Principal
9-12 Grade

CdM's Performance of the Mozart Requiem

By Nadia Khazei,
Twelfth-Grade Student

On March 11, 2023, CdMHS's Instrumental and Vocal Music programs joined forces for their annual Master Work concert. This year, excerpts from Mozart's *Requiem* were performed by

members of the orchestra classes, professional musicians, and a combined choir of various members of the choir community, and a few faculty members. The concert was hosted in the small gym, which had been set up by the choir's Music Council.

The concert began at 7:30 with a note from Andrew Ball, the choral director, about the piece itself. Following the speech, the Madrigal Singers performed two pieces from their repertoire.

After that, the orchestra, led by senior violinist and concertmaster James "Jimmy" Eastmond, took their places.

Following a few words of his own, the instrumental music director Val Jamora conducted two orchestral pieces.

The second movement, the *Kyrie*, described as one of the most difficult movements in the entire *Requiem* due to its speed and high use of melisma, was executed brilliantly by both the orchestra and choir.

The fourth movement featuring the *Tuba Mirum* was sung by soloists from each choral section: the bass solo from junior Ethan Wang, the alto solo from junior Milo Jenkins, the tenor solo from senior Alex Wood, and the soprano solo by senior Sabina Martin.

The final movement of the night was the *Lacrimosa*, arguably the most iconic part of the piece because of its prominent feature in many pieces of pop culture. Notable uses of the movement include the TV show *Peaky Blinders* and the 2011 anime adaptation of *Hunter X Hunter*.

The concert was received well by the audience members, getting a standing ovation. One parent remarked that the concert was "one of the best that they'd ever seen at CdM," and it reminded her of last year's performance of the *Carmina Burana*.

Costa Mesa High School / Middle School (7-12)

2650 Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-8700 • cmhs.nmusd.us



Dr. Eugene Kwong
Principal
7-8 Grade



Dr. Dipali Potnis
Principal
9-12 Grade

Come to the Cabaret!

Costa Mesa's choirs and jazz bands hosted their annual Costa Mesa Cabaret with an evening of jazz music. The event took place in our Performing Arts Center, where the stage was transformed into an intimate jazz club with the audience seated at tables as the music was performed.

The performance featured students in middle and high school who are in Jazz Band I, Vocal Ensemble and Madrigal Choir. It was a sweet treat to have desserts at



the table followed by students serving coffee, hot chocolate, tea and apple cider. This event is a crowd favorite as alumni and community members continue to offer their support year after year to hear the wonderful sounds and voices from our stellar students.

Mr. Lindfors and Mrs. Gilboe have been hosting this event for decades, and their partnership has developed an instrumental and vocal program that leaves you inspired. Mrs. Gilboe will be retiring this year, which made it an emotional event for all members of our community. She has a passion for her program and our students.

Davis Magnet (K-6)

1050 Arlington Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7930 • davismagnet.nmusd.us



Christy Flores
Principal

Kindness Week

PAL Student Leaders and Mentor Teachers led the Davis Community in our annual Kindness Week. The activities included daily PSA videos sharing strategies for home

and school. PAL Leaders went into every preschool through 6th grade classroom to read aloud kindness books. 1,800 Kindness Grams were sold that included notes of encouragement and a pencil. The \$1,800 raised from the grams was presented to the Jesse Rees Foundation, NEGU, sharing joy and encouragement to children who are actively fighting



cancer. Additionally, the generous donors of the Exchange Club of Newport Harbor and Patrick's Purpose Foundation donated a beautiful Buddy Bench that is now on the Davis blacktop in front of a beautiful mural designed and painted in collaboration with PAL Student Leaders and Operation Clean Slate. We are grateful for the kindness of these community

organizations to support our efforts to spread kindness every day at Davis.

Eastbluff Elementary (K-6)

2627 Vista del Oro, Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-5920 • eastbluff.nmusd.us



Cheryl Beck
Principal

Battle of the Books 2022-2023

Our Battle of The Book Club is a dedicated group of fourth and fifth graders at Eastbluff, Andersen, Newport Coast, Newport El, Sonora, and Our Lady Queen of Angels. The students have been

reading and “practice battling” from a list of twenty books all school year. It has been such a great experience for our students to discuss these awesome books weekly. Along the way we learned about Ada rising above her difficulties and starting a new life, twenty six missing children were “found”, a brave horse who fought in WWI, and a prince who won back his kingdom. On March 23rd we had our BOB Competition. All the teams did an amazing job!

It was such a close race! Our first place Book Trophy went to Our Lady Queen of Angels team. They all worked so hard and have such a great passion for reading! We are so proud of you all and celebrate you all!



Early College *High School (9-12)*

2990 Mesa Verde Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7990 • earlycollege.nmusd.us



Dr. David Martinez
Principal

A Busy Time

March was a busy time for ECHS before we headed into our Spring Break March 27th-31st.

Since the start of this school year, ECHS has been participating in the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence assessment program.

Our visitation occurred on March 7th & 8th to recognize our areas of strength while examining areas of growth towards becoming a nationally recognized school of excellence. This assessment will help us prepare our WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) accreditation self-study and upcoming visit occurring October 15-18, 2023. Our target is to renew



BlueRIBBON
Schools of Excellence

annual Open House on March 23rd for both our current families and prospective ECHS applicants and their families.

After our Spring Break, we will be holding another Student Shadow Day on April 14th for interested students. Families who would like to tour ECHS can do so by signing up for after school tours held on April 21st, 28th & May 5th. For families who are interested in a campus tour, please call our school office on weekdays from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at (714) 424-7990 to sign up.

our accreditation for a maximum term through June 30, 2030. Our PTSA also held its community-wide Spring Carnival on March 18th that was highly attended. We also held our

Horace Ensign *Intermediate (7-8)*

2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6910 • ensign.nmusd.us



Samantha Payne
Principal

A Powerful Partnership

Ensign had the pleasure of welcoming Janice Munemitsu onto our campus to discuss her family having been placed into a Japanese internment camp during WWII. Janice's father, Tad, was born in Westminster, and he joined the family farming business there

at a young age. He and his family were later removed to an internment camp in Poston, AZ., and remained there for three years.

Janice brought her message to a handful of our eighth-grade classes who are currently exploring texts in ELA that deal with oppression and resilience. In connection with Janice's experience, they have read excerpts from *Farewell to Manzanar*.

Janice presented the moving and incredible story of her family with an emphasis on the power of friendships, trust, collaboration, and hope. It was such an honor to have her speak of these experiences that occurred so close to the homes of our students, and to make this history more tangible and accessible. We are so thankful to Janice for giving her time, and we look forward to continuing to partner with her in the future.



Estancia High School

2323 Placentia Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6500 • estancia.nmusd.us



Michael Halt
Principal

Welcoming our Future Eagles to the Nest

In March, Estancia High School welcomed the class of 2027 at our Future Eagle Night. Future Eagles and their families walked the red carpet as they were greeted by spirited ASB leaders, Link Crew leaders, and Estancia cheerleaders. After a short presentation in the Main Gym which included performances

by the Estancia Concert Band and Estancia Varsity Cheerleading Team, families were able to get information about the various academic, athletic, and activity programs offered at Estancia High School and join Estancia teachers and student leaders on campus tours. A few weeks later, 8th grade students at TeWinkle Middle School visited Estancia High School for a move-up experience during the school day. Estancia's ASB coordinated a short pep rally for the students which included student speakers representing the four Career Technical Education pathways offered at EHS, Lyceum Academy, AVID program, Drama program, and Music program.



Estancia ASB & Link Crew leaders ready to welcome the class of 2027 at Future Eagle Night.

Harbor View Elementary (K-6)

900 Goldenrod Ave., Corona del Mar, CA 92625 • 949/515-6940 • harborview.nmusd.us



Gabriel Del Real
Principal

Theatrical Performance

Recently the Harbor View Elementary students proudly presented the theatrical performance of Aladdin Jr. Student and parent volunteers tirelessly worked over the past two months, practicing, and preparing to perform in front of a live audience. The Harbor View Thespians were fortunate to have the opportunity to perform an early show before a handful of parents and seniors from the local senior center.

In preparation for their schoolwide and multiple family/parent presentations, the Harbor View cast and crew performed three song and dance routines at the neighborhood senior center. Our students had a very enjoyable five-minute walk through the school's community to the senior center. And, no surprises, our students were amazing! They performed beautifully, and like real professionals, they sang without missing a beat, even when the music unexpectedly stopped playing. As a school and community, we are all so proud of them!



Heinz Kaiser *Elementary (3-6)*

2130 Santa Ana Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6950 • kaiser.nmusd.us



Dr. Deborah Granger
Principal

Kaiser's Young Engineers

Planning, building, testing, re-building, testing again...It's all part of the day when Kaiser Knights head to the engineering lab and for the kiddos who participate in after school STEM. Sixth graders were so excited with their recent roller coaster projects that they showed

up during lunchtime to conduct additional tests and add finishing touches to their masterpieces! We Love STEM at Kaiser supports special engineering instruction. Then, after school, about 30 Knights spend afternoons with Vanguard University students doing everything from building soda rockets to making "earth pudding!" When students come to school with projects from home that school experiences inspired them to do, we are especially grateful for the special opportunities that help Kaiser Knights thrive!



Kaiser coasters on display after their final test and demonstration at We Love STEM's Bingo Night.

Killybrooke *Elementary (K-6)*

3155 Killybrooke Ln., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7945 • killybrooke.nmusd.us



Laura Sosa
Principal

Literacy Night

The week of February 28th – March 3rd was Read Across America Week! Killybrooke participated in several activities surrounding a love of children's literature. Activities included a school wide virtual read aloud, children's book trivia, Family Literacy Night, and dress like your favorite book

character day. As a culminating activity, numerous community readers came to read to our classes on Friday, March 3rd. This included local realtors, pilots, nurses, former board members, and some of our incredible NMUSD district office team.

The highlight of the week was arguably Family Literacy Night which included travel themed

literacy centers representing each of our district's Thinking Maps. Our dynamic SOAR intervention team presented best practices for supporting students with their reading at home and then hosted families for a dose of fun and excitement through learning and reading together. Our community is passionate about supporting early literacy and a love of reading because "Reading Takes you Places".



Students and their families engage in literacy-focused activities to promote a love of literacy.



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Abraham Lincoln *Elementary (K-6)*

3101 Pacific View Dr., Corona del Mar, CA 92625 • 949/515-6955 • lincoln.nmusd.us



Dr. Kristin DeMicco
Principal

Kindness is Always a Lincoln Thing!

Although kindness is a focus for us year-round, each year we choose a particular week to highlight kindness in action at Lincoln. Throughout our kindness week, students participated in kindness activities such as chalk art on the blacktop, kindness placemats in the classroom, and filling a jar of kindness in our school library. We sold Kindness Grams on campus with all proceeds benefitting Once Upon a Room, a non-profit organization that brings joy to the children at CHOC by decorating their hospital rooms with their favorite things. We are especially proud of our 5th and 6th grade students in PALs who chose their favorite kindness books and read aloud to students in our primary classrooms. Kindness week may be over, but the kindness posters our students made and hung around campus serve as daily reminders about the importance of kindness at our school.



Mariners *Elementary (K-6)*

2100 Mariners Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660 • 949/515-6960 • mariners.nmusd.us



Matthew Broesamle
Principal

Colonial Day

By Tori Richards, 5th Grade Student

This March, fifth grade students at Mariners Elementary had Colonial Day. The students reenacted several practices from Colonial America. There were six stations: Metal Working, No-sew Dolls, Johnny Cakes, Printmaking, Chandlers (candle making), and Colonial Games. In the Metal Working station, we made designs using a wooden tool to imprint on a piece of thin metal. The Johnny Cakes station taught us a lot about cooking and measurement. The next station was Chandler, where we all went to make candles. Traditionally, candles were made of tallow and wax and heated over the fire. The last event was really fun - the Colonial Games. We did a series of relay races, including hopping in a sack, jump roping, and a three legged race. We also played jax with rocks, like children did in colonial times. In every station teams went to, we learned about the history, work, and facts about the trade. It was an amazing experience the fifth grade class will never forget!



Students participate in Colonial Print Making

Newport Coast *Elementary (K-6)*

6655 Ridge Park Rd., Newport Coast, CA 92657 • 949/515-6975 • nce.nmusd.us

Christine Anderson, *Interim Principal*

A Fond Farewell

Principal, Somer Harding, who lead Newport Coast Elementary for the past four years, is now the Director of Health Services for Newport Mesa. Somer was an instructional leader who served with a passion for excellence for the students, staff and parent community. We wish Somer all the best in her new position in the district and thank her for her dedication and years of servant leadership at NCE. Looking forward, we extend

a very warm welcome to our new principal, Heather Darrow! Heather comes with extensive leadership experience, most recently in Orange Unified School District at Olive Elementary School. We are thrilled to welcome her to NCE and wish her all the best! I know that Heather will receive an enthusiastic Newport Coast welcome as she begins her principalship here. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the interim principal during this transition phase and I will miss this wonderful community!

Newport *Elementary (K-6)*

1327 W. Balboa Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92661 • 949/515-6965 • newportel.nmusd.us



Amanda Estrada
Principal

Learning is an Adventure

In February Newport Elementary hosted a Family STEAM Night. STEAM stands for Science Technology Engineering Art Math. Families completed several challenges related to science and engineering, worked through the scientific process, and had a ton of fun. One of the highlights was seeing families create a work of art to display their family charter with the help of Mr. Cook, our school counselor. A charter is a commitment a group makes to each other for how they want to feel and make others feel when they are in that group. It was a great evening for

families to learn and have fun together.

In March, we recognized Read Across America Week. Students were encouraged to read a variety of books with a different theme each day like courage, teamwork, empathy and celebrating uniqueness. Students participated in a reading challenge and donated books for a local shelter. We also had several guest readers. For Hometown Hero Thursday, Newport Beach Lifeguards read books about courage in each classroom. And, for Famous American Friday we had a special guest speaker from the John Wayne Cancer Foundation, and our kindergarten students performed patriotic songs at Flag Deck. It was a wonderful way to close our week of our celebration of reading!



Newport Harbor *High School* (9-12)

600 Irvine Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6300 • nhhs.nmusd.us

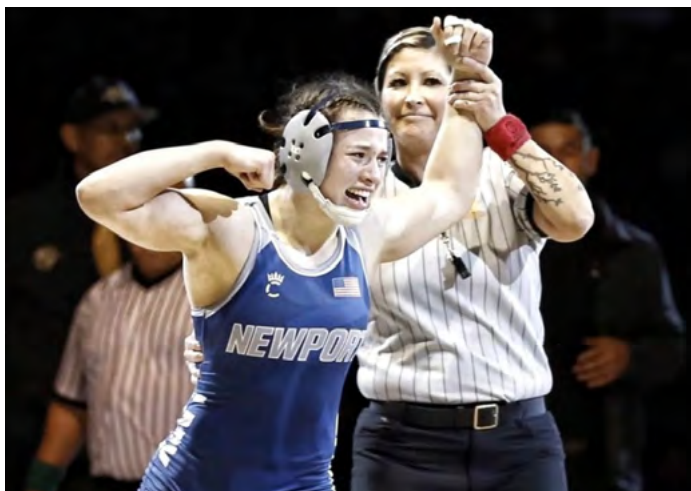


Sean Boulton
Principal

NHHS Wrestling

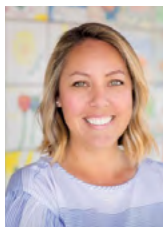
Newport Harbor High School Wrestling had a historic year, with their first ever State Champion in wrestling. Congratulations to NHHS Wrestling! Here are the results:

Anthony Manno - CIF Inland Champion, 145 pounds
Skyler Gassel - CIF Eastern Champion, 137 pounds
Duda Rodrigues - CIF Eastern Champion, 150 pounds
Duda Rodrigues - CIF Southern Section Masters Champion, 150 pounds
Duda Rodrigues - CIF State Champion, 150 pounds



Newport Heights *Elementary* (K-6)

300 E. 15th St., Newport Beach, CA 92663 • 949/515-6970 • newportheights.nmusd.us



Terri Clarke
Principal

NHES Family "Book Buddy" Event

This year, we have continued our focus on school-to-home partnerships and offering opportunities for parents/guardians to engage with their students on campus during the school day. In fall, families were invited to our "VIP Lunch

Date." In early March, NHES invited our families to join us in our first "Book Buddy" event! Families were encouraged to come to campus and participate in reading activities with their students, focusing on the love and importance of reading. Families included parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles from out of town, cousins from across the county, you name it. Teachers provided reading activities from cuddling up with a good book to practicing site words to playing word games across the pages. We had over 150 family members participate and the energy buzzing through the air was electric. Families left with enthusiasm



to continue the reading engagement at home and students were thrilled to share their school experiences with their loved ones. Next up: plans for a "Math Morning" event!

Paularino *Elementary (K-6)*

1060 Paularino Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7950 • paularino.nmusd.us



Annalisa Schwartz
Principal

April is Autism Awareness Month!

We are fortunate at Paularino to have a robust TK - 6th grade Autism Special Day Class program. Our campus is full of inclusive opportunities where we celebrate and accept all students. This year, staff will be wearing Autism Awareness t-shirts every Wednesday in April to support Autism Awareness Month and radiate kindness. Students attending our program are seamlessly

integrated with students in general education for core curriculum subjects such as language arts and mathematics, as well as hands-on opportunities such as science, music, and physical education. When walking through campus we have built a learning environment of kindness and acceptance. Our Panthers are learning to be inclusive citizens and will all make a difference in our community. Great job Panthers!



Pomona *Elementary (K-6)*

2051 Pomona Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6980 • pomona.nmusd.us



Cindy Pedroso
Principal

Where Everyone Can Thrive

Springtime is a busy time of the year here at Pomona, one that is filled with fun activities and rigorous learning opportunities.

Our students continue to participate in the school's after-school sports and dance enrichment programs. The dance students recently had the opportunity to shine on stage for their

families and staff to see. It was a heartwarming experience to watch them show such enthusiasm and confidence as they danced with big smiles on their faces.

We are also gearing up to send the sixth-graders to science camp. This is a long-standing tradition at Pomona, and it is one that our students and families look forward to each year. This year we are thrilled to have more students than ever participating in this memorable trip.

It is hard to believe that we have done so much already

during this school year, and that we still have so much more. Right around the corner our students and families will be getting the opportunity to engage in fun family events like the Jog-a-thon and our Spring Carnival. In addition to raising the bar on their academic experiences, it has also been wonderful for us to continue to add more enrichment opportunities too. Our goal continues to be focused on creating an environment in which all students can thrive. #Pomonapride.



Everett A. Rea *Elementary (K-6)*

661 Hamilton St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6905 • rea.nmusd.us



Dr. Lorie Hoggard
Principal

AVID Family Nights

Rea AVID Family Nights promote family involvement in each student's journey to college. The March AVID Family Night focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The evening began with dinner and an informative PTA meeting. Students in Robotics Club, led by Mrs. Kane,

Mr. Costello, and Mr. Africano, held a showcase to demonstrate their robotics projects. During the evening, students and families engaged in hands-on activities to explore the science of earthquakes. Students and families learned about plate tectonics, built a seismograph with shoeboxes, and constructed Lego structures to test on the earthquake simulator. Students from Newport Harbor High School and Early College High School AVID programs served as volunteers at the event, interacting with our students and families as they completed each learning station. Our next AVID Family Night is in May and will focus on parent-child activities to explore college and career.



Students learned about plate tectonics by modeling with graham crackers and frosting.

Sonora *Elementary (PK-6)*

966 Sonora Rd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7955 • sonora.nmusd.us



Mia Doidge
Principal

Congratulations to Our Champion Readers

Our Sonora Eagles are flying high! On March 23rd, sixteen of our fourth- and fifth-grade students participated at the Oasis Senior Center in Corona Del Mar in a local reading competition called the "Battle of the Books." This was part of a larger national reading program called "America's Battle of the Books."

The students had committed themselves to reading 20 different book titles from September to March! Under the guidance of our LMT, Suzanne Chan, and one of our fifth-grade teachers, Hilary Fenn, they then reviewed questions and answers every week to help prepare for the competition. There were a total of six schools who competed between the cities of Newport Beach and Costa Mesa. Each school was represented by two teams, and each team battled against the other by being asked questions about any of the book titles.



The audience was filled with suspense, and the room was at a complete hush as the students huddled together to come up with their answers, which consisted of the title and author of the book. At the end, our Sonora Eagles took second place!

We are beyond proud of their dedication, perseverance, and the positive attitudes they showed during this competition. They all demonstrated amazing teamwork and Eagle Pride!

Charles W. TeWinkle *Middle School (7-8)*

3224 California Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • 714/424-7965 • tewinkle.nmusd.us



Ixchel Sanchez
Principal

Future Trojan Event

TeWinkle Middle School hosted the first annual Future Trojan Event in conjunction with Open House. All Future Trojan families were invited to the event where we shared all the current and new electives TeWinkle will be offering during the 2023-2024 school year. TeWinkle is thrilled and excited to showcase all learning opportunities such as green architecture, medical detectives, drama, yoga, and continue to expand our current

electives such as Spanish, Art, Band, Choir, and Robotics. Our goal as always is to create a positive setting that allows all our students to learn in a safe environment. After the introduction of the elective courses, our families had the opportunity to walk the campus and speak with our teachers, enjoy free cotton candy, photo booths, a live DJ, and food trucks. We look forward to working together with our community to explore all the learning opportunities TeWinkle has to offer. We are thrilled to welcome the new and the returning students to TeWinkle Middle School for the upcoming school year.



Victoria *Elementary (K-6)*

1025 Victoria St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6985 • victoria.nmusd.us



Dr. Aaron Peralta
Principal

Servant Leadership

At Victoria Elementary one of our goals is to promote servant leadership in our scholars. We are proud that our Victoria Student Council took on the challenge again to have us compete in the City of Costa Mesa's Battery Recycling

Contest. Americans purchase nearly 3 billion dry-celled batteries every year to power toys, remotes, radios, computers, and watches. Our students and families learned that these harmful substances permeate into the soil, groundwater and surface water through landfills and also release toxins into the air when they are burnt in municipal waste combustors. Our Voyager's efforts saved over 400 pounds of these batteries from going into the landfill. Congratulations to our Voyagers and thank you for your environmental stewardship!



Whittier *Elementary (K-6)*

1800 Whittier Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6990 • whittier.nmusd.us



Randy Lempert
Principal

Time for Flag Deck!

If it's Friday morning and you hear music playing on our campus, it must be time for Whittier's Flag Deck! The Whittier community gathers outside each Friday to celebrate our weekly accomplishments and reestablish our focus.

Students begin the ceremony by saying the Pledge of Allegiance and reciting the Whittier Pledge, in which students enthusiastically say that "they always work with excellence." Whittier PRIDE is always a focus, and during Flag Deck, students can be recognized for being caught doing something unique during the week.

Whether it is for passing an Accelerated Reader, being kind to others, or showing determination in the classroom, Flag Deck provides the opportunity to highlight all the fantastic behaviors that students demonstrate every day. Once a month, teachers can recognize students that have shown their best at Whittier with a Student of the Month award. These students are called to the front of the school to receive a certificate and a hardy Whittier Yes from their classmates.

Over the years, Whittier's Flag Deck has been a ritual that brings together our community and showcases its best. The enthusiasm from our Flag Deck ties a lovely ribbon on the week and helps keep Whittier's positive climate and culture moving forward.

Wilson *Elementary (K-6)*

801 Wilson St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6995 • wilson.nmusd.us



Dr. Jennifer Heckert
Principal

Wilson Wildcats are Dancers!

During the 22-23 school year Wilson students are engaged in various after school enrichment learning experiences. One such experience is dance! We are grateful to have dance instruction available to all Wilson students. Students work with their teacher

to create amazing dances. The culmination is a fun dance concert for all involved, including our Wilson families! Students have a chance to demonstrate their learning and creativity, express themselves, and just have FUN! Thank you to our community partners and NMUSD extended learning programs for this valuable opportunity!



Woodland *Elementary* (K-2)

2025 Garden Ln., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/515-6945 • woodland.nmusd.us



Dr. Amy Nagy
Principal

Field Trips

Once again, Woodland Dragons are taking field trips! During the pandemic, we weren't able to travel. We are so excited to get out into our community again. Some of the places we have explored or will be exploring include the fire station, planetarium, aquarium, nature center, farm, and playhouse. These experiences create excitement and curiosity around learning. We also know that these real-world experiences help our students understand their world. When students leave the school they see connections between their classroom and their community. These multisensory trips can bring about enthusiasm for learning that cannot be replicated in our classrooms. We are so grateful to be traveling again. We thank our KWPF for helping to fund these trips. Woodland and its surrounding communities are a GREAT place to learn!



Bicycle Parts–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 NMUSD in the subject line)

Entries must be received by May 15, 2023

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

Thank you **Barkate / Nehi Orthodontics** for sponsoring our contests.

www.BarkateNehiSmiles.com

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GOOSENECK	WHEELS
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Congratulations to the February Contest Winner Rachel Corell!

Parent To Parent



Jodie Lynn

A Helicopter Parent

Q. I have been a helicopter parent for so long that my children, ages seven and nine, are extremely apprehensive of taking any risks in various activities or doing anything where they may get even slightly hurt or disappointed. What have I done and how do I correct it?

A. There have been overbearing and overprotective parents for years; don't beat yourself up too badly. It's easy for parents to go overboard when it comes to their kids. However, this can continue into college years and beyond, but it doesn't have to. Let go of this habit, even if it takes a lot of time; it's necessary. Your parenting style and the way you view your children will need to change. You'll need to allow them to get used to the idea that they can actually try things on their own and whatever the outcome, it's all going to be okay in the end. Go ahead and sign them up for things that they are truly interested in and will most likely do well at. A few successes will build their self-confidence and they will perhaps want to do more things that are new and different. Just be sure that you stop yourself if you think about interfering unnecessarily, even if you know that they're heading for something rough. It's the mistakes and bumps in life that we all learn from that make us stronger individuals, better able to handle future situations. We have to be allowed to fail.

Activities Away from Technology

Q. My 10-year-old son only wants to stay indoors, play video games and eat chips and the like. He doesn't like sports. I'm trying to get him outdoors and moving but he complains about the heat. Any ideas on how to get him away from becoming a couch potato and away from the TV?

A. There are plenty of programs that your son might like such as swimming, drawing, painting, camping, making pottery, volunteering at a pet shelter, cooking, graphic design for kids, etc. The whole idea is to get him into a scheduled activity three to five days a week. Some of the facilities where the activities take place have lunch served to the kids. It's usually a pretty healthy one at that. They should give you a weekly copy of them. If not, ask for one. Some programs allow kids to bring their lunch. This means that he will be eating less of the bad things and more of the good. He might even decide that eating fruit is a good break from chips. If your son can find something he likes and can participate in it with a friend, he'll be more willing to stick with it, especially if there's no pressure to be a super star. This will also give him less time to play video games or to watch TV.

Getting a Driver's License

Q. What is the point in forcing a 16-year-old kid to get their driver's license if they don't want to drive? My husband and I do not agree on this topic. Our daughter doesn't want to drive and her dad is really trying to convince her to anyway. She has anxiety and the more he talks about it the more she backs away and gets upset.

A. While getting a license among teens was wildly popular just a few years ago, more and more are not so keen on the idea in today's society. A large percentage of teens are realizing that it's a big move to start driving and more responsibility than initially perceived. In fact, driving can be scary to many individuals regardless of their age, especially if they have anxiety. There are many reasons for the current trend of teens not wanting a license and a lot of parents are quite happy about it. Car insurance alone for a teen driver is expensive but other things like the cost of an additional car, gas and car repairs can be overwhelming. The constant worry and concerns about the safety of other drivers as well as that of the teen only adds to the challenges of the situation. Don't push your daughter to drive if she doesn't want to. It could actually make things much worse in the end. She's only 16, give her some time to come to terms with it instead of piling on extra anxiety. It's not worth it.

Internship at College

Q. Our 18-year-old son is supposed to have an internship this summer at the college he is going to be attending in the fall. However, he wants to live in a college apartment and this is where we have a problem. He's never been away and we are apprehensive of the environment he could be introduced to during the "summer" party group. Any rules that you could suggest?

A. Whether he is going early for an internship or moving into a dorm for the fall, this is a big step and most parents, as well as the kids themselves, are more than anxious about leaving home and entering college. If for some reason you feel like he really isn't ready to live on his own or not sure if he could easily be persuaded to party with the summer group, you might want to talk with the adult in charge of his internship and find out if there are other options for his housing. Oftentimes, there are families who take in college students just for the summer, especially if they are new to the area. It's more personalized because the people are doing it because they enjoy mentoring new kids and showing them around. You and your son can even meet them beforehand to get to know them a little bit better and you can ask about their rules and expectations. Either way, we have to let our kids go, let them make their own choices and hope for the best.

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