

FREE

School News

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Covering the Hawthorne School District



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January / February 2021



Then and Now...



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Every child deserves a chance to succeed!
¡Cada niño merece la oportunidad de triunfar!

Preschool Program

HSD Preschools offer early childhood educational programs for children who are three and four-years old. Families must meet State income requirements.

Programa de Preescolar

Las Escuelas Preescolares de HSD ofrecen programas educativos de primera infancia para niños de tres y cuatro años de edad. Las familias deben cumplir con los requisitos de ingresos del Estado.



Hawthorne School District Preschool



The Benefits of Preschool

The most important years of a child's development is in the first five years of life. Children who receive a high-quality educational experience, in their early years, develop the skills necessary to succeed in life.

Children who are involved in preschool:

- Develop pre-reading, early writing, and math skills
- Enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Develop emotional behaviors and social skills

Los Beneficios de la Educación Preescolar

Los primeros cinco años de vida son los más importantes en el desarrollo del niño. Los niños que reciben una experiencia educativa de alta calidad, en sus primeros años, desarrollan las habilidades necesarias para triunfar en la vida.

Los niños que participan en la educación preescolar:

- Desarrollan habilidades en matemáticas, escritura y lectura temprana.
- Mejoran el pensamiento crítico y habilidades en resolución de problemas.
- Desarrollan habilidades sociales y comportamiento emocional.



HSD Preschool

13928 Kornblum Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250
(310) 970-7550 Phone | (310) 970-7555 Fax



A Year Like No Other

When I became a teacher in the Hawthorne School District thirty-nine years ago, I could have never imagined a situation that would require our students to be at home learning on computers for months and months. At that time computers were not part of almost every household. We had one computer in each classroom that was the size of a small refrigerator and didn't have many abilities. They were called Apple IIEs. They were usually used to play games like Oregon Trails or some math quizzes. This certainly isn't the case today.

Our teachers, students, and parents have had to learn a whole new definition of, "going to school." There are not very many of us who prefer this new normal to our traditional school. I know that I am anxiously awaiting the time we can have students return to campus. I want to see the joy in our students when they see friends, their teachers, and their principal. Unfortunately, we aren't ready to do that just yet.

We have applied for waivers to allow our youngest learners back to school. With the current surges in COVID-19 cases, we don't know when we will see approval. I want to assure our stakeholders that when we do return, we have many protocols in place to ensure the safety of all students and staff. We are doing everything we can to ensure an environment that allows students, staff, and families to feel safe and secure at school. We have purchased plexiglass shields, masks, additional cleaning materials, signage, and improved technology to assist in our transition back to school. I want to assure our school community that there will be options available to remain in a distance learning model through the end of this school year if you do not feel it is the right time to return to in-person instruction.

I want to thank all of the members of our Hawthorne School District community for your support, understanding and patience during this unprecedented time. I know it has not been easy. You are all the reason I am so happy I have spent my career in the Hawthorne School District!



Dr. Helen E. Morgan
Superintendent

Un año como ningún otro

Cuando me convertí en maestra del Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne hace treinta y nueve años, nunca podría haber imaginado una situación que requiriera que nuestros estudiantes estuvieran en casa aprendiendo en computadoras durante meses y meses. En ese momento, las computadoras no formaban parte de casi todos los hogares. Teníamos una computadora en cada salón de clases que era del tamaño de un refrigerador pequeño y no tenía muchas habilidades. Fueron llamadas Apple IIE. Por lo general, se usaban para jugar juegos como Oregon Trails o algunas pruebas de matemáticas. Este ciertamente no es el caso hoy.

Nuestros maestros, estudiantes y padres han tenido que aprender una definición completamente nueva de "ir a la escuela". No somos muchos los que preferimos esta nueva normalidad a nuestra escuela tradicional. Sé que estoy esperando ansiosamente el momento en que podamos hacer que los estudiantes regresen a las instalaciones escolares. Quiero ver la alegría en nuestros estudiantes cuando ven a sus amigos, sus maestros y su director(a). Desafortunadamente, todavía no estamos listos para hacer eso.

Hemos solicitado exenciones para permitir que nuestros estudiantes más pequeños regresen a la escuela. Con los aumentos actuales en los casos de COVID-19, no sabemos cuándo veremos la aprobación. Quiero asegurarles a nuestros interesados que cuando regresemos, tendremos muchos protocolos para garantizar la seguridad de todos los estudiantes y el personal. Estamos haciendo todo lo posible para garantizar un entorno que permita a los estudiantes, el personal y las familias sentirse seguros en la escuela. Hemos comprado escudos de Plexiglas, máscaras, materiales de limpieza adicionales, señalización y tecnología mejorada para ayudar en nuestra transición de regreso a la escuela. Quiero asegurarle a nuestra comunidad escolar que habrá opciones disponibles para permanecer en un modelo de aprendizaje a distancia hasta el final de este año escolar si no cree que es el momento adecuado para regresar a la instrucción en persona.

Quiero agradecer a todos los miembros de nuestra comunidad del Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne por su apoyo, comprensión y paciencia durante este tiempo sin precedentes. Sé que no ha sido fácil. ¡Ustedes son la razón por la que estoy tan feliz de haber ejercido mi profesión en el Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne!

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School News

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562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

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CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION:


Emily Ung

COPY EDITORS:

Lisa Brock, Kate Karp & Anna Zappia

SOCIAL MEDIA: Nancy Lueder

Netragrednik by Neta Madison

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SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193

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Kay Coop
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562/493-3193
kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com



Neta Madison
Netragrednik

Happy New Year and here's to a healthy year!

This is our 11th year publishing the Hawthorne School District *School News*. There have been many changes throughout the years, but we all are aware this year has been a challenge like no other. However, the parents and students are very fortunate to have Superintendent Dr. Morgan at the helm. She has a positive attitude and is focused on overcoming the challenges.

I have often thought this must be very confusing to very young children who have been told too much screen time is not good for them and now they are learning by screen time. Zoom has definitely taken on a whole new meaning for all of us.

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices since we have converted to digital.

Our next issue is March 3, 2021.

Be sure to enter this word search contest and the one on the back page. Remember all ages may enter!

Kind Words–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 Hawthorne in the subject line.

Entries must be received by February 20, 2021

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

- | | |
|----------|------------|
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Bud Carson *Middle School*

13838 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-1908 • www.budcarsonmiddle.org



LaTima Jones
Principal

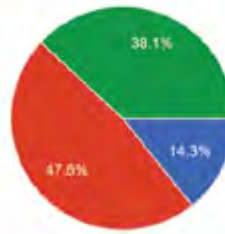
Support in Distance-Learning

Bud Carson Middle School has implemented a class for social and emotional learning (SEL) that is facilitated by the school counselor, Ms. Hart. The BCMS counselor class addresses empathy, regulating emotions and problem solving. The students meet twice a week for a three-week rotation of SEL through Second Step lessons.

The Bud Carson Middle School counselor has the opportunity to highlight themes with current events and provide skill building related to topics like managing stress and self-care. Ms. Hart aims to make the lessons relevant and interactive. Her favorite thing about teaching support classes is the ability to offer opportunities for connection. The students get the chance to know their school counselor and build comfort to reach out for support.

In addition to the counselor support class, the school counselor implements schoolwide activities like Kindness

What's your favorite of the 4 second step themes?
21 responses



- managing relationships and social conflict
- mindset and goals
- recognizing bullying and harassment
- thoughts emotions and decisions

Club and Game Lunch to encourage a supportive and connected school community. We have found creative ways to continue connecting during distance learning with Daily Kindness Quotes in the morning announcements and wearing a theme shirt on HuskTee Mondays to show school spirit.

This pie chart depicts a participation poll about the Second Step themes, and most students selected mindset and goals. Students learn to identify goals and the importance of telling people their goal. When you let others know your goal, they can support your achievement of your goal.

Eucalyptus *Elementary*

12044 S. Eucalyptus Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-3369 • www.hsd-ca.schoolloop.com



Mike Goldstein
Principal

Sustainable Arts Program

When we are finally able to return to campus, we have a surprise for you, in room 100! For the past 2 years, our 4th and 5th graders worked with RuckusRoots on a sustainable arts program called Wild Art. We learned about local wildlife, creative re-use techniques like turning plastic bags into art, and visual arts skills like painting and color theory. Last year before the school closure, artist Julio Muñoz and wildlife expert Miguel Ordeñana of the Natural History Museum brought the program to life for 4th graders at Eucalyptus. Each student used a recycled plastic bag as a canvas, to create a wildlife painting using technique and color theory they learned during the process. The artists from RuckusRoots then created murals using all (nearly 200) paintings, that are now hanging on the walls and decorating room 100, where our 3rd – 5th graders eat lunch. A video of the project was also made, and shared via distance learning, with our 4th and 5th grade students.



Christine Spehar (RuckusRoots Founder/Executive Director) and Allegra Bick-Maurischat (Program Coordinator) hang 1 of the 6 Wild Art murals in room 100.

Hawthorne *Math & Science Academy*

4467 W. Broadway, Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/973-8620 • www.hawthornemsa.org



Esau Berumen
Principal

Peer Advocates

By Jessica Vazquez, Counselor

HMSA Peer Advocates was founded this fall by a group of students who were looking to make a difference at HMSA. HMSA Peer Advocates' goal is to be the voice for their peers on issues not often discussed, like inclusivity, student mental health, and on- and off-campus resources.

HMSA student advocates come together once a week to discuss and plan events that ensure that all HMSA students always feel included and supported at HMSA and, more importantly, through distance learning. In October, HMSA Peer Advocates in collaboration with the HMSA School Culture Task Force planned and conducted a schoolwide assembly focused on school culture, in which

they outlined the importance of inclusivity, diversity and student voice. Throughout the semester, they also worked with the counselors and counseling interns to provide Counseling Drop-In Circle Talks in which any HMSA students could virtually join in and talk about any issues students might be facing in their lives, like grief, anxiety, academic pressure, social relationships, future uncertainty, self-esteem, family relationships and home dynamics. Counseling Drop-In Circle Talks will continue this semester once a week virtually and will be available to all HMSA students.

In addition, HMSA Peer Advocates are planning and organizing Student Wellness Week. During this week, they plan to conduct virtual events that will promote physical and mental health wellness for all students and staff.

Hawthorne *Middle School*

4366 W. 129th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-0167 • www.hawthornemiddle.org



Akila Jones
Principal

Welcome to HMS Ms. Cardillo

Hawthorne Middle School would like to welcome Ms. Gina Cardillo as our new Assistant Principal. Ms. Cardillo has worked as the Assistant Principal of Eucalyptus Elementary

School for the past two years. She replaced Ms. Jennifer Annett who is working to support HSD families as the Learning Loss Mitigation Administrator. We wish Ms. Annett the best of luck as she embarks on a new endeavor, and welcome Ms. Cardillo to our Hawk's nest. Together, we will support students on their journey towards educational excellence. Ms. Cardillo has been learning a lot in her transition to middle school. She enjoys being in classrooms interacting with students and supporting teachers. During her free time, Ms. Cardillo enjoys cooking, visiting new places and traveling. Due to the pandemic, visiting new places and traveling have been limited so she has been experimenting with new recipes instead.

Welcome to HMS Ms. Cardillo!



Jefferson *Elementary*

4091 W. 139th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-9423 • www.hsdjefferson.org



Josh Godin
Principal

Anyone Expecting a Delivery?

By David Rosato, Dean

Amazon Prime has nothing on Jefferson School and Hawthorne Police Department School Resource Officer, Alan Weinreb, this holiday season. Jefferson's Dean of Students, David Rosato, and Officer Weinreb surprised families on December 15th and delivered gift cards and certificates to students who demonstrated hard work, dedication, excellent effort and high attendance in the first trimester of distance learning. Thirteen students were excited to find out that not only did they get recognized for their efforts, but would also get to go shopping at Target with their much deserved gift card. It was a happy day for everyone involved, and a great way to start the holiday season...So students, sign in to class and try your hardest, because you never know when the Jefferson Prime delivery truck and Officer Weinreb will show up with a delivery.



Kornblum *Elementary*

3620 W. El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/970-4294 • www.hsdkornblum.org



Marisa Stewart
Principal

Virtual Victory

Teachers and students at Kornblum School are ringing in the New Year with some new resources to support our virtual learning environment.

Kornblum staff chose to spend COVID-19 funds on some wonderful applications that will support our students through this virtual learning environment. New for 2021, students will see new applications in their Clever program. We hope that these new, high-interest applications will help motivate our students to thrive in this distanced environment.

Freckle will help teachers differentiate their instruction to reach every student at their own level across the areas of math, English language arts, social studies, and science. Teachers can track student progress. Raz Kids is an online

reading program with interactive ebooks and downloadable books and reading quizzes which allow teachers to assign texts right at their students' independent reading level. Students work independently in these applications on their asynchronous days (days when they are not live with their classroom teacher).

In addition to these applications, our teachers will have access to Flocabulary. Flocabulary has a library of songs, videos, and activities for online learning. These educational raps promote literacy and spark creativity. The students will also tell you that they are just fun!

Kornblum teachers have also received drawing tablets to aid them in their virtual lessons. They have been doing an incredible job teaching our students, and with the use of these tools, we know that we will continue to support our students until we are safe to all be on campus again.



Wendy Ostensen
Principal

Anti-Bullying Art Contest

By Francisco Diaz, Dean

Our PVMS students had the wonderful opportunity to participate in the 2020 Anti-Bullying Art Contest sponsored by New Star Family Justice Center. The task was to create a piece of art or write poetry that represented the theme “My Reasons for Not Bullying.” Students used their creativity through art and writing to express themselves and stand up against bullying behaviors. PVMS takes bullying seriously, and during distance learning, our

students continue to receive Olweus Bullying Prevention classes and are also provided with social and emotional support.

Our three site winners were Samantha Galvan, Athziri Chavez and Aryelle Warren. Samantha Galvan’s poem was awarded first place among all seventh-graders districtwide, and Athziri Chavez’s drawing was awarded second place among all eighth-graders.

We want to thank all of our participants and congratulate all the winners. You did a fantastic job representing PVMS!



Samantha Galvan and Athziri Chavez, PVMS Anti-bullying contest winners

Ramona *Elementary*

4617 W. 136th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-7189 • www.hsdrmona.org



Dr. Patricia Ray
Principal

Sharing Their Learning

Engaging students in hands-on activities can be a challenge during distance learning, but our teachers are finding creative workarounds to this problem. Kathy Carbajal, a Special Projects teacher, recently taught the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Forms and Function unit to Mrs. Mace's second-grade class.

To prepare for the lessons, Ms. Carbajal assembled the necessary materials like seeds, pipe cleaners, feathers, and a dropper for each child, and arranged for their parents to pick them up in the school office. The students were excited to get their materials and go to work. They began by viewing videos and discussing how inventors often get their ideas from observing nature. Then they just took off!

The students were excited each time Ms. Carbajal went to their classroom, and they were eager to share their findings with the entire class. When teaching the germination lesson, the children connected to their prior knowledge by describing fruits, vegetables, and flowers from the different regions in the United States and different countries. One boy even logged in from Honduras and introduced the class to a sapote!

The class is looking forward to completing the final project after winter break. Students will use materials from the PLTW goody bag to build a device that will disperse seeds across a large area. This experience has been so successful that Ms. Carbajal will teach these lessons in additional second-grade classrooms.

We started the school year with six PLTW teachers, and four more were trained over the winter break. It is our goal to continue to grow the program so that all of our students can experience the joy of engaging in authentic, creative problem-solving.



Washington *Elementary*

4339 W. 129th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-3422 • www.hsdwashington.org



Maritza Cruz-Brown
Principal

Social-Emotional Learning

Students have been participating in distance learning since last spring. We know that things have been more challenging during virtual learning. This is why it is imperative that our students' social-emotional needs are met so they can be successful in school and in everyday life. At Washington School, our students have the opportunity to participate in programs and classes that assist with understanding their emotions while learning at the same time.

Our Washington Wildcats continue to be engaged in distance learning. Our students in Transitional Kindergarten, first grade, and Special Day Class are also participating in Virtual Secrets of the Heart, an arts-based, social-emotional learning program. During the 27-week program, students embark in a journey of self-discovery,

where they learn more about who they are. They also learn about kindness, courage, compassion, and creativity. This helps them to experience happiness in their everyday lives.

In addition to this program, our students in kindergarten through fifth grade also participate in Second Step lessons with our school counselor, Ms. Ashley Ho. During support class on their asynchronous days, students engage in activities to practice conversations and interact with each other. Lessons focus on empathy, respect, and emotion management. Students have a safe space to express their experiences and the different emotions they are feeling during this challenging time.

At Washington, our students have the opportunity to participate in programs and classes that allow them to process their emotions and have fun. We will always work endlessly to ensure that our students' needs are met as we continue on this virtual journey.

York *Elementary*

11838 S. York Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-1189 • www.hsdnyork.org



Jessica Moore
Principal

In the 'Write' Direction

While reflecting on the importance of writing for her first-grade students, Mrs. Munoz pursued grant funds through a major grant-funding program to purchase special daily and penmanship journals for her students. To her excitement, the project was recently funded, and the writing journals were distributed to the students to use during distance learning.

Mrs. Munoz's project pursuit came from a desire to give students tangible practice with printing clearly and to assist them with not losing their writing focus while trying to locate keys on a keyboard.

"By being able to provide my students with writing journals, we can have virtual lessons on penmanship, letter formation, and take advantage of a critical moment in their little lives, which is their ability to perfect their fine-motor skills," she said.

One of her students, K.D., eagerly shared how much the writing journals mean to him.

"I like to use the journals to write, color, and draw whenever I want to express myself during my free time, especially after school," he said.

York School is so glad that our first-grade students are heading in the "write" direction, one letter at a time!



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Zela Davis *Elementary*

13435 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/679-1771 • www.hsdzeladavis.org



Matt Rohrer
Principal

Every Student, Every Day

From the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, when students and schools were forced into a distance-learning model, both the Hawthorne School District and Zela Davis Elementary were committed to the idea that students should have the opportunity to experience live interaction with school-site staff every instructional day. This was a primary consideration when

developing our instructional model for both synchronous and asynchronous school days.

Support-staff teachers play a vital role in this commitment. These teachers work on-site as coaches, deans, counselors and content-expert teachers but had to quickly adapt to the direct-student-support model. These teachers are organized into a rotational schedule that allowed them to work directly with students on their asynchronous learning days. Each teacher applies their

content expertise to work with students in small groups to help address learning loss stemming from the distance-learning model.

In addition to our small-group interventions, Zela Davis has a learning-loss-mitigation teacher. The learning-loss-mitigation teacher works with students in a small-group setting in the afternoons. Her focus is on language arts and math support. She collaborates with classroom teachers to establish areas of need and then creates lessons and activities to help students improve baseline skills and increase overall academic confidence.

Zela Davis and the Hawthorne School District are committed to providing the best possible education to our students during these extraordinary times. We will continue to provide daily live interaction, expand our support programs, and implement innovative solutions that support student learning and meet the needs of our families.

Road Trip—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 Hawthorne in the subject line.

Entries must be received by February 20, 2021

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$25 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

- | | |
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| MOTEL | CELL PHONE |
| HUMOR | RADIO |
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| CAMERA | FLASHLIGHT |
| CAR GAMES | CREDIT CAR |
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| SNACKS | |

