

School News

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Covering the Ocean View School District



Volume 18, Issue 109

January 2023

The New and Improved Vista View Middle School



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SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Michael
Conroy**
Superintendent

The New and Improved Vista View Middle School

Last fall, students returned to a new and improved Vista View Middle School, following a \$29 million modernization. Once all the finishing touches were completed, the Ocean View School District (OVSD) hosted a special ribbon-cutting ceremony that featured local dignitaries and tours of the new state-of-the-art facilities.

The modernization project, funded through Measure R, a general obligation bond, called for a totally re-envisioned school, which required a complete overhaul of the campus. The exterior of the school and interior hallways are adorned with vibrant images that reflect the STEAM-focused (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) learning environment of the school.

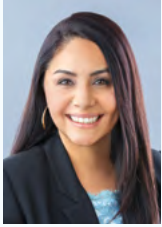
The project scope included building new science classrooms, a culinary arts center with an outdoor garden, a technology rich media/library center, an esports technology classroom outfitted with advanced computers for competitive gaming, a custom lunch shelter, a new physical fitness course, and more.

The classrooms at Vista View have been thoughtfully designed to provide opportunities for innovation, hands-on learning, and collaboration with peers. The new facilities support Vista View's comprehensive STEAM program and a variety of stimulating electives, including Marine Biology, Environmental Science, Google Tech, Project-Based Learning Elective, Esports, Culinary Arts, Leadership, Media Tech, Visual Art, Guitar, Beginning and Advanced Strings, and Beginning and Advanced Band.

This magnificent new school delivers an exciting array of learning opportunities and activities for our students that will prepare them for success in high school and beyond.



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Oak View is Golden!

*By Patricia Singer, President,
Board of Trustees*

Happy New Year! I am so pleased to be providing leadership for the OVSD Board of Trustees as President this year. I was just elected to my second 4-year term as a Trustee, and this is my second term as President of the Board as well. Our entire Board is looking forward to a collaborative and productive year.

Congratulations to Oak View Elementary School on being selected to receive the prestigious Golden Bell Award, sponsored by the California School Boards Association. The award recognizes outstanding public school programs for innovation, sustainability, and best practices that facilitate positive student outcomes. Oak View's Owl's Nest program won in the "Innovation in a Time of Crisis" category for keeping students engaged mentally, emotionally, and physically during the pandemic and beyond.

Oak View Elementary created the Owl's Nest, a safe learning haven designed to keep students on campus, increase in-person instruction, provide internet access, and strategically incorporate intervention into students' days to fill in the gaps that may have been exacerbated by the pandemic. This innovative program helps students continue to persevere in the face of insurmountable challenges with resilience, courage and kindness.

"The Owl's Nest program really motivates students to keep coming to school, and it has definitely helped students continue their learning and close the achievement gap," commented Jenna Landero, Principal of Oak View Elementary School.



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Kay Coop
 Founder/Publisher



Happy New Year!

A new year is always exciting with renewed hope for a better year than the one before. As you read the articles in this issue you will see there is lots of reasons to be hopeful. Students are engaged and focused. You will read about students resetting goals, learning California history in social studies class, the arts are alive in the classrooms, students are striving to reach the school district's Reading Matters campaign goal of 1,000,000 minutes by May, learning about composting, STEAM, and so much more...you'll want to find a comfy chair and plan to read awhile.

Be sure to enter our word search contest on page 24 (all ages may enter) and one entry will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

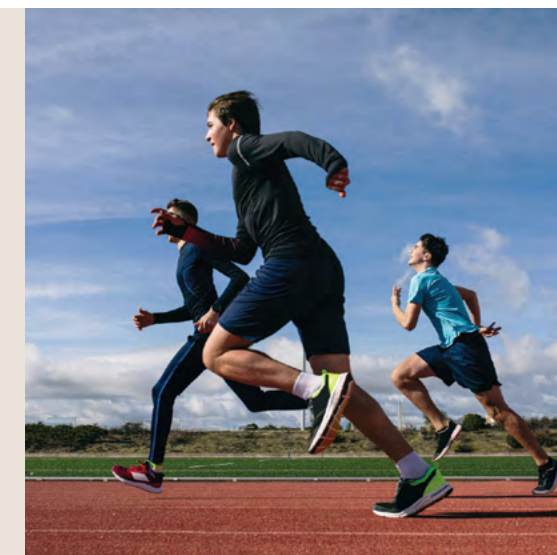


Our Next issue is March 15.

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

Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeons Help Kids Heal Around Their Growth Plates



Torin Cunningham, M.D.
medical director,
Orthopedic
Center,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

The bones of adults and children share many risks for injury, but children's bones are unique. Children have areas of cartilage located near the ends of their bones called growth plates, which are the last parts of their bones to harden. Because of this, growing kids can have a unique injury called a growth plate fracture.

Growth plate fractures are most common in fingers, wrists, ankles, and feet, but even occur in knees. These injuries are more common in boys because girls tend to finish growing earlier than boys. The risk of a growth plate fracture peaks in adolescence and is usually due to competitive sports or recreational activities. If not treated properly, growth plate fractures can stunt a child's growth or lead to crooked or uneven limbs.

Fortunately, pediatric orthopedic surgeons are specially trained to help children heal correctly after they have suffered a growth plate fracture. These surgeons complete additional training to operate on growth plates and soft tissue, providing specific care for children's bone and joint disorders.

Besides growth plate injuries, pediatric orthopedic surgeons also treat a wide range of pediatric injuries to ensure children can heal and grow properly.

Pediatric orthopedic surgeons also specialize in caring for:

- Bone tumors
- Foot and lower extremities
- Hand and upper extremities
- Hip deformities and reconstruction
- Spinal deformities and scoliosis

At MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach, the Orthopedic Center is dedicated to helping your children grow and heal from growth plate and other pediatric injuries properly.

For more information on pediatric orthopedic specialists, visit millerchildrens.org/ortho or call (714) 377-6993.



Charly, Age 17



It takes a village.

Charly suffered a fall while biking — a severe brain trauma that threatened his life. Until Miller Children's & Women's Hospital helped his brain heal. Our therapists helped him walk and talk again and our highly specialized pediatric team dedicated themselves to his recovery. Because we knew, to lift Charly back up again, it would take a village. So when we watched Charly walk the stage at high school graduation — supported by his physical therapist — we knew he'd only keep going.

Learn more.

millerchildrens.org/care

Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach
Cherese Mari Lauhere Children's Village
Outpatient Specialty Centers from the
South Bay to Orange County

Orange County Department of Education



Dr. Al Mijares
Superintendent

On a crisp December morning, the City of Westminster and the Orange County Department of Education celebrated the opening of a new park honoring the historic case of *Mendez v. Westminster*, which put an end to forced segregation in California's public schools while laying the foundation for the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark *Brown v. Board* decision.

City officials, local dignitaries, students and community members turned out in force for *Mendez* Tribute Monument Park's dedication ceremony, marking the completion of a five-year collaborative effort. But a few days before its official opening, I had an opportunity to preview the park with Sylvia Mendez, a civil rights icon whose story is central to the case.

Nearly 80 years earlier, in 1943, Gonzalo and Felicitas Mendez sought to enroll Sylvia and her two brothers, Geronimo and Gonzalo, Jr., at 17th Street School, known then as "the white school." Despite being American citizens who spoke English — the family lived and worked on a Westminster farm — they were turned away and directed instead to Hoover Elementary, a campus designated for Mexican American children.

Sylvia Mendez was just 8 years old at the time. She would later describe Hoover as "a terrible little shack" with dirt for a playground.

The Mendez family ultimately hired an attorney and teamed up with four other Orange County families who had similarly been denied access to their neighborhood schools. Their case, *Mendez, et al v. Westminster et al*, argued that 5,000 children throughout the county were unjustly harmed by unconstitutional segregation policies.

In 1946, U.S. District Court Judge Paul J. McCormick ruled in favor of the five families, and his decision was later upheld by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The case ended on April 14, 1947 — one day before Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Seven years later, the Supreme Court declared segregated schools unconstitutional in its sweeping *Brown v. Board* decision.

Gonzalo Mendez died in 1964 at age 51, and his wife Felicitas passed in 1998 — but not before urging her daughter to share the family's story far and wide.

On Monday, Nov. 28, bronze statues of Gonzalo and Felicitas were unveiled for the first time in the new quarter-acre park, which also features a large textbook monument and statues of two students, symbolizing the children impacted by the court's decision. Surrounding these displays are drought-resistant plants, a dry creek bed and interactive stations with content from OCDE's staff of professional educators, who also developed lesson plans and activities for teachers.

As the towering likenesses of her parents were revealed, Sylvia Mendez and her siblings stood front and center. Other invited guests took photos and applauded.

"I'm just so happy," Sylvia said. "I know my mother and family are looking at us from heaven, and they are so happy. Thank you for honoring them."

In this season of gratitude, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mendezes, along with the Estrada, Guzman, Palomino and Ramirez families, all of whom fought for access and equality on behalf of generations of students they would never meet. As Felicitas Mendez said, they were taking action not just for their own children, but para todos los niños — for all children.

See OC DEPT OF ED • Page 24

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714/374-5338 • www.hbpl.org

By Melissa Ronning, Senior Youth Services Librarian

Board Game Afternoon

This winter we are excited to introduce some new programs for kids and families. Our Main St. branch is adding a new program called Board Game Afternoon. This is an all-ages program where you can play library provided games or bring your own!

Read to a Tree

We are also excited to introduce a new quarterly storytime offering in partnership with the Shipley Nature Center! Join us each season to read about all things wild and wonderful, then enjoy the Nature Center with your family for their new Read to a Tree activity. The Shipley Nature Center Storytime Winter Edition is set for Saturday, January 28 at 11:00 am.

Tween S.T.E.A.M

Looking for something to interest your tweens? Students ages 8-12 are invited to join our Wise Owl Book Club. The Wise Owl Tween Book Club meets every month to discuss a book and meet the author! The first 15 readers who register will receive a copy of the book to keep, limited to one copy per household. We are also introducing our new Tween S.T.E.A.M. Team, a club for tweens ages 8-12 that meets every second Thursday at 4pm in the B Room! Join us every month for a S.T.E.A.M. activity or craft, hang out, have fun, and learn something new.

Dare to Prepare: Teen Driving Workshop

If you have teenagers who are getting ready to drive, you may want to come to our Dare to Prepare: Teen Driving Workshop on 01/28/2023 at the Central Library or 01/31/2023 at our Oak View branch. This free 75-minute workshop hosted by the Automobile Club of Southern California provides resources and guides pre-permit teens (ages 14-17) and their parents through many important driving topics. You do not need to be a member of AAA to attend. We highly encourage parents to attend with their teens, as this workshop is designed to benefit you both!

Library Calendar

Check out our library calendar at www.hbpl.org for all of our program dates and times. Hope to see you at any of our hbpl branch libraries this winter!



Early Learning Preschool Program

17131 Emerald Ln., Huntington Beach • 16692 Landau Ln., Huntington Beach • 8251 Heil Ave., Westminster
714/847-2551 X 1107 • www.ovsd.org



Sue Broderson
Coordinator Child
Development
Programs

Integrating Art into Literacy

*By Norma Vazquez,
Early Learning Educator*

As the most effective learning takes place when children have hands-on learning experiences, our objective this month was to focus on art while also integrating literacy. During this month, our Westmont State Preschoolers participated in our winter showcase, where they created two art pieces and performed a winter song. When it came to literacy, we focused on two winter books that were the student's favorites.

Both of the books exposed the children to learning about friendship and winter. Students were able to make predictions about what friendship means before reading the stories. During the reading, students were asked questions, and afterward, they revised their predictions. Our students not only had the opportunity to learn new vocabulary and comprehend the story but they also integrated art. The children also created a piece of art that reflected winter and characters from stories. They enjoyed the processes of drawing and painting.

On Dec. 22, our students performed for their families, and their families were then invited to the multipurpose room to view their children's art display. Families had a blast when they were able to see that their children are quite the artists, and the students were proud when showing their family members. Before dismissal time, family members

were invited to spend quality time with their children and work together on a small piece of artwork. One parent stated that doing this activity brought back memories of their own preschool years.

Having integrated art into literacy not only gives our students the opportunity to continue developing their literacy but also allows them to further develop their critical skills, language and social skills, and fine-motor skills. As a result, our families discovered that knowledge is retained longer in our brain when a piece of art is integrated and new memories can be created together.



Circle View *Elementary (K-5)*

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5305 • www.ovsd.org/circle



Jessica Haag
Principal

Showing Their Voice

In addition to our academics and social-emotional learning, Circle View also wants to give students opportunities for their voices to be heard. According to our climate-survey results from last year, our fourth- and fifth-graders indicated that they do not feel that they are an important part of the school. As a staff, we brainstormed ways to encourage student voice, give students more agency, and

have opportunities for students to help one another and make change.

Our school climate lead and fifth-grade teacher, Mrs. Ashley, suggested a student grant, and we agreed on it. It is a chance for students to see that there is power in their voice. Our fourth- and fifth-grade teachers presented students with a proposal project—if we had \$300, what should we purchase to improve our school or help students? It could be more equipment for recess or lunch or anything students can write about and describe that will improve or help our school or students. Our generous PTO board funded the grant. Students worked in small groups to collaborate, brainstorm, gather data, research, and create slides with their proposal idea. Students presented their slides in class, classes voted, and the finalists from each class presented in our MPR to all classes, our PTO board and distinguished guests. The winning group's idea was funded—a game cart!

Congratulations to all students for their wonderful ideas and for using their student voice!



College View *Elementary (K-5)*

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • www.ovsd.org/college



Elaine Burney
Principal

Students loves learning about California History!

As part of the fourth-grade social studies curriculum, fourth graders study the history of California from the time of the Native Americans arrival to the Gold Rush. Our Wildcats have such a wonderful time digging deep into the curriculum and love the many different experiences throughout their studies. After an overview of the time period, students enjoy learning and exploring the specific historical sections of

time where novel studies provide enriching stories and information, all while students connect over participating in group projects. Reports that have students designing, thinking critically, connecting concepts, and producing amazing final reports are other meaningful opportunities students find memorable and exciting. The varied experiences are enriched with informative and interactive assemblies too! Parents enjoying seeing students dress up and perform important historical events. We know that by providing students diverse opportunities, students will find their studies motivating and unforgettable.



Golden View *Environmental Science School*

17251 Golden View Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • www.ovsd.org/golden



Lori Florgan
Principal

Environmental Studies Hands-On!

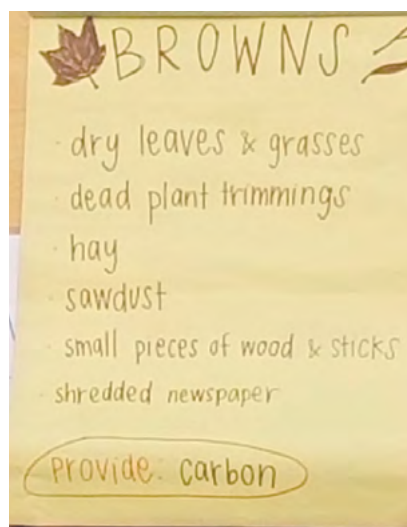
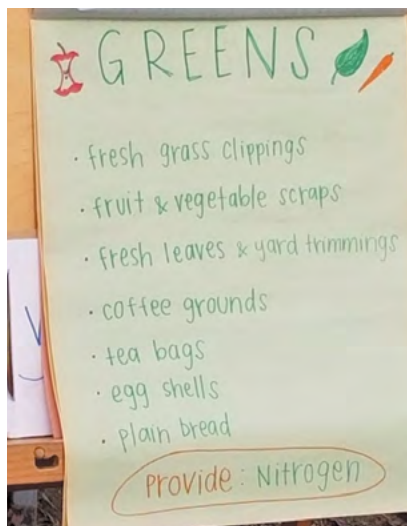
Students at Golden View study phenomena on the farm to help build their understanding of decomposers.

Our students are involved in real world, hands-on learning through our composting program on-site. They apply their knowledge of decomposition by collecting “browns” and “greens” from our farm for the compost pile and cleaning up trash that will not break down over time.



Students learn about the process of turning organic waste into compost by creating amounts of green and brown items with water, air and high temperatures. In addition, our students participate in the Project Zero Waste Program that is offered by Inside the Outdoors. This program allows the students to measure and weigh the amount of food waste that is being produced at the lunch tables each week in hopes of decreasing the amount of food waste that is entering our landfills. Students use special bins to collect leftover food waste at the lunch tables that can be used in our compost bins as well as our red wiggler vermicomposting bins. The worm tea is collected from the worms and used to enrich our soil in our garden beds.

We love that our students get real world, hands-on science experiences here at school every day!



Harbour View *Elementary (K-5)*

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-6602 • www.ovsd.org/harbour



Francesca Ligman
Principal

Kindness is Cool!

Designing graphics for t-shirts is our youth's way of showing what matters. When kids pick out a shirt, the words, color, graphic, cartoon, or symbols stands for something they believe in or means something to them. Harbour View students embraced the artistic talents of all our students and gave them the opportunity to design t-shirts to share the power of

spreading kindness. Every student from Transitional Kindergarten to Dual Language Immersion to Fifth Grade, created an artistic message to promote kindness. All of these unique shirts were displayed across the hallways and in the front office of our school during Kindness Week. The students also participated in an informative and moving assembly about how to treat others. Each grade level followed up with lessons and activities in the classroom to put kindness to action. Scenarios, examples and kind notes to one another were happening in all classrooms.



Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • www.ovsd.org/hope



Christina Luckey
Principal

Holiday House

At Hope View Elementary School, we strive to develop outstanding scholars and leaders all while creating lasting school memories for our students. With the help of our PTO and teachers, throughout the school year, many memories are made right in our very own multipurpose room, from a showcase

of student art at Open House, a Holiday House in the Winter, a greeting space for families to meet, Stars on Stage performances, as well classroom assemblies and in-person field trips, leaning connected to memories is happening! When thinking back to school, the learning is so very important but so are the connections and memories we make, creating life-long learners is our goal as we tie-in meaningful memories. Hope View Elementary is the place to be!



Mrs. Paulino's 5th grade class after a visit to the Holiday House where students get a chance to shop for their families and enjoy some festive music.

Lake View *Elementary (K-5)*

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • www.ovsd.org/lake



**Jill
Van Der Linden**
Principal

Lake View STEAM Family Night

Lake View School provides student-centered instruction that deepens learning through an emphasis on our core subject areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). As a part of our STEAM school, all students are immersed in project-based learning, providing them opportunities to think critically, be creative, problem solve, persevere, innovate, and be future ready. Students and teachers will work collaboratively in meaningful

experiences to cultivate strong relationships within the classroom, the school, and throughout the community. STEAM Family Night is an opportunity for students to bring family to school and participate together in activities that revolve around our core subject areas. This month our STEAM Night focused on Science and Engineering. There were eight different options for students and families to take part in. Content areas included a Life Science activity about Animal adaptations, an Earth Science activity creating Tornadoes in a Jar, a Physical Science activity creating Reindeer circuits and multiple Engineering activities.



Marine View *Middle School (6–8)*

7721 Juliette Low Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-0624 • www.ovsd.org/marine



Sara Schaible
Principal

Annual Change of the Seasons Concert

Before the winter break, Marine View VAPA students took to the stage for our annual Change of Seasons Concert. The evening brought a full audience to the gym as almost 200 of our students took to the stage to perform.

Families enjoyed performances by our Beginning Music Class, Beginning Band, Advanced Band, Chorus, Jazz Ensemble, and Dance Team. The holiday spirit continued as our Advanced Band, Jazz Ensemble, Chorus and Dance Team students took their show on the road for our annual Holiday Tours. Marine View students had the opportunity to visit several of our elementary schools in Ocean View School District and provide our elementary students with a festive holiday show of singing and dancing.



Mesa View *Middle School (6–8)*

17601 Avila Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • www.ovsd.org/mesa



Jadyn Grunbaum
Principal

We Are CTE Strong!

Here at Mesa, we are so proud of our robust elective offerings, and in recent years, the strong growth of our robotics, STEM, and Industrial Tech offerings.

Teacher Brett

Hardy has revamped our “woodshop” into a 21st-century career and technical introduction for our middle school students, with web design, 3D printing, and a variety of wood-working and carpentry skills. Students enrolled in the Industrial Tech class have the opportunity to work with 3D CAD design, high-powered machinery (most recently three newly purchased lathes), and can also integrate artistic design into each project.

Mr. Hardy has worked to secure additional funding from grants, donations, and PTSO support to really grow this program, and he has even taken additional coursework and exams to gain his third teaching credential: an Industrial Arts and Technology credential. Students can create keychains, a portable checker, cutting boards, wooden rings, wooden and plastic writing pens, puzzles, and more! Mr. Hardy continues to add projects every semester so that those students who might take the course two years in a row are exposed to different elements of design and machinery.



Completed art projects in Visual Arts classes

In addition, our students are introduced to technology and science-based electives through STEM and coding in the sixth grade with teachers April Brambila, Adelle Klueger, and Fara Andrusky. Students then enter into the seventh grade ready for our Advanced Robotics course, which has the newest Lego robotics kits. The students compete against each other in teams on various projects to showcase their skills, and also benefit from the use of 3D printers and 3D CAD design.

This year, we have also continued our Model United Nations elective, our amazing instrumental music program, public speaking, gardening and agriculture, and have newly introduced visual arts for our students. Mesa proudly touts two amazing Leadership courses for students as well: ASB (the Associated Student Body), and WEB (Where

Everybody Belongs). These two classes support a positive school climate, student activities, and connections between students. We are so proud of all of our offerings, and know that we are truly providing our students with many opportunities to prepare for high school and beyond, as well as those which will enrich their lives!



Students highly engaged in Industrial Tech projects, including use of the new lathes!



Our Band classes hard at work!



ASB class showing their spirit on Hat Day

Oak View *Elementary (K-5)*

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • www.ovsd.org/oak



Jenna Landero
Principal

The Owl's Nest

We are proud to announce that we won the prestigious California School Board Association's Golden Bell award for our innovative program, The Owl's Nest! The Owl's Nest was the brainchild of Mrs. Landero's when during the pandemic our students were not able to access their online curriculum and were falling behind. The Owl's Nest is a safe learning haven designed to keep students on campus, increase in-person instruction, provide internet access, and strategically incorporate intervention

into students' days to fill in the gaps that may have been exacerbated by the pandemic. This program is designed to keep students engaged mentally, emotionally and physically.

We are currently in our third year of implementation of The Owl's Nest, and while it has evolved, it is still helping to bridge academic gaps and provide a space for our students to grow and thrive. A huge thank-you to Mrs. Medrano and Mrs. Kliem, who helped Mrs. Landero in the launch of the program, and to all of our dedicated teachers and staff who make our students their number one priority. We are proud to have this hard work recognized!



Spring View *Middle School (6–8)*

16662 Trudy Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-2891 • www.ovsd.org/spring



Isis Ortiz

Interim Principal

Time to Celebrate, Reset, and Gain Focus!

As we say goodbye to the old year and hello to the new, our students at Spring View Middle School have been celebrating their accomplishments and resetting themselves to help develop a laser-like focus for the rest of the year.

In December, the students and staff members celebrated with a winter music concert, sports events, and our first Sparty Party of the year! Mr. McKay, with our music department, put on a fabulous winter concert for our families, which included songs from *Frozen* and acapella numbers from our choirs. Our PE coaches, Mrs. Wride, Ruiz, and Mr. Hendrichs, took our volleyball teams to the district semi-finals tournament.

Over 80 of our AVID students also went to Golden West College to experience college life and explore career options.

We finished off with our Leadership Class led by Mr. Vanada, who put on a spectacular themed “Do the Right Thing Sparty Party.” The students and teachers performed skits and shared messages that focused on doing what is right. It was a fun atmosphere where our students and teachers

could work together to compete in games and skits. It was such a positive environment, too, down to the signs with motivational quotes that were plastered all over the gym. This event was a positive experience for all, and a wonderful way to end the year.

To ring in 2023, Spring View will work on resetting our expectations for the community by having grade-level assemblies and classroom presentations to help share these expectations and our new PBIS incentives, including Five Star Student. Some of these incentives will include new games at lunch and nutrition, and the opening up of our very popular Game Room.

The hope is that by resetting and refocusing our students with new expectations and new incentives, they will be able to refocus themselves to stay motivated and involved for the remainder of the school year.



Star View *Elementary (K-5)*

8411 Worthy Ln., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • www.ovsd.org/star



Paul Kraft
Principal

Late Fall Activities at Star View

Star View School dashed into the winter season with many engaging activities that demonstrated student learning. Many exciting family activities also occurred as the winter recess approached. The Star View PTO ran a holiday shop for the students to purchase inexpensive items for friends and family. A bingo and movie night also brought in hundreds of students and families for a night of fun games, a full-length movie, and delicious food.

To the delight of our friends and families, every Star View student also participated in holiday performances led by our school music instructors. Students from transitional kindergarten to the fifth grade sang the Christmas songs they had learned over the past month during music instruction.

Our Star View GATE students also employed their engineering skills while creating Graham cracker houses out of frosting, assorted candies, and of course, Graham crackers. Students discussed design, structure, and shape, and then created their delicious buildings. Additionally, other GATE students worked in teams of three to research, design, and build a mini golf hole, and also used a 3D printer to create putters.

Finally, in support of the school district's Reading Matters campaign, all of our students are working hard on their reading goal of 1,000,000 minutes by May. When the goal is reached, a school-wide celebration will be held, with a rumor that the principal will be receiving a slime hairdo! We wish our students the best of luck in pursuit of their goal.



Star View Students creating Graham Cracker Houses



Star View Students singing in the School Holiday Musical

Village View *Elementary (K-5)*

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • www.ovsd.org/village



Tami Benane
Principal

Grinch 5th Grade Science Project

The 5th grade students in Mrs. Munoz class completed a holiday themed Science Experiment. They worked together in teams to mix ingredients to create green “Grinch” slime.

The students had to read and follow directions measuring specific ingredients. Students worked together in teams to read and figure out how to make slime. This was a fun holiday project focused around a Science Experiment.



Vista View *Middle School (6–8)*

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • www.ovsd.org/vista



Dr. Rasheedah Gates
Principal

Watching Our Falcons Soar

This new year we are being inspired by our speech and debate program at Vista! For the past two years we have offered a classroom model of the course. Students in the seventh and eighth grades were with a classroom teacher for five days a week.

This year, we wanted to expand our elective options for the students, and allow those in grades six to eight a chance to be on the speech and debate team.

Our current model runs after school on Monday through Wednesday, and allows all of our students to have an elective during the school day and also a chance to learn the art of debate afterwards. Our students began the year learning SPAR and parliamentary styles of debate. They are now focusing on platform speeches in the styles of informative or original oratory (which is persuasive speaking).

During the fall, the speech and debate team participated in various tournaments. They are quickly learning the art of relying on a team, formulating arguments, and how to compete with other teams.

The students in speech and debate have blossomed. It has been our wish to offer this experience to the students who are more outgoing, and also to those who are more introverted in nature. The ability to see our students grow and develop has shown us another good way to see our Vista Falcons Soar!



Westmont *Elementary (K-5)*

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • www.ovsd.org/westmont



Sharon Ahlman
Principal

Westmont Students “Shine”

On Thursday, December 22, the pre-school to fifth-grade students at Westmont exhibited their artist abilities in a Winter Showcase of fine VAPA talent.

Since the beginning of the first trimester of school, our students have been busy creating, practicing, and preparing for our annual Winter Showcase here at Westmont.

Students have been integrating instruction in music, band, dance, and visual media, while our teachers have embedded academic instruction into all the VAPA programs throughout the school day.

The students performed in the morning as each grade level presented songs, and a dance, to an audience of parents, family members, and friends. Songs were sung while using movement and simple instruments. The students then transitioned to dances that used props such as wands, scarfs, and hot chocolate cups.

Our fourth- and fifth-graders needed the cups to present a dance of “Hot Chocolate,” which is based upon the dance number in *The Polar Express*. Everyone loved the performance!

These grade levels then escorted their parents through our Art Walk in the multi-purpose room, where students used a variety of art techniques to create their pieces for display. There were exhibits of work using ceramics, weaving, oil pastels, watercolor, photo, and 3-D masterpieces. The support and pride that our students and community show when we highlight our VAPA programs is truly appreciated. It is amazing how much talent we have here at Westmont!



A variety of art is on display in the MPR.



Preschool students get ready to perform.



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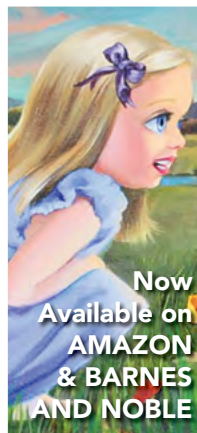
Newport Beach • Ladera Ranch • San Clemente

OC DEPT OF ED • From Page 7

The Mendez case is worth celebrating because it broke new ground not just for Orange County but for our entire nation, broadening and strengthening the principles on which this country was founded.

Now and forever, Mendez Tribute Monument Park will serve as a space to gather behind shared values, to reflect on those principles, to revisit a watershed moment in our history and to learn more about the everyday Americans who made it possible.

For more information on Mendez Tribute Monument Park, along with lesson plans and activities, visit www.mendezpark.org.



**Grandma, Why Do You Have
Cracks In Your Face?**



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& BARNES
AND NOBLE**

By Kay Coop | Illustrated by Melanie Florio

Fun Things and Places—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 OVSD in the subject line.

Entries must be received by March 30, 2023

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

Thank you Barkate / Nehi Orthodontics for sponsoring our contest.
BarkateNehiSmiles.com

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PARTY

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SKATING

POOL

VIDEOS

FOREST

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