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Covering the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District



Volume 1, Issue 1

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As we reflect on the 2023-24 school year, we are proud of the many achievements across our District. Four schools received the prestigious National Blue Ribbon Award, while Project LEAD earned the California School Boards Association Golden Bell Award. Additionally, four campuses were named California Schools to Watch, bringing our total to six. In 2024, Glen A. Wilson High was recognized as a California Distinguished School, and La Puente High was named a California Democracy School.

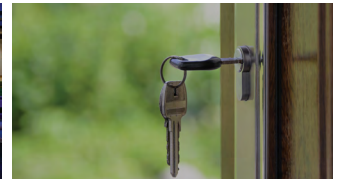
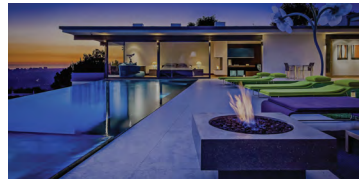
HLPUSD was also selected for the California Community Schools Partnership Program's third cohort, receiving a \$21.3 million grant to support community school initiatives. We ended the year with promotion ceremonies and five spirited graduations for the Class of 2024, celebrating the achievements of students across all grade levels.

Thank you to our students, staff, and community for making this year a success!



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15801 Sierra Vista Ct., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-6544 • <https://www.hlpschools.org/district/preschool-child-development>



Abigail Querubin-Villareal
Director

Welcome Back

We are excited to welcome back our returning and new families to our General Child Care and Development Program, California State Preschool Program, and Head Start Program for the 2024-2025 school year! Our early education programs provide quality instruction

and learning opportunities for children ages two to four years old. Our programs would not be successful without the support and dedication of our staff. One teacher who exemplifies commitment and compassion in all she does is Mrs. Sylvia Barreto, who is recognized as our Child Development and Early Education Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Barreto has served in the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District for sixteen years. She served as a Child Development Technician for six years and as a Preschool teacher for ten years supporting in the Head Start Program and currently at the Amar Children's Center for our State Preschool students.



Mrs. Sylvia Barreto

For those who know her, Mrs. Barreto has a lot of patience, understands her students, and is always there to address her students' social and emotional needs. She builds and sustains meaningful relationships with both her students and families. Her joy comes from her students' learning such as when they recognize their names and letters. One of her fondest memories as a teacher was when one of her students, who

was interested in the solar system, stated, "Earth is the only planet that has water." She knew then that her student was able to describe and verbally express his ideas using academic language. When asked why she enjoys what she does, Mrs. Barreto replied with a smile, "Students always bring your spirits up with compliments. I enjoy working with the kids and every day I laugh. This doesn't feel like a job. It is important to get to know their strengths and build their weaknesses to make them strengths."

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Adult Education

14101 E. Nelson Ave., La Puente, CA 91746 • 626/933-3915 • <https://www.hlpschools.org/community/adult-education>



Dr. Gregory Buckner
Executive Director

Hacienda La Puente Unified Celebrates Adult Ed Health Careers Building with Spirited Ceremony

In front of an audience of more than 100 students, staff, alums, and distinguished guests, HLPUSD and HLP AE celebrated the unveiling of HLP AE's modernized state-of-the-art Medical Career Building with commemorative speeches to honor HLP AE's legacy and success before cutting the ceremonial ribbon on Aug. 23.

As the second-largest adult school in California, serving more than 13,000 adult education and high school students annually, HLP AE's two-story building modernization project is a significant step toward supporting its seven growing

healthcare programs, including the longstanding Psychiatric Technician and Licensed Vocational Nursing Programs. The building, equipped with four new classrooms, labs, and state-of-the-art equipment, is strategically designed to bridge the gap between theory and practice, thereby preparing students to thrive in the ever-changing healthcare landscape.

HLPUSD Board President Christine H. Salazar highlighted the positive impact the institute has had on students' lives by sharing stories of previous HLP AE graduates from various industries.



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Baldwin Academy (TK-5)

1616 Griffith Ave., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-3701 • baldwin.hpschools.org



Kelly Arena
Principal

Baldwin Academy Thrives

The 2024-2025 school year at Baldwin Academy has started on a high note! Recently named a Community School, Baldwin Academy is set to bring essential resources to its amazing school community. This new designation promises to enhance the support and opportunities available to students and families alike. In addition, Baldwin Academy had the honor of making Educational Results Partnership's 2023 Honor Roll list of California's top performing schools.

One of the standout initiatives this year is the launch of the Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) program. Students now enjoy weekly sessions in art, music, and dance, fostering creativity and expression in young learners.

Baldwin Academy also hosted a successful "Welcome Back Bubble Bash," a community event that brought together students, parents, and staff for a fun-filled evening of activities and connection. This event not only celebrated the start of the school year but also strengthened the bonds within the Baldwin Academy community.

With these exciting programs and events, Baldwin Academy is poised for a year of growth, creativity, and community spirit.



California Elementary School (TK-5)

1111 N. California Ave., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-5201 • california.hpschools.org



Yesenia De La Peña
Principal

Youth Cinema Program

The Youth Cinema Program at California Elementary School is a dynamic year-long program designed for 5th grade students to develop essential life skills. Through this program, students are exposed to the world of filmmaking, gaining hands-on experience in areas like communication, collaboration, and creativity. They learn how these skills are pivotal in the movie industry and beyond, exploring various roles from scriptwriting to editing. By engaging in practical projects and working together, students not only develop a deeper understanding of the filmmaking process but also discover potential career paths, and create student generated films. This experience helps them build confidence, teamwork skills and

also igniting their passion for creative arts. Ultimately, the Youth Cinema Program equips young learners with valuable life skills and inspires them to envision a future where their creative talents can thrive.



Cedarlane Academy (K-8)

16333 Cedarlane Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-8001 • cedarlane.hpschools.org



Kim Lee
Principal

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year!

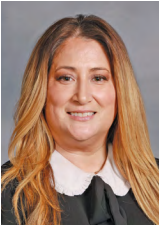
Our theme this year is “Unite, Celebrate, and Soar: The Thunderbird Era.” It perfectly captures the spirit of this exciting time as we come together as one united community. This year, we will continue to celebrate each student’s journey—their past, present, and the bright future ahead.

As part of the T-Bird Era kickoff, our students created friendship bracelets during onboarding, symbolizing the importance of connection, building new friendships, and embracing the rich experiences each day at Cedarlane brings. To quote Taylor Swift, “So make the friendship bracelets, take the moment, and taste it.” We hope that throughout the year, our students will continue to seize each moment, grow, and thrive with the help and support of everyone in our community.



Fairgrove Academy (K-8)

15540 Fairgrove Ave., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-8501 • fairgrove.hpschools.org



Sherri Franson
Principal

Zine Project Highlights Hands-On Learning

Middle School ELA and SS classes at Fairgrove Academy recently embarked on an exciting zine-making (mini-magazine) project that introduced students to essential

critical thinking skills while fostering creativity and collaboration. Each student created a zine based on a topic they considered themselves experts in, ranging from hobbies to personal interests. This hands-on project encouraged students to tap into their creativity, develop their critical thinking, and organize their thoughts effectively. After completing their zines, the class participated in a gallery walk, allowing students to showcase their work and exchange ideas with peers. This interactive component not only built communication skills but also gave students the opportunity to reflect on their



learning in a real-world context. Mrs. Avila, a 6th grade ELA and SS teacher stated, “Through the zine project the class practiced foundational research techniques in an engaging and personal way, setting the stage for more complex studies in the future while encouraging a passion for learning.”

Glen A. Wilson *High School*

16455 Wedgeworth Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/934-4416 • wihs.hlschools.org



Dr. Danielle Kenfield
Principal

Congratulations Mr. Han!

Glen A. Wilson High School Biomedical Science teacher, Jungsoo Han, has been named as a 2024 recipient of the Yale Educator Award, presented to teachers who have deeply impacted their students' lives. As coordinator of Wilson's Biomedical Science Program, Han, now in his 13th year at Wilson High, has established co-curricular opportunities that allow students to apply their knowledge and skills outside the

classroom. Han established the Science Olympiad team in 2014 and the Health Occupations Students of America charter in 2019. Both groups have seen considerable success in regional, state, and international competition. Principal, Dr. Kenfield, is overjoyed that Mr. Han's commitment to his students is being honored. "Mr. Han brings passion and enthusiasm to his classroom instruction and is greatly admired by his students. We couldn't be prouder that a former student has taken the initiative to have his great work honored by this elite university," Kenfield said.



Jungsoo Han

Grandview *College Preparatory Academy (6–8)*

795 N. Grandview Ln., Valinda, CA 91744 • 626/934-5801 • grandview.hlschools.org



Theresa Lei
Principal

Students Lead the Way!

At Grandview College Preparatory Academy, students don't just prepare for the future – they lead the way! As a Pivotal Practice and Title I Achievement school, Grandview thrives on innovation and academic excellence. Our Spanish Dual Immersion program immerses students in a vibrant bilingual world, building biliteracy that opens doors.



Fueled by the Community Schools and Promising Learners Grants, Grandview nurtures and supports student success through Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) and a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), ensuring every learner is empowered.

Robotics enthusiasts shine in the First Lego League competition, while our Builders Club, in collaboration with the Kiwanis Club leads impactful community service.

With an exciting array of electives, students explore their passions in Lego Robotics, STEAM, Sea Perch underwater robotics, Spanish Culture, Student Government, Yearbook, Art, and Band opportunities. At Grandview, every student rides the waves of discovery, creativity, and service!



Grazide Elementary School (TK-5)

2850 Leopold Ave., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-6100 • grazide.hipschools.org



Amy Moss
Principal

Learn and Grow at Grazide Elementary

Grazide Elementary School is a wonderful place to learn and grow! Rooted in the pillars of Kindness, Fairness, Caring, and Compassion – or KFC2, Grazide Elementary serves Preschool through Grade 5 students who have a variety of strengths and needs. To build community, classes participate in Big Buddies / Little Buddies several times throughout the school year. With

classes partnered at least two grade levels apart, teachers collaborate to create activities and projects that support community growth. From “Getting to Know You” interviews to enjoying a delicious feast to completing community service projects together, the Grazide Ram Community grows stronger each year as our large community truly becomes family. This helps to ensure models of KFC2 in all we say and all we do, with everyone we meet, even when it’s hard. Grazide Elementary – where students truly know they are “smarter than they think and loved more than they know.”



Kwis Elementary School (TK-5)

1925 S. Kwis Ave., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-2101 • kwis.hipschools.org



Vivienne Thomas
Principal

Community Connections with Monthly Family Friday Assemblies

Kwis Elementary School now hosts monthly Family Friday Assemblies in which the school community is invited to participate. Principal, Vivienne Thomas, along with student leadership, launched the 1st Family Friday Assembly as an onboarding assembly on Day 1 of the new school year. At the end of the month, the community gathered again to celebrate

success of our 1st month and kick off district and school site initiatives for the next month of September. Our student leadership provided special announcements that included Attendance Awareness month, spirit days, upcoming events and activities and events to celebrate being here every day on time and ready to learn. The school community ended the monthly assembly with a birthday song to all students with summer birthdays to conclude the ceremony. We are excited to continue our community building ceremony to Kwis each and every month!



La Puente High School

15615 E. Nelson Ave., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/934-6797 • lphs.hlpschools.org



Dr. Lisa Lopez
Principal

CTE Pathways

La Puente High School is nestled in the suburbs in a community rich in pride and tradition. Established in 1905, LPHS is the first school in the district. Our staff and students are motivated to strive by our motto “We Celebrate the Past to Awaken the Future” (John F. Kennedy).

LPHS is home to four Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways; Automotive Technology, Dance, Graphic Design, and Public Safety. Dance students have earned numerous awards locally and nationally. They recently



performed at the Sparks game. Graphic Design students are known for their unique customized designs from inception to making shirts for various clubs and organizations throughout the district. Public Safety students participated in CERT Training in partnership with the University of Utah, FEMA, and the Los Angeles County Fire Department. They are part of the principal’s Safety Advisory Team and the schoolwide Emergency Response Team.

Great things are happening at LPHS!



Lassalette School (K-5)

14333 Lassalette St., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-3001 • lassalette.hlpschools.org



Lisa Mannino
Principal

Lassalette School Awarded \$450,000 Literacy Grant

Lassalette School is proud to announce that it has been awarded the Literacy Coach Reading Specialist Educator Training (LCRSET) Grant in the amount of \$450,000.

This grant will support Lassalette’s efforts to develop and train educators to become literacy coaches and reading specialists. Now in its first year of implementation, the school is dedicated to improving reading literacy for all students through a comprehensive, systematic, and explicit reading program for TK-5 students, which includes daily small group interventions.

Lassalette’s dedicated staff works tirelessly to foster an engaging and supportive learning environment. Their commitment to academic excellence ensures that every student receives the best educational opportunities. With



Lassalette students participate in daily Reading Literacy Groups.

the help of the LCRSET Grant, Lassalette continues to empower students, laying a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Los Altos *Elementary School (TK-5)*

15565 Los Altos Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-2301 • losaltos.hipschools.org



Shawn Harrington
Acting Principal

Creativity through Technology!

The Los Altos Elementary Lego Challenge team embarks on an exciting journey, blending creativity with technology as we are looking towards International Competition in 2025. Their Innovation Project will emphasize core values like teamwork,

respect, and perseverance. The students continue to collaborate

seamlessly, each contributing unique ideas and skills.

A significant part of their project involves block coding for robots, which plays a crucial role in their futuristic city model. The robots are being programmed to manage waste, monitor air quality, and even assist with transportation. The team's dedication to learning and applying coding principles is exciting.

Adding to the excitement, Los Altos Elementary had recently been recognized as a 2024 C-STEM Distinguished School by UC Davis. This prestigious award highlighted the school's commitment to integrating STEM education into its curriculum. The Lego Challenge team's success is a testament to this dedication, inspiring the entire school community to dream big and innovate.



Los Altos *High School*

15325 E. Los Robles Ave., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/934-5418 • lahs.hipschools.org



Jeffrey Hess
Principal

Soar to New Heights with Los Altos High School's Aviation Classes!

Los Altos High School is thrilled to announce the launch of its new aviation classes, led by the passionate and experienced teacher, Cristian Maldonado. Starting this fall, students will have the unique opportunity to explore the fascinating world of aviation through hands-on learning and cutting-edge technology.

Mr. Maldonado, a seasoned pilot and educator, brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the classroom. His innovative teaching methods will guide students through the fundamentals of flight, aerodynamics, and aircraft maintenance. This program is designed to ignite a passion for aviation and provide students with the skills needed for a future in the aerospace industry.

In addition to classroom instruction, students will have the chance to participate in exciting field trips to local airports and aviation museums, offering a real-world glimpse into the aviation sector. Guest speakers from the industry will also share their insights and experiences, further enriching the learning experience.



Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to take flight! Enroll now and be part of the inaugural class that will set the standard for excellence in aviation education at Los Altos High School.

Los Molinos *Elementary School (TK-5)*

3112 Las Marias Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-2201 • losmolinos.hlschools.org



Erika Terrazas
Principal

Race to Learn

Los Molinos had a great start to the new year! Our opening theme was “Race to Learn” I students showed up excited with lots of smiles!

We started our VAPA program where every Tuesday our students will participate in one of the Arts such as dance, music, and art. Our students have been thrilled to participate!



We have also planted our first harvest in our Organic Garden with our 2nd grade class. Our students love participating in the planting, harvesting, and tasting. Our students have planted carrots, snap peas, and radishes.

Mesa Robles *School (TK-8)*

16060 Mesa Robles Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-6001 • mesarobles.hlschools.org



Octavio Pérez
Principal

Middle School to Watch

As we embark on a new school year, we are excited to continue celebrating our recent achievements. Receiving the distinguished National Blue Ribbon Award of Excellence from the U.S. Dept. of Education this past school year, and being recognized as a “Middle School to Watch,” demonstrate the strength of our community. These accomplishments reflect the hard work and

dedication of our school personnel, faculty, administrative staff, students, and parents.

This school year, we embrace the district-wide goal of creating transformative learning pathways for student success. By continuing with the Pedagogies of Deep Learning in our daily lessons, we are confident that this year will be another fantastic one for each of our students here at Mesa Robles.

Together, we are making a difference at Mesa Robles and look forward to an incredible year ahead!



Nelson Elementary School (TK-5)

330 N. California Ave., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-8401 • nelson.hipschools.org



Collin Miller
Principal

Knights Unite for Patriot Day Assembly

A 9/11 Patriot Assembly for 3rd-5th graders provided an opportunity to honor the lives lost and the heroes who emerged during the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The assembly focused on courage, unity, compassion, helping students understand the significance of the

day. The program included a moment of silence, the Pledge of Allegiance, and patriotic songs like “America the Beautiful” and “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Principal Miller, teachers, and Student Council members shared stories of heroism, the importance of helping others, and read a Patriot’s Day poem. Through this assembly students learned valuable lessons about citizenship, bravery, while paying tribute to those who were impacted. Principal Miller also took an

opportunity to swear in the newly elected Student Council members taking an oath that included being a role model for all students. Teachers had additional lessons prepared to support this day.



Newton Middle School (6-8)

15616 Newton St., Hacienda Heights. CA 91745 • 626/933-2401 • newton.hipschools.org



Ann Hanson
Principal

Diverse Electives

Newton Middle School in Hacienda Heights offers a dynamic educational experience with diverse electives, including courses in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Visual Performing Arts. These specialized programs allow students to explore and develop their unique interests. The school also features an award-winning

band program and a successful Spanish Dual Immersion program, providing students with opportunities to excel in music and achieve bilingual fluency. This year Newton Middle School launched a CTE course in aviation. The course aligns with Los Altos High Schools Aviation courses where eventually students can earn their Pilot’s License. Combined with a variety of extracurricular activities and after-school tutoring, Newton fosters a well-rounded education that sets it apart from other schools.



Orange Grove *Middle School (6–8)*

14505 Orange Grove Ave., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-7001 • ogms.hlschools.org



Elizabeth Kane
Principal

Exciting New Drone Elective Enhances Los Altos High School Aviation Pathway

Orange Grove Middle School is buzzing with excitement as it introduces a new drone elective class, a dynamic addition to the Aviation Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway feeding to Los Altos High School. This innovative course, designed for students in grades 7-8, aims to bridge the gap between middle school and Los Altos High School's advanced aviation programs.

The drone elective offers students a hands-on introduction to the world of unmanned aerial systems (UAS). Participants will learn the fundamentals of drone technology, including flight mechanics, safety protocols, and basic programming. With a curriculum that blends theoretical knowledge with practical skills, students will get the chance to operate drones, explore aerial photography, and understand the growing field of drone applications in various industries. Students gain early exposure to the exciting possibilities of aviation technology, setting a strong foundation for their future studies.

The program is also designed to foster interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields, encouraging students to explore careers in these high-demand areas.

The drone elective aligns with the high school's aviation pathway, ensuring that students who continue at Los Altos High School will build on the skills developed at Orange Grove. This continuity supports a more cohesive learning experience and better prepares students for advanced coursework and potential career opportunities in aviation and aerospace fields.

Orange Grove is excited for this new opportunity to inspire a new generation of innovators and problem-solvers ready to take flight in the world of technology and aviation.



Palm *Elementary School (TK–5)*

14740 E. Palm Ave., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-7401 • palm.hlschools.org



Sandy Carbajal
Principal

Recycle Rally

Our school year began with our first Recycle Rally of the year hosted by our fabulous PTO! As Palm strives to become a Green school, our PTO supported this effort with a successful event. Parents were invited to drive through our parking lot and drop-off as many recycled items as possible throughout the morning. Many parents, families, and community members supported

our cause by bringing bags filled with various recyclables. Many students also attended to support PTO by collecting the bags of recyclables from our families. Our Panthers eagerly collected, sorted, and crushed cans and water bottles while we figured out which grade level collected the most items. Our 2nd grade students collected the most amount of recyclables and won a pizza party! Our students were able to collect over \$150 from this event, which will in turn be used for field trip expenses throughout this school year.



Sierra Vista Middle School (6–8)

15801 Sierra Vista Ct., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-4001 • svms.hllpschools.org



Samuel Yi
Principal

Vikings Set Sail for a #VikingStrong Year

As Sierra Vista Middle School concludes its first grading period, our #VikingStrong spirit shines brightly. Our comprehensive Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) has been pivotal in nurturing our students' academic, behavioral, and social-emotional growth. This holistic approach, complemented by our advisory period, ensures every Viking receives the support

they need to thrive. In classrooms, our focus on collaborative learning and school-wide writing initiative have boosted engagement and communication skills of our students. Beyond academics, our fall sports teams (football, cross country, volleyball, cheer) and diverse clubs (crochet, Project LEAD, Homework Club) exemplify the Viking spirit, demonstrating how our supportive environment extends to all aspects of student life.

As a community school, we began strengthening partnerships with parents and local organizations, creating a network of support that enhances our students' overall development. The #VikingStrong theme truly encapsulates this multifaceted approach to education, evident in our students' resilience, staff dedication, and community support. Together, Sierra Vista Middle School stands as a place where every Viking is valued and empowered to reach their full potential in all areas of life.



Sparks Elementary School (TK–5)

15151 E. Temple Ave., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-5101 • sparks.hllpschools.org



Gilbert Barraza
Principal

Congratulations to Ms. Makenzie Di Pietro, our 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year!

She is a proud graduate of Carnelian Elementary, Alta Loma Jr. High, and Alta Loma High School in Alta Loma, CA. Ms. Di Pietro has an impressive educational background. She holds both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in Education from the University of La Verne, along with a multiple subject teaching credential and a Master's in Education.

Most recently, Ms. Di Pietro shared her enthusiasm for teaching: "I have a new favorite moment in teaching every day. I'm learning as the kids learn. Every day we do something better than the day before. It's so fun to watch the littlest learners (TK) grow tremendous amounts each day and I feel lucky to have landed



at Sparks ES which has a positive culture that makes working fun. I have learned so much working with my UPK Team."

Her colleagues at Sparks Elementary hold her in high regard, and the Spark's community of students, teachers, and parents absolutely love her! As she continues to inspire young minds, let's remember the wise words of Fred Rogers: "There are three ways to ultimate success: The first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind."

Sparks Middle School (6-8)

15100 E. Giordano St., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-5001 • spsms.hlpschools.org



Dr. David Nieto
Principal

Spartan "Chalk It Up" Event

Sparks Middle School promotes Arts in Education with their "Chalk It Up" event. All students were invited and encouraged to attend an after school arts in education event hosted by student leaders on campus. Students came after school, received a snack and drink from the Parent Boosters, and were guided by student leaders to use chalk to draw art around campus. This event was student led under the guidance of the site Leadership teacher as the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders received different lot spaces on campus to draw their own interpretations of art. These pictures ranged from popular cartoons to motivational words and phrases to favorite sports teams. At the end, students walked around to visit the various pieces of chalk art created by students. In addition to event set up, student leaders also assisted in the event clean up and social media photography.



Valinda School of Academics (TK-5)

1030 Indian Summer Ave., Valinda, CA 91744 • 626/933-4701 • valinda.hlpschools.org



Elizabeth Bermejo
Principal

Valinda's Student Leadership Program Empowers Young Leaders

Valinda's Student Leadership Program recently provided a unique opportunity for 3rd through 5th grade students to step into leadership roles and experience the democratic process firsthand. Designed to inspire confidence and civic engagement, the program allowed students to run for various offices,

such as president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. To participate, students had to campaign by creating posters, flyers, and slogans to appeal to their peers. They crafted compelling speeches outlining their goals, visions, and ideas for improving the

school environment. Speeches were delivered to their fellow students, showcasing their communication skills, creativity, and ability to connect with an audience. Lastly, the program involved the student body casting their votes for their preferred candidates. This experience not only taught the young participants about the importance of leadership and public speaking but also helped them understand the democratic process of voting and elections.



Valinda's 24-25 Student Leadership Cabinet

Valley Alternative High School

15430 Shadybend Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-3401 • valley.hipschools.org



Joaquin Martinez
Principal

Doors of Possibility

As the new school year begins, a fresh, hopeful energy surrounds the Valley Alternative Schools campus. This photo of Mr. Toscano standing beside his classroom door perfectly captures that feeling. The door isn't just any door; it's now a canvas of inspiration, featuring Audrey Hepburn's quote: "Nothing is impossible. The word itself says, 'I'm possible.'" It's a small touch, but it speaks volumes.

These redesigned doors are more than just a creative project—they're a way to bring positivity and encouragement into the everyday lives of students and teachers. Each door is a gentle reminder that challenges can be overcome and that every student has something special to offer. For teachers like Mr. Toscano, these words are a daily motivation to keep nurturing and believing in his students.

It's simple, thoughtful gestures like these that turn a school into a community where everyone feels supported and inspired to achieve their best.



Wedgeworth Elementary School (K-5)

16949 Wedgeworth Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 • 626/933-8101 • wedgeworth.hipschools.org



Dr. Paulina Cho
Principal

Rising Leaders Campaign

As the 2024-2025 school year begins, the Wedgeworth Elementary playground is buzzing with excitement as leadership students are campaigning for leadership positions. Wedgeworth Elementary offers a leadership class option during Universal Access time for fourth and fifth grade students. Students

in leadership assist with planning school wide events, spirit weeks, monthly school newsletters, and school wide campaigns. Our future leaders started the year off strong with running for the elected offices of president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. Students have successfully been campaigning for their

desired elected position. This year's leadership campaigns have consisted of posting posters on campus, handing out flyers, stickers, and pencils, submitting digital videos, along with giving speeches to the entire student body. All Wedgeworth students participate in voting for elected leadership officers, kindergarten through fifth grade. Wedgeworth leadership students can't wait to make the 2024-2025 the best year ever!



Wedgeworth Elementary leadership students showcasing their campaign posters, as these rising leaders share their visions in making the 2024-2025 the best school year yet!

William Workman *High School*

16303 E. Temple Ave., City of Industry, CA 91744 • 626/933-8801 • [wohs.hipschools.org](https://www.wohs.hipschools.org)



Timothy Espinosa
Principal

Multi-Course Pathway

The Workman Early College Academy Network (WECAN) now has three cohorts in the multi-course pathway. Students have taken Counseling, Sociology, Geology, and Speech courses that have challenged them to reflect on their identity and their roles in society. This summer, Geology students took fieldtrips to Santiago Oaks Regional Park and Crystal Cove State Park where they examined the features of two varied landscapes. Our students have earned between three to thirteen college credits and with these great opportunities, our program has tripled to 88 students.



Workman's inaugural girl's flag football season is a testament to our athletes' dedication and hard work. Our players are committed to daily improvement, investing countless hours on the field to refine skills and build team cohesion. Their relentless drive and enthusiasm promise an exciting season and a solid foundation for future success. Together, these initiatives highlight Workman's commitment to both academic excellence and athletic growth.



Wing Lane *Elementary School (TK-5)*

16605 Wing Ln., Valinda, CA 91744 • 626/933-5901 • [winglane.hipschools.org](https://www.winglane.hipschools.org)



Tabitha Hernandez-Blanton
Principal

Wing Lane Elementary Welcomes 100 New Students and 4 New Teachers from Grandview CPA and Del Valle ES

It is with great excitement that Wing Lane Elementary welcomes 100 new students and 4 new teachers to our school community from Grandview CPA and Del Valle Elementary School.

This special occasion marks a significant step in making our community stronger, as we embrace new friendships, talents, and perspectives.

As these students join us, we are reminded of the power of unity. Each new face brings fresh energy and unique experiences that enrich our classrooms, hallways, and playgrounds. Together, we will create an even more vibrant and inclusive learning environment where everyone thrives.

Our teachers, staff, and students are thrilled to get to know and learn from one another. At Wing Lane Elementary, we believe that we are better together.

By coming together as one, we strengthen our collective spirit of learning, collaboration, and support. These new students are not just joining a school—they're becoming a part of a family that grows stronger with every new addition.

We are excited for this opportunity to work together as we embark on this exciting journey, building bonds and achieving greatness as one unified community. Wing Lane Elementary is honored to welcome each and every student and staff member, and we look forward to an inspiring year ahead!



Workman Elementary School (TK-5)

16000 Workman St., La Puente, CA 91744 • 626/933-4201 • workman.hipschools.org



Erika Valenzuela
Principal

Responsible Citizenship!

Workman Elementary School's school mission states that *Workman Community strives for academic excellence, positive environments, and to develop global citizens.* With this in mind, early in the school year, students were encouraged to be

active participants of their school community by running for school elected positions to form our Student Council. Students in 3rd through 5th grades had the opportunity to run for a position, participate in a campaigning week, and deliver speeches to our student body. Students got to know their candidates through their interactions, posters that were hung on walls, as well as their inspiring speeches. They were excited to vote for the best candidates and we now have a newly elected Student Council who is eager to lead and make our school a better place to learn. Wolverines are ready to make a difference!



Ariel Albavera, Vice President, delivering her speech.

Novelist –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: SchoolNewsKay@gmail.com Please put Hacienda LaPuente in the subject line.

Entries must be received by November 15, 2024

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

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| COMPUTER | PEN |
| EDITOR | BROWSER |
| IPAD | GOOGLE |
| SPELLCHECK | INTERNET |
| PRINTER | BING |
| PUBLISHER | ASPIRIN |
| NOTEPAD | KEYBOARD |
| READERS | TELEPHONE |
| PENCIL | WIFI |
| IDEAS | IMAGINATION |



Los Angeles County Office of Education

Innovation Lab Program Bring Educators and Tech Companies Together to Develop Solutions For K-12 Education



Debra Duardo,
M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent

A new Innovation Lab program launched this summer as part of a partnership between the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) and the University of Southern California (USC) Edtech Accelerator, with the support of the Greater Los Angeles Education Foundation (GLAEF). The groundbreaking collaborative effort seeks to

gather input from educators and staff on some of the most pressing challenges facing K-12 schools today in hopes of developing better solutions to those complex problems.

This summer, LACOE, USC and GLAEF brought together educators from across Los Angeles County for an Innovation Design Summit to listen to their concerns. The event, held at USC on August 2, 2024, gave educators an opportunity to share firsthand experiences and identify pain points that have long hindered their ability to effectively support students.

Instead of vendors selling solutions in a vacuum, the Innovation Lab Program prioritizes a collaborative model where schools drive the process. This approach ensures that technology solutions are carefully considered and strategically implemented to address the specific needs of schools and ultimately improve student outcomes.

Identifying specific challenges faced by school districts was the first step in the Innovation Lab Program. Next steps include:

- **Solution Sourcing:** Leveraging USC's network to discover potential technology solutions.
- **Company Development:** Providing selected tech companies with a curriculum to enhance their product efficacy and market readiness.
- **Teacher Engagement:** Involving teachers in the program to provide feedback on technology solutions.
- **Evaluation and Dissemination:** Assessing the effectiveness of the solutions and sharing findings to create a trusted vendor network.

By placing teachers at the forefront of the solution-finding process, The Innovation Lab Program aims to create tools that are not only effective but also truly meet the needs of those on the front lines.

This powerful partnership, with its innovative approach aims to transform how technology is integrated into education and enhance the learning experience for students.

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