

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Ocean View School District



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November 2024

OVSD Schools Shine with PBIS Recognition for Outstanding Positive Behavior Programs!



INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Julianne Hoefer
Interim
Superintendent

Embracing the Spirit of Giving: A Grateful Partnership

As we enter the season of giving, it's a time to reflect on the power of generosity and the impact it has on our community. This season reminds us that when we come together in the spirit of giving, we can make a profound difference in the lives of others—especially in education, where every bit of support helps create opportunities for students and teachers alike.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Assistance League of Huntington Beach for their incredible generosity. Through their *Links to Learning* program, they have awarded \$28,500 to fund materials and programs that will greatly enrich

and enhance our teachers' curriculums. This year, 32 applications were submitted, benefiting 48 teachers, all of whom will be better equipped to foster learning and inspire our students.

None of this would be possible without the remarkable 80,000 volunteer hours the Assistance League has dedicated to our community. Their selflessness embodies the true meaning of the season—giving without expectation, and investing in the future of our children.

During this special time of year, we are reminded of the power of partnership and the incredible things we can achieve together. Thank you, Assistance League of Huntington Beach, for not only your generous contributions, but for showing us what it truly means to give.



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Healthy Meals, Happy Students: Ocean View Celebrates National School Lunch Week

By Jack C. Souders, President

Earlier this month, Ocean View School District celebrated National School Lunch Week. Our amazing Food & Nutrition Services staff work tirelessly to nourish our students with healthy meals and snacks every day, ensuring they have the energy they need to succeed both in and out of the classroom. A huge thank you to our incredible team for their commitment and dedication.

I would like to shine a spotlight on our Central Kitchen staff, who prepare scratch-made breakfasts and lunches. From fresh fruits and vegetables to wholesome grains and lean proteins, the team ensures that every meal served is balanced, delicious,

and designed to support the well-being of our students. From preparation at the Central Kitchen to service at all our schools across the district. Every step is handled with care, ensuring that students receive the highest quality meals.

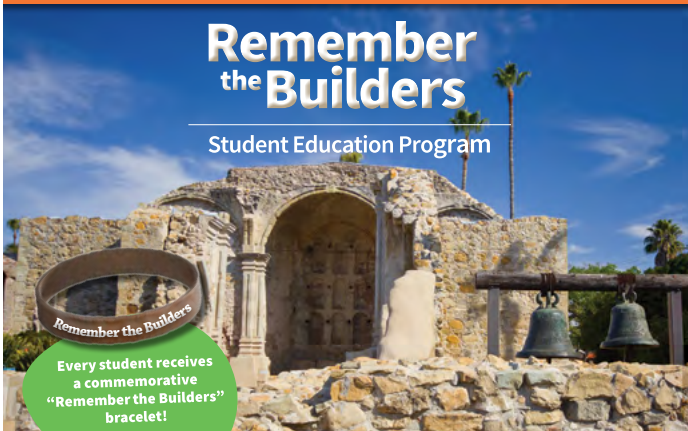
One of the many benefits offered by the Ocean View School District is that all students receive meals free of charge. This vital program helps remove barriers to access and ensures that every child has the opportunity to enjoy nutritious food, allowing them to focus on learning and thriving in the classroom.

Thank you again to our fantastic Food & Nutrition team for their hard work and dedication in nourishing our students and supporting their success!

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Student Education Program



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Child Development Programs

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



Jenna Landero
Coordinator

Child Development Programs Expand Before and After School Childcare Offerings

The Child Development Programs are proud to announce the expansion of before- and after-school childcare programs for the 2024-25 school year, now serving over 1,200 students across the district. These programs have created an inclusive environment where students from diverse backgrounds can participate in a range of enriching activities designed to promote both academic and personal growth. Students have access to robust offerings in art, music, STEM, and sports, as well as social-emotional development opportunities that support their well-being and help them build valuable life skills.

In partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Huntington Valley, which operates at seven school sites, and district-hosted programs at six additional locations, the program continues to grow. These collaborative efforts ensure that students not only receive quality childcare but also benefit from meaningful, hands-on learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom.



This year, the program has also introduced a valuable new collaboration with the UCLA Spark Reach Institute, bringing disguised learning activities that encourage creativity and problem-solving. This partnership includes ongoing professional development for staff, equipping them with innovative teaching strategies that enhance the learning environment and keep students engaged.

As the demand for childcare services continues to grow, the Child Development Programs are actively seeking additional staff members to join the team. This expansion is a testament to the district's commitment to supporting families, providing a safe and enriching space for students before and after school. By continuously enhancing the program's offerings and maintaining high-quality care, these programs remain an essential resource for working families and a key part of the students' overall educational experience.



Circle View *Elementary (K-5)*

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



Julie Ernst
Principal

Empowering Every Learner: Circle View's Commitment to Universal Design for Learning

At Circle View, our focus on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) ensures that every student can succeed by addressing their unique learning needs. UDL is an educational framework that promotes flexibility in teaching methods, materials, and assessments, ensuring that lessons are accessible to all learners. By incorporating multiple modes of teaching, Circle View creates an inclusive environment where students can learn in ways that best suit their strengths, whether through visual, auditory, or hands-on experiences.



Mrs. Chavez, first-grade teacher

Our classrooms are designed to be interactive and engaging, with activities that promote collaboration among peers and choice. This allows students to learn from different perspectives and embrace the uniqueness of everyone, fostering a sense of belonging where each student feels valued. Flexible seating options also provide students the freedom to choose their optimal learning environment, promoting comfort and focus.

By allowing students to make choices in their learning process, we empower them to take ownership of their education. This combination of interactive learning and thoughtful lesson design ensures that every student is actively involved in their journey toward success.



College View *Elementary* (K-5)

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



Allen Mendrin
Principal

Building Relationships at College View Elementary

Hello, College View community! I'm thrilled to introduce myself as the proud principal of College View Elementary. As we begin a new school year, one of my top priorities is building strong relationships with staff, students, and families.

At College View, we are deeply committed to fostering relationships with our students based on trust, respect—for themselves, others, and school property—empathy, and creating a sense of belonging. We believe that every student is capable of behaving in a safe, respectful, and responsible manner. To support this belief, our staff takes a unified approach using PBIS schoolwide systems for social and emotional learning, behavior, and overall school climate.

Our efforts include greeting students at the door each morning, holding daily check-ins, engaging in get-to-know-you activities, and conducting classroom circle times to create a supportive environment. We also provide group play and socialization opportunities through events like assemblies to help students build community and practice important social skills.

I'm excited to grow and strengthen our relationships with all of College View's stakeholders throughout the year. This is going to be a fantastic school year, and I'm confident that by focusing on relationships, we're setting the foundation for success. Let's work together to make this year truly special!



Golden View *Environmental Science School*

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



Venus Moeller
Principal

Celebrating Positive Behavior with PBIS

We are excited to share some fantastic news about our commitment to fostering a positive learning environment at Golden View Elementary School!

One of the ways in which Golden View shares expected student norms and behaviors is by implementing the Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) framework. This system is designed to promote and reinforce positive behaviors in our students, using a consistent and common school-wide language, which helps students thrive both academically and socially. Through PBIS, we teach our students the expectations for behavior, recognize their successes, and create a supportive school culture.

1. **Key components of PBIS include:**

Clear Expectations: We define and teach expected behaviors in various settings around our school.

2. Positive Reinforcement: Students receive praise and rewards for demonstrating positive behaviors, encouraging them to continue these actions.

3. Data-Driven Decisions: We use data to track behavior trends and improve our interventions, ensuring all students receive the support they need.

We are thrilled to announce that Golden View Elementary has been recognized with the SILVER Implementation Award at our recent district board meeting. This accolade reflects our dedication to implementing PBIS effectively and highlights the positive impact it has on our school community.

We want to extend our gratitude to our amazing staff, students, and families for their ongoing support and commitment to creating a positive environment. Together, we are making a difference and keeping our students safe!



Harbour View *Elementary* (K-5)

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



Jady Grunbaum
Principal

Dual Language Immersion and Cultural Awareness at Harbour View

Harbour View Elementary School proudly offers a comprehensive Spanish Dual Language Immersion Program for grades K-5. This innovative program immerses students in both English and Spanish, fostering bilingualism and cultural appreciation. By learning academic subjects like math,

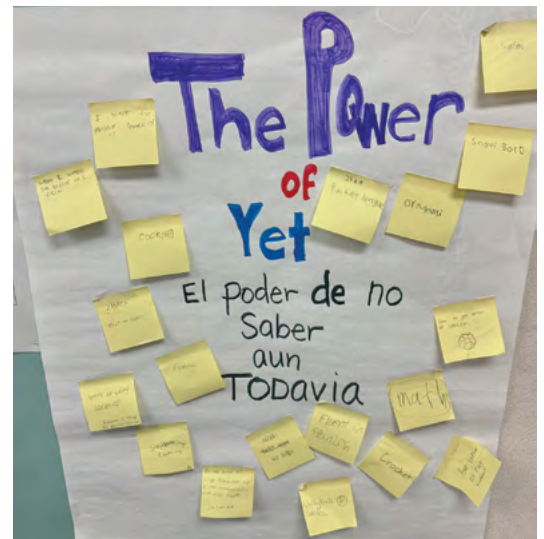
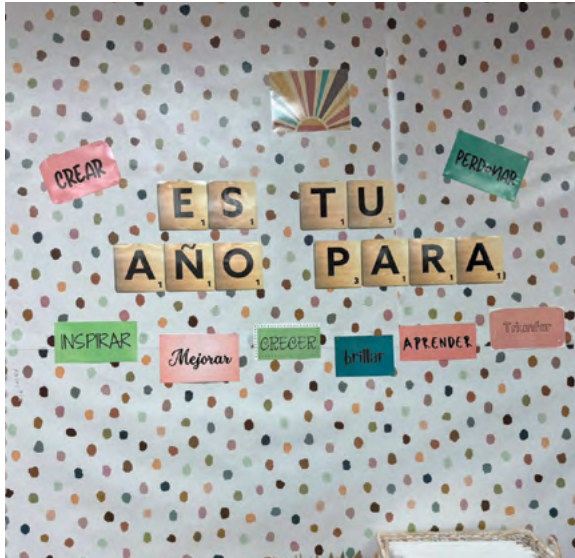
science, and social studies in both languages, students develop proficiency in both English and Spanish, setting them up for long-term success and a deeper understanding of diverse cultures.

In addition to the immersion program, with the generous support of our PTA, Harbour View offers Spanish Introduction lessons school-wide. This means every student, regardless of whether they are enrolled in the immersion program, has the opportunity to learn

the basics of the Spanish language and gain exposure to Hispanic cultures. This school-wide approach helps us create an inclusive environment, where language learning is celebrated and accessible to all.

We are also thrilled to announce that this year, as part of our commitment to teaching cultural practices from around the world, we will be showcasing altars for El Día de Los Muertos across our campus. This exciting event will provide students with the opportunity to learn about this important Mexican tradition, deepening their understanding of how different cultures honor their loved ones and celebrate life.

At Harbour View, we believe bilingualism and cultural education go hand in hand. Through our Spanish Dual Language Immersion Program, school-wide Spanish lessons, and events like the Día de Los Muertos altars, we strive to create a learning environment that is inclusive, diverse, and globally minded.



Hope View *Elementary* (K-5)

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



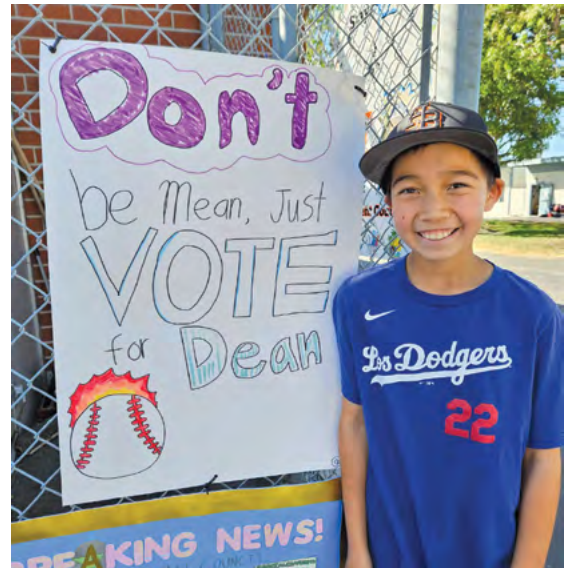
Christina Luckey
Principal

Student Council

Fall is here, and we're excited to kick off the voting for our next student council members! Pictured are some of the candidates who have already put up their posters and are preparing for their class speeches. At Hope View, we're committed to developing not only outstanding scholars but also strong leaders. Those elected to the student council will represent our school and assist with activities like dress-up days, Community of Caring events, skate nights, and much more.

Student council members, from class representatives to elected officers, play an important role in enhancing campus life for all grade levels. As we continue to foster leadership and character, we're reminded of Martin Luther King Jr.'s words: "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education."

At Hope View, we believe that leadership and good character go hand-in-hand. By encouraging students to take on responsibilities, work collaboratively, and serve their peers, we're shaping future leaders who are both compassionate and capable. Our PBIS and SEL activities align with this vision, further reinforcing that character counts at Hope View Elementary!



Lake View *Elementary* (K-5)

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



**Jill
Van Der Linden**
Principal

Space Force Comes to Lake View

Space Force is a branch of the military that protects U.S. and allied interests in space. Lake View was fortunate enough to have the Space Force visit our school last week. 2nd and 3rd grade students gathered to learn about

the fascinating world of rockets. The presentation introduced students to the science behind rocket propulsion and the principles of aerodynamics.

After the informative session, students designed and crafted simple rockets using paper and PVC materials. Each child designed their own unique rocket, eager to see whose would soar the highest.



Once the rockets were assembled, students took turns launching their rockets to see how far they would fly. Cheers erupted as they took to the sky, showcasing the students' hard work and the principles they had just learned.

The visit was not only educational but also inspiring, igniting a passion for science and engineering among our students. Many left with a newfound interest in becoming astronauts or engineers. In a STEAM school, we depend on these experiences to give our students real life examples of potential careers they can aspire to. The sky's the limit!



Marine View *Middle School* (6–8)

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



Sara Schaible
Principal

Anchors Program

Marine View is very excited to bring back our Anchors Program. Anchors is a student led program that promotes a positive social environment during lunch. This program is overseen by teachers but truly led by peer volunteers from each grade level. Our Anchor students work collaboratively to plan engaging activities and provide

an environment that is welcoming for all students. All students are welcomed to join the Anchors students at lunch in the library to participate in activities such as trivia games, board games, puzzles, Legos, and even Foosball. Students who wish to have a social alternative during lunch or are looking to meet new friends are encouraged to come and hang out. Anchors is an engaging place that promotes positive connections and fun lunchtime activities.



Mesa View Middle School (6–8)

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



Isis Ortiz
Principal

The Love of Reading and Family Connections at Mesa View

This past month, Mesa View Middle School has been filled with the joy of reading and the importance of family connections to the school community. We had the privilege of hosting John Shu, author of *Louder Than Thunder*, for a special

assembly where he shared his journey of falling in love with books. His dynamic presentation captivated students as he spoke about how books supported him through difficult times. The event also included book giveaways, and Shu stayed after the assembly to sign copies and connect with students, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

The excitement continued with our PTSO-sponsored Scholastic Book Fair. Students eagerly selected new books to add to their home libraries, fostering a love of reading

outside of school. Thanks to the support from PTSO, we were able to add fresh titles to our ever-growing school library, overseen by our dedicated librarian, Mrs. Miller.

Mrs. Miller's passion has been to bring new books to our library that students are interested in. Each summer she grabs a stack of books to read and then shares them with students as Mrs. Miller's summer reading to help emphasize that reading is fun even on vacation.

Our Language Arts teachers are also instilling the love of reading by participating in our First Chapter Fridays. The first Friday of every month the entire school is introduced to a new book by exploring the first chapter. Students are exposed to the audio of the first chapter of a popular reading book. Many times we find tracks that have the author reading the chapter. Then students are able to see an interview with the author and finally they can put their names in for a raffle for

a free copy of the book. Students get to keep that book at home and enjoy reading it just for fun.



Oak View *Elementary* (K-5)

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



Araceli Osborn
Principal

Exploring and Learning: Oak View Elementary's Hands-On Adventures

At Oak View Elementary, the spirit of discovery is alive and well, thanks to engaging hands-on learning experiences that captivate our young scholars. This year, our students have been diving into activities that not only educate but also inspire creativity and collaboration.

Our fifth grade students donned gloves to create their own healthy snacks. As they mixed ingredients and shaped treats, they learned about nutrition and teamwork in a fun, interactive way. The smiles on their faces said it all—learning is not just about books; it's about doing and experiencing.

Our commitment to experiential learning extends beyond the classroom. Recently, local firefighters visited our second grade classrooms giving students an up-close look at their equipment and sharing safety tips. Our

scholars were thrilled to interact with real-life heroes, sparking curiosity and respect for community helpers. With Sparky the Fire Dog making an appearance, the event was both educational and entertaining.

Our third graders are also exploring artifacts as they delve into California history. This hands-on approach brings the past to life, allowing students to connect with history in a tangible way. These hands-on experiences are more than just fun—they're crucial for developing problem-solving skills and enhancing memory retention. By engaging in practical activities, students are better able to grasp complex concepts and apply their knowledge in real-world scenarios.

At Oak View Elementary, we believe that learning should be as dynamic as our students. Through these enriching activities, we're not only teaching academic skills but also fostering a lifelong love of learning. Here's to a year filled with exploration and growth for our amazing scholars!



Star View *Elementary* (K-5)

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



Jeanne Bentley
Principal

Differentiated Small Group Instruction at Star View

Small group instruction at Star View School enhances reading and writing lessons by providing targeted, individualized instruction tailored to each student's needs. This approach allows teachers to monitor progress closely and adapt strategies, fostering a deeper understanding of literacy concepts for students.

Teachers guide groups through shared reading and writing, where students analyze text structures and author techniques, fostering critical thinking. This approach enhances comprehension and inspires students to express their insights through writing.

Key benefits include:

- **Personalized Attention:**

Smaller groups enable focused support, ensuring students receive immediate feedback and encouragement.

- **Engagement and Interaction:**

Collaborative activities promote active participation, making learning more enjoyable and effective where students feel successful.

- **Skill Development:**

Teachers can address specific skills like phonics, comprehension, and writing techniques, helping students build confidence in their abilities.

Overall, this method at Star View School is designed to cultivate a love for reading and writing while preparing students for future academic success.



Village View *Elementary* (K-5)

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



Shannon Mudry
Principal

Together We Can Do More

At Village View, we value family and community partnerships — together we can do more! Our home-school focus for 2024-2025 is building a love of reading. Our program, “Partners in Literacy,” refers to the collaborative effort between the school and families to support and nurture their children’s love of reading and literacy development.

One long-standing and cherished tradition at Village View is the annual Grandparents and Special Friends Day. This past September, our school welcomed families to join their children for an afternoon filled with stories, snacks, and sunshine. Students and their special visitors gathered on blankets across the school lawn, playground, and lunch benches, where they enjoyed reading their favorite books together. This much-anticipated event, designed to promote literacy and strengthen the bond between generations, saw a fantastic turnout of almost 250 visitors.

Village View’s PTO sponsored the family event with sweet treats, cool drinks, and a fun photo opportunity. Families were also able to shop at the annual Book Fair and purchase Dippin’ Dots to support the school’s fifth-grade overnight field trip. The PTO’s President, Ashley Patterson, praised the event, saying, “It’s wonderful to see our students connect with their grandparents through the power of reading. Events like these help foster a love for books and strengthen family bonds.”

The Grandparents and Special Friends Day was a resounding success, leaving everyone with fond memories, new stories, and a deeper appreciation for the power of reading.

To learn more about Village View’s Partners in Literacy program, including our weekly segment, “Bedtime Stories with Mrs. Mudry,” check out our Instagram account (@villageview.dolphins).



Vista View *Middle School* (6–8)

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



Manny Quezada
Principal

Lacrosse Clinic

Vista View Middle School students had an exciting day as they participated in a lacrosse clinic hosted by Chapman University's Lacrosse team. The event introduced students to the fast-paced and energetic sport of lacrosse, offering them the chance to learn new skills while having fun.

During the clinic, Chapman players guided students through a series of drills focused on stick handling, passing, and shooting, while explaining the basic rules of the game. For many students, it was their first time experiencing lacrosse, and the opportunity to engage in a hands-on learning environment made it all the more enjoyable.

"I didn't know lacrosse could be so much fun!" said one student, beaming after a successful drill.

The clinic also featured friendly scrimmages, allowing students to practice their new skills in a game setting. The energy and excitement were palpable as students cheered each other on and embraced the challenges of the sport.

The event was a huge success, with students leaving not only more knowledgeable about lacrosse but also eager for future opportunities to engage in the sport. It was a day filled with learning, teamwork, and plenty of fun.



Westmont Elementary (K-5)

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



Diana Bianco
Principal

Westmont Elementary Rolls Out the Red Carpet for Reading

Lights, camera, action! Westmont Elementary School kicked off its reading program in true Hollywood style with a star-studded Red Carpet Reader event. The school transformed into



a dazzling premiere, complete with a red carpet, and VIP treatment for its most important guests – the students.

The spotlight shined brightly on special guest author John Schu, who captivated the audience with his engaging assemblies. Schu, known for his ability to inspire young readers, shared his passion for books and the magic of storytelling. The excitement was palpable as students hung on his every word, their imaginations ignited by the power of literature. But the real stars of the show were the Westmont students themselves. They strutted down the red carpet, feeling like celebrities as they entered the world of reading. Each student received the VIP treatment making them feel like true literary stars, some even received autographed books!

The Westmont staff didn't miss their chance to shine either. Embracing the glamorous theme, some of the staff donned their most snazzy outfits, adding to the event's festive atmosphere. Their enthusiasm was contagious, further fueling the students' excitement for reading.

This innovative approach to launching a reading program did more than just entertain – it created a lasting buzz around books. By associating reading with the glitz and glamor of Hollywood, Westmont Elementary succeeded in making literacy cool and exciting for its students.

As the red carpet was rolled up and the spotlight dimmed, one thing was clear: at Westmont Elementary, every reader is a star, and every book is a ticket to adventure. This Red Carpet Reader event wasn't just a kickoff; it was the beginning of a blockbuster year of reading.



Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92628 • 714/966-4000 • www.ocde.us

AI Signals a New Era for Teaching and Learning in Orange County



Dr. Stefan Bean
Superintendent

As an eighth-grader, Ibrahim Memon from Tustin's Legacy Magnet Academy began working on an AI-powered app designed to allow rideshare drivers to keep 100 percent of their fares.

Today, Ibrahim is a high school junior. And his app? It's operational in Seattle.

Ibrahim's story highlights the extraordinary potential of Orange County's young innovators, especially when supported

with cutting-edge educational tools like artificial intelligence. And his success is a prime example of the outcomes we hope to encourage and nurture at the Orange County Department of Education through our own AI initiative.

We already know that AI in schools is about more than just the adoption of a new technology. It signals a transformative shift in how we educate our students, and there's no choice but to embrace it.

Indeed, to quote the Borg from Star Trek, "Resistance is futile" — but I don't mean that in a menacing way. The fact is this wave of technology is already here, and now it's up to us to harness it responsibly and strategically to enhance educational outcomes for all learners.

So far, the feedback we've seen from introducing AI in classroom settings has been highly encouraging. These emerging technologies not only make learning more interactive but also tailor instructional experiences to individual needs, making education more effective and engaging. Survey data shows a 90 percent satisfaction rate among students participating in AI-driven activities.

That said, the foundation of our strategy must be to support educators. That's why OCDE will be advancing AI fluency programs and comprehensive professional development opportunities to help make teachers' work more efficient and to maximize the impact of their instruction. Additionally, we will be promoting collaborative environments where students and teachers can explore the potential of AI together, fostering inclusive and innovative educational spaces.

Our Vision and Goals

At the Orange County Board of Education meeting on Sept. 4, our staff outlined a new strategic vision for the integration of artificial intelligence and the empowerment of students and staff. This wasn't about mandating a new direction, but rather supporting our districts and scaling up the innovative work many are already doing.

As we stated at that meeting, we envision a future where AI revolutionizes education, unlocking unprecedented

opportunities, and we are committed to harnessing its transformative power responsibly to enhance learning, inspire innovation and prepare every student for success in college, careers and beyond. By embedding ethical principles into our AI initiatives, we strive to create an educational environment where technology uplifts humanity, fosters creativity and builds a brighter future for all.

That's the overarching vision, but clear, measurable goals will be essential to ensure that OCDE's AI initiative achieves its intended objectives and enhances educational outcomes.

By 2025, for example, our target is for 90 percent of local districts to adopt ethical AI guidelines that promote responsible use across all educational settings. We also commit to holding regular meetings throughout the year to review progress and adjust strategies to make sure our efforts remain aligned with our broader educational objectives. Additionally, we want to work closely with district leaders to guarantee that all students have access to advanced technologies.

The Road Ahead

Wes Kriesel and Kunal Dalal, who joined OCDE in late 2023 as administrators of AI and innovation, are already providing direct support to our 28 school districts, and they're working in collaboration with Dr. Sabba Quidwai of Designing Schools. Last year, Dr. Quidwai led numerous sessions under the OC AI Forward banner, which brought together local superintendents and other educational leaders to drive this important conversation.

We are also partnering with OC Workforce Solutions and the Orange County Business Council to align our efforts with workforce demands so that students are on track for fulfilling, in-demand careers, and we are actively seeking support from local colleges and universities. Notably, 71 percent of industry leaders already say they prefer candidates with strong AI skills.

As county superintendent, one of my top priorities is to ensure the responsible integration of AI technologies within our educational framework, because we know that those who are adept at harnessing its potential will find themselves at a distinct advantage.

But this initiative isn't merely about adapting to the needs of the future — it's about actively shaping it. Through our collective efforts with our districts and other educational partners, we can and will continue to position Orange County as a leader in educational innovation, one that is actively preparing our students for success in an increasingly AI-driven world.