

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Ocean View School District**



Volume 20, Issue 121

January 2025

## Embracing Innovation and Creativity in 2025







**Ioana Pal, Psy.D.,**  
clinical psychologist,  
Stramski Children's  
Developmental Center,  
Miller Children's & Women's  
Hospital Long Beach

## Long Term Influence of a Simple "Thank You" in Family Relationships

We all know how important it is to nurture strong relationships within our families. Research shows that small acts of appreciation, like saying "thank you," can significantly strengthen family bonds and create an environment of respect, kindness, and warmth that benefits everyone.

Gratitude isn't just about big gestures – it's about recognizing and valuing everyday efforts. A simple "thank you" can help family members feel heard and appreciated, improving trust and emotional connections. This can be especially important in families facing challenges, as expressing gratitude can provide emotional support and comfort during difficult times, and it can help families reframe what is happening to them.

When gratitude becomes a regular practice, children are more likely to carry this positive behavior into friendships, school, and beyond. Teaching your children to recognize and appreciate the small things at home sets a powerful example for their relationships with others.

Further, teaching children gratitude helps them develop important emotional and social skills. It encourages emotional regulation by helping children focus on the good and positive in themselves and

others, which can reduce stress and foster emotional resilience. Grateful children are more empathetic, socially connected, and confident. Research also shows that gratitude boosts self-esteem and promotes pro-social behaviors like kindness and cooperation, leading to stronger social bonds and better mental health.

Tips for Teaching Gratitude:

- **Create a Gratitude Routine:** Set aside time as a family to share things you're thankful for.
- **Praise Effort, Not Just Results:** Focus on praising children's efforts and kindness, not just achievements. This helps build a growth mindset.
- **Give Back:** Encourage children to give back to others through small acts of kindness or volunteering.

At Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach, we're committed to supporting families through every stage of life. The Stramski Children's Developmental Center offers invaluable resources to help parents and families foster emotional and developmental growth in their children. By integrating gratitude into family life, you can build stronger, more resilient relationships that last a lifetime.



**Pablo, Age 6**

## At 11 months, Pablo was fighting for his life.

Today, he's got six candles on his cake.

Failing organs. Eight months in a coma. Fighting for every breath. At 11 months old, this is what Leukemia brought Pablo. The one bright spot, he was at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital where a team of top doctors, nurses, and specialists helped save his life. For over a year in the PICU, our highly-trained staff never stopped caring for Pablo and his family. **Caring is our calling.**

**Learn more at [millerchildrens.org/care](https://millerchildrens.org/care)**



MILLER CHILDREN'S & WOMEN'S HOSPITAL LONG BEACH  
CHERESE MARI LAULHERE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE  
OUTPATIENT SPECIALTY CENTERS  
FROM THE SOUTH BAY TO ORANGE COUNTY



## Interim Superintendent



**Dr. Julianne Hoefer**  
*Interim Superintendent*

### **Celebrating Growth and Creativity in the New Year**

Happy New Year! As we begin 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful energy we've already seen in our schools. The first few weeks of the new year have been filled with enthusiasm as students return to the classroom ready to learn, grow, and engage with their peers and teachers. This excitement sets the tone for an incredible second half of the 2024-25 school year, filled with opportunities for learning, creativity, and connection.

As we look forward, there is so much to be excited about in the months to come. Our schools are buzzing with plans for spring musicals, talent shows, open houses, the District

Music and Art Festivals, and so much more. These events provide a chance for students to shine, showcase their talents, and celebrate their growth alongside family and friends. From captivating performances to the creative displays in our classrooms, these moments highlight the unique talents of our students and the dedication of our educators. They also remind us of the vibrant, supportive communities that make Ocean View School District so special.

Beyond these exciting events, our commitment to excellence continues in the classroom. Teachers are fostering curiosity, collaboration, and critical thinking as they guide students through meaningful learning experiences. We are proud to offer a nurturing environment where every child feels supported, inspired, and ready to achieve their personal best.





## Board of Trustees



**Patricia  
Singer**  
*President*



**Jack C.  
Souders**  
*Vice-President*



**Gina  
Clayton-Tarvin**  
*Clerk*



**Keri  
Gorsage**  
*Member*



**Morgan  
Westmoreland**  
*Member*

### Committed to Excellence in the New Year

*By Patricia Singer, President*

Happy New Year! I'm Patricia Singer, the newly-elected Board of Trustees President for the Ocean View School District. It is truly an honor to serve in this role for the third time, and I look forward to working alongside an exceptional team of leaders, including Vice President Jack Souders, Clerk Gina Clayton-Tarvin, newly-elected Trustee Keri Gorsage, and Trustee Morgan Westmoreland. Together, we are committed to continuing the tradition of excellence that defines our District.

As we begin 2025, there is so much to look forward to. This year promises to be one of growth, innovation, and opportunity. With a focus on cutting-edge teaching practices, we are excited to provide our students with

engaging learning experiences that spark curiosity and inspire creativity. By building meaningful connections within our schools and community, we aim to foster a sense of belonging and support that allows every student to thrive.

Our mission remains clear—helping students build a solid foundation for future success. Whether through academic achievement, personal growth, or hands-on learning opportunities, we are dedicated to preparing our students for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

I look forward to working together with our staff, families, and community partners to make 2025 a year of progress and celebration. Thank you for your continued support of Ocean View School District, and here's to an exciting and successful year ahead!





# 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](http://www.ovsd.org/programs/child-care)



**Jenna Landero**  
Coordinator

## Winter Festivities Delight Students in Ocean View School District After-School Programs

This holiday season, the Ocean View School District's after-school programs, operated at district sites in collaboration with the Boys and Girls Club, were transformed into festive hubs of holiday cheer. Students at these contracted school sites enjoyed a variety of seasonal activities that created lasting memories and celebrated the spirit of the season.

Every student at the Boys and Girls Club-run sites received a special toy, sparking joy and excitement among the children. Beyond the gifts, the students engaged in hands-on holiday crafts, creating beautiful ornaments to take home. The classrooms echoed with cheerful holiday songs as students sang together, fostering a sense of community and celebration.

A highlight of the festivities was cookie decorating, where students showcased their creativity with frosting and sprinkles, adding a sweet touch to the holiday fun. These activities not only brought joy to the children but also strengthened their sense of belonging and engagement in the program.

The winter celebrations were a testament to the success of the Ocean View School District's partnership with the Boys and Girls Club, which operates these programs with dedication and care. This collaboration ensures that students at the district sites have access to enriching, joyful experiences that support their development and well-being.

The festivities were a perfect blend of fun, creativity, and giving, capturing the magic of the holiday season while showcasing the incredible impact of these after-school programs on the Ocean View community.





# Circle View *Elementary* (K-5)

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5305 • [circle.ovsd.org](http://circle.ovsd.org)



**Julie Ernst**  
*Principal*

## A Stellar Adventure

5th Grade GATE students soared to new heights during Space Day, an immersive event celebrating all things space! Students explored gravity, launched rockets, read about space exploration, calculated distances, and even tasted real astronaut food inside a life-like spaceship.

The hands-on activities brought science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to life, sparking curiosity and excitement. From experimenting with gravitational pull to designing rockets, the day was packed with discovery and fun. Space Day inspired our future astronauts and engineers to reach for the stars!



## Creating A Country

5th Grade GATE students also showcased their creativity and skills in the exciting «Create A Country» project. Students worked in teams to design their own countries, complete with unique names, flags, government systems, and cultural traditions. They presented their creations through costumes, written reports, and engaging speeches.

The students proudly shared their countries with classmates, teachers, and families during a special presentation. The entire Circle View community was impressed by their creativity, teamwork, writing, and speaking abilities. It was a true celebration of imagination and hard work!





# College View *Elementary* (K-5)

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • [college.ovsd.org](http://college.ovsd.org)



**Allen Mendrin**  
Principal

## College View Elementary Celebrates Impressive Growth in ELA and Math

College View Elementary is thrilled to announce significant academic achievements in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math, as shown by the latest state assessments. ELA scores soared with an 8.83% increase, while Math saw a strong improvement of 5.54%. These results reflect the dedication and hard work of

our exceptional teachers and staff who are committed to ensuring student success.

At College View, our educators are deeply focused on meeting each student where they are academically, tailoring instruction to their unique needs. By using purposeful, data-driven strategies, our teachers engage students in meaningful ways that lead to real understanding and growth. This targeted, intentional approach has been instrumental in closing learning gaps and refining our methods to ensure every student thrives.

Principal Mendrin credits this success to the school's strategic focus. "We are incredibly proud of the academic progress we've achieved," Mendrin said. "We're excited to continue enhancing our instructional practices and building on this momentum."

This growth underscores College View's unwavering

belief in helping every student reach their full potential. By leveraging data to inform instruction and empower students, we create opportunities for continuous improvement. Whether recovering from setbacks or striving toward new goals, College View students are set up to succeed in a supportive and dynamic learning environment.

As we look ahead, the staff at College View is energized by these achievements and eager to continue delivering an exceptional education that prepares every student for a bright and promising future.





# Golden View *Environmental Science School*

17251 Golden View Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • [golden.ovsd.org](https://golden.ovsd.org)



**Venus Moeller**  
*Principal*

## Golden View Elementary Honored with 2024 CSBA Golden Bell Award

On December 5th, 2024, Golden View Elementary School was the proud recipient of the prestigious 2024 California School Boards Association Golden Bell Award for its innovative Environmental Science program. This groundbreaking initiative integrates environmental literacy into all subjects, following the Next Generation Science

Standards and California's Environmental Principles and Concepts.

The program leverages the school's two-and-a-half-acre farm, featuring animals, organic gardens, and outdoor classrooms, to provide hands-on learning experiences. Students engage in real-world problem-solving, such as reducing algae growth and waste, while also participating in civic engagement projects like "Take Action," addressing local environmental challenges.

The initiative has transformed Golden View, boosting enrollment, academic outcomes, and community engagement. The program emphasizes sustainability, interdisciplinary learning, and fostering environmentally conscious future leaders. This accolade highlights Golden View as a beacon for innovation in education and is a testament to the vision and dedication of the Golden View team.

For more, visit Ocean View School District's website or Golden View Elementary.





# Harbour View *Elementary* (K-5)

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-6602 • [harbour.ovsd.org](http://harbour.ovsd.org)



**Jady N Grunbaum**  
*Principal*

## Inspiring Musical Minds Across Grades

At Harbour View Elementary, music education is a cornerstone of our community. Under the expert guidance of Ms. Maeda for primary grades (TK-3) and Ms. Stressling for upper grades (4-5), students embark on a joyful journey of rhythm, instrumental music, and choral performance.

In the primary grades, Ms. Maeda introduces our youngest learners to the magical world of music. Through engaging activities, students explore foundational rhythm patterns, experiment with percussion instruments, and develop their voices in delightful choral exercises. This year's Winter Concert was a resounding success, showcasing the confidence and enthusiasm of our budding performers.

As students transition to the upper grades, Ms. Stressling takes their musical education to the next level. Grades 4 and 5 delve deeper into instrumental techniques, explore more complex rhythmic structures, and harmonize in choral arrangements. These experiences not only refine their musical skills but also foster teamwork and creativity.

Both programs aim to cultivate a lifelong appreciation for music while providing every student with the opportunity to shine. With the foundation set by the primary program and the advanced learning in the upper grades, Harbour View Elementary is proud to nurture well-rounded, musically enriched students, and we were happy to host Marine View performers in December, seeing many past Harbour View students perform for our students here. Stay tuned for more magical moments from our inspiring young musicians!





# Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • [hope.ovsd.org](http://hope.ovsd.org)



**Christina Luckey**  
*Principal*

## Reinforcing Positive Choices

At Hope View, we understand the role that clear systems and routines play in our students' success. We also recognize that maintaining high expectations for behavior directly enhances student learning and fosters self-efficacy. This foundational aspect of the learning process drives our commitment to explicitly teaching and practicing expected behaviors across all areas of our campus.

To support this, every location on campus features a "behavior matrix" designed to guide students in understanding expectations and routines. Teachers and staff dedicate time at the beginning and middle of each year to ensure that all students receive clear instruction on what is expected in various settings. The photo included here highlights teachers actively engaging students in learning expectations for specific games or areas of the campus.

In addition to these efforts, we are proud to have Helpful Hawks, upper-grade students who volunteer their time to support younger peers on the playground, as well as tutors who assist in classrooms to support

student learning. These leadership opportunities allow our older students to build responsibility while making a positive impact on our school community. For example, pictured here is a Helpful Hawk from Mrs. Paulino's 5th-grade class, creatively engaging with outdoor games during our kindergarten lunch recess time.

To reinforce positive choices, Hope View's Making a Difference (MAD) tickets provide ongoing encouragement once behaviors are taught. This approach is a key component of our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework. While playground rules are just one part of the system, they exemplify the comprehensive effort we make to create a supportive and structured environment for all students.





# Lake View *Elementary* (K-5)

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • [lake.ovsd.org](http://lake.ovsd.org)



**Jill  
Van Der Linden**  
*Principal*

## Lake View's Bubble Run: A Bubbly Fundraiser for Fun and Education

The Lake View community recently came together for an exciting and unique fundraising event — the Bubble Run. This colorful and laughter-filled event brought students, parents, and teachers out into the fresh sunshine for a day of bubbly excitement and charitable giving.

Participants of all ages ran laps through a sea of fluffy, colorful foam, creating a magical atmosphere that delighted both children and adults alike. The non-competitive nature of the event allowed families to go at their own pace, walking, running, or dancing through bubbly obstacles.

The real stars of the day were the Lake View students, who enthusiastically embraced the challenge. Their beaming smiles and contagious laughter as they navigated through the bubbles were a testament to the event's success. Not only did the children have an incredible time, but they also took pride in knowing that their efforts were directly benefiting their school.

This innovative fundraiser proved to be an excellent way to promote physical activity, community spirit, and educational support all at once. The money raised will go towards enhancing Lake View's educational programs and resources, ensuring that the fun-filled day will have a lasting positive impact on the students' learning experience.





# Marine View *Middle School* (6–8)

7721 Juliette Low Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-0624 • [marine.ovsd.org](http://marine.ovsd.org)



**Sara Schaible**  
*Principal*

## Change of Seasons Concert

Before the winter break, Marine View Visual & Performing Arts (VAPA) students took to the stage for our annual Change of Seasons Concert. The evening brought a full audience to the gym as almost 300 of our students took to the stage to perform. Families enjoyed performances by our Beginning Music Class, Guitar Class, Intermediate 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's performing arts students had the opportunity to visit our elementary schools in Ocean View School District to provide elementary students and staff 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 • [mesa.ovsd.org](https://mesa.ovsd.org)



**Isis Ortiz**  
*Principal*

## Showcasing Students' Artistic Talents

Mesa View Middle School celebrated the end of 2024 with vibrant performances showcasing its students' artistic talents. As the year drew to a close, the school's music and dance departments took center stage, delighting audiences with their energy and creativity.

On December 12th, a landmark event took place—the first ever performance by Mesa View's eagerly awaited dance teams. This showcase, choreographed by the gifted Ms. Woods, featured the school's two dance teams performing routines that captured the festive spirit of the holidays. Ms. Woods, known for her passion and dedication to dance, led her teams in performances that mesmerized both students during the day and families in the evening at the Mesa View Gym.

The same day also highlighted the musical talents within the school. Under the direction of Mr. Nicolosi, the band, orchestra, and choir teacher, students from two band classes, two orchestra classes, and the choir class performed an eclectic mix of holiday music from around the world. The performances were not only a testament to the students' hard work throughout the year but also a reflection of Mesa View's commitment to fostering an appreciation for cultural diversity through music.

In addition to these performances, Mesa View's visual arts program is preparing for an exciting year ahead. Later in 2025, Mr. Nicolosi's groups will be featured at the Ocean View School District Music Festival on March 20th at Marine View Middle School. Our dance classes will be featured at the Ocean View School District Art Showcase on April 4th hosted at the Ocean View District Office site. This special project will involve collaborations with our other local Ocean View School students. This initiative aims to further integrate the visual arts into the community, providing students with invaluable real-world experience and the chance to showcase their work beyond the classroom.

The enthusiasm and success of these performances have set a high standard for the upcoming year, promising more opportunities for Mesa View students to develop their skills and share their talents with the community. As Mesa View Middle School welcomes 2025, it continues to nurture a vibrant and inclusive environment where the arts thrive and students excel.





# Oak View *Elementary* (K-5)

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • [oak.ovsd.org](http://oak.ovsd.org)



**Araceli Osborn**  
*Principal*

## Oak View Elementary School Reflects on a Festive Season and Looks Ahead to 2025

As we settle into the new year, Oak View Elementary School looks back on a November and December filled with joy, community spirit, and festive cheer.

The highlight of December was undoubtedly the Oak View Gala, a special evening that transformed our school into a winter wonderland. We had over 300 community members join us for a truly special evening.

We're still buzzing with excitement from the success of our first ever Bubble Fun Run, which took place in November. Our school community raised almost \$8,000. The funds raised will enrich our students' educational experiences throughout this new year, including field trips and assemblies.

One of the most exciting events of December was Oak View's Santa Day. The joy on our students' faces as they had one-on-one time with Santa Claus was truly magical. Our scholars loved sharing their holiday wishes with Santa and friends.

The holiday shop was another highlight, allowing our scholars to experience the joy of giving. Students carefully selected gifts for their loved ones, learning valuable lessons about thoughtfulness and budgeting in the process.

As we embrace 2025, the spirit of togetherness and celebration that characterized the end of the year continues to inspire us. We look forward to building on this momentum, creating more opportunities for growth, learning, and community engagement in the months to come.

Stay tuned for exciting announcements about upcoming events and initiatives as we continue to make 2025 a year to remember at Oak View Elementary!





## Star View *Elementary* (K-5)

8411 Worthy Ln., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • [star.ovsd.org](http://star.ovsd.org)



**Jeanne Bentley**  
*Principal*

### Brewing Success and Community Spirit

The aroma of freshly brewed coffee wafts through the halls of Star View School on Friday mornings, thanks to the enterprising students in the 3rd-4th-5th grade special day class (SDC). Their small business venture, a student-run coffee shop, is more than just a place to grab a morning pick-me-up; it's a valuable learning experience and a boost to the school community.

This innovative program offers SDC students hands-on experience in running a business. From managing

inventory and handling cash transactions to providing customer service, students gain real-world skills that will serve them in life. Profits from the venture are reinvested into the classroom, providing additional resources for students to engage in hands-on activities.

The coffee shop offers a unique opportunity for students to develop social and communication skills in a supportive environment. Teachers, parents, and even our Huntington Beach Police Officers will chat over coffee in the morning. SDC's coffee shop is a shining example of how a student-run business can create meaningful learning experiences and community-building.





## Village View *Elementary* (K–5)

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • [village.ovsd.org](http://village.ovsd.org)



**Shannon Mudry**  
*Principal*

### Marine Science Fun

Did you know that Village View Elementary is home to a Marine Science Program that supports building students' critical thinking and problem solving skills?

One of the most exciting frontiers in Earth science lies in exploring the depths of our oceans. Even though oceans cover about 71% of the planet's surface, we've mapped only a small fraction of the seafloor in detail, and vast regions remain unexplored.

Village View weaves Marine Science learning into the curriculum via monthly sea creature explorations, exploring the Ocean Literacy principles, and hands-on experiments in our campus Dry Lab. Our Marine Science curriculum also includes bringing wet lab experiences to our campus.

Last month, our Dolphins dove into hands-on marine science activities when educators from the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium rolled their traveling wet lab onto campus. Each classroom participated in a specially designed, grade level specific lesson on adaptations for tide pool creatures. In addition to an engaging lesson and hands-on activities inside the classroom, students ventured outside the classroom to visit the "tide pool on wheels" A large touch tank brimming with local tide pool creatures was set up on the blacktop, giving students the rare opportunity to interact safely with sea stars, a moon jelly, a hermit crab, sea urchins, and other fascinating marine life.



Teachers were thrilled to see their students deeply engaged, asking questions and confidently touching animals under the guidance of aquarium staff. One second grader remarked, "I never knew sea stars had tube feet that help them move and eat. It was so cool to see them up close!"

As part of our Marine Science Program, this wet lab experience highlighted the importance of hands-on learning in sparking curiosity about the natural world. By the end of each session, students left with newfound appreciation for marine life and the vital adaptations that help creatures thrive in ever-changing tide pool environments.

To learn more about Village View's Marine Science Program, please contact our front office or visit [www.ovsd.org/village](http://www.ovsd.org/village).





## Vista View *Middle School* (6–8)

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • [vista.ovsd.org](http://vista.ovsd.org)



**Manny Quezada**  
*Principal*

### Vista View Middle School: Culinary Arts Ignites Academic and Creative Growth

Vista View Middle School's Culinary Arts program is a standout offering, blending practical cooking skills with academic learning to inspire students. Led by teacher Lisa Nelson, the class emphasizes real-world applications of math, science, and teamwork.

In every lesson, students practice measuring ingredients, calculating fractions, and understanding scientific principles like chemical reactions in baking. For instance, they explore how

different sugars affect cookie textures or how leaveners work. These hands-on experiences reinforce concepts from core subjects, fostering critical thinking and problem-solving.

Seventh graders rave about the creativity and teamwork the class demands. "We experiment with flavors and learn how science and math are essential," said Allison Garcia. Favorites like pumpkin snickerdoodles and apple galettes combine precision with artistry.

More than cooking, the program instills patience, perseverance, and life skills, preparing students for success in and out of the kitchen.





# Westmont Elementary (K-5)

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • [westmont.ovsd.org](http://westmont.ovsd.org)



**Diana Bianco**  
Principal

## A Time of Joy

The holidays were a time of joy and creativity at Westmont Elementary School this year, as students, teachers, and families came together for a truly magical winter celebration. The school hosted a Winter Showcase that brought the community together in a festive display of talent and artistic expression.

The morning began with a heartwarming performance where students sang and danced to holiday tunes. The lively energy and enthusiasm of the young performers left the audience in awe, with parents and teachers alike applauding the hard work and dedication the children put into their routines.

Adding to the magic, was our stunning art exhibit showcasing the creativity of Westmont's budding artists. Students displayed their artwork, which included a variety of styles and media. From vibrant paintings and intricate sculptures to three dimensional art pieces and creative crafts, the exhibit was a testament to the diverse talents and imaginations of the students.

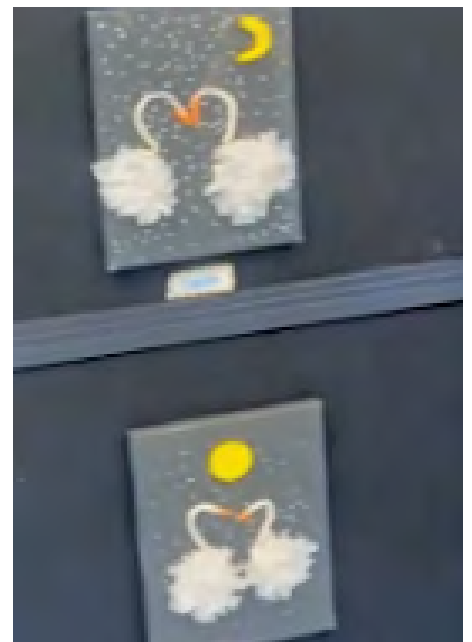
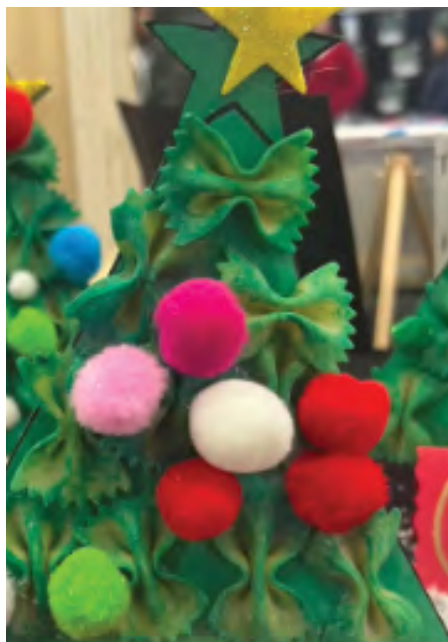
Seeing the kids' faces light up as they shared their talents was truly special. There was so much pride to be seen both on the stage and off. This event is a wonderful way to celebrate the season and the incredible creativity of our students.

Families strolled through the exhibit, marveling at the unique pieces on display and engaging with the artists about their



inspiration and process. The showcase not only celebrated the holiday spirit but also fostered a sense of community pride and appreciation for the arts.

The Westmont Winter Showcase was a festive and heartwarming way to close out 2024, leaving everyone with smiles, lasting memories, and a deep appreciation for the talents of the students. As the school prepares for the new year, the success of the event will surely remain a highlight of the holiday season.





# Things in the Sky—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 OVSD in the subject line.

|          |         |
|----------|---------|
| STARS    | RAIN    |
| SUN      | SNOW    |
| MOON     | SLEET   |
| AIRPLANE | WIND    |
| KITE     | CLOUDS  |
| BALLOON  | SMOG    |
| JUPITER  | FOG     |
| MARS     | PLUTO   |
| MERCURY  | RAINBOW |
| SATURN   | ROCKET  |
| URANUS   |         |

Entries must be received by February 15, 2025  
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win  
a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.!

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | L | Z | L | F | S | R | A | M | B | G | J | O | M |
| B | S | B | J | U | P | I | T | E | R | X | P | E | T |
| A | A | N | J | C | R | B | S | R | A | T | S | D | A |
| K | T | L | O | P | F | Y | P | C | I | L | U | C | C |
| I | U | C | L | O | U | D | S | U | N | A | R | U | F |
| T | R | A | G | O | M | M | N | R | B | O | M | P | R |
| E | N | O | X | Z | O | O | O | Y | O | T | U | L | P |
| E | W | C | Q | G | Q | N | W | M | W | S | V | O | N |
| L | K | N | V | Y | R | I | H | C | D | Z | Q | N | W |
| S | J | J | N | Z | N | Q | I | E | Q | F | K | I | M |
| F | S | G | C | D | P | E | E | X | S | K | X | P | P |

Congratulations to **Naomi Kato**

Winner of our October Word Search Contest!



Learn about  
World History  
US History  
Videos • Art • Music  
Study Habits

**FREE**  
Enjoy!  
History Buffs  
Teachers  
Students

**HistoryDepot.com**

## School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**FOUNDER/PUBLISHER:** Kay Coop

562/493-3193 • schoolnewskay@gmail.com

**CONTENT COORDINATOR:** Barbra Longiny

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION:**

Emily Ung and Mie Kawamura

**COPY EDITORS:** Kate Karp, Anna Zappia **SOCIAL MEDIA:** Nancy Lueder

**SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC**

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

[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com) Copyright © 2006, School News Roll Call, LLC

Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed by contributing writers and guest columnists are their views and not necessarily those of *School News Roll Call*. This publication is privately owned and the right is reserved to select and edit content. The Ocean View School District does not endorse the advertisers in this publication.



GLOBAL VISION

## OPTOMETRY Family Eye Care

We offer  
Myopia  
Management  
with OrthoK or  
soft contact lenses or  
eye drops.

Contact our office  
for more details.

\*Mention this Ad for  
**\$200 off** Myopia  
Management  
package.

- Eye Exams - Glasses & Contact Lenses
- Full Optical - Name Brands & Fashion Eyewear
- Medical Eye Exams - Red/Dry/Pink Eye
- Minor Eye Injuries/ FB Removal
- Lasik/Cataract Consult
- Corneal Topography & Retinal Photos
- Myopia Management
- In House Lab Available Glasses Ready Same Day! (SV, Rx in stock only)

Insurances we accept:

VSP, EYEMED, SPECTERA, MES, SUPERIOR, DAVIS, VBA & more

**STEPHANY VONG, O.D AND ASSOCIATES**

18569 Main St.,  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648  
(Located in the 5 Points Plaza)

**(714) 780-2008**

[www.globalvisionoptometry.com](http://www.globalvisionoptometry.com)





# Orange County Department of Education

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

## 5-3-1 Strategic Plan adds up to OCDE's path forward



**Dr. Stefan Bean**  
*Superintendent*

The holiday season is a natural time for reflection. For organizations like ours, it's also a chance to assess progress, refine approaches and pursue new opportunities for innovation.

With 2024 coming to a close, and as I near the six-month mark as county superintendent, this feels like an opportune moment to share where the Orange County Department of Education is headed — and how we plan to get there.

Recently, we introduced a roadmap designed to guide our work, build on our strengths and set a unified vision for the future. Shaped through active collaboration with educational leaders and community partners, it's called the 5-3-1 Strategic Plan because it's built around five key initiatives, three objectives to support our districts, and one bold goal.

So, what exactly is in our 5-3-1 Strategic Plan? Let's take a look.

### Five Key Initiatives

Five forward-thinking initiatives anchor this plan, targeting areas where innovation can have the most significant impact on students and schools. These include:

- Expanding career technical education. Along with broadening and enhancing CTE programs, we are looking to sharpen our focus on inclusivity, ensuring that these opportunities are accessible to all students.
- Fostering emotional intelligence. Emotional intelligence, or EQ, refers to the ability to understand and manage emotions effectively. These skills are essential for educators, administrators, support staff and students to build strong relationships and healthy learning environments.
- Integrating artificial intelligence. We are actively exploring and pursuing advanced AI technologies that will enhance learning experiences and streamline administrative processes.
- Ensuring school safety. Our commitment to creating secure educational environments will be stronger than ever, supported by comprehensive safety measures and processes.
- Providing innovative funding opportunities. We are looking to create new funding opportunities to back innovative educational projects that can transform learning environments — and ideally be replicated elsewhere.

### Three Support Objectives

Next are three objectives that are specific to the support we provide for our 28 local school districts. These are:

- Legal, legislative and fiscal support. We will equip districts with the tools and training they need to manage complex educational policies and fiscal challenges.
- Academic focus. We remain committed to educational excellence through targeted instructional services and programs that support student success.
- Local superintendent needs. We're providing customized resources to address the unique challenges faced by Orange County's superintendents in service of their districts.

Finally, we come to the last part of our plan.

### One Big Audacious Goal

Our big audacious goal refers to the work we are doing to improve outcomes and opportunities for all students enrolled in OCDE's Alternative Education program, known as ACCESS. This involves actively soliciting feedback from staff, local superintendents and other key partners to craft a comprehensive vision for ACCESS.

As part of this effort, we aim to improve mechanisms for measuring progress and ensuring continuous improvement across all student programs under the ACCESS umbrella. We are also moving forward with plans to develop an ethnic studies curriculum for ACCESS that uplifts our communities and enhances cultural awareness.

OCDE's 5-3-1 Strategic Plan reflects not only our collective aspirations but also our county's shared commitment to innovation and continuous improvement in support of students, families and schools. Think of it as a roadmap that draws on the strengths of our educators as well as the voices of our communities.

Six months into this role, I feel deeply honored to be on this journey with you. I am also confident that we have the people and resources to drive transformative, lasting change. Together, we can create a future where every student thrives, every school becomes a place of possibility, and every community benefits from a strong, cohesive educational system.

Thank you for your trust and partnership. Now let's make this vision a reality.