

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*



**Covering the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District**

Volume 17, Issue 50

May 2025

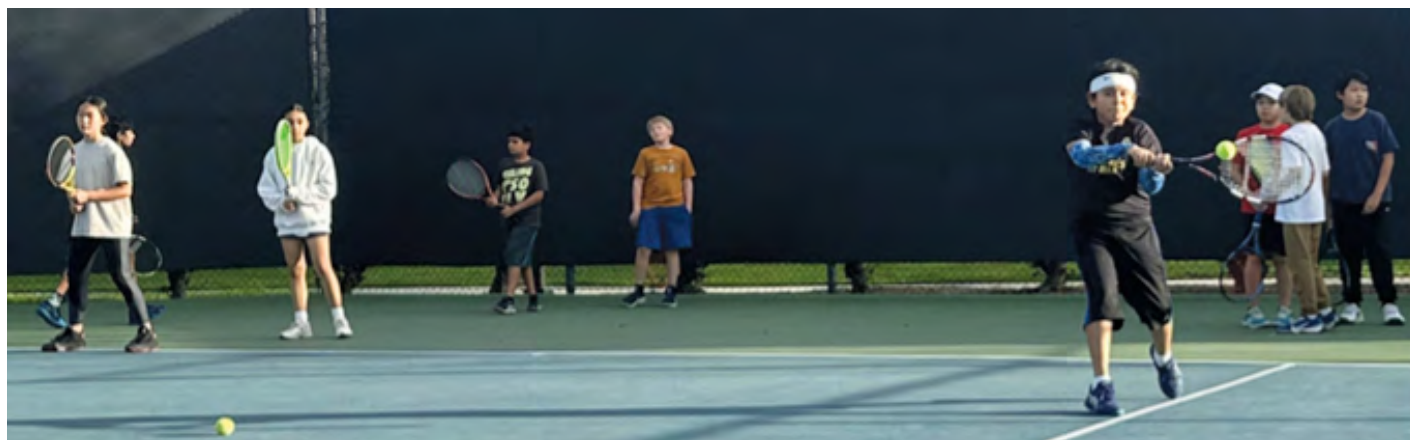
## Three Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District Elementary Sites Named 2025 California Distinguished Schools



# SUMMER



# PROGRAMS



## **ATC Jr. Summer Camp**

Monday – Thursday

8:30am – 11:00am

**\$245.00 per session**

Session 1: 06/09 – 06/12

Session 2: 06/16 – 06/19

Session 3: 06/23 – 06/26

Session 4: 06/30 – 07/03

Session 5: 07/07 – 07/10

Session 6: 07/14 – 07/17

Session 7: 07/28 – 07/31

## **Jr. Beginning 10 & under and Jr. Beginning 10 & Over**

Tuesday & Thursday

4:30pm – 5:30pm

**\$135.00 per session**

Session 1: 06/10 – 06/26

Session 2: 07/01 – 07/17

Session 3: 07/22 – 08/07

Session 4: 08/12 – 08/28

## **Jr. Intermediate and 10 & Over Advanced**

Tuesday & Thursday

5:30pm – 6:30pm

**\$135.00 per session**

Session 1: 06/10 – 06/26

Session 2: 07/01 – 07/17

Session 3: 07/22 – 08/07

Session 4: 08/12 – 08/28

## **Jr. Beginning 10 & Under**

Saturday

8:30am – 9:30am

**\$115.00 per session**

Session 1: 06/14 – 07/12

Session 2: 07/19 – 08/16

## **Jr. Beginning 10 & Over**

Saturday

9:30am – 10:30am

**\$115.00 per session**

Session 1: 06/14 – 07/12

Session 2: 07/19 – 08/16

## **Jr. Intermediate**

Saturday

10:30am – 11:30am

**\$115 per session**

Session 1: 06/14 – 07/12

Session 2: 07/19 – 08/16

**We do Pickleball Lessons**



**Please Call for Details**

**714-991-9090**

**975 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92806**

**[anaheimtenniscenter.com](http://anaheimtenniscenter.com)**

## Board of Education



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## Acting Superintendent

### Three Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District Elementary Sites Named 2025 California Distinguished Schools



**Dr. Allan  
Mucerino**  
*Acting  
Superintendent*

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) is pleased to announce that three of its elementary schools—Golden, Lakeview, and Sierra Vista—have been designated as 2025 California Distinguished Schools, the state's highest honor for K-12 campuses. Out of nearly 5,856 elementary schools in California, only 5.7% earned the 2025 California Distinguished Schools distinction, making this honor all the more remarkable.

On behalf of the Board of Education, I extend my heartfelt congratulations on this remarkable achievement. This recognition is a testament to our district's unwavering dedication to providing an exceptional educational experience that empowers all students to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. The success of our students, alongside our commitment to closing achievement gaps, is made possible by the hard work and passion of our teachers, classified staff, administrators, and the unwavering support of our families and community.

The California Distinguished Schools program, administered by the California Department of Education

(CDE), celebrates schools that demonstrate excellence and growth based on an analysis of data reported through the 2024 Dashboard. This includes academic achievement as well as fostering a positive and inclusive school climate.

It is also worth noting that Golden, Lakeview, and Sierra Vista elementary schools are no strangers to this honor, having earned the California Distinguished School title multiple times over the years. Golden was previously recognized in 2020, 2018, 2014, and 2006; Lakeview in 2023, 2014, and 2008; and Sierra Vista in 2016 and 2011. Their continued excellence reflects a longstanding tradition of high-quality education and deep-rooted commitment to student success.

This year, our three schools are among only 44 in Orange County and 336 across the entire state of California to receive this esteemed award. We are incredibly proud of our school communities for achieving this distinction and for representing the very best of PYLUSD.

To view the full list of 2025 California Distinguished Schools or to learn more about the program, please visit the CDE's website at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr25/yr25rel18.asp>.

Together, we will continue to inspire all students to succeed every day!

## School News

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# R.E.A.C.H. Foundation

21520 Yorba Linda Blvd., Suite G503, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/323-9706 • [www.reach4pylusd.org](http://www.reach4pylusd.org)



**Giselle Nguyen**  
*President*

## REACH Foundation Named 2025 California Nonprofit of the Year

Extraordinary news for our school community! The REACH Foundation has been honored as a 2025 California Nonprofit of the Year by Senator Steven Choi. This prestigious recognition places our foundation among the top-tier of over 100,000 nonprofits statewide.

Founded in 2012 during California's education budget crisis, REACH has grown into an influential force for educational enrichment. Our impact speaks volumes: nearly half a million dollars distributed

to 20 programs in Athletics, Academics, and Arts; \$20,000 in annual educator grants; and services reaching 17,000 students district-wide.

This achievement belongs to everyone—our dedicated volunteers contributing 20,000 hours annually, our generous donors, committed board members, district partners, and especially the students and families we serve.

As we prepare for the California Nonprofits Day celebration on May 21st, we celebrate this milestone together. Your support has made this possible, and together we'll continue expanding enrichment opportunities for our students to discover their unique potential and pathway to thrive.



# Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92628 • 714/966-4000 • [www.ocde.us](http://www.ocde.us)

## Celebrating Orange County's 2026 Teachers of the Year



**Dr. Stefan Bean**  
Superintendent

Most of us can point to a teacher who changed our lives — someone who saw us clearly and believed in what we could become.

For me, that teacher was Donald Geisinger. As a newly adopted Vietnamese orphan in a wheelchair and still learning English, I struggled to find my footing. In sixth grade, Mr. Geisinger told me not to worry about any of that. Instead, he encouraged me to give

oral presentations.

That invitation changed everything. I gained confidence, improved my English and discovered a love of public speaking. A few years later, I spoke in Washington, D.C., representing youth with disabilities — all because a teacher believed in me.

This month, I had the privilege of celebrating six Orange County educators who are making that same kind of impact every day. As we surprised each of them on May 1 with the news that they'd been named 2026 Orange County Teachers of the Year, I saw that same spark — the unmistakable bond between teacher and student.

See **OCDE** • Page 6



PACIFIC  
MARINE MAMMAL CENTER

## WHALES ON WHEELS

### ASSEMBLY PROGRAM | WE COME TO YOU!

An inspirational and interactive presentation followed by a walk through a 56-foot, anatomically correct, inflatable whale!

### Take a walk through Winston the Whale!

#### PROGRAM DETAILS

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Maximum # of Students: 160  
Fee: \$1500 per program



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## SUMMER CAMPS

ROSARY ACADEMY

FOR RISING  
3RD-8TH GRADERS

CAMPS START  
JUNE 9

M-TH / 8AM-12PM OR  
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### OFFERINGS INCLUDE:

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- Girls Lead!
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- Reading
- Dance
- Crochet
- Sports
- And more!

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

[www.rosaryacademy.org/summer-camps](http://www.rosaryacademy.org/summer-camps)





# 65TH ANNUAL GARDEN GROVE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
MAY 23RD-26TH

**FREE ADMISSION**

**SATURDAY Parade with Celebrities**

**FREE** Cake Friday  
Carnival Rides  
**FREE** Concerts  
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**FREE** Contests  
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**STRAWBERRIES!!**

**Hours:**  
Friday 1PM-10PM  
Sat & Sun 10AM-10PM  
Monday 10AM-9PM

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 [Garden Grove Strawberry Festival](https://www.facebook.com/GardenGroveStrawberryFestival)  
 [strawberryfestival.org](https://www.strawberryfestival.org)

The Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association is a registered non-profit 501(c)3 organization




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**Dr. Stefan Bean**  
Superintendent

At every stop, the energy was electric. Students cheered, staff members teared up, and each honoree stood in humble disbelief. These weren't just moments of recognition — they were powerful reminders of what can happen when a teacher truly connects with their students.

Our 2026 honorees reflect the very best of what teaching looks like across Orange County.

Tracy Havens, a second-grade teacher at Hicks Canyon Elementary in Tustin Unified, begins each day with high-fives, hugs and a Morning Meeting that sets the tone for connection and growth.

At Fullerton College, Dr. Catherine Reinhardt-Zacair introduces her French students to study abroad opportunities, internships and global experiences that expand their horizons and confidence.

Megan Lee, who teaches transitional kindergarten at Loara Elementary in Anaheim Elementary School District, builds a strong sense of community from day one — hosting family meetups, pairing students with preschool buddies and making sure every child feels seen and valued.

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## EMBRACE THE ADVENTURE

### SUMMER CAMP 2025

#### CAMP HERITAGE OAK

Dive into thrilling adventures this summer at **Camp Heritage Oak**! Choose from our extensive camp offerings for ages 2.5 through 8th grade to curate the perfect summer for your child. Whether it's STEM experiments, performing arts, cooking, sports, or enjoying our on-campus pool, rock wall, and splash pad, there is something for every camper!

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### Camp Heritage Oak is Now Enrolling!

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Register by March 30 for 10% off of Adventure Camp.

**Adventure Camp**

**Preschool Camps**

**HOPE Academy**



## Brookhaven *Elementary School (TK-6)*

1851 N. Brookhaven Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7110 • [www.brookhavenelementary.com](http://www.brookhavenelementary.com)

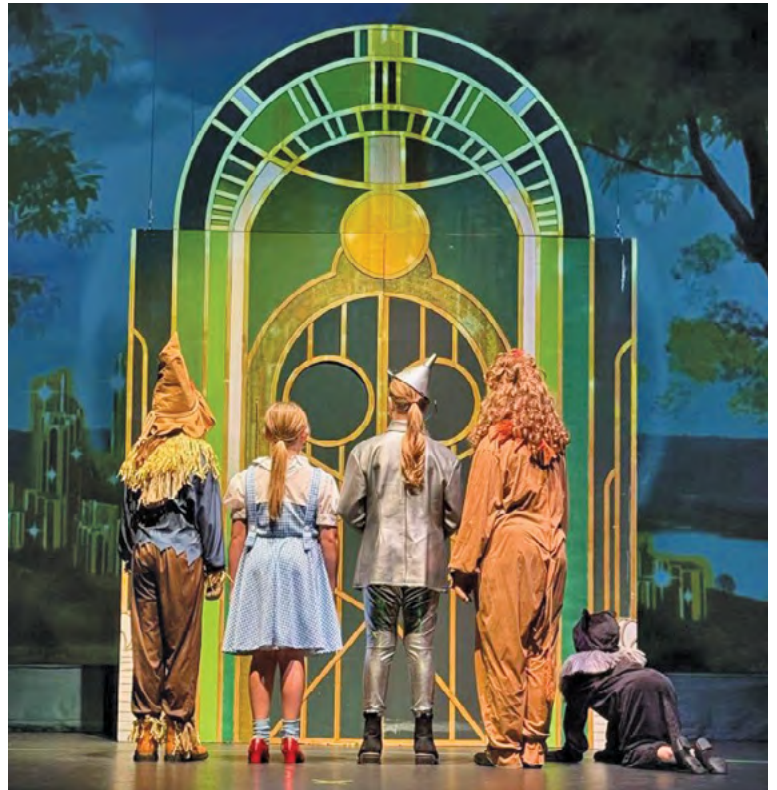


**Laura Fisher**  
Principal

### Celebrating Talent and Teamwork

Brookhaven Elementary School delighted audiences with its production of *The Wizard of Oz: Youth Edition* on April 5 and 6, 2025. Directed by Houston Performing Arts, the show featured over 130 student performers who brought the magical land of Oz to life on stage. From the moment Dorothy stepped onto the

Yellow Brick Road, the audience was swept away by the heartwarming story and timeless music. Classics like “Over the Rainbow” and “Follow the Yellow Brick Road” echoed through the auditorium, showcasing the students’ hard work and enthusiasm. The vibrant costumes, creative sets, and memorable performances reflected months of dedication from the cast, crew, and community volunteers. With packed audiences and plenty of applause, the show proved to be a true celebration of young talent and teamwork. Brookhaven’s musical was more than just a performance—it was a shared journey down a road paved with imagination and heart.



## Bryant Ranch *School (TK-5)*

24695 Paseo de Toronto, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7120 • [www.bryantranchschool.com](http://www.bryantranchschool.com)



**Shannon Robles**  
Principal

### BR Explorer Fun Run

Bryant Ranch Explorers participate in an annual Fun Run to raise funds for our school, with support from our PTA and dedicated families. This event helps fund community activities like Trunk or Treat, Movie Night, field trips, assemblies, and supplies for students. Each student received a “Home of the Explorers” shirt this year, showcasing our strong school spirit. The Fun Run also

emphasizes character development and healthy habits. Families come together to cheer on students, making the event a celebration of community. This year, the event culminated with the principal being slimed, a fun moment chosen by the students. We are grateful for the unwavering support of our staff, parents, and community.





## El Camino Real *High School (Continuation High School 9-12)*

1351 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7060 • [www.ecrhs.pylusd.org](http://www.ecrhs.pylusd.org)



**Gina Aguilar**  
Principal

### El Camino - A California Model Continuation High School

El Camino Real High School was recently named a California Model Continuation High School by the California Department of Education. The Model Continuation High School program focuses on recognizing schools that meet their student's needs by focusing on "the whole child." After the extensive application process and visit by a validation team from the state, several aspects

of the school were highlighted. One area of strength noted was the sense of connection and belonging our students feel. This comes from having a personalized approach to education including intake meetings to identify the specific areas where students need additional support, flexible scheduling, and positive relationships between staff and students that allow students to feel seen and heard. Also noted were our college and career readiness practices and our EDGE intervention period in addition to several other programs. El Camino staff were honored at a ceremony on the USS Midway in San Diego on Saturday, April 26th.



## El Dorado *High School (9-12)*

1651 N. Valencia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7580 • [www.edhs.org](http://www.edhs.org)



**David Okamoto**  
Principal

### School Year Winding Down...

As the days get longer and the school year winds down, El Dorado High School continues to shine with energy, achievement, and community spirit! Our Golden Hawks have made the most of the spring season—excelling academically, artistically, and athletically—while preparing for the exciting final stretch of the semester.

This spring has been filled with highlights. From outstanding performances in our spring musical and spirited athletic competitions, art showcases, and student-led initiatives, our campus is alive with Golden Hawk pride. As we head into Spring Break, our classrooms are buzzing with learning, AP exam prep, and engaging lessons that remind us just how far our students have come this year.

We're also incredibly proud of our senior class as they prepare for graduation. Their leadership, resilience, and school spirit have left a lasting impact on our campus, and we can't wait to celebrate them at the commencement ceremony in just a few short weeks. Seniors—finish strong, and know that your Golden Hawk family is cheering you on every step of the way.

I would like to once again point out our dedicated staff, involved families, and supportive community for making El Dorado such a special place. And to our Seniors, whether you're taking final exams, performing in your last concert, or cheering from the sidelines—remember: Once a Golden Hawk, always a Golden Hawk!

Go Hawks!



## Esperanza High School (9-12)

1830 N. Kellogg Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7540 • [www.esperanzahs.com](http://www.esperanzahs.com)



**Loan Sriruksa**  
*Principal*

### Aztecs Dance Team

The Esperanza High School Varsity Dance Team has had an impressive 2025!

The dance team's competitive season included regional and national competitions and a line up of dances spanning 7 divisions.

In early March Esperanza traveled to Florida to compete against some of the strongest high school dance teams in the United States. The multi day competition awarded the team 3 national championship titles in the Pom, Hip Hop, and Jazz divisions. Additionally, when competing at nationals here on the west coast, Esperanza again broke records by placing top 5 in all 7 divisions.

Congratulations to the Esperanza High School Varsity Dance Team of 2024-25 on a historic season! Your hard work and dedication to your sport has earned you the respect of your school, peers and community. We are so proud of what you have accomplished and look forward to watching you add to the Esperanza Aztecs Dance legacy!



## Fairmont Elementary School (TK-6)

5241 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7130 • [www.fairmontelementary.com](http://www.fairmontelementary.com)



**Anne San Roman**  
*Principal*

### Many Opportunities

At Fairmont Elementary, our Falcons are given many opportunities to shine. This year, nearly 200 students from kindergarten through sixth grade participated in our school play, Mary Poppins Jr. Through this experience, students built confidence, strengthened communication skills, and developed teamwork and creativity. Performing on stage fostered personal growth while enhancing academic skills, especially in oral communication.

The season's highlight was the grand finale at El Dorado High School, where students delivered four outstanding performances that captivated their audiences. These moments not only celebrated their talents but also

created lasting memories and a love for the arts. This incredible accomplishment would not have been possible without the support of our dedicated PTA and families. We are so proud of our Falcons for their hard work, growth, and courage. Their performances showcased the heart of Fairmont — a community that values creativity, collaboration, and student success.





## George Key School (Special Education) / Venture Academy (Adult Transition Program)

710 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7170 • [www.georgekey.org/](http://www.georgekey.org/) 701 East Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7178 • [ventureacademy.pylusd.org](http://ventureacademy.pylusd.org)

Rebecca Allan, Principal

### Spring Celebration

George Key students have been busy with academics, Spring celebrations and fun school events. George Key School will be holding their Walk and Roll-A-Thon on Friday April 25, along with their annual carnival. This is a great day for students to get in their laps and enjoy carnival themed activities at our school. Venture Academy Adult Transition students come and support the students by pushing wheel chairs, cheering on the students and running the carnival booths. The Placentia Fire and Police Departments will join us and this is always a fun event for all. May 23rd is our annual family barbecue and raffle. A great time for families to get together, socialize and raise money for the school.



Venture Academy Adult Transition program has been busy with career readiness, academics and social skills opportunities. Venture Academy Coffee Cats have

been working weekly providing coffee, tea and various snacks to staff and students. The students are learning to market, prepare and serve food items as well as take inventory of stock and supplies. They have recently added serving coffee and treats to our district office staff on a monthly basis. Students are enjoying this opportunity as we work to prepare them to work in customer service industries. On another note, Venture Academy students are looking forward to their Haute Couture formal dance to be held on May 9th. The Venture Academy school and staff are appreciative of the organization, Cinderella's Closet, for their donation of new formal dresses along with jewelry that they provided for our Venture Academy students.

## Glenknoll Elementary School (TK-6)

6361 Glenknoll Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7140 • [www.glenknoll.org](http://www.glenknoll.org)



Terry Mulcahy  
Principal

### Glenknoll's Great Book Showdown: Battle of the Books

At Glenknoll, students have a deep passion for reading, and this enthusiasm is often fueled by a bit of friendly competition. For the past decade, we have proudly hosted an annual Battle of the Books, a tradition that continues to inspire and engage young readers. Students in grades three through six form teams of two who read a novel selected by the committee of dedicated adult volunteers including parents, a retired teacher, and our wonderful school library and media specialist. They took the stage on April 10 to face off with teams from their grade and answer questions about the book. Some questions are easy, some are really challenging

testing both their comprehension and recall! At the end of the competition, everyone had enjoyed themselves and read a great book!





## Glenview Elementary School (TK-6)

1775 Glenview Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7150 • [www.glenviewbulldogs.org](http://www.glenviewbulldogs.org)



**Viri Fraga**  
Principal

### iOpen House en Dos Idiomas!

Glenview Elementary recently hosted an Open House. The evening was a vibrant celebration of learning, family engagement, and the remarkable accomplishments of our students. Classrooms were filled with excited voices as students guided their parents and families through a journey of their academic growth.

What made this Open House especially meaningful was the opportunity for students to showcase their bilingualism. As a school that embraces and celebrates cultural and linguistic diversity, it was heartwarming to witness our students confidently presenting their work in both Spanish and their home languages. Families were able to experience firsthand how their children are becoming strong communicators in more than one language—a testament to the power of bilingual education.

From beautifully written essays and science projects to creative artwork and bilingual presentations, each display

was a reflection of our students' hard work, curiosity, and pride. The classrooms came alive with interactive activities, demonstrations, and student-led tours that truly highlighted their learning experiences.

We also want to recognize our dedicated teachers and staff who worked tirelessly to prepare for this event. Their commitment to student learning and family involvement made the evening a memorable one for all.

We are proud of the inclusive, supportive, and dynamic community we continue to build here at Glenview. Events like these remind us why we do this work—and how powerful it is when we do it together.



## Golden Elementary School (TK-6)

740 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7160 • [www.golden.pylusd.org](http://www.golden.pylusd.org)



**Kristin McDonald**  
Principal

### Golden Elementary's 2025 Battle of the Books: A Celebration of Reading, Teamwork, and School Spirit!

Battle of the Books 2025 is officially a wrap at Golden Elementary—and what an unforgettable event it was! Held on March 26, 2025, this year's competition brought together 23 teams made up of 119 determined and enthusiastic students in what has become one of our most exciting annual traditions. Each team tackled the incredible challenge of reading 20 books and collaborating to answer detailed questions about every single one. The result? A high-energy, fun-filled competition that celebrated not only reading, but also teamwork and school community.

We are so proud of every Golden Eagle who took on this challenge with dedication and heart. The energy in the room during the event was electric—students cheering, collaborating, and truly showcasing the spirit of Golden!



A huge thank you goes out to Mrs. Woinarowicz and all the amazing staff and teachers who made this event possible—reading the books, crafting questions, setting up, and proctoring the big day. Your hard work and support made this event a smashing success!

And a big congratulations to this year's first place team of brilliant fifth-grade girls who battled their way to the top: Nina Yu, Maggie Du, Allison Mar, Julia Kang, Nava Stempinski, and Debra Lu! Your teamwork and book smarts were truly impressive!

What a fantastic way to celebrate literacy and connect as a school. We're already looking forward to next year!





## Kraemer Middle School (7-8)

645 N. Angelina Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1551 • [www.kraemerms.org](http://www.kraemerms.org)



**Matthew Callaway**  
Principal

### Congratulations Science Olympiad

Congratulations to Kraemer Middle School's Science Olympiad team for their outstanding performance at the Southern California State Finals held at Caltech! Competing against some of the top teams in the state, Kraemer SciOly placed 12th overall and earned medals in four

events—a remarkable achievement and a reflection of the hard work, dedication, and talent of our students and coaches.

Science Olympiad is a team-based competition that covers a wide range of scientific topics, from engineering challenges to biology, physics, and earth science. Our students spent countless hours preparing, studying, and building for these events, and their efforts truly paid off.

We are incredibly proud of all our Science Olympiad participants

and grateful to the coaches and families who supported them throughout the season. Thank you for representing Kraemer with excellence, perseverance, and teamwork. Way to go, Cubs!



## Lakeview Elementary School (TK-5)

17510 Lakeview Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7190 • [www.lakeview.pylusd.org](http://www.lakeview.pylusd.org)



**Stephanie Given**  
Principal

### Lakeview Lions Write Write Write!

"You have to write the book that wants to be written. And if the book will be too difficult for grown-ups, then you write it for children."  
-Madeleine L'Engle

Seven Lakeview teachers took a brave step into the world of Writer's Workshop, an ongoing professional development series offered by Educational Services. A tenant of Writer's Workshop is to build voice, choice and agency for our young scholars as they experience the transformative process of being an author. Teachers began implementing elements of Writer's Workshop and were met with eagerness and excitement in an otherwise challenging content area. Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Day, observed her students taking ownership of their writing by stapling additional pages to their drafts and asking to write during Play to Learn. When asked what



**Kindergarten students reading aloud their writing with partners**



**Students identifying author's craft moves in mentor texts**

is causing a new excitement for writing, Mrs. Vlastnik, 2nd grade teacher, noted that students are engaged in the discovery of learning. Currently, Mrs. Nicholson's 1st graders are in the "immersing" phase, where they spend their writing block reading different mentor texts and studying author's moves that then can be replicated in their own writing. What a gift for our students to observe their teachers engage in life-long learning that results in a new passion for teaching and an excitement to learn by all!



## Linda Vista *Elementary* (TK-5)

5600 S. Ohio St., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7200 • [www.lindavistaelementary.org](http://www.lindavistaelementary.org)



**Kathleen Escaleras-Nappi**  
*Principal*

### Kind Hearts, Strong Teams – That's the Lion Way!

This year, our school-wide theme is “S.E.A.S. – Successfully Educating All Students and Climbing the Pyramid of Success.” At the heart of this theme is our belief that every student has the ability to climb the pyramid of success by focusing on three important goals: striving to achieve their personal best, demonstrating kindness and respect, and developing grit and perseverance.

We’ve built a culture rooted in care, collaboration, and recognition. Both students and staff are celebrated for their dedication, effort, and motivation. Each month, students are acknowledged for outstanding achievement in iReady Reading and for exploring various literary genres. We also spotlight students who exemplify positive behavior and resilience through student shout-outs and monthly character awards.

Our staff is equally recognized and appreciated through the Linda Vista Pride Cup, which has fostered a strong sense of team pride

and momentum. This recognition honors the tireless efforts and commitment of our educators and has boosted our collective belief in our ability to succeed together.

As we continue through the year, we remain focused on differentiating instruction to meet the needs of all learners while ensuring a safe, supportive, and positive environment. Student leadership also thrives through a variety of opportunities, including Student Council, Kindness Squad, Environmental/Gardening Club, Valet Team, Library Helpers, Classroom Helpers, and GATE Academy. Our students in our GATE academy will participate in the OC Makers Challenge this year where they are designing helpful inventions using Tinkercad and our 3D printer.

At Linda Vista, our Lions aim high—building knowledge, resilience, and a bright future, one step at a time.



## Mabel Paine *Elementary School* (TK-5)

4444 Plumosa Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7210 • [www.mabelpaine.org](http://www.mabelpaine.org)



**Kristi Coonan**  
*Principal*

### 5th Grade Spotlight

What a phenomenal season it’s been for our 5th-grade students! Our young scholars stepped into the spotlight with unforgettable Shakespearean performances that truly wowed audiences across our parent community. With multiple plays performed by small groups, the creativity, talent, and enthusiasm on display made for star-studded shows that were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Beyond the stage, our 5th graders ventured to Outdoor Education in Irvine, where they embraced adventure and learning in the great outdoors. From engaging STEM activities to ziplining, archery, and hiking, students

bonded over three days and two nights filled with excitement, teamwork, and fun. The camp food was a hit, the counselors were fantastic, and countless memories were made through spirited team competitions and shared experiences.

To top it all off, our recent Open House was an absolute triumph! We were thrilled to welcome so many families into our classrooms to celebrate student learning and growth. From arts to math, science to language arts, every corner of the school was filled with impressive displays of hard work and creativity. The dedication of our staff and the achievements of our students were proudly on display — it was a night to remember!





## Melrose Elementary School (TK-5)

974 S. Melrose St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7220 • [melrose.pylusd.org](http://melrose.pylusd.org)



**Dr. Janice Weber**  
Principal

### Melrose Family Literacy Night

Over one hundred TK-1st-Grade Melrose students and their family members attended our very first Literacy Night on a rainy evening in March. The theme for the event centered around the migration journey of the butterfly inspired by the beautiful book *Señorita Mariposa* written in English and Spanish by Ben Gundersheimer

Mister G). Students were asked to come up on the stage and sit on the carpet, where Mrs. Campos read an excerpt of the story. From there, students took their butterfly passports on a journey to a variety of culturally and linguistically relevant activity stations, including bookmark making, vocabulary building, preposition bingo, and comprehension using evidence-based questions. Every family had the chance to take their picture under the butterfly balloon arch, eat snacks, and leave with their own copy of the book. This night was brought together by the creativity and inspiration of several Melrose Teachers and Staff: Mrs. Skibiski, Mrs. Mora, Mrs. Chamu-Lemus,

Mrs. Campos, and Miss Susan. Valencia High School AVID Scholars were present to provide whatever assistance was needed and be outstanding role models for our Melrose Marlins. Students and Families are asking when the next Melrose Family Literacy Night will be!



## Morse Elementary School (TK-6)

431 E. Morse Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/524-6300 • [www.morseschool.net](http://www.morseschool.net)



**Kelly Farrell**  
Principal

### Morse Elementary Goes the Distance: Jog-a-Thon Brings Big Fun, Big Funds, and Buckets of Slime!

Morse Elementary School brought the energy, excitement, and a whole lot of slime to campus this year with its wildly successful Jog-a-Thon! This high-spirited event combined physical fitness, community fun, and inflatable hilarity to create a day students won't soon forget.

Students ran laps with huge smiles, cheered on by their classmates, families, and even teachers who showed up in outrageous inflatable costumes—everything from dinosaurs and unicorns to ducks and flamingos! The staff brought their A-game, making each lap more fun than the last and keeping students motivated all the way through.

The Jog-a-Thon is one of Morse's biggest fundraisers, and this year the community came through in a big way. Funds raised will support classroom enrichment, new technology, and school-wide events.



The grand finale? Slime Day! Top fundraisers from each grade earned the chance to slime their favorite staff members. With towels, ponchos, and lots of laughs, it was the perfect end to an unforgettable day.





# Orange County School of Computer Science at Bernardo Yorba (6-8)

5350 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7400 • <https://www.ocscs.org/>



**Dr. Will Gray**  
Interim Principal

## A Hub for Creativity, Innovation, and Community

As hard as it is to believe, the Orange County School of Computer Sciences is nearing the end of its inaugural year and is preparing to send our first class of 8<sup>th</sup> graders off to high school.

Our innovative, mastery- based approach has allowed teachers to give accurate guidance to students to help them excel as creators, collaborators, and leaders. Our state-of-the-art Innovation Lab classrooms offer hands-on experiences in animatronics, engineering, video production, entrepreneurship, and eSports to all of our students during the school day as an elective and as a club before & after school. This work has already earned OCSCS the designation as a 2025 California Schools to Watch Model Middle School. We look forward to finishing the year strong and are preparing for even greater achievements next year!



## Parkview *Home School* (TK-12)

2189 N. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7050  
[www.pylusdparkview.org](http://www.pylusdparkview.org)



**Dominique Polchow**  
Principal

## Parkview School and Buena Vista Virtual Academy Shines in Magical TK-12 "Frozen" Performance at Yorba Linda High School

The Parkview and BVVA performing arts program brought the magic of Arendelle to life with two unforgettable performances of Disney's Frozen Junior on April 11 and 12 at the Forum at Yorba Linda High School. The TK-12 production showcased the incredible talent,

dedication, and teamwork of students from across all grade levels, leaving the audience inspired and amazed.

The production was the culmination of months of hard work, as students rehearsed tirelessly and poured their hearts into every scene, song, and dance. The stage came alive with vibrant costumes, hand-crafted sets, and powerful performances that highlighted the diverse abilities of our student body.

"This show was a labor of love," said one of the production volunteers. "Seeing the students' growth and confidence blossom on

## Buena Vista *Virtual Academy* (K-12)

4999 Casa Loma Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7026  
[www.buenavistavirtual.org](http://www.buenavistavirtual.org)

stage was the most rewarding part. They owned that stage, and we couldn't be prouder."

The annual spring musical continues to be a treasured tradition at Parkview School and a new one for Buena Vista Virtual Academy, reinforcing the importance of the arts in education. The Frozen performances were not only a showcase of talent but a beautiful reminder of what students can accomplish when they're supported and encouraged to dream big.





## Rio Vista *Elementary School (TK-5)*

310 N. Rio Vista St., Anaheim, CA 92806 • 714/986-7240 • [www.riovistaschool.org](http://www.riovistaschool.org)



**Dr. Brandon Frank**  
Principal

### AVID Family STEM Night

Rio Vista Elementary School recently held their annual AVID Family STEM Night! We had a fantastic turnout, and it was amazing to watch our students work together with their parents to solve many different STEM challenges, such as building the tallest possible tower out of only cups, or making the longest possible chain using nothing but paper. We want to extend thanks to our amazing PTA volunteers who helped put

together hundreds of bags filled with materials for the activities, and to our colleagues at Valadez Middle School for sending volunteers, sample AVID Binders, and for visiting the event themselves. We are also grateful to Board President Marilyn Anderson, who came to help honor our late colleague, Jessica Ferrino, by providing her family with a recognition plaque from the Anaheim City Council who adjourned a prior meeting in her name. Our community truly is an extended Rio Vista Family!



## Rose Drive *Elementary School (TK-5)*

4700 Rose Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7250 • [www.rosedrive.pylusd.org](http://www.rosedrive.pylusd.org)



**Trisha Gray**  
Principal

### Reaching for the STARS: Inspiring Tomorrow's Thinkers Through STEAM

Computer lab time at Rose Drive has evolved into an exciting STEAM-focused experience! With an emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math, students are now engaging in hands-on learning through tools like First Lego League Robotics, Ozobots, and district-provided Spheros. These resources promote coding, collaboration, and critical thinking as

students work through real-world challenges. In addition to weekly lab sessions, classes can sign up for extra STEAM time to dive deeper into creative, project-based learning. We're also growing our Makerspace, giving students more opportunities to tinker, build, and let their imaginations soar. This shift not only strengthens essential 21st-century skills but also supports our Reach for the STARS theme by encouraging students to achieve their personal best through innovation, perseverance, and problem-solving. A special thank you to Miss Kim, whose vision and dedication helped bring our STEAM Lab to life. As we continue to grow, we're looking for our next Computer Instructional Specialist to carry this momentum forward in new and

innovative ways. At Rose Drive, we are proud to inspire the next generation of thinkers, leaders, and creators!





## Ruby Drive *Elementary School (TK-6)*

601 Ruby Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1921 • [www.rubydrive.org](http://www.rubydrive.org)



**Lisa Carmona**  
*Principal*

### Community Reads at Ruby Drive!

Ruby Scholars celebrated “Community Reads Day” by dressing as their future careers or wearing AVID shirts, setting the tone for a day filled with inspiration and learning. Visitors from various professions—including a realtor, restaurant owner, toy company marketer, sheriff, nurse, middle school teacher, tradesman, and technician—read aloud in classrooms and answered students’ thoughtful questions about their career journeys. As part of our Read Across America Week celebration, this event not only promoted a love of reading but also encouraged students to think about their futures. We

are deeply grateful to our community partners who took time out of their day to invest in our young scholars and inspire them to continue building skills with purpose and direction.



## Sierra Vista *Elementary School (TK-6)*

1811 N. Placentia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7270 • [www.sierravistaelementary.org](http://www.sierravistaelementary.org)



**Debbie Kojima**  
*Principal*

### A Whale of a Tale: Literacy Night Makes a Splash!

Sierra Vista Elementary recently hosted “A Whale of a Tale” Literacy Night, where families came to “sea” what reading comprehension is all about! This wonderful community event was presented by TK teachers Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Garcia, along with 4th grade teachers Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Lopez. The evening focused on building

the home-school partnership by equipping families with strategies to support reading comprehension and foster a love of literacy at home. Interactive stations provided

parents with practical tools to enhance their children’s reading skills, as well as teachers led sessions on how to support their child with both informational and narrative text. The first 25 families who RSVP’d received special informational picture books, and two lucky families won either a literacy book basket or a gift card to Barnes and Noble in our raffle. The strong turnout demonstrated our community’s commitment to literacy education and the home school partnership! At Sierra Vista, we believe literacy skills form the foundation for all learning and are grateful for our families’ participation in this important night! Go Eagles!



**Our two big winners of the evening!**  
Breanne and Lina won our two raffle prizes!



**Literacy activities to end out the night**



**Parent education and modeling questioning strategies with kids are shared by Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Garcia.**



## Topaz Elementary School (TK-6)

3232 Topaz Ln., Fullerton, CA 92831 • 714/993-9977 • [www.topazschool.org](http://www.topazschool.org)



**Dr. Bilma Bermudez**  
Principal

### Thank You Staff, Families, District Office, Community & Students

Topaz Elementary is so grateful to everyone who made our Family Literacy Night on March 27, 2025, such a success! A huge thank you to our amazing staff, district team, parents, and students for participating in this special event.

The excitement was contagious as students were greeted by Pete the Cat, making the night even more memorable!

Seeing families come together to celebrate the joy of reading reminds us of the power of literacy in building bright futures.

March brought Read Across America, an annual event to promote the joy and importance of reading among children and young adults. At its heart, Read Across America encourages children to develop a love of reading—not just on one day, but every day of the year. It's a reminder that books have the power to connect us, inspire empathy, and open up new worlds of possibility. This year, the celebration extended far beyond the classroom. Students were joined by parents, community members, district office staff, and leadership students who came together as guest readers

and role models. Their participation helped show that reading is not just a school activity—it's a lifelong habit that connects and inspires us all.

Embracing literacy includes the school leader, teachers, and families. March was a true literacy effort—one that reminded students that reading can be fun, meaningful, and a shared experience that lasts a lifetime.

Topaz Tigers, keep showing your ROARS!



## Travis Ranch School (TK-8)

5200 Via de la Escuela, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7460 • [www.travisranchschool.org](http://www.travisranchschool.org)



**Kristen Petrovacki**  
Principal

### Growing Together: How Travis Ranch TK-8 Builds Community from the Ground Up

As a TK-8 campus, Travis Ranch School provides a rare and meaningful opportunity for students of all ages to learn, grow, and lead together. This unique structure fosters a strong sense of connection and community across grade levels.

One of the most powerful examples of this is our campus beautification day. Families, students, and staff come together with rakes, brooms, and plenty of school spirit to enhance and care for the space we all share. These efforts not only improve our campus, but also instill a sense of pride and ownership in our students.

Other schoolwide events, such as the talent show and annual musical—where TK students perform alongside middle schoolers—further reinforce the importance of community and collaboration. At Travis Ranch, these shared experiences help us live our mission and show the power of unity—Every Student, Every Day.





## Tuffree *Middle School* (7-8)

2151 N. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7480 • [www.tuffree.org](http://www.tuffree.org)



**Sarah Barton**  
*Principal*

### Music in the Air

Tuffree Middle School dances to the beat of its own drum...literally. One of eight middle school drumlines that perform for competitions, the percussion program at the school is just one of several musical avenues the students can explore during their two year tenure. Besides competition, the drumline proudly performs at school events and even goes out to visit some elementary schools in the district, stirring up excitement for the students who will soon transition into 7th grade. While the percussion program is impressive on its own, the fact that over 1/3 of the school is involved in instrumental music in one form or another speaks volumes about the standards of



the program. Tuffree boasts three auditioned levels of Jazz band, a Performing Band and an auditioned Advanced Band, and an Orchestra, which includes a Chamber orchestra and Quartet

within the class. Recently, the band and orchestra played at the SCSBOA band and orchestra festivals, where they performed music for a panel of judges. Both groups received unanimous Superior ratings, which is the highest score any band can achieve. This is a testament to the band program, the director, and the students of Tuffree Middle School as a whole. Notably, instrumental music is not the only way that students can incorporate music into their school lives. They also have access to a vocal ensemble class, which is taught by one of the vocal music directors from the high school, which ensures a seamless transition from middle school to high school music. Overall, these programs ensure that the students are given ample opportunities to explore their musical talents and perform at various school and community functions, allowing Tuffree Middle School to showcase the hard work and dedication of students and staff alike.



## Tynes *Elementary School* (TK-6)

735 Stanford Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-5550 • [www.johntyn.es.org](http://www.johntyn.es.org)



**Dr. Christa Borgese**  
*Principal*

### Family Literacy Night

The Tynes Elementary Family Literacy Night was a wonderful celebration of reading and family engagement! Families enjoyed interactive centers featuring crafts like personalized bookmarks with comprehension questions, fun word games, and creative activities to spark conversation around books at home. The Placentia Library joined us to share valuable resources, and we provided parents with tips and strategies for making reading a meaningful family activity. From learning about the benefits of reading together to discovering fun ways to support literacy at home, the evening was filled with opportunities to connect, create,

and celebrate the joy of books. It was inspiring to see our school community come together to build strong literacy habits in a fun, hands-on environment!



## Valadez *Middle School Academy (6-8)*

161 E. La Jolla St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7440 • [www.valadezacademy.org](http://www.valadezacademy.org)



**Will Truong**  
*Principal*

### Valadez Victorious in Return to Color Guard Competition

Valadez Middle School Academy's Color Guard made a triumphant return to competition under the direction of coaches Delilah Carranza, Karissa Carranza, and Band Director Mrs. Jennifer Garcia. On Saturday, March 29, 2025, the VMSA Color Guard

earned 1st place in the JHA Division at the Winter Guard Association of Southern California (WGASC) Competition.

This was the first competition the VMSA Color Guard had participated in since 2019. With the unwavering guidance of coaches Carranza and Band Director Garcia, the team has worked hard to recruit new members and refine their Winter Guard routine. Their performance is a testament to the months of dedication and resilience shown by the students, coaches, families, and staff who have

supported the Color Guard throughout the year. The team is excited for future competitions and looks forward to continuing to make the Valadez Familia proud.



## Valencia *High School (9-12)*

500 N. Bradford, Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-4970 • [www.vhstigers.org](http://www.vhstigers.org)



**Chris Herzfeld**  
*Principal*

### Incredible Success at Valencia High School in Academics and Beyond

Valencia High School has had another exceptional year so far in academics, arts and athletics.

Our Academic Decathlon team took 2nd in Division 1 in Orange County and took 1st place in Super Quiz. The team took 10th overall at State.

The Valencia chapter of Future Business Leaders of America saw 100 students compete in 36 events at the Southern Section competition, placing 3rd overall. 47 students placed high enough to compete in the FBLA State competition in April.

Valencia's Cyber Security teams competed in the LACTF competition at UCLA, facing over 700 teams nationwide. Our top two teams tied for 1st place and earned cash prizes!

National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) recognized 12 VHS girls with their Aspirations in Computing (AiC) award. Special recognition was given to IB and VT senior Leila Armand, receiving 1st in State and honorable mention at the National level.

VHS Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA) students won the Best Overall Craftsmanship Award in the Design-Build competition at Golden West College, beating 38 other schools.

VHS AVID standout Cesar Mora was selected as Mentor of the Year by the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization for his tireless mentoring of students at Topaz elementary.

Five VHS Artists were named semi-finalists for the OC Register's Artist of the Year recognition. Megan Park (Dance), Carmen Arneson (Ceramics), Eujin Kim (Drawing), Ximena Lopez-Hernandez (Ceramics), and Ella Arevalos (Photography).

The VHS Band and Orchestras earned straight Superior Ratings in the recent SCSBOA competition. The Wind Ensemble qualified for Regionals.

Valencia Athletics teams are experiencing great success with League Championships in the Golden Empire Conference earned in Boys and Girls Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Girls Soccer, Tennis, Golf, and XC with more to come.

We are proud of our students, teachers, coaches and staff for their dedication to Pride, Tradition and Excellence. Go Tigers!



## Van Buren *Elementary School (TK-6)*

1245 N. Van Buren St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7100 • [www.vanburenelementary.org](http://www.vanburenelementary.org)



**David  
Cammarato**  
*Principal*

### Learning Beyond the Classroom

Our 6th grade students had an unforgettable experience attending Camp Cedar Crest, where they immersed themselves in hands-on science learning in the beautiful San Bernardino Mountains. Surrounded by fresh mountain air and scenic forest landscapes, students participated in engaging wildlife, geology, and astronomy hikes that brought science to life. From observing native plants and animals to identifying rock formations and stargazing through telescopes, each activity sparked curiosity and a deeper appreciation for the natural world. This unique outdoor classroom allowed students to explore scientific concepts in real-world settings while building teamwork, independence, and a sense of adventure. Evenings around the campfire and shared cabin experiences created lasting memories and friendships. Outdoor Science School provided a perfect blend of education and fun, reinforcing classroom learning in an unforgettable way. This opportunity helped nurture a love for science and the environment while encouraging personal growth in a supportive, nature-based setting.



## Wagner *Elementary School (TK-6)*

717 E. Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7180 • [www.wagnerwildcats.org](http://www.wagnerwildcats.org)



**Kyleen Fennema**  
*Principal*

### Theater Production Comes to Wagner Elementary!

Wagner is buzzing with anticipation and excitement as almost 100 young performers prepare for our first-ever theater production, "The Little Mermaid Jr." The turnout has been astounding, with nearly 25% of students becoming involved in theater. Students have been dedicating themselves to rehearsals, mastering songs, choreography, and lines

with joy, remarkable results, and incredible growth!

From nervous auditions to confident rehearsals, the transformation has been magical to witness. Students are gaining confidence, skills, and building memories each and every day. This confidence extends



**Ms. Hoffman (who got our theater program off the ground!) with two performers.**

beyond theater as well. One parent shared that their student has been excitedly talking about their experience and started participating in class discussions more throughout the day.

The culmination of months of hard work will take the stage on May 8th and 10th with four showings of our production held at the YLHS Forum Theater.

Our inaugural production promises to make a splash and create lasting memories for all!



**Students hard at work at rehearsal**



## Woodsboro *Elementary School (TK-6)*

7575 Woodsboro Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7040 • [woodsboro.pylusd.org](http://woodsboro.pylusd.org)



**Rachael Collins**  
*Principal*

### Woodsboro's Honeybee Leaders Build a Buzz on Campus

Woodsboro Elementary School continues to foster a positive and inclusive campus through its outstanding PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) program. At the heart of this initiative are two student leadership programs: Woodsboro

Student Leaders (WSL) and PBIS Leaders. Open to 4th-6th graders through an application process, these programs give students opportunities to model "The Woodsboro Way"—Bee Ready, Bee Responsible, and Bee Respectful.

Leadership students play a vital role on campus, organizing Spirit Weeks, leading Super Spirit Fridays each month, mentoring younger students through the Big Buddies program, and serving as friendly greeters for school tours and special

guests. Most recently, they welcomed Mrs. Dymek from Freedom Plumbing in Anaheim as "Principal for the Day." Through these experiences, Woodsboro's young leaders continue to grow in responsibility, respect, and school pride, making a lasting impact on their peers and community.



## Yorba Linda *Middle School (6-8)*

4777 Casa Loma Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7080 • [www.ylms.org](http://www.ylms.org)



**Paige Stills**  
*Principal*

### Yorba Linda Middle School Cross-Curricular Innovation

This year, Yorba Linda Middle School students have been immersed in cross-curricular learning, blending subjects to deepen engagement and understanding. In Social Science and Language Arts, students analyzed historical documents and crafted document-based question (DBQ) essays. In Advanced STEM, students designed custom

FunkoPOP figures using TinkerCAD, which were later painted by the Unified Art class after a class-wide vote. Culinary students explored the economics of running a food truck, while Art 7/8 students designed logos and 3D models of the trucks, uniting culinary creativity with graphic design. AVID students were rewarded with cookies from the culinary program for third-quarter achievements.

Cross-curricular learning promotes real-world connections, encourages collaboration, and allows students to apply skills across multiple disciplines. At YLMS, it's not just about mastering content—it's about creating, connecting, and celebrating learning in every form.





# Yorba Linda High School (9-12)

19900 Bastanchury Rd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7500 • [www.ylhs.org](http://www.ylhs.org)



**Dr. Bird Potter**  
Principal

## Exciting Achievements

This school year has been filled with numerous exciting achievements at Yorba Linda High School. A standout moment was our participation in the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Accreditation process, where YLHS proudly earned the highest possible accreditation status. This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and collaborative spirit of our staff, students, and the entire school community. It reflects the commitment to excellence that defines our school culture and sets the stage for even greater successes in the future.

Additionally, our students have proudly showcased the outstanding Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways offered at YLHS, including Brand Design and Creation, Business, Culinary Arts, and Photography. Educational leaders from across Orange County visited our campus to

witness the exceptional work being done by our students and teachers. Our students had the opportunity to share their personal experiences and showcase their talents during a panel discussion and classroom tours. This event allowed us to proudly highlight the amazing things happening at YLHS, and we were thrilled to demonstrate the real-world skills our students are gaining through these programs.

As the school year comes to a close, we eagerly anticipate celebrating the Class of 2025. We can't wait to see the incredible achievements they will accomplish beyond high school. Their potential is limitless, and we are excited to see the many paths they will take toward success. To the Class of 2025, thank you for your invaluable contributions to our school community — we are immensely proud of all you've accomplished. At the same time, we look forward to welcoming the Class of 2029 into the Mustang family and are excited for the bright future ahead!

## OCDE • From Page 6



**Dr. Stefan Bean**  
Superintendent

Jeannette Aguilera, a third-grade teacher at Centralia Elementary, draws on her experience as a first-generation college graduate to empower students through daily community circles and a focus on growth mindset.

At Ladera Vista Junior High in Fullerton, Darcy Blake uses literature and creative writing to spark empathy, voice and self-discovery — inviting students to share their stories and explore tough topics in a safe, supportive space.

And at San Clemente High School, Erin Bro has led the AVID program for over 15 years, helping first-generation college-goers gain skills, direction and belief in their ability to succeed — with a 100 percent college acceptance rate for her students.

Each of these educators was selected from a pool of district-level honorees through a thoughtful review and interview process, and they'll be formally celebrated this fall at a gala sponsored by SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union at the Disneyland Hotel.

There, each Teacher of the Year will receive a \$25,000 award from the Orange County Teachers of the Year Award Foundation — a program established by the William, Jeff and Jennifer Gross Family Foundation.

They're also now in the running for California Teacher of the Year — an honor that has gone to six Orange County teachers since 2019. That legacy speaks to the exceptional work happening in our schools every day, and this year's honorees are clearly part of that tradition.

A lot of profound words were exchanged on May 1, but sometimes a student delivers the day's best line. Aguilera's third-grade class decided that if their teacher had been named Teacher of the Year, they must be the Students of the Year. One student, noting that their teacher was expecting a child, proudly added, "That's the Baby of the Year."

It was a joyful moment — and a reminder that teaching is about more than lessons and standards. It's about relationships, belief and the lasting impact of a caring educator.

To this year's Teachers of the Year: Thank you for showing up, lifting others and reminding us all of what's possible when a teacher truly believes.



## Congratulations Class of 2025!



## Football 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 PYLUSD in the subject line)

Entries must be received by June 15, 2025

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

Clipping	Kicker	Scrimmage
Coach	Linebacker	Special Teams
Conversion	Loss of Down	Super Bowl
Cornerback	Offsides	Tackle
Defense	Personal Foul	Tailback
Field Goal	Possession	Touchdown
Flanker	Quarterback	Yardage
Goal Post	Roughing	
Interference	Safety	

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

Congratulations to **Michael and Elissa Stella**  
Winners of the February Word Search Contest!

## Summer Fun Word Search Contest

### Rules!

One word in the list is NOT in the word search.  
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put PYLUSD in the subject line.)

Entries must be received by June 15, 2025

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

Awesome	Lessons	Sunscreen
Barbeque	Lifeguard	Surfing
Beach	Picnics	Swimming
Fireworks	Pool	Vacation
Fun	Popsicles	Volleyball
Hot	Sand	Water
Ice Cream	Summer	Wave
Lemonade	Sunny	

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