

**FREE**

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Paramount Unified School District**



Volume 4, Issue 12

May 2020

## Gaines Kindergarteners are Ready for First grade



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

## Keeping Your Family Safe During National Bike Safety Month & Beyond



**Danny Luna.**  
*injury prevention  
coordinator,  
MemorialCare  
Miller Children's &  
Women's Hospital  
Long Beach*

May is National Bike Safety Month – a great time to enjoy a family bike ride and learn about being safe. Bike riding is a healthy and fun way spend quality time together, but it's important to follow the recommended safety guidelines to prevent injuries.

One of the best ways to prevent injuries is to always wear a safety helmet. In fact, California law requires that anyone under 18-years-old wear a safety helmet.

### Tips on choosing a helmet:

- Make sure the helmet is certified to meet the standards of either the American National Standards Institute or U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Certified helmets will contain a special label that indicates compliance with that standard (usually found on the liner inside of the helmet, on the exterior surface or attached to the chin strap).

- Pick a properly sized helmet that fits snugly and does not move when placed on the head. The helmet's front edge should be no more than once inch above the eyebrows. Use the two-finger rule: place two fingers flat on your forehead just above your eyebrows. Next, form a V with your fingers under the ear, the helmet strap should follow the same path as your fingers.

Wearing a safety helmet can reduce the risk of head injury by as much as 85 percent and can help save lives. It is essential that one be worn each time your family goes on a ride.

The Injury Prevention Program at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach focuses on providing safety education to children and families in the community. For more information, visit [millerchildrens.org/InjuryPrevention](http://millerchildrens.org/InjuryPrevention) or call 800-MEMORIAL.

**2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806**  
**800-MEMORIAL • [millerchildrens.org/InjuryPrevention](http://millerchildrens.org/InjuryPrevention)**



**Kids may  
think they're  
grown up.**  
**We Know Better.**

Being a leader in children's health care means we have to stay ahead of the curve. And our more than 40 pediatric specialties help your family avoid major wipeouts.

**Specialized care. Just for kids.**



**MemorialCare™**  
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**800-MEMORIAL**  
[millerchildrens.org/WeKnow](http://millerchildrens.org/WeKnow)





# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

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

## Covering the PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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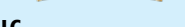
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**Kay Coop**

Founder/Publisher



*Netragrednik*

During this coronavirus pandemic the Paramount Unified School District quickly sprung into action implementing distance learning. Students embraced their new way of learning. High School students accepted the reality of not celebrating their graduation in the traditional sense. Parents were creative with ways to celebrate their child's birthdays and milestones. Unlike a fire or flood that devastates a community, this is a pandemic that has touched the entire world. Our

lives have been changed forever in ways we may not realize yet. After 9-11 taking our shoes off at an airport check-in and being screened has become normal. What will be the new normal? Will people stop shaking hands? Will more people work from home? Americans by nature are social people. We will figure out our normal. In the meantime, it is true we are all in this together.

Our next issue is October 28. Until then be healthy, be kind, be optimistic and have a fun summer!

## #flattenthecurve



*Attention Paramount Unified School District Class of 2020!*

## ENROLLMENT FEES\* PAID FOR TWO YEARS!

Enrollment fees for the first two years will be paid for eligible full-time students who enroll in the **COMPTON COLLEGE PROMISE PROGRAM**.

To be eligible, Paramount Unified School District high school students must complete the Steps to Enrollment and complete a **COMPTON COLLEGE PROMISE** application by **May 8, 2020**.

**COMPTON COLLEGE PROMISE** students receive priority registration, access to Summer Bridge classes, and additional support through student success programs and services.

\*\$46/unit enrollment fees additional fees are required. Oliver W. Conner College Promise students are required to enroll in a minimum of 12 units per primary term.

For more information, go online:

[www.compton.edu/student/comptonpromise](http://www.compton.edu/student/comptonpromise)



**OLIVER W. CONNER  
COLLEGE PROMISE**

## Dear Paramount Unified School District Families and Friends,

Across Paramount USD, our talented team of educators, administrators and staff is supporting our students to reach their goals and become global citizens through high-quality educational opportunities.

The University of California system recently published fall enrollment data, highlighting a record number of Paramount High School graduates who were admitted and enrolled last year. This is an incredible achievement that speaks to the academic rigor and emphasis we have placed on college readiness. I want to congratulate every individual in the District and community for making this possible and setting the educational foundation for our students that help them bloom.

To ensure we are following advancements in technology, we continue to provide professional development opportunities for our teachers and administrators. Recently, instructional technology curriculum specialists from the District took advanced courses in the Google Certified Training program at the Google headquarters.

Buena Vista High School has been named a 2020 Model School by the California Department of Education for helping close the achievement gap and creating a supportive school environment. We are so proud of the accomplishments at Buena Vista, which would not be possible without our incredible students and the educators who believe in them.

Lastly, I want to thank the community and our local partners who work to ensure our students receive access to the best opportunities and resources. Together, we are building a stronger community by empowering our leaders of tomorrow.



**Dr. Ruth Pérez**  
*Superintendent*

## Estimadas familias y amigos del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Paramount,

A través de Paramount USD, nuestro talentoso equipo de maestros, administradores y personal están apoyando a nuestros estudiantes para alcanzar sus metas y convertirse en ciudadanos globales a través de oportunidades educativas de alta calidad.

El sistema de Universidad de California publicó recientemente los datos de inscripción de otoño, destacando un número récord de graduados de la Preparatoria Paramount que fueron aceptados e inscritos el año pasado. Este es un logro increíble que habla del rigor académico y el énfasis que hemos puesto en la preparación universitaria. Quiero felicitar a cada individuo en el Distrito y a la comunidad por hacer esto posible y poner las bases educativas para nuestros estudiantes que los ayudan a florecer.

Para asegurarnos que estamos siguiendo los avances en tecnología, continuamos proporcionando oportunidades de desarrollo profesional para nuestros maestros y administradores. Recientemente, los especialistas de plan de estudios de tecnología educativa del Distrito tomaron cursos avanzados en el programa de Entrenamiento de Certificación de Google en las oficinas centrales de Google.

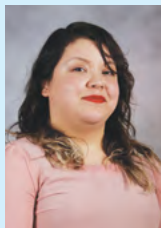
La Preparatoria Buena Vista ha sido nombrada Escuela Modelo 2020 por el Departamento de Educación de California por ayudar a cerrar la brecha de rendimiento y crear un ambiente escolar de apoyo. Estamos muy orgullosos de los logros en Buena Vista, lo cual no serían posibles sin nuestros increíbles estudiantes y maestros que creen en ellos.

Por último, quiero agradecer a la comunidad y a nuestros socios locales que trabajan para garantizar que nuestros estudiantes reciban el acceso a las mejores oportunidades y recursos. Juntos, estamos construyendo una comunidad más fuerte al empoderar a nuestros líderes del mañana.

## Governing Board



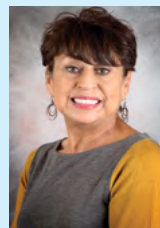
**Vivian Hansen**  
*President*



**Yesenia Cuarenta**  
*Vice-President / Clerk*



**Sonia De Leon**  
*Member*



**Linda García**  
*Member*



**Carmen Gomez**  
*Member*



# Early Childhood Education Program

7340 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-6900 • [www.paramount.k12.ca.us](http://www.paramount.k12.ca.us)



**Rita Cruz**  
Director

## Doors Open to Three-Year-Olds

Keppel State Preschool buzzed with energy and discovery in the morning session this year. School was a safe environment where these young learners developed skills in areas of social-emotional growth, language acquisition, and early literacy and math skills. Guided by a consistent daily schedule, children have multiple opportunities to interact with peers in purposeful activities that foster critical thinking and problem solving.



To highlight music and movement, three-year-old class participates in a dance circle



These students are having fun dressing up in the block center. It's time for some building adventures.

During carpet time, students listen to stories, learn about the alphabet, and participate in math lessons exploring numbers and shapes. During learning centers time, these active three-year-olds have access to books, make art creations, build with blocks, work on puzzles, and engage in pretend play and dress up. Outdoor play is a time to strengthen gross

motor skills and challenge their bodies to try new physical movements. The partnership with families is yet another success component of this amazing program.

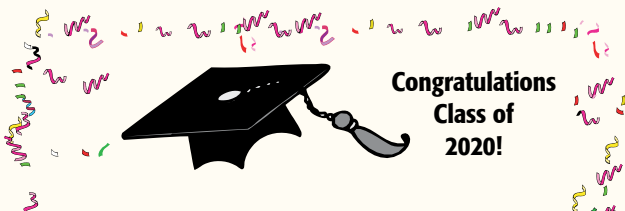
## Milestones and Firsts—Word Search Contest

**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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) Please put **PARAMOUNT** in the subject line.

BIRTH	HOUSE
KISS	RECITAL
HIGH SCHOOL	CAR
GRADUATION	DISNEYLAND
COLLEGE	TRAVEL
DATE	AIRPLANE RIDE
LOVE	BALLOON RIDE
ENGAGEMENT	CRUISE
MARRIAGE	FIRST TOOTH

Entries must be received by **June 30, 2020**  
From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.



## Alondra *Middle School*

16200 S. Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8004 • alondra.pusdschools.net



**Carolynn Butler**  
Principal

### **Making Waves in the Medical Field!**

*By Jennifer Piekenbrock, AMS PLTW Medical Detectives & 6th Grade Science Teacher*

Alondra Middle School was selected to participate in the Kaiser Permanente, Hippocrates Circle Program hosted through Downey Medical Center. This free program is a great opportunity for students that have an interest in pursuing a career in the medical field. We had an overwhelming number of students apply, fifty students were then selected by a committee based on their application and teacher

recommendations.

All students and their families participated in two events; a Hippocrates Circle Orientation Night interacting with fifteen Kaiser Physicians and a Financial Aid Workshop put on by our very own Paramount High School Counselor, Ana Martinez. Students and parents/guardians collaborated through conversations to identify interests, set goals, and plan for college utilizing the FAFSA middle school workbook planner.

We look forward our Dolphins making waves in the medical field!



**AMS' Students Prepare for Their Future in the Medical Field**

## Buena Vista *High School*

3717 Michelson St., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/602-8090 • bv.pusdschools.net



**Morrie Kosareff**  
Principal

### **Eagles Continue to Soar**

Even as we begin our new reality of “going to school” remotely, Buena Vista High School students continue to make progress toward their goals. Buena Vista’s teachers continue to teach, and our students continue to learn through Distance Learning. Teachers are working together in new ways in order to determine how to best support our students and their families through this new model.

Working through our Advisory classes, Buena Vista’s teachers, counselors, and administrators are reaching out to students and their families in order to maintain and strengthen our relationships. Teachers continue to provide assignments through Schoology, hold Live Class Discussions via Google Meet, and hold Office Hours, where they are available for small group and/or one to one conversations/tutoring, through Google Meet.

Our students continue to persevere through Distance Learning. They stay connected with us through Schoology,

email, text messages, and phone conversations. While it has taken some time to get use to our new way of “going to school”, we are getting better at it with each new day.

With the end of the 3rd Quarter happening 2 weeks after our Distance Learning Model began, we are happy to celebrate the success and graduation of our 3rd Quarter Graduates. They have all worked extremely hard this year.

We congratulate these deserving students: Astrid Armijo, Ethan Brena, Sebastian Casian, Andrew Castrejon, Carlos Diaz Diaz, Angel Fajardo, Sydney Hatz, Katherine Martinez, Melissa Montano, Breyanna Johnson, Ruby Rodriguez, Edwin Valenzuela, Alexia Varela, and Karla Zatarain.

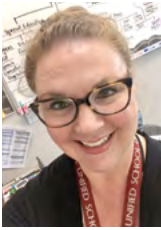
They join our January graduates: Hazel Angulo, George Baranda, David Campos, Kately Delgado, Daisy Gurolla, Darius Johnson, Mykaela Martinez, Syles Moran, Cassandra Mundo, Giselle Osuna, Mariana Ramirez, Jesus Ramirez Zambrano, Jaztina Sellers, Giselle Sanchez, Jesus Sanchez, Xavier Thomas, Rickia Walker, and Malek Woodard.

We continue moving forward, One Student at a Time.



## Collins *Elementary*

6125 Coke Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/602-8008 • collins.pusdschools.net



**Theresa Diaz**  
Principal

### Community Partnerships

One of the most unique features of Captain Raymond Collins School is its lush 500 square foot garden. The garden was started ten years ago this spring by retired teacher, Susan Deogracias, who continues to volunteer with the program. Mrs. Deogracias and Mrs. Brennan, one of our current teachers, use the garden to teach agricultural literacy in an afterschool program that serves more than 70 students each year. Since the garden is almost ten years old, the cedarwood garden bed frames have begun to deteriorate and have needed replacement. Fortunately, Board Member Cuarenta and community leaders collaborated with the school principal, Theresa Diaz, to refurbish the garden beds.

When Board Vice-President Yecenia Cuarenta visited Collins in October, the principal expressed the need for sponsors to help fund new garden bed frames. With a copy

of the garden plans in hand, Vice-President Cuarenta promised to do what she could to connect the school with local businesses. A short time later, Ms. Cuarenta connected with Barbara Crowson from the Paramount Chamber of Commerce to secure two generous business donors. Because of Vice-President Cuarenta's advocacy on behalf of Collins School, two local businesses, graciously agreed to supply the materials and labor needed to get the job done. Finally, on a beautiful day in February, the garden frames were built with materials and labor provided by the local businesses and their crews.

This amazing project is truly a collaborative effort between Collins School teachers and administration, the Board of Education, and community partners to provide our students with a fun and innovative way to learn about agricultural, environmental health and welfare, and healthy eating habits. Because of their support and generosity, the Collins School Garden will be celebrating its tenth anniversary in style this June 2020.

## Gaines *Elementary*

7340 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8012 • gaines.pusdschools.net



**Karen Sullivan**  
Principal

### Gaines Literacy Carnival

The Gaines Grizzly family celebrated Read Week with a fun Literacy Carnival! Over 300 participants joined in to play literacy games and complete reading passports by listening to teachers read stories enhanced with computerized sound effects and music, using software to animate book characters, and reading to service dogs. Families used their artistic talents while learning to draw popular book characters.

After viewing students' book projects, Grizzlies were able to jump into a book through the use of a green screen and walk away with a digital picture. Technology use continued as parents were introduced to a range of programs in our computer lab.

No one left empty-handed. Families left with reading tips and books given away by the school and the Paramount Public Library. Even bellies were full -- thanks to our fabulous PTA and their grilling talents.

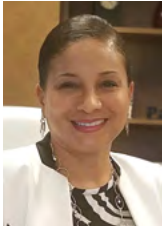


**Mrs. Juarez and Ms. Armenta help students choose books.**



## Hollydale *K-8*

5511 Century Blvd., South Gate, CA 90280 • 562/602-8016 • hollydale.pusdschools.net



**Lisa Nunley-Macon**  
*Principal*

### Unstoppable with MobyMax!

Hollydale School has ramped up distance learning through MobyMax! MobyMax engages our students through well designed computer-based interactive lessons, activities, and games. Students sign-in and a lesson designed for their personal learning level appears for them to complete. This program has been in place since the beginning of the school year as an extension to our curriculum. Currently, Tk-8th grade teachers continue to assign lessons, assess comprehension, and deliver instruction to students. MobyMax allows our teachers, students, and parents to navigate through this stressful time with a familiar platform and that makes a world of difference for them. In the words of one of our



parents, “MobyMax saves the day on a daily basis because I know the teacher is assigning lessons tailored to my child’s needs. I am grateful that Hollydale has this program.”

## Jefferson *Elementary*

8600 Jefferson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8024 • jefferson.pusdschools.net



**Kelly Williams**  
*Principal*

### Hands on Science

The students at Jefferson have been able to experience science in many different ways this year! One way the Jaguars have been able to get their *paws* on science is through the amazing Dan-Dan the Science Man! He doesn’t actually go by that name however, his name is Dan and we thought it had a nice ring to it! Dan brings in equipment, supplies and demonstrations. He leads each

grade level through experiments, explorations or projects that address grade level specific, Next Generation Science Standards. He typically even finds a way to incorporate other core math standards and we love him for it! Dan presents his scientific information with an unmatched enthusiasm and we look forward to bringing him back next year so that more students leave Jefferson with a strong foundation in elementary science!



**Fourth grade**



**Kindergarten**



## Jackson *Middle School*

7220 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8020 • [jackson.pusdschools.net](http://jackson.pusdschools.net)



**Kelly Anderson**  
Principal

### Jackson Knights have Got the Power!

In what has quickly become a tradition, Leona Jackson School hosted its 3rd Annual All-Star Celebrity Basketball Game sponsored by a well-known radio station.

Jackson teachers became stars as they went head-to-head against the station's All-Star Basketball Team.



A half-time show filled with social media stars Taylor Holder, Vinnie West and Daniel Munoz provided amazing entertainment. Eighth grader, Jessica Serrano, stated, "The Game was really fun. We got to see our teachers play basketball and interact with them outside of school."

The radio station hosted a lunchtime pep rally, as well as a PTA Valentine's Day dance, to promote the big game. "They have done a tremendous job in supporting our fundraising efforts and helping us reach out to the Jackson community," said Assistant Principal Michelle Soto of Jackson's partnership with the radio station.

## Keppel *Elementary*

6630 Mark Keppel St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8028 • [keppel.pusdschools.net](http://keppel.pusdschools.net)



**Michael Naruko**  
Principal

### Read Across America

For generations, children across the globe have enjoyed the stories written by Theodore Geisel, most commonly known as Dr. Seuss. During the first week of March, students and staff at Mark Keppel Elementary School joined the nation to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday by participating in "Read across America", an annual event to promote the love of reading. At Keppel, we kicked off the

event by serving green eggs and ham for breakfast while students dressed up in their "Grinch Green" clothing. Throughout the week, students participated in several fun activities including making a book marker, decorating a door poster and dressing up in Seuss-themed attire.

On Wacky Wednesday, everyone wore their clothing backwards and on College and Career Day, everyone wore their college gear to recognize Seuss' book, *Oh the Places You'll go*. This year's event included buddy reading and our "Guest Reader Day" with the local fire department arriving in their fire engine to read to our fifth graders. On our "Fox in Socks Day", our students collected new socks and excitedly donated them to a local charity.

The week concluded with a "Horton Hears a Who Movie Night." As a culminating activity, families joined together to watch an outdoor movie under the stars while the Keppel PTA served hot chocolate, hot dogs, and snacks. As Dr. Seuss once said, "You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."



## Lincoln *Elementary*

15324 S. California Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8036 • lincoln.pusdschools.net



**Dr. Topekia Jones**  
Principal

### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Abraham Lincoln Elementary School for being selected as a Top Los Angeles County Public School for the second year in a row! Lincoln School is one of 278 schools in Los Angeles County who made the list for its strong results in English and math

proficiency for low income Latino students.

Lincoln's ongoing commitment to the advancement of all students, is helping to narrow the achievement gap. As the school transitions to a distance learning model for



the remainder of the school year, the staff will continue to provide quality instruction to improve outcomes for all students.

## Los Cerritos *Elementary*

14626 Gundry Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8040 • loscerritos.pusdschools.net



**Hilda Mapp**  
Principal

### **Dr. Seuss Read Day Celebration**

Los Cerritos celebrated Read Across America with students, staff, and community members on Friday, March 6, 2020. It was a day full of fun as students were entertained on the playground by the playful Cat in the Hat, the friendly Lorax, a couple of proud Star-Belly Sneetches and the mischievous Thing One and Thing Two.



**Students listened attentively to their guest reader, Ann Hernandez.**



**The Los Cerritos support staff showed off their school spirit.**

As guest readers arrived at Los Cerritosville, they walked along the path of colorful spinning pinwheels and decorative book scenes to join everyone for a delicious breakfast and greeting from Mrs. Mapp. Student representatives cheerfully escorted guest readers who were welcomed to classrooms by creatively decorated doors and excited students ready to dive into a book! Pure happiness filled the classrooms that morning with stories being read by SEUSSational community members and lifetime memories being created for all students at Los Cerritos. #WEAREPUSD



## Mokler *Elementary*

8571 E. Flower St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8044  
mokler.pusdschools.net



**Linh Roberts**  
Principal

### **Making Lemonade**

*By Ms. Ayala, School Social Worker  
Ms. Holland, Counselor*

Unexpected time away from school and work might be difficult. One strategy used to cope with unexpected events is to change perspective or point of view. Instead of focusing on the bitter or difficult aspects, focus on the potential for a sweet outcome. It's like using lemons to make lemonade. Be

fluid with the situation and focus on adding as many sweet moments as you can.

Take advantage of opportunities to teach and learn new things with your family members. For example, learn to sew, cook a new recipe, play an instrument, fix something in your home or learn a new dance. Studies have shown that laughter helps people heal faster. Spend time with family. Be present and engage in mindful activities that bring you plenty of laughter.

## Odyssey *STEM Academy*

3701 Michelson Street, Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/602-8032 • odyssey.pusdschools.net



**Keith Nuthall**  
Principal

### **Odyssey Staff Leads Family Connections**

As we live through a pandemic together, we are learning that the human species is interdependent. We need each other to survive and thrive in the world.

The Odyssey office staff plays a huge role in our distance learning approach to learning. Rosa, Sandra, and Janttey work tirelessly to keep our scholars and families connected to school. Our office team

facilitates our heightened and evolving communication home, keeping families in the loop about virtual Parent University sessions, progress reports, and the online learning schedule.

Our advisors lean on our office staff. Sharing online checklists and staying in touch during day, the office staff makes sure no one falls through the cracks. Personal phone calls home to answer questions and troubleshoot issues results in high attendance and positive relationships.

Bravo! Thank you so much. We love our office team.



**Signs of Gratitude. Our Office Team Rocks!**

## Paramount *Adult School / Community Day School*

14507 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8080 • pas.pusdschools.net



**Dr. Yvonne Rodriguez**  
*Principal*

### Students Seeking U.S. Citizenship

One of the most rewarding experiences for an adult school staff is to see their students pass the U.S. Citizenship Test. Paramount Adult School (PAS) offers two classes in citizenship; and this past year, we have had 18 students who have thus far become U.S. Citizens.

Mr. Diaz, evening Citizenship teacher, has been instrumental in preparing students in passing both the citizenship exam and the interview. The techniques he uses have been instrumental in building the knowledge that students need to pass the test. The class is popular and has an average of 60 students each semester not counting those individuals on a waiting list to register.

The students speak highly of Mr. Diaz, a student who recently became a U.S. Citizen, Mrs. Consuelo Avena had

this to say, "I give Mr. Diaz the credit for helping me get the confidence to prepare me for the citizenship exam and the interview...I passed the exam on my first try." Mrs. Avena added that his patience with students is one of the attributes which makes a difference in retaining the information for the exam. She is a grandmother who helps care for her two grandsons and has dealt with some personal issues which affected her schooling; however, Mrs. Avena's tenacity and endurance has kept her focused to reach her goal of becoming a U.S. citizen and she is looking forward to voting this fall for the President of the United States.

Additionally, PAS also has an afternoon Citizenship class which meets at 12:00 p.m. with Ms. Marie Dunn. Paramount residents have an opportunity to register for an afternoon or evening Citizenship course. PAS very proud of our students' determination to achieve U.S. Citizenship status.

## Paramount Park *Middle School*

14608 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8052 • paramountpark.pusdschools.net



**Kevin Longworth**  
*Principal*

### Taking Care of Each Other

When the Coronavirus caused schools to close, the staff at Paramount Park did not sit in stunned silence. Social distancing forced everyone to go separate ways, but the team came together stronger than ever! To say communication, sharing ideas, and initiative

have increased would be an understatement. Teamwork has blown-up!

So much collaboration is taking place between staff members, and it is all focused on the well-being of our students and families. Teachers check on their students on a personal level, and work with their teammates to make healthy decisions about digital learning. Counselors and coaches are connecting students, parents and staff members with resources they need to get through these tough times; often "walking" someone through the steps using video conferencing.

Every new display of camaraderie is an inspiration for the Paramount Park Panther Team to continue its mission!



**Ms. Kirk delivers supplies to student.**



## Paramount High School - Senior Campus

14429 S. Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-6067 • phs.pusdschools.net



**Christiana Kraus**  
Principal

### Virtual Spirit Weeks

During our “Safer at Home” quarantine, Paramount High School planned virtual spirit weeks to connect our Pirates. Through the use of Flipgrid, our students and Staffuly participated in themed virtual activities where they created short video clips showing their “Pirate Pride.” Here was the Virtual Spirit Weeks:

1. Week of March 23 – March 27: Virtual Spirit Week featured spirited activities where our Pirates were able to use their imagination on the themed days.
  - a. March 23: Movie In Pajamas Monday
  - b. March 24: Travel Tuesday
  - c. March 25: Wacky Wednesday
  - d. March 26: Crazy Hair and Socks Thursday
  - e. March 27: Freaky Friday
2. Week of March 30 – April 3: Paramount Got Talent featured a variety of talents from singing, dancing, and lip syncing during our own Pirate Talent Show.
  - a. March 30: Action Monday
  - b. March 31: Talent Tuesday
  - c. April 1: Wacky Wednesday
  - d. April 2: Hair-Do & Style Thursday

- e. April 3: Freaky Friday
3. Week of April 6 – April 10: Paramount Has Flavor featured our very own culinary geniuses Mrs. Bell and Ms. Amore. They showed us how to do their favorite dishes while inspiring us to create our own delightful dishes.
  - a. April 6: Bountiful Breakfast Monday
  - b. April 7: Lavish Lunch Tuesday
  - c. April 8: Dazzling Dinner Wednesday
  - d. April 9: Scrumptious Snack
  - e. April 10: Decadent Dessert
4. Week of April 13 – April 17: Spring Break Out Moment 2020
  - a. Share one memorable moment from Spring Break 2020
5. Week of April 20 – April 24: #WowYouCanReallyDance featured our Pirates performing Tik Tok dances.
  - a. April 20: #MacarenaMonday
  - b. April 21: #SmeezeTuesday
  - c. April 22: #TheWhoaWednesday
  - d. April 23: #RenegadeThursday
  - e. April 24: #MakeAPirateGoCrazyFriday

We appreciated everyone who participated in our Virtual Spirit Weeks. Stay Safe Pirates. We miss you tremendously.  
#OnceAPirateAlwaysAPirate #PirateStrong

## Paramount High School - West Campus

14708 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8073 • phswest.pusdschools.net



**Elizabeth Salcido**  
Principal

### Pirate Lunch

Ahoy Mateys! Pirate Lunch is a quarterly event sponsored by the PHS West Campus Associated Student Body (ASB). It allows teachers to connect with their students on a more personal level. Staff members invite students to have lunch with them in the gym. Ciarra Powell expressed, “Pirate Lunch is my favorite school event hosted by ASB.

I work hard to make sure I get nominated so I can have great food and spend time with teachers and administrators.” ASB picks a theme and decorates the gym. Lunch is catered and culinary students bake delicious desserts. ASB member Jelani Parker sums it up the best, “Pirate lunch is everything but average and the environment is always filled with smiles and laughter. Students enjoy the opportunity to be noticed and celebrated for the hard work they put into being the best example of a Paramount Pirate.”



**Teachers and Students enjoy a delicious meal!**



**Our culinary students serving up scrumptious desserts!**

## Roosevelt *Elementary*

13451 Merkel Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8056 • roosevelt.pusdschools.net



**Margie Domino**  
*Principal*

### ST Math Pilot

When offered the opportunity by ST Math to participate in their pilot program for the 2019-2020 school year, Roosevelt Roughriders said an enthusiastic, "Yes!" ST Math is working to expand and update their learning program to allow teachers more options to address student learning and new experiences for students during their learning and game play with Jiji. Roosevelt was is one of 17 schools throughout the United States participating in this pilot program.

As participants in the pilot program, Roosevelt's students and teachers have been able to have exclusive access and opportunities to give feedback on program changes. Changes have been made to student controlled animations, improved navigation, and more. In addition, Roughriders have had access to updated technology with enhanced user experience and elevated support from ST

Math staff. Additional support included, in-person training for teachers and staff as well as regular site visits to work with students on issues they experienced with the new program as updates were added.

Periodic software updates have taken place throughout the school year as new features were released. ST Math's efforts to build a program that will reach new levels of support for students and teachers, meant there were some features not immediately available as ST Math worked to innovate their new approach to student success. Teachers did miss some of the aspects of the ST Math Program they had grown accustomed to, but in early March they got back some of those features! Teachers were excited to get back their ability to assign student work and have been able to use it during this time of Distance Learning. All new games will all be available for students to access by the end of this spring.

We can't wait to see what ST Math will offer next year to everyone!

## Tanner *Elementary*

7210 Rosecrans Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8060 • tanner.pusdschools.net



**Holly Hennessy**  
*Principal*

### Distance Learning At Tanner

With our students at home, and Distance Learning going on, the Tanner Teachers are working hard to make sure all of our students are able to get the resources they need to continue their studies. From online learning, to paperwork packets, each day our teachers are reaching out to their students and families through internet,

communication apps and email. In addition to the academic studies, our counselor has set up a new resource center called Counselor's Corner on our school website. Through this resource, families can access COVID 19 information, as well as social-emotional guides, virtual field trips and enriching and fun activities. There is even a video to keep kids active. We at Tanner, want everyone to know that your health and safety mean everything to us, and we can't wait to see everyone back on site, when this pandemic is over.



**Tanner Tigers ROAR**



## Wirtz *Elementary*

8535 Contreras St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8068 • wirtz.pusdschools.net



**Roxanne Alessandro**  
Principal

### Virtual Spirit Week

Our Wirtz Wizards STARS are full of school spirit even from home during the School Closure. We have started our very first Virtual Spirit Week!! Each day students and their families dress up in the Spirit Wear for that day such as-Crazy Hat day, Superhero Day and School Spirit Day. Students and staff have been sharing their pictures dressed in spirit wear in their online

classes on Schoology, Zoom and Google Hangouts; sending them to teachers via email, text, Class Dojo and Classtag and parents are sharing their children's pictures on the school's Facebook page.

Being away from teachers, friends and staff is difficult for our students. Finding ways to stay connected and have some fun brings us all a sense of normalcy during this time and we will continue to have a new Virtual Spirit Week every week!



**Mrs. Bronder and Penny showing school spirit.**



**Doctors are our biggest heros.**

## Zamboni *Middle School*

15733 Orange Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8048 • zamboni.pusdschools.net



**Sue Saikaly**  
Principal

### Beat the Odds: Drumming for Resilience

Zamboni aims to support student mental health in many ways. This year the Zamboni counselors and social worker facilitate as Wildcats at all grade levels work to "Beat the Odds," an evidence-based program from UCLA Arts & Healing that includes group drumming and group counseling to build community and social emotional strength. In their drum circles, students get creative, participate in inclusive verbal and nonverbal activities, and they have a blast! Wildcats

learn skills such as focusing, listening, team building, and leadership all while creating rhythm. The groups also emphasize social emotional skills such as expressing emotions, self-esteem, positive risk taking, managing anger, and empathy. Students report enjoying the activities and looking forward to their drum circles every week. Zamboni also hosted parent classes and staff development to engage the entire community in "Beating the Odds." Additional staff will be participating in a virtual training on April 25th as Zamboni continues to spread the power of positive affirmations through drumming!

## Yoona's Review



**Yoona C.**

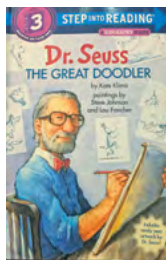
### Dr. Seuss' Life

Title: *Dr. Seuss The Great Doodler*

Author: Kate Klimo

Have you read any Dr. Seuss books?

Dr. Seuss was actually called Ted. His mother read to him a lot when he was young. Ted also liked to doodle. He doodled pictures of animals. After college, he worked on a humor magazine. He signed his drawings with just his middle name: Seuss. He wrote his first book titled *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street!* When Ted was having trouble with a story, he wore wacky hats to think better. Ted wanted to write a book using 225 simple words. Do you know what this book is? It is the *Cat in the Hat!* I like this book because I can find many facts about Dr. Seuss and learn about how his books were created. This book also includes rarely seen artwork by Dr. Seuss. I recommend this book to kids who are interested in Dr. Seuss and his books.



Yoona is a 2nd grader. She likes playing soccer and the piano. She likes to create stories as well.

## Kailani's Review



**Kailani T.**

### Magical New Best Friend

*Unicorn Diaries*,

Bo's Magical New Friend, is 1 of the 4 books in *Unicorn Diaries* chapter book series written by Rebecca Elliot.

Bo (Rainbow Tinseltail) lives in

Sparklegrove Forest where lots of other magical creatures live. Bo is a unicorn with a wish power who can grant one wish weekly. Bo doesn't have a best friend, but she wishes she does. Although Bo is a wish unicorn, she wants to find her best friend naturally without using her magical power. One twinkly night, a unicorn was born. Bo thought maybe this new unicorn could be her best friend. You have to read this book to see if Bo's wish came true. Reading Bo's diary makes me feel like I'm one of the unicorns at Sparklegrove School. The daily journal takes me through the magical journey in Sparklegrove Forest. I highly recommend this book for anyone who loves magical powers and unicorns.



Kailani is a 2nd grader. When not playing with or reading to her baby brother, Kailani enjoys coloring and drawing. Her favorite weekend activities are ballet, hula, and musical theater.

## Tyson's Book Review



**Tyson**

### Never Give Up

*Touchdown Kid* by Tim Green

Cory is an awesome football player from the Westside. He is 11 years old and is just moving into middle school, along with his friend, Liam. A well-known coach from HBS, an elite junior high school, is giving a scholarship to a player he thinks is good enough to play football there. If Cory gets it, he will get to live in a nice neighborhood with a host family in a cozy home, and play football, his passion. His best friend's brother isn't the nicest guy and pulls him into trouble. If he is late, he won't play. What will he do? This is his dream. Find out more about this crazy adventure and read *Touchdown Kid*. This book is great and pulls me in. I can relate a lot to this book and if you're an athlete, you'll love it. I'm not much of a bookworm and I rate it 5 out of 5 stars!



Tyson is an athletic 6th grader who loves basketball, soccer, and volleyball. His favorite subjects are P.E. and math. He is a gentle pet owner and loves taking care of his 3 guinea pigs with his brother. He looks forward to going to Lakers games with his dad.

## Sean's Book Review



**Sean**

### Finding Your True Identity

If you don't know anything about Greek Mythology, but you have a desire to, Percy Jackson *The Lightning Thief* is a great book to get started! This is Rick Riordan's first book in his Percy Jackson

mythology series. Even if you already know about Greek mythology, this is an exceptional book that will keep you hooked. It's a great read with lots of detail and fun information. In here, you'll get introduced to Percy Jackson, a 12 year-old demigod (child of a god and a mortal) and is the son of the powerful sea god, Poseidon. The book is about how Percy discovered his identity and finds new friends and has crazy adventures along the way. It has action, suspense, and always makes you want to keep reading. When I first read this book 2 years ago, I was hooked and could not put it down even to this day!



Sean Cheng is a 5th grader who enjoys cubing (Rubik's Cubes), watching Rubik's Cube videos, and playing basketball. His favorite subjects at school are math and P.E. He loves his 3 guinea pigs and looks forward to summer vacations.