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# School News

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**Covering the Paramount Unified School District**

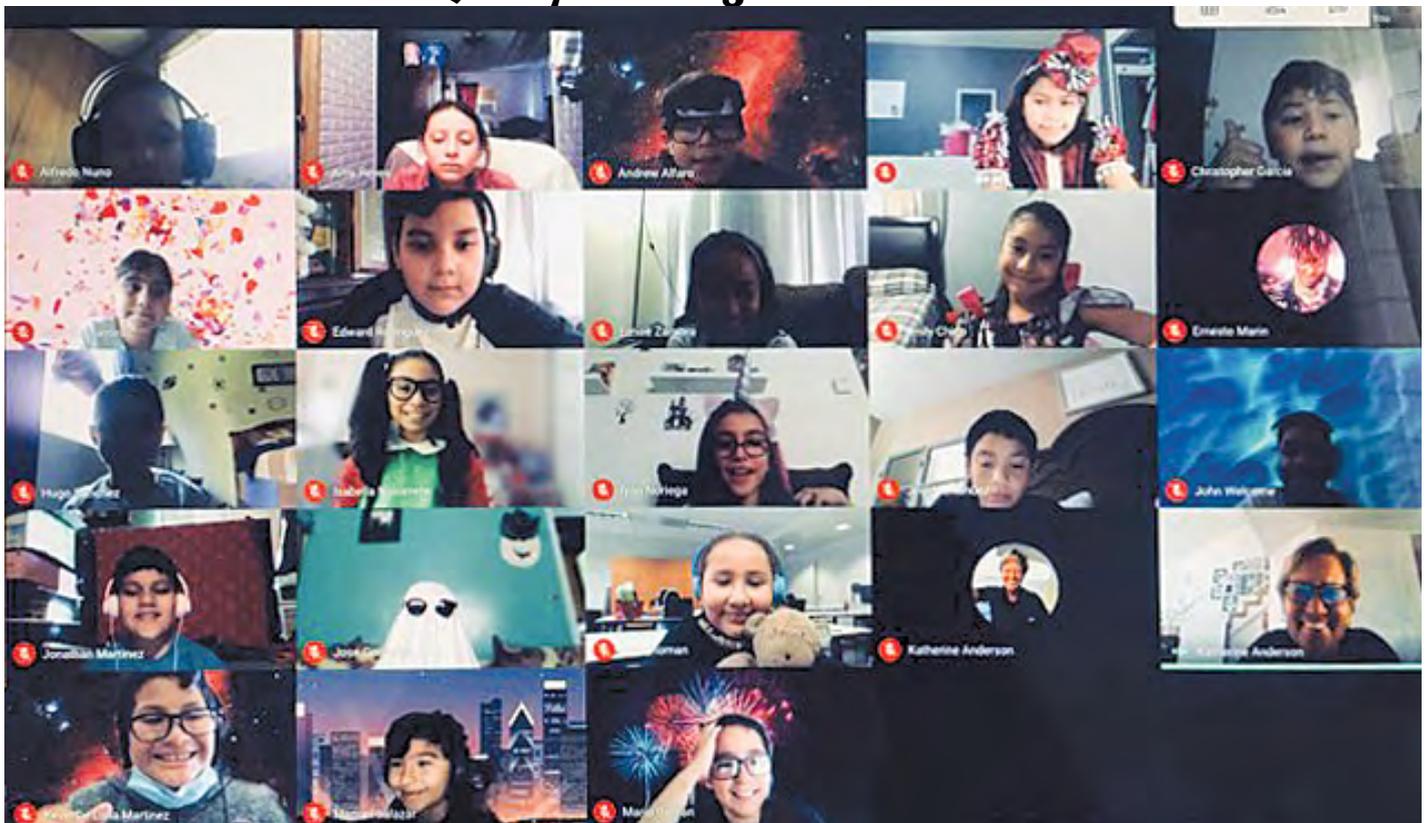


Volume 5, Issue 13

November 2020–April 2021



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# School News



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Covering the  
**PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



Welcome back to another school year. This is our 5th year publishing the Paramount Unified School District *School News*. There have been many changes throughout the years; however, I think we all agree this is the most challenging. Americans are innovative and educators are at the top of the list. Zoom has taken on a whole new meaning to this generation of students. Fortunately, students

and educators were proficient with technology to help with the seamless transition to distance learning. Families stepped up to the challenge.

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is May 12, 2021. In the meantime, have a wonderful holiday season.

**Happy Holidays**  
from the *School News* Staff!



# THANK YOU!

The City thanks our great PUSD students, teachers, and staff for facing these tough times with resilience and creativity!

To support our children, we've happily provided \$125,000 of our COVID-19 money and our afterschool grant funds to help pay for the District's new live virtual My Tutor program.

We celebrate our strong, decades-long partnership with PUSD.

**#WeAreParamount!**

## Welcome Back!

### Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year, a school year that is unique as we open our virtual doors. This has been a challenging summer for everyone with ongoing changes at county and state levels, but I rely on the strong commitment and ability of our teachers and staff members to serve our students in this learning environment.

We are pleased to inform you that with the support of our Governing Board of Education all students within the District received Chromebooks. We expanded our technology initiative to include grades from Pre-K to second. This means that all students have live interaction, synchronous and asynchronous instruction, and support.

Parent technology training is planned and underway for our TK-2nd grade parents. This training will continue throughout the year on various topics of interest to help you support your students. Technology repair support in the District office will continue as a free service to help with the possibility of computer malfunction. In addition, we have expanded our “Grab and Go” meal nutrition services that include more school locations and schedules that will serve working families.

We have partnered with the City of Paramount and are offering extended day services through the STAR program to assist parents that working away from the home.

Although the District is working remotely, please continue to call the District office and/or schools, as we are at your service when you need us.

Also, consider supporting our PTA and other school organizations that will contact you. Connecting with school organizations along with teachers, principals, counselors, and support staff is critical to ensure a high-quality public-school education at Paramount USD.

We value your support and involvement in your student's education.

Visit Paramount USD's website for specific information about these services.

[www.paramount.k12.ca.us](http://www.paramount.k12.ca.us)

Most importantly, please stay safe and healthy. With your support, I look forward to a successful year ahead.



**Dr. Ruth Pérez**  
Superintendent

## ¡Bienvenidos!

### Estimados Padres y Familias,

Bienvenidos al año escolar 2020-2021, un año escolar que es único al abrir nuestras puertas virtuales. Este ha sido un verano desafiante para todos nosotros, con cambios continuos a nivel del condado y del estado, pero confío en el fuerte compromiso y capacidad de nuestros maestros y miembros del personal para servir a nuestros estudiantes en este entorno de aprendizaje.

Nos complace informarle que con el apoyo de nuestra Mesa Directiva Gubernamental de Educación todos los estudiantes dentro del Distrito recibieron Chromebooks. Ampliamos nuestra iniciativa tecnológica para incluir grados de Pre-K a segundo. Esto significa que todos los alumnos tienen interacción en vivo, instrucción sincrónica y asincrónica y apoyo.

La capacitación en tecnología para padres está planeada y en marcha para nuestros padres desde TK hasta el segundo grado. Esta formación continuará durante todo el año en varios temas de interés para ayudarle a apoyar a sus estudiantes. El apoyo de reparación de tecnología en la oficina del Distrito continuará como un servicio gratuito para ayudar con la posibilidad de un mal funcionamiento de la computadora. Además, hemos ampliado nuestros servicios de nutrición de comidas “Tome y Lleve” que incluye más ubicaciones escolares y horarios que servirán a las familias que trabajan.

Nos asociamos con la ciudad de Paramount y ofrecemos servicios de día extendido a través del programa STAR para ayudar a los padres que trabajan fuera del hogar.

Aunque el Distrito está trabajando de forma remota, por favor continúe llamando a la oficina del Distrito y a las escuelas, ya que estamos a su servicio cuando nos necesite.

Además, considere apoyar a nuestra asociación de PTA y otras organizaciones escolares que se pondrán en contacto con usted. Conectarse con organizaciones escolares junto con maestros, directores, consejeros y personal de apoyo es fundamental para garantizar una educación de alta calidad en la escuela pública en Paramount USD.

Valoramos su apoyo y participación en la educación de su estudiante.

Visite el sitio web de Paramount USD para obtener información específica sobre estos servicios.

[www.paramount.k12.ca.us](http://www.paramount.k12.ca.us)

Lo más importante, por favor permanezca seguro y saludable. Con su apoyo, espero que éste sea un año exitoso.

## Governing Board



**Vivian Hansen**  
President



**Yesenia Cuarenta**  
Vice-President /  
Clerk



**Sonia De Leon**  
Member



**Linda Garcia**  
Member



**Carmen Gomez**  
Member

# Early Childhood Education Program

7340 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-6900 • www.paramount.k12.ca.us



**Rita Cruz**  
Director

## Staying Connected with Families

Supporting preschool families, especially in this time of Distance Learning, is an important component of our preschool program. Communication to our parents about the educational program as well as the progress and development of their child is a major focus for this year. Preschool is utilizing

technology to enhance and streamline this for teachers and parents. The Learning Genie Educator and Parent app is our online tool that provides a secure and private way to exchange information in a timely manner. Parents are able to stay involved in their child's early learning. Teachers and parents can send messages to one another using the two-way chat feature.

Communication to our parents about the educational program as well as the progress and development of their child is a major focus for this year...

Staying connected with families and children remains a high priority for the preschool program.

It is fun as parents upload pictures to share with the teacher to show work completed or developmental milestones. In addition, the program sends general school messages to all families through the app. This is a great opportunity for interactive learning at home between the family and the child. Teachers share classroom activities and high interest books with families. Teachers are also

able to provide parenting tips to families that are focused on the individual needs of each family. The developmental progress of each child is captured using the developmental rating scale incorporated in the application and parents are encouraged to monitor their child's development. Staying connected with families and children remains a high

priority for the preschool program.



Attention Paramount Unified School District Class of 2021!

# 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 **April 30, 2021**.

**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**

## What Makes A Pregnancy High Risk?



**Jennifer McNulty, M.D.,**  
*maternal-fetal medicine specialist, Cherese Mari Laulhere BirthCare Center, MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach*

Most women experience routine pregnancies. However, some women experience medical difficulties, making their pregnancy high-risk. High-risk pregnancies can put mom and baby at an increased risk for complications. Factors that increase a woman's chance of having a high-risk pregnancy, include:

- Pre-existing health problems, such as diabetes, obesity or high blood pressure.
- Use of alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco.
- The mother's age (younger than 17 or over 35).
- Multiple babies (i.e., twins or triplets).
- Multiple prior miscarriages.
- The baby being diagnosed with a genetic condition, poor growth or a physical malformation.
- Development of preterm labor or pre-eclampsia.
- Abnormal location of the placenta, especially with a previous cesarean section delivery.
- Problems during a previous pregnancy.

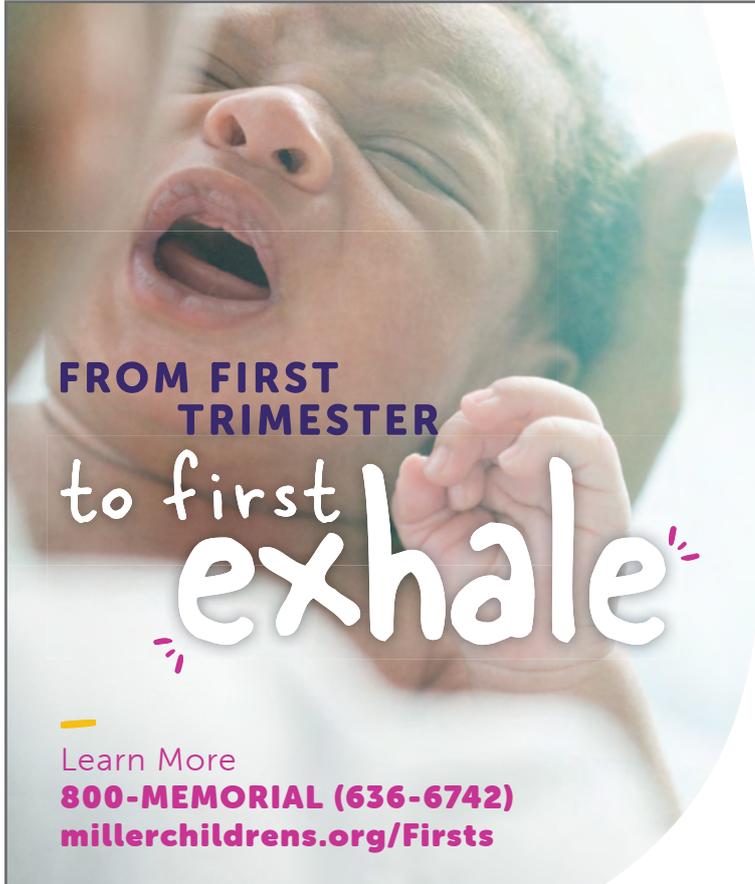
When a woman is diagnosed with a high-risk pregnancy, she'll need to see a physician with special training, like a maternal-fetal medicine specialist. Maternal-fetal medicine specialists are obstetricians that complete three additional years of training to care for high-risk pregnancies.

At the Cherese Mari Laulhere BirthCare Center at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach, maternal-fetal medicine specialists are available in the hospital 24/7 to manage complex maternity and fetal care. Just down the hall from the delivery suites is a level IV Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. The expert team is available to provide specialized care to fit the unique needs of new mothers and their newborns – under one roof.

For more information about why women with high-risk pregnancies should choose Miller Children's & Women's, visit [millerchildrens.org/Firsts](http://millerchildrens.org/Firsts).



2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806  
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## For all of life's firsts

Whether it's a first pregnancy, the first seconds of life, first recital, or first visit to the ER, you're there for each moment. As LA and Orange Counties' only hospital just for children and women, we're here for both of you. Our maternal-fetal medicine specialists, obstetricians and neonatologists stop at nothing to ensure both mom and baby receive the comprehensive, elite care you both uniquely need — putting what's most important, first.



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Hospital Long Beach

## Alondra *Middle School*

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



**Dr. Viola Scott**  
*Principal*

### Alondra Dolphins Are Ready To Learn!

When the 2020-2021 school year commenced, Alondra teachers and students quickly reaffirmed their commitment to success in education and global society. Although we miss the energy and excitement of starting a new school year on campus, Alondra staff, students, and parents are pulling together as a community to ensure students receive a high-quality education

during distance learning. The Alondra office staff has worked tirelessly distributing textbooks to all students, brand new Chromebooks to our 6th graders, instruments to our band students, as well as countless other essential

hands-on resources and materials. Our awesome AMS support staff have been working behind the scenes making hundreds of parent phone calls to help get students connected to their online classes. Our teachers are working overtime to make sure they are on top of the cutting-edge resources and best practices for online instruction. Our PTSA and other supportive parents quickly assembled and asked what they could do to help make this school year better for students. Last, but not least, our wonderful students are making a tremendous effort to adapt and thrive in their new learning environment.

Bravo to Team Alondra for being examples of what is possible and ensuring a smooth beginning to what will be a memorable school year for all!

## Buena Vista *High School*

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



**Morrie Kosareff**  
*Principal*

### A Personalized Approach

The 2020-2021 school year has gotten off to a great start at Buena Vista High School! We are offering our students multiple ways to catch up on their credits to not only graduate, but to graduate on time.

As we continue with a quarter system for earning credits, students are enrolled into 4 academic classes plus an Advisory period allowing them the opportunity to earn 22.5 credits every quarter (9 weeks), or 90 credits during the school year. In addition to our regular program, Buena Vista High School offers our students additional opportunities to earn credits through Edgenuity and after school courses through our participation in the California Advancing Pathways for Students (CalAPS) program.

Students participating in the CalAPS program have a wide range of CTE courses to choose from, including

Firefighting, Law Enforcement, Construction, Health Care, and Cyber Security. Students are able to earn 10 credits for every class completed. Students are also using Edgenuity, our online learning partner, to earn additional credits. Using a one to one approach, we pride ourselves in providing an individualized approach to counseling and instruction for every student.

Another big part of our individualized approach is the work doing through our College & Career Center. Students work to develop a plan that leads them to graduation and then takes them beyond into the world of College & Career. Using Naviance, students search for information and develop their very own College and Career plan. Even during our time in Distance Learning, Buena Vista students will be provided the opportunity to virtually participate in job fairs, explore local college campuses and trade schools, all through the College and Career Center.

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## Collins *Elementary*

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



**Lynn Butler**  
*Principal*

### Celebrating the First Day of Kindergarten!

Collins School hosted materials distribution days to ensure all parents and students received necessary materials to kick off the school year. The drive through distribution went smoothly. Parents stopped at each station to pick up materials and say “hello” to Collins staff. Students received textbooks, writing utensils, Chromebooks, hotspots, and school information organized neatly in



**Staff members distributing materials to our Collins Colts' Families.**



**TK Student: Zahir Carter poses for his “First Day of Kindergarten” picture.**

reusable bags with our new Colts United 2020 logo on luggage tags attached to each bag. Kindergarten students were able to exit their vehicles and take a socially distanced, “First Day of School” pictures to commemorate the new experience and meet their teacher in person!

## Gaines *Elementary*

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



**Karen Sullivan**  
*Principal*

### Social Emotional Learning at Gaines

Social Emotional Learning is a key component of a student’s instructional program. As part of Gaines’ multi-tiered levels of support for students, students are provided with guidance lessons that teach coping skills and tools to promote healthy connections and a positive school climate. Interventions are also provided for students who may benefit from targeted skills through small group or individual counseling.

In conjunction with positive behavior intervention supports, Paramount Unified School District has adopted a program called Second Step to provide weekly lessons to students focusing on techniques to set goals, make positive decisions, gain confidence, and collaborate with others during work and play.



**Counselor Ms. Nieto Spreading Positive Effects**

Our Counselor, along with her counseling intern, teaches lessons that support student strategies to improve cooperation, communication, and decision making. These are lifelong skills that students can use as they navigate the world around them to become happier and healthier in their relationships with others.

## Hollydale K-8

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



**Lisa Nunley-Macon**  
Principal

### PTA Supports Families Hit by COVID-19

Hollydale's PTA Executive Board made the decision to help the school by supporting families impacted by COVID-19. The Board worked closely with the principal and teachers to gather information on families in need of help. The PTA as a community resource

understands that students are facing challenges with distance learning and their personal lives. Some families have reported that food and other essential necessities are limited due to the effect of the pandemic on their finances. The PTA Board believes there is no better way to spend fundraiser money collected last year than to help those students and families in need right now. The PTA is proud to stand together with the Hollydale community during this pandemic. We will be strong for our students together!



## Jackson Middle School

7220 E. Jackson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8020 • jackson.pusdschools.net



**Kelly Anderson**  
Principal

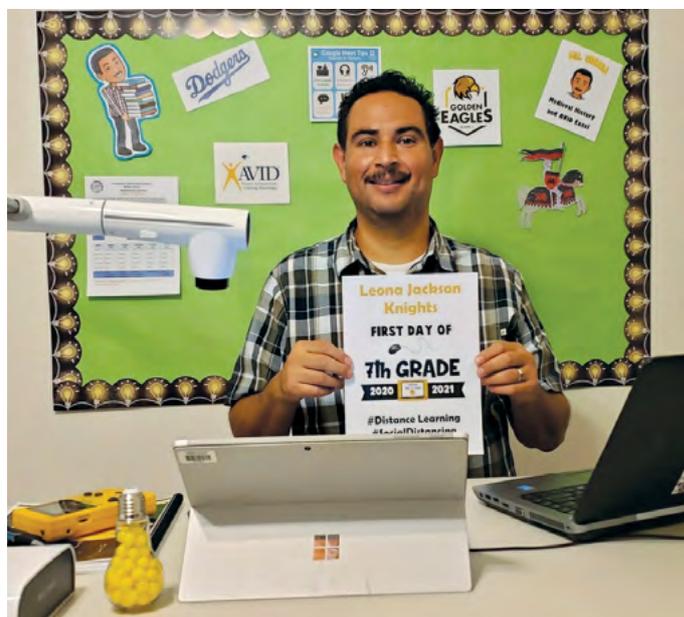
### Turning on the "Knight" Light

The Jackson Knights have started this unprecedented school year by taking a page right out of the world of Harry Potter. The series reminds its readers that "happiness can be found in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." Adopting this mindset, Jackson has turned on their "Knight" light for the 2020-21 school year.

The Knights began the year with a focus on building relationships and getting students connected to their virtual classrooms. Students and staff enjoyed a social media challenge by highlighting a picture of their first day of school. "Some might say that



**5th Grade Knight**



**7th Grade Teacher, Mr. Sierra**

distance learning will bring with it too many challenges, but we believe that it is important to find the positive in every situation and encourage our students and families to do the same," states Instructional Coach, Maggie Barrera. Shine on Knights!

## Jefferson *Elementary*

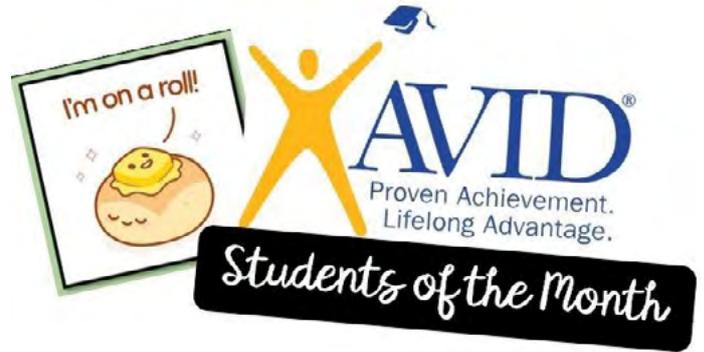
8600 Jefferson St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8024 • jefferson.pusdschools.net



**Kelly Williams**  
Principal

### Celebrating Student Success

To say that school has started off looking a little different this year would be an understatement! Nonetheless, the Jefferson Jaguars and their amazing principal, teachers and staff are pressing forward and finding new, fun ways to celebrate and encourage our student's forward progress!



On a weekly basis, the jaguars who use their "PAWS" in their "classrooms" get rewarded by getting their names added to a raffle wheel. This makes them eligible for prizes and who doesn't love those? Additionally, teachers choose two students each month to be honored with either the "AVID Scholar" student of the month or the "On a Roll" student of the month award! Our hope in doing this, is that our students will continue to know how much we care about them and their education! Go Jaguars!



## Keppel *Elementary*

6630 Mark Keppel St., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8028 • keppel.pusdschools.net

**Michael Naruko**



### Students Continue to Learn and Grow

Although our students have not returned to campus yet, learning continues to take place through Keppel's distance learning program. We kicked off this school year by distributing to every student a "learning basket" filled with all the materials and supplies needed to be successful during

distance learning. The following week, we provided students with a brand-new Chromebook computer so that

they can join their teacher and classmates using video technology and web-based resources. Upon receiving their devices, students were thrilled to see how they could connect to their teacher's class with just a push of a button.

With every student learning from their home, we are very thankful for the time and support that our families are giving to their children. It is this partnership that makes Keppel special and will ensure the success of every child.

# School News

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**Join our sales team working from your home.**

**Contact Kay for information:**

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# Lincoln *Elementary*

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



**Dr. Topekia Jones**  
*Principal*

## Social-Emotional Support During Distance Learning

At Lincoln School, our Counselor, Mrs. Villa, provides the social, emotional, and mental health support for our students and families. During distance learning, Mrs. Villa will reach out to our students and families for re-engagement

opportunities and help be the bridge between school and home. She has also created a Counselor's Corner page filled with a variety of parent and student resources in the areas of social-emotional learning, Covid-19 resources, parent tips, community resources, and a Virtual Calming Corner (relaxation and meditation resources) as well as, a virtual college tours page. A parent-counselor connection newsletter will be sent out monthly focusing on themes,

such as: bullying prevention, mindfulness, kindness, coping skills, growth mindset, etc. She will also be working with our student PRIDE ambassadors and student council in creating positive and fun-filled virtual activities.



**Mrs. Villa's Virtual Counselor Corner**

# Los Cerritos *Elementary*

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

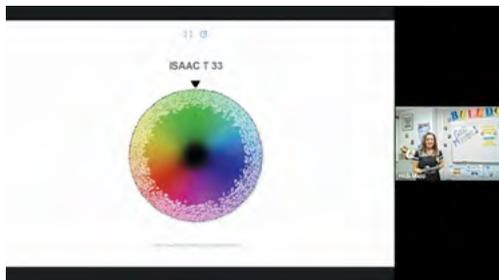


**Hilda Mapp**  
*Principal*

## Attendance & Participation Virtual Raffles

Getting started this school year has looked quite different from other years. Even so, Los Cerritos Principal, Mrs. Hilda Mapp, continues to

bring students, families, and staff some normalcy through her fun and informative daily LIVE Google streams. From the decorative board full of valuable information, the daily birthday shoutouts, our pledge of allegiance, to the suspenseful raffle winners chosen daily through the virtual raffle spinner, these assemblies give our families and staff a time to come together. One of the main focuses of the LIVE assembly is attendance and participation. Students are entered into a daily raffle if they are participating,



**The virtual raffle spinner!**

following teacher expectations, and completing assigned work. Daily e-gift cards are emailed to the student's parents to celebrate their success. As students continue to work hard, they will continue to be entered in the daily, weekly, monthly and end of trimester raffles! Way to go BULLDOGS!



**Mrs. Mapp's LIVE Google stream.**

## Mokler *Elementary*

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



**Linh Roberts**  
*Principal*

### Working Together and Learning Together

The Mokler community has been hard at work building our digital classrooms but

we know that we cannot do it without the support of our families. The beginning of this school year brings many challenges and many new opportunities to learn and grow together. This year, we will be providing a variety of virtual parent meetings on a variety of topics including but not limited to academic supports, mental health, self-care and technology. All meetings are virtually open to all parents and guardians. Please visit the Mokler website at [mokler.pusdschools.net](http://mokler.pusdschools.net) for meeting dates. Our highly qualified team of educators look forward to meeting with you.



**Parents as partners in learning**

## Odyssey *STEM Academy*

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



**Rebecca Perez**  
*Principal*

### Odyssey Scholars Extend Learning through Virtual Early College Classes

This semester, over sixty juniors at Odyssey STEM Academy are participating in virtual dual enrollment courses at Long Beach City College, Cerritos College, and Compton College Starting junior year, scholars choose between virtual internships and virtual college classes.

Odyssey places student interest at the center of learning, continually asking: What are you passionate about? What do you want to learn next? What problem would you like to solve? Scholars at Odyssey chose from a wide range of college courses this fall, from Elementary Japanese to Electrical Mathematics.

“I’m so excited about my college class. I’m taking Psychology of Personalities”, shares Jasmine Pratts, one

of many Odyssey juniors who combed through fall college course catalogs looking for a class that inspired them.

Jonathan Blanco, Odyssey’s new academic counselor, states, “Dual enrollment allows our scholars to get a head start on the college experience. At the same time, scholars can earn transferable credits that will apply towards their degree which will require less time after high school to finish a college degree.”

Dual enrollment has many benefits to scholars: a confidence boost after successfully navigating the college application and coursework process, college credits on an actual college transcript, and the ability to explore fields of study to help them choose a major in the future. Most importantly, scholars get a taste of the freedom that comes with being able to choose a course that interests them. Learning, after all, is most powerful when we’re motivated and curious.

## Paramount *Adult School / Community Day School*

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



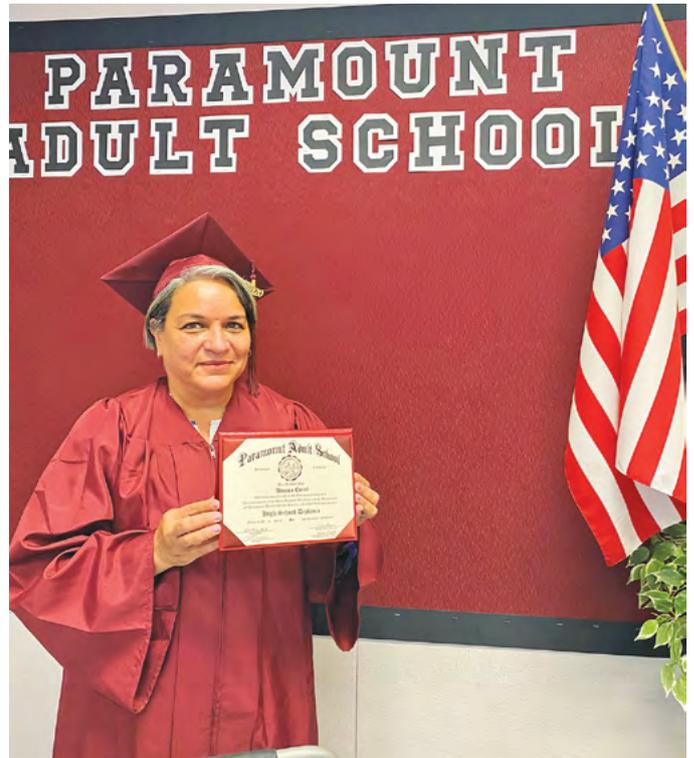
**Dr. Yvonne Rodriguez**  
*Principal*

### Former ESL Student Graduates with High School Diploma

Adriana Curiel began her tenure at Paramount Adult School in 2017 registering for English as Second Language. Upon completion of her ESL classes, Adriana moved on to secondary courses through the Adult Learning Lab where she obtained 107.5 credits.

Mr. Vargas, Adult Lab Instructor shares, “Adriana is a very motivated student who is both focused and professional. She worked through weekends and holidays. Moreover, Adriana is the type of student who relishes learning and went above and beyond in her work.

Additionally, Adriana enrolled in nine Information Technology courses including completing the Computer Office Clerk and Microsoft Office Proficient CTE pathways. Her goal is earning a bachelor’s degree in Business or Accounting. Mr. Schmidt Adriana’s ESL teacher stated, “I’m not at all surprised that Adriana reached this milestone in her education, and I’m certain that she will continue learning until she has achieved all of her educational goals.



**Adriana Curiel leads in the flag salute for PAS’ 2020 Virtual Graduation.**

## Paramount Park *Middle School*

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



**Kevin Longworth**  
*Principal*

### Panther Counseling

During the school closures, we know teachers are furiously working day and night to ensure students receive engaging lessons focused on essential learning. They also support students with all the needed “tech learning” and contact students who don’t attend class. However, people may not know about other critical support provided by school counselors.

At Paramount Park Middle School, the counselors meet with students, parents and teachers that need support. They provide regular Office Hours for parents. They check-in with students daily, hold weekly grade-level meetings with teachers, provide virtual parent meetings monthly, and even attend online classes with students to ensure that everyone knows about the supports they



**The Counselors are at School in Spirit**

provide. If a student is experiencing a crisis, or just need a little encouragement, the counselors at Paramount Park are there to serve.

Check out their daily wellness themes on Instagram @pparkpanthers.

## Paramount High School - Senior Campus

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



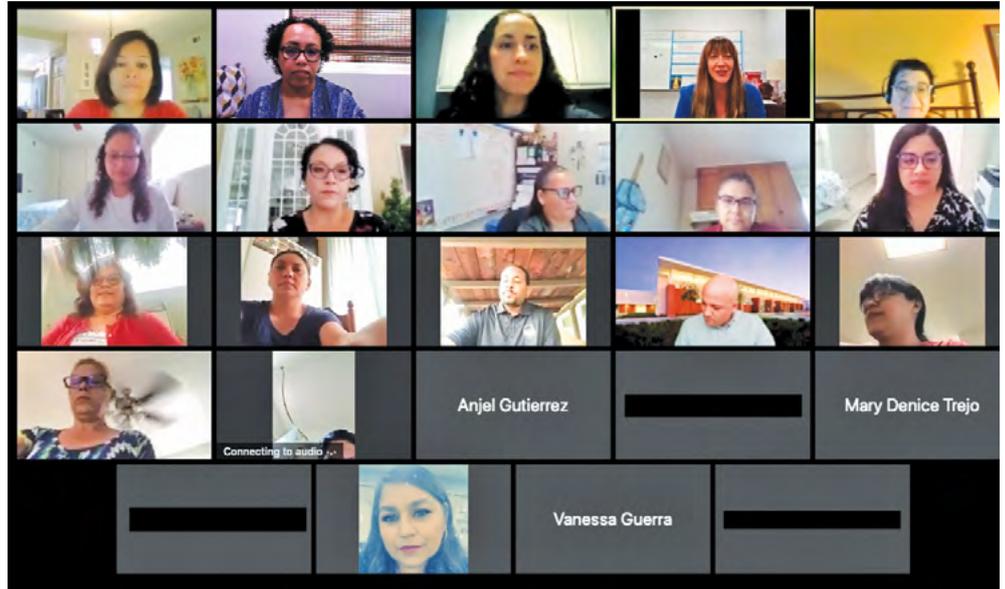
**Christiana Kraus**  
Principal

### Parent Coffee Corner

As one of the 15 schools in LA County participating in the Community Schools initiative our goal is for students and families to increase access to community resources using a whole-child perspective and through coordinated efforts. Now more

than ever, families may need additional supports which is why we have focused on our outreach efforts to parents and caregivers to keep them informed and gather their input on what they need. As a result, we launched our Parent Coffee Corner virtually on September 10th. These sessions will continue twice a month covering topics related to academics, college and career, as well as social-emotional supports. To

obtain more information on upcoming dates, how to access the meetings, and previous meeting recordings, head to: <https://bit.ly/2GNnN5f>. On the same page, you can visit our virtual Family Resource Center with numerous community resources to support our families in need.



## Paramount High School - West Campus

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



**Elizabeth Salcido**  
Principal

### What Happened to Ana?

From the moment students walk into the Principles of Biomedical Science classroom, they are immersed in the mysterious death of “Ana Garcia.” They are asked to investigate, document, and analyze evidence to solve the case. Biomedical science is an exciting

new course at Paramount High School

West Campus. According to teacher, Mrs. Rogers, students have kicked off the school year as forensic scientists and their theories surrounding “Ana’s” death are running wild! In addition to solving the mystery, students will investigate concepts of biology, explore health conditions, and research the vast range of careers in biomedical sciences. Students practice problem

solving with structured activities and progress to open-ended projects. Current student Candy, says it best, “The biomedical class has excited me in multiple ways. The very first unit is investigating a crime scene! Walking into this class I was expecting to just to take notes, but I was absolutely wrong!”



Image of the Interactive “Ana Garcia” Scene with evidence

## Roosevelt *Elementary*

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



**Margie Domino**  
*Principal*

### Roosevelt School Kicks Off the 2020-21 School Year!

As summer months began to roll into fall, Roosevelt Roughriders started down the road of the 2020-21 school year in a very unfamiliar way. With Covid-19 requiring our doors to remain closed and distance learning to remain in place, Roosevelt School opened up on designated days for pick up of materials for distance learning.

To ensure all students had everything they needed to begin instruction, Roosevelt offered a “Pop Your Trunk” service. On August 13th and 14th, TK – 5th families were welcomed to pick up textbooks and supplies. Social distancing was in place and Roosevelt staff shared many gestures of hugs. It was exciting to have Roughrider families back on campus even if it was a drive thru!

The fourth and fifth grade Roughriders started their online classes with teachers on August 19th because they

still had their Chromebooks from last year. Teachers and students were excited to begin a new year and face the challenges of distance learning with smiling faces! TK – 3rd graders started with learning packets and check-ins with teachers.

To prepare TK – 3rd grade students for online learning, parents were welcomed back the week of August 24th to pick up a Chromebook. Everyday each grade level’s teacher had a designated time for pick up to maintain social distancing. Parents picked up a Chromebook, received training about logging into Classlink, using Schoology, and getting to their virtual classroom. There was even an opportunity to meet the teacher in the virtual classroom! Students started online learning August 31st successfully!

It has been an unusual start to the school year, but we appreciate the effort everyone continues putting forth to give our Roosevelt Roughriders the best opportunities we can with the limitations of our times. Roosevelt Roughriders are still in CHARGE!

## Tanner *Elementary*

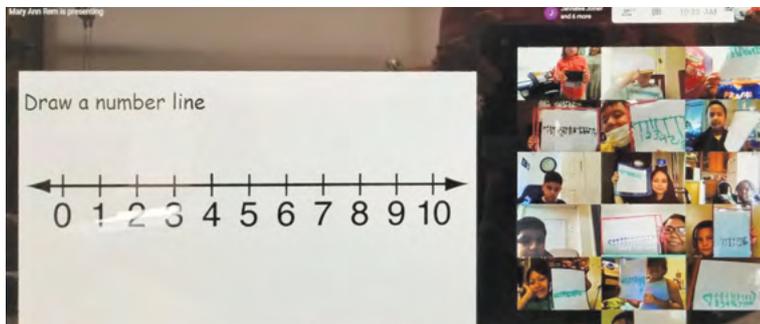
7210 Rosecrans Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562/602-8060 • tanner.pusdschools.net



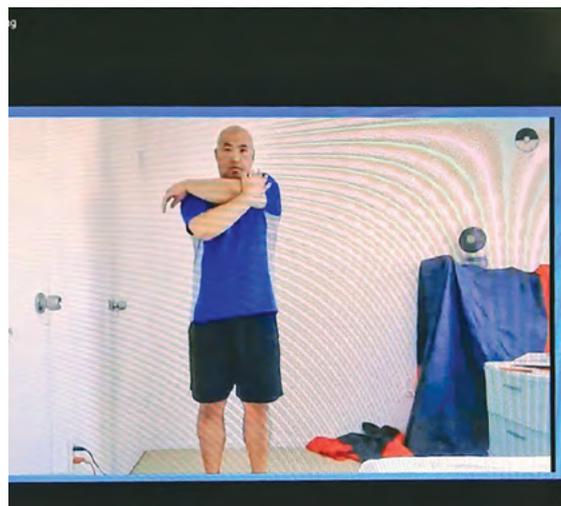
**Holly Hennessy**  
*Principal*

### Moving Forward with Distance Learning

Tanner is moving forward and making it work during Distance Learning. The teachers are working hard to make sure that students are online, and receiving quality curriculum and lessons, daily. In addition, all students are receiving PE and Music on a weekly basis.



**1st Grade Math with Mrs. Rem**



**Stretching in PE with Mr. Ahn**



Parent and family involvement have always been an essential part of children’s learning, but now more than ever, while our children learn at home, your support and encouragement have taken on a whole level of importance. This is a great time to use daily routines and activities as teachable moments. If you love to cook, have your child, read the recipe and measure the ingredients for the meal. It’s great family time and a good math lesson. Integrate lessons into real life activities. Most of all, have fun together.

## Wirtz *Elementary*

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**Roxanne Alessandro**  
*Principal*

### Wirtz Wizards are Ready for Distance Learning

Wirtz Wizards have received their Chromebooks and are ready for Distance Learning! Students in TK through fifth grade have received their devices. There has been training on how to use the device for students and their parent. Each grade level came each day with their parent to pick up their device. Everyone was very excited!

Everyone lined up nicely at the front gate, maintaining social distancing protocols. Once students received their device at the school library, they walked over to tables that were spread out throughout the quad. They met with a staff member who helped them start up their computer and taught them how to access Schoology and other pertinent apps. Parents were very happy that we took the time to sit down with them, using the proper safety precautions, to walk them through it so they can support their child with Distance Learning.



**Technology instructional Assistant Brenda Gamboa training a student.**



**Wirtz student and parent receiving technology training.**

## Zamboni *Middle School*

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



**Sue Saikaly**  
*Principal*

### 6th Grade Wildcats Experience a Whole New World!

The 20-21 school year is off to an amazing start for the Zamboni Wildcats. 6th graders are exhibiting great resilience as they face the challenges of both a more rigorous distance learning curriculum and entering middle school; getting into the swing of having multiple teachers each day and increasing their knowledge of and navigation skills within Schoology. These young scholars are showing incredible initiative and growth mindset. Their ability to adjust to change is inspiring. This week, incoming 6th graders exchanged their old Chromebooks for newer model devices. It was wonderful to see the eagerness in their eyes, albeit with masked faces, as they came through for their device exchange. Wildcats Believe... Wildcats Achieve; Even if from a distance!



**Drive through technology device exchange**