

2014 ABCUSD

BACK TO SCHOOL

RESOURCE GUIDE



PRINCIPALS' UPDATES FROM ALL ABCUSD SCHOOLS

- 19 Elementary Schools
- 5 Middle Schools
- 5 High Schools
- ABC Adult School

DISTRICT NEWS & INFORMATION

- Strategic Plan Directions
 - Bus Stops
 - District Holidays
- Back to School & Graduation Dates



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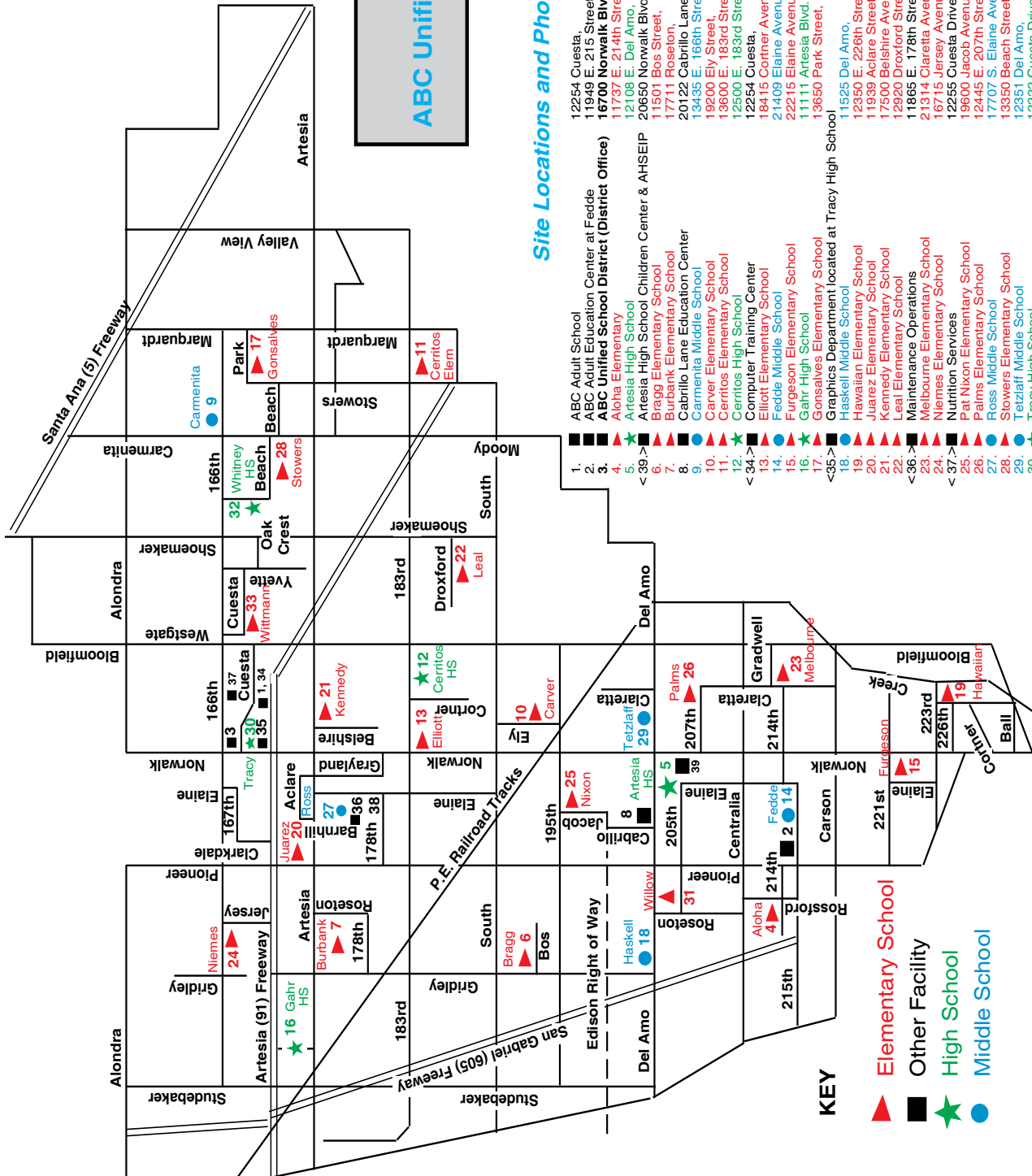
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Map of ABC Unified School District



Site Locations and Phone Numbers

12254 Cuesta,	Cerritos	926-6734
11949 E. 215 Street,	Hawaiian Gardens	926-5566 ext. 25156
16700 Norwalk Blvd.,	Cerritos	926-5566
11737 E. 214th Street,	Lakewood	924-8329
12108 E. Del Amo,	Lakewood	926-5566 ext. 21601
20650 Norwalk Blvd.,	Lakewood	926-5566
11501 Bos Street,	Cerritos	860-5580
17711 Roseton,	Artesia	865-6215
20122 Cabrillo Lane,	Cerritos	809-9011
13435 E. 166th Street,	Cerritos	926-4406
19200 Ely Street,	Cerritos	865-1257
13600 E. 183rd Street,	Cerritos	926-1315
12500 E. 183rd Street,	Cerritos	926-5566 ext. 21801
12254 Cuesta,	Cerritos	926-5566 ext. 21550
18415 Cortner Avenue,	Artesia	865-5216
21409 Elaine Avenue,	Hawaiian Gardens	924-2309
22215 Elaine Blvd.,	Hawaiian Gardens	421-8285
11111 Artesia Blvd.,	Cerritos	926-5566 ext. 22001
13650 Park Street,	Cerritos	926-1347
11525 Del Amo,	Cerritos	860-6529
12350 E. 226th Street,	Hawaiian Gardens	594-9525
11939 Aclaire Street,	Cerritos	865-6278
17500 Belshire Avenue,	Artesia	860-3378
12920 Droxford Street,	Cerritos	865-0209
11865 E. 178th Street,	Artesia	926-5566 ext. 22403
21314 Claretta Avenue,	Lakewood	924-1658
16715 Jersey Avenue,	Artesia	865-9586
12255 Cuesta Drive	Cerritos	926-5566 ext. 21275
19600 Jacob Avenue,	Cerritos	860-6549
17445 E. 207th Street,	Lakewood	924-8331
17707 S. Elaine Avenue,	Artesia	924-8331
12351 Del Amo,	Cerritos	926-2326
12222 Cuesta Drive,	Cerritos	865-9539
11865 E. 178th Street,	Artesia	926-5566 ext. 22200
11733 E. 205th Street,	Lakewood	926-5566 ext. 22407
16800 Shoemaker Avenue,	Cerritos	865-6209
16801 Yvette Avenue,	Cerritos	926-5566 ext. 22300

A Message From The Superintendent - Dr. Mary Sieu



*ABCUSD
Superintendent
Dr. Mary Sieu*

In 1965, forward thinking educators unified Artesia, Bloomfield and Carmenita School Districts creating the ABC Unified School District. Their goal was to create world class schools among the diverse communities served in the District. Needless to say, times and technologies have changed since then but our core mission remains the same—to provide the highest quality educational experience we can envision. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary this year, we remain committed in our focus on raising student achievement with our 21,000 students in the District.

I have been with ABCUSD since 1989 and this is my third year as its Superintendent. I feel great pride and humility when I consider my legendary predecessors. However, I recognize that the strength of our District is our ability to leverage individual talents of our stakeholders including our remarkable Board of Education, dynamic teachers, our support staff, amazing parents and community members. As a result, our District has thrived throughout the past fifty years to become one of the top performing districts in the State.

ABCUSD is fortunate to serve a number of communities that truly understand the importance of education. Our PTA members volunteer hundreds of thousands of hours each year to support our schools. Our parents and guardians support learning outside of school. We are fortunate to have incredible partners that fill critical gaps and enhance our programs, including the ABC Education Foundation and hundreds of business and community partners within our District. Certainly, not enough can be said about our incredible students who make us proud of what we do every day.

Looking ahead, we know that we will continue to face challenges and opportunities as we implement the Common Core State Standards, a new State assessment called Smarter Balanced Assessment and a new Local Control Accountability Plan. The Board approved to place a \$195.2 million bond measure for the November election to help improve, upgrade and renovate our school facilities in ABCUSD.

There is still much work that remains. I value continuous improvement and welcome input from all our key stakeholders in the District and communities we serve as we move forward.

Thank you for your support throughout the year. For more information about ABCUSD, please check out our website at: www.abcusd.k12.ca.us. I look forward to another great school year in ABCUSD!

A Message From The Board President - Sophia Tse



*ABCUSD Board
President
Sophia Tse*

Dear Parents:

On behalf of our School Board, I am pleased to welcome you and your children to the 2014-2015 school year with good scholastic tidings. We in ABC are blessed with our numerous National Blue Ribbon School Awards, California Distinguished Schools, thirteen Golden Bell Awards from CSBA, Seal of Excellence Award from CAFE, and California Business for Educational Excellence Honor Roll.

The District this year continues to offer a plethora of educational options for students and families alike. This includes sixteen thematic magnet schools, a dual language immersion program, the STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) Program, an IB World School, bi-literacy programs, international exchange programs with Pacific Rim countries and visual and performing arts classes at every level. Technology is transforming our classrooms where 1:1 mobile devices are being implemented in several of the schools. Our District continues to maintain an emphasis on teaching and learning to ensure that “every student, in every classroom, every day” is provided a world class education.

We can do this because ABC works in collaborative fashion among all participants to ensure that your child receives the best education. We have a common goal of Student Achievement shared by you as parents, students, teachers, classified employees, administrators, management, and all members of the Board of Education.

I want to especially take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all the students and their parents who ensure that education remains a priority and a critical core value in their lives, without which this District would not have the academic accolades it currently enjoys.

Board of Education



Sophia Tse, President of the Board, was elected to the ABC Board in 2007 and re-elected in 2011. Sophia has been a resident of Cerritos for 27 years. All three of her children attended ABC schools. She has served in the community through the following organizations: Chairwoman and Board Member of the Southern California Chinese Culture Association; coach, team mom, and first aid provider for City of Cerritos soccer teams; participant in the March of Dimes Program for premature Infants; and community instructor for basic life support and parenting classes. Mrs. Tse is the liaison to the Career Technical Education Ad Hoc Board Advisory Committee. She believes that educational instruction should develop all aspects of the student, including the physical, intellectual, social, and psychological aspects, in order to create a well-rounded individual. She strongly feels that success in a student's education can only occur through strong parental involvement and participation.



Lynda Johnson, Vice President of the Board was elected to the ABC Board of Education in 2011 and re-elected in 2013. Lynda Johnson has been a resident of Cerritos since 1971 and is a product of the schools in the ABC district. In the community, she has coached youth basketball, T-ball, and soccer through the City of Cerritos Parks and Recreation program. Lynda has visited all 30 schools in the district and has been in the classrooms of 19 elementary schools, 5 middle schools, 4 high schools and the adult school, which gives her a better understanding of the needs of ABC students, parents and the community. Lynda is proud of all the schools and students in the ABC community and that student achievement, closing the achievement gap and keeping our schools academically competitive is her foremost priority. Lynda is a member of the Southern California Philippine US-Veterans Association, the Philippine Society of Southeast Los Angeles and the Filipino-American Chamber of Commerce of the Southeast Corridor. Lynda is currently the liaison to the ABCUSD Strategic Planning Committee.



Maynard Law, Clerk of the Board, was elected to the ABC Board in 2007 and re-elected in 2011. Maynard is a retired Special Education Teacher as well as a retired public administrator. Maynard has been a resident of Cerritos for 38 years, with both of his sons educated in ABC. He has extensive involvement in the school district and the community. He has served the community on various ABC School District advisory committees, coached more than 40 youth sports teams, volunteered as a scout leader, as a member of the Friends of Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, as President of the Cerritos Optimist Club, and as Chairman of the City of Cerritos Parks and Recreation Commission. He feels honored to continue the leadership excellence that is the cornerstone of the ABC District. He believes that continuing strong partnerships among parents, teachers, administrators, employee groups, and the school board is a priority. He believes that a primary role of a board member is to ensure that every student has the resources to achieve academic success. Mr. Law is the liaison to the Head Start/State Preschool Program.



Olympia Chen, Member of the Board, was first elected to the ABC School Board in 1997. She also served as the Board President in 2000, 2004, and 2009. Olympia was a high school teacher and has been a resident of Cerritos for 28 years. She has extensive involvement in the school district and the community. She volunteered in her children's schools, including serving as secretary of Carmenita PTA and Cerritos High School PTSA. Olympia was a board member for the Greater Long Beach Chapter of the American Red Cross as well as the Community Family Guidance Center. She is a member of Woman's Club of Artesia Cerritos and a life time mem-

ber of Friends of Cerritos Library. Olympia enjoys most „Read Aloud“ events at the schools. Olympia feels it is critical to continue a partnership between teachers, other staff and the administration in the ABC Unified School District. „This will allow us to focus on quality education for all students.“



Armin Reyes, Member of the Board, was elected to the ABC Unified School District Board of Education in 1999 and re-elected in 2003, 2007 and 2011. He served as Vice President of the Board in 2004 and President in 2005. He is also served as member of the Southeast ROP Board of Trustees from 2003-2006.

Armin works as a Labor representative with the United Nurses Association of California, UNAC/UCHP, AF-SCME, and AFL-CIO. He also serves as a Major in the Civil Affairs Battalion. Armin was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004-2005, again in 2007-2009, and again 2012-2013.

Armin has been active in the community for many years. He is a member Cerritos-Artesia Rotary Club, Past President of Sunny Side Optimist Club of Cerritos, Past Board of Trustee-Artesia-Sunrise Masonic Lodge, Member of the Eclectic-Dialectic Toastmasters, American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is also a life time member of the Reserve Officers Association and member of Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance.

Armin and his wife Lilibelle have been married for 17 years and have been Cerritos residents since 1996. They have three children, Ian, Julia, and Michael. Ian is an alumni of Cerritos High School class of 2013, Julia a Sophomore attending Cerritos High School and Michael is a 7th grader at Carmenita Middle School.



Celia Spitzer, Member of the Board, was first elected to the ABC Board in 1999 and to her fourth term in 2011. She has been a resident of Cerritos since 1971. Celia worked as a systems engineer for IBM after graduating from UC Berkeley with a Bachelor's Degree in mathematics. Both of her children attended ABC schools from kindergarten through high school. Celia is proud of the many accomplishments of our district, its students and its employees. Many of our schools have received state and national recognition for academic performance. ABC has received national recognition for its excellent relationship with district employees with everyone working together to promote student achievement. All of this is being accomplished with a balanced budget that focuses on the needs of all students. Celia thoroughly enjoys serving on the Board and is proud of how well our schools and the communities they serve are working together.



Soo Yoo, Member of the Board, was elected to the ABC School Board in 2013. She is the Founder and Director of an afterschool Tutoring and College preparatory academy since 1994. Soo earned her Bachelor Degree from University of California, Irvine and a Master's Degree in Counseling from Westminster Theological Seminary. Soo is fluent in English, Spanish, and Korean languages. Soo has extensive experience as a College Admission Consultant, newspaper education columnist, speaker for PTA sponsored college prep seminars at ABC Schools, and Committee Member on the City of Cerritos' Let Freedom Ring Committee. She is also a member of PTA at Wittmann Elementary and served on the School Site Council at Gahr High School. Additionally, she served as a girl's volunteer basketball coach for the City of Cerritos Park and Recreation. In 2007, Soo founded the American Red Cross, Gateway Chapter. She is the Artesia/Cerritos Annual Team Sponsor for American Cancer Society-Relay for Life since 2008. Soo is an advisor to the Mid-City Korean Senior Association.

A Cerritos resident since 1996, Soo is married to Sam, a Pastor, for 22 years. They have four children: Hannah, Amy, Rachel, and Abigail. They all attended, or attend ABC Schools at Wittmann Elementary, Carmenita Middle School and Gahr High School.

2014-2015 School Calendar School Holidays/No School for Students (Local and Legal Holidays for Students)

Tuesday, November 11, 2014
Veteran's Day

Friday, November 21, 2014
Elementary Student Free Day

Monday-Friday
November 24-28, 2014
Fall Break

Friday, December 22, 2014
through Friday, January 2, 2015
Winter Break

Monday, January 19, 2015
Martin Luther King Day

Friday, January 30, 2015
Secondary Student Free Day

Monday, February 9, 2015
Lincoln's Day

Monday, February 16, 2015
Washington's Day

Friday, April 3 through
Friday, April 10, 2015
Spring Break

Monday, May 25, 2015
Memorial Day

Tuesday, June 16, 2015
**Last Day of School-
Carmenita, Haskell,
Ross, & Tetzlaff MS
7th Grade Only**

Wednesday, June 17, 2015
Last Day of School



ABC Unified School District

Welcome Back To School !

Wishing you all the best
and continued success as
you begin a new school year.

Don Knabe
Supervisor, Fourth District
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ABC Unified School – An Award Winning District

2014 California Distinguished Schools

Three ABCUSD elementary schools have been selected as a California Distinguished School for 2014. Congratulations to Cerritos ES, Elliott ES and Leal ES! They are three of 122 in Los Angeles County and 424 California Elementary Distinguished Schools selected in the State. This award is a direct reflection of the schools' vision and hard work of the entire school community.

Each school went through an application process followed

Title I Academic Achievement Award- Elliott ES



Elliott ES has been selected as a Title I Academic Achievement Award School. The Title I Academic Achievement Award is given to schools receiving federal Title I funds. More than 6,000 schools in California participate in the Title I program. To receive the distinction, the school must demonstrate that all students are making significant progress toward proficiency on California's academic content standards. Additionally, the school's socio-economically disadvantaged students must have doubled the achievement targets set for them for two consecutive years. Only 106 in California will be receiving the Title I Academic Achievement Award this year. Elliott ES is one of 34 schools in Los Angeles County that is receiving the Award. Elliott ES was recognized at the Regional Awards Ceremony held on June 5th at the Westin LAX Hotel. Congratulations to Principal Danielle Mitchell and the Elliott school community!

Leal Elementary School Selected as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School



Leal ES recognized by L.A. County Supervisor Don Knabe (five from left) for their National Blue Ribbon Award.

Last November, Leal ES Magnet School for the Visual Performing Arts located in the City of Cerritos, was designated a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School. The school received a Blue Ribbon School flag and plaque from the U.S. Department of Education.

by a validation visit in March. Principals Dennis Wilson-Cerritos ES, Danielle Mitchell-Elliott ES and Laura Makely-Leal ES and selected staff and community members were recognized at the California Distinguished School Regional Awards Ceremony held June 5th at the Westin LAX Hotel. State Superintendent Tom Torlakson presented the schools with a Distinguished School Banner and plaque that is effective over the next four years. Selected staff and community members attended the Awards Ceremony. Congratulations!

Two ABC Schools Celebrate Selection as California's "Schools to Watch"



On February 5th, students, staff, parents, district leaders, board members and community members celebrated the selection of Carmenita Middle School and Tetzlaff Middle School as two of California's 2014 Schools to Watch--Taking Center Stage model middle schools. These schools were two of only eleven new schools selected in California for this statewide and national recognition.

2013 Golden Bell Award Winners



ABC Unified School District received its twelfth and thirteenth Golden Bell awards at a recognition ceremony held on Dec. 7, 2013 at CSBA's Annual Education Conference in San Diego. The two programs honored included Nixon Academy's *JAM Sessions (Jaguars in Arts and Media)* and the *SMART (Saturday Morning Academic Reading Time) Academy*.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2014 Back to School Schedules

<i>School/Principal</i>	<i>Ext. #</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
ALOHA Yabumoto, Julie	22500	Thursday, September 18, 2014	6:00 – 7:15 p.m.
BRAGG Janeway, Annette	22600	Thursday, September 11, 2014 (TK, Kindergarten & 1 st) Thursday, September 18, 2014 (2 nd – 6 th)	6:30 – 7:30 p.m. 6:00 1 st Session 6:50 2 nd Session
BURBANK Makely, Laura	22700	Thursday, September 18, 2014	6:30 p.m.
CARVER Berlyn, Debbie	22800	Thursday, September 11, 2014	(TK-3) 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. (4-6) 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
CERRITOS Amburgey, Kevin	22900	Thursday, September 18, 2014	6:00 p.m.
ELLIOTT Mitchell, Danielle	23000	Thursday, September 18, 2014	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
FURGESON Lozano, Mayra	23100	Thursday, September 18, 2014 (1 st – 3 rd) Tuesday, September 23, 2014 (4 th – 6 th) Thursday, October 2, 2014 (TK & K)	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
GONSALVES Benko, Robert	23200	Wednesday, September 10, 2014 (K) Thursday, September 11, 2014 (TK & 1 st - 6 th Grade)	6:00 - 7:15 p.m. 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
HAWAIIAN Cordova, Laurie	23300	Thursday, September 18, 2014	6:00 p.m.
JUAREZ Balbuena, Christine	23400	Thursday, September 18, 2014	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
KENNEDY Valentine, Melissa	23500	September 4, 2014 (TK & K) 5:00 p.m. September 16, 2014 (3 rd) 6:15 p.m. September 16, 2014 (5 th) 5:30 p.m.	September 17, 2014 (1 st) 5:30 p.m. September 17, 2014 (6 th) 6:15 p.m. September 18, 2014 (2 nd) 5:30 p.m. September 18, 2014 (4 th) 6:15 pm
LEAL White, P.A.	23600	Wednesday September 17, 2014 (4-6) Thursday, September 18, 2014 (K-3)	6:30 – 7:30 p.m. 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
MELBOURNE Castillo, Robert	23700	Thursday, September 18, 2014 (K-3) Tuesday, September 25, 2014 (4-6)	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
NIEMES Jimenez, Meg	23800	Thursday, September 18, 2014	6:00 p.m.
NIXON Ortiz, Melinda	23900	Thursday, September 11, 2014	5:00 p.m.
PALMS Huh, Eveline	24000	Wednesday, September 17, 2014 (3 rd , 4 th) Thursday, September 18, 2014 (5 th & 6 th) (Upper SDC) Tuesday, September 23, 2014 (TK-2 nd) (Primary SDC)	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
STOWERS Tracy, Tom	24100	Thursday, September 11, 2014 (K-3) Thursday, September 11, 2014 (4-6)	6:00 – 6:30 p.m. 6:45 - 7:15 p.m.
WILLOW Dohm, Linda	24200	September 10, 2014 (5 th & 6 th) 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. September 18, 2014 (1 st & 2 nd) 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. September 22, 2014 (K) 6:00 -7:30 p.m. September 23, 2014 (3 rd & 4 th) 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	
WITTMANN Marco, Miguel	24300	Wednesday, September 10, 2014 (TK – 3 rd Grade) Thursday, September 11, 2014 (4 th – 6 th Grade)	6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.

SECONDARY SCHOOL 2014 Back to School Schedules

<i>School/Principal</i>	<i>Ext. #</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
CARMENITA Song, Kester	24400	Wednesday, September 17, 2014	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
FEDDE Lois, Ricardo	24600	Tuesday, September 30, 2014	6:00 p.m.
HASKELL Lewis, Camille	24700	Thursday, September 25, 2014	6:00 p.m.
ROSS Brown, Ricardo	24500	Thursday, September 25, 2014	6:00 p.m.
TETZLAFF Wise, Crechena	24800	Thursday, October 2, 2014	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
ARTESIA Garcia, Sergio	21601	Fall Report Card Night Thursday, November 13, 2014	6:00 p.m.
CERRITOS Walker, Patrick	21801	Tuesday, September 23, 2014	6:30 p.m.
GAHR Zietlow, Gina	22000	Tuesday, September 23, 2014	6:00 p.m.
TRACY Green, Jeff	22200	Report Card Night Thursday, November 6, 2014	5:00 p.m.
WHITNEY Buss, Rhonda	22300	Tuesday, October 2, 2014	5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
ADULT Guo, PaoLing	25011	Wednesday, October 22, 2014 (Cabrillo Lane Campus)	10:00 am -2:00 pm

ABC Back To School Resource Guide

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Major contributions by the following ABCUSD personnel:
Dr. Mary Sieu, Deputy Superintendent
Laura Lowe, Administrative Assistant

ABCUSD Graduation Dates

HIGH SCHOOLS

DATE	SCHOOL	TIME	LOCATION
June 15, 2015 (Monday)	Adult School	5:00 p.m.	Whitney HS Gym
June 16, 2015 (Tuesday)	Gahr High School	6:00 p.m.	Gahr High School Rants Stadium
June 17, 2015 (Wednesday)	Artesia High School	7:00 p.m.	Artesia High School Atkins Stadium
	Cerritos High School	7:00 p.m.	Gahr High School Rants Stadium
	Whitney High School	5:00 p.m.	Whitney Athletic Field
June 18, 2015 (Thursday)	ABC Secondary School and Tracy High School	6:00 p.m.	Gahr High School Rants Stadium

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

DATE	SCHOOL	TIME	LOCATION
June 17, 2015 (Wednesday)	Carmenita Middle	9:00 a.m.	Black Top Area
	Fedde Middle	9:00 a.m.	Quad Area
	Haskell Middle	9:00 a.m.	Quad Area
	Ross Middle	8:30 a.m.	Shelter Area
	Tetzlaff Middle	8:30 a.m.	Quad Area

2014-2015 ABC Unified School District PTA Council Officers

Cheri Luo
President
Carol Uchiyama
Treasurer
Natalie Peterson
Assistant Treasurer
Erika Garcia
Secretary
Elsa Garacia-Chau
Programs
Rebecca Hernandez
Membership
Mae Lovgren
Hospitality
Cynthia Corrales
Parliamentarian
Toby Reyes
Reflections
Marilou Dulay
Financial Secretary
Irma Quiambao
Auditor
Murali Vasudevan
Communications

ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MAGNET SCHOOLS

ALOHA ELEMENTARY

A Health and Medical Academy

The Aloha Health Medical Academy provides students with the knowledge and skills needed for the growing Health and Medical Industry. Academically, Health and Medical topics are intertwined with state standards, both in the classroom and in the state-of-the art Science Lab. Students are also prepared for this line of work through field experience with field trips, guest speakers, and school wide assemblies. The rigorous curriculum accommodates all types of learners and is designed to expose students to professions that are in high demand.



BURBANK ELEMENTARY

A Visual, Performing, and Folk Arts Magnet School

The Burbank Visual, Performing, and Folk Arts Magnet provides our students an arts-based academic program that reflects America's cultural richness. Music, visual arts, performing arts, and drama are integrated into the standards-based curriculum incorporating parent and community partnerships, technologically enhanced instruction, and frequent arts lessons.



CARVER ACADEMY

A Communication Arts Magnet Elementary School

This Magnet program helps students gain skills necessary for success in the 21st century through exploration of both interpersonal and technological communication. The program of schoolwide enrichment and academic achievement for all students, allows them to build the foundation for lifelong success, while developing their personal talents and abilities. The emphasis is on a challenging curriculum that accommodates a wide range of individual differences and is designed to develop the talent potential of all students, preschool through grade six.



ELLIOTT ELEMENTARY

World Navigators - A Global Studies and Technology Magnet

Elliott School World Navigators explore their world with an integrated social studies curriculum and state-of-the-art technology. Multimedia projects enable students to learn similarities and differences with cultures around the world.



FURGESON ACADEMY

Academy of Communications and Technology Magnet

Ferguson Academy of Communications and Technology (FACT) promotes better understanding of world cultures — with an emphasis on technology, broadcasting and communication. Its state-of-the-art broadcasting and recording studio allows students to write, produce, and broadcast news and presentations.



LEAL ELEMENTARY

A Visual and Performing Arts Magnet

Arts In Motion (AIM) offers thematic instruction in four disciplines of the Arts: Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts while focusing on academic work including Aesthetic Valuing, Artistic Perception, and Cultural/Historical Awareness.



NIEMES ELEMENTARY

School of Environmental Science and Technology Magnet

Niemes Elementary is on the cutting edge of environmental education. Students develop awareness of the interconnection of all species and the ecosystems on our planet through integration of environmental science and technology across all subject areas. The program includes a new Environmental Science Laboratory, an Outdoor Nature Center, Spanish-English Dual Immersion Program, and an after school program.



NIXON ACADEMY

A Multimedia Arts Production Magnet Elementary School

The Nixon Academy Multimedia Arts Production Magnet program nurtures innovative and creative learners by providing an enriched and challenging curriculum with unique experiences in multimedia arts production, engaging all students to be empowered for the future. Students have opportunities to develop an appreciation for the arts, engage in hands-on experiences, and explore the use of media technology to enhance their learning experiences. Nixon Academy Magnet develops students who are tech savvy and ready to compete in the 21st century.



ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MAGNET SCHOOLS

STOWERS ELEMENTARY

School of International Studies - A Unique Primary Years Program

A magnet school based upon the International Baccalaureate programme offering a rigorous and challenging inquiry-based curriculum. All students learn Spanish, develop leadership, communication, and global research skills through real world projects and engage in a weekly enrichment in Seminar, a critical thinking and problem solving, collaborative dialogue. Stowers Magnet promotes and develops international-mindedness in their students and provides them with the opportunities for learning about issues that have local, national and global significance.



FEDDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

International Studies Academy

Modeled after International Baccalaureate's Middle Years Programme, Fedde offers a program that emphasizes strong research and communication skills while remaining student-centered with a project-based approach to learning. In addition to learning Spanish, students develop a global perspective for real-life issues and use the latest technology to research, present, and exchange ideas. Following the progression from the Primary Years Programme, students at Fedde Academy complete their Middle Years Programme and are prepared for entry into the Diploma Programme at the high school level.



ROSS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Academy of Creative and Media Arts Magnet

The highly creative atmosphere at Ross Academy of Creative and Media Arts encourages students to be motivated and engaged in the program of academic excellence and creativity. The program includes a state-of-the-art computer lab, video/media production, creative writing, theater arts, musical arts, and fine arts (ceramics, printmaking, and sculpture).



TETZLAFF ACADEMY

A Pre-Advanced Placement Magnet Middle School

Tetzlaff Accelerated Learning Academy is Los Angeles County's first magnet middle school that provides a pre-Advanced Placement (AP) curriculum for all students. Our mission is to offer students Pre Advanced Placement courses to expose them to the relevance, rigor, and relationships necessary to meet the demand required of Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school. We recognize every student as an individual with unlimited potential. Our goal is that all program participants will graduate from high school and enter college well prepared to pursue careers of their own choosing, and to be leaders in their communities.



ARTESIA HIGH SCHOOL

Bridge to the Future - Where All Students Succeed

A preparatory magnet that promotes achievement and prepares students for success in college and careers. New and expanded course offerings include multiple options that embrace the interests of every student. Exciting and unique programs for students include: Medical Sciences Academy, Visual and Performing Arts Academy, "No Fail" Math Program and powerful partnerships with local businesses.



Best Wishes for a Successful School Year!



*From the Mayor of Cerritos
and the Cerritos City Council*



ABCUSD BUS STOPS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

ALOHA ELEMENTARY	NECTAR & CARSON 215TH & LONGWORTH CENTRALIA & GRIDLEY
BRAGG ELEMENTARY	STUDEBAKER & BIGELOW, STUDEBAKER & JERRY PIONEER & LOS COYOTES
BURBANK ELEMENTARY	STUDEBAKER & 4 TREES APTS 169TH & CLARKDALE (PADEFORD PARK)
CARVER ELEMENTARY	SOUTH & PIRES, SOUTH & ALPHINGTON, SOUTH & SHOEMAKER DEL AMO & MAMMOTH, MOODY & BORREGO
HAWAIIAN ELEMENTARY	221ST & IBEX
JUAREZ ELEMENTARY	NORWALK & ECHO RIVER WAY, BLOOMFIELD & HIDDEN CREEK BLOOMFIELD & MOLETTE, 169TH & CLARKDALE (PADEFORD PARK) EXCELSIOR & WILDER, DAWN & CEDARWOOD
KENNEDY ELEMENTARY	ALONDRA & MADRIS 183RD & SHOEMAKER
MELBOURNE ELEMENTARY	NORWALK & CIVIC CENTER DRIVE
NIXON ELEMENTARY	SOUTH & GRAYLAND
PALMS ELEMENTARY	BLOOMFIELD & 215TH, BLOOMFIELD & GRADWELL
WILLOW ELEMENTARY	CENTRALIA & GRIDLEY STUDEBAKER & HORNET
WITTMANN ELEMENTARY	ALONDRA & WILDER

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

CARMENITA MIDDLE	CARMENITA & CHURCH AM, CARMENITA & SOUTH PM
FEDDE MIDDLE	CARSON & NECTAR, CENTRALIA & GRIDLEY
HASKELL MIDDLE	ARTESIA & GRIDLEY, NORWALK & 183RD, STUDEBAKER & 183RD STUDEBAKER & SOUTH
ROSS ACADEMY	BLOOMFIELD & ALONDRA, 166TH & GRIDLEY, 166TH & ISLANDIA 183RD & SHOEMAKER, BLOOMFIELD & 166TH
TETZLAFF MIDDLE	MOODY & BIGELOW, MOODY & BORREGO 183RD & NORWALK, SHOEMAKER & DROXFORD

HIGH SCHOOLS

GAHR HIGH SCHOOL	BLOOMFIELD & ALONDRA BLOOMFIELD & 166TH
TRACY HIGH SCHOOL	BLOOMFIELD & CENTRALIA, CARSON & SEINE, CARSON & NORWALK PIONEER & DEL AMO, PIONEER & CENTRALIA
WHITNEY HIGH SCHOOL	BLOOMFIELD & CENTRALIA, CARSON & NORWALK, NORWALK & CARSON NORWALK & DEL AMO, PIONEER & DEL AMO, PIONEER & 215TH STUDEBAKER & SOUTH, 195TH & BLOOMFIELD, 195TH & NORWALK 195TH & STUDEBAKER, 166TH & GRIDLEY, 166TH & STUDEBAKER, 195TH & GRIDLEY

MEASURE AA - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Measure AA?

Measure AA is a local school improvement bond measure that will be on the November 4 General Election ballot. If approved by at least 55 percent of voters, Measure AA will make \$195.2 million available in order to fund major renovations, repairs and upgrades to classrooms and schools throughout our District.

What will be funded by Measure AA?

Measure AA authorizes improvements at school facilities throughout the District including:

- Renovating and equipping classrooms and school facilities
- Increasing student access to modern technology
- Expanding career technical education facilities including science, technology, engineering and mathematics
- Replacing roofs and outdated heating and air conditioning systems

What is a General Obligation (G.O.) Bond?

G.O. bonds are used by school districts statewide to fund projects such as the renovation of existing classrooms and school facilities, as well as construction of new classrooms and facilities. Similar to a home loan, G.O. bonds are typically repaid over a period of time. The loan repayment comes from a tax on all taxable property - residential, commercial, and industrial - located in the District.

Why is Measure AA needed? Our schools are over 50 years old

on average and our newest school is over 30 years old. While the facilities have been maintained, there are many needs for renovations and upgrades.

How much will Measure AA cost? The tax rate per property owner is estimated to be \$50 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation per year or little over \$4 a month per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. Assessed valuation should not be confused with market value. Assessed valuations are the value placed on the property by the County and are typically lower than market values.

Who can vote on Measure AA? All registered voters living within the ABC Unified

School District boundaries will be able to vote on Measure AA as long as they have registered by October 20, 2014.

Can these bond funds be taken by the State? No. By law, Measure AA funds must be spent entirely within the ABC Unified School District and cannot be taken by the State and spent elsewhere.

How can I be sure that Measure AA funds will be spent on improving our schools? If voters approve Measure AA, an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee must be established to review and audit all expenditures. In addition, Measure AA funds cannot be used for teacher or administrator salaries.

CURRICULUM AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Common Core State Standards

In August 2010, California adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCSS exist for English-language arts and mathematics, kindergarten through grade twelve. They are founded upon the best state standards; the experiences of teachers, content experts, and leading thinkers; and feedback from the general public. In addition, the standards are internationally benchmarked to the top performing nations to ensure that our students are globally competitive. The CCSS are rigorous, research-based, and relevant to the real world.

The 2014-2015 school year brings about the Implementation Phase of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). This is the final stage of implementation in California and includes the following:

- Additional professional learning throughout the district.
- Fully aligned curriculum, instruction, & assessments to the CCSS.
- Effective integration between professional learning, curriculum and instruction, and assessments throughout.

Additionally, a new state test called Smarter Balanced will be administered to students in the spring of 2015. For more information on the Smarter Balanced Assessment, please visit www.smarterbalanced.org

ABC Unified School District's Implementation Plan

ABC Unified is ready to fully implement Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English-language arts and mathematics in the 2014-2015 school year.

English Language Arts

In the Fall of 2014, the ABC office of Curriculum and Professional Learning will release English-language arts Units of Study to teachers. These Units of Study include curriculum aligned with CCSS in each grade level. The Units of Study for all teachers in the district focus on three important shifts in instruction for the common core. Teachers will ask the students text dependent questions assessing the students' knowledge of the theme or central idea, vocabulary, and syntax or structure of a piece of writing. Teachers will guide students in learning two types of academic vocabulary: vocabulary in context and critical vocabulary used across subject areas. In the final shift, teachers will instruct students to write from sources using close reading of one or more pieces of writing both informational and narrative in form. For more information on the Common Core State Standards for English-language arts, please visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/finaelacssstandards.pdf>

Mathematics

All students in ABC USD will fully transition to the new math Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and instruction this fall. The CCSS in math contain two sets of standards. The content standards are different for each grade and specify what students should know. The mathematical practice standards are identical for each grade and describe what students should be able to do. These two sets of standards focus on the application of math skills to solve real-world problems. The district adopted new math instructional materials aligned to the CCSS in summer 2014. All teachers will receive training in effective instructional

practices for math during the 2014-2015 school year. For more information on the Common Core State Standards for mathematics, please visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/ccss-mathstandarAug2013.pdf>

2014-15 Transition to the Integrated Mathematics Pathway

Since the adoption of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in Math in 2010, a committee of teachers, administrators and parent representatives have been meeting to closely examine the state recommendations for secondary math.

In the Spring of 2014, the ABC USD Secondary Common Core Math Committee made a recommendation to transition to the integrated Mathematics pathway. This pathway closely aligns

to the Smarter Balanced Assessments, as students will be taking an integrated mathematics exam in Grades 7, 8, and 11. In 2014-15, all high schools will offer the Mathematics I course for incoming 9th grade students. In addition, all ABC USD middle schools, will be providing new advanced math courses based on state recommendation.

To find out more information on these math pathways, please visit the ABC USD website at www.abcusd.k12.ca.us and click on the Parent tab to find additional Common Core State Standards resources for math.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Aloha Elementary School

11737 E 214th Street, Lakewood, CA 90715

(562) 924-8329

Principal – Julie Yabumoto



Welcome to Aloha Health Medical Academy, a federal magnet school which focuses on health science, medicine and technology. Our magnet program exposes students to careers in the medical field, health education and a myriad of hands on science explorations. Classrooms are equipped with updated interactive technology. iPad carts are also

utilized in the classrooms to enhance learning the common core standards. Aloha is a high performing Title 1 school. Aloha has an excellent staff consisting of highly trained teachers and support staff. Aloha is dedicated to ensuring the academic success of every child and providing a safe and comprehensive educational program. Students are taught their grade level standards using state and district adopted curriculum in all subject areas. Teachers frequently analyze data and use it to plan and differentiate instruction. High academic expectations are held for all of our students.

We are extremely proud of our unique magnet program, which focuses on health, medical science and technology. All of our students visit the science lab each week where they have the opportunity to conduct experiments using iPads, microscopes, stethoscopes, blood pressure machines, oxygen monitors, and anatomical models. The science lab correlates to our classroom lessons and units in health and science. Students have meaningful hands on opportunities to explore medical and health science within a supportive environment that integrates English language arts, math, science and technology. The magnet program at Aloha revolves around five school wide themes. Our specialized magnet themes are Living Things and the Human Machine, Why We Get Sick, Taking Care of Ourselves; Mind, Body and Soul, Those Who Serve, Those Who Keep us Healthy, and Influential People in the Health and Medical Field. These themes are carried out in all of our kindergarten through sixth grade classes in addition to the science lab. Other highlights of our magnet are a partnership with Tri City Regional Medical Center, updated computer lab, technology, science family nights, field trips, iPad carts, as-

semblies, a medical themed career day, “Work Out Wednesdays”, the Mileage Club, Harvest of the Month, science fair, 6th grade garden and a student health committee. Aloha also participates in Activate Hawaiian Gardens in an effort to decrease childhood obesity. The community project has been successful in educating parents and kindergarteners.

In addition, Aloha has many programs to support the academic, social, and emotional development of elementary students. The entire school recites the PeaceBuilders Pledge each morning after the flag salute. We follow the 6 basic rules of PeaceBuilders: “to praise people, to give up put downs, to seek wise people, to notice and speak up about hurts, to right wrongs, and to help others.”

Aloha truly focuses on the whole child. Nutrition and exercise are an extremely important component of a child’s education. We want to make sure that our students are performing to their best ability by eating right and staying healthy. Aloha has been honored with the 2011 Silver National Recognition Award from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation.

Aloha has a free after school child care program to meet the needs of working families. The EXTRA (Extending Time to Raise Achievement) program offers a safe place for kids to stay after the school bell rings. This program services our kindergarten through sixth grade students every school day during the year. Students get academic support, enrichment, and exercise.

Parents are an integral part of Aloha Health Medical Academy. We have an active Parent Teacher Association (PTA) that supports the school by providing assemblies and field trips. We encourage all of our parents to be involved at Aloha by joining the PTA, School Site Council, volunteer in the classroom, attend parent education classes, and family nights. Research shows that parent involvement increases student academic achievement!

Our school community which consists of teachers, parents, professional staff, and students are looking forward to another year of continued success!

Please visit our school website: http://www.edline.net/pages/Aloha_Health_Medical_Academy



Mary Bragg Elementary School

11501 Bos Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 860-5580

Principal – Annette Janeway



Mary Bragg Elementary School is proud of its diverse student population and long tradition of academic excellence.

Hard working teachers, high expectations in the classroom and strong parent support at home have helped Bragg students achieve academically. We

are pleased to have been named a STAR School by California Businesses for Education Excellence for three years in a row! This award is given for demonstrating high student academic achievement, making significant progress toward closing the achievement gaps among all of our students, and increasing and sustaining grade level proficiency over four years. Congratulations Bragg School!

A school-wide focus on the Common Core Standards in English Language Arts and math integrate technology skills

into our curriculum. We do this by providing each student lab time weekly to build and enhance technology skills. In

addition, iPads (grades TK – 1) and Chromebooks (grades 2-6) are used in classrooms to integrate the use of technology into our curriculum. Our goal is to prepare our students with the skills and understanding they will need to be successful in middle school, high school, and beyond.

Student recognition is another important part of our educational program. Eight times a year awards are presented to students for academic achievement and good citizenship. Parents are invited to our award celebrations so that we can recognize and honor our students together.

Mary Bragg is the home to a very dedicated and supportive PTA. Bragg's PTA actively supports our school by providing student folders and planners, classroom lessons by Art 4 Kids, enrichment assemblies, and field trips for every grade level. We work collaboratively with our PTA to host



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events such as Green Pancake Breakfast, Reading Picnic, Jog-a-Thon, International Night, Carnival, and family nights held throughout the year.

We greatly appreciate our community partnerships, as they support the tenets of our school. The City of Cerritos Parks and Recreation Department lead organized games at lunch monthly and support healthy lifestyle choices. The Cerritos Educa-



tional Center (CEC) offers after school tutoring and enrichment activities year round, and Target Stores partners with us on our technology efforts.

Great students, fantastic teachers, supportive parents, strong community partnerships and enriching activities make Mary Bragg Elementary School a very special place for every student to learn and grow.

Burbank Elementary School

17711 Roseton Avenue, Artesia, CA 90701

(562) 865-6215

Principal – Laura Makley



The Burbank Bulldogs are a community of dedicated educators, supportive adults, and enthusiastic, talented learners. Our continuous improvement on federal and state measures is the result of our students' increased knowledge and commitment to success. Our students participate in a rigorous academic program enriched with visual, performing, and folk arts op-

portunities. Burbank Bulldogs are the Best!

Bulldog Learning

The Burbank staff provides many opportunities for students to excel. The core program includes reading groups, literature study, Thinking Maps, and a writing program to integrate reading and writing activities. Students in TK through 6th grade learn math through the Swun Math model which allows students not only to perform calculations, but also to think about, describe, and explain mathematical concepts. Students who demonstrate achievement above grade level standards may be eligible to participate in Junior Great Books instruction and the GATE program. Students who need more support are helped with a multi-tiered approach to intervention. All students are encouraged to grow and excel at Burbank Elementary.

Bulldog Community

Burbank is a school in and of the community, and we pride ourselves on providing many services for families and children. Burbank provides two after-school programs: EXTRA and Extended Day Program (EDP) with homework help, arts

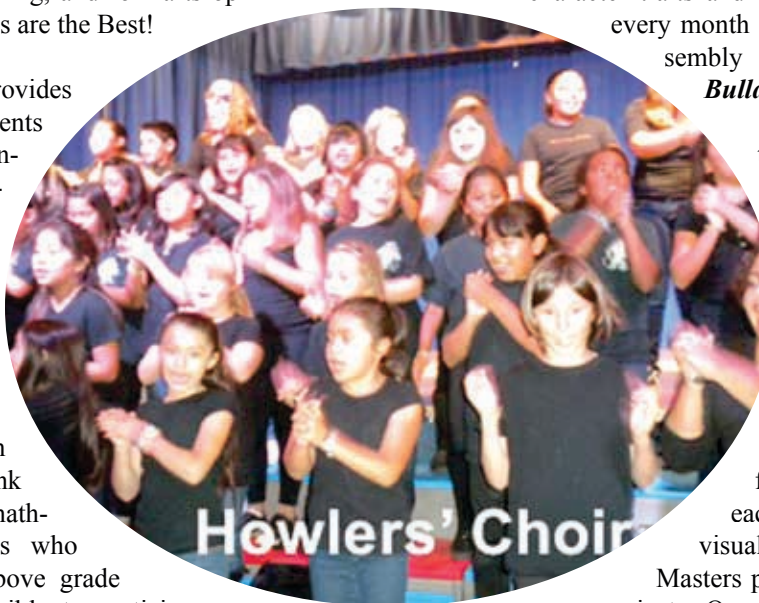
and crafts, and outside recreation. The staff and PTA team up to provide a Family Night once a month for families to have fun and learn together. The ABC Adult School provides "Mommy and Me" Parent Education classes five days a week. Students can participate in an extensive variety of after-school enrichment classes throughout the year including dance, music, crafts, singing, gardening, and exercise and nutrition. Parents, students, and staff celebrate and honor students' good character traits and academic accomplishments

every month at a community awards assembly

Bulldog Talent

Our students explore their talents through the Visual, Performing, and Folk Arts Magnet program. Using our Fine Arts Center, the students practice and perform for students and parents. Students act, sing, dance, create props, and serve as stage hands for theatrical performances which take place each month. Students create visual arts through the Meet the Masters program and grade-level art projects. Our Howlers choir is an after-school club which performs an evening show every year.

The student Music Express band performs several times a year. The award-winning Burbank Spirit Squad and all boys Dawg Squad perform every month for spirit day and participate in a regional competition in the spring. Upper grade students can participate in student leadership by devoting service to the school and to the community through our student council program. All children explore their talents as Burbank Bulldogs!



Carver Elementary School

19200 Ely Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 865-1257

Principal – Debbie Berlyn



As we begin the 2014-15 school year, we look forward to educating new and returning students. Last year one of Carver's focus areas was increasing student achievement in mathematics. Throughout last year and continuing this summer our teachers were trained in Swun Math. They will continue to work col-

laboratively with Swun personnel to deliver an effective math curriculum based on the new Common Core State Standards. The assessment results from those districts implementing Swun math have shown significant increases in their mathematic scores. Additionally, a main component is to further train our parents so they will be better able to support their child. Moving our students forward has always been at the forefront and this well developed and well-rounded curriculum will help us continue to meet the needs of our students.

Along with their math training this summer, our teachers received Professional Development in the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Our teachers are fully prepared to transition the students from the former state standards to the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Imparting this new knowledge to our students will be an exciting endeavor!

Family Nights at Carver

Carver Academy believes that in order for children to do their best in school, they must feel a part of their learning community. In order to build a sense of community on campus, the Carver staff and PTA prepare Family Nights that bring both family and school together. Last year we held two different Science Nights for our families. During the Olympics, we held our very own Carver Olympics, where our teachers facilitated math and science experiments. Our families worked collaboratively to build the longest working maze, create a boat to see how many pennies would float and predicted whose snail was fastest to name a few. Each family participated in two separate Olympic events. It was family fun for everyone. For the second Family Science Night, four different presenters shared their knowledge about animals in a Show and Tell format. The students were able to touch large snakes, porcupines, birds of prey and a chinchilla. Both evenings created an excitement for science with our families.

In addition to educational Family Nights, we held our annual Harvest Night which was comprised of a Haunted House, Trunk or Treat, a DJ area for Monster Dancing and picture booth to document the wonderful memories. Our Watch Dogs (Dads of Great Students) and moms, worked for several weeks to prepare for this magical evening. These evenings bring a feeling of community to our school!



Magnet Program

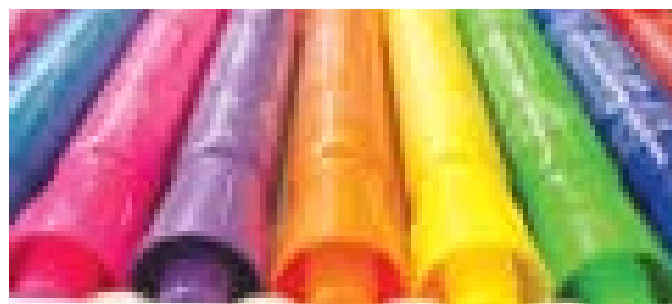
Enrichment Clusters

Carver has adopted the Enrichment Cluster Program as part of the Schoolwide Enrichment Model. Recognizing that all learners are unique, learning experiences must take into account the abilities, interests, and learning styles of individual students. Twice a year during the six-week cluster, students spend one hour a week exploring a topic of interest with the assistance of knowledgeable community members. Along with gaining in-depth insight into a particular topic, students begin to take responsibility and interest in their own learning. The regular curriculum is supported, expanded and enhanced by children participating in enrichment activities and bringing their enthusiasm into the classroom setting. Student and cluster leaders communicate what they have accomplished at a schoolwide celebration to culminate the Enrichment Cluster Program. These educational opportunities, supported by an excellent teaching staff, create a first rate educational opportunity that is both challenging and enjoyable for Carver Academy students.

Once again our Enrichment Clusters will be held in the Winter and Spring. We are actively seeking volunteers who are willing to facilitate a group for one hour per week for six weeks. The cluster may be a class that you have a passion for or one that you want to learn about along with the students. If you are interested in becoming a facilitator, please contact us at (562) 229-7840.

Carver Early Learning Academy

Carver Early Learning Academy begins educating students at three and four years old. Our fee-based preschool provides quality educational opportunities for young children, preparing them for the rigors of their K-6 educations. Our teachers are well trained and prepare students with the necessary skills to become a successful and productive student. Once a child attends Carver Early Learning Academy, they are welcome to continue through sixth grade at Carver in order to create a seamless educational experience for the students and their families. We accept students from neighboring communities to attend and participate in our stellar preschool program!



Cerritos Elementary School

13600 E 183rd Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-1315

Principal –Kevin Amburgey



At Cerritos Elementary School we are proud of the dedicated effort of our students, parents, and staff that have worked together to earn the title of 2014 California Distinguished School.

At Cerritos Elementary we believe citizens of the future must be life-long learners able to work and inter-

act in a diverse society. Our goals for students are to master grade level content standards, use critical thinking and problem solving strategies, develop communication skills, and demonstrate positive and democratic social interactions.

By providing a rigorous academic and caring environment, we strive to help students realize their full academic potential, develop positive self-concepts, and gain enthusiasm for learning. We encourage all students to develop responsibility for their own behavior and a concern for others. Our goals are aligned with the goals of the ABC Unified School District (ABCUSD). We invite our community to help plan and participate in implementing programs to prepare students for a healthy and successful future.

Cerritos Elementary School (CES) is home to approximately 700 diverse students in kindergarten through sixth grade and serves the easternmost neighborhoods of the ABC Unified School District (ABCUSD). Our school community holds high expectations for the quality of education we provide our students, for student academic achievement and behavior, and for parents in support of all students and the school. As a consequence, our student body is comprised of highly motivated and very capable students who consistently strive to meet and exceed the expectations of their parents and teachers.

At CES we are dedicated to our common belief that all children will learn to master the California Common Core



Standards at every grade level. Our Gifted and Talented Education program (GATE) students are "clustered" in classrooms and are provided a challenging, differentiated curriculum appropriate to their needs. We are very proud of our first ever Math Olympiad team winning first place, our highly acclaimed school band, and our incredibly talented performing arts students demonstrating their talents in the annual school play. In addition to high quality standards-based instruction, CES provides academic support for at-risk students and language support for English Language Learners (ELL). Ready Study Go!, an after-school homework assistance and tutorial program is offered five days a week.

With the generous support of our families, community and the school district, we are able to provide Extended Day Care, Computer Club, valet drop-off, band, and student supervision before the school day begins. During the school day many volunteers help out in classrooms, teacher workrooms, and in the office. Parent volunteers teach the Junior Achievement program in grades K-6. The Parent and Teacher Association (PTA) supports school-wide enrichment activities including paying for bus transportation for field trips, financial support to teachers for instructional materials, and making very significant gifts to the school including a new digital marquee! Further support is provided by our Cerritos Elementary Educational Foundation (CEEF) such as supporting the computer technology instructional program and purchasing laptop computers for all the teachers. The choral music program, Meet the Masters Art appreciation, and Science on the Go are also supported by the CEEF. The Foundation also hosts our annual pancake breakfast in October and our spring carnival.

Cerritos Elementary is a PeaceBuilder school dedicated to providing a quality, well-rounded education for every student.

Elliott Elementary School

18415 Cortner, Artesia, CA 90701

(562) 865-5216

Principal – Danielle Mitchell



Elliott Elementary is a 2014 California Distinguished School and Title I Academic Achieving School Award winner. These honors are the product of our teachers' and community's dedication to continuous improvement in student achievement. In striving for excellence, our students learn and

achieve success.

Elliott's core belief is focusing on the whole child. We pride ourselves on maintaining a balance between academic, social, and emotional growth. With learning being our top priority, Elliott students participate in a rigorous and challenging stan-



{continued on page 20}

dards-based curriculum supplemented by the Global Studies units. Students have many opportunities for success with the installation of our new Epson Bright-Links interactive projectors, student Chomebooks in 3rd-6th, along with student and teacher iPads in K-2nd. Elliott continues to provide our Transitional Kindergarten program, leveled intervention, GATE, multicultural music, passport P.E., technology instruction, Student Council, school newspaper staff, Monday Morning Message, digital photography, Skill Streaming, track team, and band. All Elliott students perform at least twice a year in our school-wide musical productions lead by Elliott's music specialist Mrs. Kane. Students participate in the chorus, vocal and/or instrumental solos, dance, and instrumental groups with a multicultural theme. Many of the students sing in different languages during the performances. Our band, directed by Mr. Matthew Gullett, performs concerts at least twice a year. The highlight of the year is the Elementary Band Concert in May.

ultures are celebrated throughout the year. In October, we

encourage our students to wear their clothing representing their heritage for a multicultural parade. Every year we are amazed by the beautiful dresses and detailed outfits the girls and boys wear at the parade.



Open House is a "Passport to the World" with students sharing the art, traditions, daily life, history, geography, and unique animals of their Global Address country

with their families. Each classroom is transformed to reflect another country and the students "tour" with their parents. Parents and community members are invited to tour from continent to continent, as they move around the school.

Parents and family are encouraged to participate in their child's education. You can become involved as classroom volunteers, joining the PTA, or becoming members of our School Site Council, providing donations, or helping at Elliott events. Please contact the school office for more information. We know that by working together, we will have a rewarding 2014-2015 school year.



Student projects represent Kenyan masks, Mexican Artists, and Mount Fuji, Japan.

Furgeson Elementary School

22215 Elaine Avenue, Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716
(562) 421-8285

Principal – Mayra Lozano



Welcome to Venn W. Furgeson Elementary School, Where Children and Learning Come First!

Our dedicated and professional staff is committed to the success of the whole child. We firmly believe that all students can and will learn; we provide rigorous standards-based instruction as well as social and emotional support to ensure our students achieve their highest potential.

The Furgeson staff works tirelessly at maintaining a welcoming, safe, and engaging environment that will prepare our young Patriots for the 21st Century.

We deeply value the support of our families and community as we realize that Home + School + Community = Student Success.

About Us

Furgeson Elementary is a dynamic TK - 6th grade, Title I school, that offers a TK-3 Bilingual Program. We are located in

the City of Hawaiian Gardens, California.

Our accomplishments include:

- 2011 and 2013 Honor Roll School recognized by the California Business for Education Excellence.
- 2013 recipients of the HealthierUS school Challenge Gold Award presented by the Let's Move Initiative championed by First Lady Michelle Obama.
- 2013 Community Education Heroes awarded by the City of Hawaiian Gardens.
- 2013 District's Reading Olympics Bronze Medalist
- 2013 API – School Wide: 800 (Hispanic/Latino 801, English Learners 806, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged 800)

Communication and Technology Magnet School

Our Furgeson Video Magazine equips our students with valuable skills that will ensure their future success: Communication, Teamwork and Critical Thinking. As one of the original magnet schools in the District, we are very proud of our vibrant and modern newscast, Furgeson Video Magazine, which is shot, edited, and reported by our students. Our reporters prepare fun-filled



segments and public announcements. The Furgeson Video Magazine is broadcasted in all classrooms and covers school, District and community events.

Morning Fitness – Healthy & Alert! We begin every school day with an organized 20-minute morning fitness program that targets cardio-vascular fitness, flexibility and strength.

Computer Lab, Netbook Carts, Chrome Carts.

The following computer programs are available for our students: Mathfacts in a Flash, Accelerated Reader and Imagine Learning

Library Media Lab - lessons, book check out and book clubs

Primary Intervention Program (PIP) - Intervention and prevention services to enhance the social and emotional development of students in Kindergarten through Third grade who may be experiencing mild to moderate school adjustment difficulties.

Band, Drama/Choir, Cheer and Track - Available to 4th – 6th Grade students.

Student Recognitions – Monthly Perfect Attendance and Patriot Pride Awards; Trimester Awards include: Principal's Honor Roll, Most Improved, Perfect Attendance, and PeaceBuilder.

Monthly Family Reading Fridays & Parent Workshops - Families are invited to read in their child's classrooms to cultivate a love for reading. Immediately after, a parent workshop is offered to parents, tailored to their interests.

Monthly Family Monday Fitness - Families are invited to come and exercise with their children once a month.

Activate Hawaiian Gardens Initiative - We support the efforts of the City and work in collaboration with our District to decrease childhood obesity.

Gonsalves Elementary School

13650 Park Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-1347

Principal – Robert Benko



Hello and welcome to the 2014-2015 school year here at Joe A. Gonsalves Elementary School- A National Blue Ribbon school. The staff here at Gonsalves is dedicated to providing the best educational experience possible for our students. This is done through a team effort where all stakeholders- staff, parents and families, students and community members- work collaboratively to create an environment conducive to learning and student achievement. It is this combination of high quality teaching in the classroom, the commitment of our families to promote and support learning, and desire of our students to do their very best that makes Gonsalves a special place to be.

Academic Achievement

Our school has received many academic awards including being named a National Blue Ribbon School, a California Distinguished School, a California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll. Through a rigorous standards-based curriculum, use of effective instructional strategies, grade-level collaboration, data analysis and strategic interventions, we know that our students will continue to achieve and be successful academically as we move forward with the implementation of the Common Core Standards

Character Development

The positive, “can do” atmosphere that is created at Gonsalves begins with our commitment toward all students getting along together and encouraging and respecting one another. Building character is a focus and we emphasize this through assemblies and our monthly “Core Values” focus, and students

are recognized for displaying these values during Recognition Awards Assemblies. Every student is a S.T.A.R at Gonsalves when they Stop, Think, and Act Responsibly, and they are praised and rewarded for this positive behavior.

Our School Spirit

Our active Student Council sponsors “fun” days for students and provides community outreach by donating to disaster relief, working with organizations such as Toys For Tots and organizing a school-wide recycling event. They also host our “Taste of Gonsalves” at the end of year which celebrates the many diverse cultures we have at our school through food, song, and dance. Each Monday the students and staff participate in Spirit Day. At this weekly we do the Pledge of Allegiance, sing a patriotic song, discuss our Core Value of the month, and honor students and staff for their accomplishments.

Parent and Community Partnerships

The success of our school is due in large part to the immeasurable contributions made by our parent organization, Booster Club. Our Booster Club, consisting of parents, community members, and staff, helps provide a well-rounded educational experience for our students by sponsoring field trips, assemblies, PE, Fine Arts, Music and other special activities throughout the school year. Parents volunteer hours and hours of their time inside and outside of the classrooms, and parent groups help organize special cultural events such as Lunar New Year and Diwali celebrations.

Afterschool Programs

We also have afterschool opportunities available for our



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families. The Extended Day Program provides working parents a place where their child can go to continue the "Learning Day." Homework support, academic skill-building, enrichment

activities and physical activity are just some of the outstanding support they provide. We also have chess, art and science classes that are available.

Hawaiian Elementary School

12350 E. 226th Street, Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716

(562) 594-9525

Principal – Laurie Cordova



Welcome to the 2014 – 2015 school year at Hawaiian Elementary School. We are all looking forward to another year of hard work and great accomplishment. The collaborative effort of our staff, parents, and community members has created a safe and nurturing environment for our students.

Our goal is that they attain high levels of academic success, and become good citizens and community members.

Hawaiian Elementary is a high performing Title 1 school. Our experienced, highly trained staff provides a rigorous, standards based curriculum in language arts, math, science, and social studies. We are a school dedicated to developing the whole child. Nutrition and exercise are an important part of our students' education. Our school is supported by our District Office and local agencies in providing students and parents with lessons, assemblies, and workshops on healthy living. We have an excellent physical education program. We also have the Meet the Masters Art Program, and Los Caballeros Band. These programs along with our focus on character education ensure that our students are well-rounded citizens who are prepared for the secondary level.

We are very proud of our students and recognize their achievements in the classroom and at school-wide assemblies. We have a monthly Flag Ceremony to recognize our Charac-



ter Winners and Perfect Attendance. We also have five Awards Assemblies throughout the year to recognize each classroom's Citizen of the Month, a Most Improved Student, and Academic Achievement in a selected area of the curriculum. We emphasize goal setting with our students and begin each year with a special assembly to acknowledge the students who met their State Testing goal from the previous year.

Hawaiian Elementary uses the RTI model to provide intervention programs for any of our students that need additional learning time. We provide programs during school, after school, on Saturdays, and during the summer. These include individual tutoring, small group tutoring, corrective reading classes, after school reading and math classes, Saturday SMART Academy classes, and Summer School.

Our EXTRA program provides after school care, free of charge, to 100 of our students every day until 6:00 p.m. Students receive help with homework and participate in a variety of activities including art, music, computer lab, cooking, and dance.

We are fortunate to be part of a community that is committed to the education of our children. The City of Hawaiian Gardens continues to support programs that benefit the health and welfare of our students. We also receive tremendous support from our District Office. It is this level of teamwork that allows us to excel as a school community.



Juarez Elementary School

11939 Aclare Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) - 865-6278

Principal - Christine Balbuena



Engineering Change

Welcome to the 2014-15 school year! Without a doubt, this year will prove to be very exciting for students, staff and parents of the Juarez community. We are very proud to open our doors this year as Juarez Academy of Engineering & Technology!

Our mission: To help all students real-

ize their full potential.

At Juarez Academy we are dedicated to providing an educational experience that combines rigorous academic study with the excitement of discovery. We seek to develop in each student the ability and passion to think critically, communicate and collaborate effectively, and use their creative talents in all content areas.



Academy Highlights

- Engineering Lab for all students, TK-6th
- Project Lead the Way for 6th grade
- Technology Media Center for all students, TK-6th
- 1:1 iPad technology integration for students in 2nd, 4th, and 5th grades
- Bring Your Own Device program for 6th grade
- Special activities to increase interest in higher education and careers – College Days, Career Fair, Science Fair
- Positive school climate features – Collaboration Think Tank, Student Council Ambassadors, Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS)
- After school learning opportunities – Science & Engineering Club, iTech Club, After school tutorial, Homework Club, Extended Time to Raise Achievement program (EXTRA)
- Parents Take the Lead workshops
- Continuing professional learning for teachers in instructional technology integration, common core standards, Thinking Maps, Engineering is Elementary, and Lego curriculum.

Citizenship and Character Development

At Juarez we believe that it is equally important to focus on developing student character and citizenship skills. We strive to create and foster a school environment where all children and adults feel welcome, respected, and know that they are an important part of the school community. It is truly a place that values diversity and strives to nurture everyone's self-esteem.

Juarez is a PBIS school – Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. We have three school-wide behavior expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Ready to Learn. When students exhibit positive behavior and make good decisions they receive incentives such as JAGS Bucks and class Spirit points. We kick off our week by celebrating our Jaguar pride at our weekly Spirit assemblies.

Parent and Community Partnerships

Juarez embodies a vibrant culture and will continue to do so through innovative programs and creative parent and community partnerships. Our wonderfully supportive PTA sponsors various activities such as Mother/Child night, Father/Child night, Jog-a-thon, Science Family Night, Family Picnic and many other fundraisers, family nights, field trips, and assemblies. Because we value our parent community and recognize that effective communication promotes this partnership, we use a variety of communication tools – school Edline webpage, email communications, Blackboard Connect, Facebook, Twitter, and new this year, a free texting app – Remind101.

The First of its Kind

Juarez is proud to be the first elementary in our district with Project Lead the Way. Our new PLTW Launch program begins this year in 6th grade. Our goal is to build lifelong interest in science, technology, engineering and math. We are confident that our PLTW program along with our Engineering Lab will help to build confidence in our students and put them on course for strong accomplishments in middle school, high school and beyond.



Kennedy Elementary School

17500 Belshire, Artesia CA 90701

(562) 860-3378

Principal – Melissa Valentine



Vision Statement

Our vision at Kennedy STEM Academy is to develop students' critical thinking skills through a partnership of parents, students, school staff, and community members. Our school promotes an accepting, safe, and engaging learning environment for every student.

We will achieve this vision by:

- Providing a rigorous standards-based curriculum instruction
- Differentiating instruction to meet student needs
- Cultivating students' creativity

ty and expression through the arts and technology

- Integrating Kennedy's Kids of Character traits throughout daily routines

Welcome to Kennedy STEM Academy!

The highly qualified staff at Kennedy truly believes each child is unique and deserving of a rich educational environment. Learning for all students at Kennedy is enhanced through the supportive and encouraging nature of our school staff, and a caring parent community. At Kennedy, we believe that our students are offered a well-balanced education program. Not only do we focus on the



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high academic achievement of our students, but we also strive to enrich their lives through the visual and performing arts, technology, character education, and healthy choices, including both nutrition and physical activity. Several programs/resources are available at Kennedy; Computer Lab, Student Council, English Language Learning, A.I.M. Clubs, Academic Support Beyond the School Day, Gifted and Talented Education, Music and Dance Program, and Extended Day-care. Parents are enthusiastically invited to be an active participant in their child's education through the PTA, and School Site Council. Attendance at school events by parents and families is always welcomed and highly encouraged.

Kennedy offers before and after school clubs focusing on Healthy Bodies – Healthy Minds. Some of our clubs include: Before School Walking Club, Drama Club, Cheer Club, Sports Club and Dance Club.

Student Achievement

In spring 2013, our API score based on state testing was 864. The dedication of our staff and the desire to learn by our students was a key factor in raising our scores. There was no State Testing in 2013-2014. California field tested the Smarter Balanced Test. During the 2014-2015 school year, students will take the formal test and receive results based on their performance. We are confident our continued efforts in improving instruction and student achievement will be reflected with additional growth to our API. We will continue to offer support services to students as well as add additional afterschool opportunities for our GATE students.

CA Distinguished School Award

The State of California Department of Education awarded Kennedy STEM Academy, the California Distinguished School Award in 2012! We are now amongst schools that are considered California's most exemplary and inspiring public schools as we have demonstrated academic success and overall excellence in education.



Kennedy S.T.E.M. Academy's Focus:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
- STEM is engaging and interactive. The STEM fields are a natural fit for elementary age students who have incredible imagination and natural curiosity about the world and how it works. Teachers will use an innovative, hands-on curriculum to involve the children in asking questions and finding answers.
- STEM helps students succeed. Mastering STEM subjects in elementary school will give students the basic technological, scientific and mathematical literacy they will need to succeed in middle school, high school, and college
- TK/K-6th grade units – 3 units each year
- Science focused – earth, life and physical
- STEM Showcase at the end of the year
- Technology tools are integrated into units

The Arts at Kennedy

We are very pleased to offer a quality fine arts program to our students. This program includes instruction in dance, choral music, instrumental music and visual arts. Our dance and choral music program is offered to all students each Friday. Students learn songs ranging from Broadway show tunes to disco. These tunes are expertly taught and choreographed by our dance and music specialist. A culminating performance is held each spring to showcase the students' hard work and great efforts.

The Artist Exploration Program is a visual art history program that teaches students about the life and art of many of the world's greatest artists. Students view an oral presentation, which includes a slide show about an artist, prior to recreating their own interpretation of the artist.

Grade 4-6 students are offered an optional instrumental music program. Beginning and advanced band classes are taught twice weekly in the auditorium. Concerts are held throughout the school year, culminating with the District Area concert where advanced band students from each of the elementary schools perform a concert.



Leal Elementary School

12920 Droxford Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 229-7880

Principal – P.A. White



Welcome back to a new school year! I have the privilege of being the new principal at Leal and I am excited to be a part of this amazing school and community. Without a doubt, Leal has a tremendous heritage and pedigree of excellence in academics

and the arts. The staff and I will be working diligently to continue and deepen that tradition as we fully incorporate the Common Core State Standards.

Leal's designation as a visual and performing arts mag-



net school goes a long way in defining who we are as a school community. Our students engage in the arts on a daily basis, from pull-out instruction in theater to hands-on art projects in the classroom. We value creative expression as an effective way for students to demonstrate what they have learned. Furthermore, our students eagerly participate in our annual winter holiday program, talent show, and spring musical. Our parent community extends its commitment to our success in this area as well, having established the Leal Elementary Arts Program (LEAP) Foundation. LEAP, a non-profit charitable organization, acts as the sole funding source for our

magnet program. Each year it raises an average of \$50,000 through various avenues in order to sustain our visual and performing arts program. Additionally our PTA is instrumental in providing support to students through various school programs such as fieldtrips, yearbook, dances, and science night. By working in conjunction, these two volunteer organizations provide tremendous support and contribute significantly to the success of our students.

At Leal, we pride ourselves in creating an environment in

which students feel safe, are free to take academic and creative “risks,” as well as engage in a constant cycle of curiosity, inquiry, investigation, and imagination. It is our goal to send truly well-rounded, confident, and prepared young people on to the next stage of their education. We are proud of the examples we set as a community and, most importantly, of the accomplishments of our students.

Melbourne Elementary School

21314 Claretta, Lakewood, CA 90715

(562) 924-1658

Principal – Robert Castillo



Wonder and Awe! The students and staff at Melbourne strive to provide the very best for students and one another on a daily basis. We are located in the city of Lakewood and serve students from various cities including Hawaiian Gardens and the city of Lakewood. Each day our students begin their day with a PeaceBuilder pledge and a commitment to do their very best.

Every day is an opportunity for students and teachers to produce Wonder and Awe!

Quality Instructional Program

Our classroom instructional program is research based and aligned with EDI concepts. EDI stands for Explicit Direct Instruction and at Melbourne, many of our teachers are certified EDI teachers. This method of instruction requires meticulous planning, constant checking for understanding, concept development and many other strategies that align with the new National Common core standards and rigorous SBAC testing. Our teachers are proud to provide this systematic instructional delivery. But ultimately we know that students thrive when there is structure and clear programs that support their learning.

Character Program

Recognizing outstanding student character is essential to produce quality productive citizens. At Melbourne we believe that we provide a high quality instructional program and our entire staff is grounded in the fact that student well-being and character development ranks right up there with student achievement. Every member of our staff has been trained through the Molina PeaceBuilders Program which emphasizes peace building concepts, positive relations and anti-bullying affirmations. Students are rewarded for their positive Peace-builder ideals with daily blue ticket recognition and monthly “blue-ticket” prizes that may include certificates for local business goods, a free round of miniature golf and many other student “goodies.” We also recognize students regularly in the class and each month student are recognized in the class- these

are our Magnificent Melbourne Mustangs!

Community Partnerships

Students and school thrive when the community and staff work in harmony. Our local community partners and ABC district offices work hand in support our students. This year our PTA and School Site Council, have decided that is very important to work with our community to support our school and to excel. As we proudly boast strong working relationships with the city of Hawaiian Gardens City Council and the city of Lakewood. Through active involvement and strong community relations, our parent programs seek to maximize our ties to the community. In the past we have worked closely with the city of Hawaiian Gardens, the city of Lakewood, Tri-City Hospital, Sam’s Club and other business partners to provide services, goods and funding for our students, parents and community members. For the past several years, the city of Hawaiian Gardens has provided funding for summer school programs, intervention classes, and student field trips. With donations in excess of \$5000.00 each year, we are proud to be of service to the city and city council. The city of Lakewood has also provided our teachers with yearly grants to help provide materials, such as books, electronic goods and various other goods in excess of \$500.00 per teacher! Our community partners help create a community base.

Other Programs and Services

Our school makes every effort to ensure the well-being of our students, teachers and community members. Here is a condensed list of the programs and services that we offer to our students:

- PeaceBuilder Program- Character Development
- ExTRA- After school daily tutorial/childcare program
- Before and After School Intervention classes for struggling students
- Migrant Education Program



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- Saturday Classes
- In Class Tutoring
- SES- District funded tutorial programs
- On site counseling services
- Collaborative Multi-Agency Counseling Services
- Intervention classes
- Updated MAC computer lab
- Free and Reduced lunches and meals for students
- Active PTA and School Site Council

- Opportunities to volunteer in the class- for parents and community members
- Opportunities to read to students- for parents and community members

The commitment and dedication to student success lives on at Melbourne! With over forty staff members, we are constantly ready and willing to service our 550 students. We are proud to say that at Melbourne we are always ready to serve as the Champions for students.

Niemes Elementary School

16715 S Jersey Avenue, Artesia, CA 90701

(562) 865-9586

Principal – Mariaelena (Meg) Jimenez



Niemes is proud to be a National Magnet School with an emphasis on Environmental Science and Technology. A child with a strong interest in animal life, the outdoors and science will thrive in the Environmental Science and Technology Programs at Niemes Elementary. Our innovative program encourages the students' love for the natural world

and empowers them to become an active participant in the stewardship of their planet. We strive to combine high expectations, stellar educational programs and a partnership with parents and the community to provide the best educational experience for each child.

Awards & Recognitions

- NATIONAL MAGNET SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION by the Magnet School of America Association

- California School Boards Association GOLDEN BELL AWARD for an Outstanding Science Program & Festival

- Nationally Recognized HEALTHY SCHOOL OF AMERICA by the Red Cross Association and Clinton Foundation

- Named top 10 in the nation for an AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN SPANISH from the Spanish Embassy

- Winner of the VERIZON INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS

Grant. 12 schools were chosen in the Nation, only 1 in California! This has allowed our entire 5th and 6th grades to implement a 1:1 iPad initiative. Each 5th and 6th grader will have access to an iPad at school and home for a dynamic technological educational experience.

Niemes Elementary is proud to be on the cutting edge of environmental education and in alignment with the State of California's emphasis on environmental principles. Our students develop awareness of the interconnection of all species and ecosystems on our planet through integration of environmental science and technology across all subject areas. Kinder-

garten through sixth grade students explore these concepts in the general education classroom, in our Environmental Science Laboratory and Outdoor Garden Habitat, and in the community in which they reside.

Selected for Seal of Excellence Award

Niemes Elementary School was selected for the 2013 Seal of Excellence Award by the California Association of Bilingual Education (CABE). The Seal of Excellence Award honors

schools that have established effective programs for their English learners. The school had to provide evidence of their students learning another language as well as English. The criteria also included examining their statewide data results by significant subgroups and evidence of meeting growth targets for all subgroups. In addition to the Seal of Excellence Award, the school was also recognized for promoting the Seal of Biliteracy at the school. The Seal of Biliteracy promotes proficiency in another language than English.

Additional School Highlights

- High Academic Expectations and Consistent Behavior Standards

Thanks to the strong commitment of staff, students, and families to the academic success of every child we continue to meet and surpass our academic growth goals of the California State Standards.

- Dual Immersion Program

English speaking and Spanish speaking students in this program are immersed in both languages throughout their school experience. The program produces students that are fluent in reading, writing, and speaking both English and Spanish when they exit the program at the end of sixth grade.

- Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

An individualized education program is developed for each child who has qualified for the GATE program, to enhance and enrich their learning throughout their academic experience.

- Focus on Academic Performance After School Program

Open to K through 6th grade students, Monday through



Friday. This program, run by the YMCA, includes homework assistance and physical education activities. There is no charge to families.

- Niemes Band

Beginning and advanced band instruction is open to fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students throughout the school year.

- After-School Athletics

Our After School Running/Walking Program is available to students, first grade through sixth, and parents, twice a week after school, on our large school field. In addition, Niemes offers Cheerleading and Volleyball to 6th graders, and a Soccer Club for our 3rd and 4th graders.

- Community Celebrations

Our entire community looks forward to our Family Events. Events change yearly, but may include a Fall Festival, International Family Night, Family Movie Nights, Spring Concert, Talent Show, and our Annual Environmental Festival and Science Fair.

Program Features

- Environmental science and technology curriculum integrated into all subject areas
- Environmental science laboratory
- 1:1 iPad program for all 5th and 6th graders provides 24/7 technology access.
- Outdoors garden habitat
- State of the art technology equipment programs and high speed internet
- In-classroom technology centers
- Computer laboratory
- After school environmental and technology program
- Green school ecology/Recycling program
- Community recycling
- Technology instructor
- Environmental science instructor

Niemes students perform at our Environmental Festival to teach our community how we can all make a difference.

Patricia Nixon Elementary School

19600 Jacob Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703

(526) 860-6549

Principal – Melinda Ortiz



About Nixon Academy

The staff at Nixon Academy of Multimedia Arts Production nurtures innovative and creative learners by providing all students with an enriched and challenging curriculum with unique experiences in multimedia arts production. Through the use of technology Nixon students participate in real-world learning opportunities that prepare them to create, problem solve,

collaborate and communicate. As a multimedia arts production magnet school, Nixon Academy encourages students to “Celebrate through the Technology” in annual sessions, which provide them with an opportunity to cultivate and explore a wide variety of interests. Each JAM Session culminates in a celebration of student accomplishments.



The outstanding teachers and staff at Nixon Academy continue to raise the academic bar for all students and Nixon students rise to the challenge. Nixon is proud to boast that the school earned an API score of 887 for the 2012-2013 school year!

Awards and Recognitions

- 2004 California Distinguished School
- 2008 California Distinguished School

2008 Recognized in the Los Angeles Times as one of the most culturally diverse schools in the county of Los Angeles.

2010 National Magnet School

2011 California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll

2012 California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll

2013 California School Board of Education Golden Bell recipient

Program Features

- Multimedia Arts Production Magnet School
- Dedicated and enthusiastic staff of professionals
- Musical, dance and theatrical productions at every grade level
- Wireless internet connection throughout the school
- 1:1 iPad Ratio in all 5th and 6th grade classes
- JAM live Broadcast Studio
- Mobile Device tech support and access at all grade levels
- Monthly Student Awards Ceremony
- Character Counts „Value of the Month“
- “Meet the Masters” visual arts program
- National Watch D.O.G.S. Program
- Active and supportive PTA
- Upper Grade Band
- Student Council
- Primary and Upper Grade Chorus
- Dance Troupe
- Track Team
- Academic Chess
- Patricia Nixon School Education Foundation
- Before and After School/Extended Day Care

Palms Elementary School

12445 E 207th Street, Lakewood, CA 90715

(562) 924-5549

Principal – Evelyn Huh



Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year! This year will be an exciting time for our students, staff and parents. Our staff is committed to offering a well-rounded and excellent education in a safe and supportive environment where our students will excel and achieve great things.

Accelerated Magnet Program

Our mission is to prepare ALL of our students for middle school, high school and beyond by establishing a college and career ready culture at Palms. All classrooms participate in our “Ad-opt-a-College” campaign where college posters and decals decorate our walls, and students wear their college t-shirts. Our hope is to inspire every one of our students that their path to college starts here.

In order to help make college a reality, Palms has become the first and only AVID Elementary school in the district. AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a college readiness system that prepares students for their academic future. Students learn through WICOR strategies (Writing to learn, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, Reading to Learn) for academic success. We are formally implementing AVID in 5th and 6th grades, however our Accelerated Learning Lab is also implementing AVID strategies for all grade levels TK-6th! This year, we are also piloting AVID Elementary in one of our 1st grade classrooms. Palms is also excited to continue with the SpringBoard Pre-AP College Board curriculum. 6th grade will implement SpringBoard in both math and language arts. Instructional technology is also a huge component of our magnet program. All students attend our state of the art Technology/Media Lab and learn using iPads in the Accelerated Learning



Lab. Students create a variety of digital media projects on these mobile devices. This year, all of our 3rd grade classrooms will participate in a 1:1 iPad Pilot Program. All third graders will have access to an iPad in their classroom EVERY DAY! Our teachers will participate in various professional learning opportunities to bring the latest and greatest in technology into our classrooms!

Not only do we want to focus on student achievement, we want Palms’ students to be excellent in character. We expect students to be respectful, to be responsible, to be ready to learn and to be PeaceBuilders. As a PeaceBuilder school, our students have many opportunities to learn how to build peace at home, at school, and in their community. All students

recite the Palms Pledge at our weekly Spirit Assemblies where we celebrate our Puma pride. This year, Palms will join the district’s first cohort for PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention & Supports). We are excited to learn how we can further transform our school climate into one that is more positive and safe for all students.

We also recognize the vital role that our partnerships with parents and the community play in helping Palms. Not only do we want our students to learn, we also want to provide our parents with learning opportunities. We plan to have our first ever Palms Parent Academy this year. This is a series of 7-8 workshops for parents. Topics will include: Common Core standards, Thinking Maps, Discipline/Behavior, Technology, Health & Nutrition and AVID. We will have a graduation celebration for all parents who complete the entire series! The PTA sponsors various field trips, assemblies, family and movie nights, special activities like our annual Red Ribbon Week and Jog-A-Thon as well as classroom materials. We encourage all our parents to be involved with the PTA!

Stowers Elementary School

13350 Beach Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-2326

Principal – Dr. Tom Tracy



Stowers is an International Baccalaureate World School, a magnet school with a focus on International Studies. The International Baccalaureate program is closely interwoven in with the California Common Core State Standards. Our curriculum provides a challenging and rewarding inquiry based learning experience for all of our stu-

dents.

International Baccalaureate (IB), Primary Years Program (PYP)

Stowers Elementary Magnet School of International Studies is a International Baccalaureate World School, part of the IBA and IBO. Our mission is to develop in our students a sense of international awareness, based on six transdisciplinary themes. We are educating our students to be able to interact, converse

A Magnet
School of
International
Studies



with, and understand their own, as well as other cultures, with the goal of instilling in them a love for lifelong learning and appreciation for the world as international citizens.

Our students represent cultures from around the world. On a daily basis they exemplify the learner profile and work to create a world where they can do anything, be anyone and achieve the impossible.

Through our challenging international academic program and rigorous assessments, we encourage our students to become active, compassionate and learners who understand that other people, with their differences can also be right.

At Stowers Magnet School of International Studies, your child is our priority and we always go...

Above and Beyond!

The most significant and distinctive feature of our IB Primary Years Program is the six transdisciplinary themes that cross over into all curricular disciplines. These themes include issues that have meaning for, and are important to, all of us. The IB-PYP offers a balance between learning about or through the subject areas, and learning beyond them. The six themes of global significance create a transdisciplinary framework that allows students to "step up" beyond the confines of learning within subject areas. Who we are

Where we are in place and time, how we express ourselves, how the world works, how we organize ourselves, sharing the planet.

Technology

Stowers students use our computer lab, center for inquiry, IPADs, laptops, and other technology equipment to enhance their technology literacy. Our computer laboratory specialist

uses Smart Technology to enhance our student's computer and other technology skills to expand their multi-media capabilities. Being technology literate helps our students develop the computer skills and competency making them technologically competitive in the 21st Century.

Art

Art instruction and integration is always among the highest form of expression of one's culture. At Stowers we use the arts to teach our students about our world's culture and historical periods. Our art integration instruction teaches our students to appreciate the arts, by allowing our students to inquire and participate in activities gaining a deeper understanding of different cultures. We believe the arts bring every subject to life, and it also enhances reality. We continue with art appreciation through our PTA programs. Each year we participate in the National PTA "Reflections" program.

International Festival

We are extremely proud of our connectedness activity we call our International Festival. Students, parents and teachers work together with community members to bring different cultures around the world alive at Stowers. The International Festival celebrates diversity and connectedness. This amazing family event involves the recreation of international games, performances, and a variety of international commonalities.

We are Stowers, we are an International Baccalaureate World School, we are a California Distinguished School. Come join us! It is a small world and we are all connected.

Willow Elementary School

11733 E 205th Street, Lakewood, CA 90715
(562) 865-6209

Principal – Linda Dohm



Welcome to Willow Elementary School! Willow is destined for amazing things in the 2014-2015 school year. The Willow staff is delighted to be part of an exceptional school community and is committed to making Willow an even better place for the children we serve.

Willow's Mission

The Willow Elementary School staff is committed to educate all students so that they succeed academically and socially in a rapidly changing society.

Willow's Vision Statement

The Willow Elementary School Community is committed to fostering a respectful, supportive and responsible environment for the 21st Century that addresses the diverse needs of all students. Staff and students will be engaged through collaboration, critical thinking, communication, and creativity to excel in a competitive and ever changing world



Willow's 2014 – 2015 Motto

Respect, Responsibility, Results.

Academic Focus

Willow teachers and students are enthusiastically engaging in the Common Core Standards this year in both English Language Arts and Mathematics. New iMac computers in our Computer Lab and chrome books are engaging tools for learning and collaboration. The Common Core State Standards are rigorous and relevant to the real world. They very clearly define what students should know and be able to do in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies

The Willow School Community is taking part in ABC Unified School District Cohort 1 Training as we work collaboratively to ensure a safe, positive school environment that ensures

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optimal teaching and learning. We want Willow School to be the place that brings out the best in each individual and provides each student with an opportunity to shine.

Additional Academic Opportunities

Intervention and enrichment programs offer additional opportunities for students. Gateways, which is offered for target students in grades four through six, provides instruction in English Language Arts targeted to students' specific needs allowing them to close learning gaps.

Our Response to Intervention (RtI) program provides reading support to our primary students in grades one through three. This support supplements core instruction and it is offered during the school day.

Beyond the Bells interventions are provided by teachers before or after school in reading, mathematics and English Language Development. The SMART Academy has been available for a select group of upper grade students on several Saturdays with a focus on vocabulary development. In addition, the EX-TRA/ICES Program offered for approximately one hundred students, provides homework time and assistance as well as enrichment.

This year GATE students will take part in a variety of enrichment opportunities. Willow will continue with the GATE Academy offering monthly enrichment activities during the school day. There will also be opportunities offered after school such as Mathletes, Reading Olympics Club and STEM Club.

Speaking of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), each grade level will enjoy STEM projects over the course of the school year. Fifth and Sixth grade students and teachers will benefit from a Boeing Grant which provide professional development for teachers and two new STEM units for each grade.

Gold Award Winner

Willow School believes that a healthy body leads to a healthy mind. We will continue with our school wide Morning Fitness program. In addition to Moving with Mom and Dancing with Dad, we have added a Family Fun and Fitness Festival to encourage a healthy lifestyle for our families.

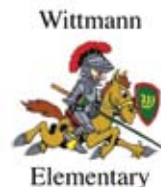
Willow Elementary School was awarded the Gold Award in the Healthier U.S. Challenge for our commitment to promoting health. We will continue to promote healthy habits such as exercising and eating healthy foods.

Wittmann Elementary School

16801 Yvette, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-1321

Principal – Miguel Marco



This year is the 40th Anniversary of Helen Wittmann Elementary School and throughout the halls of Wittmann you will hear the ubiquitous chant, "We are Wittmann." For 40 years, Wittmann has been a place where students have gained an outstanding "world class"

education. With an outstanding veteran teaching staff and strong community support, Wittmann is recognized as a California Distinguished School and continues to be rated as one of the best schools in California.

As the new Principal, I plan to continue many of the traditions that make Wittmann a special place for our learning community. I have worked in education for over 13 years and understand the importance of creating an atmosphere where all community stakeholders including staff, students, parents and alumni, can have a positive connection to their school.

Student Achievement is a high priority, but at Wittmann our focus is to create well-rounded students who are intelligent, adaptable and thoughtful of others. Our school wide "Peacebuilders" program promotes peaceful interactions amongst staff and students through a positive behavior sys-



tem. Our staff members use a system of Praise Notes, Peace Preferrals, and Peacebuilders classroom curriculum to reinforce and encourage positive student behavior.

Beyond our rigorous core curricula, Arts education is supported through Wittmann's Beginning and Advanced Bands, Art 4 Kids, weekly Music Rotation Classes, Spring Musical, and abundant field trips to performances at the nearby Cerritos Performing Arts Center. Health education is buttressed by weekly standards-based physical education classes, lunchtime sports tournaments, as well as our annual 'Jump-a-thon' and 'Wittmann Olympics' events.

Wittmann is a school that supports and encourages the involvement of all school stakeholders. The

Wittmann Education Foundation supports our school by funding programs to enhance the learning experience for children such as music and technology. This year our Foundation purchased 64 new laptop computers for students and staff to use in the classroom. Our PTA supports our school by fundraising for student activities, events, and educational materials. Both the Foundation and PTA are a special part of our school and allow our staff

to introduce new and exciting experiences for our students. Our staff and parent groups work closely together to create a unified vision for success and truly embody that together, "We are Wittmann!"



MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Carmenita Middle School

13435 E 166th Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-4405

Principal – Kester Song



Carmenita Middle School (CMS) is an award winning middle school that continues to serve an important role in our community. Our students represent a diversity that reflects our local and larger communities. CMS offers a comprehensive middle school program that supports the whole child. Our faculty and staff are prepared to teach, support, engage and encourage our students intellectually,

emotionally, socially, and physically. In

the past, CMS has been recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School, California Distinguished School, California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll recipient and the California School Board Association's Golden Bell Award recipient for our Distinguished Scholars Program. This year, CMS was once again named a California Business for Education Excellence Scholar School and we received the National and California Schools to Watch designation to serve as a national model of a high achieving middle school.

CMS students also understand that their successful progress is the most important goal we have. In addition to the support our students receive from their teachers, their parents, and our staff, CMS students are taught to take ownership of their own progress. Our students read their own assessment data, chart their individual progress, and set goals based on data. As we transition into the California Common Core Standards, the Next Generation Science Standards, and the Smarter Balanced Assessments, we are confident that our students will be prepared for success.



CMS is proud to have a successful and unique program called the Distinguished Scholars Program (DSP). Our DSP was awarded the Golden Bell Award in 2011 as a model middle school program. All 7th and 8th grade students have the opportunity to apply and be part of our innovative and successful DSP. The Program has three overarching goals in support of our school's mission.

- Our first goal is to increase desire and passion for learning. Student's excitement and zeal for the program is displayed through their willingness to go "above and beyond" in a specific content area.

• Our second goal for the DSP is to prepare students for rigorous high school college-preparatory curriculum. A very clear indication that we are meeting this goal is that most of the DS students are accepted into high school honors classes and upper-level math classes after they are promoted.

• Our third goal of the DSP is leadership development. Understanding the significance of community service is essential to the DS program. DS students are required to "give back" to the Carmenita community by leading other students. "Giving back" is done in a variety of ways, and can include tutoring, mentoring, and leading class discussions.

At CMS, we strongly believe that a healthy body produces a healthy mind. This belief led us to the creation of our enviable Cougar Health and Fitness Center. With the help of our CMS PTA, we raised the necessary funds to open our state of the art Fitness Center. In the Fitness Center, students learn to use fitness machines and technology to improve their physical fitness and produce a healthy body... which produces a healthy mind.



Fedde Middle School

21409 S Elaine Avenue, Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716

(562) 924-2309

Principal – Ricardo Lois



At Fedde International Studies Academy our goal is to educate global minded citizens by offering them a quality education relative to the 21st Century along with opportunities to apply their knowledge beyond the classroom and campus.

Our students are enrolled in seven classes, and every student has the opportunity to take two years of Spanish

language instruction. Access to a second language in middle school prepares students to further develop a second language in High School and beyond.

The use of technology as a learning and productivity tool is a critical component of students' educations more than ever. In addition to three computer laboratories on campus and several mobile labs, all classrooms are equipped with computers and

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all students complete at least one technology integrated assignment per class each Semester.

At Fedde we realize not every learner is the same, but every student is capable of growing academically and deserves a high quality education. Our school provides opportunities for all learners, including A.V.I.D., after-school intervention, extended learning time during Saturday School, the Global Scholars Honors Pre-University Program, and the Rising Stars Mentoring Program.

Middle school is a time for students to explore extra-curricular activities and put their knowledge to work outside the traditional classroom. Fedde has a wide-range of opportunities for the future mathematician, environmentalist, engineer, musician, writer, or T.V. producer to get a start on their career. Our elective offerings include band, journalism, environmental science, and Fedde Television. As for our Math, Science, Mock Trial, and History teams, they were recognized in local and State competitions last year with medals and top honors, and



we look forward to their continued success this school year.

The I.C.E.S. After-School program free of charge, which provides students tutoring, intra-mural sports, electronic music production, environmental club, STEM projects, and other activities. Our campus is home to a state of the art sports complex which has football, soccer, baseball, and softball fields, which hosts Middle School Sports competitions during the year and are used by P.E. classes during the day.

We realize that life can present challenges for any family, and the Fedde Community Resource Center is in place to help our community. If your student hits a bump in the road during middle school, Fedde International Studies has the resources to get them back on the path to success. We are hosts to several counseling agencies that are available to families during school hours and beyond. The resource center is also home to G.E.D courses in Spanish, parent education workshops, and much more.

Haskell Middle School

11525 Del Amo Blvd, Cerritos, Ca 90703

(562) 860-6529

Principal – Camille Lewis



A Commitment to Excellence!

Welcome to the Haskell Academy of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), home of the Mustangs. Haskell STEM Academy is the first Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics magnet middle school in ABC Unified School District.

Haskell STEM

Academy is a high achieving magnet middle school that is dedicated to the academic excellence, college and career readiness, and social-emotional growth of our students. The staff and administration provide a safe, supportive, and caring environment that celebrates cultural diversity and nurtures individual differences through respect, collaboration, and communication. We value parents and community members as partners in education. Our goals are to develop 21st century academic skills and socially successful students in preparation for high school and post-secondary education and careers. We prepare our students to become life-long learners and responsible, productive citizens in our diverse society. We are proud to offer a variety of programs to meet the needs and aspirations of all our students.

STEM and Technology for the 21st Century We are pleased



to introduce our new Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics magnet program. Haskell STEM Academy offers a fully inclusive, school-wide STEM program. Haskell students will be immersed in an integrated, cross-curricular approach to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics that is student centered, project oriented, and product based. Built upon a strong foundation in basic language and math proficiencies, students will become fluent and proficient in:

- Scientific Literacies: the knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts and processes required in 21st century society
- Technological Literacies : the knowledge of what technology is, how it works, purposes it serves, and ways it can be used.

• Information Literacies: the ability to evaluate information across a range of media; locate, synthesize, and utilize it effectively.

The "SmartLab"

The stand alone "SmartLab" is richly provisioned with state of the art technology and STEM equipment systems. Students have access to over 230 Learning Launchers centered around eight technology systems and core competencies: Alternative and Renewable Energy, Computer Graphics, Science and Data Acquisition, Mechanics and Structures, Multimedia Design/Computer Aided Publishing, Robotics and Control Technol-

ogy, and Circuitry and Computer Simulation. Students explore and investigate the science and technology behind wind, solar, and hydrogen energy. They utilize Web based programs and applications such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, 3D Graphics Studio, Stop Motion Animation software, Microsoft Flight Simulator with USB flight yoke, West Point Bridge Designer, Lego NXT Robot Control Software, and Sim City software (urban planning). In preparation for the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), students will also be engaged in STEM Science investigations in their Science classes, like CSI Chemistry Lab, Recycled Dragsters, Paper Roller Coaster Lab and more. Students will record all project work from start to finish in an "ePortfolio."

Honors Program Honors classes and coursework are offered in all core subjects for both 7th and 8th grade students in Math (Advanced Math), English/Language Arts, History/Social Sciences, and Science. In addition, we offer Spanish I, a high school level class.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) AVID is a college bound elective class/program designed to provide students with important college readiness skills, motivate them to seek a college education, and increase the participant's level of career awareness. Students work directly with college tutors, attend lectures by guest speakers, and visit a number of colleges and universities, both in person and via Skype. Students are

able to transition into high school AVID programs. A minimum GPA of 2.0 must be maintained. Applications and interviews are part of the acceptance process. We are proud to say that our AVID program is fully certified and we are looking forward to our eighth year as an official AVID school.

Performing Arts Programs Haskell's Performing Arts program includes beginning and advanced Band, Chorus, and Drama. Students are encouraged to develop and display their talents in a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment. Performances are scheduled throughout the year at a variety of venues. Students can also sign up to be a member of our outstanding drum line.

Extra-Curricular Activities Haskell offers a variety of after school sports programs for boys and girls including flag football, basketball, soccer, volleyball, cross country, and track and field. Cheer squad is also a popular activity on campus that students participate in to show their school spirit (subject to available sponsor). School organizations and clubs include CJSF (California Junior Scholarship Federation), ASB (Associated Student Body), Literary Club, and STEM Club.

Be a part of the Mustang success story! Follow us on Twitter @HaskellAcademy Like us on Facebook: Haskell STEM Academy.

Ross Middle School

17707 S Elaine Street, Artesia, CA 90701
(562) 924-8331

Principal – Ricardo Brown



State of the Art Technology

In November 2004, Ross Middle School became a federally funded Magnet School for Creative and Media Arts. All Ross students have the opportunity to display, perform and demonstrate what they have learned in Fine Arts, Theater Arts, Media Production, Literary and Musical Arts. In Fine Arts, students study Ceramics, Drawing, Art History, and Advanced Art. In Theater Arts, students learn drama and acting, stage production, and two of our most popular programs, Improvisation and Speech & Debate. All core academic teachers use state of the art technology and equipment to teach the California Common Core Standards in English, History, Science, Math, and Physical Education. Students demonstrate what they have learned by creating multimedia projects across the curriculum. In Video Production, students learn to film, edit, write and produce Public Service Announcements and promotional skits



for the K-ROSS morning broadcasts, which are televised LIVE daily to each classroom. Computer technology classes provide students the opportunity to create various projects using Excel, Word, Garage Band, Pages, Power Point, and Keynote. 2014-2015 will launch a new Mobile Device

Elective Class where students will learn to create and explore using iPads and Chrome Books.

Students in journalism learn digital photography, desktop publishing, create a web design yearbook, and manage a Journalism Facebook page.

Advanced Art Intervention Programs

When students need additional academic support to be successful, we offer a wide variety of intervention classes after school in Math, English, Science, and History. We also offer 10:1 Tutoring at both grade levels. Gateways Intervention Reading program and Reading Plus, programs designed to improve students' ability to read and comprehend, is offered to those students who struggle with reading comprehension. Accelerated Reader, a school wide reading program also

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used at several of our elementary school feeders, is incorporated into our English classes.

Honors Curriculum

Ross Academy offers Honors in the following subjects in both 7th and 8th grades - English, History, Science, and Advanced Math. These classes will challenge honor students to expand in the areas of reading, writing, analysis, public speaking and debate, critical thinking, and technology. Ross Middle School enjoys a collaborative partnership with Gahr High School's Honors Program with annual Vertical Team Meetings where student placement and instructional practices are discussed and analyzed.

PTA and School Site Council

Parents are an essential component of the success of our students. The Ross PTA is very supportive of all school programs, and works closely with the Associated Student Body (ASB) Student Leadership Class to sponsor school events such as dances and field trips. Student Site Council meets regularly throughout the school year and consists of parents, students, teachers, classified staff, and the Principal. The School Site Council is responsible for the development and approval of the Ross School Plan and Budget. Parents are

encouraged to become involved in the overall Ross Academy school endeavor, and joining our dynamic PTA and/or School Site Council is highly recommended.

Student Achievement

At Ross Middle School, we believe that our enriched learning opportunities combined with a strong California Common Core Standards curriculum and a dedicated and professional teaching staff will continue to increase student achievement and success. We cultivate a collaborative, educational culture through the development of high performing teaching teams. Our primary focus for our students is on personal growth as good citizens and academic achievement as well-rounded students.

Musical Department

Our award-winning Ross Musical Department, led by Mr. Jimmy Brink, offers musically inclined students opportunities rarely seen at a Middle School. The musical programs include Beginning and Intermediate Band, Advanced Band, Color Guard, Drum Line, Marching Band, and Choir. Color Guard, Drum Line, Marching Band, and Choir also are competitive teams that compete in various competitions throughout the school year.

Tetzlaff Middle School

12351 Del Amo Blvd, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 865-9539

Principal – Crechena Wise



The team of educators and parent community at Tetzlaff Middle School believes all students have the right to be in a position of choice as they make decisions for high school, college and beyond. We believe the role of the middle school is to provide students with a distinctive curriculum that is both

rigorous and relevant, in order to prepare students to meet the demands of Advanced Placement courses in high school. The building of a college bound culture begins before high school and persists throughout a student's academic career. Our mission statement at Tetzlaff is to prepare students for high school and beyond.

Tetzlaff Middle School is Los Angeles County's first Magnet Middle School to offer Pre-Advanced Placement (AP) courses for all students. We use SpringBoard, the College Board's pre-AP curriculum to support our theme based instruction. Students study core materials in greater detail and depth while increasing their critical thinking skills to better understand themselves. Pre AP rigor allows core teach-

ers to give standards based instruction in greater depth and detail with high expectations for student accountability and responsibility. The primary goal is to prepare our students for advanced placement course choices when they enter high school, which we believe will ensure their likeliness to enter college.

In 2013, Tetzlaff became the only middle school in the ABC Unified School District to be a recipient of the California Distinguished Schools Award.

Our school was also recognized as a National Demonstration School for SpringBoard, the CollegeBoard's Pre-AP program and a National School to Watch by the California League of Middle Schools. In

addition to these honors, we were also named an Honor Roll School by the

California Business for Education Excellence for our outstanding academic program and growth. Tetzlaff students have shown that high expectations and rigorous instruction leads to student achievement. Our students have made more than a fifty-point increase on the California Standards test, from 793 to 845 in three years. In addition, we pride ourselves on being the safest middle school in district.



HIGH SCHOOLS

Artesia High School

12108 E. Del Amo Blvd, Lakewood, CA 90715

(562) 926-5566, ext 21600

Principal – Sergio Garcia



Artesia High School Accelerated Learning magnet is committed to bridging the achievement gap for all students. The goal at Artesia High School is to provide students with a challenging and rigorous curriculum in a student-centered environment. Our current API score stands at 788 and for the first time in our school's history we were recognized as a California Distinguished School.

Educational consultants regularly provide professional development for teachers and administrators. Teaching professionals are dedicated to providing a comprehensive curriculum driven by the Common Core that incorporates 21st century skills in order to prepare students for post-graduate life.

With additional grade-level counselors, the counseling team endlessly strives to educate, develop community, and promote partnerships with students, alumni, faculty, employers and members of the college community. Extracurricular programs, such as field trips, and guest speakers encourage students to work hard to make their dreams a reality.

Artesia High School offers a well-balanced academic and extracurricular learning environment. Our AP offerings have increased from 11 courses to 15 courses. We have also added two Project Lead the Way (PLTW) pathways in Engineering and Biomedical. Our Renaissance and Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) programs are leadership-building programs that focus on academic achievement and inspire all students to reach higher levels of success. Demanding and en-

gaging curriculum offers our students a learning environment that is challenging and well rounded. Our sports programs promote leadership and academics as well as skill development. Artesia also features the Visual and Performing Arts Academy (VAPA) and the Math, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Academy. In addition, the Southeast Regional Occupational Program has partnered with Artesia High School and is instrumental in providing career pathways for students interested in pharmacy and mental health fields. Academic curriculum and project-based learning provide students with tool to prepare for their future.

Artesia High School's unique "no fail" Math Department has an intense focus on meeting defined math benchmarks. The math department provides support for all students by offering tutoring sessions before, during and after school. The key to the program is flexibility and alternative, by offering multiple learning opportunities. As a result, more and more students are qualified for higher-level math courses each successive year.

Our award winning band program boasts dedicated and talented marching and concert musicians. The band not only performs at football games, field shows, pep rallies parades and community events, but festivals throughout the year. The instrumental music program not builds the musicianship skills of its students but also engages them in the appreciation, theory and composition.

We look forward to the 2014-2015 school year and to continue to celebrate the successes of Artesia High School students.



Cerritos High School

12500 E 183rd Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-5566, ext. 21800

Principal – Pat Walker



I am so very proud to be starting my first year as the Cerritos High School Principal. Essentially, this is my "freshman" year--so, like many of our new students (freshmen and others)--I'm a little nervous and I've got much to learn about our wonderful school. Of course, much of our school's reputation is already well known and we can be proud to boast of some of the finest academic, arts, and athletic programs in the nation.

Indeed, in their most recent high school rankings, U.S. News and World Report listed Cerritos High School in the top 300 public high schools in the nation; the same publication

touts our school as the 56th ranked school in the state of California. Beyond the classroom, CHS is proud of it's nationally ranked Model United Nations (MUN) program (ranked top 5 nationally), our 'Regiment of Gold' Marching Band (2A State Champions), as well as our Cheerleading (National Champions) and Dance and Drill Team (National Champions). Our athletes, too, excel in our many sports venues and have accrued 27 CIF titles.

Cerritos High School takes pride in educating the "whole child". In addition to our rigorous curricula, CHS promotes a "Character Counts" program to enhance students' growth in personal character. We believe that the 'CHS' of Cerritos High

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School also stands for Character, Honor, and Service. Beyond the academic growth we seek this school year, we will also strive to strengthen our Character, represent our school with Honor, and find ways to Serve others within our school and our community. Committing to growth in those areas will continue to make our school—CHS—a truly great one.

At Cerritos High School, we know that a strong partnership between home and school will assuredly propel our students to be the best that they can be—academically and socially. Our doors are open to our parents! We need your time, we value your monetary contributions, and we seek your input. By work-

ing together, we will ensure a successful and productive school year for everyone.

While I hope this is the first of many years for me at Cerritos High School, we all know that a student's high school experience goes by very quickly. That being said, I encourage all of our students to enrich the short time you have here by getting involved in the many teams, clubs, and organizations we have on campus. By getting involved, you will empower yourself to make a positive impact at Cerritos High School. Indeed, the 2014-15 school year provides a new beginning for all of us... let's join in together to make it the best year ever!

Gahr High School

11111 Artesia Blvd, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-5566, ext. 22000

Principal – Gina Zietlow



STEAM Magnet School
Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math-

Gahr High STEAM Magnet School is a wonderful place for students to learn and grow. The core of our campus is centered on student learning and preparation for college and career upon graduation. With a dedicated and caring staff, Gahr High is able to provide many programs and opportunities for all students to be actively engaged with their learning, school, and community.

Our STEAM focus has specializations for students in Bio-medical Sciences, Engineering, and Arts Technology. The STEAM pathways are offered to increase opportunities for our students as they explore future career options.

Our STEAM focus is further supported by academic offerings and support available to ensure that all students have opportunities to prepare for college and university experiences after high school. Our comprehensive Advanced Placement (AP)



Pathway offers options for learning in a wide array of academic disciplines, allowing our students to best meet their learning interests and support their career exploration.

In addition, our students have academic support through programs designed to provide assistance for students as they experience the demands and expectations of our challenging curriculum.

A hallmark of the Gahr High campus are the numerous opportunities students have to participate in extra-curricular programs. These programs provide students with opportunities to put into practice the inquiry, collaboration, and organizational skills learned within their school day. Students have opportunities through both our Activities and Academic programs to showcase their talents and explore their interests.

Finally, Gahr High has a comprehensive Athletic Program which seeks to provide all students with opportunities to get involved and be part of a team. Each athletic team works to prepare our student athletes to compete at their best with a philosophy that encourages students to play to the end and play with character.

Whitney High School

16800 Shoemaker Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-5566, ext. 22300

Principal – Dr. Rhonda Buss



Whitney High School (WHS) provides an academically challenging educational program for college-bound students. The staff is highly committed to a research-based, results-driven, instructional program to ensure all students achieve academic excellence, while they successfully develop socially and emotionally. Students are provided with a rigorous curriculum within a personalized learning and working environment. As a result,



our school enjoys a rich history of academic excellence and is recognized as one of the top performing schools in the state of California, and the nation. Whitney has also been recognized as a California Distinguished School on seven occasions and received the National Blue Ribbon Schools award four times. In addition, WHS has consistently been featured in Newsweek and US News and World Report's annual lists of top performing schools. This summer, Newsweek ranked Whitney as the #1 high school in California.

Whitney's vision is to develop intrinsically motivated, collab-

orative learners who approach their education purposefully and creatively by taking ownership of their learning to become responsible, innovative global citizens. Our vision supports the belief that a student's education must be meaningful and personal. With this in mind, our desire is for all students to discover their "element," a term coined by Sir Ken Robinson, as the place where a person's interests and strengths meet. To support students in this endeavor, Whitney's Student Advisors have designed grade-level activities that include interest and strength-based inventories, and a Personalized Education Plan (PEP) for our students. Furthermore, core academic departments have developed curriculum and lessons that personalize learning to help students discover their "element." As a result, a number of students utilize their time during the summer months as an opportunity to learn more about the profession to which they aspire, engage in a variety of community service projects, and participate in internships related to their future career choices.

Whitney High School's mission is to prepare students to be accepted, and successful, at their best-match colleges or universities. Once students have determined their "element," our staff works closely with students and their families to identify and pursue the most appropriate college or university for each student's unique interests and needs. Additionally, to ensure graduating students are not deterred financially from attending their best-match schools, we encourage and help our students apply for scholarships. In fact, our staff assisted our 2014 seniors attain over 10 million dollars in scholarships for undergraduate study.

Moreover, students at WHS have the opportunity to discover their individual strengths and participate in extra-curricular activities that are meaningful to them. With this in mind, Whitney High School offers approximately 35 clubs/service organizations along with opportunities for students to participate in drama, music, and sports programs throughout the year.

Our parent community plays an integral role in Whitney's success. Due to our diverse student population, our school welcomes a variety of parent groups. These groups include the Chinese Parents' Association, Korean Parents' Association, Filipino Parents' Support Group, Latino Parents' Association, Indian Parents' Association, and the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA). The Whitney Foundation for Educational Excellence (WFEE) is the largest group of active parents on our campus and includes the presidents and representatives from each parent group.

Whitney High School has exceptional students, dedicated staff members, and a supportive network of families and stakeholders. Our school maintains a rigorous and relevant college-preparatory environment while preserving the approachable and intimate atmosphere of a small campus. We provide our students with a variety of learning experiences both in and out of the traditional classroom setting. With this unique and purposeful approach, our students develop the strong foundational skills necessary for them to achieve tremendous success in college/university, and their future career choice.

Tracy High School

12222 Cuesta Drive , Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-5566, ext. 22200

Principal – Jeff Green



Tracy High School is the ABC Unified School District's alternative/continuation educational program for secondary school students. Named a Model Continuation School in 2002, THS is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and offers core academic programs and a personal attention to students who are behind in credits and at risk

of not graduating with their graduating class.

THS classes focus on the courses, and make-up courses required for graduation. Small class sizes and a friendly, peaceful campus environment encourages student achievement, cooperation and success.

Counseling emphasis is placed on academics as well as a philosophy that everyone deserves a second chance. THS is the only high school in the District with an Early College Program in collaboration with Cerritos College providing students college-level vocational/technical courses for both high school and college-level credit.

Special classes, taught by ROP (Regional Occupational Program) and ABCUSD Adult School faculty also focus on vocati-

onal/technical courses such as Computer Basics, Hospital Occupations and Student and the Law.

Tracy's few extra-curricular activities are similar to traditional high schools with the exception of athletics and performing arts. Students (and parents) enjoy events such as Grad Night, Senior Prom, ABCUSD Art Show, Back to School Night and Open House as well as Student of the Month and Perfect Attendance awards.

Unique to the District, every graduating student is eligible for scholarship money (up to \$800) through the school's Clara Mae Tracy Foundation (based on post-secondary school enrollment).

TEEN PARENT/CAL-SAFE

The Teen Parent Program (TPP) is open to AB CUSD students who are expecting a child and/or are already parenting. Classes teach parenting skills, prenatal health and childbirth. A state-funded Infant Center is available to most participating students and is staffed by professional child-care providers as well as community and student volunteers.

AFTERNOON HIGH SCHOOL

This option is offered to Tracy High School students from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and is located

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at the Cabrillo Lane campus on Del Amo Blvd. Behavior modification such as conflict resolution, study skills, responsible decision making skills and job readiness are emphasized. Students with serious attendance problems or social/emotional issues may voluntarily transfer to this program and/or involuntarily be transferred to this program.

10th Grade Opportunity

The CA Ed Code restricts continuation education to students 16 years old or older. For students under the age of 16, Tracy offers 10th Grade Opportunity. This program is open to 10th grade students who are under 16 years of age and not eligible for continuation high school enrollment. Upon a counselor's recommendation, students take classes during the regular schedule of classes. Students must be at least 30 credits behind in order to

be considered and all must be referred by their home school. A mandatory orientation is required before being admitted.

THE ABC SECONDARY SCHOOL/Independent Study

Independent Study is a voluntary educational alternative. It is a means of individualizing an educational learning plan for students 7th - 12th grade whose needs may best be met through study outside the regular classroom setting. Short-Term Independent Study is an educational alternative for students who will have planned absences of five days or more. The Independent Study Agreement must be entered into before the student starts his/her extended absence. Elementary students should consult with their Principals; and middle and high school students should consult with their counselor. For more information call Ms. Charlene De-Jong (clerk) or Mr. Felipe Vela (counselor) at 562-229-7768.

ABC Adult School

12254 Cuesta, Cerritos, CA 90703

(562) 926-5566, ext. 25011

Principal – Dr. Pao-Ling Guo



ABC Adult School - Celebrating 50 Years of Quality Services in Adult Education

Welcome back to a new school year!

ABC Adult School is a place where student achievement is at the forefront of every decision. The Mission of the ABC Adult School is to improve the quality of life by providing our diverse community with meaningful learning opportunities to fulfill personal, educational, and workplace goals through lifelong learning.

ABC Adult School takes great pride in our long history of providing low-cost, easy-to-access, high quality education and training. As a WASC Accredited school, ABC Adult School is a diverse community with over 26 cultural groups and languages shared by students on campus.

You are about to become part of the long and distinguished tradition that ABC Adult School has worked toward over the last fifty years. Whether you are seeking to improve your career potential, getting your high school diploma, shaping your English skills, or enrich your quality of life through adult education, ABC Adult School is the right choice for you.

ABC Adult School served 25,662 duplicated and 10,646 unduplicated students last school year and is ready to support you in your "Learning for Life" efforts. Please visit school website: www.abcadultschool.edu and register now!

ABC Adult School is committed to engaging in active partnerships with the industry to strengthen our programs and to meet the current business and workforce needs. We entered into Memorandum of Agreement with City of Artesia, Cerritos, and Hawaiian Gardens, and provided internships with the following groups: Pioneer Medical Group, Dr. Soo Woong Kang, Dr. Helene Saad, Pro Health Partners, Lakewood Primary Care, Southern California Kaiser Permanente, West Coast Dialysis Center, CVS/pharmacy, Walgreens, and CareMore Health

Plan. It is our goal to emerge stronger, more flexible, and better equipped courses to generate the knowledge and innovations the students need now more than ever.

As a diverse, comprehensive adult school, ABC Adult School provides our communities with diverse options in ten state approved course areas. We are committed to high instructional quality, student-driven program development that is meeting the express needs of our community. Just last year, ABC Adult School added several exciting new courses: such as new Pharmacy Technician Program, new Movie Animation Program, new Mac Lab, new AutoCAD, Inventor class, new computer-aided drafting program, new Compass Odyssey courses for High School Diploma Program, new Authorized Testing Center for Microsoft, Adobe tests and QuickBooks. The newest ones coming in Fall 2011 are SB 1626, Public School Safety/Security training, Security Officer training, and many new Fee Based Classes.

The Career Technical Education Center at ABC Adult School exists to train students, not just for jobs, but careers. The center provides a job developer with 14 career paths that lead to Industry Certification in several areas including Medical Assisting, Medical Insurance Specialist, Computer Repair/IT Technician, Office Assistant, Administrative Assistant, Web Design, Graphic Design, Accounting Clerk, Pharmacy Technician, Law Enforcement, and Video Production. Industry Certification gives our students a leg up when searching for that perfect job.

So if you're looking to train for a career, update your existing skills, improve your English, get your high school diploma, become a better parent, or even explore new life-long learning opportunities, give ABC Adult School a look. All the information you need to start is on our web site: www.abcadultschool.edu.

We are very excited about 2011-12 school year and look forward to seeing you!

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