

FREE

School News

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Covering the Burbank Unified School District



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April 2016

Edison Elementary Students Celebrating Read Across America



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Covering the
BURBANK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher

We are delighted to begin publishing the excellence from the Burbank Unified School District. We will publish August, October, December, February and April. In addition to the hard copies, the publication will be posted on our web site for our online readers.

In this issue, Superintendent Hill shares with you the District's focus on education from cradle to career. Charlene Tabet, Board President, understands first hand the value of a Burbank Unified education being a product of the the District. The constant thread throughout the school articles is the focus on



providing a positive environment for learning. This is an exciting time to be a student with the continual advancements in technology in the classroom. It is also a challenging time for teachers to keep up with the changes.

Be sure to enter our Word Search Contests on pages 11 and 14. (All ages may enter so have fun as a family.) The winners will be notified via email and we will post their names in the next issue.

Our next issue will be August 24 in time for the new school year.

Have a fun summer!



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Homeland: Poetry in Performance



In February, Muir Middle School students performed “HOMELAND: Poetry in Performance” for parents and community members who were able to witness arts education at work in our Burbank public schools as 48 English Language Learning students took to the stage to perform poetry that they collectively wrote, incorporating what they remember, hope for, or worry about from their native countries.

“Homeland: Poetry in Performance” was the culmination of a 10-week arts integration project in an English class for English Language Learners. Some of these students arrived in the U.S. just two months ago and others have been here for a few years. The students represented more than a dozen countries including Armenia, Brazil, France, Thailand, the Czech Republic, Russia, and Saudi Arabia.

The Burbank Arts for All Foundation invested in this program a few times over the years and helped the District make this performance a reality.

Homeland came together as Kate Randolph – a Teaching Artist who partners with English teachers to teach a unit of poetry using theater techniques, where students learn to stand, speak, and explore why poets choose the language they use in their poems – worked with Muir teachers Jessica Wertlieb and James Koontz to design this unique experience to help these students learn English language standards, perform poetry, and write their own poetry about their homeland. This culminated in a performance where they take the stage, show command of the English language, and use their newly found confidence to share their hopes and dreams with an audience.



SUPERINTENDENT



Matt Hill
Superintendent

From Cradle to Career

At the Burbank Unified School District (BUSD) we focus on providing a quality education to our students via our infant program all the way through our Adult School.

For many families, Horace Mann Child Development Center provides their first experience with BUSD. Children enrolled in the preschool program benefit from an educational experience provided by high-quality certificated teachers and classroom aides who are kind and caring. The preschool curriculum is inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach, which focuses on exploration and discovery via the students' expressed interests.

Currently, 95% of BUSD students are graduating within four years; however, the community and employees of Burbank will not be satisfied until we ensure 100% of our students graduate. A high school diploma is just the beginning for our students. That is why BUSD is working strategically with local, regional, and national communities to enhance, expand, and support educational programs that prepare students for a global, technical, creative, and innovative economy.

Students and adults have an opportunity to continue developing their skills at the Burbank Adult School (BAS). The BAS is currently expanding career pathways in the fields of health science and medical technology, including the possibility of offering a Licensed Vocational Nurse program. Another area being explored is entrepreneurship and self-employment. This may include an emphasis on marketing and social media.

As you can see, Burbank Unified School District is a great place for students to realize their highest potential!

1900 West Olive Avenue • Burbank, CA 91506
818-729-4400
www.burbankusd.org

BOARD OF EDUCATION



Charlene Tabet
President

A Very Special Place

Growing up and attending school in Burbank, my father constantly reminded me that he sent me to some of the best schools in the country and that I was a lucky girl. He never faltered with this message. I grew up with a great love for the school district and all it had to offer. When I become a mother, I insisted that my children also go through Burbank schools and they too were fortunate enough to obtain an outstanding education.

After three years on the Board of Education, I continue to believe that Burbank is a very special place and that we have the best school district around. We have an amazing Superintendent in Matt Hill, dedicated administrators, extremely qualified Certificated and Classified employees, and very active parents. It is the perfect recipe for a great education. I'm very fortunate to be a part of the Burbank Unified School District. Thank you, Dad!



Charlene Tabet
President

Board of Education



Larry Applebaum
Vice President



Steve Ferguson
Clerk



Dr. Armond Aghakhanian
Member



Dr. Roberta Reynolds
Member

Thank you for reading *School News*.

Have a fun summer and remember to include the library in your activity choices!

Disney *Elementary School*

1220 W. Orange Grove Ave., Burbank, CA 91506 • 818/558-5385



Molly Hwang
Principal

Positive and Challenging Environment

Walt Disney Elementary School provides students with a positive and challenging learning environment, which empowers them to become responsible, caring, and productive citizens. We provide instruction in English, as well as Spanish in our Dual Immersion program. Our Common Core curriculum is supported and enhanced with special programs such as two music teachers,

a dance instructor, a media technologist and a physical education teacher.

Walt Disney's diversity is our strength. Our culturally and economically diverse school community provides an opportunity for our students to learn to embrace and respect each other. As the smallest Title I school in Burbank, we have a strong home-school connection, active PTA, and booster club. Parents are encouraged to be active members of our school community to increase student success.

Through our participation as an "Arts for All" District, Walt Disney Elementary School has incorporated standards-based dance, music, and visual arts education in our daily curriculum. Disney students participate in

community activities such as the PTA Reflections Contest, Burbank Art Expo, Spring Dance, Young Story Tellers, Multi-Cultural Night, and Disney Draws.

Walt Disney students build strong academic and social skills within a safe and caring community. Disney students leave as confident, successful scholars who see the beauty in diversity and are prepared to "Soar to Success."



Edison *Elementary School*

2110 W. Chestnut St., Burbank, CA 91506 • 818/558-4644



Laura Flosi
Principal

The Brightest School in Town

Edison Elementary School is a hidden treasure in Burbank. Located just one block off a main thoroughfare, our school looks like it might have when it opened in 1940. While the city has progressed with the times, our school maintains much of the charm of its inception. We have a nice mix of students: Our

predominant demographics are 43% White and 37% Hispanic, with the additional 20% divided between Filipino, Asian, and African American. We have an excellent staff, which is complimented by the talents that our parents bring to our school.

Through our Leadership Team, SSC (School Site Council), ELAC (English Language Advisory Council), PTA, and our Booster Club, we assess what we need and brainstorm ways to achieve that as a group. Our efforts provide a music teacher, visual art consultant, funds for classroom supplies, field trips for every class, a variety show, and a guidance advisor, to name just a few.



Our school has many opportunities to involve the entire family at events such as the Spring Dance, Holiday Show, Halloween Parade, Family Math Night, School Picnic, Carnival and our Rockin' for Edison Show!

We encourage parent involvement and we know that by working together we really do make a difference! As our motto says, "*We are the brightest school in town!*"

Emerson *Elementary School*

720 E. Cypress Ave., Burbank, CA 91501 • 818/558-5419



Jennifer Kaitz
Principal

Welcoming Learning Environment

Emerson Elementary is home to a diverse student population. Nearly half of our 605 students speak two languages with an impressive 24 languages represented! The most predominant second language is Armenian. Emerson is a Collaborative Learning Community (CLC) school which provides a full complement of Special Education services to 59 students.

Twenty-two of Emerson's fourth and fifth grade students are identified as gifted and participate in the GATE

program. Emerson has an outstanding English Language Development program which last year resulted in the reclassification of 41 English Learners in grades 1 through 5. This diversity of academic levels and languages creates an exciting multicultural learning environment. Our teachers have successfully taken on the challenges of the shift to the California State Standards and continue to improve and expand their instructional strategies to drive instruction.

Emerson staff, students, and parents all work together to provide a safe, positive, and welcoming learning environment for all!



Harte *Elementary School*

3200 W. Jeffries Ave., Burbank, CA 91505 • 818/558-5533



Martha Walter
Principal

True Neighborhood School

Bret Harte Elementary School is a true neighborhood school which is celebrating its 75th year of educating children in Burbank. One of eleven elementary schools in the District, Bret Harte Elementary currently has 611 students in kindergarten through fifth grades. The campus also hosts the District's Special Education Preschool Program, which has been integrated into the operations and

activities of the K-5 program. Additionally, the District's before- and after- school child care, and the Boys & Girls Club after school programs keep our campus busy until early evening every school day.

Twenty-three teachers serve our K-5 students. Additional services are provided to students by one full-time Special Education teacher who provides services to 25 students on a pull-out basis. The students are also supported by a School Psychologist, Speech Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist, and a Behavior Interventionist. A full-time Curriculum Specialist is a valued part of the administrative team who provides guidance and direction to teachers regarding issues of assessments, training, and textbooks. We also have a full-time Media Tech who provides support to students and teachers in our computer lab and classrooms. Our large and sunny library is staffed daily and every class visits once a week.

Additionally, Bret Harte has a classroom dedicated to our vocal music program and we have a large auditorium which has recently been updated. All Bret Harte students receive instruction in Physical Exercise, in addition to having weekly library time and time in the computer lab.



Jefferson Elementary School

1900 N. Sixth St., Burbank, CA 91504 • 818/558-4635



Sandra DeBarros
Principal

Genius Hour

If you're working on something exciting, that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed. The vision pulls you. —Steve Jobs.

This is exactly the pull that Jefferson students are experiencing during Genius Hour. Fourth and fifth grade teachers at Jefferson Elementary School have followed the lead of Curriculum Specialist, Tish Reed, and incorporated "Genius Hour" in their classrooms. Genius Hour is a concept that encourages students to explore their own passions and creativity through exploration in the classroom. For one hour a week, students participate in research



and create projects to present to their classmates in any area that they feel passionate about. These "passion projects" range from designing a new and improved skateboard, learning about a famous painter and painting in that style, or learning how to operate a sewing machine and designing and sewing a pillow.

One student, Jack Eaton, was interested in designing and building a robot. Jack researched the components that he would need and created a remote controlled robot during his first Genius Hour. Jefferson students are growing, collaborating, engineering, thinking critically, and enjoying this chance to display their creativity.

McKinley Elementary School

349 W. Valencia Ave., Burbank, CA 91506 • 818/558-5477



Liz Costella
Principal

High Achievement Standards

McKinley Elementary School is one of Burbank's oldest elementary schools, opening in 1926. Our rich culture and diverse community is highlighted in our educational programs, including Transitional Kindergarten, Collaborative Learning Classrooms, and Dual Immersion. McKinley's PTA, Hablemos (English Learners Advisory Council), and site staff work together to enrich the community through Literacy and Math Nights, a Community Fair, PTA Family Nights, and the Student Council's Family Breakfast.

We pride ourselves in providing our students with many academic opportunities along with enrichment experiences. Each month we have a schoolwide artist and composer, which inspires classroom art and PTA's McKinley Art Project. Students participate in weekly music from TK-5th grade and have the opportunity to participate in our free afterschool PTA clubs including Garden, Science, American Sign Language, and Hip Hop.

Our community's mission is to match the highest potential of each child to our state's high achievement standards, in a safe and caring school environment.



Miller *Elementary School*

720 E. Providencia Ave., Burbank, CA 91501 • 818/558-5460



Judy Hession
Principal

Confident and Prepared Scholars

Joaquin Miller Elementary School is committed to building a safe and caring learning environment for our students, parents, and community. It is an environment in which students' gifts are celebrated and extended through a rigorous standards-based curriculum, and where all students recognize themselves as valuable, responsible citizens in a

diverse global society. Miller is rich with a variety of cultures and languages. More than 20 different languages are spoken.

Over the years, Miller Elementary School's academic growth has increased by leaps and bounds as a result of the stakeholders working together. In 2014, we were named a California Distinguished School as well as an Exemplary Arts Education School.

Our PTA and Team Jaguar Booster Club donated over 4,165 volunteer hours to our school last year. These two groups continue to support our instructional program by providing activities and assemblies that are tied directly to the curriculum. We are extremely proud of our growing theatre arts

program and look forward to expanding it.

Miller staff members continually go above and beyond their daily responsibilities as educators to provide our students with continued opportunities to explore and challenge themselves. We are proud that Miller's students leave our school as confident and prepared scholars.



Providencia *Elementary School*

1919 N. Ontario St., Burbank, CA 91505 • 818/558-5470



Jennifer Culbertson
Principal

Collaboration

Providencia Elementary School is a place where parents, teachers, staff, and members of the community work collaboratively to provide a secure, supportive, and enriched environment for all students. At Providencia students benefit from a high-quality instructional program that focuses on academic achievement while emphasizing the importance of character development, citizenship, and an appreciation for the arts.

In 2011, Providencia was the first elementary school in Burbank to provide weekly music instruction for all K-5 students. In addition we are the only elementary school

that has an instrumental program where our 4th and 5th grade students self-select either the violin or the cello and have the opportunity to participate in an after school orchestra. In the past five years, our comprehensive and sequential music program has emerged as the beacon of our arts program and is a shining example of what a small community can create when they work together. In addition to our strong music program, Providencia students are regularly engaged in high-quality visual arts, music, and dance instruction. Art Day, Family Art Night, Art Gallery Night, Concerts, Theater Productions, Artist In Residencies, Field Trips, and the Spring Dance are all yearly traditions that allow our students and families to come together to celebrate and appreciate the arts.



Providencia teachers show their passion for the arts by participating in voluntary professional development opportunities from a variety of local art institutions such as the Getty, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Gene Autry Museum, the Music Center, and much more.

Roosevelt *Elementary School*

850 N. Cordova St., Burbank, CA 91505 • 818/558-4668



**Dr. Jennifer
Meglemre**
Principal

We Can Achieve Our Goals

At Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School, we believe that when we set our minds to it, we can achieve our goals. Our mission is to prepare all students to be successful in the 21st century through immersion in a community of high expectations and a nurturing environment. We welcome parents to be active partners in their child's education. The feeling of community on campus is palpable. Roosevelt teachers believe in the importance of a student-centered approach to education. Our highly qualified staff is committed to academic excellence which is demonstrated and delivered every day in our classrooms. The Roosevelt staff prides itself in making sure that all students are continually challenged to meet grade level standards. Students' various strengths and interests are developed through weekly music classes, time in the computer lab and library, integrated arts lessons, ceramics projects, lunch clubs, and after school enrichment classes.



Stevenson *Elementary School*

3333 Oak St., Burbank, CA 91505 • 818/558-5522



**Christina
Desiderio**
Principal

Friendly, Helpful and Respectful

The mission of Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary School is to ensure the learning success of all of our students. We do this by developing and maintaining relationships, creating a positive environment, and integrating the arts.

Relationships: There is a close relationship between teachers, parents, and the surrounding community at Stevenson. We have a strong home-school connection, active Parent Teacher Association (PTA), and Families for Stevenson (FFS) Booster Association. Over 3,500 volunteer hours were donated to our children last year by parents and community members. PTA membership is close to 90%. Parents attend our Monday morning school-wide assemblies.

Positive Environment: Our motto is "Stevenson is Friendly, Helpful and Respectful." We were the first school

in BUSD to place Buddy Benches on our campus. These benches are a safe place for students to go when they want to make a friend or talk to someone. The Arts: Our core curriculum is supported and enhanced by the arts. We believe that exposure and participation in the arts disciplines strengthens a child's academic growth and development as an individual.



Washington *Elementary School*

2322 N. Lincoln St., Burbank, CA 91504 • 818/558-5550



Brandi Young
Principal

Meeting the Needs of All Learners

George Washington Elementary educates 437 students in Pre-Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten through the 5th grade, and is the only school in Burbank Unified that has designated special day classes for both deaf and hard of hearing students and mild to moderate students with autism. In fact, there are five classes that strictly focus on supporting their academic,

social/emotional, language and behavioral needs.

Teachers collaborate to create inspiring lessons and intervention programs, provide ELD instruction, enhance GATE, and differentiate lessons to meet the needs of all learners. Teachers and staff work tirelessly to provide an engaging and rigorous learning environment for students. They spend countless hours writing grants resulting in special cultural field trips, arts education, extra resources for special needs students, and beautification for the Washington school garden.

Our student population is diverse with 30 students born outside of the U.S. There are 15 different languages spoken by our students including Spanish, Armenian, Arabic, Tagalog, and American Sign Language. More than 100 of our students are considered English Language Learners, based on the California English Language Development Test. Over 60% participate in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program, which qualifies Washington for Title I services. Washington allocates its Title I funds to support and improve academic instruction for every student.



Curious George Goes to the Zoo—Word Search Contest

Rules!

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

Entries must be received by July 15, 2016

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

Amazing	Leaves
Animals	Park
Climbed	Party
Curious	Rhino
Danced	Water
Fun	Wild
George	Wonderful
Giraffe	Zoo
Headquarters	Zookeeper
Hippo	



Luther *Middle School*

3700 W. Jeffries Ave., Burbank, CA 91505 • 818/558-4646



Dr. Oscar Macias
Principal

Dedicated to Student Success

Luther Burbank Middle School is a learning community dedicated to the success of all our students. We acknowledge that there are multiple ways to learn, and we offer personalized support in an environment that includes rigor, celebration, and a focus on continuous improvement.

Luther Burbank Middle School provides a high-quality academic experience for more than 1,100 ethnically, socio-economically, and academically

diverse learners. Some schools might find the challenges inherent in serving such a wide range of children overwhelming. We find this unique blend to be Luther's pride and strength. Programs to serve our students include GATE, SDAIE, ELD, co-teaching, special education, career technical education, art, and music classes. It is an exciting and wonderful time to be a Luther student because our programs provide a strong academic foundation and a focused series of experiences for personal and academic growth.



Jordan *Middle School*

420 S. Mariposa St., Burbank, CA 91506 • 818/558-4622



Stacy Cashman
Principal

Learning Experiences

At Jordan Middle School, one of our goals is to make sure that authentic learning experiences are taking place at all levels of students learning.

With field trips to the California Science Center, Grammy Museum, Museum of Tolerance, and future trips to the Getty Villa, UCLA, and the Will Geer Theatre, students are able to have real-world enriching educational experiences.

Students are also experiencing real-world tasks in their classes through simulation units and the use of manipulatives. In electives, students are able to cook delicious food in culinary arts class and produce digital wonders in computer classes. Our choir and band continue to shine in their multiple performances throughout the school year as well.

By exploring ways that students are able to take classroom learning to outside environments, Jordan Middle School continues to be a dynamic and positive place for all students.



Muir *Middle School*

1111 N. Kenneth Rd., Burbank, CA 91504 • 818/558-5320



Dr. Greg Miller
Principal

We're Here to Help

Our goal at John Muir Middle School is to provide a safe and friendly environment with a rigorous academic program, augmented by a variety of electives and student activities. To help students achieve success in the academic program, we have created a number of interventions to meet the needs of students who may struggle. We offer Math intervention in every grade level; three Reading classes for students who read below grade level; and Life Skills classes for students with multiple fails. In addition, we have two key intervention programs: Making The Grade, which is designed for students who struggle with organization and work completion and Math Boot Camp to help 6th grade students master basic math facts. Our teachers, counselors, and staff work directly with students to ensure that they get the help that they need. This is another reason why John Muir Middle School is Better Than Ever.



Burbank *High School*

902 N. Third St., Burbank, CA 91502 • 818/558-4700



Dr. Michael Bertram
Principal

Students Figure Out Their Passions

Here at Burbank High School, we are committed to encouraging students to learn about themselves and to figure out their passions. BHS students exceeded the State and County standards in both mathematics and English in last year's CAASPP testing. We use this data and celebrate our students' success and also look for areas to increase student achievement in the classroom. By revamping a few of our classes to reflect our ever-changing technological society, courses like CAD

Drafting and Video Production are preparing students for real-world job opportunities. We also understand that we must do our part to encourage educational success. After-school programs such as Tutoring by Teachers and the BHS Writing Lab give students the assistance they need to accomplish their goals. Our athletics programs continue to achieve success by competing at the highest levels with many of our teams reaching CIF playoffs. Our ASB has done an outstanding job providing BHS with tons of school spirit and continues to encourage our Bulldog Pride by planning and implementing fantastic dances and pep rallies, as well as being strong supporters of local charities. Always remember, it's great to be a Bulldog!



Burroughs High School

1920 Clark St., Burbank, CA 91506 • 818/558-4777



Deborah Madrigal
Principal

Developing Our Talents

At John Burroughs High School our 2,582 students have access to a rigorous curriculum that prepares them for success in college and on their chosen career path. Along with academics, which includes the full spectrum of Advanced Placement and Honors courses, students are also offered the opportunity to take Career Technical Education classes which build on pathways that articulate to the local community colleges and the Burbank Adult School. In fact, students at

Burroughs are able to take some courses that count for dual credit with the community college.

John Burroughs High School is well known for its yearly musicals. This year, students in the drama, musical theater, vocal, instrumental music and dance programs worked together to put on an amazing production of the musical "Hairspray". Working with the students from our tech crew class, who specialize in lighting and sound, the show was of the highest quality. The students entertained nearly 2,000 attendees over three shows. Wherever our students' talents lie, John Burroughs High School is a place where they can develop academically and artistically.



Leadership Word Search Contest

Rules! One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com Please put Burbank in the subject line.

Word Search by Gunnar Coop

Entries must be received by July 15, 2016

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

Accomplished	Organized
Caring	Powerful
Confident	Responsibility
Determination	Role Model
Drive	Strong Willed
Enthusiastic	Suitable
Focused	Teamwork
Independent	Trustworthy
Initiative	Understanding
Intelligent	



Monterey High School / Magnolia Park

1915 Monterey Ave., Burbank, CA 91506 • 818/558-5455



Ann Brooks
Principal

Big Fish in a Little Pond

At Monterey High School we provide students with an opportunity to make up high school credits and/or to learn through a different method of instruction. Monterey also allows students to participate in a smaller school environment. The staff strives to work with the student as a whole for the betterment of his or her social and emotional well-being. Therefore, the athletics and extra-curricular activities

become an important part of that whole, because the social opportunities and activities afforded students in high school are a large part of the high school experience.

We held our seventh intramural basketball game on Thursday! The season will round out with nine games total. It has been a winning season for everyone. The Monterey High School administration, staff, and students create different avenues through which extracurricular activities play an important part in students' school days.

Monterey has had an Association of Student Body (ASB) for many years. The group serves as hosts for visitors on campus, arranges fundraisers, and organizes a quarterly spirit week with a dress up day, games, and activities.

In 2013, Key Club began on campus with the help of the local Kiwanis Club. This group provides students with community service activities including food drives for our local food bank, grounds cleanup at the Community Dental Clinic, a clothing drive for a Native American tribe in Montana, and fundraisers for Relay for Life and the Care Walk.

The administration and staff provide students with academic and personal support, post-high-school guidance, and connections to community resources as needed. Monterey High School affords students the opportunity to be big fishes in a little pond, which is just the formula our students need to be successful as young adults looking toward a bright future.



Community Day School / New Vista

223 E. Santa Anita Ave., Burbank, CA 91502 • 818/558-4693



Chris Krohn
Administrator

Addressing Individual Needs

Burbank Unified School District provides an alternative program, the Community Day School, which provides a self-contained classroom environment in which students work to improve behavior, attendance, and academic performance. The curriculum is aligned with that of the District's comprehensive middle and high schools and is based on the District and State adopted

standards. In addition to the Community Day School, the site also houses the New Vista program, an alternative program for Special Education students.

Community Day School is designed to meet the needs of students in grades 7-12 who are having social or behavioral difficulties or have shown serious or severe breaches of the Burbank Unified School District code of conduct. In a supportive and nurturing atmosphere, the students are encouraged and enabled to assume responsibility for their own behavior and consequences. The goal of

the program is to help students in a setting which will allow their individual needs to be addressed daily, to overcome the problems that they have experienced, and return them back to the comprehensive school setting with a positive outlook on education.

In addition to a comprehensive academic program, our campus provides wonderful Culinary Arts and Gardening programs, which allow students to grow some of their own food and then cook what they have grown. This year our students made and sold their own pumpkin pies for Thanksgiving.



Burbank *Adult School*

3811 W. Allen Ave, Burbank, CA 91505 • 818/558-4611



Emilio Urioste
Director

Lifelong Learning

At the Burbank Adult School (BAS) a staff of 111 serves approximately 4,000 students. Classes are available mornings, evenings, and on Saturdays. BAS offers courses in Adult Basic Education, Adult Secondary Education, Career Technical Education, English as a Second Language, Parent Education, and Personal Enrichment.

Given the increase in demand for careers in medical technology, BAS will be augmenting its existing medical programs by adding a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) program. This will allow students to transition to the Registered Nursing Program offered through Glendale Community College.

BAS also offers an array of personal enrichment and parent education programs. There are 43 enrichment classes which range from photography, dance, and world languages to money management. Parent Education is a popular and respected program at BAS. Parents are involved in group discussions

on child development and family relationships while the children take part in planned activities that develop social and collaboration skills. Burbank Adult School's motto is "Lifelong Learning," and its programs and classes provide opportunities for students of all ages to engage in learning and personal development.



College 4 Less



Susan D. Marshall

Not Accepted to Your Dream School?

After the shock and disappointment fades there is a hidden secret many discover.

Did you know with a little work you can go to any college you want to? Pick a college, then work backwards. Sure you may have been rejected once, maybe twice, but that shouldn't keep you from taking classes there.

Look online. Many times there are online courses even degree programs available from your dream school. There are countless stories of students starting their degree online and finishing on campus.

Consider a transfer program. Many community colleges have transfer agreements and alliances with Universities. Find a transfer program that gets you where you want to go.

Look into extension programs offered by your dream college or through your community college. They may not be well advertised, but may be perfect for your situation. Two of my children discovered these programs unexpectedly. Although completely different programs; each program offered benefits that couldn't have been a better fit.

My daughter graduated after discovering the Pepperdine Graziadio School of Business and Management. The program she selected allowed her to work full time, attend classes in the evenings and on the weekends and offered a MJB option.

Many of the students in her courses were already CEO's and business executives.

My son who always dreamed of and is now a commercial pilot, began attending MT. SAC; a community college. He discovered that he could attend classes on the Mt. San Antonio College campus every other Saturday and graduate within four years with a Bachelors in Business Management/Aviation Management from University of Southern Illinois.

Hidden treasures that may be just perfect for you.

In a previous column I wrote about the "Gap Year." The "Gap Year" for many college bound students is the answer. A gap year is usually taken before college or before going to graduate school. This can provide students with additional insight to their dreams and aspirations – whether it is AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, a mission trip or a program such as Outward Bound. The additional programs they can do after high school but before college even look impressive on college applications. Colleges have found that those who have had a gap year typically do not have the same level of freshman shenanigans and are successful driven students. Would the gap year help you?

Susan both educator and advisor specializes in college planning. She helps families save for and pay for college. If you have questions you would like answered in a future article contact her at Susan@College4Less.com or on her Web site at www.college4less.com



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Lucy's Book Review

Nothing is Impossible!



Lucy Davis

The Lightning Queen

Author: Laura Resau

Mateo spends his summers at the Hill of Dust, a small, rural town in Mexico. His grandfather tells him tales of the old town. When Mateo is transported into a story of his grandfather's childhood, he learns about Esma, the Queen of Lightning. Esma is a Romani girl who, with her tribe, came to the Hill of Dust and became lifelong friends with Mateo's grandfather.

The two friends go through a lot together, and when something seems it cannot be done, Esma always says, "Nothing is impossible, my friend for life."

This book gets four bookworms out of five because it shows the readers the power of hope, and it is a great example of the importance of telling family history. I recommend the story for grades 4 and up. I hope this book inspires you to ask about your own family's history.

Lucy Davis is a 4th grade student. Besides reading, she enjoys riding her bike, theatre, and playing guitar. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.



Keira

First Book of a Series

Everyday Angel: New Beginnings

By Victoria Schwab

This great emotion filled book is about two girls named Aria (a guardian angel) and Gabby Torres (whose brother is sick). Gabby is so worried about school, because she doesn't want anyone to discover her secret life. Then, Aria shows up! Aria knows exactly how to help make Gabby feel better. Gabby is a normal girl except for the fact she keeps half her life a secret—even from her mom! This book talks about why sometimes it's good to reveal your secrets. It's an example of how difficult things in your life don't have to be negative. Gabby is so worried about her brother that she forgets who she is. The story is about problems and solutions that came for Gabby in seventh grade. I can't wait to read the second book! I rate this book 5 apples.



Keira Fukuwa is a fourth grader. Besides reading, she enjoys soccer, jazz dance, crafts and cooking. Keira rates books 1-5 apples with 5 the best.





Dr. Shari Sweetnam

A Case of the Grumpies!

Q. Our seven year old son has a case of the grumpies. We are really frustrated with his attitude in the morning before school. He barks at all of us, he stomps around doing all of his morning tasks and walks out the door with a frown. We are at our wits end with this! Is there anything we can do?! —Loise P.

A. Not only are there things you can do, but there are things you must do. Tolerating negative behavior, perpetuates it and makes it more difficult to overcome in the long run. If you let this go, your son will cement this habit and very likely carry this behavior into the future. Consider the following factors in determining causes and roots of this behavior::

Sleeping /Eating Habits: First of all, make sure your son is getting enough restful sleep and that his diet is conducive to this. Avoid sugar or even mildly caffeinated foods or drinks right before bed. Also, make sure his bedtime is appropriate.

Environment: What is your morning environment like? Does your son wake up to a loud clanging alarm? Are the lights a bright, intrusive fluorescent? Are people yelling or is a TV blaring? Create a soft, easy environment for the first waking minutes. No one likes being jolted out of bed. Keep the lights dimmed, keep the house warm, and provide enough time to ease into the morning routine.

Circumstances: Is there negativity at school that you should be addressing? Is there a chance the attitude relates to the day he is dreadfully anticipates? Be familiar with his feelings about going to school and what occurs there.

What are You Tolerating? As attentive as you need to be, it is almost equally important that you do not tolerate bad behavior. It is important for a child to understand self control in this manner. Set the rule: "You can talk about how you feel, but you are not allowed to bring everyone down, because you are crabby." Explain that bringing a "bad attitude" into the room is pollution of the environment and that you will not tolerate that any more than you would tolerate a person throwing garbage all over your floor!

Role Model: Do you ever claim, "I am not a morning person" and tolerate your own crabbiness? Do you allow yourself a bad attitude even if it is only until that first cup of coffee? If so, you are setting a strong negative example that is likely being followed!

Finally, please consider one of my favorite mood enhancers of all time: Music! Invest in an ipod and some speakers. Create an upbeat morning playlist that either eases him into his day or jazzes up the atmosphere. It is amazing what putting a little "swing in your step" can do for your mood. It is a wonderful way to start the day.

Motivational Speaker, Founder of *The Brainpower Programs for Schools*, Author, Consultant, Radio Host contact: info@doctorshari.com, www.doctorshari.com, twitter: DrShariS, Youtube: Dr. Shari Sweetnam



Kate Karp

Smiles Ahead

You may have heard the term *indie music* and not thought about the meaning because what's played on indie stations sounds so good. Accomplished indie musicians are in fact artists who opt to transport their performances to eager ears through small labels and the Internet instead of recording with big, largely commercial corporations.

This gives these artists more room for creativity, self-expression and their own "heart." If you've heard bands like Wilco and Radiohead, you'll agree that it all works really well.

And if you and the children around you also know the names Okee Dokee Brothers, Rissi Palmer, the Pop-Ups and the 10 other artists and bands on this new multigenre collection, you'll also agree that a flourishing, delightful bunch of indie artists exists for the very young. *Smiles Ahead* is a project of Mighty Mo Productions, a small label founded by award-winning children's entertainer Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove, who appears in this collection as a producer only. This happy, tuneful CD includes songs that all children will enjoy and that could also be on your own hit parade. Secret Agent 23 Skidoo, aka King of Kid Hop, raps about self-confidence in the hippy-hoppy "You're It." Grandparents and sixties-music aficionados will recall the English Invasion in The Verve Pipes' "Get Happy." Spring and bluegrass go together, and the Okee Dokee Brothers pair them well on "Walking with Spring." And Brady Rhymer and the Little Band That Could have the best CD opener ever—the catchy "Jump Up."

There are definitely smiles ahead for everyone here!

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.





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