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School News

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Covering the Burbank Unified School District



Volume 3, Issue 13

April 2019

Bret Harte Bees are Spellers!



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JULIE V.
Superintendent
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2019 State of the Schools Breakfast Highlights District's Fiscal Challenges



Matt Hill, Ed.D.
Superintendent

*By Matt Hill, Superintendent,
and Roberta Reynolds,
Board of Education President*

On February 27 the Burbank Educational Foundation hosted the 2019 State of the Schools Breakfast at The Castaway. In partnership with the Burbank Unified School District, the State of the Schools Breakfast is Burbank Educational Foundation's signature event. The breakfast gathering welcomes attendees from throughout the Burbank

community, including school district staff, parents, city leaders, and business and local community members. The event featured student performances and presented the achievements and goals of the Burbank Unified School District and the Board of Education.

The Burbank Educational Foundation (BEF) highlighted their "All in for Burbank Unified Schools" fundraising campaign. The purpose of this fundraiser is to help ease the \$3.5 million in budget cuts that BUSD must make for the 2019-2020 school year. During the breakfast

Warner Bros. announced their generous sponsorship of a fundraising match that will see the entertainment company double all new donations made to BEF, up to \$10,000, through the end of March. We sincerely thank Warner Bros. for recognizing the need and stepping up to help when we needed it most.

California has the largest economy in the United States, yet ranks in the bottom 10 in per-pupil funding in the United States. District leadership recently met with Assembly member Laura Friedman to ask for her advocacy in urging Sacramento to pay down public school districts' rising pension obligations and to support an increase in funding to begin to raise California's per-pupil spending to more sustainable levels. Until we can pass a parcel tax or get needed relief from Sacramento, though, we will need to seek other assistance in order to avoid further cuts to staff and programs.

Burbank students are the future of our city and our workforce, and our success depends on them—and ultimately on all of us. If you are a community or business leader and are interested in partnering with us, please contact me at MattHill@Burbankusd.org

1900 West Olive Avenue • Burbank, CA 91506
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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



The end of this school year is in sight and students are focused on their academic goals.

Superintendent Dr. Hill begins this issue with his message about the District's need for community and business financial support to avoid cuts to staff and programs.

In this issue you will read about Math Field Day, the Kindness Challenge, Career Day, Positive

Behavior Intervention and Support, Music in Our Schools and much more.

Have a wonderful summer and be sure to include the library among your activities. In our AHA section pages 14-15 we have included student book reviews to help with your child's reading choices.

Our next issue is October 16 just in time to welcome a new school year. Have a wonderful summer.

School News

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Covering the

BURBANK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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ADVERTISING SALES: 562/493-3193

CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION:
Gerald Villaluz and Emily Ung

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Netragrednik by Neta Madison



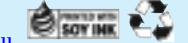
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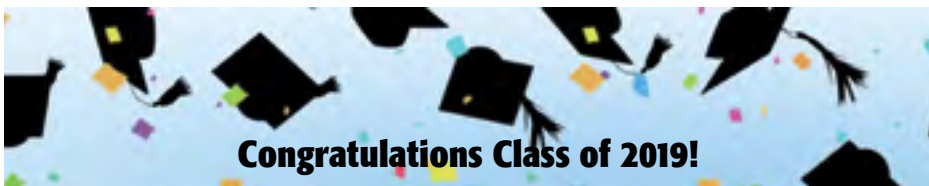


SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC

P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193

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Disney *Elementary School*

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



First Ever Sam and Me Dance

Disney's auditorium was transformed into a tropical paradise for Disney's first ever Sam and Me Dance. You may ask yourself,

what is Sam and Me? It refers to Significant Adult Male and Me, where the young ladies of Disney were accompanied by a special adult male. The group was invited to a night of dinner, dancing, and photos under a setting sun and palm trees.

Everyone was welcomed into the dance with a resounding "Aloha!" and presented with a brightly colored lei. This was followed by the flashing of smiles as attendees took photos



in one of three stations that included professional photographers. The Hawaiian inspired dinner and desserts were delicious! And the evening ended with great music provided by a DJ team and lots more dancing. The groups danced the Macarena as well as forming a Conga line.

It was an extra special event that provided memories to last a lifetime. I don't want the young men of Disney to worry, as the first ever Mother-Son game night will take place in April. This is just another example of how the Disney PTA builds community and celebrates the family. Mahalo nui loa!

Edison *Elementary School*

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



Nothing Stops Our Study of Science

Boy, has our fifth grade class been challenged by studying science this year!

Our annual fifth grade trip for Outdoor Science School was put on hold when the camp we always attend burned in the Woolsey Fire! We rescheduled to a different camp in the Angeles Forest. Well, Mother Nature struck again and within 15 hours of being there, we had to evacuate before a

snowstorm hit, keeping our students, teachers, and parents there much longer than we had planned on! Yes, you read that correctly—a snowstorm in Los Angeles! Needless to say, our students were very disappointed. The naturalists at the camp felt terrible that they were not able to continue the lessons they had just started or continue their bonding experience with this fabulous group of kids. So, they drove to our school a few weeks later to teach science.

The naturalists greeted our surprised students with camp songs and taught them many of the lessons that they would have normally taught in the field—this time in our own classrooms and with great weather! The students studied different skulls as they learned about predators and prey and worked to determine what type of animal the



skull came from. They learned about scrub jays and blue jays as well as looking at organisms under a microscope.

The students had a blast and enjoyed reconnecting with the naturalists from Outdoor Science School. Not even unpredictable weather could stop these avid learners from connecting with nature!

Emerson *Elementary School*

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



Jennifer Kaitz
Principal

Native Planting Day

Emerson Elementary School staff and students participated in a Native Planting Day in January in collaboration with TreePeople, Emerson PTA, the BUSD Facilities Department, and community volunteers. This school-wide, community event included having two assemblies in which the principal explained how Emerson was able to

obtain a variety of native plants for the Emerson garden and other locations around the campus.

This event came out of a vision that an Emerson parent volunteer, Ms. Burton, brought to the principal. Ms. Burton is passionate about taking care of the earth and teaching students that they need to engage in that responsibility. She applied for a grant through the organization TreePeople and then worked with Diana Sherwood from the Theodore Payne Foundation to design the garden and choose the right type of plants for the Emerson campus.

Michele Bagnator from TreePeople worked with Ms. Burton, the principal, and District staff members to plan, design, and complete the actual planting on this very



special day. Kreigh Hampel from Burbank Recycling Center and Sharon Springer, master gardener and Burbank City Council member, also lent us their assistance and expertise.

Overall, this day was a perfect example of how wonderful the Emerson community is at working together to make students' school experiences that much richer!

Harte *Elementary School*

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



Martha Walter
Principal

Bret Harte Bees are Spellers!

The auditorium at Bret Harte Elementary School was a-buzz with excitement on February 20 as the Bret Harte Bees took to the stage to compete in the Scripps Spelling Bee. Thirty-two students, from second to fifth grade, spelled their way through 11 rounds and more than 100 words until only three students remained.

The idea to resume holding the school Spelling Bee actually came from second-grade Harte student Jackson Kaplan who asked his teacher for a Spelling Bee. His teacher, Ms. Darlene Crain, sprang into action. Bret Harte hasn't had a Spelling Bee for four years, and staff believes that this year's event was the first Scripps eligible Bee ever held. Ms. Crain enrolled the school with Scripps, created a website with links and resources for students, and prepared a short video to be shared in classrooms to encourage student participation in the mid-February Bee, which was open to second- through fifth-graders.

Third-grader Julianne Equila, who correctly spelled "guise" without a moment's hesitation, took the top prize. Second place went to fifth-grader Jadyn Daroya, and third

place was secured by Hunter Fox, who is in the fourth grade.

Congratulations to these hard-working students and their teachers, Alicia Boylan, Catherine McMurry, and Julie Davis. The Spelling Bee is once again a Bret Harte Elementary School tradition.



2nd Place Winner Jadyn Daroya, 1st Place Winner Julianne Equila, and 3rd Place Winner Hunter Fox, pictured with Superintendent Matt Hill, Principal Martha Walter, and event organizer and second grade teacher Darlene Crain.

Jefferson *Elementary School*

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



Sandra DeBarros
Principal

Math Field Day Masters

Math Field Day is designed as an enrichment activity to promote mathematical reasoning, teamwork, and a balanced mathematics curriculum for all students in upper elementary and middle school.

Participation in this event allows students to demonstrate their math

knowledge through competition in the following elements: computational and procedural skills, conceptual understanding, and problem solving. Math Field Day is open to four-person teams from schools throughout Los Angeles County. Students from all 11 BUSD elementary schools attended weekly classes in order to prepare for the local and County competition levels.

We are very proud to recognize our own Jefferson Math Masters, winners of the District-level Math Field Day on March 9.

They are very excited and motivated to continue to work with their team to represent BUSD at the County-level competition on April 27. Go Jefferson Team!



Fourth-grader David Hadi, and fifth-graders Renu Dommeti and Krishina Tyagi, who all placed in one or more of the Math Field Day categories

McKinley *Elementary School*

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



Liz Costella
Principal

Student Leaders

One of the highlights of this school year has been our thriving Student Council.

Our Student Council advisors Ms. Amanda Pohlman (fourth grade teacher), Ms. Monique Kalachi (first grade teacher) and Ms. Maria Esquivel (Kindergarten teacher) work with our students to develop their leadership skills. The Student Council is comprised of one student from every class in grades first through fifth as selected by their peers and teacher. Student Council members are student leaders within McKinley Elementary and work on improving the culture and community at McKinley.

The Student Council members act as class ambassadors; they help new students and bring school news to their classrooms. During their monthly meetings, Student Council members plan events, create posters, and oversee



activities. They sponsor several activities throughout the school year including collecting donations during the holidays for local charitable organizations, selling Valentine's Day grams to raise funds for school needs, and hosting our annual "Bring Someone Special to Breakfast" event. They also volunteer every Friday morning before school to collect recycling for the entire school.

This year Student Council felt that getting the message of kindness out was very important. As a group, they created monthly kindness challenges. Each month they present the challenges to each class and encourage students to participate. As students complete the challenges, they turn them in and are rewarded with a kindness sticker.

Our Student Council members take pride in our school, volunteer their time, and work hard to make McKinley a safe, happy place to learn.

Miller *Elementary School*

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



Judy Hession
Principal

Arts Exploration Fuels Academic Achievement

Miller Elementary School continues to provide students with opportunities to explore the arts. Students in Grades

2, 4, and 5 receive theater arts workshops for eight weeks from an artist in residence. For the past three years, we have been fortunate to work with Nicole Dominguez, an actor, educator, and playwright.

During the first four weeks of the theater arts program, the students in Grade 4 focused on writing monologues while the students in Grade 5 used their foundation in monologue writing from the previous year to expand



into dialogue and create their own original one act plays. The students in Grade 2 learned story structure and are creating an original adaptation of a contemporary fairy tale. During the last four weeks, students will direct and perform in their original works for their peers.

The theater arts workshops have helped to increase student achievement in English Language Arts and provided students with opportunities to develop literacy and communication skills along with creative and critical thinking and problem solving skills. All of these skills will be vital for our students' future success.

Providencia *Elementary School*

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



Jennifer Culbertson
Principal

Music Unites the World

For more than 30 years, March has officially been designated by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) for the observance of Music In Our Schools Month® (MIOSM™), the time of year when music education becomes the focus of schools across the nation.

MIOSM and the events surrounding it are ideal opportunities for increasing awareness of the benefits of high-quality music education programs in our nation's schools. NAFME hopes that teachers, students, and music supporters alike will find ways to join in on the celebration through creative activities and advocacy.

Students at Providencia Elementary were lucky enough to participate in this celebration by attending the Annual Music Unites the World Festival. This festival unites approximately 1,000 students and parents from across Los Angeles County for two days of music making and community building. Education Through Music-LA hosts ensembles (choral, band, and orchestra) who receive coaching from top artists and educators and perform multi-cultural music from around the globe. The festival



showcases the power of music to inspire joy and unity among diverse cultures and communities.

Providencia's fifth-grade orchestra students practice after school twice a week and their hard work throughout the year has really paid off. Their participation in the Music Unites the World Festival was a highlight of their school year and their talents were noticed and recognized!

Roosevelt *Elementary School*

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



Matt Osmond
Principal

Arts Education

Roosevelt Elementary has a long history of supporting arts education for our students. In addition to our regular music teacher, we have a thriving Instrumental Music program funded by our Booster Club and taught by Jacob Boyd, who is supported by and collaborates with other music educators from “Education Through Music Los Angeles.”

Mr. Boyd recently ramped up his program with weekly afterschool band and orchestra sessions. This program will culminate in a Springtime performance showcasing the growth the students have made and the joy they get from their music education.

Our Booster Club also funds a Ceramics program which facilitates small group ceramics activities for all students. Each of our 630 students gets a chance to work with teachers and parent volunteers to create a sculpture

or other piece of ceramic art from start to finish. They are involved in every step of the process, from molding the clay to bisque-firing, glazing, and re-firing their creations in our school’s kiln. The final pieces of artwork go home with the students and become reminders of their early creativity and the importance of visual arts.

We also provide students with a high-caliber opportunity to participate in our Musical Revue. For over a decade, our PTA has partnered with our school to organize, fund, prepare for, and put on a thematic performance of students singing, dancing, and performing for their parents and community members. This year’s theme was “Roosevelt at the Oscars” and students performed songs that have been nominated for an Academy Award. Seeing the confidence on the students’ faces as they received their thunderous applause made it clear that these opportunities are integral to their overall education.

I’m proud to be part of a school with such a thriving and diverse arts education program.

Stevenson *Elementary School*

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



Christina Desiderio
Principal

Destination Imagination

A group of fourth-grade students from Stevenson Elementary School formed a team to compete in the Destination Imagination Los Angeles Regional Tournament in late February.

Destination Imagination is a global educational nonprofit program founded in 1999. Teams of all ages participate in project-based challenges that are designed to build confidence and develop extraordinary creativity, critical thinking, communication, and teamwork skills. This 21st century program promotes curiosity, courage, and creativity. Seven unique challenges based in STEAM education are offered to participants each year.

The Stevenson team, calling themselves the DI Bufandas and led by their teacher Jennifer Fieweger, placed second at the event. The DI Bufandas competed against teams from all over Los Angeles in the Improvisational Challenge. The Improv Challenge is all about spontaneity and storytelling. Teams receive topics and produce skits right on the spot. The STEAM based Instant Challenges require teams to engage in quick, creative, and critical thinking.

The DI Bufandas have been training since October of last year. By placing second at the regional event, the team won a spot at the state competition in April and if they place at that competition they will move on to the Global Finals in May. There they will have the chance to compete against teams from more than 30 countries!



Top Row: Jaeden Alayon, Dana Pitsker, Ziv Rabinovitch, and Silverina Santora, front row: Sophia Hunt, Caroline Canny, and Easton Siems

Washington *Elementary School*

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



Brandi Young
Principal

Family Paint and Draw Night

The cold and rainy weather did not stop Washington students and their families from coming back to school for an evening event known as Family Paint and

Draw Night. This was the second family event that Rush Hamden, Washington Elementary School's PTA Art Chair, has hosted.

Parents and their children bonded and shared quality family time together, as Mr. Hamden guided them through different painting and drawing techniques. Everyone who participated received a blank canvas. Some novice artists brainstormed while other sketched with pencil before diving into their masterpiece.



A common theme for the night seemed to be nature—sea life, beach pictures, flowers, and the sun. It was evident based on everyone's creations that Washington families are ready for Spring and sunnier weather.

Our students are so lucky to have parent volunteers like Mr. Hamden. All year he has been working in classrooms, teaching different grade levels how to draw and express themselves through the visual arts.

Washington Elementary School would not be the same without parent volunteers such as Rush Hamden and our other PTA and Booster Club volunteers.

Office Terms –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.

LAPTOP	GOOGLE
WINDOWS	PRINTER
APPLE	FAX
KEYBOARD	CELLPHONE
WIFI	ICON
BETA	EMOJI
URL	EMAIL
FACEBOOK	MICROSOFT
TWITTER	EXCEL
MOUSE	DISK
MOUSEPAD	PHOTOSHOP

Entries must be received by May 15, 2019

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble!



Congratulations to Shivansh Pandey
Winner of our last Word Search Contest!

Luther Middle School

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



Dr. Oscar Macias
Principal

Career Day

In February, all eighth-graders at Luther participated in our Career Day event. Organized by LBMS counselors, the day included a variety of activities designed to give our eighth-grade students insight into potential career paths. Each student spent a few weeks working with their English teacher to research and write a report on a chosen career. They

also learned how to write resumes/cover letters, how to dress for work, and participated in mock interviews with a member of the Burbank community answering questions such as “What skills can you bring to a job?” and “Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?”

Students attended a career fair in the gym, where representatives from the City of Burbank, Patagonia, NY Film Academy, CSUN, and many others shared information about the requirements for different careers and colleges. Math teachers presented some real-world lessons in which students learned what it means to create a budget and balance a check book.

Visitors to social studies and science classes included a scientist from JPL who is working on the Mars Rover program; Ms. Betty Porto, owner of Porto's Bakery; and Chase Hilt, a YouTube producer who talked about making content in the digital age. Career Day is a special event at Luther, and we are so proud of our eighth-grade learners for working hard to prepare for it. We know that this is a middle school day that they'll never forget.



Jordan Middle School

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



Dr. Jennifer Meglemre
Principal

Jordan Renaming Committee

In the summer of 2018, a request was brought before the Board of Education to consider renaming David Starr Jordan Middle School. Based on the information presented about David Starr Jordan and his writings, the Board voted to form a committee to research and consider renaming the middle school.

Parents, students, teachers, alumni, and community members were given the opportunity to apply to be a part of the committee. The Jordan Renaming Committee was formed and met three times, each time hearing public comments. The second meeting was a Town Hall held in the Jordan Auditorium and was well attended.

In light of the overwhelming outcry from the community, the committee voted to rename the middle school. On March 7, Dr. John Paramo, Director of Secondary Education, presented the work of the

committee to the Board of Education. After a second meeting, to allow additional time for input from the public, the Board of Education will make the final decision. If they vote to rename, the committee will reconvene to consider new names for our school.



John Muir *Middle School*

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



Dr. Greg Miller
Principal

Helping Students to Be Digital Healthy

At Muir, we always try to focus on supporting students in all aspects of their life and this year is no different.

With a growing concern about the digital health of today's students, we have been working to help our students be mindful about how—and how much—they are using technology. The goal is not to tell students that technology is bad, but rather, that

technology can impact them in a variety of ways and thus they need to be mindful of their usage.

We held an assembly to help students understand the impact that technology can have on many aspects of their lives. This was followed by several Muir Time activities in which students tracked the amount of time they spent on their devices and thought of alternate ways that time could have been spent. This culminated in a parent education night and an editable contract that was disseminated to all parents. The contract (available on the Muir website) could be used to establish agreements and boundaries with their child as he or she uses technology.

This semester we will hold an assembly to teach students how to use social media in a productive and appropriate way. In particular, the students will focus

on asking themselves three questions before they post anything online: Is it true? Is it kind? Is it you? This will be followed by activities in Muir Time that will reinforce what they have learned and how important it is to use social media in a positive way. Our goal is that our students will not only thrive in school and at home, but also live healthy lives online.



Burbank *High School*

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



Dr. Michael Bertram
Principal

Students Practice Professional Interviews

In December, more than 400 NAF Academy students from business, engineering, and medical themes participated in a mock interview with an industry expert from our community. Students prepared for their first interview in their NAF themed classes by creating a career portfolio including a cover letter, resume, references, letters of recommendation, professional goals, and student work samples.

Academy seniors also included a reflection on their 120-hour internship. Each student researched the most-asked interview questions and drafted their own custom responses. On the day of the interviews, the BHS library was full with NAF advisory board members and other community volunteers. "Being part of the mock interview event at Burbank High School was an absolute delight. After spending time with these impressive students, I have a more-than-usual positive outlook for our future. We're in good hands!" said Anita Hutchinson, CMO and Vice President of Marketing for UMe Federal Credit Union.



The volunteers provided a valuable opportunity for 100 students each period. NAF senior, Prissila Fabian said, "Although this was my second mock interview, I was still nervous. Once I shook hands with my interviewer and took a seat, however, I remembered I was prepared and confident. Now I give my friends advice for job interviews! I'm glad I got this opportunity." NAF Academy students are more prepared for their first real interview thanks to our valuable community partners.

Burroughs *High School*

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



Deborah Madrigal
Principal

The Right Thing

Upon entering John Burroughs High School last Friday, a student on crutches started to lean and nearly fell. A student to his right caught him and helped him to stabilize. It appeared the students didn't know each other, but nevertheless the student aided her fellow student. He didn't ask for help and no one told her to help. She just did the right thing. Do the right thing. What is the right thing?

For the past two and a half years, John Burroughs High School has been implementing Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). The first year involved the training of a PBIS site team. The PBIS site team at JBHS consists of teachers, students, parents, Intervention Counselor, Intervention Specialist, Assistant Principal of Discipline, and the Principal. For the past year and a half, the PBIS site team has introduced the staff, faculty, and students to PBIS.

PBIS posters can be found in throughout our campus, communicating behavior expectations. Good Morning, John Burroughs daily broadcasts have incorporated the teaching of behavior expectations through a series of videotaped lessons. The marquis in front of the school displays each week's focused behavior expectation. Teachers are beginning to post classroom matrices clarifying behavior expectations for their classrooms. Each month, the Discipline office has a freshman "Student of the Month" ceremony rewarding students for outstanding behavior and citizenship.

Are the behaviors of the students at the beginning of this article directly related to PBIS and the efforts made to date? Perhaps. But are they the behaviors we want to see? Definitely. They did the right thing.



Freshman students with their "Student of the Month" certificates

Monterey *High School*

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



Ann Brooks
Principal

A Unique Theater Experience

In February, a group of Monterey High School and Magnolia Park School students had an opportunity to see *On the Mountaintop*, a play about Martin Luther King's civil rights activities, at the Garry Marshall Theatre. The play, written by Katori Hall, remakes events the night before Dr. King's assassination. "I've Been to the Mountaintop" was King's

final speech, which he made on behalf of Memphis sanitation workers who were on strike over the death of two workers who were crushed by a truck that malfunctioned. The play included images of events from the early days of the civil rights movement up through today, and highlighted numerous human rights events.

Student Nikolai Saric felt that the play could have been real. He was impressed that the play involved just two actors and he commented on how good their performances were. Halle Mitchell felt the play hit emotional notes at the right moment and at other times was comedic. Marion Flores said that she could feel the actors' emotions. Halle commented that the male

role was played by the understudy—for the first time—and how good he was. The other students concurred. Everyone enjoyed the discussion held after the play with the actors and Monterey High School Assistant Principal David Guyer.

For many students, this was the first professional play production they had ever seen and it proved to be a wonderful experience, both educational and entertaining, for all who attended.



Community Day School

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



Frank Fuentes
Administrator

CSUN MOSAIC Program Provides Mentoring for CDS Students

Burbank Community Day School is proud to announce our new partnership with California State University at Northridge's MOSAIC (Mentoring to Overcome Struggles and Inspire Courage) program. The CSUN MOSAIC program has provided mentoring services at no cost to the Los Angeles

Unified School District since 2002. The MOSAIC program has supported more than 800 students with 500 mentors in local high schools and now will be working with Burbank students.

MOSAIC mentors focus on increasing self-efficacy through goal achievement, mentoring, academic assistance, art, recreation, and civic engagement activities; they make meaningful connections that significantly increase the chance that our young people achieve high school graduation, college readiness, and workforce competency. The goal is to establish healthy connections between mentor and

mentee using a theoretical framework grounded in goal attainment. All of our mentors will be graduating in May from CSUN with degrees in the areas of Sociology, Psychology Child Development, and Criminal Justice. We are extremely happy to have them join our team and enhance our PBIS.



Burbank Adult School

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



Emilio Urioste
Director

Real-World Scenarios Enhance ESL

The English as a Second Language program (ESL) at Burbank Adult School Provides students with the opportunity to acquire English language skills. Students learn reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. The program features seven levels from Literacy to Introduction to Adult Basic Education.

Those students enrolled in literacy gain exposure to basic English vocabulary and grammar. The goal is to build a foundation of language skills in order for students to progress and gain fluency. Teaching language skills today involves a natural approach towards gaining proficiency. This natural approach in classroom instruction means that teachers create real-world language opportunities so that students exercise these new skills and then utilize them in real-life circumstances.

Students in the morning Literacy class are currently learning retail marketing skills. In this project students create their own

department store, which involves tagging, inventorying, and displaying items to sell. The students also learn customer service, cashiering, and accounting skills. The vocabulary acquired is put to use in the scenarios recreated in the classroom where students take on different roles and employ the retail marketing terminology. It is through the creation of these real-world activities that students will transfer their new-found language skills to authentic life experiences at work and in their community.





“Success in learning, Success in life.”

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OPEN MIND TUTORING

B is for Book



Bailey

Princess, Interrupted

The Goose Girl,
by Shannon Hale

An exciting tale of betrayal and fantasy! If you love fairy tales or adore *Princess Academy*, I guarantee you'll relish *The Goose Girl*.



Anidori was born a princess. Even so, her aunt taught her the language of nature. She could understand birds, horses, and swans. As firstborn, she's crown princess. But when her mother takes that away, Ani is forced to move to another kingdom and hide. Soon after, she rebels to take what is rightfully hers.

I liked this book because it could fit into many genres (fantasy, romance, adventure!). It was entertaining and well written. I especially liked it kept to the time period. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars.

Will Ani get back her royal title? Will she find herself among the unexpected? Read it and find out!

Bailey is a 7th grader who loves being with her friends and reading. When she isn't doing these things, she's dancing ballet or lyrical.

Lucy's Book Review



Lucy Davis

Buzzfeed

TASTY - Latest and Greatest

The world's viral videos are made up of a lot of things: dancing cats, little kids, and absurd tricks. But what has taken the world by storm? BuzzFeed, with their mouthwatering food videos. Saved and liked on every platform, *TASTY* shows you how to bake the perfect late-night snack or crowd-pleasing dessert. Now, the best of the best has been compiled into a step-by-step cookbook so you can easily get the plate off your screen and on your table. Grab your ingredients, and this book



I love this book for so many reasons! It is easy to follow, fun to look at, and the layout makes sure you can find your favorite recipe in a pinch. Four out of five bookworms.

Lucy is a 7th grade student. When she isn't immersed in a book, she loves musical theater, ballet, and singing. She enjoys stretching her imagination by writing short stories of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.

Rabina's Review

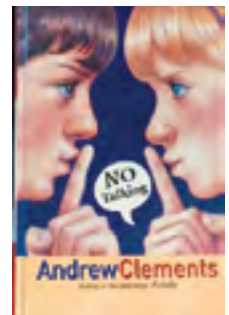


Rabina K.

Humor and Suspense

No Talking

This book could be considered a realistic fiction because kids who are currently reading it or kids who have already read it, could relate to how things are in a school. The book is about a middle school boy named Dave Packer who is a part of a pack of middle school boys, and a middle school girl named Linsey who represent a group of girls in the same middle school. Both of these groups started a competition against each other to stay quiet. They went through a lot of challenges to lead a 'no talking' day in school or at home. For example, the teacher called on Dave to present his project to the class but, since he could not talk, he had to sacrifice his grades for the victory of his team.



I recommend this book to other kids because not just that this book is full of humor but, it also creates enough suspense at times to sure keep you at the edge of your chair. I give this book 10 out of 10 stars.

Rabina is a 5th grader, who enjoys reading historical fiction and biographies. Writing is her passion. Besides, reading books and writing, she also enjoys playing soccer and piano.

Book Review By Katrina



Books Link Worlds

The Invisible Library by Genevieve Cogman is a peculiar story centering on a cryptic Library that is filled with millennia of knowledge from hundreds of dimensions. Tending to this massive collection of information is a number of Librarians whose sole purpose is protect these paperback treasures. They also have to collect new stories from across multiple worlds, whether it's a scroll from Viking times, a novel from a secret society or just a cookbook for trolls, these books all have one thing in common — the library must have them, no questions asked. And for all of her life, Irene has accepted the Library's beliefs. But now, as she seeks out the mysteriously stolen book of fairy-tales, Irene and her partner Kai realize there's more to the Library than meets the eye. With delightful world building, contraptions and a giant centipede, this book is perfect for bibliophiles as a whole. Katrina gives this book four out of five crescent moons.



Katrina D.

Katrina is an 11th grader who loves to write stories, sketch and lose herself in good books. Katrina hopes to publish a book, research genetics, and animate a cartoon in her lifetime. Katrina will rate the books between 1 to 5 crescent moons with 5 being the best.

Richard's Book Review



Richard J.

Timmy Grows Up and Moves On

Timmy Failure It's the End When I say It's the End by Stephan Pastis

This is 7th and last book of the Timmy Failure series. Timmy and his imaginary polar bear named Total (T. Failure + Total = Total Failure of Total Failure Inc. Detective Agency) take on a task of solving the world's problems and defeating crime. Timmy also has to do routine things like writing a script for his class project. But then a new student takes over the show and ruins Timmy's vision of Greatness. The script gets stolen and more Christmas shenanigans follow. I liked these book series because despite it's ridiculous, over-the-top narration by Timmy, you can see he's just a young kid with great imagination, producing action-packed scenarios, which help him escape the harsh reality of struggles — like getting a new step-dad, finding his real dad and trying to get him to participate in his life, and not realizing his aunt, with whom he and his mom lived during hard times, is dying. But in the end Timmy grows up and lets go of his imaginary sidekick Total by helping him find his long-lost brother and releasing Total to the Arctic. This book is definitely 5 out of 5 stars.

Richard J. is a 4th grader. Richard likes math, playing sports, bike-riding, swimming, diving and running. He enjoys reading, seeing and learning new things and spending time with his family and friends.

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