



GGUSD Connection

Spring 2016

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Connecting GGUSD students, parents, staff and community

District Stadium Named for Hometown Hero

More than 100 community members attended a special ceremony held on March 15 at Garden Grove High School to honor 1999 graduate Michael Monsoor. Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD) hosted the event to present the Monsoor family with the architectural plan to renovate the district athletic stadium at Garden Grove High School and name it in Michael's honor.

While at Garden Grove High School, Monsoor was a tight end for the school's varsity football team. After high school, he enlisted in the Navy and completed initial training as an elite Seal in 2004. In 2006, Monsoor sacrificed his life during combat to save his fellow SEAL team members. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 2008 by then President George W. Bush.

The renovated state-of-the-art facility is set to be completed in the summer of 2018 with 3,500 seats, a nine-lane synthetic track, turf field, energy-efficient lighting, LED scoreboard, and well-appointed press box. Other features consist of a new concession stand, new visitor and home restrooms and ticket booths, and storage area. The district's stadium at Bolsa Grande High School will also be modernized with the same state-of-the-art renovations.



Standout School

Hare High School was named a Model Continuation High School by the California Department of Education for its innovative teaching approaches and successful programs aimed at empowering students with diverse needs to complete high school.

Stay Connected

Stay connected to receive all of the latest news about Garden Grove Unified School District and our students.

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2016 Graduations

At Bolsa Grande Stadium

La Quinta

June 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Bolsa Grande

June 22 at 1:30 p.m.

Pacifica

June 22 at 4:30 p.m.

Rancho Alamitos

June 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Lincoln Adult Education Center

At LEC

June 16 at 6:30 p.m.



At Garden Grove Stadium

Santiago

June 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Garden Grove

June 22 at 1:30 p.m.

Los Amigos

June 22 at 5:00 p.m.

Hare (At Hare)

June 22 at 6:00 p.m.

Modernizing Your Schools

Schools across the district continue to receive significant safety upgrades and renovations thanks to the steady progress of the district's school modernization projects funded by the voter-approved Measure A.

Newly-Improved: By the end of the school year, modernization work will be complete at many schools. Improvements typically include upgraded access for students with special needs; new plumbing, gas, and electrical infrastructure; improved fencing; new doors with panic hardware, flooring, and painting; superior wireless access; upgraded intrusion and fire alarms; and new clocks, bells, phones, speakers, and emergency lighting. Many schools have also received air conditioning, new ceilings, insulation, energy efficient lighting, roofing, and window replacements. The completion of Measure A modernization is on schedule.

The Work Ahead: Many repairs and upgrades still need to be addressed at GGUSD schools. Roofs, outdated heating and cooling systems, and inadequate building electrical systems need to be replaced at many of the district's older schools. School buildings must be upgraded to meet current seismic safety standards. Outdated classrooms, science labs, and computer systems need to be updated to support 21st century instruction that will prepare students for college success and good jobs in competitive fields like health sciences, engineering, and technology. GGUSD is currently evaluating options for funding the next phase of improvements to our local schools.



Dual Language Academy Set to Open

GGUSD is proud to open its first-ever Dual Language Immersion Academy at Monroe Elementary School beginning in the fall. The program will launch with transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade. The grade levels served will grow each year as students advance through the program. The cutting-edge program teaches students to read, write, and communicate in English and Spanish.

The program model has proven successful at dual language schools across the nation and provides academic benefits to students setting them up for success in their college and career goals.

Benefits of the Dual Language Immersion Academy include:

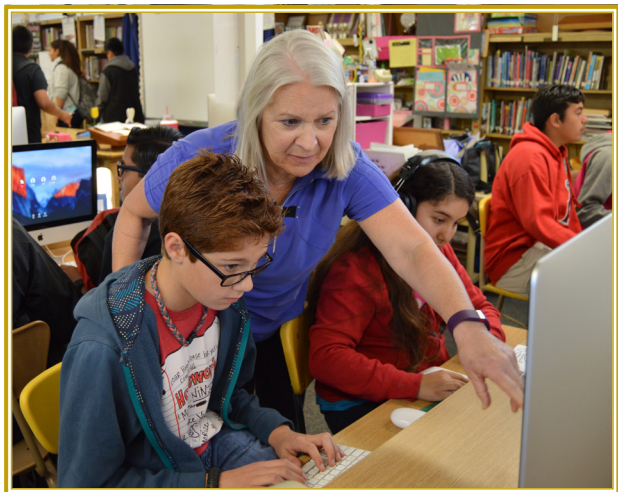
- Marketable skills for a global economy
- Attention from universities that value multilingualism
- Respect and appreciation for other cultures
- Strong thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving skills



Student Eric Juarez participates in the after-school Heritage Language Enrichment program launched at Bryant Elementary School this year. In total, the program is offered at six schools.

Teachers of the Year Go Above and Beyond

Three teachers from Garden Grove Unified School District were nominated for the 2017 Orange County Teacher of the Year award recognition program.



JEANNE TSURUTA

Mrs. Tsuruta has been a teacher at Ralston Intermediate School for 36 years and currently serves as the school librarian teaching digital literacy in the media center. She is a teacher-leader who works collaboratively with all staff on instructional technology, curriculum planning, and professional development. Students enjoy Mrs. Tsuruta's instruction around 21st century technology including Google Classroom tools, iMovie, and Apple Keynote which students use to create book trailers.

WORDS OF WISDOM: *"Give as much time and patience as you can to your students; the rewards come back triplefold."*

VALERIE DEL CARLO

Valerie Del Carlo began teaching sixth grade at Murdy Elementary School in 2002. She spearheaded an exemplary instructional program with the development of the "Gratitude Project." The yearlong unit of study integrates oral history, art, writing, and history with students interviewing their family members about their immigration to the United States after the Vietnam War. Mrs. Del Carlo's class reunited veterans from Vietnam and the U.S. during a culminating event on the 40th anniversary of the fall of Saigon.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY: *"My passion is to provide students with the highest level of academics and competencies, while fostering an appreciation for the wondrous gift of "a free and equitable education". In doing so, I prepare them not just to succeed, but also to contribute and thrive in the 21st century."*



DAVID CHO

David Cho has been teaching at Bolsa Grande High School for 20 years. He teaches Algebra 2, Algebra 2/Trig, and Geometry. He is currently a Master Teacher, site technology mentor, club advisor, coach, and Department Chairperson. Mr. Cho provides students multiple modes of learning including online videos, presentations, and Google classroom. Mr. Cho's imaginative style promotes a high level of student engagement and mastery of complex math concepts.

FAVORITE MOMENT: *"Like most teachers, I feel the joy of teaching when students start to understand concepts, then feel confident, and then feel like they can learn."*

GGUSD'S AVID PROGRAM PREPARES STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

AVID ALL STARS

Each of the district's 10 intermediate and seven high schools offer AVID (Advanced Via Individual Determination), a trusted program across the nation that uses research-based strategies to close the achievement gap and help all students succeed in high school and beyond. Recently, Alamitos Intermediate School was recognized as an AVID Schoolwide Site of Distinction - the highest level of implementation across the nation. Doig Intermediate School and Santiago High School are National Demonstration Schools, a distinction held by very few schools across Orange County.

AVID students at Los Amigos High School led classroom presentations for the Orange County Department of Education and curriculum creators from Roadtrip Nation about college and career readiness. The presentations were so impressive that the AVID tenth graders were invited to present at the Roadtrip Nation headquarters in Costa Mesa.

The district's Strategic Plan includes a solid commitment to ensuring all students are college and career ready before they leave high school. Benefits of AVID:

- Socratic Seminar allows students to actively explore complex content searching out ideas and values in text, instead of memorizing facts.
- Cornell Notes are a proven method of focused note-taking that allows students to synthesize and organize information to enhance learning.
- Essential Questions help anchor content and shape daily instruction.
- Critical Reading Strategies include marking the text, answering questions, and other methods that allow students to more fully engage with content.



AVID students at Los Amigos High School

Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education



President George West, Ed.D. | Vice President Teri Rocco
Bob Harden | Lan Quoc Nguyen, Esq. | Linda Reed

The five Board of Education members are elected by voters of the district by trustee area to serve four-year terms.