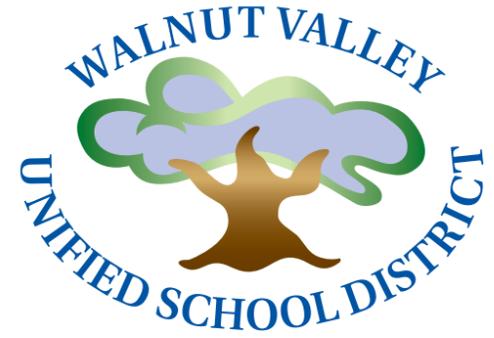


Outlook



Issue 43 SUMMER 2019

Message from the Superintendent



Dear Walnut Valley family,

Thank you! Thanks to all of the wonderful people within our school district and throughout our incredible community who have helped to make this past 2018/2019 school year such a huge success. Walnut Valley was designated as a National Schools to Watch District in 2018 at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.; ranked as the #16 (up from #20 last year) overall Best School District in California (out of 1,100 school districts) and received an overall A+ rating by the Niche report; voted as the #18 Best Place to Teach in California; and received the title of 2019 Best Communities for Music Education (for the third consecutive year). Finally, Walnut Valley was designated as an official Kindness Certified School District. It truly was a great year!

This publication, once again, reminds me of the extraordinary accomplishments and contributions of our students, staff, and schools. I truly enjoy hearing and reading about success stories of our students ... and am very proud and appreciative when, on almost every occasion, the students recognize an employee in the Walnut Valley Unified School District who made a significant impact on their education and upon their life. And, while success comes in many forms, so does support. I recently sat down and had a conversation with Joyce Edwards, school bus driver, who is retiring after 28 years on the job (all in Walnut Valley). Joyce talked about colleagues, memorable experiences, and how the job has changed over the years. However, what stands out the most to me is when I asked Joyce, "What will you miss most about your job?" ... tears ran down her face (and perhaps mine too) when she immediately responded, "My kids! I'll miss the connections I've made with my kids. We really make connections with the kids!" Whether it's the bus driver who is the first to greet many of our students in the morning and the last to say goodbye at the end of the day, or the teacher who inspires her students to love learning, our employees truly make a difference in the lives of our students ... "Kids First - Every Student, Every Day!" Therefore, "Thank You" to all Walnut Valley employees ... our teachers, support staff, and administrators for all that you do!

Special thanks to our parents! Without question, we have the most involved and supportive parents in the state of California and it makes such an incredible difference in the achievement of our students. Thanks to all of our parents for the countless hours of volunteering, attendance at school events, and dedication at home to help kids do their best!

Finally, thanks to our community. The encouragement, volunteerism, donations, and all-around support for our school district does not go unnoticed. As an example, because of the generous support of Measure WV, we are well into our first round of bond facility work and preparing for the next series of projects. Despite being one of the lowest funded school districts in California (based on the state's funding formula), we are able to improve our school buildings and learning facilities to meet the demands of 21st Century Education. Science centers, music facilities, technology centers, athletic enhancements, and revitalized classroom buildings are underway. Again, these contributions will significantly impact our students, and thus our community, for many, many years.

I sincerely hope you enjoy the summer and I look forward to the 2019/2020 school year.

Robert P. Taylor, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Music Education Receives National Recognition – WVUSD joins only 4% of school districts nationwide to receive the prestigious honor for its unwavering commitment to music and education.

For the third consecutive year, Walnut Valley USD has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation. The national honor is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

"This designation is a testament to our outstanding teachers, administrators, parents, and students who have made music education a part of a well-rounded education," said Superintendent Taylor.

Blue and Gold Excellence

Walnut High Celebrates 50 Years of Tradition and Innovation

Hundreds of alumni, staff, students, and community members joined Walnut High's 50th anniversary celebration held on March 7. The school was founded in the rural community of Walnut in 1968 with 600 students and has grown to become a top performing school in the nation with over 2,300 teens.

"I would like to thank all the staff members who paved the way for the past 50 years and contributed so much to this school," said Superintendent Dr. Robert Taylor. "Walnut High is a great school with outstanding students, staff, parent and community support, and a wonderful blend of tradition and innovation."

The program commemorating five decades of Mustang legacy included student entertainment, historical videos, special guests, and school tours.

"Walnut High was built on a rich tradition that dates back to the beginning with principals Jack Ingram, Don Skraba, Dr. Ken Gunn, Russell Lee-Sung, Dr. Jeff Jordan, and now myself," said Principal Brandon Dade. "My predecessors set the standard of excellence that we continue to appreciate and value each and every day."

Guests were eager to pose for commemorative photos, browse through yearbooks and memorabilia, and mingle with fellow graduates and faculty members.

"Every memory from Walnut High is a favorite!" recalled Class of 2000 alumnus Josephine (Sueng) Cooper who was thrilled to connect with former teachers Buddy Clements and Lisa Donee at the event.

"Walnut High was a good school when it was established, but has become outstanding since that time," commented Personnel Commissioner and retired administrator Ray McMullen.

Assistant Superintendent and Walnut High alum Dr. Jeff Jordan highlighted the school's deep culture of relationship-building during the anniversary celebration.

"One thing that's been a common factor for 50 years is the fact that everyone who either attends or works here still keeps in touch - and that speaks volumes."



WVUSD Proud

South Pointe Garner 3 State Awards

South Pointe Middle School took center stage as a 2019 California Distinguished School recognized for exemplary educational programs by the California Department of Education in April. South Pointe was also among only 22 California Distinguished Schools to receive additional honors for having an Exemplary Arts Education Program with a focus on STEAM and integrated arts curriculum.

Additionally, South Pointe has been re-designated as a model school in the 2018-19 Schools to Watch - Taking Center Stage program and will be recognized at the National Forum in Washington D.C. in June.



"Great schools are created through the synergy of staff, students, and a community working together to ensure all students have a future filled with opportunities," commented Principal Dr. Susan Arzola.



U.S. News Best High Schools

Diamond Bar, Walnut Top 5% L.A. Metro Area

Top performing Diamond Bar and Walnut High Schools are named among U.S. News & World Report's listing of Best High Schools in America.



In the 2019 reports, Diamond Bar High ranks #26 in the Los Angeles metro area, #76 in California, #542 in the Nation, and #178 in STEM.



Walnut High ranks #39 in the Los Angeles metro area, #99 in California, #704 in the Nation, and #143 in STEM High Schools.

Under U.S. News' revamped methodology, more than 17,000 public high schools were graded on six factors based on performance on state assessments and how well the schools prepare students for college. For more information visit www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/national-rankings.

2018-2019 Honor Roll Schools Schools Applauded for Student Achievement

Walnut Valley schools have once again been applauded for their ongoing focus on students and their success. Nine schools have been named clear leaders in getting students to grade-level and beyond as 2018-2019 Honor Roll Schools by the California Business for Education Excellence (CBEE).



Chaparral Middle School, Diamond Bar High School, Evergreen Elementary School, Maple Hill Elementary School, Quail Summit Elementary School, Westhoff Elementary School, South Pointe Middle School, Suzanne Middle School, and Walnut High School have been designated as Scholar Schools. The 2018-2019 Honor Roll recognizes schools that have demonstrated consistently high levels of student academic achievement, improvement in achievement levels over time, and a reduction in achievement gaps among student populations. For districts with high schools, the Honor Roll recognition also includes measures of college readiness. For more information, visit the ERP website.

2019

Super Seniors

We're proud to spotlight eight of our stellar students in this edition of *Outlook*. These students represent the best in Walnut Valley with their dedication and commitment to excellence through a wide variety of extracurricular activities.

Diamond Bar High



Austin Hyun

Dartmouth College, 4.0 GPA

Taken 11 AP Courses, DBHS USB President's Choice Award, Boys State California Awards, USB Commissioner, UNICEF and Debate co-president, National Honor Society, School Board Representative.

"I'm really proud of coordinating the Unicef X Key gala to help fund libraries and books for children in Africa. Planning this huge event in the midst of college application season was an accomplishment of all the skills I developed over my years at DBHS!"



Jianhui (Devany) Du

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 3.98 GPA

Taken 12 AP Courses, National AP Scholar, 1st place team Physics Bowl, 1st place Artificial Intelligence Product Design, Math Madness team national champions, Marching Band, Coffee and Tea Society, Gavel Club, Carlton Summer Science Institute.

"As a sophomore, I volunteered during the Measure WV campaign. For me, the bond was a solution to the broken shelf in the band storage room and holes in the ceiling in my English class...a method to make our school and the school district a better learning environment."



Daniel Mansour

University of Chicago, 4.0 GPA

Taken 12 AP courses, Barbara James Service Award Gold Level (HOSA), 800+ Hours of Service at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, HOSA president, HSDA vice president, We the People, Mock Trial.

"HOSA is a career and technical student organization that caters to students expressing an interest in the medical field. It has been a major part of my life over my high school career. I cannot fathom these past four years without my involvement in our DBHS chapter."



Amy Miyahara

Stanford University, 3.96 GPA

Taken 9 AP courses, Principal oboist California All-State Symphony Orchestra and California All-State Wind Symphony, National Merit Scholarship Finalist, Bull's Eye newspaper editor-in-chief, Girls Basketball, and Wind Ensemble.

"Our basketball team lost all our games during my junior year, but we ended up winning the last game by one point. It was just a really exciting way to see that all our hard work paid off to some extent, and that patience and resilience will be rewarded."

Walnut High



Angela Cao

University of Southern California, 3.96 GPA

Taken 7 AP Courses and IB Diploma Candidate, USC Presidential Scholar, 1st place American Association of University Women Speech Trek, National Merit Finalist, Publications Hoofprint Online editor-in-chief, FBLA president, Mock Trial captain, Class Cabinet.

"WHS staff members have inspired me to be as passionate about education as they are, while my peers have shown me that leadership is about people."



Phillip Leung

University of California, Davis, 3.94 GPA

Taken 7 AP Courses, Newspaper NSPA All American Mark of Distinction, CSPA Gold Medalist, Four Hacienda All-League Academic Awards, Publications Hoofprint editor-in-chief, Varsity Cross Country and Track and Field.

"As editor-in-chief, I made sure that the staff felt like they were working together as a family. Production didn't seem like a chore, but a simply a group of like-minded individuals working toward a common goal."



Amy Lo

Stanford University, 3.98 GPA

Taken 6 AP Courses and IB Diploma Candidate, Edison International Howard P. Allen Scholarship, National Merit Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction, Yearbook NSPA Pacemaker Award, Stanford China Scholars Program, Publications editor-in-chief, Science Olympiad, Color Guard.

"Over the last four years, Walnut High gave me the resources to succeed and develop my talents and skills. Without the support of this faculty and community, I would not be the person I am today."



Phillip Tan

University of California, San Diego, 3.92 GPA

Taken 8 AP Courses, Hacienda Academic All-League - Boys Track and Field, 1st Team All-League - Triple Jump, Senior Class Vice President, Peer Counseling, Varsity Track and Field.

"In everything I did - track, athletics, peer counseling, cabinet, etc. - I always tried my best to show people that I cared about what they did and who they are."

Teacher Spotlight

ELD Program Supports English Learners

Diamond Bar High School teacher Esther Cho works with about 40 English Learners every day across three classes. The Districtwide English Language Development (ELD) academic program gives students who are new to schools and country the opportunities they need to develop their English skills and be successful in school.

Her ELD I class recently created a word wall to front-load vocabulary words before reading the final chapters in "Day of the Dragon King."



"I love teaching ELD!" said Cho who relates to the students because she grew up as an ELD student herself. Cho says connecting with students is the key to success. "This class isn't just about drilling them with English."

The ELD program provides a foundation and social skills, such as reading social cues and picking up cultural mannerisms, for the teens.

Helping Hands & Hearts

Staff, Students Join Humanitarian Outreach

Chaparral Middle School teacher Sherry Robertson has been showing others the importance of giving back throughout her 20-year career in education. For a decade, she signed HUMANitarian club members up to prepare and serve a night at the East San Gabriel Valley Coalition for the Homeless winter shelter.

This year, she extended an invitation to members of the Walnut Valley USD leadership development seminar. Faculty, students, friends, and family members jumped at the chance to join the outreach event held February 28. Volunteers took on a variety of duties throughout evening including cooking, serving dinner and then helping clean the dining hall and kitchen.

"It is so beautiful when you see people loving and caring for people that just need a little kindness," Robertson said.

Westhoff Elementary kindergarten teacher Roxanne Dennen and her sister, Molly, volunteered to provide haircuts.



Fellow Chaparral teacher Ken Weeks has managed the shower station and passed out toiletries and towels for the past four years.

"Each year, this deeply humbling experience reminds me to be more appreciative of what I have and to be more compassionate to those in need," Ken said.

Congratulations!

National Merit Winners

Six Walnut Valley seniors have been named winners of prestigious 2019 National Merit Scholarships.

Congratulations to **Timothy Yeh** - Diamond Bar High and **Angela Cao, Ashley Chen, Amy Lo, Alice Zhang, and Angela Zhu** - Walnut High.

High performing scholarship winners are the Finalists in each state judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

Diamond Bar High

Students' Talk Show Spotlights Historical Influencers

AP U.S. History students wrapped up studies on four decades of Americana with historical talk shows at Diamond Bar High.

Students researched, scripted, and memorized talking points for the enactments that "aired" in late March. The performance project gives students the opportunity to reflect on the themes of the Cold War, Civil Rights, Social Changes, and Political Leadership during the 1950s-1980s, according to social studies teacher Lindsay Arnold. Students portrayed feminist Betty Friedan, the Black Panther political party, Chief Justice Earl Warren, and more.

Spotlight

Celebrating Arts Education

Thousands of students from all grade levels shared their talents during the second-annual Arts Showcase held April 27 at Walnut High with performances in instrumental and vocal ensembles, commercial music, film, drama, dance, visual, and media arts.



In addition, robotics, 3D printing, video game design, and computer assisted design (CAD) demonstrations were featured in a STEAM maker's fair.

The Concert Hall in the gymnasium featured performances by elementary bands, orchestras, and middle school bands.

Chaparral Middle School kicked off the event with 300 musicians from the combined orchestras taking the stage under the direction of Greg Rochford.

In the festival finale, the combined Diamond Bar and Walnut High orchestras were joined by vocalists of all ages in a moving performance of "America the Beautiful."

South Pointe choir members Maddie Hui, Bethany Vitale, and Kaylee Motus were featured soloists during "When You Believe."

"I loved the experience!" said choir teacher Robin Wadsworth of her middle school students performing with elementary and high school vocalists.

"Several parents commented that they were so grateful their children were a part of it!"

In the Performing Arts Center, drama, dance, and choirs from every level took the stage throughout the day.

Walnut High's drama improv troop had the theater audience roaring with laughter as they created impromptu eight-minute scenes.

In the outdoor stage, Walnut High's intermediate and advanced jazz bands performed Cole Porter's "Begin the Beguine" and several other classics, while Diamond Bar High's commercial music program rocked out to "Centuries" by the Fall Out Boys and the Thompson Twins' "Hold Me Now".



Diamond Bar High's Sprocket robotics team members invited visitors of all ages to control the arm and score balls in a goal using the 2019 competition robot in the STEAM Exhibit. Guests took turns driving another robot in circles and infinity loops while giving high fives to family members.

South Pointe's Robotics Club and PLTW Engineering classes displayed a robotic arm, dragsters, Autocad fidget cube drawings, and playgrounds made with the Autodesk Inventor program.

The Open Mic outdoor stage featured individual and small groups, and a World Dance workshop led by the Aman dance educators who taught 10-week dance sessions to all WVUSD third graders this year.



The Art Cellar held in the orchestra rehearsal hall featured student visual art and a screening room featured student films and Claymation projects.

Students collaborated on an outdoor community art wall, added doodling and messages on a graffiti banner, and joined a rock painting activity based on the book "Only One You."

Looking to the Future Construction Update



Diamond Bar High School Interim Housing

Forty-four portables and six restroom buildings have been installed at Diamond Bar High in preparation for modernization of the 500 Science Building. The temporary learning area, dubbed Downtown DB, will be in use for several years during renovation and construction projects made possible by the passage of Bond Measure WV.



Quail Summit

Art Exhibit Unveiling

Quail Summit Elementary hopes to take a page out of author Linda Kranz's books and encourage students to make the world a better place.



After the entire school read the story, *Only One You*, staff members came together to create a place where children could believe in hope, peace, and reflect on their futures. When Kranz arrived for an Author's Day celebration April 3, the school unveiled a heart-shaped rock garden created in honor of the special guest.

Maple Hill Students Get Creative!



Maple Hill Elementary students welcomed the chance to express some creativity after diligently hitting the books all week. Fifth graders were given packets of clay and given the assignment of designing realistic food sculptures at their desks. The classroom began humming with excitement as the students squished and patted the gray mud between their fingers forming tacos, French fries, eggs and bacon, macarons, pies with lattice crusts, and sushi.

"It's exciting that we're getting to teach the 'A' in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) this year," said teacher Vanessa Mabini. "And the kids are so artistic!"

The supplies, lesson plans and video tutorials are offered through the Arts in Action program adopted by the school this year. The visual arts curriculum gives students a strong foundation in drawing, painting, and sculpture techniques.

Video Production Taps Tech, Creative Skills

Chaparral Middle School's digital video production class was going full throttle as the school year wrapped up. In the studio, anchors Elace Ngo and Peter Park, both eighth graders, are poised behind the desk ready for their cue.

"And 3,2,1, you're on the air!" teacher Scott York announces through the intercom.

"Good Morning, Cougars! Today is May 6 and welcome to the Chaparral Cougar News Network," Ngo recites following the teleprompter scroll.



CCNN is live-streamed into every classroom on campus by 9:30 a.m. most weekdays, following the morning greeting by Principal Ron Thibodeaux and flag salute. The enclosed studio is set with an impressive cache of equipment including three cameras, stage lights, backdrop, input, and digitizer board. CCNN staff members rotate through positions that include being on camera, and behind the scenes working the teleprompter, video, sound, director, switcher, and live-stream. The 14-member cast and crew, who auditioned for the class, are responsible for writing, producing, and creating edited videos for the live broadcast aired on YouTube.



"The best part of this class is the people that I'm on air with – they're always fun!" Ngo said.

York is keen that along with learning technical production skills and the importance of meeting project deadlines, his charges become better working in groups and better communicators. He also believes students are gaining abilities they will utilize the rest of their lives.

"I was involved in a similar program when I was in middle school and know how much it helped me develop skills that I'm still using today."

Kindergartners master the art of building beaver dams. . .

Vejar Elementary kindergartners have been busy as beavers during recent studies on animals and how they use habitats for survival. The learning has been coincidentally focused on the lives and homes of the little saw-toothed mammals.

The children created paper-mache beavers by pasting layers of scrap paper over inflated balloons with the help of fifth-grade buddies. The young artists then painted brown bodies and heads, drew in eyes and noses, and added cardstock teeth. "And then I thought we needed to make a dam for



our beavers!" said Carolyn Campbell who teaches the combination kindergarten/TK class. So, her students drew up their ideas and talked through plans for the real-world engineering problem. Campbell brought in about 20-feet of rain gutters and a hose to create a "river" just outside the classroom. Next, students collected piles of sticks to make a dam and the beaver's lodge home. Campbell turned on the faucet as students lined up to watch the river flow down until it reached the huge pile of sticks. "They built a dam to divert the water to a pond – and it worked!"

news clips...

Brahmas Bring Home National Orchestra Cup

Diamond Bar High's Symphony Orchestra earned first place at the prestigious National Orchestra Cup at Lincoln Center in New York. Four talented high schools were invited to participate in the championship event. Diamond Bar High claimed the top prize with its performance of three movements of Brahms Symphony No. 4.

Evergreen Wins 2nd Civic Learning Award

Evergreen Elementary has been rewarded for engaging students in civic-minded activities as recipient of a 2019 Civic Learning Award. California Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye has announced this year's honorees, and Evergreen is among 83 schools to receive the Civic Learning Award of Merit. Students qualified for the accolade by participating in a Conflict Mediator program, Collaborative Groups, and Election Day. "This is a wonderful honor!" said Principal Trina Dreyer. "Evergreen is rich with civic learning opportunities, and our dedicated staff is committed to teaching the whole child."

Senior Wins Hero Scholarship

Diamond Bar High senior Rachel Wang was named the winner of a \$500 Hero Scholarship sponsored by special education teacher Tanya Aparicio in memory of her father. For the competition, Rachel penned a two-page tribute about her own personal hero, former Maple Hill Elementary kindergarten teacher Lisa Esse, who currently teaches fourth grade at Quail Summit Elementary. "Mrs. Esse was really encouraging to every student in class," said Rachel who shared that she was extremely shy and introverted when she entered school. "She was like a beacon of light and showed me that school was not as intimidating as I thought."

Walnut High Students Complete Biomedical Science Program

During the annual White Coat Ceremony, twenty-nine seniors were presented with white lab coats and honor medallions marking the completion of the three-year International Baccalaureate Career-Related Programme/Project Lead the Way (IBCP/PLTW) Biomedical Sciences Program. Walnut High launched the rigorous pathway in 2013 and is one of only five schools in California to offer both IBCP with the PLTW Biomedical Sciences program as its career-related component.

Walnut Well

Shake up a little happy today!

Walnut Valley USD is dedicated to addressing the social and emotional needs of students. The District Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Council has established a vision of creating "Walnut Well" students: where every student is Socially Aware, Emotionally Secure, and Learning Joyfully. Classroom wellness activities support students' self-regulation of their emotions, including the use of mood meters and breathing exercises. School sites are working toward implementing approaches to support all students. Wellness centers and tranquility areas enable students to find balance and promote wellness. South Pointe Middle School's therapy dog, Laker, is a source of healing and support for students. Secondary schools offer peer counseling programs as a source of peer-to-peer support. On March 25, the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (shown) created "calming jars" by mixing water, glue, glycerin, and lots of glitter. Shake well, take a deep breath, and repeat!



We're All in This Together!

Evergreen Elementary fourth graders presented a choreographed musical connecting to literature, social studies, and science in May. Through all their reading, students also learned valuable lessons of what it means to be a good friend and how to show kindness. Teacher Katie Springsteen said she hopes it inspires the children to have school pride, be motivated to learn, and build lasting friendships. The finale was also featured on the KTLA news!

Outlook WALNUT VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Issue 43 Summer 2019

Walnut Valley Unified School District
880 S. Lemon Ave.
Walnut, CA 91789-2931
T (909) 595-1261 • F (909) 839-1214
www.wvusd.k12.ca.us

Dr. Robert P. Taylor
Superintendent

Board of Trustees
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The 2019-20 School Year Begins AUGUST 12



Labor Day SEPTEMBER 2
Veterans Day NOVEMBER 11
Thanksgiving Break NOVEMBER 25-29
Winter Break DECEMBER 19 - JANUARY 3
Martin Luther King Day JANUARY 20
Presidents Day FEBRUARY 17
Spring Break APRIL 13 - 17

Access, Engagement, Achievement Westhoff Elementary, Diamond Bar High named PLTW Distinguished Schools

For the second consecutive year, Westhoff Elementary and Diamond Bar High have been recognized as Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Distinguished Schools for providing broad access to transformative learning opportunities in computer science, biomedical science, and engineering.

Only 214 elementary and 64 high schools across the United States received the 2018-2019 award.

Westhoff Elementary fourth graders investigated jobs of the human brain. Students in Kelly Martinez's class used colored modeling clay to distinguish the frontal lobe, temporal lobe, brain stem, cerebellum, parietal lobe, and occipital lobe. They took turns shaping the cerebrum's four lobes, making sure to create folds and grooves – just like the surface of a real brain. Next, teams used tiny toothpick flags to label functions including personality and feelings, hearing, heartbeat,

breathing, movement, sense of sight, balance, and more. The final step was journaling and diagramming

the activity in individual Launch Logs. Down the hall, Vicki Kim's students rotated through touch, scent, hearing, and memory stations to further investigate the brain's functions.

"This one is a fruity air freshener!" exclaimed Leah Lee.

"I think this one smells like an orange," added classmate Weston Wong as they guessed bitter, sour, sweet, and tart

smells tucked inside paper lunch bags. The children are excited to experience each hands-on science module, according to Kim.

"Students are able to work in collaborative groups and share their schema and ideas with each other. It's a joy to see!" she said.



Suzanne Middle School Medical Detectives



Suzanne Middle School sixth-grade students donned safety goggles and blue latex gloves as they prepared for their very first dissection. Teacher Ramona Talampas presented her last-minute instructions to students in the new Medical Detectives class.

"You are so lucky to have this experience!" she said while delivering a preserved sheep brain to each lab group.

At first, there were a few squeals and mouths agape, but students quickly took on the task-at-hand of dissecting and labeling parts of the specimen.

"They're using real-world techniques that biomedical scientists use," Talampas said of the Project Lead the Way gateway course that is laying a strong foundation for STEM learning at Walnut High School and beyond.

Collegewood Word Surgeons

At Collegewood Elementary, second grade teacher Stephanie Johnson turned her classroom into an operating room hoping to ignite a language arts lesson. The teacher (and chief surgeon) prescribed the mini makeover by placing powder blue tablecloths over desks, providing doctor's masks and gloves for her students, and playing a soundtrack of doctor's office noises.

In her pre-op consultation, Johnson told the rookie MDs that their "patients" (word cards) were prepped and in-need of emergency services. The second graders eagerly donned the costumes and began "stitching" together dozens of compound words with plastic bandages. Johnson was thrilled that her students were highly engaged in the activity from start to finish.

"This experience inspired me to set a goal of doing a room transformation once a month next year!" she said.



Summer Sports Update



Diamond Bar High Athletics ended the school year with eleven Mt. Baldy League Championships. Thirteen teams earned the opportunity to compete in the CIF Playoffs. Four teams earned the coveted CIF Championship title. Sixteen Brahma athletes will continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level.

Walnut High Basketball and Track star Kaitlin Day was honored as CIF/Farmers Female State Scholar Athlete of the Year. Boys and Girls Track, Boys and Girls Swim, Boys Golf, and Boys Tennis earned Hacienda League Championships. Boys Tennis competed at CIF Semifinals and Boys Golf won CIF Championship title. Freshmen swimmer Justina Kozaan took four CIF Championship titles.