



BPSD COMMUNITY NEWS

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Volume 1

Issue 1

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Upcoming events:

- ▶ Jan 26 Kinder Faire, 5:30-7:00 pm BPJH Gym
- ▶ Jan 23 Governing Board Meeting
- ▶ Feb 14 Governing Board Meeting



STEM Sailing

Following a rainy January morning, the sky cleared and 28 excited BPJHS students engaged in their first US Sailing STEM lesson: "What do we know about wind?" at the Long Beach Yacht Club. Later, students enjoyed an on-the-water sailing experience (the first boating experience for all students), under the tutelage of sailing coaches provided by LBYC, to apply concepts learned in the classroom about wind energy.

Supported by the Long Beach Sailing Foundation and LBYC, this program will continue through the second semester with instruction on the BPJHS campus, and monthly sailing fieldwork opportunities at LBYC.

"Hour of Code"

District Technology coaches were a hit with their live stream kick off in support of Hour of Code week recently. Approximately 300 students participated in this live stream event. Watch the recorded video of the event here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_t7LMwu4pw

Spelling Bee



Congratulations to Caitlyn Alba, 6th grade student at Pendleton School! Caitlyn won 1st

Place in the BPSD Spelling Bee and will continue on to the county-wide competition at Orange County Dept. of Education.



2017: What A Grand Opportunity

2017 provides *A Grand Opportunity* for BPSD's students and staff! As we return from holiday break, I am so impressed with the spirit in which our teams entered the new year to begin the 2nd half of the school year. After visiting schools this week, I am proud to say that we haven't missed a beat to continue to provide the instruction and services our students and families expect.



At BPSD, there is much to be proud of, and build upon in 2017, including: improving instructional alignment to California's standards; strong professional development for teachers; students that are demonstrating dramatically increased literacy skills; growing capabilities to engage students with technology, project-based learning and social emotional supports; and continued progress to expand 1:1 student access, new classroom renovations, energy efficient lighting, and HVAC and roof replacements.

As a District team, and on each campus, there is amazing work occurring at BPSD. I look forward to continuing our progress to achieve the *Grand Opportunity* we have to support our students and families in this new year.

Governing Board Reorganized for 2017

On December 12th the Governing Board held its annual organizational meeting and installed both Ms. Irene Castaneda as a new Board member (Trustee Area #4) and Ms. Barbara Michel, a returning Board member (Trustee Area #3) to new terms of office. Both Board members' terms will extend until the first week in December of 2020. Further to the Board's reorganization, for 2017 Mr. Chambers and Ms. Smith were elected to the positions of President and Clerk/President Pro Tem of the Board, respectively.

Emery School Wins Red Ribbon Photo Contest...Again

The National Red Ribbon Photo Contest is sponsored by the National Family Partnership to promote drug awareness. This is the second year Emery School has submitted a photo and won the Region 9 contest and \$ prize. Jennifer Ferrara said, "Red Ribbon Week is all about community and healthy living. By entering the contest, it creates school spirit and generates conversation and discussion about drug prevention. It helps to go beyond the one week of Red Ribbon Week. Healthy living is a life commitment."



Governing Board OK's BPJHS 6th Grade Academy

For the 2017-18 school year, Buena Park Junior High School will offer 6th grade students the opportunity to attend BPJHS and take advantage of Music, STEM, Fine Arts, Honors Prep, athletics, and a vast array of electives. 60-120 sixth grade students will attend the new BPJHS Early Middle School Academy.

The Early Middle School Academy will be taught in self contained classes for 6th grade core subjects, and students will have the opportunity to explore electives, participate in after school clubs and a full physical education program. More than a hundred parents have expressed interest in their student attending the new program. Applications are being accepted at BPJHS on a first come, first served basis.

Science Camp in the Snow

Sixth grade students from Corey School recently traveled to Camp High Trails located on Big Bear Mountain for Outdoor Science Camp. The excited students and teachers arrived to find a foot of fresh snow on the ground. Students participated in adventure classes such as archery, climbing and orienteering, study the impact the environment has on animals, birds, plants and the world, in addition to night classes on astronomy and nocturnal animals. By February 2017, all BPSD 6th grade students will have an opportunity to experience science camp .



New Signage Recognizes School Successes

Have you noticed? We are proud of the recognitions our students and staff have received and are showing them off. Installation has begun for new signs to recognize awards for California Title I High Achievement, California Gold Ribbon and Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) for each BPSD school. Additionally, murals and other signage will be updated or replaced at schools in the coming weeks.



BPSD Foundation News

The Buena Park School District Education Foundation recently held its Second Annual Student Art Contest. The theme of the contest was “America the Beautiful.” The top four winning students received a \$25 Target gift card at the November 14 Governing Board meeting. Awards were presented to students by Ms. Leslie Milch, Foundation Director, and framed art was presented to the Foundation’s Gold and Platinum sponsors.



Board Highlights

CARL E. GILBERT SCHOOL REPORT (01/09/17 Board Meeting)

Principal Russell Harrison and school staff shared the process by which Gilbert School is achieving literacy success with their students. Students are challenged by the rigor and pacing of the Engage NY phonics program, writing instruction is taught across grade levels, and struggling readers are provided several intervention supports including an Early Literacy TOSA. Storyworks is an online magazine with cross-genre content available on student iPads grades 3-6; students participate in Reading Workshop and Accelerated Reader; literacy is enhanced with technology through campus-wide AppleTV, iPad centers for grades K-3, 1:1 iPads with keyboards for grades 4-6.

2015-16 BPSD AUDIT REPORT (01/09/17 Board Meeting)

The annual audit of the Buena Park School District for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 was conducted by the firm of Christy White & Associates. The Auditor has published a favorable opinion of the District’s financial statements, internal controls and compliance with certain provisions of law, regulations, contracts, grant agreements and other matters for the period of the review.

ORANGE COUNTY ARTS EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE FUND GRANT PROGRAM (12/12/16 Board Meeting)

In the 2015-16 school year, Buena Park School District received a grant provided by the Boeing Arts Foundation through the Orange County Arts Education Collaborative Fund. Teachers on the Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Committee developed the Arts Priority Goals in support of increasing VAPA opportunities for all students. In an effort to build upon the Arts Priority Goals, the VAPA committee wrote a grant for an additional \$10,000 from the Orange County Arts Education Collaborative Fund to institute “Agents of Change,” where third grade students will use arts and engineering principles.

FIRST INTERIM BUDGET REPORT, 2016-17 (12/12/16 Board Meeting)

Pursuant to Education Code 42130, the Governing Board is required to certify within 45 days of the close of the period ending October 31 (first interim reporting period) that the District will be able to meet its financial obligations for the budget year and for two subsequent years. We anticipate the unrestricted General Funds to have a deficit (revenues vs. expenditures) of \$1,531,450 in 2016-17 followed by deficits of \$710,149 and \$1,123,886 in 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. The District estimates District reserves (i.e., Designation for Economic Uncertainties) for 2016-17 through 2018-19 as follows: 3.03%, 3.03%, and 3.01%.

MEASURE ‘B’ GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND CITIZENS’ OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (12/12/16 Board Meeting)

Citizens’ Oversight Committee (COC). At the December 12th Board meeting, the District’s Governing Board authorized the appointment of 3 new members to the Citizens’ Oversight Committee. This committee is charged with alerting the public to waste or improper expenditure of school construction bond money. We welcome Mr. Marvin Aceves, Ms. Tharwa Ahmad, and Ms. L. Carole Jensen to this committee. With the addition of these three new members, our COC membership increases to a total of 10 members. Committee members are as follows: Frannie Donoghue, President, Alan McAuley, Vice President, Cindy Brozzoksi, Secretary, Kenneth Anderson, Marvin Aveces (new member), James Banks, Tharwa Ahmad (new member), Tamra Banks, L. Carole Jensen (new member) and Mary Fuhrman.

GANG REDUCTION INTERVENTION PARTNERSHIP (GRIP) REPORT (11/28/16 Board Meeting)

The Orange County Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (GRIP) partners include the Orange County District Attorney’s office, investigators, Buena Park police and probation officers, community partners, teachers and parents who work together to help deter at-risk students between fourth and eighth grade from joining gangs. GRIP partners with local agencies to provide families with counseling, parenting classes, after-school education and many other services. Students from Gilbert, Whitaker and Buena Park Junior High schools participated in the 2016-17 GRIP program. Principals’ Bagger (BPJH), Harrison (Gilbert) and Perron (Whitaker) shared highlights of the program at their sites and discussed some of the incentive program rewards students earn for good behavior such as Soccer Camp, combined with Fullerton School District, Angels baseball game, the Ford Motor Company Design Center field trip and the turkey dinner giveaways.

ADOPTION OF THE 2016-19 DISTRICT’S MASTER PLAN FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS (11/28/16 Board Meeting)

The Master Plan for English Learners provides guidance and direction to administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, parents, and students regarding the options available to parents and the expectations the District holds for each school and classroom in the District. It offers a practical guide for all staff to ensure that consistent, coherent services are provided to every English learner in our district. The Master Plan contains all of the district’s English learner programs, procedures, policies and practices in one place.