

NEWS FROM AROUND OUR STUDENT CENTERS

MEET THE RIVER BOARD MEMBERS

NEW EMPLOYEES AND IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

SCIENCE FAIR

MEET OUR RIVER SPRINGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Front row, left to right: Sheila Ryle, Charlene Ponzio, & Jennifer Mejares Pham

Back row, left to right: Carl Burke, Chuck Vela, & Stephen Darrow

Sheila brings a wealth of experience to the Board. After retiring from public schools, she taught part time at Eagles Peak Charter School where she found something very special – personalized instruction for every student, whether GATE or special needs, and lots of parent participation and involvement. She had found herself struggling for years in the public school arena with her two gifted children and the constant cuts to the GATE budgets. As a Mentor Teacher in LAUSD and Adjunct Professor of Graduate Education and Mentor Teacher, she is well versed on what succeeds and fails in the classroom setting. Sheila believes that every child is precious and unique and that given the correct environment, embracing what is challenging, creative, and personally interesting, a child will soar and achieve greatness beyond imagination. Her philanthropic commitment in Temecula Valley has given her the opportunity to chair special events and fundraise for the arts, Michelle's Place, Rancho Damacitas, SAFE, Boys and Girls Club, autism, and various animal/equestrian needs. As Executive Director and Founder of Shakespeare in the Vines, the organization has nurtured and is continually expanding their educational outreach programs which bring Shakespeare to life in the classroom for hundreds of youth annually.

Charlene contributes experience from a number of venues, including homeschooling her children, PTA, and other school site committees and boards. Because she believes in parent choice, and because she has a child with learning challenges, she has continued to desire to be a part of a school choice and/or homeschool program. River Springs Charter School is that blending that allows for her to serve the families, students, and communities by providing and supporting these various choices. Charlene realizes that each student learns in different ways and the importance of providing diverse opportunities to those families seeking alternative and creative ways to teach their child/children. She continues her own personal education by auditing classes, editing books on occasion, learning new activities, and reading at every opportunity.

Jennifer was raised in the Murrieta/Temecula Valley and completed her Bachelor's in Human Biology and Human Development with an emphasis in Community Service and Education at UC San Diego. Jennifer returned home after graduation with a unique perspective excited to give back to the community that gave her so much. She is passionate about working with kids as a role model and mentor and operates a local educational consulting firm (Learning with Jen©) where she and her team specialize in the college admissions process, tutoring, and test prep. Her driving mission is to increase university acceptance and retention rates by building a college bound culture. What started as a simple community service project has been growing in momentum and is catching the attention of some of the top schools in America. Jen is known for her leadership and community service involvement. Her work spans from administrating a scholarship and recognition program to directing a camp for children with special needs. Jen enjoys volunteering with a diverse population of students and even spends her summers in urban Los Angeles where she helps at risk students apply to colleges. Jennifer loves River Springs Charter School and fully believes in the mission. She is excited about collaborating with the staff and enjoys watching the program grow. Jen knows that the secret to success is to create an atmosphere of individualized learning with accountability and appreciates parental support and involvement.

Carl is an independent consultant specializing in talent acquisition and career navigation for students, early and late career professionals. He has over 30 years of experience in the medical device and biotechnology industries. The first part of his career was in the laboratory developing pilot manufacturing processes and teams for products used in clinical trials for cancer and infectious diseases. The second part of his career involved leadership roles in Finance, Marketing and Human Resources. Carl has over 20 years of Human Resources leadership experience and has a passion for building high performing teams, performance management, and career development. He is often most excited when he is presenting "what you can do with your science degree," resume, or interview preparation at UCSD, UCR, SDSU, or Keck Graduate Institute. He has lived in Temecula since 1999 with his wife. Together they have raised three children through the local charter school system.

Chuck spent 24 years in the United States Marine Corps and learned firsthand about leadership and how large organizations work. At one point he oversaw the operational and logistical control for a deployed 1500 man unit. Chuck finished his career in 1999 after teaching senior enlisted soldiers at the Marine Corps University. After retirement, he went to work in construction as a field superintendent. After some time he acquired his own license and operated a construction company of his own. Chuck presently works at the California Baptist University in Facilities Management. As a father of two daughters that went through, first, homeschooling, and then later classroom studies in the Eagles Peak and River Springs Charter Schools, he knows the value of personalized teaching. Chuck also knows that there is a void being filled by River Springs Charter School and other charter schools and will do anything in his control to help in that need.

Stephen is an attorney currently practicing and managing his own firm, the Darrow Law Center, in Temecula (since 2002). Stephen started his own law practice in Long Beach and has received numerous commendations from the Chief Judge of the United States Federal Court and Los Angeles Superior Court. Stephen believes strongly that the best communities are made when people give back by becoming involved through community service. He serves on the Temecula Theater Foundation a non-profit organization as a board member working with the community and various groups raising funds for The Arts. He has previously served on the Board of Directors for Curtains-Up Community Theater (Palos Verde, CA) for 10 years and served as President for 4 years. He has also served as Vice President of the Board of Directors and as director of Faith Christian Academy. Through his Law Firm, he has mentored students in various internship programs for over 20 years. He has further donated his time and efforts in supporting veterans and the elderly offering free legal advice and representation. Stephen believes that Charter Schools create an integral part of the educational trend toward personalized and individualized learning. He has been a supporter of its teachings; both his children have attended charter schools, and recently his son graduated from Springs Charter Schools. His daughter graduated recently from Azusa Pacific University and soon will be attending Graduate school. Stephen has been happily married for 28 years, and both he and his wife continue to be strong advocates for charter schools. He brings his expertise to support and strengthen River Springs Charter School's mission. He firmly believes that River Spring Charter School has evolved to play an integral role in our community by providing an excellent non-traditional learning program based on parent choice, personalized learning, and utilizing the rich, diverse resources of the community in the classroom.

Harbor Board will be highlighted in the following INB issue

2015 Susan Steelman Bragato Scholarship NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominate an outstanding high school senior today—

\$2,000 scholarships available!



California
Charter Schools
Association



DEADLINE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

The scholarship is named in honor of Susan Steelman Bragato, the co-founder of the first charter school in California and the founder of the California Network of Educational Charters (which was renamed the California Charter Schools Association in 2003). Sue was one of the first people to recognize the importance of building a strong network of support among charter school leaders statewide. Sue also organized the first California Charter Schools Conference. In honor of her unprecedented contribution to the charter school movement, the Association named this scholarship for her. Sue died in 2005 after a battle with breast cancer.

Selection Criteria:

- Scholastic record must reflect a proven ability to succeed at a college or university level
- Student must be a graduating senior from a charter high school that is a current member of the California Charter Schools Association
- Student must demonstrate need for financial aid

The application deadline is 11:59 p.m. PST on October 16, 2014.

Please contact program@calcharters.org if you have any questions.

The Hart Vision Awards, established in 1995, are named in honor of Gary K. Hart, retired California State Senator and former California Secretary of Education. While serving as state senator, Hart sponsored the legislation that established California charter schools. The 2015 Hart Vision Awards will recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to CCSA's mission to increase student achievement by supporting and expanding California's quality charter public school movement.

The deadline to submit a nomination is 11:59 p.m. PST on October 16, 2014.

This year, the California Charter Schools Association is seeking online nominations in two categories:

Teacher of the Year & Community Member/Volunteer of the Year

2015 HART VISION AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN



California
Charter Schools
Association







NOMINATE A TEACHER OR VOLUNTEER TODAY! DEADLINE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16



TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT THE IT & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT DID OVER THE SUMMER!



- Enrolled 1000 Chromebooks 
- Solved 750 trouble tickets 
- Completed over 26 summer projects 
- Added 2 new full time staff members 

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What is the login information for my Chromebook?

- For students is their email address (first.lastname@student.riverspringscharter.org) and the password is thier local 6 digit ID+go
- For Staff is their email address (first.lastname@springscs.org) and the password is the same as their email password.

How do I change the print settings on the Chromebook to only print one sided?

When you print, look at your settings on the left side and uncheck the box that says double sided.

Dave Williams

I joined the Springs Charter School family in 2010. I was facilities director in the Valley Center School District from 1998-2010. My hobbies include football/basketball and family time (especially with my grandkids). I am looking forward to working with the Facilities Department and assisting our wonderful Springs Charter Schools staff.

Zach Smith

I have been working with Springs Charter Schools for 7 1/2 years. I am 5'19" (with my shoes on) and I am happy to hold the title of 'tallest employee' at Springs Charter School. My hobbies include surfing, basketball and soccer. I played Division D basketball for Stelmet Zielona Gora before graduating with a bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies from Cal State San Marcos.



Science Fair

EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN



The Science Fair seems so far off, but it will be here sooner than we think! Please note the dates for the RIMS Regional Science Fair and think about some good ideas for the Fair. We are looking forward to working with you. We are also adding a San Diego Fair. We expect great participation this year.

For more information, contact gabe.baumert@springscs.org

- **Thursday, October 2, 2014** Science Fair District Coordinators Meeting San Bernardino County Schools Office, Rooms 112 and 113 – 4:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, October 4, 2014** Science Fair Expo RCOE Conference Center – 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, January 14, 2015** Science Fair District Coordinators Meeting RCOE Conference Center – 4:00 p.m.
- **February 9 – 27, 2015** Science Fair Online Registration
- **Friday, March 13, 2015** Science Fair Registration Due from District Coordinators to San Bernardino Superintendent of Schools Office
- **Monday, April 6, 2015** Science Fair Project Set-up, Judging, Viewing National Orange Show, San Bernardino 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, April 7, 2015** Science Fair Public Viewing National Orange Show, San Bernardino 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, April 7, 2015** Science Fair Awards Ceremony for Riverside County Participants Riverside Convention Center 6:00 p.m.
- **May 18-19, 2015** California State Science Fair Los Angeles Science Fair Coordinators Debriefing Meeting RCOE Conference Center – 3:30 p.m.

Pupil Services

co-teaching
math
RTI
Sensory
reading
learning resource
flexible service
advanced learner
speech language pathologist
intervention specialists
therapy
Inclusion
ELL



Please be aware of the following dates and pass them on to your staff and any families considering changing programs.

Transfer requests received by Guidance:

- Between 9-17-2014 and 10/15/2014** will be effective on 9/24/2014 (LP 2)
- Between 10/16/2014 and 1/16/2015 will be effective on 1/26/2015 (2nd semester)
- Between 1/17/2015 and 2/17/2015 will be effective on 2/25/2015 (LP 2)
- After 2/17/2015* will be effective for the 2015-2016 School Year

****grades K-8 only (transfers for high school students will be effective the start of the following semester).**

Please note that requests must be received by the Guidance Department one week before the end of the LP in order to be considered for the following effective date. This allows time for the documentation to be processed and for the student to be set up in the new program for the first day of the LP.

Program transfer request for High School students received after the September 16th date will not be effective until the end of the fall semester. Requests for High School students to change programs to be effective for the Spring semester must be received by January 16th.

Of course we understand that there may be extenuating circumstances in some incidents, and we want to be sure that we look individually at each unique situation. Please consult with your assigned counselor in the event you are working with a family in an extraordinary situation.

How to Request a Transfer

All transfers must be requested by the parent. Parents need to call the Guidance Department at (951) 252-8833 to request the transfer and schedule a phone appointment with the counselor.



CORONA STUDENT CENTER

Welcome to the Corona Site! We as teachers and staff are looking forward to a fantastic year!



Gina Wickwire (Director), Renee Albright (Site Facilitator), Mynde McDermott (Receptionist), Melissa Williams (KN Teacher), Katherine Whitlow (1st Grade Teacher), Stacia Shaffor (1st Grade Teacher), Stacey Peck (2nd Grade Teacher), Nicole Wind (3rd Grade Teacher), Jamie Falls (4th/5th Grade Teacher), Susie Lichty (6th/7th Grade Teacher), Deborah Groome (8th Grade Teacher)



HEMET QUEST STUDENT CENTER

Ron Boren, aka "Mr. B" brought his songwriting talent to share with our students. He got teachers and students involved in character song as they were dancing to his music!



LAKE ELSINORE STUDENT CENTER

ARTIST IN RESIDENCY- We have just started working with our new fabulous Artist In Residency, Janice Rumsey. The kids have already started working on some really neat art projects in their classroom. The project pictured is an art project done by our Kinder/1st graders. They had to take several different strips of colored paper and do a different style with each and then glue it in their own style to the paper. The incredible part is how different they all look.



Student Drop-off- We started a new drop-off procedure this year and the parents are loving it. They have been very impressed with how it is going and we get all the staff out greeting the kids every morning. It's been really a great way to get to know the kids and has made our families very happy.



LEARNING CENTERS



Otay Ranch's beautiful campus held its very first learning center day on Friday, August 29th, with a whopping 8 kids! Actually, a family of four was only scheduled to attend only 1/2 day but were having so much fun, Mom went and got them lunch and asked if they could stay all day! We are now up to 12 students and looking forward to growing!

Orange County Learning Center P.E. & Nutrition students took a farewell photo with Mrs. Tiara Din-Raja, who has taken a full time position with LAUSD. We wish her all the best!

The following three learning center sites are having a **"Bring a Friend Breakfast"** where parents and students may bring a friend who is not enrolled in our school - for a morning of food and fun as they meet our teachers and participate in our workshops!

Rancho Cucamonga Learning Center - October 2nd from 9AM-10AM

Otay Ranch Learning Center - October 10th from 9AM - 10AM

Orange County Learning Center - October 23rd from 9AM - 10AM



MAGNOLIA STUDENT CENTER

As shown in the front cover, Magnolia Student Center accepted Corona Student Center's ALS challenge. Monica Lopez, Janel Cozzitarto, Cindy Fuentes and Sherry Taufer were up for the challenge. Magnolia now challenges Hemet Student Center's site, and director Jennifer Martin, OC's site, and director Kitty Fortner, and the Education Dept. leader Debbie Essel.



Magnolia Student Center is searching for our student body leaders. ASB elections are coming up. Why Fit In When You Can Stand Out. Join ASB!



Believe Kids Fundraiser

The Believe Kinds Catalog Fundraiser is our most profitable fundraiser. The student earn prizes for every 5 orders they get. We use the funds raised for our end of the year Family Fun Festival and for class prizes, parties or activities.



MURRIETA STUDENT CENTER



Ms. Laura's Montessori kinder class went to tour the fire station here in Murrieta. Students got to climb through the fire trucks, shoot the giant hose and hear about fire safety.



Murrieta kicked off their Smart Card Fundraiser this week. If you would like to purchase a card and help support our students, please click on the link below.

<https://shopsmartcard.com/membership-registration-fundraiser>

OTAY RANCH ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

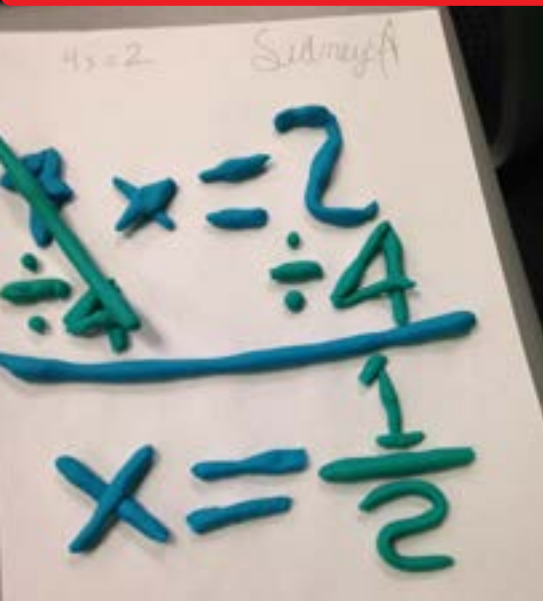
Art Integration in the Classroom at Otay Ranch Academy for the Arts



During our music elective, students learned about music history and Mozart. Then students of various grade levels creatively collaborated on his portrait.



2nd and 3rd graders formed groups and were given a math equation. They had to create a story problem correctly using the assigned equation.



8th graders used play dough to solve equations in Math.



RIVERSIDE STUDENT CENTER



Deb Essel (Asst. Superintendent Education & Academies), Shane Wickwire (Academy Director), and the entire Mosaic teaching staff accepted the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge in front of the entire school to kick off the school year at the Riverside Student Center.



RIVERSIDE STUDENT CENTER

The Riverside Student Center Mosaic Academy kicked off the new school year with a meet and greet at the Mosaic Academy Orientation day. Parents and students were greeted with a smile by our new director, meet their teachers and pick up their orientation packets.



Staff Development at Riverside Student Center, with FAPA and RSC staff in attendance, was a bonding experience, where staff members shared their knowledge, wisdom, and vision with one another.

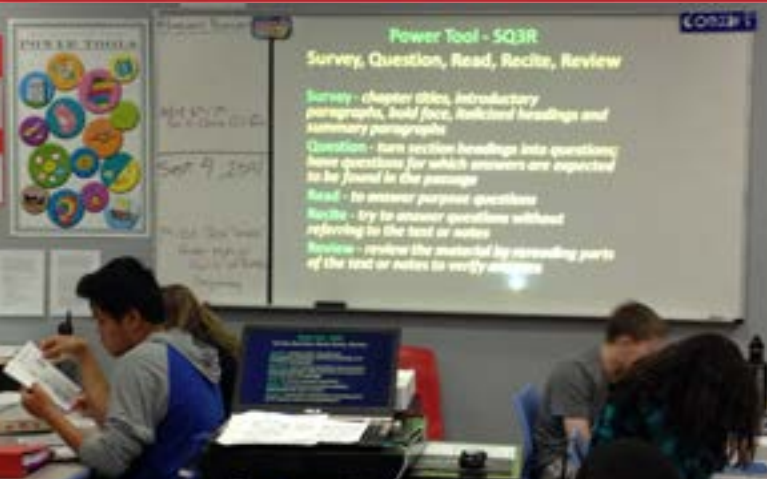


The Riverside Student Center Mosaic Academy students participated in the Associated Student Body (ASB) campaign to run for office. The students campaigned for two weeks by creating posters, handing out goodies, and expressing their interest in making the Riverside Student Center more amazing! The campaign ended with speeches from each candidate in front of the entire middle school student body. Congratulations to our new ASB president, Chloe Strassenburg, our Vice President, Isabella McEwen, our Secretary, Rachel Gonzales, and our Treasurer, Hayden Poe!

TEMECULA STUDENT CENTER



Mr. Rusnak's 7th grade Humanities class working through a reading using SQ3R!



"Save Fred!"

Fred, the gummy worm, has been spending his time boating on the lake near his home. He is not too bright, he is a worm after all. He has never learned to swim and he never wears his life preserver. The worst has finally happened! Fred's boat has capsized and he is stuck! His life preserver is caught under the boat, but he cannot reach it without falling into the water and drowning. Can you save FRED? How can you and your partners save Fred using only 4 paper clips? You may not touch Fred, the boat, or the life preserver directly with your hands, only with the paper clips. Students were put into groups of 3 and had to work together, using the scientific method, to SAVE FRED! We had so much fun and learned a lot about the Scientific Method!





FERGUSON, JAMIE	1	THRAPP, JESSICA	15	MCQUADE, JESSICA	22
LEMEN, JENNIFER	1	HERMSMEYER, PHILIP	16	ROGERS, AARON	22
VAN DYKE, ANNETTE	2	KERBY, STEVEN	16	UTJESINOVIC, DANKO	22
SEDER ESPELETA, ASHLEIGH	3	SHEPLOR, CRYSTAL	16	WEISS, LEILANI	22
DEVINCENZO, ERIN	4	SWANEY, LAUREL	16	MILTENBERGER, LAUREL	23
REITER, RACHEL	4	APTAKER, TIFFANY	17	MITCHELL, SABRINA	23
RUIZ, KELLY	4	BRINK, JENNIFER	17	GOOSBY, KEISHA	23
DE LA TORRE, ADRIENNE	5	DECKER, LAURIE	17	JONES, LEAH	24
SPIEGEL, CHRISTINE	5	FRENCH, CHERRE	18	MOLINA ALAYVILLA, SHANA	25
TALBERT, NANCY	5	LEE, KEISHA	18	TOKER, KYLA	25
BOND, KATHARINE	8	LITTERST, ROBIN	18	PICONE, SUSAN	26
ESSEL, DERRICK	9	SMILEY, RACHELLE	18	SWINTEK, RACHEL	26
REYES, GABRIEL	9	DAVIS, CORRINE	19	TRAYLOR, ALYCE	26
WINES, SUSAN	9	HODAK, CHRISTOPHER	19	MARTIN, KIARA	27
CHRISTENSEN, AUTUMN	10	MAINGOT, BRENDA	19	MOYER, ANNA	27
HAYNES, NICOLE	10	RISING, LETTY	19	SHERWOOD, TIM	27
KELLEY, KRISTEN	12	STROCKIS, JANICE	20	GRAHAM, JENNIFER	27
NICHOLS II, PRESTON	12	GEAR, ASHLEY	21	ANGER, KATHRYN	29
GRUTZMACHER, STEPHANIE	14	GESSWEIN, SANDRA	21	CUMMINS, MIREYA	29
METODIEV, REBECCA	14	ZIMMER, GABRIELA	21	HOLVITIE, ANU	29
MILLER, MARK	14	FORD, CHERYL	21	PASTER, CHANTELE	30
		BRANCHAUD, NANCY	22	IDANO, MARIBEL	30
				BOWMAN, ERIN	31
				GUERRIERI, ROBYN	31



ANVARI, DIANE	2001
DEJONG, STEPHANIE	2001
HARPER, TIFFANY	2002
HERMSMEYER, PHILIP	2004
SMITH, DENISE	2004
COPLEY, DAMMON	2005
BAUMERT, GABRIELLA	2006
COLLINS, PATRICK	2006
DE MARTIMPREY, ANNE	2007
VACCARO, NANCY	2007
CARBONETTA, DANIELLE	2008
MINDES, ANDRIA	2008
MADZAREVIC, MARTIN	2009
ROGERS, JONI	2009
WEISS, LEILANI	2009
DUNCAN, AUDREY	2010
HULL, MICHELLE	2010
MARTIN, KIARA	2010

TERAMURA, MYRNA	2010
WILLIAMS JR, DAVID	2010
BRINK, JENNIFER	2011
BROWN, RICHARD	2011
MCANEAR, EMILY	2011
TREJO, ANNA	2012
YURK, TIMM	2012
ANTRAM, ERICA	2013
CRUDO, BRITTNEY	2013
FOLLEY, JILL	2013
FRANCOZ, AMI	2013
HOVEY, NIKIA	2013
MILLER, RAE	2013
MORRIS, HEATHER	2013
PASOLINI, ANDREA	2013
PEPITO, CHERI	2013
RODRIGUEZ, CORRIN	2013
YOUNKER, JENNY	2013